

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS

This study was a descriptive research to study the prevalence, Knowledge, attitude, and practice related to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and its type in Somali Regional State of Ethiopia. In addition to investigate the association of some variable, subjects were 138 people (≥ 15 years old) from Jijiga District of Ethiopia.

This chapter presents the finding of the data analysis. The data analysis reports on the survey, outcomes and result:

1. Demographic characteristics of the population
2. Knowledge of FGM
3. Attitude of FGM
4. Decision maker of FGM in the family
5. Opinion of women on certain saying about FGM
6. Types of FGM commonly practiced
7. Time and age of mutilation of women by age
8. Distribution of Practitioner of the FGM
9. Instrument used by practitioner during genital mutilation
10. Distribution of problem encountered due to FGM
11. Common reasons given why FGM practiced by the women
12. Association between educational status versus choice of women types of FGM to her daughter

13. Association between types of FGM she under gone and problem encounter by the women

4.1 Demographic characteristics of the population

A total of 134 respondents were interviewed with structured questionnaire in the Jijiga town. Characteristic of study subject: - The vast majority of the respondents were found to be Somali ethnic group 116(86.6%), Muslim 91.8% and 56.7% were in the age group of 15 - 29 years.

The majority of the respondent 74.3% were married, while 20% were single, 6% of the respondent had been divorced, widow or separated.

Mean age of interviewed women was 28.7 years and median age was 27 years. Regarding the occupation of the interviewed women, 53% were House wives and 18.7% were day laborer while the rest were civil servants, merchants and students. 30.6% of respondent had income less than 100 US Dollar (<\$100) and 23.9% of them had income in the range of 300 - 399 US Dollar while 17.9% had income in the range of 100 - 199 US Dollar.

Educational back ground of the respondents showed that 35.1% were not able to read and write while 32.8% able to read and write and 20.9% attended/ completed Junior or high School 07 - 12⁺ grade. 43.87% of illiterate women and 33.67% of those who able to read and write were practiced infibulation type of FGM.

Table 3: Distribution of demographic characteristics of the women. (n=134).

| Characteristics | Number | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Age of women in years | | |
| 15-29 | 76 | 56.7 |
| Mean | 58 | 43.3 |
| Median | 27 | |
| Ethnicity | | |
| Somali | 116 | 86.6 |
| Amahara | 8 | 6.0 |
| Oromo | 7 | 5.2 |
| Walyta | 2 | 1.5 |
| Other | 1 | 0.7 |
| Religion | | |
| Muslim | 123 | 91.8 |
| Christian | 11 | 8.2 |
| Marital status | | |
| Married | 99 | 74.3 |
| Divorced | 6 | 4.3 |
| Widowed | 2 | 1.4 |
| Single | 27 | 20 |
| Woman occupation | | |
| House wife | 71 | 53 |
| Civil servant | 5 | 3.7 |
| Day labored | 27 | 18.7 |
| Merchant | 15 | 11.2 |
| Other | 18 | 13.4 |
| Educational status of women | | |
| Illiterate | 47 | 35.1 |
| Read & write | 44 | 32.8 |
| 1 – 6 | 13 | 9.7 |
| 7 – 12 | 28 | 20.9 |
| 12+ | 2 | 1.5 |
| Family income/month | | |
| <\$100 US | 41 | 30.6 |
| 100 – 199 | 24 | 17.9 |
| 200 – 299 | 20 | 14.9 |
| 300 – 599 | 32 | 23.9 |
| ≥600 | 17 | 12.7 |

4.2 knowledge of FGM

The Study result indicated that the Majority of the study population had a high knowledge of FGM 67.9% had "Good Knowledge", 17.2% had "Fair or moderate

knowledge" while 14.9% had "poor knowledge". As to source of information 22.1% and 16.8% have got from mass media and health personnel respectively and 4.7% heard from religious teaching and seminar given to women.

Table 4: Distribution of Knowledge of FGM

| Knowledge Level | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| High | 91 | 67.9% |
| Moderate | 23 | 17.2% |
| Low | 20 | 14.9% |

4.3 Attitude of FGM

Attitude : the answers from each aspect of attitude towards FGM on the questionnaire, were 56.7% of the respondents had negative attitude (i.e responded in favorable manner to ward FGM) and 73.9% of respondent had intention of exposing their daughters to FGM practices and 71.7% of them prefer Sunni, 17.7% pharonic and 11% were clitoridectomy type.

