

Dr Anil Gumber, Warwick Medical School, Warwick University.

Occupational Health and Safety Among Britain's Ethnic Minorities.

10 May 2005 **3.30pm to 5.00pm**

Biography

Mr. Anil Gumber is a Senior Research Fellow at Warwick Medical School. Dr. Gumber was previously Senior Economist at the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi. He was awarded Ph.D. in economics from Gujarat University, Ahmedabad. He had also held the Takemi Fellowship at the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston.

Dr. Gumber, being trained in international health, has specifically addressed health issues of the poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. He has undertaken several consultation projects funded by the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO and DfID. He has specialization in econometrics, management and analysis of large data sets as well as in designing survey instruments and sampling frame for primary data collection. He is currently undertaking ESRC sponsored research activities in the area of ethnicity, health and population diversity in UK (details: <http://users.wbs.ac.uk/group/ceehd>). He is also providing the health economics input into a number of large scale studies, including one with a link to ethnicity (UK Asian Diabetes Study). His research interests are: ethnicity and health; equity and international health; health care financing and insurance in developing countries; cost and efficiency issues in health; injury prevention and control; migration and resettlement; poverty, welfare and social policy issues.

Summary

This report sets out an evidence-based review on work-related health and safety issues relating to black and minority ethnic groups. Data included available statistical materials and a systematic review of published research and practice-based reports.

UK South Asians are generally under-represented within the most hazardous occupational groups. They have lower accident rates overall, while Black Caribbean workers rates are similar to the general population; Bangladeshi and Chinese workers report lowest workplace injury rates

UK South Asian people exhibit higher levels of limiting long-term illness (LLI) and self reported poor health than the general population while Black Africans and Chinese report lower levels. Ethnic minority workers with LLI are more likely than whites to withdraw from the workforce, or to experience lower wage rates.

Some of these findings conflict with evidence of differentials from USA, Europe and Australasia, but there is a dearth of effective primary research or reliable monitoring data from UK sources.

There remains a need to improve monitoring and data collection relating to black and ethnic minority populations and migrant workers.

Suggestions are made relating to workshops on occupational health promotion programmes for ethnic minorities, and ethnic minority health and safety 'Beacon' sites.