

## ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION IN OGBOIN CLAN, BAYELSA STATE, NIGERIA

Golden, M. I., Adu, G., Otoro, L. & March, M.

School of Foundation Studies

Bayelsa State College Of Health Technology

Bayelsa State, NIGERIA

Email: michaelgoldenoc@gmail.com

### ABSTRACT

**Background/Objectives:** Female genital mutilation poses great danger to the health of women and girls wherever it is being practiced. It is a major health problem with many physical and psychological consequences. The health implications of female genital mutilation have been documented all over the world. This study aims at assessing the effects of female genital mutilation among the victims in Ogboin Clan. The broad objective is to assess the effects to determine the level of intensity of each effect on the victims in the clan. **Materials/Methods:** A descriptive survey design was used. A total of 100 samples were obtained by snowball and accidental/haphazard sampling techniques based on the inclusive criterion of having undergone female genital mutilation. A structured five point modified Likert scale questionnaire was used to obtain the data. Result is presented in tables and analyzed in simple percentages. The arithmetic mean was used to evaluate the effects of the mutilation. **Results:** The major findings of this study is that haemorrhage (80.00%), perineal laceration (69.80%), chronic pain (68.60%), scar/keloid (65.80%), shock (56.60%), infection (51.00%) and internal bleeding (51.00%) are the effects of female genital mutilation with the highest prevalence among the victims in Ogboin Clan. **Conclusion:** Female genital mutilation has left severe health effects on the victims of this practice in Ogboin Clan. It was strongly recommended that the law banning female genital mutilation in Bayelsa State, Nigeria should be strictly enforced, and the Bayelsa State Ministries of Information and Orientation, and Women Affairs and Social Development should step up advocacy to educate the parents on the need to stop subjecting their daughters to the act.

**Keywords:** Female, Genital Mutilation, Ogboin Clan, Bayelsa State.