Table 5: Distribution of women's attitude towards the practice of FGM

| Response toward FGM | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|---------------------|----------------|------------|
| Strongly agree | 9 | 6.7 |
| Agree | 54 | 40.3 |
| Strongly disagree | 26 | 19.4 |
| Disagree | 45 | 33.6 |

4.4 Decision maker of FGM in the Family

The dominant decision makers of FGM practice in the family were mothers (47.8%) and mother and father in coordination (45.5%), father 1.2% and Village women 5.2 respectively.

Table 6: Decision maker of FGM in the family

| Decision maker | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Mother | 64 | 47.8 |
| Father | 2 | 1.5 |
| Both (Mother and father) | 61 | 45.5 |
| Village women | 7 | 5.2 |

4.5 Opinion of women on certain saying about FGM

Opinion of women on certain saying about FGM believed by the respondents were FGM suppress high sexual derive (52.3%), FGM is social identity form women (49.3%) and uncircumcised women are out of social norm were (48.5%)(Table5) and 53-55.1% of the women were rejected the maintenance of the practice while 43.9% of them want to maintain the practice.

Table 7: Opinion of women on certain saying about FGM

| Certain saying | Agree | | Disagree | | Total |
|---|-------|------|----------|-------|-------|
| | No | % | No | % | |
| FGM–preserve virginity (chastity) | 45 | 33.5 | 89 | 66.4% | 134 |
| FGM–increases chance of marriage | 37 | 27.6 | 97 | 72.4% | 134 |
| FGM–is a social identity for women so it is good. | 66 | 49.3 | 68 | 50.7% | 134 |
| FGM–maintain cleanliness | 53 | 39.6 | 81 | 60.4% | 134 |
| FGM–is custom that should be maintained | 59 | 44.0 | 75 | 56.0% | 134 |
| FGM–is prevent premarital sex | 40 | 29.8 | 94 | 70.1% | 134 |
| FGM-suppress high sex drive | 70 | 52.3 | 64 | 47.7% | 134 |
| FGM- ensure female purity | 62 | 46.2 | 72 | 53.7% | 134 |
| - uncircumcised women are out of social norm | 65 | 48.5 | 76 | 56.7% | 134 |
| Circumcised girls are more clean than uncircumcised girls | 53 | 39.6 | 81 | 60.5% | 134 |

4.6 Types of FGM commonly practiced

Infibulation (pharonic) was the commonest type of FGM practiced (73.1%), while Sunni and clitoridectomy were reported by small proportion of study subject (13% each).

Table 8: Types of FGM commonly practiced.

| Type of FGM | Number (n=134) |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Type 1 (Sunni) | 18 |
| Type 2 (Infibulation) | 98 |
| Type 3 (clitoridectomy) | 18 |
| Type 4 | 0- |

4.7 Time and age of Mutilation of women by age

The result shows 65% of them were circumcised at Age range of 6 - 14years while 25.4% in the age range of 1 - 5 years, mean age was 7years and median age was 7.5years.

Table 9: Time of Mutilation of women by age.

| Age in Year | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|-------------|----------------|------------|
| < 1 | 8 | 6.0 |
| 1 -5 | 34 | 25.4 |
| 6 - 14 | 87 | 65.0 |
| > 14 | 5 | 3.7 |

4.8 Distribution of Practitioner of the FGM

The study shows 48.5% of the practitioners of FGM in the study area were village women other than TBA and 44.8% were TBA.

Table 10: Distributions of Practitioner of the FGM.

| Practitioner | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Traditional birth attendant (TBA) | 60 | 44.8 |
| Village women other than TBA | 65 | 48.5 |
| Health professional | 6 | 4.5 |
| Other | 3 | 2.2 |

4.9 Instrument used by practitioner during genital mutilation

The majority of the circumcisers used Razor blade and other instrument used by the practitioners during genital mutilation which highest was razor blade (92.7%).

Table 11: Instruments used by practitioner during genital mutilation.

| Instrument | Number (n=134) | Percentage |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Razor Blade | 124 | 92.7 |
| Scissors | 4 | 3.0 |
| Knife | 5 | 3.7 |
| Other | 1 | 0.7 |

4.10 Distribution of problem encountered due to FGM

FGM related complication reported by the respondents were severe pain during genital mutilation (87.6%), excessive bleeding (75.4%), double episitomy during child birth (72.5%), painful menstruation (69.7%), painful sexual inter course (66.9%) and (50.8%) were infection (Table 10). Among studied FGM related complications painful sexual intercourse was significantly associated with FGM practice ($p < 0.01$).

