CP67

Identification and Management of Female Genital Mutilation Policy (FGM)

Contents

1.0 Policy Statement

The purpose of this policy is to reduce the risk of serious harm by offering early intervention in the lives of families affected by FGM. This document directs the consistent approach to managing cases of FGM within The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT). Effective pathways and a robust information sharing process between health and partner agencies are required to protect victims and girls from risk of significant harm. The girl's welfare must remain paramount throughout the process in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023) and Section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

This policy has been designed for all frontline practitioners and clinicians. With effect from June 2015, NHS acute trusts are required to record all cases of FGM and submit figures of identified cases via the FGM enhanced data set (Department of Health 2015). The Serious Crime Act 2015 introduced a duty requiring regulated health agencies to report known cases of FGM in under 18-year-olds to the police. The practice of FGM is a criminal offence in the UK (Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003).

FGM is a form of child abuse. It is recognised internationally as a gross violation of human rights and reflects an extreme form of discrimination against women. FGM has no health benefits and only serves to harm women and girls. It has many immediate health complications and long-term consequences both physically and mentally.

This policy will:

- Support staff in identifying FGM.
- Promote selective enquiry when a clinician suspects FGM.
- Identify risk to girls and women.
- Describe the referral pathway that staff must follow to appropriate agencies.
- Support staff to collaborate effectively with other health professionals and other partner agencies as appropriate.

In adhering to this Policy, all applicable aspects of the Conflicts of Interest Policy GOP109 must be considered and addressed. In the case of any inconsistency, the Conflicts of Interest Policy is to be considered the primary and overriding Policy.

2.0 Definitions

2.1 Definitions of FGM

The World Health Organisation (WHO) 2024 defines FGM as 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.

Female Genital Mutilation has been classified by the World Health Organisation into

four types. See table below.

Type I	The partial or total removal of the clitoral glans and/or the prepuce.
Type II	The partial or total removal of the clitoral glans and the labia minora with or without excision of the labia majora.
Type III	Often referred to as **infibulation**, this is the narrowing of the vaginal opening through the creation of a covering seal. The seal is formed by cutting and repositioning the labia minora, or labia majora, sometimes through stitching, with or without removal of the clitoral glans.
Type IV	This includes all other harmful procedures to the female genitalia for non-medical purposes, e.g. pricking, piercing, incising, scraping and cauterizing the genital area.

Female genital mutilation

2.2 General Definitions

MASH	**The Multi – Agency Safeguarding Hub is the single point of contact for all professionals to report safeguarding concerns.**
MARF	**Multi-Agency Referral Form completed for children and young people where there are concerns for their safeguarding.**
Child	**Is defined by law as a person aged less than 18 years-old.**
WST	**Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together which convenes Safeguarding Partners**

3.0 Accountabilities

This policy applies to all staff employed by the Trust, and how they can be supported to develop an understanding of FGM and the reporting responsibilities

3.1 The Chief Nurse

Fulfils the role of the nominated Director/Executive Lead and is responsible for coordinating the management of safeguarding which includes FGM.

Ensures that the Board receives sufficient assurance on the effectiveness of the service.

3.2 Head of Safeguarding

The Head of Safeguarding manages the Children and Adult Safeguarding Service

and provides expert leadership on all aspects of the safeguarding agenda.

The Head of Safeguarding is responsible for ensuring that the Trust has robust systems and processes in place for the protection and on-going support of adults and children.

Supports the work generated by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together or equivalent.

3.3 Safeguarding Adults and Children's Teams

The Safeguarding Teams will provide, in the context of FGM, expert professional leadership, advice, support supervision and guidance on the management of safeguarding concerns relating to victims of FGM or those who may be at risk.

The Teams will act as a resource providing accessible, accurate and relevant information to all staff.

Contribute to training and education across the organisation in respect of safeguarding children and adult issues regarding FGM.

Provide bespoke face to face FGM training to key specialist clinical areas within RWT.

Implement and adhere to the policy and embed into practice within RWT.

3.4 Employees

Must be aware of the policy and how it impacts on their practice.

Must do training relating to FGM relevant to their role provided by the RWT Safeguarding teams.

Must be alert to the potential indicators of FGM and act in accordance with this policy when supporting women and girls that have been affected by FGM.

Must ensure they access advice and guidance from RWT Safeguarding team and /or Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) during office hours or the duty social care team outside of office hours, where they are unclear about the application of any aspect of this policy or associated guidance.

Must ensure that all identified cases of FGM or concerns of FGM are documented clearly in patient notes.

Must make referrals to the appropriate agencies in a timely manner.

4.0 Policy Detail

Not all survivors of FGM will disclose information to the clinician. However, a woman or girl's presentation may prompt a clinician to suspect FGM. When the clinician

suspects or considers FGM, the Department of Health (DOH) FGM Safeguarding Pathway must be followed. This pathway will guide clinicians to introductory questions (see Appendix 1).

