

Female Genital Mutilation

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Longer, healthier lives for
all the people in Croydon



FGM in context

In pairs have a 5 minute discussion:

- ❖ Why do you think practitioners need to know about FGM?
- ❖ How do you think FGM awareness applies to your role/the people that you work with?
- ❖ Do you feel prepared to manage cases where FGM may be present/talk about FGM in your role?



Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

- ❖ FGM has no health benefits and harms girls and women in many ways. It involves removing and damaging healthy and normal female genital tissue, and hence interferes with the natural function of girls' and women's bodies.
- ❖ FGM is illegal in the UK
- ❖ FGM is prevalent in 28 African countries as well as in parts of the Middle East and Asia.
- ❖ FGM is practised by families for a variety of complex reasons but often in the belief that it is beneficial for the girl or woman.
- ❖ FGM constitutes a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls, and has severe short-term and long-term physical and psychological consequences



FGM/C prevalence – Girls and women aged 15–49 (UNICEF 2013)

Somalia	98%
Guinea	96%
Djibouti	93%
Egypt	91%
Eritrea	89%
Mali	89%
Sierra Leone	88%
Sudan	88%
Burkina Faso	76%
Gambia	76%
Ethiopia	74%
Mauritania	69%

Liberia	66%
Guinea Bissau	50%
Chad	44%
Cote d'Ivoire	36%
Nigeria/Kenya	27%
Senegal	26%
Central AR	24%
Yemen	23%
Tanzania	15%
Benin	13%
Iraq	8%
Ghana/Togo	4%



FGM in Croydon

There are estimated to be 3,480 females living in Croydon who have been affected by FGM at some point in their lives.

- ❖ This is equivalent to 1 in 104 people.
- ❖ 180 of these women are estimated to be aged under 16, 2250 16-49 years old and 1050 aged over 50.
- ❖ It is estimated that 180 births per year in Croydon are to women affected by FGM.



Mandatory reporting of FGM:

New professional duty to report all girls under 18 with FGM to the police:

- ❖ This new mandatory reporting duty will commence in October 2015. The duty has been brought through the Serious Crime Act 2015 and will mean that whenever regulated professionals (health, social care and education) identify that a girl under 18 has had FGM, or if the girl discloses this herself, the professional must make a report to the police.
- ❖ Mandatory Reporting does not replace general safeguarding responsibilities: professionals must still undertake any safeguarding actions as required, usually beginning with a discussion with their local safeguarding lead to identify an appropriate course of action



FGM Project

Croydon CCG have taken the lead in investing in an exciting new twelve month FGM Project, put in place to :-

- ❖ Scope and map the prevalence of FGM in Croydon
- ❖ Improve outcomes for women and children affected by FGM
- ❖ Reduce and prevent FGM prevalence in Croydon
- ❖ Improve multi agency response to FGM in Croydon
- ❖ Engage with professionals and communities on FGM to effect positive change in Croydon



Look out for : -

- ❖ Key training, learning and networking events
 - ❖ Accessible resources, publicity materials, guidance and referral pathways on FGM
 - ❖ Monthly support group for women affected by FGM in Croydon
 - ❖ The opportunity to have your voice heard in improving and planning services for people affected by FGM
 - ❖ The opportunity to train as an FGM Community Champion
 - ❖ Plus much more
- ❖ Please email me beth.kelly@croydonpct.nhs.uk so that I can keep you up to date with how the project develops.

