

6 How can I protect myself and my community?



The future health of Malika

Now, Malika knows how to protect herself and her future family from FGS:

- She knows that **she should not touch dirty water**
- But, if she does, she knows that she can **take praziquantel to prevent FGS**

And now she also knows how **to help her friends and family** by sharing this information.



Important information

The praziquantel will be available for free, from XXX to XXX, in these health centres:

- XXXX

If you have any questions, you can call this number: XXXXXXXX

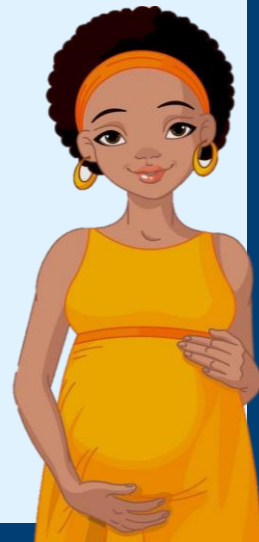


SCI Foundation

How to protect yourself



and your future family from **FGS**



Meet Malika

Malika has pain and unusual bleeding from her vagina.

She's worried about **female genital schistosomiasis (FGS)** and she has a lot of questions...



1 What is FGS?

FGS is a disease caused by schistosomiasis.

The symptoms:

- Pain during sexual intercourse
- Unusual bleeding from the vagina
- Infertility



But, it is **not** a disease transmitted by sex.

2 How is FGS contracted?

Malika lives in a village where people urinate and defecate outside.



If they have schistosomiasis, this can enter into the water.



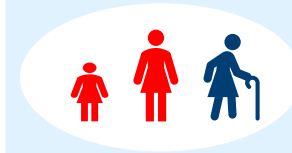
Afterwards, people touch **the same dirty water**.

Then they can contract schistosomiasis, the cause of **FGS**.



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World Health
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3 Why should I care about FGS?



All women are **at risk**, but young women (15 to 29 years old) are the most at risk.

FGS increases your risk of contracting **HIV**.

4 What is the treatment?



It is **praziquantel**.

Frequency of treatment:

You should take it once every 6 months, if you touch dirty water.

Side effects:

They are usually mild, including headaches or stomach aches, dizziness, nausea, fatigue or fever.

You should **eat beforehand** to avoid them.