How you open the conversation about FGM will differ depending on the circumstances of your patient. However, in all cases you must ask the following introductory questions:

1) Do you, your partner or your parents come from a community where cutting or circumcision is practiced?
2) Have you been cut? It may be appropriate to use other terms or phrases http://nationalfgmcentre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/FGM-Terminology-for-Website.pdf

The questions must be asked to the patient directly or to the person with parental responsibility, where appropriate. If the patient is a child consider Gillick competencies and capacity to understand and refer to CP06, Consent to Treatment and Investigation Policy for additional guidance. When the use of an interpreter is required please refer to OP47, Interpreting and Communication Policy and Procedure. An interpreter must not be used if they reside in the same local community as the child and family where there are FGM concerns.

If the clinician receives a **YES** answer to question one or two then the clinician must continue to follow the DOH FGM Safeguarding Pathway. As part of this pathway clinicians must utilise the FGM Safeguarding Risk Assessment Template to aid clinical judgement in determining the level of risk and future action required (**see appendix 2).**

If a Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF) and/or an Adult Safeguarding concern be deemed necessary, a copy of the FGM risk assessment must be attached to the referral and sent to the appropriate MASH team via a secure email address. The Safeguarding Team Trust intranet page provides further information for referral pathways Safeguarding Adults Referral

The risk assessment checklist (appendix 3) can be used as an aide memoire for staff and if completed must be printed off and placed in records.

Female Child (under 18 years old)

In order to safeguard children against FGM, it is imperative that appropriate information is shared with relevant professionals, which may include General Practitioner, Health Visitor, School Nurse and Midwife. A Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF) must be sent to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) if the magnitude of the risk determines Local Authority intervention is required. The Postcode checker must be used to identify the correct Local Authority https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council

RWT staff must document any routine enquiry (to the mother or other female carer for child), discussion and actions in all of the relevant health records, in addition to any risk assessment templates completed.

If you suspect a child may have had FGM or is at serious or imminent risk of FGM, you must act in accordance with your local safeguarding procedures (Department of Health 2016) and the RWT CP41, Safeguarding Children Policy). The FGM risk templates will aid the initial assessment of risk, but they must not cause delays in reporting and referring when the need to act quickly is necessary to safeguard and protect a child. If a child is at imminent risk of harm, then an urgent safeguarding response must be initiated.

Registered Health Professionals have a statutory duty, under The Serious Crimes Act 2015, to report known cases of FGM in girls under the age of 18 years. This is known as Mandatory Reporting Duty (**see appendix 4**).

If there are suspicions of FGM based on the child's history, do not examine the child yourself, your MASH referral will be followed up with appropriate child protection procedures. A strategy meeting will be convened by MASH and referral for a Paediatric FGM medical examination at Birmingham Community Health care NHS Foundation Trust. All referrals for medical examination must be made to the Central Booking Service (CBS) on 0121 683 2320. (see Appendix 5) The Child Protection On Call Paediatrician for RWT has no role in referring to Birmingham. However they can provide advice if the clinician has any queries. The Child protection On Call Paediatrician would be advising to submit the MARF. The social worker then arranges a strategy meeting and makes the referral to Birmingham FGM service. There is no difference in procedure between inpatients and outpatients- the same process is followed.

If the child's presentation requires a physical examination that reveals evidence of FGM, terminate the physical examination and make an urgent MASH referral.

During office hours advice can be obtained from RWT Safeguarding Children's Team or Children's MASH. Outside office hours MASH 24 should be contacted for advice 01902 552999. If the child is at immediate risk of FGM or being removed from the UK contact the Police on 999.

Hymenoplasty and Virginity Testing

The government has made it illegal to carry out, offer or aid and abet virginity testing or hymenoplasty in any part of the UK, as part of the Health and Care Act 2022 https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/31/contents/enacted)

It is also illegal for UK nationals and residents to do these things outside the UK.

Virginity testing and hymenoplasty are forms of violence against women and girls and are part of the cycle of honour based abuse. Women and girls are coerced, forced and shamed into undergoing these procedures, often pressurised by family members or their intended husbands' family in the name of supposedly upholding honour and to fulfil the requirement that a woman remains 'pure' before marriage. Some practitioners issue a certificate to prove 'virginity' after a virginity test or hymenoplasty, while some will simply tell the family or community members whether a woman or girl has 'passed' a virginity test.

Virginity testing is any examination (with or without contact) of the female genitalia intended to establish if vaginal intercourse has taken place. This is irrespective of

whether consent has been given.

Hymenoplasty is a procedure undertaken to reconstruct a hymen.

The Virginity testing and hymenoplasty multiagency guidance has more information for agencies and anyone else who may come in to contact with women and girls affected by virginity testing and hymenoplasty.

