





At the clinic, woman who have been subjected to FGM can register themselves or through a referral from a maternity centre, youth clinic, gynaecology clinic or family doctor.

# Who works at the clinic?

Female gynaecologists, midwives and counsellors work here. When necessary, we use a professional female interpreter. This helps to avoid any misunderstandings. Therefore, a relative or friend cannot act as interpreter. All cases are treated completely confidentially.

# What happens at your first visit?

You will meet a gynecologist to discuss your problem. She will also advise you about the help available to you. If necessary, you will undergo a gynecological examination.

# What do women usually seek help for?

Common problems that women seek help for are:

- the vagina is too tight, thus making sexual intercourse painful.
- it is difficult to urinate.
- problems with menstruation.
- a gynecological examination.
- find out what has been done during FGM.
- the need to talk about their experiences of FGM.
- questions related to future pregnancy and childbirth, such as what preparations are required.
- advice about contraception.
- other gynecological problems not related to FGM.

# What help and treatment can you get?

The help we offer depends on your needs and may consist of:

### Discussion with a counsellor

If you need to talk about your experiences, you can meet a counsellor.

# Examination

We offer different types of gynecological examinations depending on the problem.

# Operation

If the vagina is too tight, we can help to arrange an operation. With the help of a gynaecologist, you decide on how much the vagina should be opened up. You may also have some injuries related to childbirth that may require operation. The operation will be carried out at a later date and not during your first visit. During the operation, you will be sent to sleep or anesthetised. The operation is completely painless. Usually, you will be required to stay at the hospital for half a day.

# **Swedish legislation**

In Sweden, FGM has been banned since 1982.

Section 1: Operations on the external female genital organs which are designed to mutilate them or produce other permanent changes in them (genital mutilation) must not take place, regardless of whether consent to this operation has or has not been given.



#### Do you have any questions?

Please contact Amel, the clinic for women affected by female genital mutilation (FGM). Tel: + 46 (0)8 123 627 00 www.sodersjukhuset.se/amelmottagningen amelmottagningen.sodersjukhuset@sll.se

**Address:** Södersjukhuset. Gynecological clinic: T-bana (metro): Skanstull. Bus 3 towards Södersjukhuset

**Telephone hours:** Monday-Thursday 8am-noon and 1-3pm. Friday 8am-noon.

You can also contact us through 1177 Vårdguidens e-tjänster (e-services for healthcare). Please log in at www.1177.se. Through the 1177 Vårdguiden services, you can also get advice 24 hours a day.

Tel: 1177





SÖDERSJUKHUSET

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