

4th June 2020



National Ambulance  
BME Forum

## **Black Lives Matter #BLM**

Since the death of George Floyd last week, millions across the globe are taking part in protests and supporting the #BLM movement.

The sad thing is that this is not a new issue, this is part of what has been a systematic racial problem for centuries and it is a global problem, not just a problem in the USA. We recognise the personal impact and emotional turmoil that this is having on our black colleagues and volunteers, and we acknowledge that there are people in all our trusts who are hurting. The pain that is felt by black people around the globe is palpable.

We as the National Ambulance BME Forum stand with our black colleagues and will continue to drive towards eradicating racism. Our focus as a BME forum is to champion and raise awareness on issues around race. Racism has no place in our society.

It is not enough just to be not racist; we also have to be actively anti-racist. We do not want to move backwards in all the good work we have done so far in terms of race equality by staying silent.

Let us use this as an opportunity to be better and do better going forward. Ask your black colleagues "are you ok?"

Right now, our black colleagues feel tired and having allies is more crucial than ever. It's okay if you feel uncomfortable let's get talking, let's have the conversation.

This is not a black vs white matter. This is an everyone vs racism matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Ali".

Tasnim Ali  
Chairperson  
On behalf of the National Ambulance BME Forum