

Patientinformation
Engelska

Genital mutilation

Female genital mutilation is prohibited in Sweden!



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
ÖSTERGÖTLAND

1. Genital mutilation

Female genital mutilation is prohibited in Sweden!

- Have you been subjected to genital mutilation and want more information?
- Do you have problems that may be due to genital mutilation?
- Are you worried that someone may subject you or your daughters to genital mutilation?



Genital mutilation is prohibited in Sweden according to Swedish law (SFS 1982:316).

Anyone who violates this law can be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison, even if the genital mutilation occurs outside of Sweden. Attempts and preparations for genital mutilation are also illegal, as is inducing someone else to perform genital mutilation. It is also illegal to not report the matter if you know that genital mutilation will be performed. Regardless of who performs the actual genital mutilation, the girl's parents are responsible for preventing genital mutilation from taking place and could be convicted of the crime in Sweden.

*Law (1982: 316) prohibiting
the genital mutilation of women*

2. Consequences

Female genital mutilation, also known as female circumcision, is abuse aimed at altering or damaging a girl's or a woman's external genitalia. Genital mutilation causes harm in many ways, and can cause the following problems both immediately and later in life:

- Heavy bleeding during the procedure
- Infections
- Pain in the genital area
- Difficulties urinating
- Difficulties during menstruation
- Pain during intercourse, both for the woman and the man
- Damage that could prevent the woman from being able to get pregnant
- Childbirth complications
- Mental issues
- Death



3. Types of genital mutilation

The WHO defines four types of genital mutilation:

Type 1: The clitoris and/or the clitoral hood is removed.

Type 2: The clitoris, the inner lips (inner labia) and sometimes the outer lips (outer labia) are cut away.

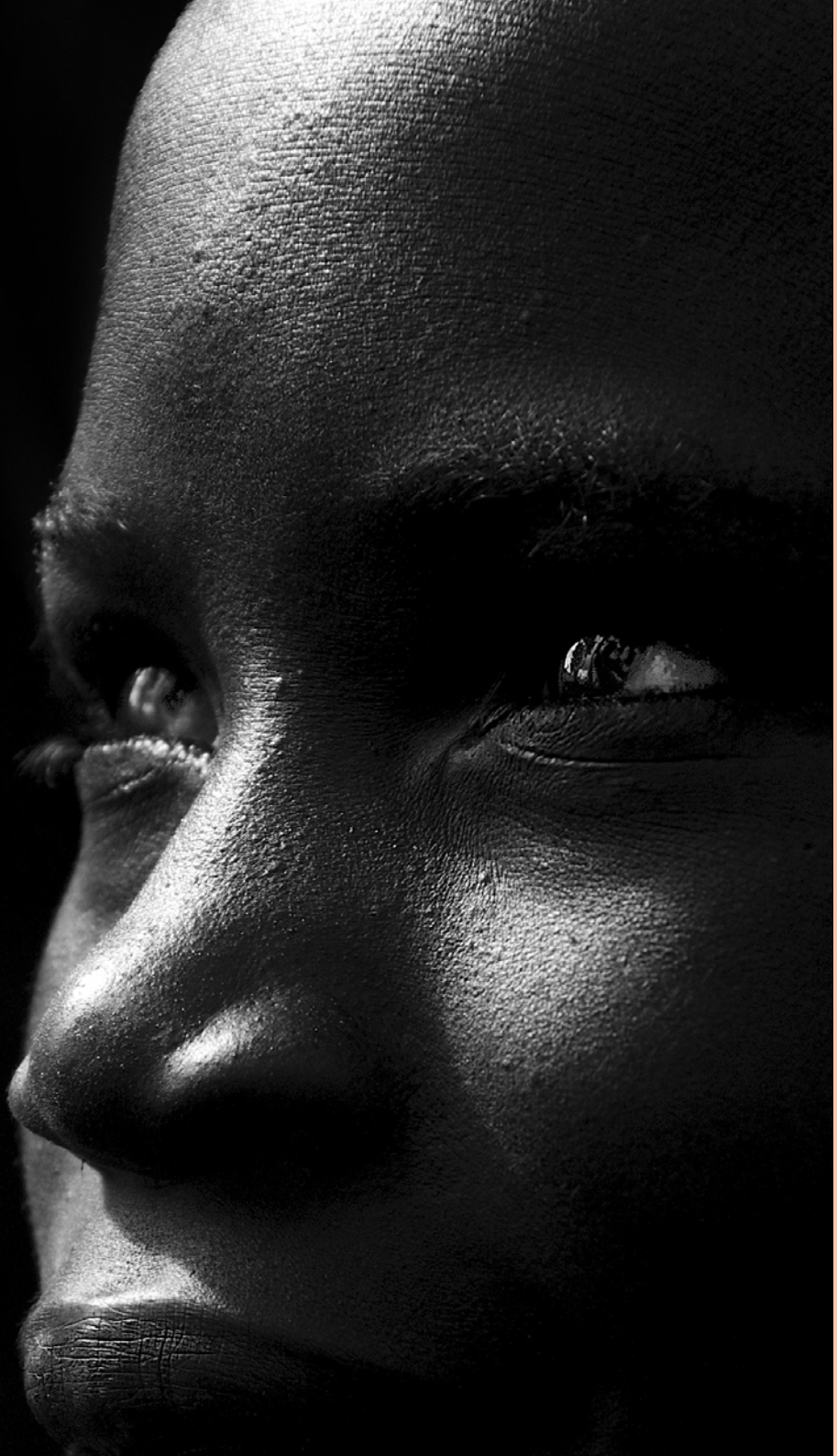
Type 3: The clitoris, inner lips (inner labia) and outer lips (outer labia) are cut away and sewn together to cover the vaginal opening.

