

Croydon CCG Female Genital Mutilation Project

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. It 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. The practice causes severe pain and has several immediate and long-term health consequences, including difficulties in childbirth also causing dangers to the child.

❖ 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

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.

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 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

If you would like to know more about this project please contact : -

Beth Kelly
FGM Project Consultant
(Tue, Wed, Thu)

Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group
Bernard Weatherill House
2nd Floor, Zone G
8 Mint Walk
Croydon CR0 1EA

Mobile: 07920 190147
beth.kelly@croydonpct.nhs.uk

