Which ethnic groups should be in the trial and at what proportion?

IMPACT (psychosis) https://www.isrctn.com/ISRCTN58667926; https://doi.org/10.3310/pgfar08010

The panel noted:

• The key problem with arriving at particular ethnic groups and proportions is the lack of data on condition and ethnicity to inform this decision.

The panel concluded:

• The panel did not reach a conclusion with regard to particular percentages for different ethnic groups.

Where a panel cannot reach a conclusion, STRIDE suggests adopting the following default inclusion position:

• The minimum target for inclusion of the specified ethnic groups should be at the same proportion as is found among the population of people with the condition targeted by the trial. The proportion is dependent on the intended reach of the applicability of trial results. A trial intending national reach should aim for national ethnic proportions by disease. A trial with more local reach could aim for proportions in its local area.

Where disease data by ethnicity do not exist, or cannot be obtained, STRIDE suggests adopting the following default inclusion position:

• The minimum target for inclusion of the specified ethnic groups should be at the same proportion as is found in the most recent census data. The proportion is dependent on the intended reach of the applicability of trial results. A trial intending national reach should use national census data. A trial with more local reach could aim for census proportions in its local area.
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General comments from the panel:

1. The trial would need to ask a set of layered questions about who are the people who have psychosis and what is their ethnicity and who are registered with the Care Approach Programme (an eligibility criterion)? Is this intervention design (and this eligibility criterion) suitable for all ethnic groups?

NB. Completed by Shaun Treweek, University of Aberdeen, based on a discussion with an external panel brought together for this purpose as part of the STRIDE project (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/what-we-do/research/projects/stride-supporting-recruitment-and-retention-improvements-for-diverse-ethnicities-283). None of us was involved in this trial, we did not discuss the information below with the trial team.

Given the above, the information below may not be a proper reflection of what the trial team itself may have considered the ethnic groups needed by their trial. The information is therefore intended to be illustrative, not definitive.