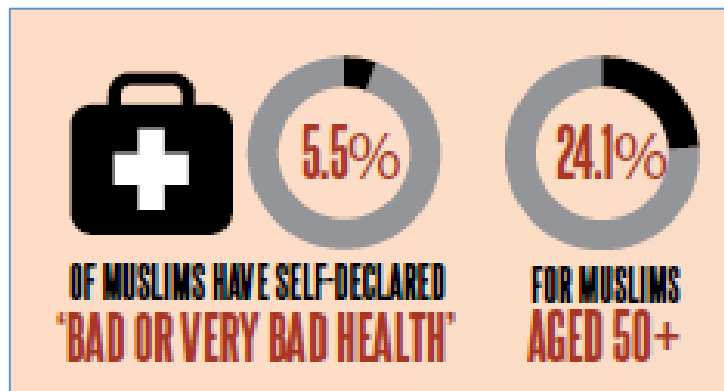


# Elderly Muslims have greater health concerns

The percentage of Muslims within the 50+ age group with self-declared “bad or very bad health” is 24.1%, which is double the percentage for the population as a whole (12.1%).



## What does this mean?

- The percentage of the 2.7m Muslims in England and Wales with self-declared ‘bad or very bad health’ for all age groups is 5.5%, which is similar to the overall population (5.4%). However for the 50+ years old age group, it is 24.1% for Muslims. Moreover, there are about 50 Local Authority Districts where 40% or more of Muslim women over 65 years old state they have bad health. What are the contributing factors?
- Should civil society be doing more to convey these concerns to the NHS and public health policy-makers at the highest levels, to ensure public health policy is meeting the needs of all sections of society? Who are the other stakeholders and how can they be mobilised?
- Elderly Muslims clearly demonstrate poorer health and disability outcomes, which may be in part related to lower socio-economic status, living in poorer areas, and low Muslim participation in national screening programmes. With Government looking for savings in the NHS, how are shortfalls in services to be provided, particularly to tackle conditions such as depression?
- How can Muslim opinion-makers such as mosque imams be more effective in disseminating health messages to their networks and congregations?