

Assessing the Nigerian Health System's Response to Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C)

Otibho Obianwu, Adetayo Adetunji, Mayokun Adediran, Osasuyi Dirisu

Otibho Obianwu, MD, MPH
Population Council, Nigeria

Highlights



Health system is working to prevent and manage FGM/C

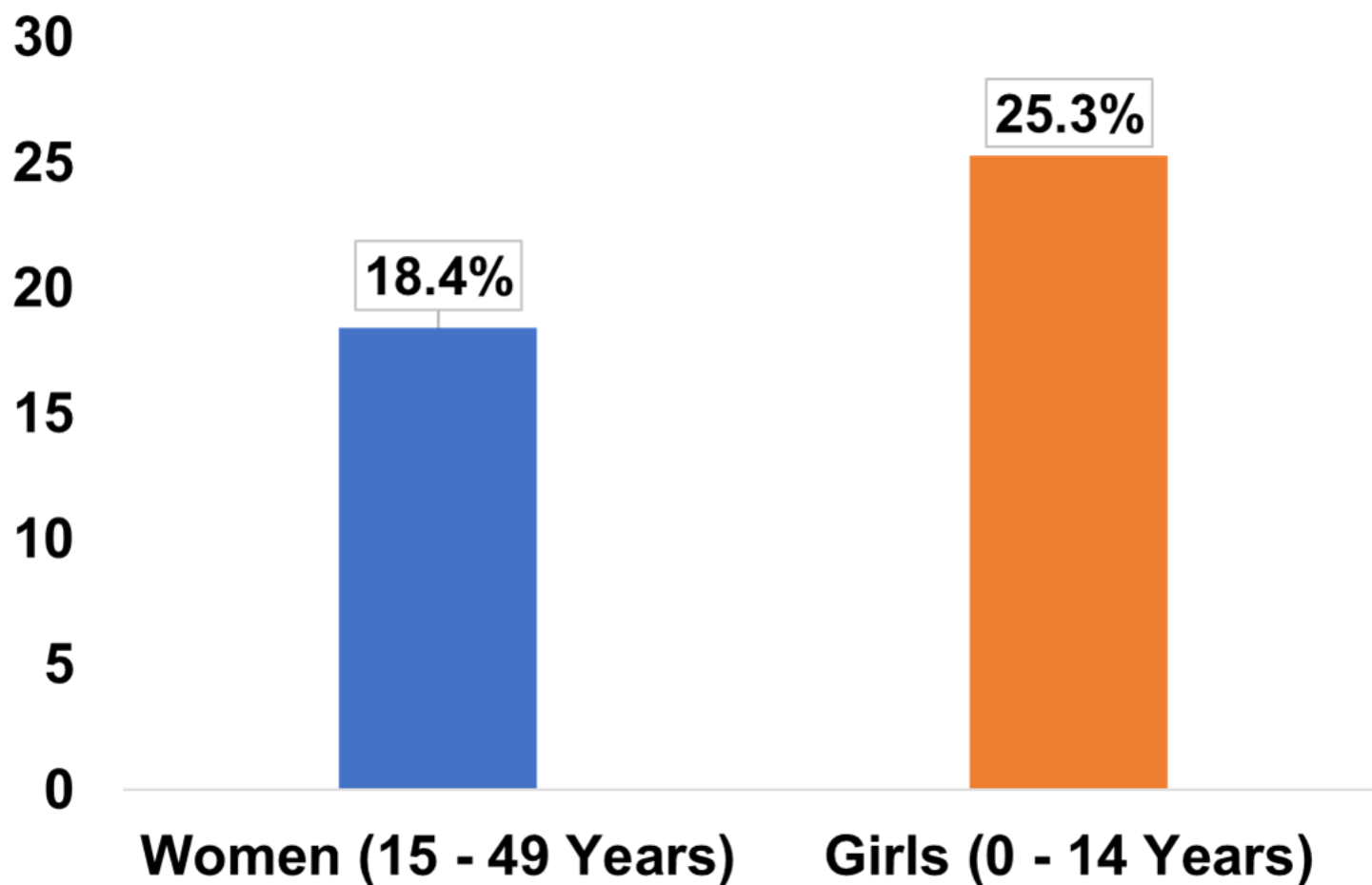


Gaps exist in the response in terms of policy, capacity, resources, and documentation



