

## Our sexual and reproductive health services

We can provide:

- breast exams
- smear tests for cervical cancer
- information about different types of contraception
- testing for sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV
- menopause check-ups
- pregnancy counselling (including information on abortion, adoption and parenting)
- treatment for female genital mutilation (FGM)
- counselling in relation to FGM and other personal issues

The IFPA provides a specialist service for women who have experienced FGM.

Our sexual and reproductive health services are **free** when you attend the FGM treatment service.

## Visiting the FGM treatment service

Between 9am and 5pm, please call **01 872 7088** to make an appointment.

After 5pm, you can call or text **085 877 1342** to make an appointment.

A drop-in clinic is open once a week – you do not need an appointment to visit the drop-in clinic. Please see our website [www.ifpa.ie](http://www.ifpa.ie) for opening times.

The FGM treatment service is **free**.

Our doctors and counsellors speak English. We can provide an interpreter who speaks your language.

Family doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers can refer women to the FGM treatment service.



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Women's Health and FGM Treatment Service  
5/7 Cathal Brugha Street  
Dublin 1

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SEXUALITY, INFORMATION  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS

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## Women's Health and FGM Treatment Service

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## What is Female Genital Mutilation?

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a practice carried out on girls in some countries. It is the 'cutting' or 'closing' of the female genitals for no medical reason.

FGM is also known as: circumcision; excision; gudniin; sunna; halalays; qodiin; khitan; thara; ibi ugwu; khifad; tahoor; absum; megrez; bondo; kutairi; mekhnishab; fanadu di mindjer; kuyango; and niaka.

FGM causes harm and has no health benefits.

FGM violates the human rights of women and girls.

It is illegal to perform FGM in Ireland and to take a girl out of Ireland for FGM.



## FGM treatment service

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is the 'cutting' or 'closing' of the female genitals for **no medical reason**.

### Medical care

If you have experienced FGM, you may suffer from physical problems such as:

- constant pain
- painful periods
- repeat infections
- problems having sex
- problems passing urine
- problems getting pregnant
- problems giving birth

### We can help

Our doctors can help you with pain and infection.

We can also give you information about FGM and pregnancy.

Some women may need surgery to help relieve their symptoms.

Our doctors can arrange this surgery for you. It will be **free**.

### Psychological care

If you have experienced FGM, you may suffer from psychological problems such as:

- flashbacks to the time of the cutting
- depression
- anxiety
- stress
- bad dreams
- low confidence
- other mental health problems

### We can help

We know FGM can be difficult to talk about.

You can speak to a counsellor about your feelings and experiences in a safe, confidential and private space.

You can speak about pain and trauma you have experienced, sexual experiences and sexual needs, relationships and other issues.

Our counsellors can help you think about your past experiences as a woman and your plans and hopes.