Effectiveness of interventions designed to reduce the prevalence of female genital mutilation/cutting

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Record Status
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Authors' conclusions
There is a paucity of high quality evidence regarding the effectiveness of interventions to prevent FGM/C and the evidence base is insufficient to draw solid conclusions. While first-generation anti-FGM/C intervention studies are informative, there is an urgent need for additional studies. Such second-generation studies should be randomized or at a minimum secure similar distribution of prognostic factors in the intervention and comparison groups; long-term to ensure viability and reliable assessment of changes in prevalence; take into account regional, ethnic and sociodemographic variation in the practice of FGM/C; focus on prevalence – assessed by physical examinations – behaviours, and intentions; and they should be cross-disciplinary, if possible through international collaborative initiatives.

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