

Blacks 'six times more likely' to face serious illnesses

New report reveals African Caribbeans have even greater chance of suffering heart disease and strokes

People of African, Caribbean and Asian descent are up to six times more likely to suffer from type 2 diabetes, heart disease and strokes than other ethnicities, according to new health figures. These startling statistics were revealed by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), in a briefing to the local authorities that plan health campaigns. Professor Mike Kelly of NICE, said: "Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke are potentially life-threatening conditions, which people of African, Caribbean and Asian descent and other minority ethnicities are significantly more likely to develop than the wider population." He added: "Not only are people from these ethnic backgrounds up to six times more likely to be diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, they are 50 per cent more likely to die from cardiovascular disease."