Type 4: All other procedures that are harmful to the genitalia, such as pricking.

”Sunnah” is sometimes mentioned when talking about different types of genital mutilation. All forms of genital mutilation, including those called ”sunnah”, are illegal!

Help is available. Please see the contacts on the back of this information sheet.

TYPES OF GENITAL MUTILATION



4. Contacts

For medical advice any time of day, call 1177 Vårdguiden.
For urgent matters, you can always call 112.

Vårdcentral (Medical centre)

Search for the phone number of your local medical centre at 1177.se.

Barnmottagning (Children's medical centre)

Linköping 010-105 97 60

Norrköping 010-105 91 60

Motala 010-105 98 60

Ungdomsmottagning (Youth guidance centre, ages 13–25)

Linköping/Kisa/Åtvidaberg 010-105 96 85

Norrköping 010-105 93 50

Motala 010-104 76 90

Mjölby 010-104 86 22

Finspång 010-104 24 28

Söderköping 010-105 91 95

Gynekologisk mottagning (Gynaecology centre, adult)

Linköping 010-105 94 35

Norrköping 010-105 91 80

Motala 010-105 98 80

Socialtjänsten (Social Services)

Search for the phone number to Social Services on the website specific to your local area (called “kommun” in Swedish).

Elevhälsan (Student health)

You can always talk to someone at your school, like your school nurse or your school welfare officer.

Kvinnofridslinjen

You can call Sweden's national women's helpline, Kvinnofridslinjen, on 020-50 50 50 any time of day to talk with someone about your experiences. The call is free of charge and will not appear on your phone bill.

www.kvinnofridslinjen.se

Rädda barnen

At *www.dinarattigheter.se*, you can start a chat to talk to someone and get help. The website also provides several phone numbers you can call for help and support.

Youmo

At *www.youmo.se*, you can read more about genital mutilation.





Genital mutilation is
prohibited in Sweden
according to Swedish law
(SFS 1982:316).



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
ÖSTERGÖTLAND



Region
Östergötland

Detta material är framtaget av Länsstyrelsen Östergötland.