NHS
South London
Cardiac Operational Delivery Network

Lewisham:
Community valve clinic

Data analysis on transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) procedures uncovered significant differences across South East London boroughs.

We looked at the data to understand why.

Borough	TAVI rate	TAVI rate (over 75s)
Bexley	87	868
Bromley	75	782
Greenwich	53	1028
Lambeth	33	706
Lewisham	37	760
Southwark	36	737
Average	**54**	**814**

The table (left) shows the annualised TAVI intervention rate per million people, averaged over 2017/18 to 2019/20. Outer SEL boroughs show markedly higher intervention rates than inner SEL. This seemed odd, given the proximity of two tertiary sites that perform these procedures, St Thomas' and King's College hospitals.
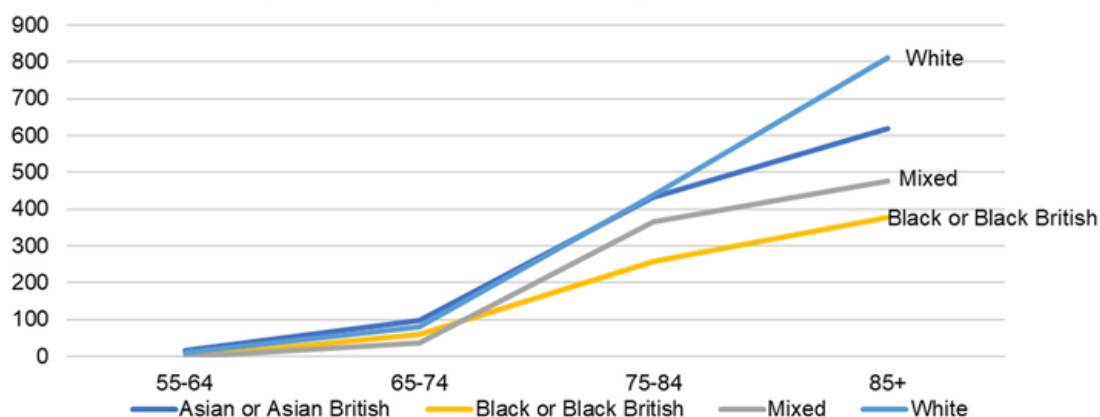
As boroughs have some differences in their demographics, the rate for those aged over-75s is also shown.
This rate has slightly less variation, although there are still clear unexplained differences.
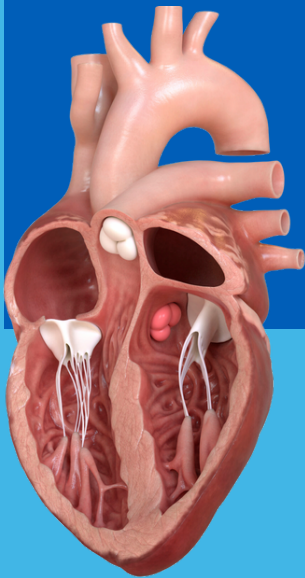
Impact of ethnicity and deprivation

There are several suspected reasons for this marked disparity of provision. However, social deprivation and the ethnic diversity of the population are likely key components of inequalities. Rates of treatment for severe aortic stenosis in the black or black British population remains disturbingly low, and mortality rates for untreated disease remain concerningly high.

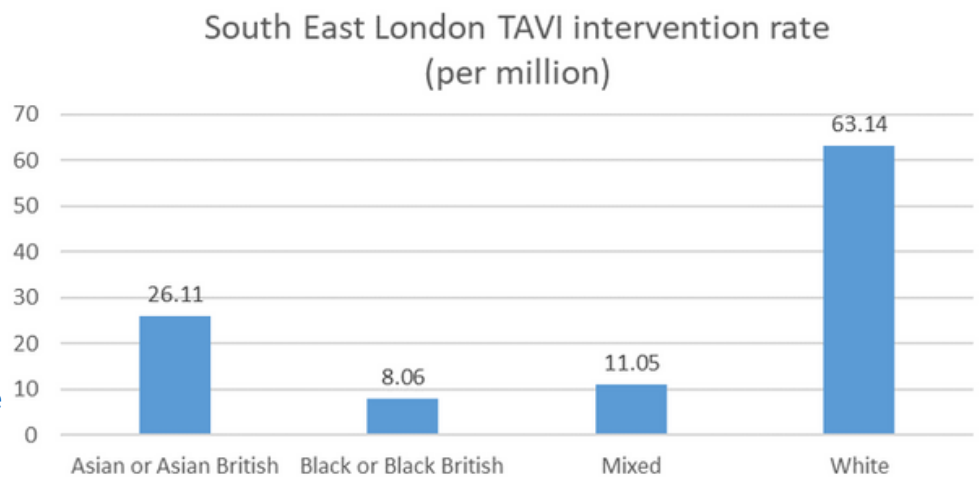TAVI rate (annual rates, per million, in England 2017/18 to 2019/20)

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South East London data shows that the TAVI intervention rate is nearly **8 times higher in the white population than in the black population**.

South East London TAVI intervention rate (per million)

* Rates per million people, 2017/18 to 2019/20 data. Records without ethnicity have been omitted.

Unequal: Underepresentation of black and black British people

When reviewing the population treated with TAVI, we can see that **black or black British people are significantly underrepresented**. Just 4% of TAVI patients identified as black -- even though 20% of the target population identify as black. In contrast, white people appear overrepresented when compared with SEL population demography.

Ethnicity group	% share of TAVI	% share of population
Asian or Asian British	5%	8%
Black or Black British	4%	20%
Mixed ethnic group	2%	7%
Other ethnic groups	3%	2%
White	87%	62%

We are still unclear about AS incidence in different ethnicities. But it would appear that black patients have delayed detection and diagnosis -- leading to an inequity of TAVI access.

This is why we're setting up mobile valve clinics in the Lewisham community.

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