

COVID-19: NEW VIDEO RESOURCES IN 8 LANGUAGES

URGENT MESSAGES TO PREGNANT WOMEN IN REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER COMMUNITIES



Co-produced by the Local Maternity Systems and the Regional Refugee Forum North East and its members



[Albanian](#)

[Arabic](#)

[French](#)

[Urdu](#)

[Amharic](#)

[Farsi](#)

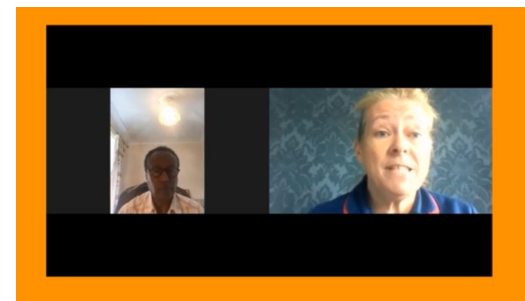
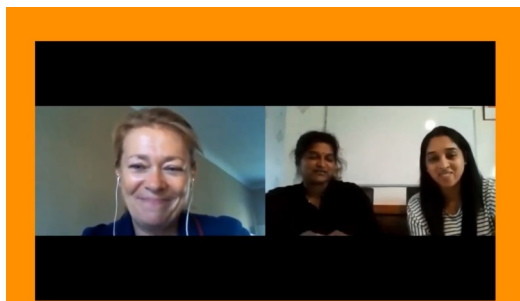
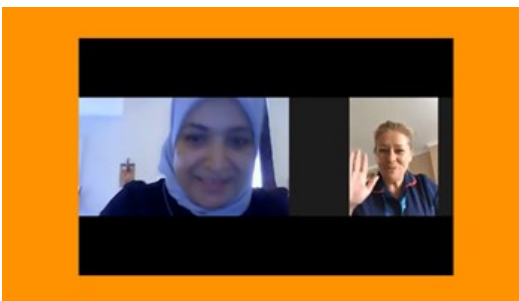
[Swahili](#)

[Tamil](#)

[Script and translated text](#)

Video description: Kathryn Hardy, Programme Lead for Local Maternity Systems in the North East region, shares some urgent messages for pregnant women which could help protect expectant mothers during Covid-19. Volunteers from Refugee-led Community Organisations working across the North East of England translate for their communities, using text and spoken word.

Recent research shows that COVID-19 is having a disproportionate impact on Black, Asian, and minority ethnic pregnant women. All are at increased risk of becoming unwell. Black pregnant women are eight times more likely to be admitted to hospital with COVID-19 than white pregnant women, while Asian women are four times more likely. Kathryn urges pregnant women to seek help immediately if they have any concerns about their health or their unborn baby's health, explains how to access maternity services and the steps these services are taking to make sure they're safe during the virus context and explains the importance of getting enough Vitamin D. She also responds to some of the claims circulating on social media that create mistrust and can deter pregnant BAME women from accessing NHS services.



Kathryn says: "It's been a pleasure working with the Regional Refugee Forum North East's members to relay these important COVID-19 messages to their communities. Working together ensures that we, as health professionals, can relay messages in a way that is understood, is appropriate to their needs and addresses specific concerns they have. I feel overawed at the support we've received. So many people came forward to help design the process, do translations and make the zoom recordings. Sharing these important messages regarding the impact COVID-19 is having on the Black, Asian and Minority ethnic community may save some lives. Ensuring that people seek help early and are assured that the maternity services are open as normal and are safe, will reassure families that help and support is there during this awful pandemic. Thank you."

Co-production: The Local Maternity Systems reached out to the Regional Refugee Forum with a request to help disseminate urgent headline messages to pregnant women in the region's diverse refugee and asylum seeker community. Further content and the format was developed through consultation meetings between the Forum's members and the LMS. A standardised script was agreed to ensure consistency and accuracy of message across communities. The format brings a key health professional together and a trusted community mobiliser together on screen. The Forum and its members' contribution have been entirely voluntary.

- Further information:
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Women Can Do It

