

# Evidence for the Prevention of FGM in High Income Countries: A Systematic Review

Carolyne Njue <sup>1</sup>, Jamlick Karumbi <sup>2</sup>, Tammary Esho <sup>3</sup>,  
Nesrin Varol <sup>4</sup>, Angela Dawson<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Australian Centre for Public and Population Health Research,  
Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Health, Kenya

<sup>3</sup> Community and Public Health, Technical University of Kenya

<sup>4</sup> Sydney Medical School, The University of Sydney, Australia





# Objective

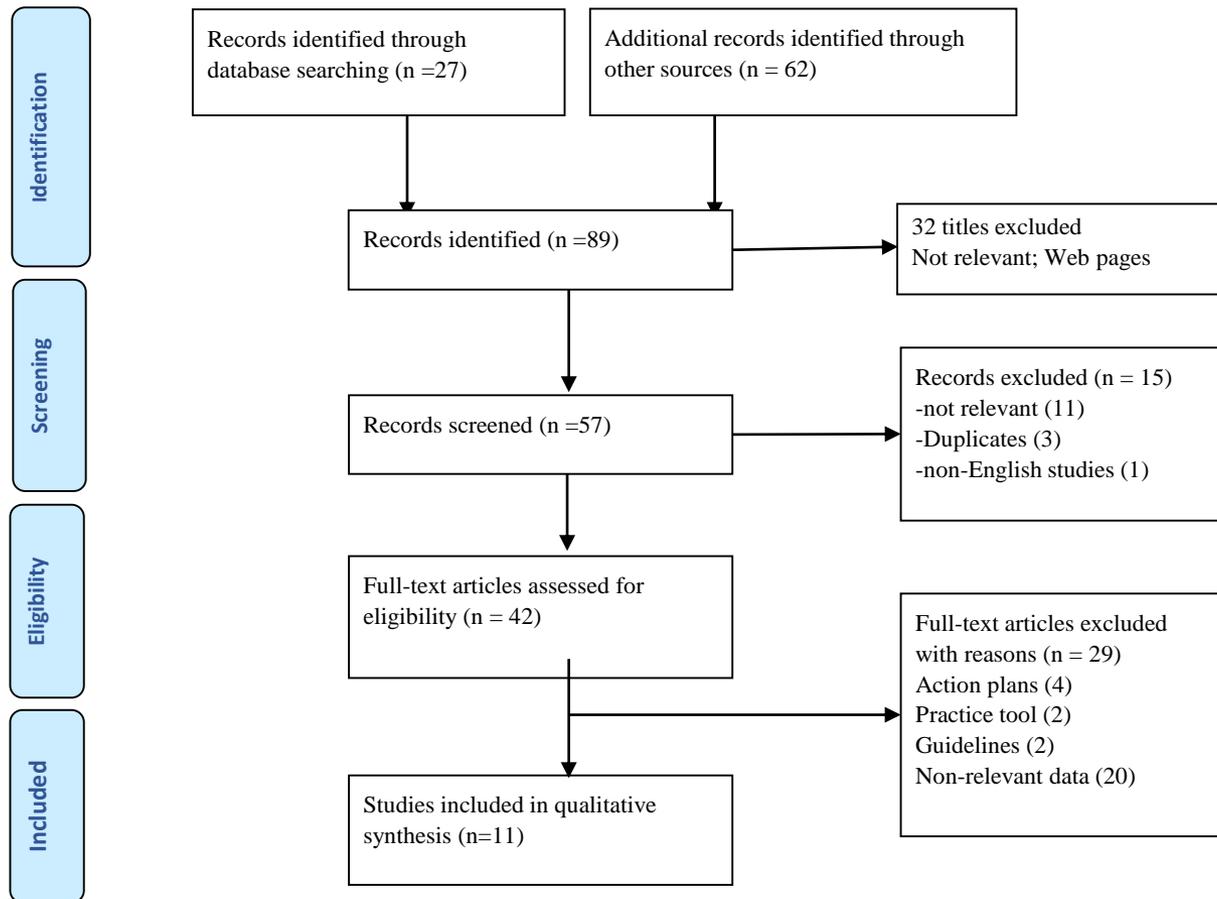
- To identify the evidence for FGM prevention interventions from a public health perspective in high income countries
- To examine the characteristics of interventions, including their programmatic approaches and strategies, target audiences and evaluation findings.



