Black, Asian and ethnically diverse student experience in therapeutic radiography undergraduate education - student collaboration in research design

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DISCLOSURE

No relevant financial relationships exist
Background and purpose of study

- Gap in attainment between students from different ethnic backgrounds (UK average 13%)
  - Present regardless of other factors such as age, gender and entry qualification (Broecke & Nichollis 2006)

- Impact on entry to postgraduate study
  - career progression? Advanced & consultant practice? Doctoral study?

Aim – doctoral research to explore Black, Asian and ethnically diverse student experience in therapeutic radiography undergraduate education and develop questions for a UK-wide survey
Methodology

• A 90 min, student-led workshop took place
  - Experiences of learning in the academic and placement setting, perceived barriers to attainment and career aspirations discussed
  - Potential survey questions workshopped
• Five student volunteers who self-identified as coming from a Black, Asian, or ethnically diverse background volunteered to take part
• Audio data were recorded, transcribed and thematically analysed using NVivo software
Student collaboration

• Understand the student experience
  - Dual learning environment

• Student representation – survey design
  - Asking the right questions?
  - What is important to those who will be taking part in the research?

• Positionality – insider/outsider status
Findings

Racism and microaggressions

Expectations and working harder

Image: University of Hertfordshire
Findings continued...

**Representation**

**Cultural understanding**

**Mental health**

Image: University of Hertfordshire
Implications for practice

• Further collaboration with students as co-creators in research is invaluable

• Highlight often unheard student voices, embedding their narratives within the research which impacts, them from the outset

• Further research into the experiences of ethnically diverse student therapeutic radiographers is needed
  – reduce the awarding gap, increase representation in senior positions/research, impact clinical practice
Further reading

• Black, Asian and minority ethnic student attainment at UK universities. 2019. Universities UK and Closing the gap; three years on available at https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/what-we-do/policy-and-research/publications/black-asian-and-minority-ethnic-student


Special thanks go to the students who so openly shared their experiences with me

https://tinyurl.com/27s4brmn