

Document filename: FGM IS Local System Integration Requirements Specification

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Project / Programme | FGM Prevention Programme | Project | Female Genital Mutilation Prevention Programme |
| Document Reference | Requirements Specification | | |
| Project Manager | Iain Gould | Status | Final |
| Owner | James Palmer | Version | 2.2 |
| Author | Iain Gould | Version issue date | 18/02/2020 |

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Information Sharing (IS) Local System Integration Requirements Specification

Document Management

Revision History

| Version | Date | Summary of Changes |
|------------|--------------|---|
| 0.1 | 04/01/2017 | Initial Draft |
| 0.2 – 0.96 | Mar-Apr 2017 | Updates from Reviews |
| 1.0 | 25/04/2017 | Final |
| 1.1 | 11/09/2017 | Uplift to include all requirements for FGM DMS 2 and Query Interactions |
| 1.2 | 13/09/2017 | Uplift to clarify and reword requirements |
| 1.3 | 18/09/2017 | Uplift with additional comments |
| 2.0 | 20/09/2017 | Final Updated |
| 2.1 | 27/09/2017 | Minor update - Final |
| 2.2 | 18/02/2020 | DCB2112 Standard Updates and rename FGM IS removal create/delete functionality sections |

Reviewers

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Glossary of Terms

| Term / Abbreviation | What it stands for |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Child | A person under 18 years of age |
| DHSC | Department of Health and Social Care |
| DMS | Domain Message Specification |
| FGM | Female Genital Mutilation |
| FGM IS | Female Genital Mutilation Information Sharing |
| FHIR | Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources |
| NHS Digital | NHS Digital is the national information and technology partner to the health and social care system. Formerly known as the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) it was renamed in 2016. |
| NHS Spine | The Spine is a collection of national applications, services and directories that support the NHS in the exchange of information across national and local NHS IT systems |
| ODS | Organisation Data Service |
| PDS | Personal Demographics Service |
| RBAC | Role Based Access Control |
| SCRa | Summary Care Record Application |
| The 'Core Service' | The FGM IS central core component |
| TRUD | Technology Reference Data Update Distribution Site |
| Validated NHS number | A valid NHS Number is one that has the correct format and passes the NHS number check digit calculation. |
| Verified NHS number ¹ | A verified NHS Number is one where the patient's identity has been cross-checked using demographic details on the Personal Demographics Service (PDS). |

Document Control:

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¹ <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/female-genital-mutilation-information-sharing>

² <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/information-standards-and-data-collections-including-extractions/publications-and-notifications/standards-and-collections>

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1 Introduction

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is an illegal, extremely harmful practice and a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls. The Government is committed to preventing and ending this harmful practice which violates the rights of girls and women.

The Department of Health (DH) in partnership with NHS England launched a FGM Prevention Programme whose aim is to improve the NHS' response to FGM, increase levels of safeguarding for girls at risk of FGM and provide better subsequent support and care for those that have undergone FGM.

Background

As part of the FGM Prevention Programme (2014 – 2018), the Health and Social Care Centre now NHS Digital was commissioned to develop a national FGM Indication System formerly FGM Risk Information System (FGM RIS). This was replaced in 2017/18 by FGM Information Sharing (FGM IS). This is a national IT service and forms part of the national Spine architecture. It allows FGM IS information for children under 18 to be stored and shared with relevant NHS healthcare professionals across departmental, organisational and geographical boundaries within England, supporting effective early intervention and ongoing safeguarding of children potentially at risk of FGM.

Currently, the FGM information held within the FGM IS (an FGM indicator plus assessment date) can only be updated by authorised healthcare professionals using the Summary Care Record Application (SCRa). For healthcare professionals who do not regularly use SCRa this can be cumbersome and time consuming.

The revised ISN Standard DCB2112 updates aligns current and future locally health/care integrated systems to the core system. In addition, mandatory requirements have been reviewed, with local integration functionality currently only mandated in Primary Care settings. It must be noted however that the functionality may be relevant in other health care systems/settings, in which the standard may be applied on a voluntary basis in response to local decision.

Purpose of Document

The purpose of this document is to provide NHS funded healthcare providers in England and their NHS IT systems suppliers with a clear description of the interoperability and functional requirements to access the Spine FGM IS Service from local NHS IT systems to.

