

Female Genital Mutilation (Fgm)

Useful links for advising health professionals and travellers about Female Genital Mutilation

Key Points

- The WHO estimates that approximately 100 - 140 million girls and women worldwide have been affected by [female genital mutilation](#)
- Children born in the UK may be at risk of FGM when they travel with their families to visit friends and relatives in countries where this practice is common
- It is illegal to perform FGM in the UK or to take girls who are UK nationals or UK residents abroad for FGM
- Health professionals have a mandatory reporting duty if FGM is identified or a child is thought to be at risk. Failure to do so, may result in disciplinary procedures through the health professional regulatory body under "Fitness to Practise" proceedings.

Resources

- [WHO health topic: female genital mutilation](#)
- [Department of Health. FGM mandatory reporting in healthcare](#)
- [Public Health England. Female genital mutilation \(FGM\): migrant health guide.](#)
- [HM Government. Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation](#)
- [Royal College of Nursing. Female genital mutilation](#)
- [Royal College of Nursing: FGM guidance for travel health services](#)
- [Royal College of Nursing: FGM travel health services pathway](#)

REFERENCES

Published Date: 28 Apr 2016

Updated Date: 21 Dec 2016