

Female circumcision – you can get help

Always report female circumcision or a threat of it

- If you are in danger of being subjected to female circumcision, tell the employees of the Finnish Immigration Service, a reception centre, a school, a health centre or similar place. They can also help you if a circumcision has already been performed on you.
- Having been circumcised or being under the threat of female circumcision can be grounds for granting a residence permit in Finland.



You can get help for the effects of female circumcision

- Female circumcision can cause severe health issues. A doctor may be able to help.
- You can also get help for your mental wellbeing.

In Finland, women and girls are protected against circumcision

- In Finland, circumcision of women and girls is not allowed without a medical reason. It is also forbidden to perform the operation on you outside Finland.
- You have the right to decide about your body. No one is allowed to touch you without your permission. If someone does something to you against your will, Finnish authorities will protect you and help you.

If you know someone who needs help

- If you know someone else is in danger of being subjected to female circumcision, tell the employees of the Finnish Immigration Service, a reception centre, a school, a health centre or similar place.
- You telling the authorities may help that someone.

What is female circumcision?

- Female circumcision is the act of mutilating the genitals of women and girls. Mutilation means damaging or removing external female genitalia without a medical reason.