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### **Vaccination behaviours and health service access amongst Polish and Romanian communities in England**

Limited research exists on vaccination uptake amongst Polish and Romanian communities. This is an area warranting exploration given the differences in vaccination programmes and health care systems across countries. We aimed to explore vaccination behaviours and health service access amongst Polish and Romanian communities in England.

To explore any barriers to vaccination and broader health service delivery from provider perspectives, semi-structured interviews were performed with 20 healthcare workers involved in delivering vaccination information, administering vaccinations, and sending vaccination reminders. To explore community perspectives, interviews were also performed with 20 Polish and 10 Romanian participants, who were asked to share their experiences of vaccination and health service access in relation to themselves and their families.

Although most Polish and Romanian participants reported receiving vaccinations according to the recommended UK vaccination schedule, several barriers to uptake were identified. Barriers were highlighted around trust in vaccinations and healthcare providers. These were compounded by difficulties in accessing trustworthy sources to inform vaccination decision-making, concerns about the safety of certain vaccinations, language barriers, and differences in vaccination delivery in the UK compared to Poland and Romania.

For several Polish and Romanian participants, it required time to understand and adjust their expectations of health services, built on Polish and Romanian experiences, to the UK system. In some instances, unfamiliarity and mistrust of the UK system was associated with ongoing use of pay for health services in Poland and Romania and private Polish general practitioners in the UK.