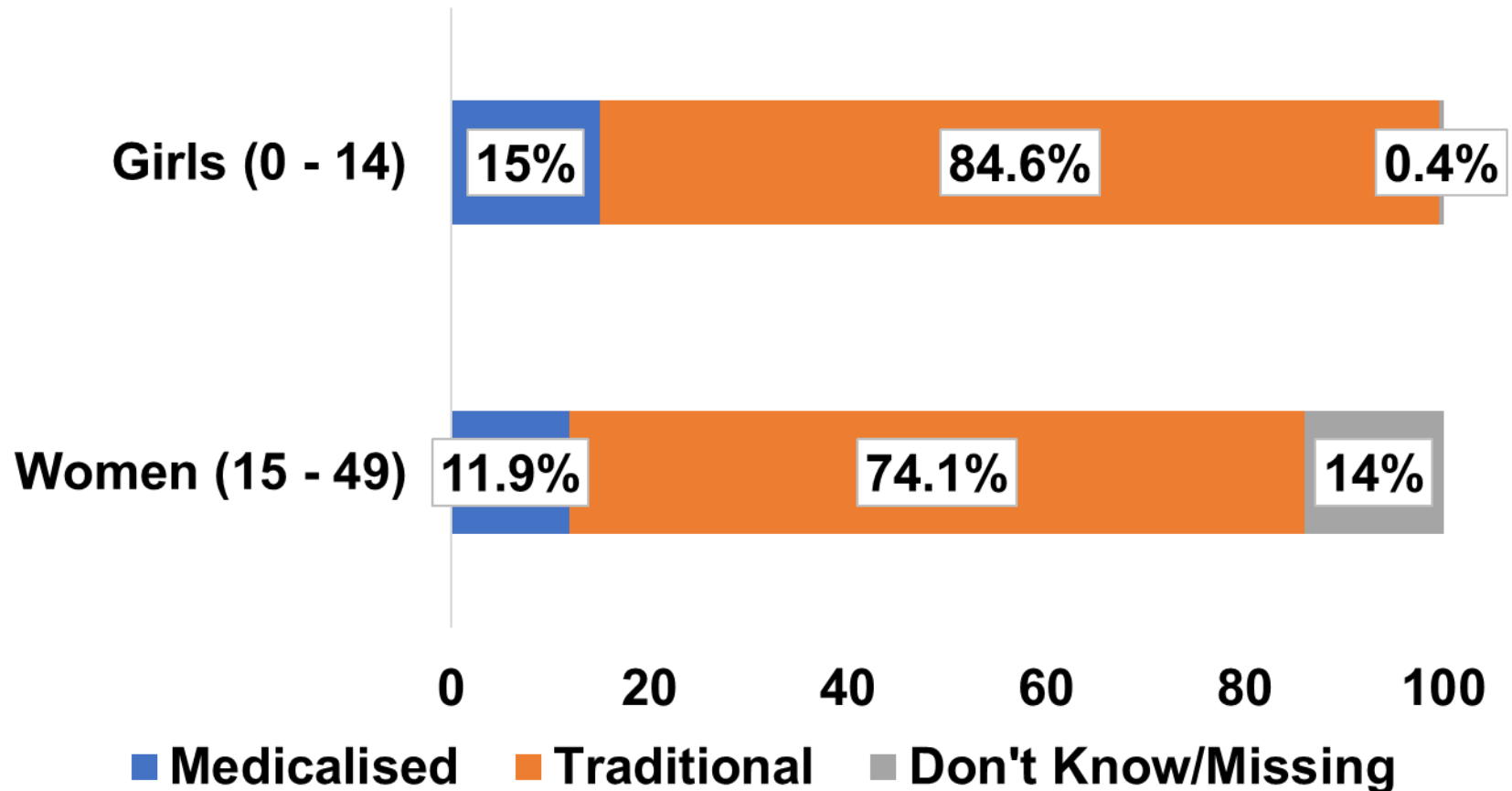
Addressing these challenges should involve leveraging and strengthening existing platforms

Prevalence of FGM/C in Nigeria



Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2016 - 2017

Who does the cutting?



Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2016 - 2017

Limited information on health system's response



Source: edelmanfinancial.com

Objectives

Examine how the health sector supports the prevention of FGM/C;

Determine the role of the health care sector in the management of FGM/C complications & quality of care offered to clients;

Identify possible solutions for strengthening the health care system's capacity to manage & prevent FGM/C.

How were the data collected?

Desk appraisal

**In-depth
interviews**

**Multi-
stakeholder
dialogues**

**Focus group
discussions**

**Health facility
assessments**

**Clinical grand
round**

What did we find?

