



Developing excellence
in response to FGM and
other harmful practices

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Assessment Tool Training

The National FGM Centre

The National FGM Centre was established with funding from the Department for Education's Children's Social Care Innovation Programme, as a partnership between Barnardo's and the Local Government Association (LGA). The Centre aims to lead innovation in the delivery of services for girls and families affected by female genital mutilation (FGM), breast flattening & abuse linked to faith or belief.

The National FGM Centre recognises the need to change the way in which services are delivered to tackle FGM, breast flattening and abuse linked to faith or belief. It is able to provide improved and cost effective care and outcomes

Contact us:

If you would like to discuss commissioning this CPD accredited FGM training or would like to discuss bespoke training, please contact:

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For more information about any aspect of the Centre's work, please contact the National FGM Centre:

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Department
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Government
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 **Believe in
children**
Barnardo's

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Assessment Tool for Social Workers

"The questions provided are most useful, they help me prepare, when things can be really busy, it's a 'go to' place that I can pick up and print off and I feel confident..."

Quote from social worker during pilot

The National FGM Centre's FGM Assessment Tool is an innovative and easy tool for social workers to use, which is complementary to current assessment methods, and enhances professional judgment by enabling holistic thinking about safety and risk factors.

The FGM Assessment Tool is based on the three domains of the social work assessment triangle and comprises of:

- A **comprehensive guidance** on FGM covering what it is, the law (including immigration issues), genograms and other activities and questions to use with families
- An **online assessment tool** which enables social workers to assess the FGM case, reflect on the recommendations and put safety plans in place.

The tool takes into account:

- Medical examinations
- Forced Marriage
- Mandatory reporting to the police of known cases of FGM for girls under 18yrs

The FGM Assessment Tool can also be used retrospectively to reflect on previous assessments.

Social workers piloted the tool and:

- **90%** either felt confident or more confident to deal with suspected cases of FGM for under 18yrs old girls
- **100%** strongly agreed/agreed that the training was useful and will help them in their role
- **90%** reported that the training has made them reflect on how they could have assessed previous FGM referrals differently
- **100%** reported that the training has increased their ability to assess an FGM referral and that they would recommend the training

"It is important that we have this guide and it is ground-breaking, it is the first of its kind and with it, it really takes our practice forward."

Quote from social worker during pilot

Although the FGM Assessment Tool is self-explanatory and straightforward, the independent evaluation by York Consulting Limited recommends that:

"It is important therefore that the tool is not used in isolation from the training and resources provided through the National FGM Centre. Local authorities and other services who choose to adopt the tool as their method of assessing risk from FGM, should be encouraged to sign up for the one day familiarisation training and use the Good Practice Guide"

Training aim:

Participants will be able to use the FGM Assessment Tool to enhance their assessment of FGM cases.

Outcomes:

Participants will be:

- Able to reflect on their understanding of the many dimensions of FGM
- Better prepared to carry out an FGM assessment in a timely manner
- More confident to discuss FGM with girls and families
- More confident to develop safety plans with girls and families