Adult Woman

There is no requirement for automatic referral of adult women with FGM to adult social services or the police. Healthcare professionals must be aware that any disclosure may be the first time that a woman has ever discussed her FGM with anyone. Referral to the police must not be introduced as an automatic response when identifying adult women with FGM, and each case must continue to be individually assessed. The wishes of the woman must be respected at all times (Department of Health 2016).

In all cases it is also important to consider whether the individual or her family are known to social services, and whether there are any existing safeguarding arrangements in place (HM Government Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2016).

If a vulnerable adult is identified as having had or being at risk of FGM, you must follow existing processes to protect vulnerable adults (Department of Health 2016). This must be in conjunction with RWT CP53, Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy.

Any adult assessment must consider the potential risks of FGM to any other women or girls living in the same family.

When it has been identified in RWT that a woman has undergone FGM, information must be included within any clinical notes or discharge summary information and sent to the registered GP. This will be in addition to any other clinical findings as part of the provision of care (Department of Health 2016).

During office hours advice can be obtained from RWT Safeguarding Adults Team. Outside office hours MASH 24 should be contacted for advice 01902 552999. Further information can be found on the Trust intranet Safeguarding Services webpage Female Genital Mutilation

Pregnant Adult Woman

For further guidance on the specific management of pregnant women with FGM see Attachment 1, Management of Women with Female Genital Mutilation

FGM NHS Enhanced Dataset

The FGM Enhanced Dataset will require organisations to record and collect information about the prevalence of FGM in women and girls, treated by the NHS in England. This will include if the patient is receiving any treatment for any condition; it is not limited to reporting women receiving treatment for FGM-related condition

(Department of Health 2015)

For Maternity Services:

When FGM is observed or disclosed the clinician must complete the Health and Social Care FGM Data Requirements form via Badgernet IT system.

For all other departments within RWT:

When FGM is observed or disclosed the clinician must complete the Health and Social Care FGM Data Requirements form (appendix 6). The completed form must then be emailed to the Safeguarding Administrative team at rwh-tr.Safeguarding-Gem@nhs.net.

Key Legislation

- Department of Health Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding Guidance for Professionals 2016
- HM Government Multi-agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2020.
- Serious Crime Act 2015.
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023.
- Ending Violence against Women and Girls 2016.
- Health and Care Act 2022

5.0 Financial Risk Assessment

1	Does the implementation of this policy require any additional Capital resources	No
2	Does the implementation of this policy require any additional revenue resources	No
3	Does the implementation of this policy require any additional manpower	No
4	Does the implementation of this policy release any manpower costs through a change in practice	No
5	Are there additional staff training costs associated with implementing this policy which cannot be delivered through current training programmes or allocated training times for staff.	No

	Other comments	

6.0 Equality Impact Assessment

Completed and attached separately.

7.0 Maintenance

The Author of the policy together with the Head of safeguarding will ensure that the policy is updated in accordance with any new legislation at the appropriate time and that staff will be informed accordingly.

8.0 Communication and Training

0-19 Practitioners and clinicians in targeted areas and departments will be offered bespoke face to face FGM training.

Further information will also be available on the trust intranet safeguarding services webpage.

Advice and information on FGM is also available from the Safeguarding Team on call service available Monday-Friday 9-5. rwh-tr.safeguarding-team@nhs.net for adult enquiries or rwh-tr.safeguarding-children@nhs.net for children's enquiries.

9.0 Audit Process

Criterion	Lead	Monitoring method	Frequency	Committee
All safeguarding referrals relating to concerns of FGM including FGM risk assessment templates to be emailed to the Safeguarding Adults and Children's Teams	Named Nurse Safeguarding Adult- FGM Lead Named Nurse Safeguarding Children- FGM Lead	Routine data collection	Monthly	TSG
All Cases of FGM that have been identified but where not reported on first encounter must inform identification of gaps in knowledge and be used to identify training needs.	Named Nurse Safeguarding Adult- FGM Lead Named Nurse Safeguarding Children- FGM Lead Named Midwife for Safeguarding	Routine data collection	Ad hoc	TSG

10.0 References - Legal, professional or national guidelines

- Children Act, (2004). *Section 11.* Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/section/11 [Accessed 17.12.2024].

- Department of Health, (2015). *FGM Prevention Programme -Understanding the FGM Enhanced dataset- updated guidance and clarification to support implementation.* Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/461524/FGM_Statement_September_2015.pdf [Accessed 17.12.2024]

- Department of Health, (2016). Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding. Guidance for Professionals. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525390/FGM_safeguarding_report_A.pdf [Accessed 17.12.2024]

- Female Genital Mutilation Act, (2003). Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/31/contents [Accessed17.12.2024]

- HM Government, (2020). Multi-agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation. HM Government - Multi-agency statutory guidance on Female Genital Mutilation

- HM Government, (2023). Working Together to Safeguard Children. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669e7501ab418ab055592a7b/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023.pdf

- HM Government, (2022) Health and Care Act (2022). Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/31/contents/enacted [Accessed 17.12.2024]

