

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE RELATED TO FEMALE  
GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM) AND ITS TYPE IN JIJIGA TOWN OF  
SOMALI REGIONAL STATE OF ETHIOPIA**

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**A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of Master of Public Health Program in Health Systems Development**

**College of Public Health**

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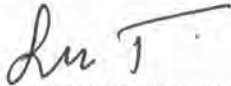
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Thesis Title Knowledge, attitude, and practice related to Female Genital  
Mutilation and its type in Jijiga town of Somali Regional State of  
Ethiopia.  
By Habib Mohammed Yusuf  
Field of Study Health System Development  
Thesis Advisor Professor Surasak Taneepanichsakul, M.D.


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**Objectives:** is to assess knowledge, attitude and practice, towards FGM, and its type among women in a reproductive age group.

**Method:** Community based cross sectional study on knowledge, attitude and practice of women on FGM and its types was conducted in Jijiga town, Somali region, Eastern Ethiopia from February 10 –March 20/2007. Systematic sampling methods was used to identify the study subjects and data was collected using pre-tested structured questionnaire on various aspects of FGM and data was organized in percentage and presented in table.

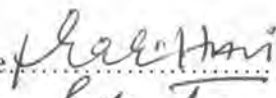
**Result:** The prevalence of FGM among women aged 15-49 years age in the study area was found to be 94.5%, where infibulations (pharonic) is the commonest type of FGM practiced (83.4%), while Sunni and clitoridectomy were reported by small proportion of study subject (13.6%) and (3.0%) respectively.

the majority of study subjects have "Good knowledge" about FGM and as to the attitude of the women toward the FGM the study revealed that 56.7% of the respondents had responded in suitable manner toward FGM (i.e shows - negative attitude toward the FGM practice). 53-55.1% of women were rejecting the maintenance of the practice and 43.9% want to maintain the practice in less severe or severe form.

**Conclusion:** Female genital mutilation is practiced by the majority of women interviewed in the study area with different form. The study indicated that study subjects hope to decrease high risk of developing complications merely by changing to mildest form of FGM (sunni). There is obvious gap between knowledge of negative effects of the practice and positive attitude towards the practice to continue. Hence, wide information, education and communication is recommended.

**Field of Study:** Health System Development

**Academic year:** 2006

**Student's signature** 

**Advisor's signature** 

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## List of Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome
FMOH	Federal Ministry of Health
FC	Female Circumcision
FGC	Female Genital Circumcision
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
IEC	Information, education and communication
KAP	Knowledge, attitudes and practice
NCTPE	National Committee on Traditional Practices in Ethiopia
RHB	Regional Health Bureau
STI	Sexually transmitted infection
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WHO	World Health Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund