

A critical analysis to explore the relationship between racism and health, focusing on maternal mortality of black women in the UK

R. Ketteman, Lancaster University



Figure 1^{1,2}

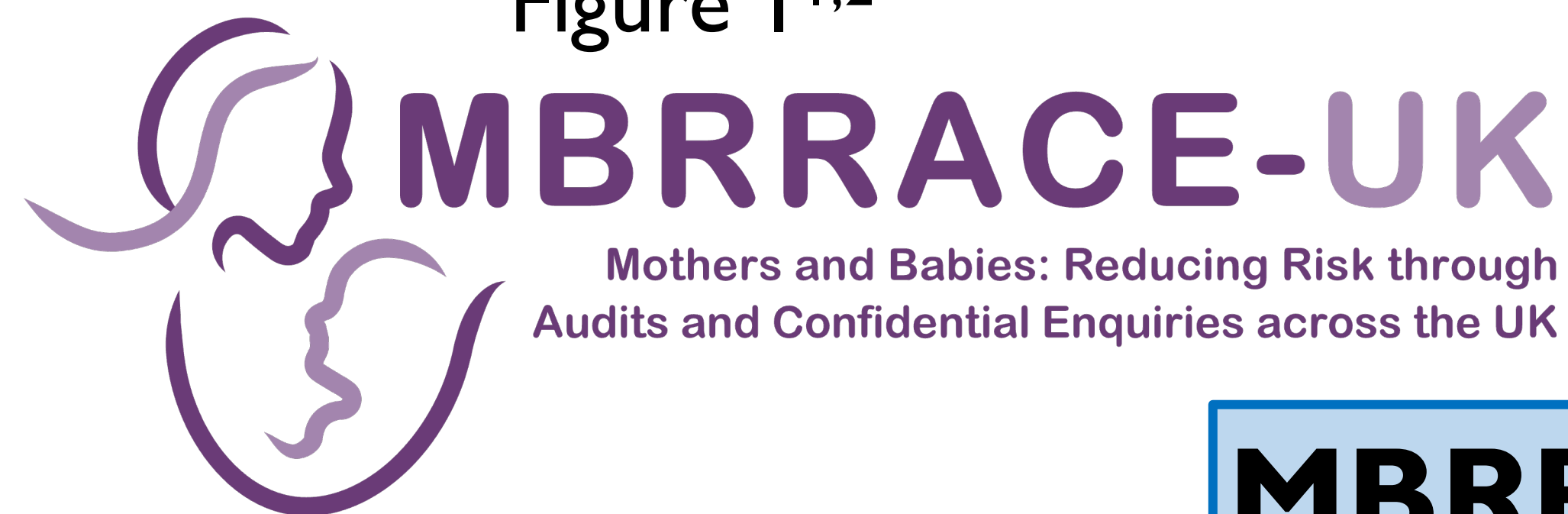
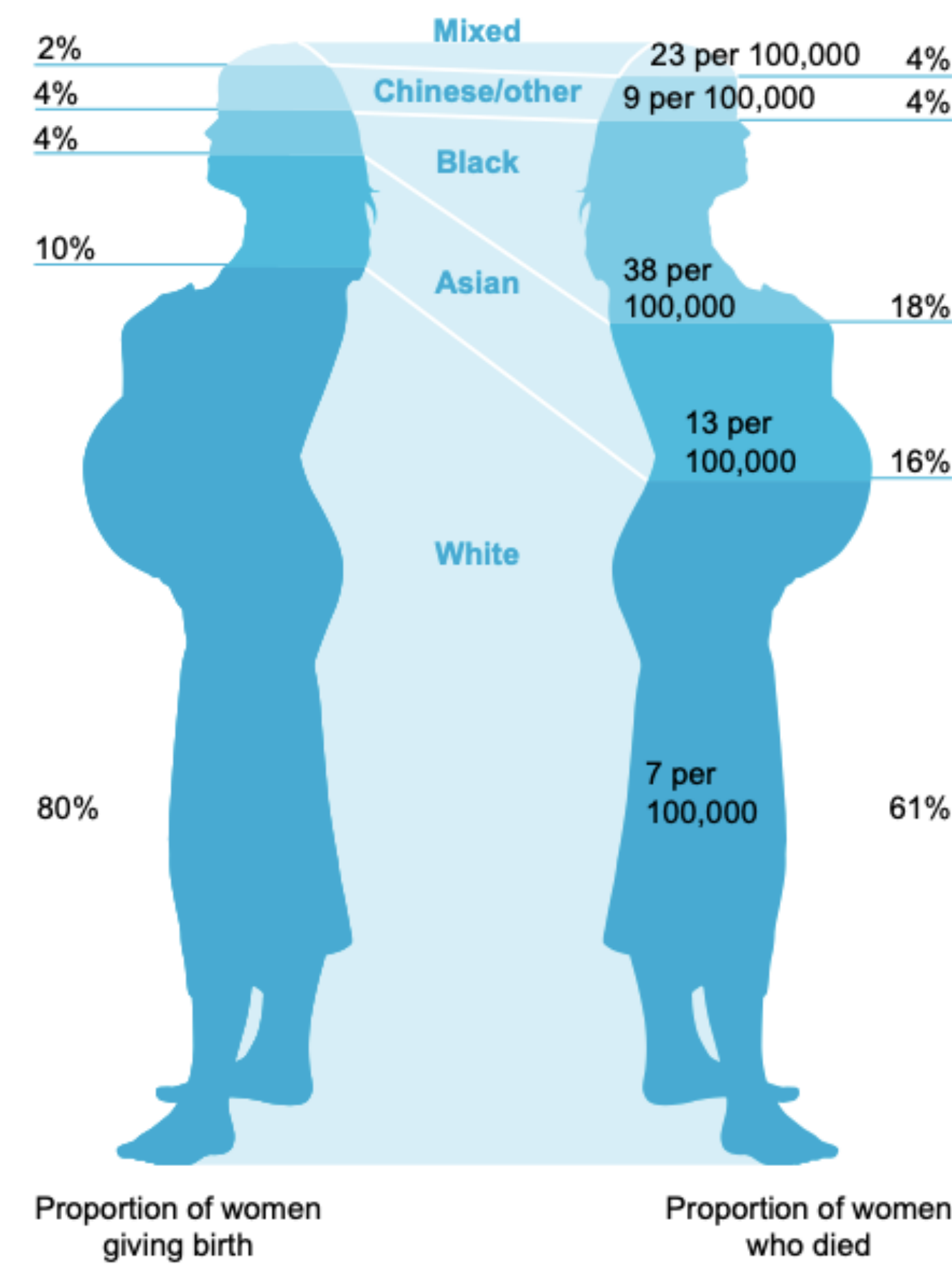


