

David C. Sokal, MD

Retired from FHI 360 in 2012

Co-founded Male Contraceptive Initiative in 2013

Retired from the Board of Directors of MCI in 2020



I obtained my MD degree from SUNY Buffalo in 1976, and trained clinically in pediatrics at the Phoenix Hospitals Associated Pediatric Program in Arizona. Following clinical training, I joined the Epidemic Intelligence Service of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 1978, and worked as a medical epidemiologist for the CDC for six years including an assignment in Burkina Faso, West Africa and a Preventive Medicine Residency. I worked in Burkina Faso, West Africa for a total of five years, 1980-82 and 1985-87 before joining FHI 360.

I worked at FHI 360 from August 1987 until November 2012. During the first five years, I worked on preventing the spread of HIV in developing countries. I helped develop several computer models of the AIDS epidemic to help convince policy makers of the seriousness of the epidemic, and worked on surveillance and prevention projects in several African countries.

In FHI 360's biomedical research group from 1992 – 2012, I worked on research studies in the areas of male and female sterilization, and HIV prevention. I analyzed data and helped prepared a clinical presentation for FDA review of the Filshie Clip, a device for permanent female contraception. And I led FHI 360's research on clinical studies of vasectomy techniques. In 2008, I was a member of the American Urological Association (AUA) Committee on Vasectomy Guidelines, which published the first US Vasectomy Guidelines, in May, 2012.

During my last four years at FHI 360 I led a team researching a Chinese device for adult male circumcision, the ShangRing, for HIV prevention in Africa. I was PI for three Gates-funded clinical trials in Kenya and Zambia. The ShangRing was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in 2012, and endorsed by the World Health Organization in June, 2015. In addition to its use in Africa, it is also starting to be used in the US and Canada, as it obviates the need for general anesthesia, which has often been used for traditional adult circumcisions.

After retiring from paid employment, I worked as an advocate for the development of new methods of male contraception. I co-founded a non-profit organization, the Male Contraceptive Initiative (MCI), which is the only non-profit organization in the United States focused on developing new, non-hormonal male contraceptives. In February, 2017, MCI issued a call for proposals for a grant of \$500,000, and awarded that grant in September. MCI has made numerous grants since then, totaling over seven million dollars as of February, 2022. I retired from the MCI Board of Directors in 2020.

I am an author of over 70 articles and obtained several patents for FHI 360. I speak French fluently, am Board Certified in General and Preventive Medicine, and am an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Gillings School of Public Health, UNC/Chapel Hill.

Since retiring from MCI, I have been volunteering with the Citizens Climate Lobby. I've recently become a cheerleader for Methane Action, and the Foundation for Climate Restoration.

Updated: November 8, 2022

Signed: David C. Sokal, MD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Sokal', with a long, sweeping underline.

David C. Sokal, MD
Retired
Durham, NC 27713
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EDUCATION:

1979-1981 Residency in Public Health and General Preventive Medicine, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA
1976-1978 Pediatric residency, Phoenix Hospitals Affiliated Pediatric Program, Phoenix, AZ
1976 MD SUNY at Buffalo School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
1969 BA Columbia College, Columbia University, New York City, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2013 to 2020 Male Contraceptive Initiative, Raleigh, NC
Co-founded a non-profit organization, the Male Contraceptive Initiative, whose primary mission is to promote the development of new, highly effective and easy-to-use, reversible methods of male contraception.

1987 – 2012 FHI 360, Durham, NC
1992 – 2012 Scientist / Senior Scientist, Clinical Sciences Department
(1) Vasectomy: Lead clinician for several vasectomy studies including a multi-center randomized controlled trial in 7 countries. I was the only non-surgeon member of a Guideline Committee of the American Urological Association (AUA) to develop guidelines for vasectomy procedures in the United States. The Guideline was published in 2012.
(2) Voluntary medical male circumcision: PI on a Gates' funded project to study the use of a novel Chinese device, the Shang Ring, to facilitate the scale up of adult circumcision programs in Africa.
(3) Novel non-woven vaginal drug delivery device. Inventor and team leader for development of a new device composed of non-woven materials that could be used to deliver vaginal microbicides for HIV prevention, treatments for bacterial vaginosis or vaginal candidiasis, and/or contraceptive agents; two patents granted in 2010.