- Serious Crimes Act, (2015). *Part 5 Protection of Children and Others.* [online] Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/9/part/5/enacted [Accessed 17.12.2024]

- World Health Organization (2024). Female genital mutilation [Accessed 17.12.2024]

Part A - Document Control

Policy number and Policy version: **CP67 V 3.0**	**Policy Title** **CP67 Identification and management of Female Genital Mutilation Policy (FGM)**	**Status:** Final		**Authors:** **Lisa Tooth** **Named Nurse Safeguarding Children** **(FGM Children's Lead)** **Director Sponsor: Chief Nursing Officer**
Version / Amendment History	Version	Date	Author	Reason
	1	January 2019	Safeguarding Adult Nurse	Introduction of policy
	2.0	December 2021	Lisa Tooth Named Nurse Safeguarding Children	Full review undertaken. Updated and amended. Attachment 1 Maternity FGM procedure will be updated by Lead Midwife for Safeguarding spring 2022 which will be processed as a minor amendment to the policy.
	2.1	November 2024	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children	Extension
	3.0	March 2025	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children	Full review
Intended Recipients: Trust Wide - This policy applies to all clinical staff members who are directly employed by The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) and for whom RWT have a legal responsibility.				
Consultation Group / Role Titles and Date. Trust Safeguarding Group (TSG), RWT Safeguarding Team, Chief Nurse. Named Midwife, Named Nurse Teams for Safeguarding Adults and Children.				
Name and date of Trust level group where reviewed	Trust Policy Group – March 2025			
Name and date of final approval committee	Trust Policy Group – March 2025			
Date of Policy issue	March 2025			

Review Date and Frequency (standard review frequency is 3 yearly unless otherwise indicated – see section 3.8.1 of Attachment 1)	March 2029 (4 years)

Training and Dissemination:

The approved policy will be found on RWT Intranet.

Dissemination via Trust Brief

Bespoke face to face training will be provided to key specialist clinical areas 2025/2026

Publishing Requirements: Can this document be published on the Trust's public page:

Yes

To be read in conjunction with:

This policy must be read in conjunction with Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together procedures https://www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk/ and RWT Adult and Children Safeguarding policy CP53 and CP41.

It must also be read in conjunction with;

Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy: 2016 to 2020

Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding: Guidance for Professionals 2016.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023: Statutory Guidance

Initial Equality Impact Assessment (all policies): Completed Yes / No Full Equality
Impact assessment (as required): Completed Yes / No / NA If you require this document in an alternative format e.g., larger print please contact Policy Administrator 8904

Monitoring arrangements and Committee	Trust Safeguarding Group

Document summary/key issues covered

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is not an issue that can be decided upon by personal preference – it is an illegal, extremely harmful practice and a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls. (Department of Health 2016.)

The National Health Service has a particular contribution to make in the drive to recognise and respond to the risks around FGM.

This policy has been designed to address the trusts responsibilities and processes in respect of FGM and safeguarding against FGM in accordance with local and national guidance and legislation, by adopting a care, protect and prevent approach.

To provide appropriate guidance for staff in the event that a woman or girl is identified as having undergone FGM or is at risk of FGM.

Key words for intranet searching purposes	Female Genital Mutilation
High Risk Policy? Definition:	**No**

• Contains information in the public domain that may present additional risk to the public e.g. contains detailed images of means of strangulation. • References to individually identifiable cases. • References to commercially sensitive or confidential systems. If a policy is considered to be high risk it will be the responsibility of the author and chief officer sponsor to ensure it is redacted to the requestee.	

Department of Health

FGM Safeguarding Pathway

Presentation prompts clinician to suspect/consider FGM e.g. repeated UTI, vaginal infections, urinary incontinence, dyspareunia, dysmenorrhea etc. Also consider difficulty getting pregnant, presenting for travel health advice or patient disclosure (e.g., young girl from community known to practice FGM discloses she will soon undergo 'coming of age' ceremony).

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS: Do you, your partner or your parents come from a community where cutting or circumcision is practised? (It may be appropriate to use other terms or phrases)

No – no further action required

Yes

Do you believe patient has been cut?

No – but family history

Yes

Patient is under 18 or vulnerable adult

If you suspect she may be at risk of FGM:

Use the safeguarding risk assessment guidance to help decide what action to take:

- If child is at imminent risk of harm, initiate urgent safeguarding response.
- Consider if a child social care referral is needed, following your local processes.

Patient is under 18

Ring 101 to report basic details of the case to police under **Mandatory Reporting Duty.**

Police will initiate a multi-agency safeguarding response.

Patient is over 18

Does she have any female children or siblings at risk of FGM?

And/or do you consider her to be a vulnerable adult?

Complete safeguarding risk assessment and use guidance to decide whether a social care referral is required.

