

Review of: "Discussing Female Genital Mutilation by youth health care professionals in the Netherlands: facilitators and barriers"

Mamadou Dioulde¹

¹ Center for Research in Reproductive Health in Guinea (CERREGUI)

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This is a study of Alkirawan et al about FGM care from the perspective of youth health care providers (YHCPs) who have been assigned the FGM component. The specific objective of this study is to explore the experiences, barriers and facilitating factors related to FGM/C prevention and detection of girls at risk from the perspective of youth health care providers.

The results show insufficient knowledge and awareness about FGM/C and a lack of information sharing on this topic among YHPs. A facilitating factor is the existence of an instructional protocol and a numerical reminder of the contact times for discussing FGM/C with a client; a major barrier is the difficulty of discussing the issue of FGM/C with the target group.

- **I am surprised that providers do not use the protocol**(RESULTS: However, often YHCPs do not consult the protocol before the interview either with the parents or the girl)
- Training is offered on a *voluntary* basis to YHCPs. **Why?**

I think we need to consider a larger study with a quantitative component that includes collecting the opinions of girls and women who have benefited from the services of youth health care professionals