

# Multiple Jeopardies: Long-term Impact of COVID-19 on Migrants & Ethnic Minorities' Physical and Mental Wellbeing

Thursday, 1st July, 2021 from 14.00 -16.00 (CET)

This Webinar is organised by the **Global Society on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health (GSMERH)** COVID-19 Working Group, and the Migrant & Ethnic Minority Health Section of the **European Public Health Association**, in collaboration with the **Global Health Section of the Amsterdam University Medical Centres**.

It will bring together leading experts to consider and discuss the emerging long-term impact on COVID-19 on the health and well-being of migrants and ethnic minorities across the world. The meeting will be chaired by Prof Charles Agyemang & Prof Nadav Davidovitch. Presentations by four eminent speakers will be followed by a panel discussion with the speakers and questions from the audience.



Prof Charles Agyemang



Prof Nadav Davidovitch



Prof Bernadette Nirmal Kumar



Prof Marie Norredam



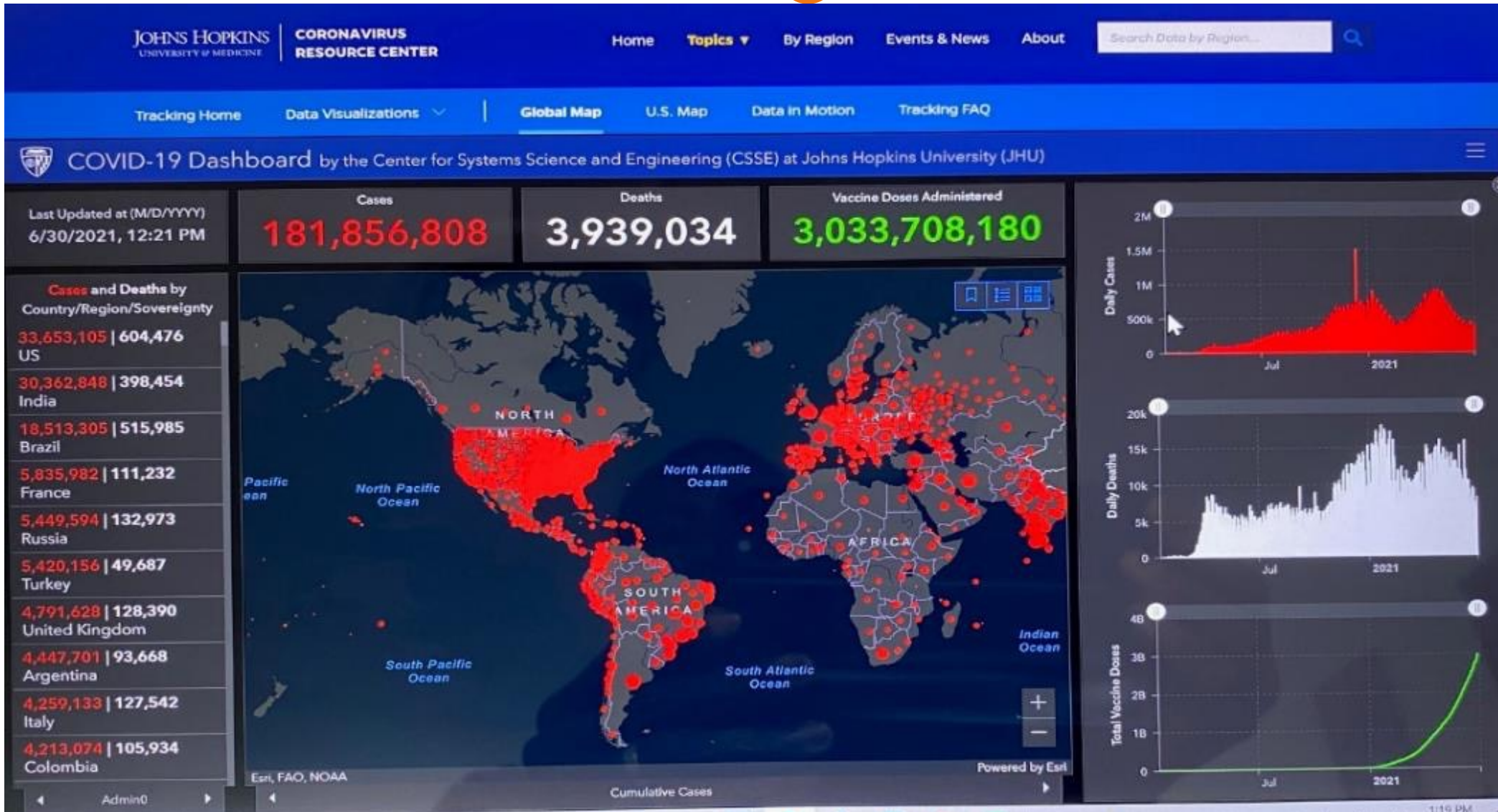
Prof Marit Sijbrandij

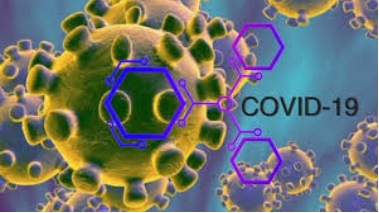


Dr Santino Severoni

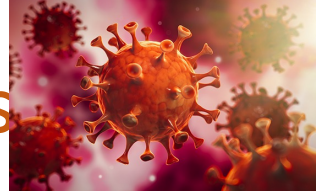


Prof Laurence Gruer

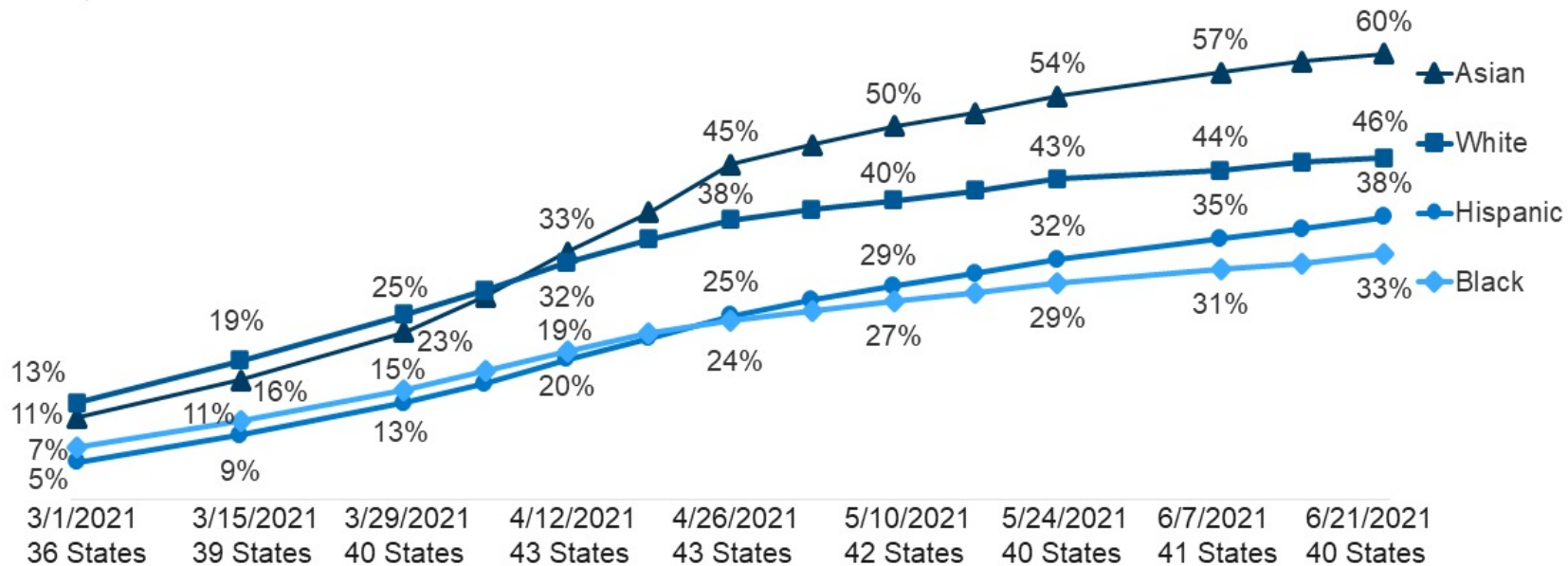




# COVID-19 vaccination uptake in minority communities still challenges despite progress



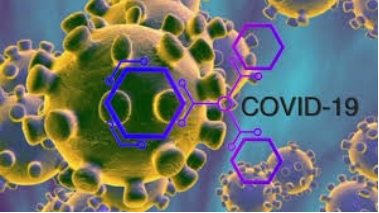
## Percent of Total Population that Has Received at Least One COVID-19 Vaccine Dose by Race/Ethnicity, March 1 to June 21, 2021



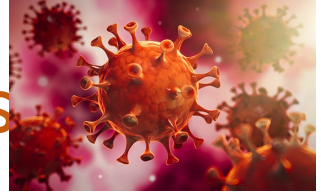
NOTE: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race but are categorized as Hispanic; other groups are non-Hispanic.

SOURCE: Vaccination data based on KFF analysis of publicly available data on state websites; total population data used to calculate rates based on KFF analysis of 2019 American Community Survey data.

