

Introduction

The session was chaired by Browne Jacobson's Kelly Buckley and Re61 334.94 Tecca CJETe,-4()17(spectJ6(alr)3 3hsm 10.56 Tf1 0 0 1 289.61 334.94 Tm0 g0 G[(and Re)-2(61 334.94 Tecca)14(310 gm3

and
Charlotte Harpin, Partner at Browne Jacobson specialising in health technology law and data sharing arrangements in the health sector.

Allegations of racial discrimination can lead to institution wide investigations, reviewing previous claims and complaints history of the staff involved, and a detailed scrutiny of policies, guidelines, and procedures. There is often involvement at Board level and there can be press interest causing further reputational risk and relationship damage with local communities.

The [Parliamentary Women and Equalities Committee report](#) into black maternal health published in April 2023 showed that

Carol has a national reputation for leading efforts to address racial inequalities affecting pregnancy care, including the impact on access to services, effective interventions, providing culturally aware

Carol shared the practical steps being taken within Maternity at her Trust to address racial inequalities, which are also transferable to other specialisms and healthcare services.

- Listening to mothers
- Providing Trust leaflets in different languages
- More personalised care plans to reflect chosen language
- Accessibility of information on websites. Can the patient read healthcare terminology in their first language? Is it translated in an accessible way? Often women will answer yes to a question even if they have not understood it.
- More use of visual aids; specifically an animation video with vital information such as how and when to contact the hospital.
- Use of Word 360, an interpretation system available 24/7. There are phones and iPads in antenatal clinic, scanning, delivery and triage to allow access to interpreter (phone) or Word 360 (iPad).
- Posters are displayed to empower mothers to ask for an interpreter.
- Patients are encouraged to use an independent interpreter rather than a family member in order to have their voice heard.
- Representative staffing – around 30% of service users are from an ethnic minority and staffing reflects that. Recruitment from abroad. This garners more trust.
- MDT reports mention ethnicity of user in order to spot trends

Carol also explained about outreach work in the Tulip clinic; where hour long slots are dedicated to asylum seekers, refugees, people in temporary accommodation or with housing issues. There are training sessions on higher risk aspects of pregnancy such as gestational diabetes as well as access to other community assistance. There is access to an experienced midwife to make referrals to appropriate healthcare professionals.

Charlotte is a Partner at Browne Jacobson specialising in health technology law and data sharing arrangements in the health sector. She explained the legal considerations and benefits surrounding the development and use of apps and other technology in healthcare.

