

Services to turn to in IRELAND

Services to turn to in IRELAND

CRISIS PREGNANCY

Irish Family Planning Association provides a free service on Crisis Pregnancy Counseling to all women regardless of their immigration status. Abortion is illegal in Ireland except where there is a real and substantial risk to the life of the mother

Irish Family Planning Association
T: Lo-Call 1850 49 50 51 W: www.ifpa.ie

MATERNITY

Maternity services are available free of charge to all women in Ireland under the 1954 Maternity and Infant Care Scheme. Mothers are entitled to free in-patient and out-patient **public** hospital services in respect of the pregnancy and birth.

National Maternity Hospital
Hollis Street, Dublin 2
T: (01) 637 3100

Cork University Maternity Hospital,
Wilton, Cork.
T: 021 492 0500 W: www.cuh.hse.ie/our_services/clinical_services/cork_university_maternity_hospital/

UNDOCUMENTED

There are various organisations supporting undocumented people living in Ireland. These organisations provide a wide range of services including access to health.

Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
T: 01 889 7570 W: www.mrci.ie

NASC: The Irish Immigrant Support Centre:
Ferry Lane, off Dominick St., County Cork
T: 021 4503462 W: www.nascireland.org

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER

A range of services and information are provided by organisations in Dublin, Galway and other counties

BeLongTo Youth Services
Contact to get details on local LGBT youth services throughout Ireland.
Parliament House, 13 Parliament St, Dublin 2
T: 01 670 6223 W: www.belongto.org

Outhouse
Drop in and support service.
105 Carpel St, Dublin 1
T: 01 873 4999 W: www.outhouse.ie

Health is your Right

After
empowering women



Photo: Jennifer Huxia/Actionaid | Ewanine, 25, East Pokot, Kenya, pictured with her daughter, Mercy

Your Health, Your Right

Sexual and Reproductive Health Services for Migrant Women in Ireland

AFTER is a Project co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union. For more information, please visit our website: afterwomen.eu or contact us: EUProjects.ita@actionaid.org.

Women's Health

This leaflet contains information on health services available to ALL WOMEN LIVING IN IRELAND.

Migrants make up 12% of the population living in the Republic of Ireland. Based on the 2011 census there were over 544,000 'non-Irish nationals', including 199 different nationalities' (CSO 2012) living in Ireland. People living in Ireland, therefore, come from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Migrants living in Ireland are a broad and heterogeneous group in terms of nationality, ethnicity, language skills, religion and legal status: (migrant) workers, asylum seekers or refugees, foreign students and members of new and/or established minority ethnic communities. Each ethnic group possesses its own cultural identity, language, customs and practices, while each individual within the group will possess his/her or her own unique life experiences which include health, social, emotional, vocational and psychological needs (HSE 2008).

Ireland provides free public health cover to residents. The public healthcare system is governed by the Health Act, 2004. The Health Service Executive discharges this responsibility through medical professionals and hospitals and through a network of local health officers, health centres and clinics at community level.

Women experience unique health issues and conditions, from pregnancy and menopause to gynaecological conditions, such as uterine fibroids and pelvic floor disorders. Conditions such as fibroids are more common among people of black descent than other races.

According to Conlon et al (2012), immigration status is an important factor in determining use of health services in Ireland. Poor access to services is often experienced by undocumented migrants, low skilled workers, those seeking asylum and those who have refugee status (Pillinger 2008).

While most of the health areas below affect women generally migrant women face specific and particular barriers in accessing services due to language barriers, isolation and cultural constraints. This leaflet outlines women's sexual and reproductive health services in Ireland.

AFTER - Against FGM/C Through Empowerment and Rejection Project

JUST/2014/RDAP/AG/HARM/8001

This Factsheet has been produced with the financial support of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union. The contents of this Factsheet are the sole responsibility of ActionAid Ireland and the project partners and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.

STIs & HIV / AIDS

Free Sexual Transmitted Infection testing is available in most of the hospitals in Ireland. There are various organizations providing support and services for people living with Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS

The National Action Plan to Combat FGM (2016), developed by the National Steering Committee on FGM, states that FGM affects over 3780 women in Ireland. There are organisations working on raising awareness and providing support and services to victims and survivors of FGM in Ireland. Ireland has laws that prohibit FGM/C; the Criminal Justice (Female Genital Mutilation) Act 2012 has been in effect since September 2012. In 2014 a specialised clinic was established to provide medical and psychological support to women who have undergone FGM/C.

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Women's Aid
T: Free phone 1800 341 900 W: www.womensaid.ie

Rape Crisis Centers
T: Free phone 1800 778 888 W: www.drcc.ie

There are a wide range of services available for women experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Ireland provides cervical check through a National Cervical Screening Program. A free smear test is provided for women aged 25 to 60 every three years. A smear test is a simple procedure that only takes a few minutes and is the most effective way to detect changes in the cells of the cervix and prevent cervical cancer. **Breast Check** is also provided free for women aged 50 to 64 every two years.

HEALTH CHECKS AND SCREENING

Cork Family Planning
T: 021 427 7906 W: www.corkfamilyplanning.com

IFPA Everywoman Clinic
T: 01 872 7088 / 01 874 2110 W: www.ifpa.ie

The IFPA Everywoman Clinic in Dublin provides a service to women who have undergone procedures such as Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting. They can advise on all issues related to FGM/C and in some cases can provide transport fares for women to travel to Dublin to access their clinic. The IFPA is the only service equipped to deal with FGM/C in Ireland.

Ireland also provides Emergency Contraception. It is available on prescription from a doctor or local family planning clinic and can be taken up to 72 hours (3 days) after having sex.

FAMILY PLANNING AND CONTRACEPTION

Family Planning Clinics provide contraceptive consultations, STI & cervical screening and advice on periods and card holders.

Cork – GUM/STI Clinic
South Infirmary, Victoria University Hospital, Old Blackrock Road, Cork
T: 021 496 6844

Dublin – St James's GUIDE Clinic
St James's Hospital, James's Street, Dublin 8
T: 01 416 2315/6 W: www.guidezguide.ie

Akidwa
Unit 2 Killarney Court, Upper Buckingham Street, Dublin 1
T: 01 8349851 W: www.akidwa.ie

IFPA Everywoman Clinic
5/7 Cathal Brugha St, Dublin 1
T: 01 872 7088 / 01 874 2110 W: www.ifpa.ie



Photo: Vaid Sakhin/ActionAid



Photo: Amrizzaman/ActionAid



Photo: Jake Lyell/Shoot the Earth/ActionAid



Photo: Lianna Milton/Paros/ActionAid



YOUR HEALTH, YOUR RIGHT

AFTER - Against FGM/C Through Empowerment and Rejection Project