Table 12: Distribution of problem encountered due to FGM

| Problems | Yes | | No | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Infection | 62 | 46.3 | 60 | 44.8 | 121 | 91.1 |
| Excessive bleeding | 92 | 68.7 | 30 | 22.4 | 122 | 91.1 |
| Sever pain during genital Mutilation | 106 | 79.1 | 15 | 11.2 | 121 | 90.0 |
| Double Episitomy during child birth | 87 | 65.0 | 33 | 25.6 | 120 | 90.6 |
| Pain for sexual Intercourse | 81 | 60.4 | 40 | 30.0 | 121 | 90.4 |
| painful menstruation | 85 | 63.0 | 37 | 27.6 | 122 | 91.0 |

4.11 Common reasons given why FGM practiced by the women

There are various reasons for their being practicing FGM, due to tradition, (99.3%), to be admitted in to women group (55.2%), to decrease high sexual drive of in the women (55.2%) and 47% for religions requirement(Table 11). 20.8% of interviewed women believe that men play role or influence the practice of FGM.

Table 13: Common reasons given why FGM practiced by the women

| Common Reasons | Yes | | No | | Total |
|---|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Tradition | 133 | 99.3 | 1 | 0.7 | 134 |
| Religions requirement | 63 | 47 | 71 | 53 | 134 |
| To protect – Virginit | 62 | 46.3 | 72 | 53.7 | 134 |
| To be accepted bride(To get husband) | 44 | 32.8 | 90 | 67.2 | 134 |
| To make child birth easier and prevent infant death | 5 | 3.7 | 129 | 96.3 | 134 |
| To decrease high - sexual drive of the women | 74 | 55.2 | 60 | 44.8 | 134 |
| To be admitted into women group | 74 | 55.2 | 60 | 44.8 | 134 |

4.12 Association between Educational status versus choice of women types of FGM to her daughter

The association between Educational status versus choice of women types of FGM to her daughter shows most of the prefer Infibulation whether they are educated or not.

Tables.14: Association between educational status and choice of women to under go types of FGM to her daughter

| Educational status | Mode of FGM | | | | | | Total | % | P value |
|--------------------|-------------|------|---------------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-----------|
| | Sunni | | Infibulations | | Clitoridectomy | | | | |
| | n | % | n | % | n | % | | | |
| Illiterate | 2 | 4.3 | 43 | 91.5 | 2 | 4.3 | 47 | 100 | P>0.1 |
| Read and write | 6 | 13.6 | 33 | 75 | 5 | 11.5 | 44 | 100 | P < 0.001 |
| 1 – 6 | 1 | 7.7 | 12 | 92.3 | - | - | 13 | 100 | P < 0.005 |
| 7 – 12 | 9 | 30 | 10 | 33.3 | 11 | 36.7 | 30 | 100 | P < 0.005 |
| Total | 18 | 55.6 | 98 | 292 | 18 | 52.5 | 134 | 100% | |

n=number

5.13 Association between types of FGM she under gone and Problem encounter by the women

The association b/n types of FGM she under gone and Problem encounter by the women Most of the complication related with FGM is related with extreme form of FGM (**infibulation or pharonic**). Severe pain during FGM, Painful menstruation or Infection all shows with highest percentage where as **Sunni** and **Clitoridectomy** accounts each of them less percentage.

Table 15: Association b/n types of FGM she under gone and Problem encounter by the women

| Problems | Types of FGM | | | | P. Value |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------|----------|
| | Sunni | Infibulations | Clitrodectomy | Total | |
| Severe pain during FGM. | | | | | |
| Yes | 10 (55.5) | 83 (84.7) | 13 (72.2) | 106 | P<0.005 |
| No | 8 (44.5) | 15 (15.3) | 5 (27.7) | 28 | |
| Total | 18 | 98 | 18 | 134 | |
| Painful menstruation | | | | | |
| Yes | 11 (61.1) | 90 (91.8) | 14 (77.8) | 115 | P<0.005 |
| No | 7 (38.9) | 8 (8.2) | 4 (22.2) | 19 | |
| Total | 18 | 98 | 18 | 134 | |
| Infection | | | | | |
| yes | 10 (55.5) | 63 (64.3) | 12 (66.7) | 85 | P>0.1 |
| No | 8 (44.5) | 35 (35.7) | 6 (33.3) | 49 | |
| Total | 18 | 98 | 18 | 134 | |
| Painful sexual intercourse | | | | | |
| Yes | 11 (61.1) | 88 (89.8) | 15 (83.3) | 114 | P<0.005 |
| No | 7 (38.9) | 10 (10.2) | 3 (16.7) | 20 | |
| Total | 18 | 98 | 18 | 134 | |