2 Objective

The primary objective of allowing FGM IS information on the FGM IS to view/query from local NHS IT systems is to increase access and improve timeliness of FGM IS information to all relevant healthcare professionals thereby supporting the overall objectives of the wider DH FGM prevention programme.

3 Scope

This document applies to NHS funded healthcare providers in England who provide any of the following services along with their NHS IT system suppliers but not excluding other service providers:

- Maternity Services
- Health Visiting
- School Nursing
- GP Services.

The FGM IS local system integration interoperability requirements cover the ability to:

- Query the Spine FGM IS
- Retrieve data from the Spine FGM IS where a record exists

Access to query the Spine FGM IS can be accessed by an accredited NHS System with appropriate access rights.

- Midwives
- Health Visitors
- School Nurses
- Local Safeguarding Leads
- GP Practice Nurses

All NHS GP practices and their IT system suppliers **must** include this functionality (including 'Out of Hours' services).

NHS acute, community and mental health trusts may also consider which of their local NHS IT systems may incorporate the FGM IS Query / View capability.

This document includes only the **functional business requirements** to enable access to FGM IS Query/Response capability within local NHS IT systems. The technical specifications for the interoperability interactions are defined FGM IS Domain Message Specification vx.x is defined in a separate specification.²

4 Assumptions and Pre-Requisites

- The FGM IS is to be used in conjunction with local safeguarding frameworks and processes. Use of the FGM IS will not change professional responsibilities in this regard.
- A child is identified as being at potential risk of FGM by a clinician following completion of an FGM assessment, as detailed in the Department of Health's best practice guidance³.
- A verified NHS number will be used in the NHS local IT system. A 'verified' NHS number means the patient's identity has been cross-checked using demographic details on the National Spine's Personal Demographics Service (PDS).

5 Requirements

The following are key points for NHS IT systems development:

- Local Spine compliant systems will be able to Query the FGM IS for an FGM indicator associated with a verified NHS number.
- FGM IS only records that a potential family history of FGM exists and the date the FGM assessment was carried out.
- FGM IS information cannot be created for anyone over the age of 18. Note that if a patient has an FGM IS record, then at age 18 this must automatically be deleted by the FGM IS system and will no longer be available to locally integrated systems.
- FGM IS interactions may contain NHS numbers relating to males who have supporting female genitalia. The FGM IS accepts the PDS gender types 'female', 'unknown' and indeterminate'.
- All interactions with the Spine FGM IS will be fully audited within the Spine Core Service in line with existing Spine audit rules.

Keywords

The keywords MUST, SHOULD and MAY are to be interpreted as follows:

- **MUST** - This word, or the terms "REQUIRED" or "SHALL", means that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.

² FGM IS DMS <https://data.developer.nhs.uk/fhir/fgm-v2-draft-d/Chapter.1.About/index.html>

³ DH Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding: Guidance for Professionals': <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-women-and-girls-at-risk-of-fgm>

- **SHOULD** - This word, or the adjective "RECOMMENDED", means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
- **MAY** - This word, or the adjective "OPTIONAL", means that an item is truly optional.

Details of how the requirements can be monitored and measured are described in the associated conformance criteria.

5.1 NHS Funded Primary Care Healthcare Providers

| Ref | Requirement | Priority |
|----------|--|----------|
| FGMIS001 | Providers MUST read the information standard Requirements Specification in conjunction with the Implementation Guidance to identify how the Standard is applicable to them. | MUST |
| FGMIS002 | Providers MUST review their IT system(s) against this information standard to identify and make any changes required to their IT systems and business processes to ensure compliance with the information standard. | MUST |
| FGMIS003 | FGM IS does not replace existing safeguarding processes and procedures. NHS funded healthcare providers MUST review current practices to identify how FGM IS will support existing functions and clinical practice. | MUST |

5.2 NHS Applicable Systems

| Ref | Description | Priority |
|---------------------|--|----------|
| FGM IS Query | | |
| FGMISQ001 | Where the local NHS IT system uses Spine role based access codes (RBAC), the activity code B0370 "View Summary Health Records" MUST be used to view the FGM IS system by appropriate users. | MUST |
| FGMISQ002 | Where the NHS system connects to the FGM IS Service via a Spine Mini Services Provider (SMSP) and does not use Spine RBAC, then access to the FGM IS Service MUST be controlled by local system access controls mapped to the RBAC activity code B0370 "View Summary Health Records". | MUST |
| FGMISQ003 | The FGM IS Query Interaction MUST contain a verified NHS number. | MUST |
| FGMISQ004 | The FGM IS Query Interaction MUST contain an NHS number pertaining to a person under age 18. | MUST |
| FGMISQ005 | The FGM IS Query Interaction MAY contain an NHS number pertaining to a male if the patient has female genitalia. | MAY |
| FGMISQ006 | The process to query the FGM IS service MUST be done systematically once the patient's demographics have been checked and their NHS number confirmed, As such there will be minimal impact on the user. | MUST |

