



## **Buckinghamshire Strategy for Tackling FGM Appendix B: 3 Key Questions for discussing FGM with women**

This is an amended version of the document developed by the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board.

**1. Known FGM women:** Read any existing information you have relating to the woman and determine whether you need to go through screening tool again.

Start with a short discussion and introduction

*As [health visitor/GPs/midwives] we are informed of a woman's medical history. I understand that you were cut/circumcised when you were a child. I understand that this is a sensitive subject/difficult for you. I know you have spoken about this previously to [health visitor/midwife/GP] but I would like to discuss this with you.*

- *Is there anything I can help you with in this?*
- *Do you feel your daughter/s are at risk of being cut?*
- *Do you need any help or support for your own experience of being cut?*

Do FGM screening tool if this has not already been done by previous health professional. If not done and there is YES to any questions follow BSCB procedure

**2. Not known if mother had FGM and her or partner from country/cultural background where FGM is significant risk.**

Start with a short discussion and introduction

*You / your partner are from [name country] where a high number of women are cut / circumcised when they are young girls. Women who have experienced this can find this traumatic. It affects their physical health, emotional health, childbirth and sexual relations. I would like to ask you a few questions. I appreciate this is a sensitive subject to talk about*

- *Is this something that has happened to you? Have you been cut/circumcised when you were young?*
- *Has anyone in your family or partner's family been cut?*
- *Are there any influences/reasons why would you ever consider having your daughter cut/circumcised? (if yes, follow BSCB guidance)*

- *Do you feel that your daughter/s are at risk of being cut/circumcised by anyone in your family or in your circle of friends?*

If there is YES answered to any of the following, the FGM risk assessment tool should be done and BSCB procedure followed.

### **3. Universal**

*In some cultural backgrounds women are cut / circumcised when they are young girls. Women who have experienced this can find this traumatic. It affects their physical health, emotional health, childbirth and sexual relations.*

- *Is this something you have knowledge or experience of?*
- *Do you need any further information?*

*Do you need any further help or support?*