1987 – 1992 Epidemiologist and Associate Director, AIDSTECH Division, FHI. Worked on disease surveillance and prevention projects in Africa, and participated in the design of several computer models of the AIDS epidemic including SimulAIDS, iwgAIDS, FHI's AVERT model, and WHO's EpiModel, and the forerunner of the Spectrum model.

1985 – 1987 Medical Care Development Inc (MCD). Medical epidemiologist for USAID Project 686-0251, Strengthening Health Planning Capacity, in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, West Africa; implemented by MCD. Lived with family in Ouagadougou. Worked with MOH staff on strengthening health surveillance systems in Burkina Faso.

- 1978 – 1985 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia**
 1983 – 1985 Acting Section Chief, Investigations Section, Special Studies Branch,
 Chronic Disease Division, Center for Environmental Health, CDC
- 1980 – 1982 Regional Epidemiologist for Francophone West Africa, International
 Health Program Office, based at the Centre Muraz, Bobo Dioulasso,
 Burkina Faso, West Africa. Lived with family in Bobo Dioulasso.
 Provided training and technical assistance to vaccination program staff in
 several francophone countries in West Africa.
- 1978 – 1980 Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer, Birth Defects Branch,
 Chronic Disease Division, CDC
- 1971 – 1972 Lockport Union Sun & Journal:** Newspaper reporter, Lockport, NY
- 1970 – 1971 Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA):** VISTA Volunteer, based on
 the Crow Indian Reservation, Pryor, Montana

AFFILIATIONS:

Adjunct Associate Professor, Dept. of Maternal and Child Health, Gillings School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC;
 Founding member, International Consortium for Male Contraception

AWARDS:

December, 2012 – FHI Impact Award: Special Recognition for Scientific and Technical Leadership to the Shang Ring Research Team (North Carolina, Kenya, Zambia, China). I was the Team Leader at FHI 360 for a \$4 million Gates Foundation grant that funded three clinical studies. The Shang Ring subsequently received US FDA approval and WHO endorsement.

The 2001 Ortho Prize for the Best Research Paper at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, Dec. 14, 2001 in Washington DC. The title of the paper was: "Vasectomy with fascial interposition vs. ligation and excision alone: a randomized controlled trial."

The 2001 FHI Award for Outstanding Scientific Contribution, for research on methods of female and male sterilization and vaginal barrier methods, presented October 12, 2001.

The Bronze Medal for Meritorious Service, August 3, 1986, from the Government of Burkina Faso, presented by President Thomas Sankara.

The U.S. Public Health Service Unit Commendation, April 1, 1985, "for outstanding contributions ... in implementing ... the Superfund legislation."

The U.S. Public Health Service Unit Commendation, March 19, 1985, "for outstanding contributions ... in CDC Lead Poisoning Prevention Activities."

The U.S. Public Health Service Achievement Medal, June 6, 1984, "for outstanding ... leadership in ...investigation of Superfund toxic waste sites."

PATENTS:

US Patent No.: 7824383, issued Nov. 2, 2010. Vaginal drug delivery system and method. Inventors: Sokal, David C., Joanis, Carol L., Butterworth, George A. M., Reed, James D., Johnson, Robert A.

US Patent No.: D619250, issued July 6, 2010. Vaginal drug delivery device. This is a design patent for the lead prototype design of FHI's vaginal drug delivery device. Inventors: Reed, James D., Butterworth, George A. M., Jenkins, David W., Joanis, Carol L., Sokal, David C.

US Patent No.: 8132566, issued March 13, 2012. Vas Deferens Vasectomy Capping Device. Inventor: Sokal, David C. A device to improve vasectomy effectiveness.

LICENSURE and CERTIFICATION:

State of Arizona (FLEX), 1977

Board Certified in General Preventive Medicine, 1992

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

English - Native speaker

French - Fluent reading and speaking; fair to good writing.

Spanish - Fair reading ability.

Russian - Studied at university level, but not used since then.

CONSULTING, WORKSHOPS & TRAVEL:

Consulting & Workshops

Summer, 2008: Attended a one-month International Development Design Summit workshop (IDDSummit.org) at MIT in Boston, and worked with a team of young engineers. We invented a new approach for prevention of HIV transmission during breast feeding. FHI won a Gates Grand Challenge / Explorations Award to continue work, and we were granted a US patent.

2001 to 2007: Consultant at various times to three companies on new contraceptive methods.