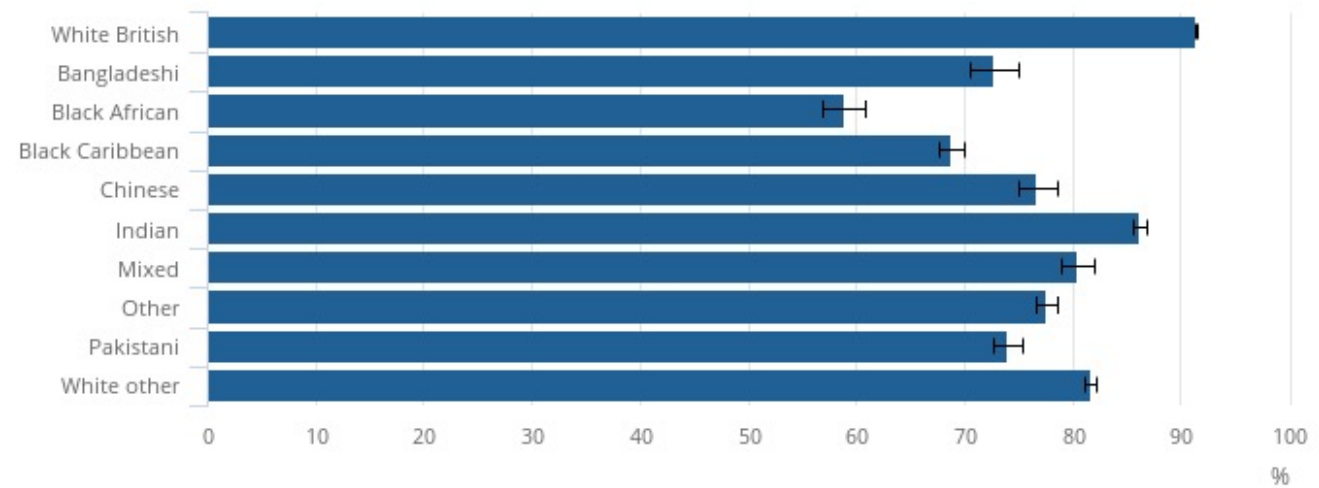
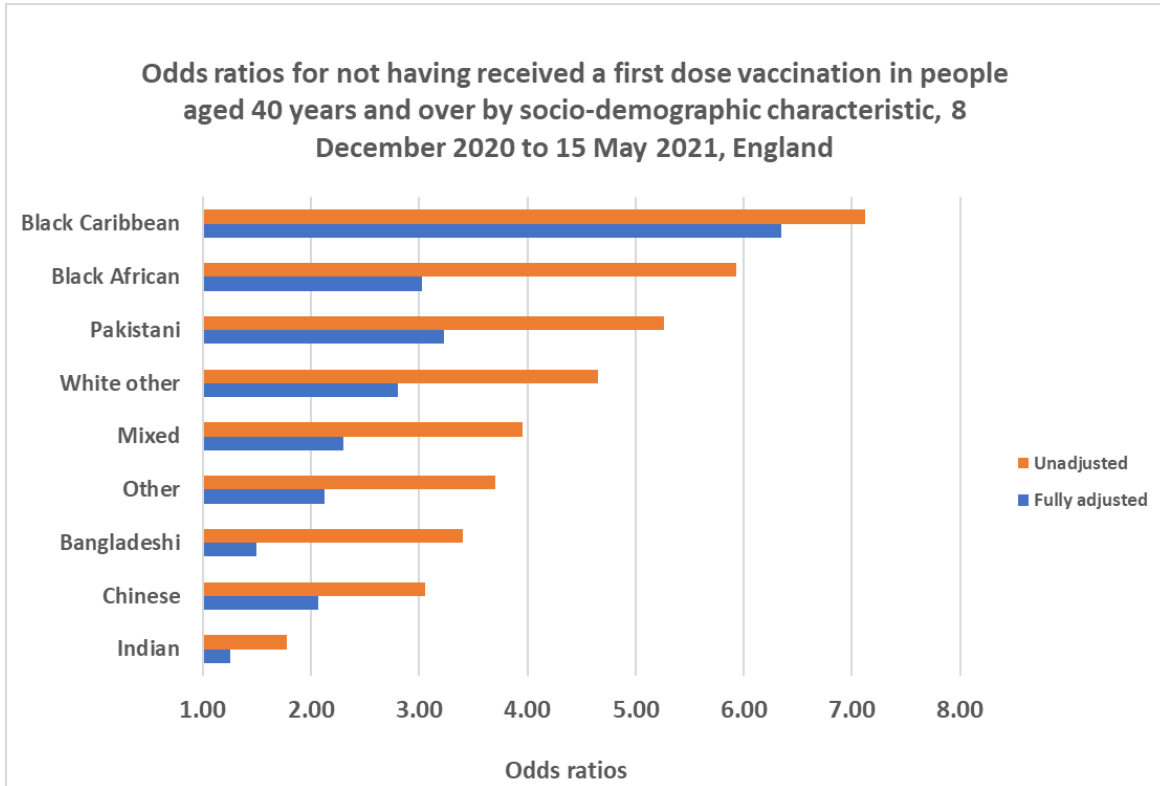




# COVID-19 vaccination uptake in minority communities still challenges despite progress



Vaccination rates of adults aged 70 years or over, by self-reported ethnic group 8 December 2020 to 11 March 2021, England



Source: Office for National Statistics - Public Health Data Asset, National Immunisation Management Service

## Multiple Jeopardies: Long-term Impact of COVID-19 on Migrants & Ethnic Minorities' Physical and Mental Wellbeing

### **Programme: Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021, 14:00-16:00 (CEI)**

- 14.00-14.05: **Welcome and scene setting.** Prof Charles Agyemang (Scientific Chair of GSMERH, Amsterdam University Medical Centres, The Netherlands)
- 14.05-14.25: **Long COVID: implications for migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and ethnic minorities.**  
Prof Marie Norredam (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
- 14.25-14.45: **The impact of COVID-19 on mental health in migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and ethnic minorities.**  
Prof Marit Sijbrandij (Amsterdam UMC, VU University, Amsterdam)
- 14.45-15.05: **The impact of COVID-19 on burnout among frontline migrant health workers.** Prof Nadav Davidovitch (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)
- 15.05-15.25: **Policy measures to mitigate the long-term impact of COVID-19 among migrants and ethnic minority groups.** Dr Santino Severoni, WHO, Geneva (Replaced by Dr Rifat Hossain, WHO, Geneva)
- 15.25-15.55: **Panel discussion with speakers.** Facilitated by Prof Bernadette Kumar (Chair of GSMERH, University of Oslo, Norway) & Prof Laurence Gruer (Secretary of GSMERH, University of Edinburgh, Scotland)
- 15.55-16.00: **Closing remarks.** Prof Charles Agyemang (Scientific Chair of GSMERH, University of Amsterdam)

