



'Those preparing health education materials for ethnic minorities need to have a sound understanding of the history, culture and development of the ethnic minority community they serve.'

(Sir Liam Donaldson writing in *Health Education Journal* 1988; 47:137-40.)

#### Issues

- ► Challenging
- Disadvantaged communities
- Most socially and economically deprived
- Less likely to access appropriate care
- Significant barriers to accessing care
- Increasing numbers of refugees and asylum seekers

## Minority Ethnic Groups in the UK

- ▶ 7.9% of UK population
- Half of total population Asian or British Asian
- ▶ Indians largest 22%
- Pakistani's next largest 16%

### Locally

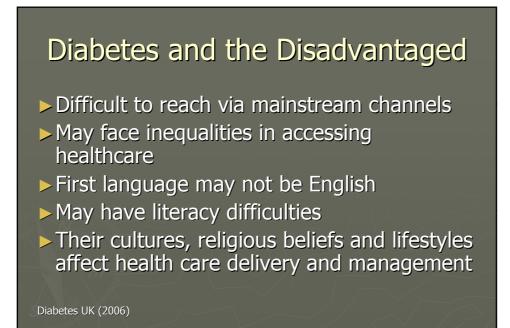
 Birmingham 19.5% Asian or British Asian Small Heath 65.95%
Washwood Heath 57%

Pakistanis largest group 50% & 40% consecutively



# Local ethnic minority groups

- South Asian
- ► Black African and Caribbean
- Somalian
- Eastern European
- Arabic





## Attitudes

Cultural beliefs modify illness perceptions

Anecdotal evidence

Concordance – treatment & attendance

Expectations

### Management ?

- Difficult & challenging at best of times
- Find out what works for different ethnic groups
- Visual messages for Pakistani & Bangladeshi population
- Story telling / soap opera's / Bollywood
- Centre education / intervention around food

### Management cont.....

- Culturally specific / language specific awareness events
- Be aware of fasting & feasting & other festivals & their significance / importance to the community
- Keep message / intervention simple
- Asylum seekers / Refugees peripatetic

### How do we address these issues?

- Provide literature in own language
- Video's / CD Rom / DVD'S
- > Awareness events for patients & public
- Participate in community events be seen!
- Health care professional education
- Culturally specific events
- Challenge traditionally held practices / beliefs contraception, breastfeeding, religious and other festivals