1992-96 - For five summers, I taught one week of a four-week course on "Planning for the AIDS Epidemic," organized by the Overseas Development Group of the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK. My part of the course dealt with teaching participants how to evaluate available HIV seroprevalence data, and use computer models to estimate future AIDS cases.

Recent international travel

2016 – Paris, Int'l Consortium for Male Contraception

2015 – Salt Lake City, UT, Andrology Society

2014 – Atlanta, GA, Andrology Society

2012 – WHO/Switzerland; Contraceptive Research Cttee

2011 – Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia

2010 – China, Kenya, South Africa, WHO/Switzerland, Zambia

2007-2009 – China, India, Kenya, Vietnam

COMPUTER SKILLS:

Google docs, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Mendeley, Evernote, and basic epidemiologic statistics.

PUBLICATIONS:

Hart CW, Joanis C, Hartmann M, Milford C, Smit J, Beksinska M, Rambally-Greener L, Pienaar J, Mabude Z, Butterworth GAM, Sokal D, Jenkins D. Acceptability, and performance of a nonwoven device for vaginal drug delivery among women and their male partners in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. *Eur J Contracept Reprod Health Care*. 2019 Oct;24(5):390-398.

Nickels L, Eddy M, Sokal D. Male Contraception Initiative: Strategy, Research, And Grant Activities, 2017-18. 43rd Meeting of the Andrology Society. Portland; April, 2018. Poster # 118.

Dorman E, Perry B, Polis CB, Campo-Engelstein L, Shattuck D, Hamlin A, Aiken A, Trusselli J, Sokal D. Modeling the impact of novel male contraceptive methods on reductions in unintended pregnancies in Nigeria, South Africa, and the United States. *Contraception*. 2018 Jan;97(1):62–9.

Barone MA, Li PS, Zulu R, Awori QD, Agot K, Combes S, Simba RO, Lee RK, Hart C, Lai JJ, Zyambo Z, Goldstein M, Feldblum PJ, Sokal DC. Men's Understanding of and Experiences During the Postcircumcision Abstinence Period: Results From a Field Study of Shang Ring Circumcision During Routine Clinical Services in Kenya and Zambia. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2016 Jun 1;72 Suppl 1:S18–23.

Sokal DC, Hamlin, A. Why we Founded the Male Contraceptive Initiative and What we are Doing. 40th Meeting of the Andrology Society. Salt Lake City; April, 2015. Poster # 93.

Sokal DC, Labrecque M, Belker AM, Faraday MM, Honig S, Marmar JL, et al. Prostate cancer and vasectomy: déjà vu! *J Clin Oncol*. 2015 Feb 20;33(6):669–70.

Sokal DC, Li PS, Zulu R, Awori QD, Agot K, Simba RO, Combes S, Lee RK, Hart C, Lai JJ, Zyambo Z, Goldstein M, Feldblum PJ, Barone MA. Field study of adult male circumcision using the Shang Ring in routine clinical settings in Kenya and Zambia. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2014 Dec 1;67(4):430-7. doi: 10.1097/QAI.0000000000000321. PubMed PMID: 25162816.

Sokal DC, Li PS, Zulu R, Awori QD, Combes SL, Simba RO, Lee R, Hart C, Perchal P, Hawry HJ, Bowa K, Goldstein M, Barone MA. Randomized controlled trial of the Shang Ring versus conventional surgical techniques for adult male circumcision: safety and acceptability. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2014 Apr 1;65(4):447-55. doi: 10.1097/QAI.0000000000000061. PubMed PMID: 24583615.

Sokal DC. Men and Women Need a New Male Contraceptive. *Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News*, 2013; 33(3); available at: <http://genengnews.com/gen-articles/men-and-women-need-a-new-male-contraceptive/4701/>. Invited editorial; not a peer-reviewed journal.

Plank, R. M., Steinmetz, T., Sokal, D. C., Shearer, M. J., & Data, S. Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding and Early Infant Male Circumcision in Africa. *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 2013: 122(2, PART 2), 503–505.

Lee R, Osterberg EC, Li PS, Goldstein M, Barone M, Combes SL, Sokal D, Gray R, Kigozi G, Watya S. Proper surgical training and grading of complications for Shang Ring circumcision are necessary. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2013 Oct 1;64(2):e11. doi: 10.1097/QAI.0b013e3182a333ad. PubMed PMID: 24047972; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3863592.

