

Health Visitors

Interviewing women to discuss FGM

1. Women known to have undergone FGM (informed via midwifery)

If this is the case, read the correspondence and determine whether you need to go through screening tool again.

Start with a short discussion and introduction

As health visitors we are informed of a woman's medical history. I understand that you were cut/circumcised when you were a child. I understand that this is a sensitive subject/difficult for you. I know you have spoken about this previously to (midwife/Dr) but I would like to discuss this with you.

- *Is there anything I can help you with in this?*
- *Do you feel your daughter/s are at risk of being cut?*
- *Do you need any help or support for your own experience of being cut?*

Use FGM screening tool if not previously completed by a health professional. If Health Visitor completion of screening tool not indicated and there is a YES to any of the above questions follow MKSCB pathway.

2. Woman's FGM status is unknown and either partner originate from a country or cultural background where FGM is significant risk

Start with a short discussion and introduction

You/your partner are from [name country] where a high number of women are cut/circumcised when they are young girls. Women who have experienced this can find this traumatic. It affects their physical health, emotional health, childbirth and sexual relations. I would like to ask you a few questions. I appreciate this is a sensitive subject to talk about

- *Is this something that has happened to you? Have you been cut/circumcised when you were young?*
- *Has anyone in your family or partner's family been cut?*
- *Are there any influences/reasons why would you ever consider having your daughter cut/circumcised? (if yes, follow MKSCB procedure)*
- *Do you feel that your daughter/s are at risk of being cut/circumcised by anyone in your family or in your circle of friends?*

If a YES is answered to any of the above questions, the MKSCB screening tool should be carried out and pathway followed.

3. Universal - antenatal visit or 6-8 week review (for all mothers)

In some cultural backgrounds women are cut/circumcised when they are young girls. Women who have experienced this can find this traumatic. It affects their physical health, emotional health, childbirth and sexual relations. Is this something you have knowledge or experience of?