

Title: Development and Evaluation of an Evidence-Based Training Workshop for Health Care Providers Caring for Women and Girls Affected by Female Genital Cutting (FGC)

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ABSTRACT

Background: Women and girls affected by FGC have health care needs related to their FGC-status.¹⁻³ Health care provider knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) for the care of women and girls affected by FGC vary widely both between and within countries.^{4,5} Few health care providers receive training in FGC-care, and those that do often report it was inadequate.⁶⁻¹¹

Aim: The aim of this study is 1) to identify gaps in health care provider knowledge, attitudes and practices caring for FGC-affected populations, 2) design and implement a focused training workshop to address these gaps, and 3) evaluate the effectiveness of the training workshop.

Methods: Utilizing a web-based platform, health care providers at 12 sites in Arizona were surveyed to assess baseline knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) caring for women affected by FGC. Gaps in provider KAP will be identified and inform the objectives and curriculum development for a one-day FGC workshop for healthcare providers. Post-test survey and qualitative interviews will assess the effectiveness of the workshop. *This project received ethical review and approval from the Arizona State University Institutional Review Board.*

Key Findings: Curriculum development will address medical management, culturally sensitive care, and ethical or legal considerations. Workshop participants will engage in didactic, interactive, and simulation learning.

Implications for Education: Health care providers are not routinely trained in the skills needed to care for FGC-affected patients. The refinement of existing educational materials and the creation of an effective intensive workshop will enable health care providers to improve quality of care, and empower them as agents of change to prevent FGC.

Relevance to the Audience: Midwives and nurses care for women affected by FGC, but are not routinely trained in the health care needs of this population. This study addresses this gap by developing and testing an innovative education model.

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