# Long COVID: implications for migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and ethnic minorities

**Prof. Charles Agyemang**

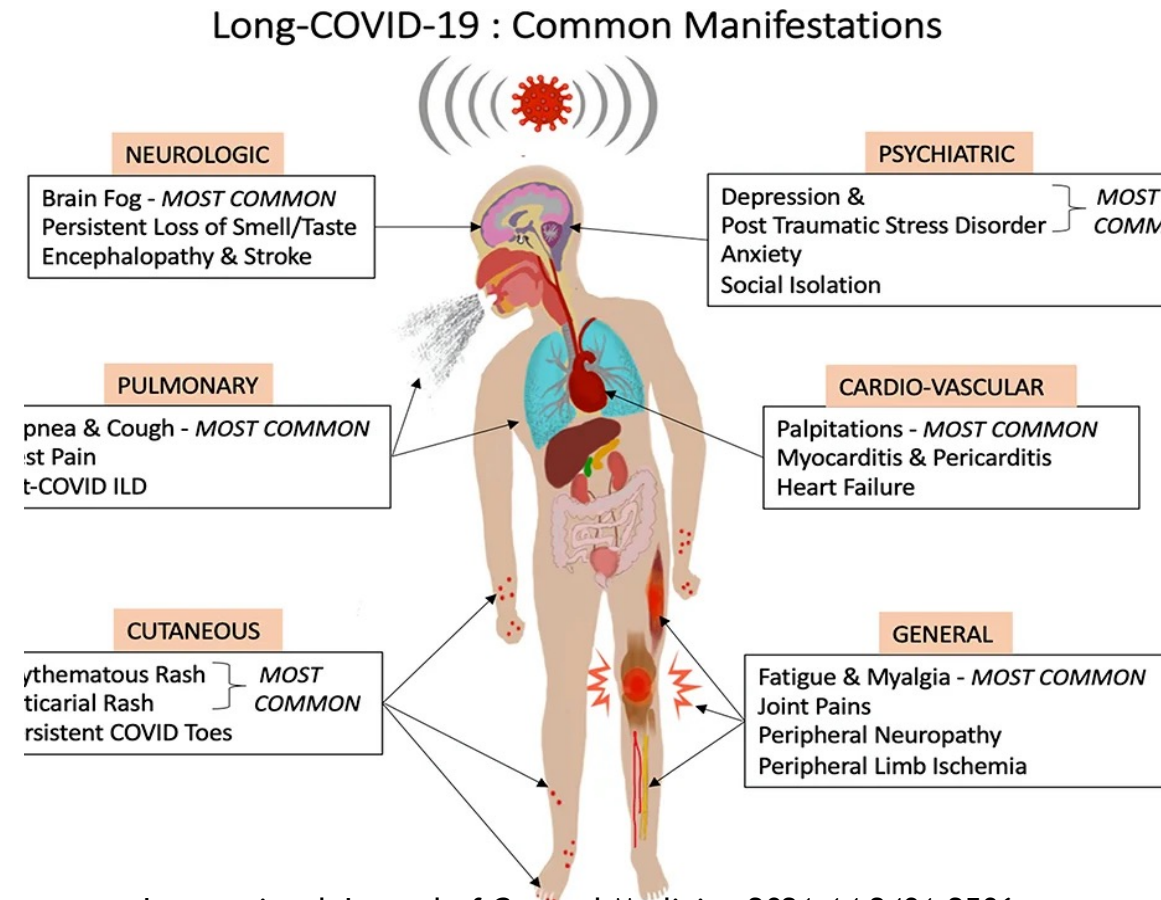
Professor of Global Migration, Ethnicity & Health

Vice President, European Public Health Association, Migrant Health Section



# Long COVID

- Long COVID - experience of symptoms that can last weeks or months after coronavirus infection
- Can appear weeks after infection
- Can affect all COVID-19 patients regardless of severity of the disease including asymptomatics