Figure 2¹

Ethnic group



MBRRACE-UK^{1,2}

Highlighted the disparity in maternal mortality rates in black women compared to white women

Figure 3³

Ockenden Report

Emerging Findings and Recommendations from the Independent Review of
MATERNITY SERVICES AT THE SHREWSBURY AND TELFORD HOSPITAL NHS TRUST

Ockenden Report³

Did not look specifically at ethnicity but highlighted issues such as lack of compassion from staff and women's concerns not being listened to – which are exacerbated for black women in the UK

A 'Constellation of Biases'

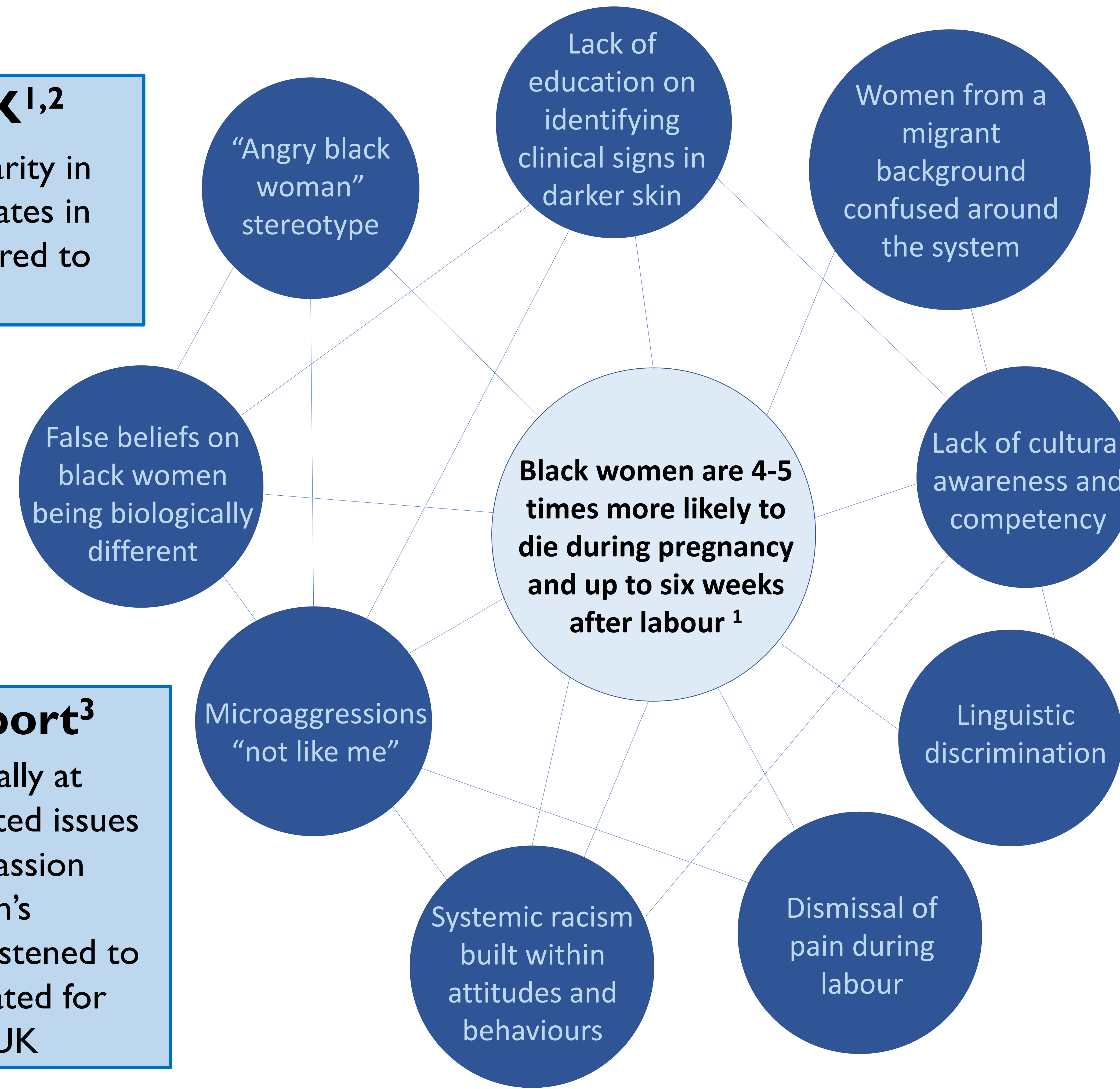


Figure 4⁴

FIVE X MORE

Five x More⁴

- High profile campaign providing resources for both healthcare professionals and black women
- RCOG have collaborated with the campaign to provide further guidance for professionals

How can we tackle this disparity?

- Improve our awareness of our unconscious biases and negative stereotypes
- Improve cultural competence
- Diversify healthcare curriculum
- Continue the open conversations on the topic

References:

1. Marian Knight KB, Derek Tuffnell, Judy Shakespear, Rohit Kotnis, Sara Kenyon, Jennifer J Kurinczuk. Saving Lives, Improving Mothers' Care. Lessons learned to inform maternity care from the UK and Ireland Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths and Morbidity 2015-17. MBRRACE-UK; Nov 2019.
2. Marian Knight KB, Derek Tuffnell, Judy Shakespear, Rohit Kotnis, Sara Kenyon, Jennifer J Kurinczuk. Saving lives, improving mothers' care. Lessons learned to inform maternity care from the UK and Ireland Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths and Morbidity 2016-18. MBRRACE-UK; Dec 2020.
3. Ockenden D. Maternity Services at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust. 2020 Dec 10.
4. Five X More [Internet]. [cited 2021 Mar 29]. Available from: <https://www.fivexmore.com>.