

Female Genital Mutilation: A study of health services and legislation in some countries of the European Union

The research described in this dissertation explored the before-mentioned issues at legislative and health care level. The studies showed that, despite the existence of specialised health care services and guidelines, the lack of knowledge about FGM and deficiencies in care delivery remain. Moreover, recent developments show that other priorities need to be addressed: a lack of clarity about reinfibulation, medicalisation, cosmetic vulvar and vaginal surgery, and performing less severe cuts. The research on the legislation and the study among the Flemish gynaecologists clearly showed that specific laws do not provide any guidance on these issues. Criminal laws on FGM, where the woman or girl's consent does not play a role – as in Belgium – might equally challenge the implementation of the law when it comes to vaginal and vulvar cosmetic surgery.

Weblinks

PDF



Publication information

Author(s): Leye, Els & Temmerman, Marleen

Editor(s): Ghent University

Contents/activities/services

To meet the overall aim, several studies have been performed:

- A questionnaire-based survey that identified legal provisions applicable to FGM and an in-depth comparative analysis of the implementation of laws in five EU countries
 - A KAP survey among gynaecologists in some EU countries and a rapid appraisal of FGM as an issue for health professionals
 - A questionnaire-based survey among Flemish gynaecologists in Belgium to assess the tensions between the clinical practice, attitudes of health care professionals and the legal provisions regarding FGM, reinfibulation, symbolic incision, medicalisation and cosmetic vulvar and vaginal surgery.
-

Additional information

Format: Hardcopy, Digital

Cost to obtain the method/tool: Free

Metadata

ONGOING: Ne

TYPE: Study / Survey

LANGUAGE/TRANSLATION: English

TYPES OF GBV: Female Genital Mutilation

TARGET GROUP: Scientific community

KEYWORDS: [female genital mutilation](#)