## Methods

- Systematic review and content analysis using an apriori framework
- Literature search between (2000 and 2018) of online databases (PubMed, EBSCO), Institutional websites & Grey literature reports
- Used Tannahill's health promotion approach (2008) to define included interventions
- Assessed interventions according to levels of prevention: primary, secondary and tertiary
- Undertook a content analysis informed by Beattie's model of health promotion (1991) to understand dimensions of power and the socio-cultural context of the interventions.

# PRISMA Flow Chart



	Country	levels	Focus	outcomes	Quality
Johansen, Ziyada et al. 2018	19 HICs	1	HCP training, law & service availability	15 national policy 4 co-ord, \$ & M&E	CASP MQ
Mohamed, Schickler et al. 2014	UK	1	Community education	Awareness raising	AACODs MQ
Leye and Deblonde 2004	15 EU states	1	Law	5 States have child protection law	AACODs HQ
Leye & Alexia 2009	5 EU	1	Law	Low success rate	AACODs HQ
Simret 2014	Canada	1	Education migrants	Awareness raising	AACODs HQ
Scott & Jerse 2011	Aust	1	HCP & Community ed.	Awareness raising	AACODs MQ
NHS England 2016	UK	2	Safeguarding	7/35 of CCGs implementing policy	AACODs MQ
EIGE 2013	EU	1,2	Law & HCP safeguarding	Low success rate	AACODs HQ
Brown and Porter 2016	UK	1, 2	Community education & safeguarding	Awareness raising	AACODs MQ
Brown & Hemmings 2013	UK	1,2	Community education & safeguarding	Awareness raising & resources assigned	AACODs MQ
McCracken, FitzSimons et al. 2017	UK	1,2,3	Community ed./ clinical training & safeguarding	Awareness raising, quality referral	AACODs HQ



## Primary Prevention

FGM Education for professionals and community members

- To increase awareness and understanding of FGM as an infringement on human rights, adverse health outcomes and the law as it pertained to FGM
- To change behaviour and end the practice

Outcomes: increased knowledge and awareness

## Secondary Prevention

5 documents report on safeguarding efforts Collaborative efforts across sectors for information sharing & response

- Building relationships with communities by increasing: knowledge of law & reporting protocols, & identifying safe spaces & community champions
- Training workshops for professionals on mandatory reporting

Outcomes: Audit data (NHS 2016)

3/35 (21%) CCG facilities were assessed as engaging with FGM safeguarding policy

37% of CCGs were judged as needing improvements

Improved quality referral

Outcomes: review of training (EIGE 2013)

Training on child protection in relation to FGM not conducted on a continuous, structured and nationwide basis.



