

HEE FGM e-Learning Programme Launch

In March 2015, Health Education England (HEE) in partnership with a number of key stakeholders will launch a new e-learning resource which is designed to raise greater awareness and help support healthcare professionals when working with women and girls who are victims of female genital mutilation (FGM).

Supported by the Department of Health's FGM Prevention team, the e-learning resource focuses on issues related to health, legal status and referral pathways. The sessions are knowledge based and will provide practical support to healthcare professionals facing challenges such as how to approach a conversation about FGM with patients.

The full curriculum is made up of the following titles and learning objectives:

1. **Introduction to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – Prof. Sara Creighton, Dr. Dan Reisel**

Describe the different ways in which women and girls may be affected by FGM

Identify the four types of FGM according to the World Health Organization's classification

Describe the legal status of FGM procedures in the UK and abroad

Explain how to refer a woman to FGM services

Explain what to do if you suspect a child may be at risk of FGM

2. **Communication Skills for FGM Consultations - Dr. John Spicer, Obi Amadi**

Initiate and conduct a sensitive consultation with a patient at risk of FGM

Initiate and conduct a consultation with a patient who has undergone FGM, and discuss their attitudes and experience

Recognise a patient at risk of FGM

Explain the cultural justifications for why FGM is done

Consider and address your own feelings about FGM

3. **FGM: Issues, Presentation and Management in Children and Young Women - Betsy Allen, Dr. Deborah Hodes, , Dr. Sveta Alladi**

Describe and apply key safeguarding principles relevant to FGM to individual cases and organisational processes

Describe the ways that FGM may present in girls

Identify the short/long term physical and psychosocial complications of FGM

Describe and apply the issue of FGM to a key public health model
Explain the referral pathways to specialist services, social care and/or the police for a girl with FGM and her family or carer

4. FGM: Issues, Presentation and Management in Women and Around Pregnancy – Ms. Pallavi Latthe, Dr. Sveta Alladi

Describe each type of FGM

List the short- and long-term complications of FGM

Describe the management of antenatal, perinatal and postnatal issues

Describe how to carry out de-infibulation either antenatally, during labour or in a non-pregnant woman

Document the assessment and treatment provided to a woman with FGM

5. Legal and Safeguarding Issues Regarding FGM in the UK - Dr. Judy Shakespeare, Lynne Townley, Dr. Deborah Hodes

Explain why FGM is a form of child abuse

Explain why FGM is a form of violence that violates the Human Rights of women and children gender based violence

Describe the law relating to FGM in the UK and its influence on the practice of health professionals

Explain your personal role and responsibilities and the roles of the police and social care within the law relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in the UK

Describe where to get help and how to escalate your concerns

Each interactive learning session takes about 20 minutes to complete and is made up of videos, illustrations, animations and images designed to engage the learner on a given topic. The FGM sessions will be available on the e-Learning for Healthcare (e-LfH) website enabling all NHS staff to access them for free, including school nurses, practice nurses, health visitors and GPs.

The HEE e-FGM project is supported by a host of organisations including RCPCH, RCOG, RCGP, RCM, SAPHNA, CPHVA and FORWARD

<http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/female-genital-mutilation>