International Journal of General Medicine 2021;14 2491-2506



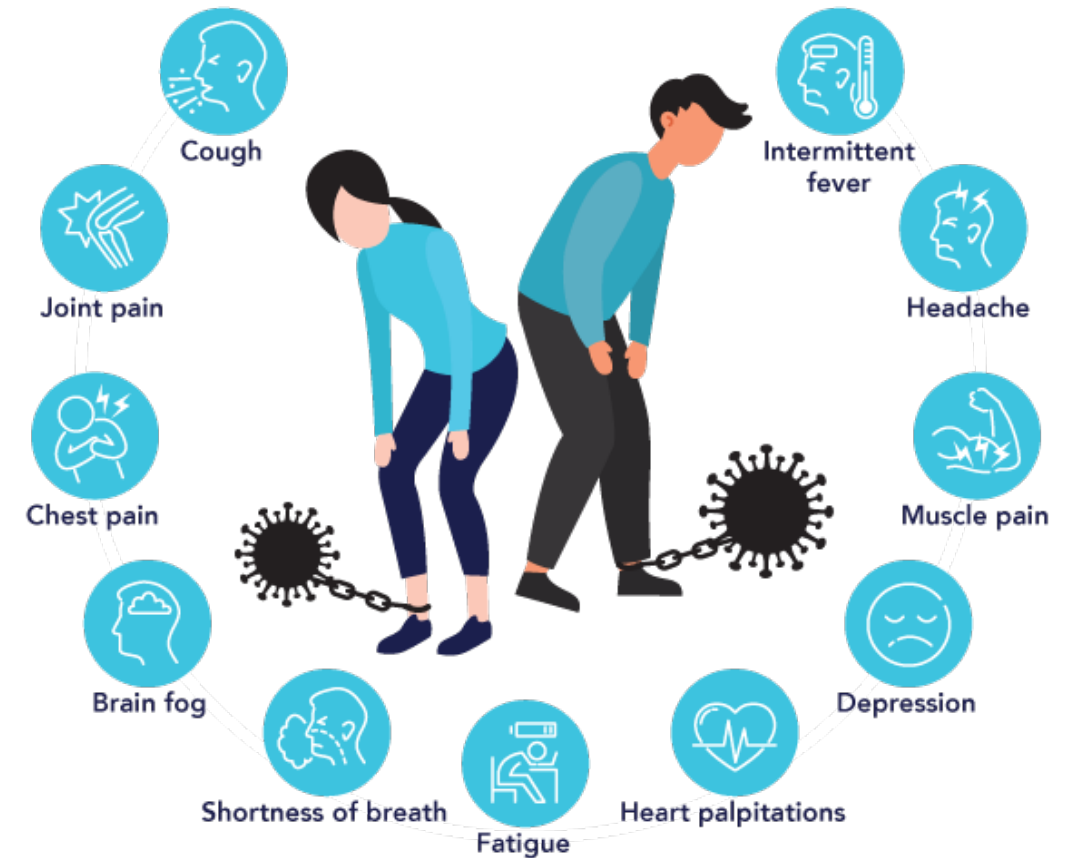
## People with Long COVID experience different combinations of the symptoms:

### Most common long-term symptoms include:

- ❖ Fatigue
- ❖ Shortness of breath
- ❖ Cough
- ❖ Joint pain
- ❖ Chest pain

### Other long-term symptoms may include:

- ❖ Difficulty thinking or concentrating
- ❖ Depression
- ❖ Muscle pain
- ❖ Headache
- ❖ Intermittent fever
- ❖ Heart palpitations