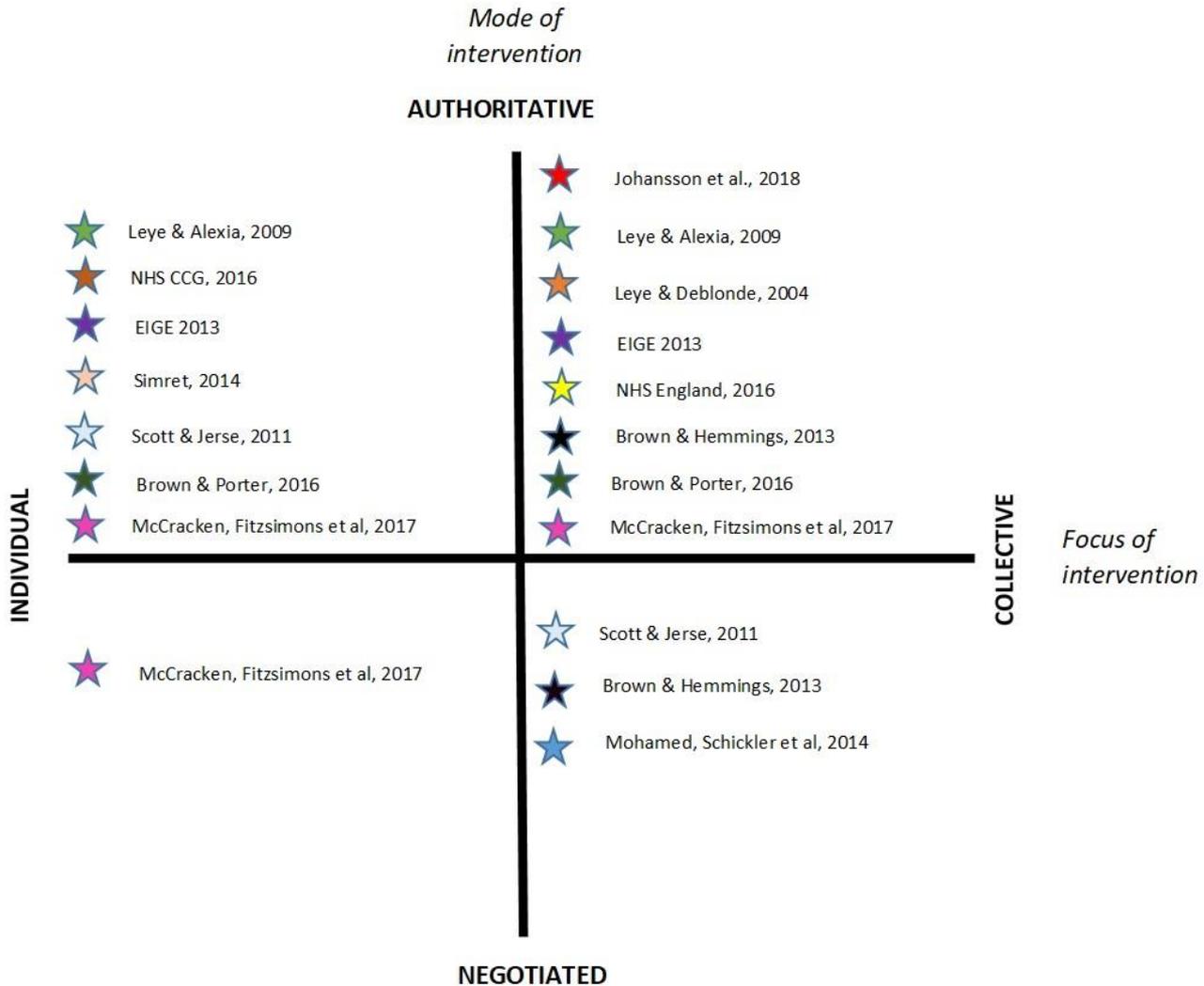
## Tertiary Prevention

FGM Early Intervention Model piloted in 3 local authority areas in London (McCracken et. al 2017)

- Practitioners trained to conduct risk assessment, deliver tailored education & clinical care to 235 women with FGM and report children at risk of FGM

Outcomes: increase in health care professional knowledge & attitudinal changes

# Mapping Interventions according to mode and focus





## Conclusion

- Studies largely prescriptive or top-down
- Emphasis given to legislative action and strengthening the capacity of health care professionals, education and awareness raising for community members.
- Few interventions focused on collective activities within communities or were aimed at empowering individual women
- Approaches required across all quadrants and axes required for holistic, well-rounded health promotion policy and practice



## Action points

- An integrated approach required to organise the multifaceted, multilayered and often overlapping public health interventions to address the medical, social and cultural issues involved in curtailing FGM.
- Involve women and girls & their communities in the design and evaluation of health prevention initiatives
- Involve a wide range of professionals for a Multi-agency response to FGM

Merci, Dank je, Danke dir, Thank you!



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