

Future U.S Policy and Advocacy Recommendations

How can you help change policy and improve practice of providing culturally-appropriate care to FGM/C-affected communities:

1. Development of FGM/C Continuing Medical Education training for medical providers in the disciplines of Pediatric Urology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Family Medicine, Adolescent Medicine, General Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Psychiatry, and Child Abuse.
2. Development of standardized FGM/C training for medical residents and fellows in the disciplines of Pediatric Urology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Family Medicine, Adolescent Medicine, General Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Psychiatry and Child Abuse.
3. Development of standardized FGM/C training for state law enforcement and Child Protective Services workers, including cultural training, legal training, and interpretation of child abuse laws.
4. Development of standardized FGM/C training in schools for nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, social workers, and psychologists.
5. Development of standardized FGM/C training for child psychologists and social workers.
6. Development of a clear algorithm for mandated reporting requirements of child abuse and children at imminent risk for FGM/C, including need for law enforcement and/or Child Protective Services involvement.
7. Compilation of teaching photo library and surgical videos of types of FGM/C in pre-pubertal and pubertal girls, and adult women.
8. Need for update to future ICD coding to reflect WHO FGM/C typology.
9. Funding to support community outreach and support for families from high-prevalence countries.
10. Funding to support studies of US FGM/C prevalence in pediatric, teen and adult populations.

Young J., Nour, N., Johnson-Agbakwu C, Abdulcadir, J, Narang, S., Macauley R. Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Girls: Guidelines for diagnosis, management and treatment. AAP Clinical Report. 2018. Under Peer Review

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Opportunities for Future Ethical Discourse

- **Universal Genito-Urinary Exams**
 - ▶ Pediatric and Family Medicine providers encouraged to perform universal genito-urinary exams at Well Child visits irrespective of gender, race or ethnicity
- **Genital Self-Image (Before and After Surgery)**
 - ▶ How women view their genitals and how it informs their decision-making regarding surgical interventions
- **Female Genital Cosmetic Surgery**
 - ▶ Clitoral reconstruction
 - ▶ Hymenoplasty
 - ▶ Re-infibulation (partial vs full) - clarifying this distinction, applicable laws, and appropriate counseling to inform decision-making in adult women
- **Human Right to Bodily Integrity and Genital Autonomy of Children Regardless of Sex/Gender**
 - ▶ Female
 - ▶ Male
 - ▶ Intersex
- **Engaging Men in the Conversation**
 - ▶ Husbands, fathers, brothers, sons, community leaders, religious figures
 - ▶ Empowering both men and women to impact health-seeking behavior, health care experiences, and support individuals and communities towards abandonment of the practice of FGM/C
- **Multidisciplinary Approach to Care**
 - ▶ Inclusion of professionals from across multiple disciplines to ensure continuity and holistic care of the individual patient and her family
 - ▶ This includes: medical and behavioral health professionals, social workers, pelvic floor physical therapists, sexologists, peer mentors, and community advocates

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