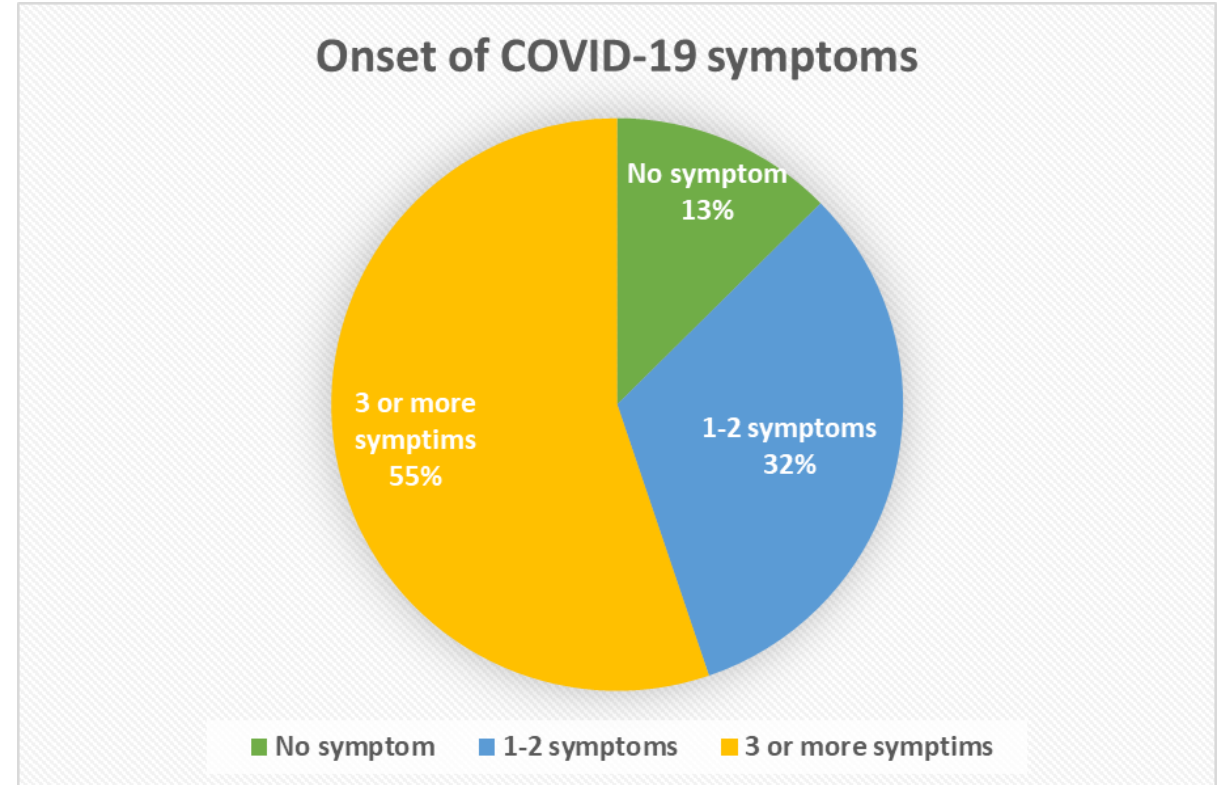
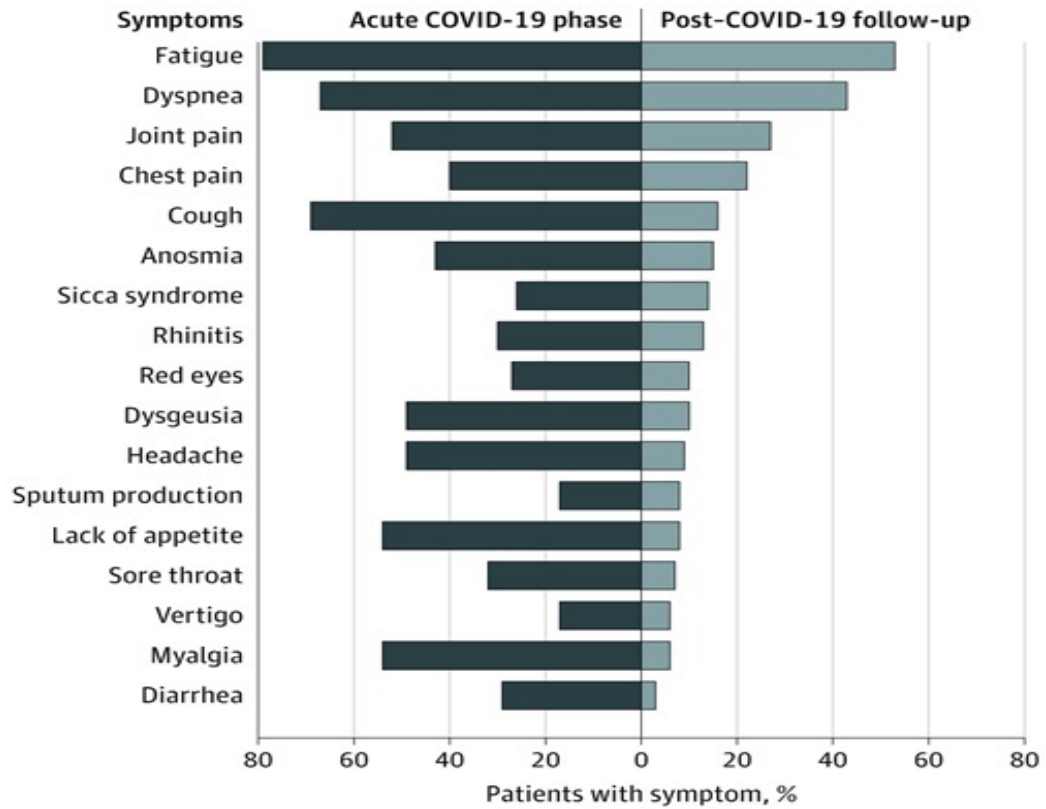
Source: VitaHealth, 2021

CDC, 2020, November 12





## COVID-19–Related Symptoms in acute and post COVID



JAMA. 2020;324(6):603-605.



