

Grant recipient: Dr Anita Atwal
Grant: Research Priority Grant 2023
Title of project: The cultural adaptation of Occupational Therapy as a complex intervention for Somalis in the United Kingdom

Abstract:

Aim: To develop guidelines for cultural adaptation of occupational therapy in the United Kingdom so that it is more acceptable and accessible to members of the Somali community.

Background: The research is important now as we need to ensure all citizens have fair access to services and they meet the needs of all communities. In preliminary conversation cafes and workshops, the Somali community raised concerns about health inequality, and that healthcare such as occupational therapy can be inaccessible.

Design and methods used: The method used in this study is action research. It is used to bring about improvement or practical change. The main aim is always to empower people and improve people's lives and to work together to develop an idea about how it might be resolved. This study will use interviews, Q-sorting, and a citizen jury to co-develop guidelines to improve services.

Patient and Public Involvement: We have involved the community and services to carefully write this research proposal and have had conversations to explore whether this research is important to the community.

Dissemination: We will be communicating the findings of a research project to a wide range of people who might find it useful. We will ensure that the community is kept informed of the progress and findings of the study. This can be done through producing reports, publishing articles in journals or newsletters, issuing press releases or giving talks at conferences and to the community.