



Female Genital Mutilation Bulletin

The World Health Organisation defines Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as 'all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

1. An Overview of FGM for partner agencies

The WSSCB has put together a slide deck to provide partner agencies with an overview of FGM. The slide deck can be used as a self-study aide or to assist in delivery of a session to a work group. The slide deck can be found [here](#) and the guidance on how it can be used can be found [here](#).

2. Mandatory reporting duty

From 31 October 2015, regulated health and social care professionals and teachers in England and Wales must report 'known' cases of FGM in under 18's which they identify in the course of their professional work to the Police.

The Home Office, and the Department of Health along with their partners at NHS England and professional bodies have developed a package of support including:

- [Home Office Mandatory Reporting of FGM](#) – procedure information
- Department of Health and NHS England – [Quick Guidance](#) – a 2 page summary of the duty including a process flowchart
- Department of Health and NHS England – [Poster](#) – a poster for health organisations to display about the duty

- Department of Health and NHS England – [Training Slides](#) – a training presentation organisations can use to help them deliver 10-15 minute updates to staff to explain the duty
- Department of Health and NHS England – [Video interviews](#) with Vanessa Lodge, NHS England FGM prevention Lead
- Department of Health and NHS England – [information leaflet](#) for patients and their families which professionals can use to help when discussing making a report to the Police.

3. FGM Protection Orders

FGM Protection Orders came into force in July 2015; it is a civil measure that can be applied through the family court. The Protection Order offers the means of protecting actual or potential victims from FGM under civil law. You can read more of FGM Protection Orders [here](#).

4. Home Office FGM Online Training

The Home Office provides a free online training package dealing with FGM developed by the Virtual College. It will give teachers, police, doctors, social workers and border force staff the training they need to help them identify and assist girls who are at risk of FGM. The training provides safeguarding professionals with an overview of FGM and their responsibilities in FGM cases. It also contains information on how to prevent FGM and helps professionals support those who have been subjected to it.

The online training can be found [here](#).

5. FGM Stakeholder event

In early 2016 the WSSCB will be holding a series of multi-agency FGM partnership events. These will bring together key representatives from agencies and communities across West Sussex. The FGM partnership will steer the coordination of the local multi-agency response to tackling FGM. Please get in touch to find out

more. We are also keen to hear from you regarding community groups / representatives we should be inviting to participate.

Please share this bulletin within your agencies.

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