

FGM – An introduction

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The World Health Organisation

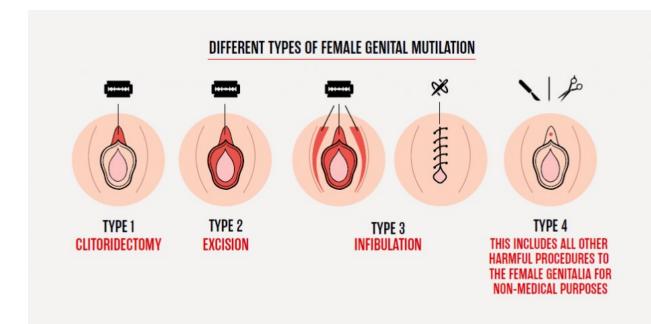
Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.







The types of FGM







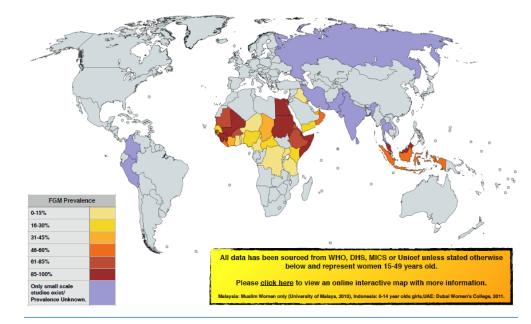






Where does FGM happen?

FGM Global Prevalence Map (%)





How is FGM carried out?

- Traditional methods
- Medicalised
- Overseas
- FGM in the UK
- Ceremony
- Economic considerations













When?

- Cultural variance
- 0-15 years
- After childbirth and divorce
- Economic considerations
- Emerging trends
- Younger/non verbal
- Type 4 ritual nicking













Why?

- Culture
- Religion
- False Beliefs
- Sociological
- Hygiene
- Aesthetics
- Financial considerations
- Control of women







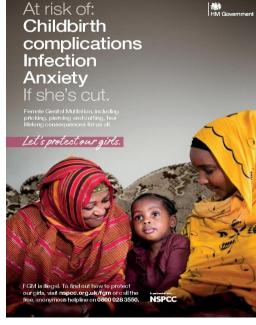






Health consequences short term

- Haemorrhage
- Severe pain & shock
- Urine retention
- Infection
- Injury to adjacent tissue
- Fractures/dislocation













Health consequences long term

- Urination/UTI
- Menstruation
- Associated infections
- Sexual dysfunction
- Pregnancy & childbirth
- Chronic scar formations
- Fistula
- Infertility













FGM risk factors/risk indicators

- Prevalent community
- Maternal FGM
- Long holidays
- Inconsistencies
- Sibling FGM
- Celebration/ Party for girls
- Repeat maternal FGM
- Other tipping factors unique to family





Response to a risk referral

- Prior to 2018 CSC/Police joint response
- Education
- Community feedback
- 2018 'low risk' managed by Education/Health
- FGM RIS (Health)
- Higher risk cases referred: strategy/joint approach
- Joint visit to girl and family
- Law reiterated, literature provided
- Higher risk cases FGM Protection Orders











Key challenges

- Lack of intelligence
- Funding and capacity
- The legislation
- Low levels of reporting
- Lack of reliable data
- Statutory roles
- Challenge to engage community
- Conflicting narratives
- Risk assessment tools
- Static risk factors
- Proportionate responses















Thank you – Any questions?



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