| | | |
|-----------|--|------|
| FGMISQ007 | <p>The local NHS IT system MUST undertake a FGM IS Query for patients satisfying the above criteria, at the following 'Significant Events':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a patient registers at a GP practice (once the patient's NHS number has been verified) • At the beginning of any episode of unscheduled care (where the patient can be identified and their NHS number can be verified) if appropriate to the setting • At all clinical appointments including outpatient (if appropriate to the provider/scope of implementation) • Prior to in patient admission and discharge. | MUST |
| FGMISQ008 | <p>The FGM IS Query interaction is fully defined in the FGM IS Domain Message Specification (DMS) 2. The FGM IS DMS MUST be used to develop the FGM query Interaction. The information in the query message ensures the following can be determined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient to whom the query applies (NHS number) • That it is a FGM IS query • Who sent the request • When the FGM IS query was sent • Where the FGM IS query was requested from. | MUST |

FGM IS Query Response

| | | |
|------------|--|------|
| FGMISQR001 | Where a current FGM IS Indicator for a patient exists on FGM IS, the applicable IT system MUST automatically alert the user to this ⁴ | MUST |
| FGMISQR002 | Following the retrieval and confirmation of a patient record including a verified NHS number, there MUST be no further specific action required by a user in order to be alerted if the patient has a family history of FGM. | MUST |
| FGMISQR003 | The format of the FGM IS alert message will be determined locally. However, it MUST include the date and time the FGM IS flag query was requested (supplied in the FGM IS response message) and it MUST be displayed within the correct patient's record ensuring that there can be no confusion as to which patient the FGM alert message is associated. | MUST |
| FGMISQR004 | The FGM IS alert message MUST be presented in such a way that it cannot be missed by a user. | MUST |
| FGMISQR005 | If the FGM IS response message indicates that no family history exists for the patient, or where an error is returned, there MUST NOT be a message displayed to the user. | MUST |
| FGMISQR006 | Where the FGM IS response interaction returns an error, there MUST be a mechanism for reporting the error to appropriate staff (e.g. The Information Technology department). | MUST |
| FGMISQR007 | <p>The FGM IS Response message is fully defined in the FGM IS Domain Message Specification (DMS). The FGM IS DMS MUST be used to understand the information contained in the message in order to implement this information standard. The information in the response message ensures it can be determined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether or not a family history of FGM exists for the patient on FGM IS | MUST |

⁴ Female Genital Mutilation Risk Indication System (FGM IS) Requirements Specification Guidance v1.0 – provides guidance on what information should be displayed to the user

