



Health and Care Act 2022

2022 CHAPTER 31

PART 5

VIRGINITY TESTING AND HYMENOPLASTY OFFENCES

CHAPTER 1

VIRGINITY TESTING OFFENCES

Virginity testing offences: Northern Ireland

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- (1) It is an offence under the law of Northern Ireland for a person to carry out virginity testing.
- (2) “Virginity testing” means the examination of female genitalia, with or without consent, for the purpose (or purported purpose) of determining virginity.
- (3) An offence is committed under subsection (1) only if the person—
 - (a) is in Northern Ireland, or
 - (b) is outside the United Kingdom, and is a United Kingdom national or habitually resident in Northern Ireland.
- (4) “United Kingdom national” means an individual who is—
 - (a) a British citizen, a British overseas territories citizen, a British National (Overseas) or a British Overseas citizen,
 - (b) a person who under the British Nationality Act 1981 is a British subject, or
 - (c) a British protected person within the meaning of that Act.
- (5) In subsection (2), “female genitalia” means a vagina or vulva.