FOR ALL PATIENTS who have HAD FGM

1. Read code FGM status
2. Complete FGM Enhanced dataset noting all relevant codes.
3. Consider need to refer patient to FGM service to confirm FGM is present, FGM type and/or for deinfibulation.
   a) If long term pain, consider referral to uro-gynae specialist clinic.
   b) If mental health problems, consider referral to counselling/other.
   c) If under 18 refer all for a paediatric appointment and physical examination, following your local processes.

Can you identify other female siblings or relatives at risk of FGM?

- Complete risk assessment if possible OR
- Share information with multi-agency partners to initiate safeguarding response.

FOR **ALL PATIENTS**:

1. Clearly document all discussion and actions with patient/family in patient's medical record.
2. Explain FGM is illegal in the UK.
3. Discuss the adverse health consequences of FGM.
4. Share safeguarding information with Health Visitor, School Nurse, Practice Nurse.

Contact details

Local safeguarding lead:

Local FGM lead/clinic:

NSPCC FGM Helpline: 0800 028 3550

Detailed FGM risk and safeguarding guidance for professionals from the Department of Health is available online

If a girl appears to have been recently cut or you believe she is at imminent risk, act immediately – this may include phoning 999.

REMEMBER: Mandatory reporting is only one part of safeguarding against FGM and other abuse.
Always ask your local safeguarding lead if in doubt.

Part One (a): PREGNANT WOMEN

(OR HAS RECENTLY GIVEN BIRTH)

Date:_____ Completed by:_____

Assessment: Initial/On-going

This is to help you make a decision as to whether the unborn child (or other female children in the family) are at risk of FGM or whether the woman herself is at risk of further harm in relation to her FGM.

Indicator	Yes	No	Details
CONSIDER RISK			
Woman comes from a community known to practice FGM			
Woman has undergone FGM herself			
Husband/partner comes from a community known to practice FGM			
A female family elder is involved/will be involved in care of children/unborn child or is influential in the family			
Woman/family has limited integration in UK community			
Woman and/or husband/partner have limited/no understanding of harm of FGM or UK law			
Woman's nieces, siblings and/or in-laws have undergone FGM			
Woman has failed to attend follow-up appointment with an FGM clinic/FGM related appointment			
Woman's husband/partner/other family member are very dominant in the family and have not been present during consultations with the woman			
Woman is reluctant to undergo genital examination			
SIGNIFICANT OR IMMEDIATE RISK			
Woman already has daughters who have undergone FGM			
Woman or woman's partner/family requesting reinfibulation following childbirth			
Woman is considered to be a vulnerable adult and therefore issues of mental capacity and consent should be considered if she is found to have FGM			
Woman says that FGM is integral to cultural or religious identity			
Family are already known to social care services - if known, and you have identified FGM within a family, you must share this information with social services			

ACTION

Ask more questions - if one indicator leads to a potential area of concern, continue the discussion in this area.

Consider risk - if one or more indicators are identified, you need to consider what action to take. If unsure whether the level of risk requires referral at this point, discuss with your named/ designated safeguarding lead.

Significant or Immediate risk - if you identify one or more serious or immediate risks, or the other risks are, by your judgement, sufficient to be considered serious, you should look to refer to Social Services/GAIT team/ Police/MASH, in accordance with your local safeguarding procedures.

If the risk of harm is imminent, emergency measures may be required and any action taken must reflect the required urgency.

In all cases:–

- Share information of any identified risk with the patient's GP
- Document in notes
- Discuss the health complications of FGM and the law in the UK

Please remember: any child under 18 who has undergone FGM must be referred to police under the Mandatory Reporting duty using the 101 non-emergency number.

Part One (b): NON-PREGNANT ADULT WOMAN (over 18)

Date: _____ Completed by: _____

Assessment: Initial/On-going

This is to help decide whether any female children are at risk of FGM, whether there are other children in the family for whom a risk assessment may be required or whether the woman herself is at risk of further harm in relation to her FGM.

Indicator	Yes	No	Details
CONSIDER RISK			
Woman already has daughters who have undergone FGM - who are over 18 years of age			
Husband/partner comes from a community known to practice FGM			
A female family elder (maternal or paternal) is influential in family or is involved in care of children			
Woman and family have limited integration in UK community			
Woman's husband/partner/other family member may be very dominant in the family and have not been present during consultations with the woman			
Woman/family have limited/no understanding of harm of FGM or UK law			
Woman's nieces (by sibling or in-laws) have undergone FGM			
Woman has failed to attend follow-up appointment with an FGM clinic/FGM related appointment			
Family are already known to social services - if known, and you have identified FGM within a family, you must share this information with social services			

SIGNIFICANT OR IMMEDIATE RISK			
Woman/family believe FGM is integral to cultural or religious identity			
Woman already has daughters who have undergone FGM			
Woman is considered to be a vulnerable adult and therefore issues of mental capacity and consent should be triggered if she is found to have FGM			

Please remember: any child under 18 who has undergone FGM must be referred to police under the Mandatory Reporting duty using the 101 non-emergency number.