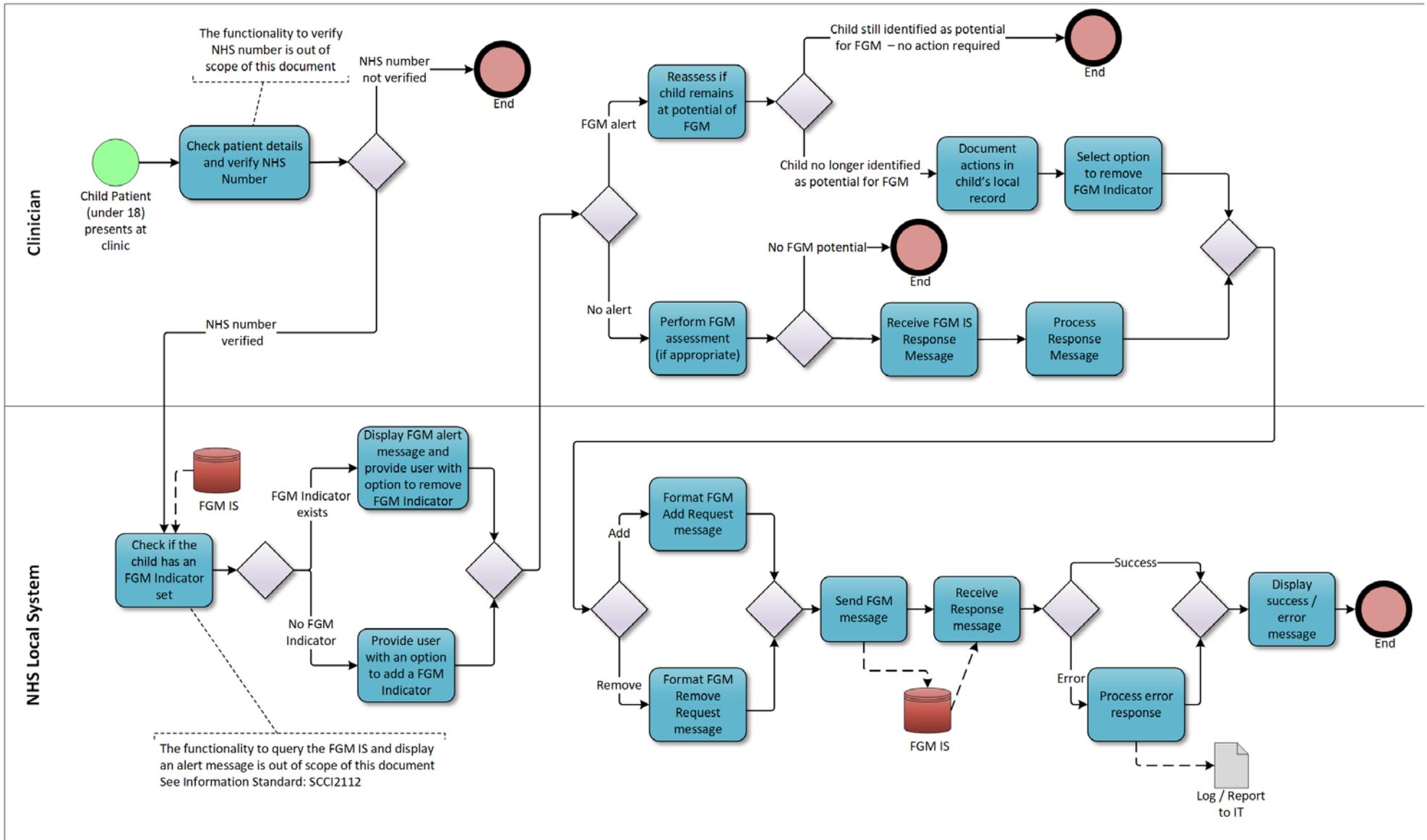
| | | |
|------------|---|----------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether an error has occurred and if so, details of the error • If a family history of FGM exists for the patient, the date and time the assessment was undertaken • When the response was sent from Spine. | |
| FGMISQR008 | Local systems MAY store the FGM IS indicator if it is presented with the date and time it was retrieved from the core FGM IS service and it is updated each time the patient record is accessed. | MAY |
| FGMISQR009 | Local systems MUST NOT be enabled to store the FGM IS indicator once the patient is over the age of 18. FGM IS indicator data held locally MUST be deleted for those over this age. | MUST NOT |
| FGMISQR010 | The retrieved FGM IS Indicator information MUST be available to users with the appropriate access throughout the patient encounter e.g. a journey through a hospital encounter | MUST |
| FGMISQ0011 | Where the FGM IS Indicator information has been cached for a patient encounter, it MUST be refreshed every 24hrs. This requires a new FGM IS query against the FGM IS. | MUST |

6 Local Auditing

Local NHS IT systems **MUST** keep a clear record of all Interactions submitted to, and responses from, FGM IS in accordance with existing local auditing processes. This is necessary to satisfy any Subject Access Requests (SARs) received by the organisation.

