

Working together



Black Community Representation in HIV Research, Ethics and Practice

Juddy Otti and Tess Harriott
Project Managers, One Voice Network

Ensuring Representation: Black Voices in HIV Research

- **Black communities continue to disproportionately experience disparities in HIV and broader health/wellbeing outcomes.**
- **One Voice Network and National Aids Trust identified the need to increase equity and involvement in research ethics, protocol, policies for Black community research advocates in health programmes and services for Black people affected by HIV.**



OVN Research Panel: Development & Training Overview

OVN developed four research training modules in partnership with Kings College London (KCL) and National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) with the following objectives:

1. Research Environment

- To understand various stakeholders and parties involved in delivering research, ethics committee, KCL, NIHR, Sponsors, etc.
- To understand and identify what their roles are in delivering research
- To assess and advise on the correct pathways to ensure good governance of studies

2. Study Documentation

- To understand the document pack and role in the governance process
- To critically appraise the documents and understand how to find relevant information to the study

3. Research Ethics and Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

- To understand how research ethics and GCP link together
- To understand the fundamentals of GCP
- To critically appraise the study of documents in line with GCP

4. Critical Appraisal

- To understand how to approach a manuscript with a critical eye
- To develop confidence in questioning the science and ethics of the final manuscript

Results from OVN Research Panel Training

- **We developed tailored research training modules which fully informed and equipped our community research advocates in all aspects of research and gave them the confidence to engage and involve themselves on health and care research in the interest of Black communities in the UK.**
- **We built a strong relationship with the research organisations to ensure they have thorough engagement with UK Black communities and for these research organisations to match their promises of inclusivity and filling the gap of involvement from the community.**
- **We established a pool of trained community research advocates.**
- **We created Terms of Reference for the research advocates and the research bodies.**
- **The OVN Research Panel took part in the LATCH study (Implementing long-acting injectable antiretroviral therapy for PLWHIV) and supported the head researcher at the Ethics Committee meeting.**

Amplifying Black Unheard Voices in Research

- OVN/NAT has initiated the first bespoke Research Training Program for UK Black Community experts in research ethics, protocol and policies.
- The research experts are crucial in influencing research equity and involvement within their communities.



**Thank you for joining us today and for your attention.
We appreciate your interest in our topic.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to reach out.

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**‘Unheard Voices’ Project
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