



FGM Mandatory reporting duty – What you need to do

Strengthening Safeguarding – from 31 October 2015

What does it mean for me?

Phone the police non-emergency crime number, 101, if a girl under 18 you treat

- a) Tells you she has had FGM (female genital mutilation)
- b) Has signs which appear to show she has had FGM.

When?

As soon as possible; normally by close of the next working day. Longer timeframes are allowed under exceptional circumstances but always discuss with your local safeguarding lead.

Can someone else do this?

No. This is a personal duty; the professional who identifies FGM/receives the disclosure must report.

Why?

FGM is child abuse and a crime. Health professionals have a responsibility to care for and protect girls.

What if I don't do this?

If you do not comply, your professional regulator may consider the circumstances under the existing 'Fitness to Practise' proceedings.

NSPCC FGM helpline: 0800 028 3550 fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk

Quick guide for professionals: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-mandatory-reporting-in-healthcare>