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# UEFGM e-learning Course on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

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**An estimated 500,000 women and girls living in the European Union (EU) have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM), with a further 180,000 at risk each year.**

These women and girls need the support of informed professionals. United to END FGM (UEFGM) is a free-of-charge e-learning tool, compiled by international experts to provide asylum, health and related professionals with the knowledge they need to better understand FGM and the women and girls it affects.

**Learn more** about the rights of affected women and girls

**Gain greater insight** into the health implications of FGM

**Support and protect** affected women and girls

**Register now at [www.uefgm.org](http://www.uefgm.org)**

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## ABOUT THE COURSE

Primarily designed for EU health and asylum service staff, the UEFGM e-learning course provides essential information about female genital mutilation (FGM) that will also be of use to NGOs, including women's organisations and shelters. The course aims:

- To improve the treatment and support offered to women and girls in Europe living with or at risk of genital mutilation, by encouraging a more gender- and culture-sensitive approach in the provision of healthcare services.
- To strengthen the skills needed to maintain a high standard of decision-making in protecting FGM-affected and/or at-risk women and girls seeking asylum.
- To bring about greater harmonisation of the European Asylum System, by highlighting relevant European and international treaties and legislation protecting FGM-affected and/or at-risk women and girls.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

UEFGM course objectives are to:

- Provide specialised knowledge about the various types of FGM and their effects on women and girls' physical, psychological, reproductive and sexual health.
- Provide specialised knowledge about FGM as a ground for providing international protection to women and girls affected by or at risk of FGM.
- Develop the skills required to better provide for the health needs of women and girls affected by FGM.
- Develop the communication skills needed to effectively protect female asylum applicants.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

The UEFGM course has been designed for health professionals and asylum officers working in Europe, including midwives, gynaecologists, paediatricians, nurses, health visitors, medical and nursing students, asylum case and reviewing authority officers, asylum support centre staff, social workers and related NGO staff.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

The UEFGM e-learning course aims to enhance the skills of health and asylum professionals supporting women and girls affected by FGM. By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

- Describe the types and effects of FGM
- Communicate about FGM in a gender- and culture-sensitive way
- Frame FGM as an abuse of human rights
- Identify relevant European and international asylum regulations and treaty provisions
- Adopt a transcultural approach to the healthcare needs of affected women and girls

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course participants register for one of three streams of study:

- Asylum Stream
- Health Stream
- Combined Stream

The course consists of two Foundation Modules and four Specialised Modules—two in the area of health and two in the area of asylum. Designed as virtual seminars, each module provides the practical information and specialised training required to support and guide those affected by FGM through healthcare and asylum procedures, along with extensive web-links to primary data and sources. Each module combines a variety of material and exercises, including docudramas, case studies, additional reading and self-assessment quizzes, providing the learner with a wide and informed perspective to develop essential skills.

## COURSE PARTNERS

UEFGM is funded by the END FGM European Campaign, a Europe-wide campaign led by Amnesty International Ireland. The project is coordinated by the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS), based in Cyprus, in partnership with the Italian Association for Women in Development (AIDOS), Akina Dada Wa Africa (AKIDWA) in Ireland, and the Family Planning Association of Portugal (APF).

## CONTACT

- [www.uefgm.org](http://www.uefgm.org)
- Please direct your queries to: [info@medinstgenderstudies.org](mailto:info@medinstgenderstudies.org), putting "UEFGM Query" in the subject line.
- You can also visit our FAQs page for answers to frequently asked questions.

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