ACTION

Ask more questions - if one indicator leads to a potential area of concern, continue the discussion in this area.

Consider risk - if one or more indicators are identified, you need to consider what action to take. If unsure whether the level of risk requires referral at this point, discuss with your named/designated safeguarding lead.

Significant or Immediate risk - if you identify one or more serious or immediate risk, or the other risks are, by your Judgement, sufficient to be considered serious, you should look to refer to Social Services/GAIT team/Police/MASH,in accordance with your local safeguarding procedures.

If the risk of harm is imminent, emergency measures may be required and any action taken must reflect the required urgency.

In all cases:-

- Share information of any identified risk with the patient's GP
- Document in notes
- Discuss the health complications of FGM and the law in the UK

Part 2: CHILD / YOUNG ADULT (under 18 years old)

Date: _____ Completed by: _ _ _ _____ _ _ __

Assessment: Initial/On-going

This is to help when considering whether a child is AT RISK of FGM, or whether there are other children in the family for whom a risk assessment may be required

Indicator	Yes	No	Details
CONSIDER RISK			
Child's mother has undergone FGM			
Other female family members have had FGM			
Father comes from a community known to practice FGM			
A female family elder is very influential within the family and is/will be involved in the care of the girl			
Mother/family have limited contact with people outside of her family			
Parents have poor access to information about FGM and do not know about the harmful effects of FGM or UK law			
Parents say that they or a relative will be taking the girl abroad for a prolonged period - this may not only be to a country with high prevalence, but this would more likely lead to a concern			
Girl has spoken about a long holiday to her country of origin/another country where the practice is prevalent			
Girl has attended a travel clinic or equivalent for vaccinations/anti-malarials			
FGM is referred to in conversation by the child, family or close friends of the child (see Appendix Three for traditional and local terms) - the context of the discussion will be important			
Sections missing from the Red book. Consider **if** the child has received immunisations, do they attend clinics etc.			
Girl withdrawn from PHSE lessons or from learning about FGM - School Nurse should have conversation with child			
Girls presents symptoms that could be related to FGM - continue with questions in part 3			
Family not engaging with professionals (health, school, or other)			
Any other safeguarding alert already associated with the family			

ACTION

Ask more questions - if one indicator leads to a potential area of concern, continue the discussion in this area.

Consider risk - if one or more indicators are identified, you need to consider what action to take. If unsure whether the level of risk requires referral at this point, discuss with your named/ designated safeguarding lead.

Significant or Immediate risk - if you identify one or more serious or immediate risk, or the other risks are, by your judgement, sufficient to be considered serious, you should look to refer to Social Services /CAIT team/ Police /MASH, in accordance with your local safeguarding procedures.

If the risk of harm is imminent, emergency measures may be required and any action taken must reflect the required urgency.

In all cases: -

- Share information of any identified risk with the patient's GP
- Document in notes
- Discuss the health complications of FGM and the law in the UK

Indicator	Yes	No	Details
SIGNIFICANT OR IMMEDIATE RISK			
A child or sibling asks for help			
A parent or family member expresses concern that FGM may be carried out on the child			
Girl has confided in another that she is to have a 'special procedure' or to attend a 'special occasion'. Girl has talked about going away 'to become a woman' or 'to become like my mum and sister'			
Girl has a sister or other female child relative who has already undergone FGM			
Family/child are already known to social services - if known, and you have identified FGM within a family, you must share this information with social services			

Please remember: any child under 18 who has undergone FGM must be referred to police under the Mandatory Reporting duty using the 101 non-emergency number.

ACTION

Ask more questions - if one indicator leads to a potential area of concern , continue the discussion in this area.

Consider risk - if one or more indicators are identified, you need to consider what action to take. If unsure whether the level of risk requires referral at this point, discuss with your named/ designated safeguarding lead.

Significant or Immediate risk - if you identify one or more serious or immediate risk, or the other risks are, by your judgement, sufficient to be considered serious, you should look to refer to Social Services /CAIT team/ Police /MASH, in accordance with your local safeguarding procedures.

If the risk of harm is imminent, emergency measures may be required and any action taken must reflect the required urgency.

In all cases:-

- Share information of any identified risk with the patient's GP
- Document in notes
- Discuss the health complications of FGM and the law in the UK

Part 3: CHILD/ YOUNG ADULT (under 18 years old)

Date:_____ Completed by:_____

Assessment: Initial/On-going

This is to help when considering whether a child HAS HAD FGM.

