

FGM Pathway

Informed by a girl (under 18) that she has had FGM or observes physical signs which appear to show FGM has been carried out.

If urgent medical care is needed call 999, if not call the Police on 101 for mandatory reporting.

It is good practice to inform the girl that you are doing so.

Refer to [Mandatory Reporting FGM guide](#).

A parent, guardian, sibling or other individual discloses that a girl (under 18) has had FGM.

Refer to Children's Social Care for the Local Authority that the child lives in and inform the Nominated/Deputy Child Safeguarding Adviser.

No

Concern that a girl (u18) has had/is at risk of FGM.

Immediate risk?

Yes – call 999 or 101 depending on the urgency of the case.

Female (over 18) from country where FGM is prevalent (see separate map, also on back of clinic door):

Sensitively broach the topic of FGM. Explain these practices can cause many complications in pregnancy / childbirth and therefore it is important you know if she has been circumcised to ensure delivery of safe / effective care.

Use a sensitive line of questioning with value neutral terms understandable to the woman, such as:

- "Have you been closed?"
- "Were you circumcised?"
- "Have you been cut down there?"

Female (over 18) has had FGM.

Advise that FGM is unlawful and harmful.

Offer a referral to the African Well Woman's clinic (*consult local pathways*)

Girl (under 18) from country where FGM is prevalent (see separate map, also on back of clinic door):

Sensitively broach the topic of FGM. Advise that FGM is unlawful and harmful.

Ensure they know how to seek help if they are concerned that they may be at risk of FGM in the future (e.g. by talking to a teacher or other professional).

For more information see these [multiagency practice guidelines](#).