# Results from FAIR Health

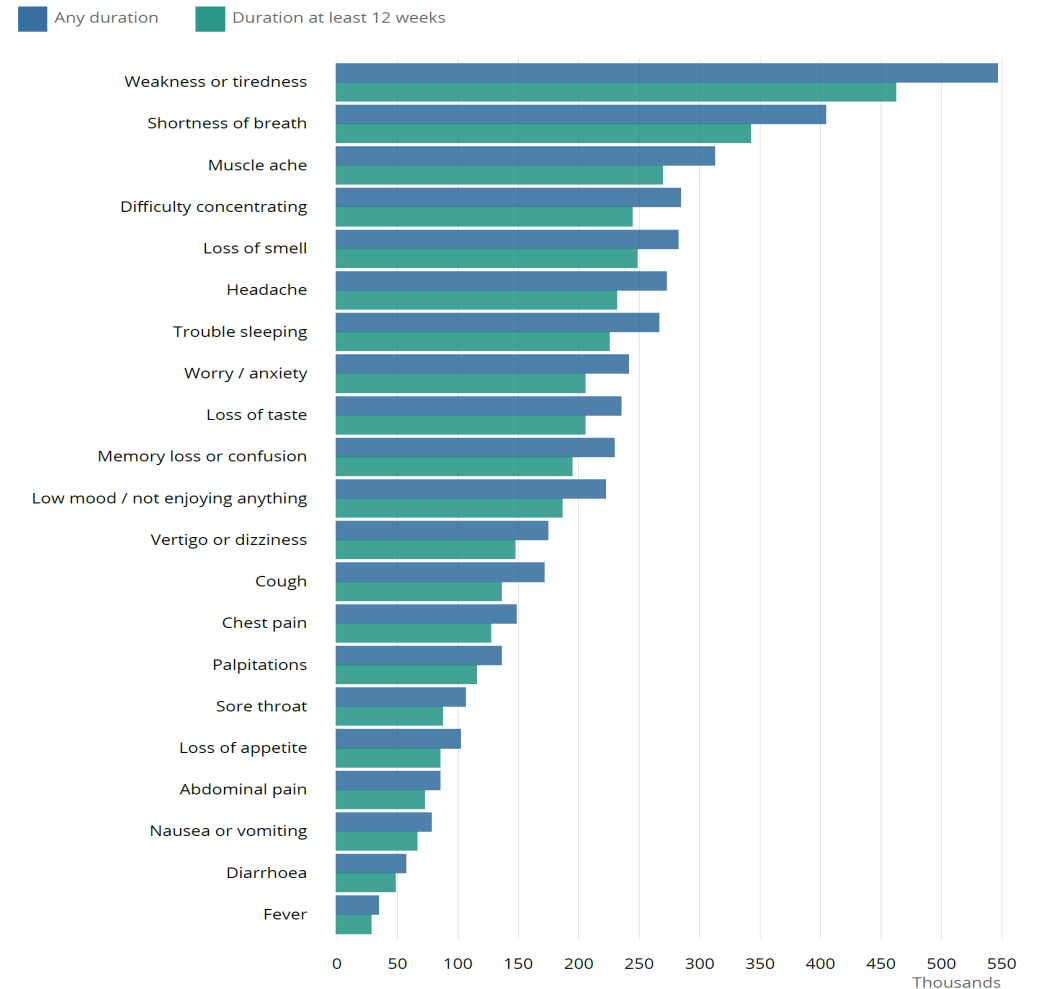
- Longitudinal analysis 1,959,982 COVID-19 patients for post-COVID conditions  $\geq 30$  days
  - 23.2% had at least one post-COVID condition
  - Post-COVID conditions greater in patients who had more severe COVID-19
  - 5 most common conditions: pain, breathing difficulties, hyperlipidemia, malaise and fatigue & hypertension
  - Females were more affected than males in most conditions
  - Anxiety & depression were most common mental health disorder

A FAIR Health White Paper, June 15, 2021



# Number of people with self-reported Long COVID by symptom, UK, 2 May 2021

In the UK, fatigue was the most common symptom reported as part of individuals' experience of long COVID, followed by shortness of breath, muscle ache and difficulty concentrating