Sharlip ID, Belker AM, Honig S, Labrecque M, Marmar JL, Ross LS, Sandlow JI, Sokal DC. Vasectomy: AUA Guideline. *J Urol*. 2012 Dec;188(6 Suppl):2482-9. Epub 2012 Oct 24.

Wamai RG, Morris BJ, Waskett JH, Green EC, Banerjee J, Bailey RC, Klausner JD, Sokal DC, Hankins CA. Criticisms of African trials fail to withstand scrutiny: male circumcision does prevent HIV infection. *J Law Med*. 2012 Sep;20(1):93-123.

Labrecque M, Kagabo L, Shattuck D, Wesson J, Rushanika C, Tshibanbe D, Nsengiyumva T, Sokal DC. Strengthening vasectomy services in Rwanda: introduction of thermal cautery with fascial interposition. *Contraception*. 2012 Sep 11. [Epub ahead of print]

Rodriguez M, Seuc A, Sokal D. Comparative efficacy of postpartum sterilization with the titanium clip versus partial salpingectomy: a randomised controlled trial. *BJOG*. 2012 Aug 24. doi: 10.1111/j.1471-0528.2012.03482.x. [Epub ahead of print]

Sokal DC, Karim QA, Sibeko S, Yende-Zuma N, Mansoor LE, Baxter C, Grobler A, Frolich J, Kharsany AB, Omar Z, Miya N, Mlisana K, Maarshalk S, Karim SS. Safety of tenofovir gel, a vaginal microbicide, in South African women: results of the CAPRISA 004 Trial. *Antivir Ther*. 2012 Aug 23. doi: 10.3851/IMP2311. [Epub ahead of print]

Le DC, Kubo T, Fujino Y, Sokal DC, Vach TH, Pham TM, Matsuda S. Reproductive factors in relation to ovarian cancer: a case-control study in Northern Vietnam. *Contraception*. 2012 May 11. [Epub ahead of print]

Tsuruta JK, Dayton PA, Gallippi CM, O'Rand MG, Streicker MA, Gessner RC, Gregory TS, Silva EJ, Hamil KG, Moser GJ, Sokal DC. Therapeutic ultrasound as a potential male contraceptive: power, frequency and temperature required to deplete rat testes of meiotic cells and epididymides of sperm determined using a commercially available system. *Reprod Biol Endocrinol*. 2012 Jan 30;10:7.

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Wamai, R.G., Morris, B.J., Bailis, S.A., Sokal, D., Klausner, J.D., Appleton, R., et al. (2011). Male circumcision for HIV prevention current evidence and implementation in sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, 14, 49 (17 pages).

Lü NQ, Li PS, Sokal D, Cheng Y, Peng YF, Barone M, Huang YR, Goldstein M. Progress in the clinical studies of male circumcision using the Shang Ring. [Article in Chinese] *Zhonghua Nan Ke Xue* [National Journal of Andrology (China)]; 2011 Mar;17(3):195-202.

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Li PS, Lü NQ, Cheng Y, Peng YF, Tian L, Liu YD, Ben KL, Xu JC, Lee R, Kim H, Sokal DC. [The need for high-quality training and surgical standards for adult male circumcision in China] *Natl J Andrology (China) [Zhonghua Nan Ke Xue]*: 2009 May;15(5):390-4. Chinese.

Sokal DC, Labrecque M (2009). "Effectiveness of vasectomy techniques." *Urol Clin North Am* 36(3): 317-29.

Rajan SS, Sokal DC. Comparison of projected and actual outcomes of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Malawi, 1990-2000. *PLoS One*. 2009 Aug 27;4(8):e6806.

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Li PS, Lü NQ, Cheng Y, Peng YF, Tian L, Liu YD, Ben KL, Xu JC, Lee R, Kim H, Sokal DC. [The need for high-quality training and surgical standards for adult male circumcision in China] *Nat'l J Andrology (China) [Zhonghua Nan Ke Xue]*: 2009 May;15(5):390-4. Chinese.

Sokal DC, Trujillo V, Guzmán SC, Guzman-Serani R, Wheelless A, Hubacher A. Cancer risk after sterilization with transcervical quinacrine: updated findings from a Chilean cohort. *Contraception*, 2010 Jan;81(1):75-8. Epub.

Steward B, Hays M, Sokal D. Diagnostic accuracy of an initial azoospermic reading compared with results of post-centrifugation semen analysis after vasectomy. *J Urol*. 2008 Nov;180(5):2119-23. Epub 2008 Sep 18.

