

Frequently Asked Questions

about the Family and Reproductive Rights Education Program (FARREP) at The Royal Women's Hospital

What is FARREP?

FARREP provides services for women from cultures in which female circumcision* is sometimes practised. Its intent is to make it easier for these women to get appropriate health information and health care.

* This is also called female/ traditional surgery or cutting, or female genital mutilation

How does FARREP help women?

FARREP workers can:

- Assist women to prepare for appointments
- Accompany women to appointments within the hospital or in primary care settings
- Refer to appropriate services within the hospital or in primary care settings
- Advocate for women if problems arise
- Provide free health information to individuals and groups of women at the hospital or in the community
- Provide information about female circumcision in Australia

How does FARREP help health & primary care professionals?

FARREP can provide:

- **Secondary consultations** on any health matter concerning a woman from a culture that uses female circumcision
- **Information and training** on issues concerning female circumcision

Who works in FARREP?

FARREP workers are experienced and specially trained female health workers. Each speaks one or more of the following languages: Somali, Tigrinya, Arabic and Amharic.

Who can use FARREP?

FARREP is a service for married, unmarried, divorced or widowed women of any age. Women do not have to be circumcised themselves to use the service.

There are FARREP services across Victoria.

Women generally use the service near their home, or at the hospital they are attending. There are no geographic boundaries for FARREP services.

What do FARREP services cost?

FARREP is funded by the Department of Human Services. **All services are free** to women and relevant professionals.

How do I refer?

It is best for women to contact FARREP themselves. A brochure about FARREP is available for you to give to women.

Is there a waiting list?

No. FARREP services are usually available immediately. Hours are usually 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

How do I contact FARREP?

Call 9344 2211 or email

farrep.program@rwh.org.au

FARREP workers work part-time. They will return your call if you leave a message.

You may also contact FARREP at The RWH to find out about other FARREP services across the state.

FARREP at RWH
tel 9344 2211
www.rwh.org.au/fgm

Family and Reproductive Rights Education Program (FARREP) at The Royal Women's Hospital

Free services for women from cultures in which female circumcision is sometimes practised:

- Assistance for women during hospital visits
- Advocacy
- Referrals
- Health information at the Hospital and in community settings

Secondary consultations are available

Experienced and specially trained female health workers can speak one or more of **Somali, Tigrinya, Arabic and Amharic**

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