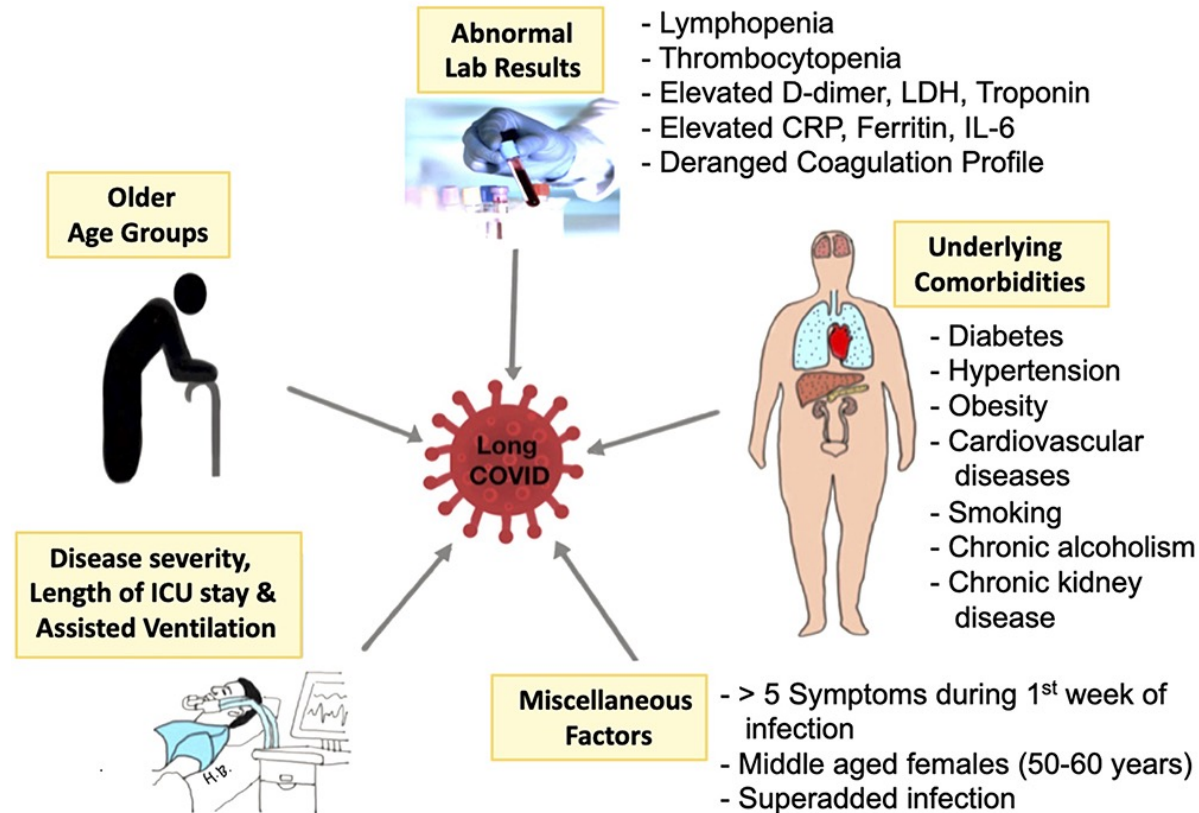


Source: Office for National Statistics



# Predictor/Risk factors of Long COVID

## Predictors / Risk Factors for Long-COVID

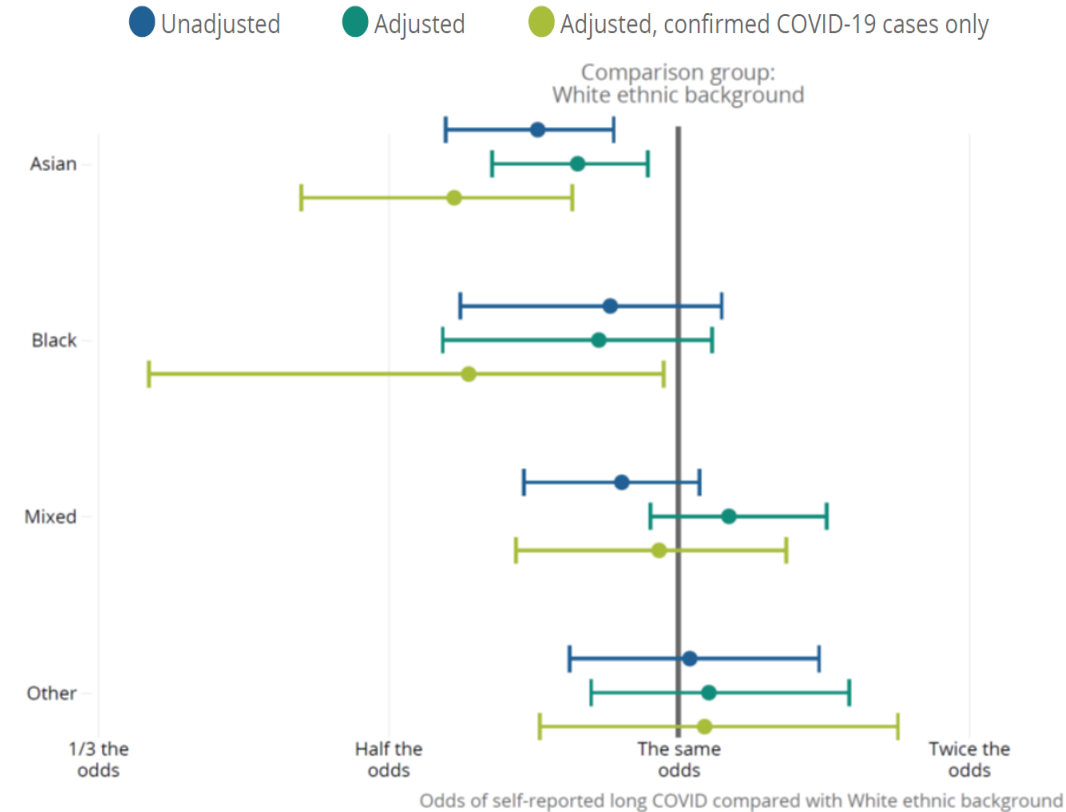


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# Long COVID in migrants & ethnic minorities

- Data are currently lacking
- In USA, research is underway and general expectation is that minorities may be at higher risk of long covid
- UK data (self-report) show lower rate of Long COVID in Asians & Africans



Source: Office for National Statistics

Adjusted estimates were obtained from a model including age group, sex, Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile group, health/disability status (self-reported rather than clinically diagnosed, and excluding any symptoms related to COVID-19), and care employment sector (health care, social care, other).



## Impact of long covid in migrants & ethnic minorities' well-being

Data are currently lacking but these impacts are plausible!

- ❖ Exacerbates poor socio-economic position
- ❖ Further marginalises affected migrants due to stigma & poor social support
- ❖ Leads to job insecurity
- ❖ High risk of eviction from homes due to lack of income (esp. non-documented migrants)
- ❖ Social isolation
- ❖ Potential difficulties in accessing healthcare



## Policy & Social implications of long covid for migrants & minorities

We need accurate data on the state of long COVID among migrants and minorities across all world regions

Minority must not be left out in the long COVID research

- Examine the impact of Long COVID on socio-economic circumstances of migrants & ethnic minorities
- Facilitate access to healthcare especially among the older migrants & non-documented migrants
- High prevalence of comorbidities in older migrants means they have differential vulnerability when it comes to Long COVID
- Provide social support through migrants' & ethnic minorities' trusted networks
- Provide job insecurity



Thanks!

APH is a collaboration between:





