Female Genital Mutilation Risk Indication System (FGM RIS)

NHS Digital have developed the FGM RIS; a national IT system for healthcare professionals and administrative staff, designed to support effective early intervention and the ongoing safeguarding of girls under 18 years of age, potentially at risk of FGM.

The FGM RIS forms part of the national Spine architecture, and can be accessed via either the Summary Care Record Application (SCRa) or local integrated IT systems.
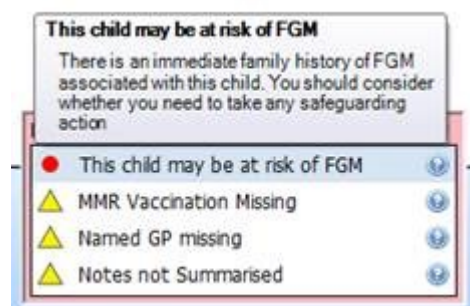
Take a look at the NHS Digital FGM RIS site to learn more.

FGM RIS alert in EMIS Web

We've worked with NHS Digital to create a new FGM RIS protocol alert. The protocol automatically runs in the background every time you:

- Load a girl aged under 18 years.
- Register a girl aged under 18 years.

The protocol then will query the FGM RIS data held on the Spine. If the patient has a risk indicator recorded against them, the following alert will be displayed:

FGM Risk register alert text

Because the protocol queries data held on the Spine, you must be logged in with a smartcard that contains RBAC B0370 View Summary Health Records in order for the alerts to be displayed. If the protocol runs when you're logged in without a smartcard, the following message will be displayed:

The protocol is located in Template Manager > Templates & Protocols > EMIS Library > EMIS Protocols > Primary Care Templates > FGM, and will be released active.

The FGM RIS data is held in the patient's SCR, not in EMIS Web. NHS-authorised healthcare professionals and administrative staff with smartcards and appropriate RBACs within England can add, remove and view the FGM RIS via the SCRa.

The FGM RIS is currently being rolled out to NHS healthcare organisations across England. As the rollout is in the early stages, once you receive the protocol, you may not see many FGM RIS alerts. However this will increase as more NHS healthcare organisations start adding FGM risk indicators.

We're currently piloting the protocol alert and plan on releasing it to you in the next couple of weeks. We'll let you know via the news feed on the EMIS Web homepage and the Support Centre when we're releasing it to you.

We're also planning a second stage of development, which will allow you to add and remove FGM RIS indicators from within EMIS Web.

Safeguarding procedures and processes

The FGM RIS is to be used alongside existing local and national safeguarding frameworks. It provides an opportunity to strengthen these frameworks and processes but does not change or replace professional responsibilities around safeguarding. When you are live with the FGM RIS, you'll need to consider and review your local safeguarding processes and procedures to ensure the FGM RIS is incorporated. Take a look at NHS Digital FGM RIS implementation guide to learn more.

Further reading

- NHS Digital FGM RIS guidance
- NHS Digital FGM RIS implementation guide
- DH safeguarding women and girls at risk of FGM
- DH FGM Prevention Programme