Indicator	Yes	No	Details
CONSIDER RISK			
Girl is reluctant to undergo any medical examination			
Girl has difficulty walking, sitting or standing or looks uncomfortable			
Girl finds it hard to sit still for long periods of time, which was not a problem previously			
Girl presents to GP or A&E with frequent urine, menstrual or stomach problems			
Increased emotional and psychological needs e.g. withdrawal, depression, or significant change in behaviour			
Girl avoiding physical exercise or requiring to be excused from PE lessons without a GP's letter			
Girl has spoken about having been on a long holiday to her country of origin/ another country where the practice is prevalent			
Girl spends a long time in the bathroom/ toilet/long periods of time away from the classroom			
Girl talks about pain or discomfort between her legs			

SIGNIFICANT OR IMMEDIATE RISK
Girl asks for help
Girl confides in a professional that FGM has taken place
Mother/family member discloses that female child has had FGM
Famliy/child are already known to social services - if known, and you have identified FGM within a family, you must share this information with social services

ACTION

Ask more questions - if one indicator leads to a potential area of concern, continue the discussion in this area.

Please remember: any child under 18 who has undergone FGM must be referred to police under the Mandatory Reporting duty using the 101 non-emergency number.

If you suspect but do not know that a girl has undergone FGM based on risk factors presenting, you should look to refer to Social Services / CAIT Team/ police/ MASH, in **accordance with your local safeguarding procedures.**

In all cases:-

- Share information of any identified risk with the patient's GP
- Document in notes
- Discuss the health complications of FGM and the law in the UK

Please remember: any child und er 18 who has undergone FGM must be referred to police under the Mandatory Reporting duty using the 101 non-emergency number.

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

Risk Assessment Checklist for FGM

Must be printed off and placed in records.

Surname	Unit No
Forename	NHS No
Address	DOB
Postcode	(or affix patient label)

Have you:

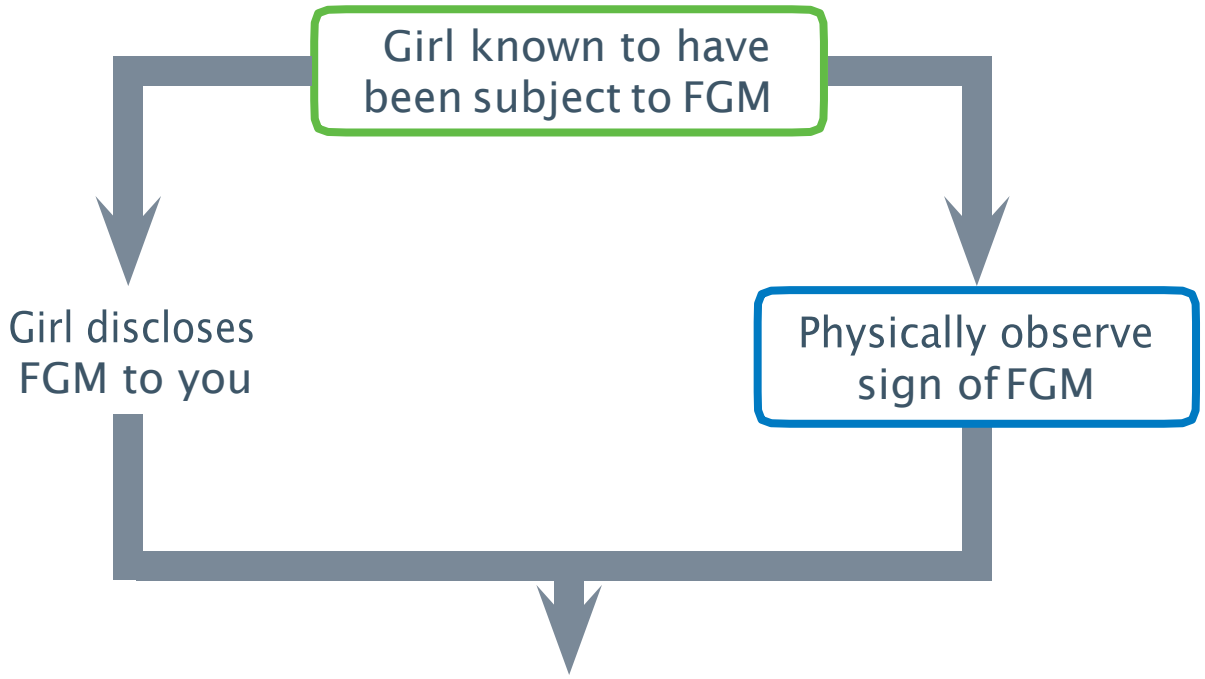
Action	Yes / No / Rationale	Sign/Date
Discussed FGM with the patient and/or family		
Completed an FGM risk assessment template		
Recorded actions and outcome of the assessment in patients' health care record		
Followed local safeguarding process and if there is a risk of FGM to the child, a referral is made to MASH		
Reported a known case of FGM to a child under 18 years to the police under the mandatory reporting duty		
Shared relevant information with other health professionals. List whom:		
Signpost to www.gov.uk, (search statement opposing female genital mutilation), for a copy of the health passport available in 11 languages.		