FGM/C not a priority issue → response under-resourced & poorly coordinated

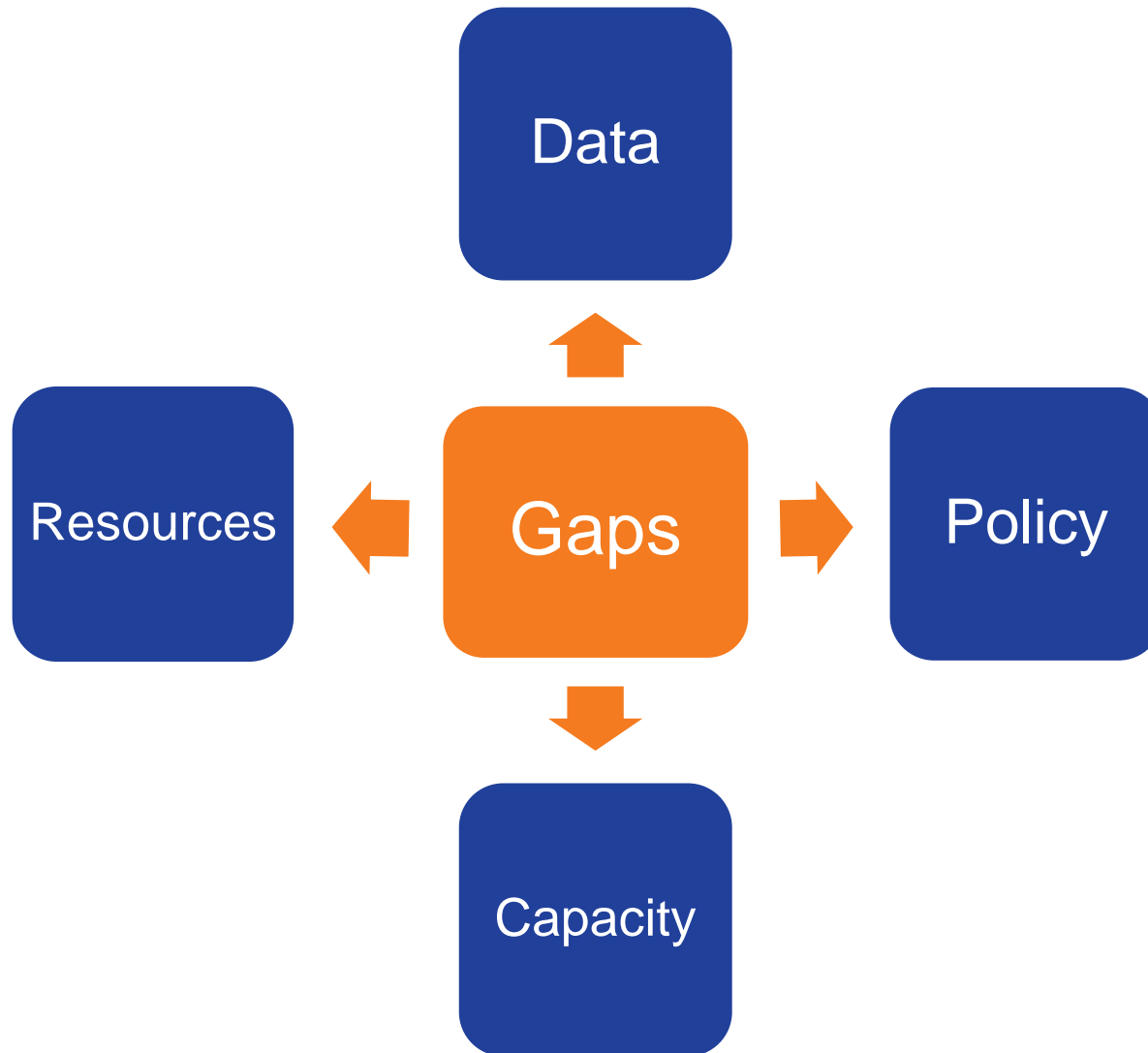
Under-resourced Nigerian health system → negatively affect any health sector intervention

Policies/guidelines are poorly disseminated & implemented

Limited health worker focused interventions

Data not routinely collected at health facilities

Summary of identified gaps



Recommendations for strengthening the health system response

Strengthen policy dissemination & implementation process

Integrate FGM/C activities into existing health systems platforms

Build health workers' knowledge and skills for prevention and management of FGM/C

Incorporate FGM/C indicators in routine data collection tools (NHMIS)

Summary

Nigerian health system is responding to FGM/C

Hindered by gaps in policy, capacity, resources, and documentation

Should leverage and strengthen existing structures



The Evidence to End FGM/C programme consortium generates evidence to inform and influence investments, policies, and programs for ending female genital mutilation/cutting in different contexts.

Evidence to End FGM/C is led by the Population Council in partnership with the Africa Coordinating Centre for the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (Kenya); Global Research and Advocacy Group, Senegal (GRAG); MannionDaniels, Ltd.; Population Reference Bureau; University of California, San Diego; and University of Washington. Evidence to End FGM/C is funded by UK aid by the UK Government.



MannionDaniels

The logo consists of the name 'MannionDaniels' in a dark teal, serif font.