

ACCESS Project – Starter for Ten: Questions for workshop leaders on FGM
How much do you know about FGM – what if any of your workshop participants asked you any of the following sorts of questions?

Q1: How many women and girls are estimated to be living with FGM in the UK?

A: 170,000

Q2: How could a Section 47 investigation address FGM?

A: Section 47 of the [Children Act 1989](#) places a duty on LAs to investigate and make inquiries into the circumstances of children considered to be at risk of ‘significant harm’ and, where these inquiries indicate the need, to decide what action, if any, it may need to take to safeguard and promote the child’s welfare. The investigation will form a core assessment, which is an in-depth assessment of the nature of the child’s needs and the capacity of his or her parents to meet those needs within the wider family and community context.

The results of that assessment will form part of the LA’s evidence if it commences proceedings for a [Care](#) or Supervision order

Q3: Is there any guidance for professionals on FGM?

A: Yes - ‘Female Genital Mutilation: multi-agency practice guidelines’

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-multi-agency-practice-guidelines>

Q4: Which organisation runs the FGM Helpline?

A: NSPCC

Q5: And what year was it set up?

A: 2013

Q6: By which service and at what point are cases of FGM most often picked up?

A: NHS Antenatal appointments

Q7: If a mother was a victim of FGM, will her daughter(s) be more, or less likely to be at risk?

A: More likely. And there are 65,000 girls aged 13 and under at risk of FGM in the UK

Q8: Can legal action be taken to prevent a child from being taken out of the UK to undergo FGM? (See world map pg 3 showing FGM prevalence c/o: www.womanstats.org)

A: Yes

Q9: What's the maximum penalty for someone performing FGM in this country?

A: 5-14 years in prison (Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003)

Q10: How many prosecutions have there been for involvement in FGM in this country?

A: Two – A male doctor at the Whittington Hospital, London was prosecuted in March 2014 for allegedly carrying out FGM on a patient who had just given birth, along with another man believed to be a relative of the patient who was charged with aiding and abetting the doctor.

Over 200 FGM-related cases have been investigated nationally by the police in the last 5 years

Prevalence of Female Genital Cutting
Scaled 2011