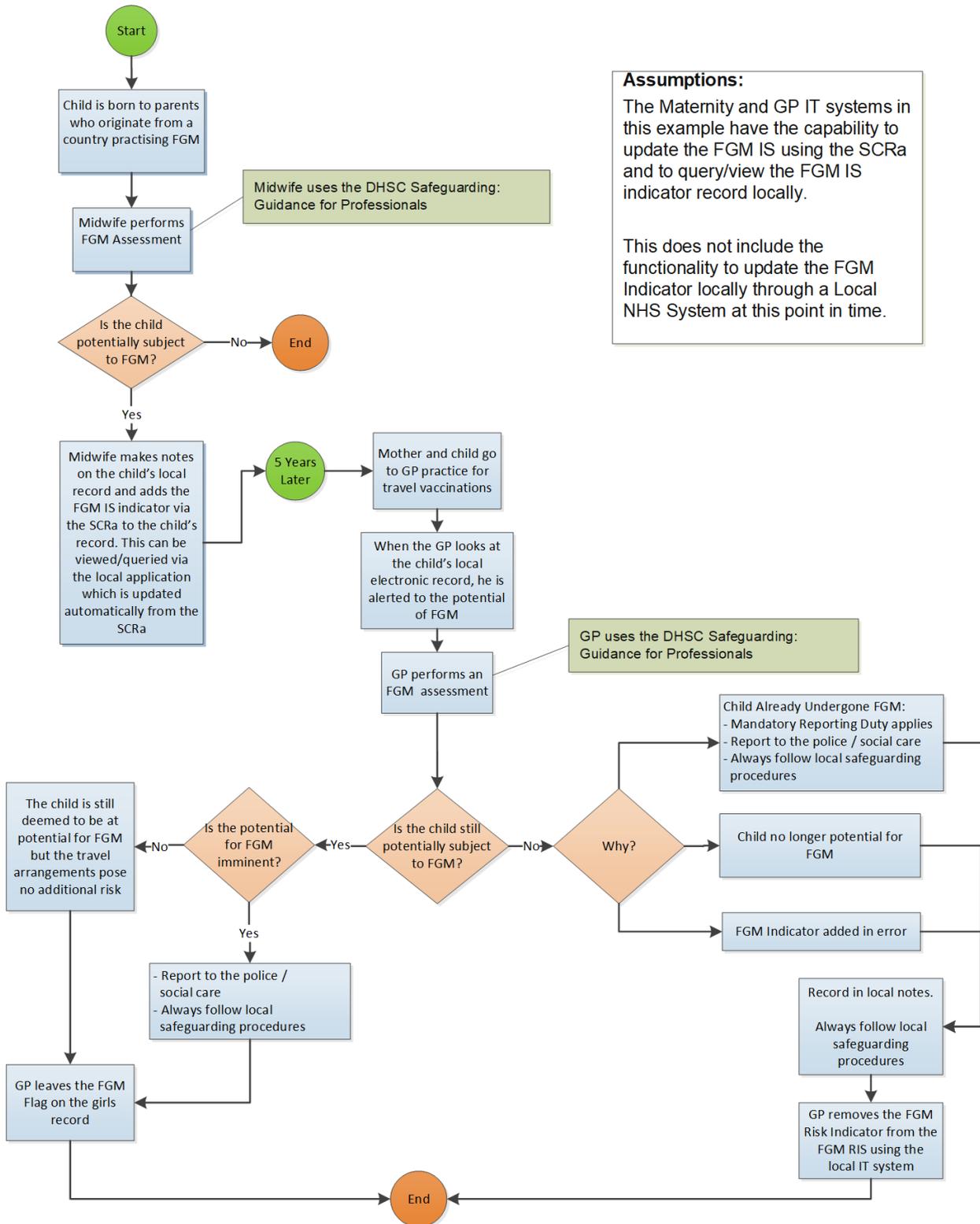
Note that all FGM IS Interactions are centrally audited by Spine.

7 Activity Diagram



Appendix A: Example of using the FGM IS in the NHS

Example of using the FGM IS within the NHS



Assumptions:
 The Maternity and GP IT systems in this example have the capability to update the FGM IS using the SCRa and to query/view the FGM IS indicator record locally.

 This does not include the functionality to update the FGM Indicator locally through a Local NHS System at this point in time.

Appendix B: Error Table

1. Spine 2 DMS V2.0 error codes and HTTPs mappings

| HTTP Code | issue-severity | issue-type | Details.Code | Details.Display |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| 404 | error | not-found | NO_RECORD_FOUND | No Record Found |
| 400 | error | invalid | INVALID_NHS_NUMBER | Invalid NHS number |
| 400 | error | invalid | PATIENT_OVER_18 | Patient is over 18 |
| 400 | error | invalid | INVALID_PARAMETER | Invalid parameter |
| 422 | warning | informational | FLAG_ALREADY_SET | Flag value was already set |
| 400 | error | structure | MESSAGE_NOT_WELL_FORMED | Message not well formed |
| 403 | error | forbidden | ASID_CHECK_FAILED | The sender or receiver's ASID is not authorised for this interaction |

Appendix C: Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)



FGM Local
Integration RTM V2.