



Child Female Genital Mutilation Referrals seen at St Mary's SARC

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Increased awareness by professionals regarding FGM had led to a need for a service to see these children. Initially no local service had much experience of dealing with these cases. Following discussions with other clinical groups (Community and General Paediatrics, Paediatric Gynaecology, Primary Care) it was concluded that St Mary's SARC was best placed to see these children and their families.

From November 2014 - January 2016 St Mary's SARC saw 31 girls referred regarding concerns of FGM.

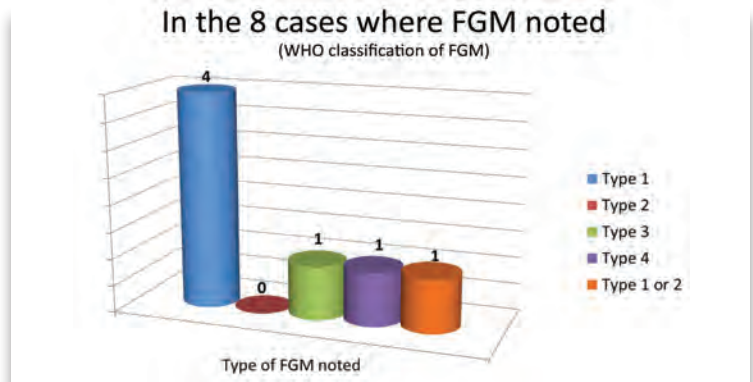
Referral pathways, documentation and examination proformas used with the CSA cases were not suitable for the FGM cases and so the St Mary's team developed bespoke paper work.

In order to meet the characteristics and requirements of FGM cases a more responsive and tailored service was developed:

- Established a multi-agency group focussing on children referred to SARC with concerns of possible FGM
- Designed a referral pathway and referral proforma
- Designed an FGM medical examination proforma
- Conducted a literature review regarding the psychological needs of child FGM victims to inform commissioning decisions.
- Work with the NGO groups such as AFRUCA and NESTAC to ensure the cultural aspects of these cases are considered.

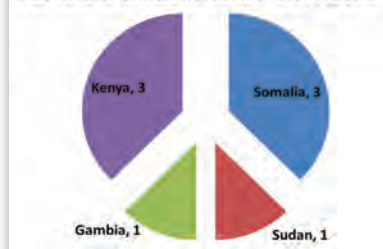
In the 8 cases where FGM noted:

- None of the girls were born in the UK
- All had had the FGM done outside of the UK
- All had had it done before coming to live in the UK
- In all the 8 cases where FGM was noted the parents had given a history of the child having had FGM done.

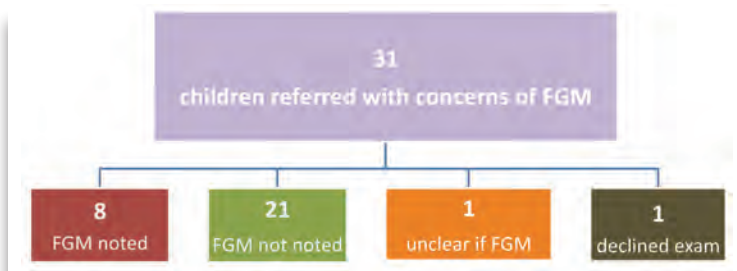


The 31 girls referred with concerns around FGM had come from a variety of countries however the 8 girls with definite FGM came from only 4 countries.

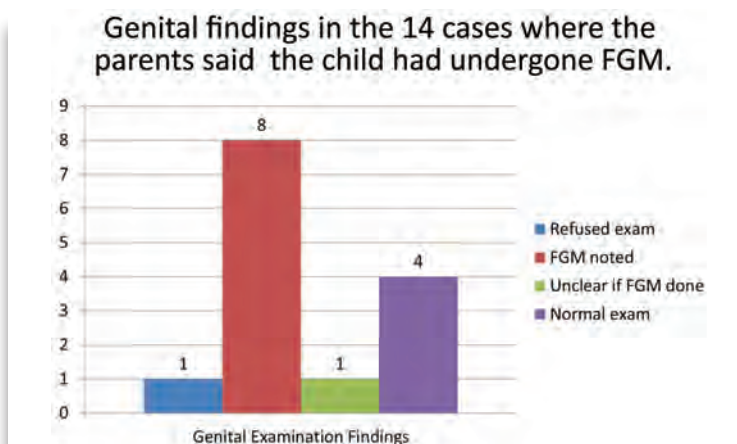
Country of birth & venue for FGM for the 8 cases where FGM noted



Analysis of the 31 cases has revealed that:



In 14 cases the parents gave a history of the child having had FGM



Mothers of the 31 children referred

	Mother has had FGM	Mother has not had FGM done	Unclear from notes if mother has had FGM
Child has FGM	6	0	2
Child has not had FGM	14	1	6
Unclear if child has had FGM	0	0	1
Child refused examination	1	0	0

In none of the 31 referrals where there was a clear history of the mother NOT having had FGM did the child have evidence of FGM.

Where were the concerns first identified regarding possible FGM

	FGM noted on examination of child	
	YES	NO
Antenatal clinic	3	7
Heath Visitor	2	2
School	1	5
Anonymous call	0	1
UK Border Police	0	3
Social services	2	4
Other	0	1