

## **Research Tackles Medic Performance Across Demography**



A recent report by the General Medical Council reviews the issues as to why medics from one demographic group perform differently from those from another on the same assessment.

The review analysed 39 academic papers and 29 other sources of information. The findings show that there is no single reason for the different performance levels between different ethnic groups. There may be multiple factors involved for the varying levels including language and social networks as well as educational environment and organisational culture.

Dr. Sam Regan de Bere, Deputy Director of CAMERA at PUPSMD explains that this is an important issue to address since there is a need to understand what allows one demographic group to perform better or worse than another group in the same training. "As we seek to widen access to the medical profession for candidates across the broadest social spectrum, it is more important now than ever before that we address the issue of 'differential attainment' so that the playing field is as level as we can make it."

The report was part of a programme to better understand the nature of differential attainment and to determine what actions could be taken to help mitigate this. The research can help identify causes, effective interventions and ways in which performance levels could be improved.

Source: University of Plymouth

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