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

Mandatory Reporting Duty for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

For under 18-year olds only

Any adult assessment must consider the potential risks of FGM to any other women or girls living in the same family. In addition to general safeguarding duties, since October 2015 all registered health and social care professionals and qualified teachers have a personal professional duty to report FGM in girls under 18 years; professional registration can be affected by non-compliance with this duty.



Mandatory Reporting Duty

1. Ring police on 101 explaining you are reporting under the mandatory FGM reporting duty, you will receive a reference number which will need to be recorded
2. Record all decisions and actions in patient notes
3. Update Safeguarding Children Team
4. Follow local safeguarding procedures and refer to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
5. Ring 999 if you believe a girl has recently had FGM (cut) or she is at imminent risk of FGM

PAEDIATRIC FGM MEDICAL EXAMINATION – REFERRAL INFORMATION FORM

First name/s		**Surname/Family name**	
DOB		**Age**	
Home address **Postcode:**		**Home phone number**	
		Parents' mobile numbers	
Foster placement, if applicable – Address: **Name of carer/s:** **Phone number:**			
NHS number		**Young person's mobile number**	
Ethnicity		**Religion/Belief**	
GP **Name:** **Address:**		**Nursery/School** **Name:** **Address:**	
Country of Birth		**Date of entry to UK**	
Travel outside UK since birth or UK entry			
Languages spoken at home			
Person(s) with parental responsibility + relationship to child			
Who is attending with child?			
Referring service	**Name:** **Organisation:**		

Has someone with Parental Responsibility agreed to the medical?	Yes ☐ No ☐ please provide details

Previously known to Social Care?	Yes ☐ No ☐ please provide details e.g. CP ☐ or CIN ☐		
Current Child in Need/Protection Plans?	Yes ☐ No ☐ please provide details e.g. CP ☐ or CIN ☐		
Are there any court orders in place?	Yes ☐ No ☐ please provide details		
Category: Neglect / Physical abuse / Sexual abuse / Emotional abuse/ Other (please detail)			
Has the child been referred to the police as part of mandatory reporting?	Yes ☐ No ☐		
Has the child had a Police ABE interview?	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐		
Social worker	Name:		
Address		Tel No	
Email			
Police officer	Name:		
Address		Tel No	
Email			
Reason for referral	*Please summarise and include reason for this appointment and attach key documents see below**		

Please attach the following, if available and check (☒) to let us know which you have enclosed *

- ☐ **Strategy meeting minutes/actions following this referral**
- ☐ **Chronology of Social Care Involvement**
- ☐ **If previously known to social care – last conference report or child in need report**
- ☐ **ABE Interview Report/ notes/summary**

Home and Family

Who does the child usually live with? Document if this has changed	Immediate Family [ ]	In care [ ]	Other [ ] (specify):

	Name	M/ F	Age/ DOB	Ethnicity	Country of Birth	Entry into UK	Religion
Birth mother							
Birth father							
Children at same address (add rows if needed)							
Children at different address or abroad (add rows if needed)							
Any unborn children?							
Other Adults, including siblings, at same address							

If this is a case from outside Birmingham

Has approval been sought from the local ICB that they are happy to be invoiced for the medical examination?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Contact details for lead in ICB approving this	**Name:** **Email:**	**Phone:**

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FGM DATA REQUIREMENTS

Patient Label

Patient Name ..... Hospital Number.....

NHS Number..... Date of Birth .....

Organisation that provided care - RL403 Postcode of usual address.....

Country of Birth ....: ..... Country of Origin .....

Region of Country of Origin..... Name of GP Practice.....

Attendance

Care contact Date ..... Referral Organisation - NHS Organisation

Referral Organisation Code – RL403 Site of Treatment – RL403

Treatment Function Area - Obstetrics

Pregnancy Status—YES/NO/UNKNOWN/NOT STATED*

How was FGM Identified? - SELF REPORT/ON EXAMINATION/OTHER CLINICIAN/OTHER*

FGM Family History? - YES/NO/UNKNOWN/NOT STATED*

Number of Daughters the woman has under 18? .....

Advised of the Health Implications of FGM? YES/NO/UNKNOWN*

Advised of Illegalities of FGM? YES/NO/UNKNOWN*

Were any Daughters born at this Attendance? YES/NO*

Country of Birth Baby's Father? .....

Country of Origin Baby's Father? .....

FGM

FGM Activity Identified? FGM TYPE 1/FGM TYPE 2/FGM TYPE 3/HISTORY OF FGM TYPE 3/FGM TYPE 3—RE-INFIBULATION IDENTIFIED/FGM TYPE 4/UNKNOWN*

FGM Type 4 Qualifier - FGM TYPE 4- PRICKING/PIERCING/SCRAPING/INCISING/CAUTERISATION*

De-Infibulation Undertaken? YES-To Facilitate Delivery/YES – Not to Facilitate Delivery/No*

Age when FGM was Undertaken? AGE...../Patient did not, or would not say*

Country where FGM was Undertaken?.....

* Delete as appropriate