Female Genital Mutilation in England and Wales: Updated statistical estimates of the numbers of affected women living in England and Wales and girls at risk

An interim report of the study that is being carried out in the UK was made available in July 2014. This study aims at estimating the numbers of affected women living in England and Wales and girls at risk of FGM. Demographic data about women born in FGM-risk countries and girls born to them were derived from the 2011 census and from birth registration. The methodological approach used in the present study cannot be compared to the previous study conducted in 2007. For instance, white and South Asian women born in FGM-practising countries were excluded from the most recent study population (based on the analysis of individual anonymised census records which supposedly allowed producing more reliable estimates) and estimates for women aged 50 and over were included (as they are believed to give a fuller picture of the growing numbers of women in this age group). In addition, the current study will derive estimates for local areas to enable professionals to plan services to support affected women and safeguard their daughters.

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Data Collection

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