Sokal, D. C.; Hieu do, T.; Loan, N. D.; Hubacher, D.; Nanda, K.; Weiner, D. H., and Vach, T. H. Contraceptive effectiveness of two insertions of quinacrine: results from 10-year follow-up in Vietnam. *Contraception*. 2008 Jul; 78(1):61-5.

Sokal, D. C.; Hieu do, T.; Loan, N. D.; Hubacher, D.; Nanda, K.; Weiner, D. H., and Vach, T. H. Safety of quinacrine contraceptive pellets: results from 10-year follow-up in Vietnam. *Contraception*. 2008 Jul; 78(1):66-72.

Haneke K, Sokal D. Transcervical sterilization. *Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol*. 2008 Apr;20(2):182-3 (letter); author reply183-4.

Sokal D. Important Omissions from this Review. Ltr to the editor, posted to web, *BMJ* 20 December 2007, available at: <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/eletters/335/7631/1206#184337>. Comment on: Malone P, Steinbrecher H. Medical Aspects of male circumcision. *BMJ* 2007; 335:1206-1209. (December 8).

Labrecque M, Hays M, Chen-Mok M, Barone MA, Sokal D. Frequency and patterns of early recanalization after vasectomy. *BMC Urol*. 2006 Sep 19;6:25.

Sokal D. Comment. *J Urol*. 2006 Jul;176(1):236, on: Barone MA, Hutchinson PL, Johnson CH, Hsia J, Wheeler J. Vasectomy in the United States, 2002. *J Urol*. 2006 Jul;176(1):232-6.

Cancel, A. M., T. Smith, U. Rehkemper, J. E. Dillberger, D. Sokal, and R. M. McClain. A one-year neonatal mouse carcinogenesis study of quinacrine dihydrochloride. *Int J Toxicol* 2006, 25:109-18.

Labrecque M, Barone MA, Pile J, Sokal DC. Re: How little is enough? The evidence for post-vasectomy testing. *J Urol*. 2006 Feb;175(2):791-2; Letter, author reply 792.

Labrecque, M.; Pile, J.; Sokal, D.; Kaza, R. C.; Rahman, M.; Bodh, S.; Bhattarai, J.; Bhatt, G. D., and Vaidya, T. M. Vasectomy surgical techniques in South and South East Asia. *BMC Urol*. 2005 May 25; 5(1):10.

Aradhya KW, Best K, and Sokal DC. Recent Developments in Vasectomy. *British Med J* 2005 Feb 5; 330(7486):296-9.

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Barone MA; Irsula B; Chen-Mok M, and Sokal D. Effectiveness of vasectomy using cautery. *BMC Urology*. *BMC Urol*. 2004 July 19; 4:10.

Deneux-Tharaux C, Nazerali H, Kahn GE, Sokal DC. Pregnancy rates after vasectomy: a survey of US urologists. *Contraception*, 2004; 69; 5:401-406.

Khella AK, Fahim HI, Issa AH, Sokal DC, Gadalla MA. Lactational amenorrhea as a method of family planning in Egypt. *Contraception*, 2004; 69: 317-322.

Sokal DC, Irsula B, Hays M, Chen-Mok M, Barone MA and the Investigator Study Group. Vasectomy by ligation and excision, with versus without fascial interposition: a randomized controlled trial. [ISRCTN77781689] . BMC Medicine. 2004 Mar 31; 2:6.

Barone M. A., Nazerali H., Cortes M., Chen-Mok M., Pollack A.E., and Sokal D. A Prospective Study of Time and Number of Ejaculations to Azoospermia after Vasectomy by Ligation and Excision. J. Urology, 2003 Sep;170(3):892-6.

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Chen-Mok M, Bangdiwala SI, Dominik R, Hays M, Irsula B, Sokal DC. Termination of a randomized controlled trial of two vasectomy techniques. Controlled Clinical Trials, 2003; 24:78-84.

Wood BL, Doncel GF, Reddy PR, Sokal DC. Effect of diltiazem and methylene blue on human sperm motility, viability and cervical mucus penetration: potential use as vas irrigants at the time of vasectomy. Contraception, 2003 (March); 67: 241-245.

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El-Tagy A, Sakr E, Sokal DC, Issa AH. Safety and acceptability of post-abortal IUD insertion and the importance of counseling. Contraception, 2003 (March); 67: 229-234.

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