

## **Family building status, quality of care and 18 year continuation with a Copper T380**

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Two hundred women aged 18-38 years (mean 28.3), randomized to the Copper T 380 in a 1982-84 comparative IUD study were followed for up to 18.5 years in Santiago Chile and Singapore to determine the device's long-term effectiveness, safety and acceptability. Loss to follow-up has been 6.5%. At 5 years and periodically thereafter, users gave informed consent to continue. The 18-year gross cumulative pregnancy rate was 1.4 per 100. Parity and the desire to avoid additional pregnancies, expressed at study admission, were the strongest correlates of continuation rates ( $p < .01$ ). The 10-year continuation rate for all entrants was 24/100, but was 48/100 for those with 3 children who wished no more pregnancies. Women who completed 10 years continued at the cumulative rate of 62 per 100 over the next 8.5 years. We discuss correlates of continuation and women's and providers' health concerns with this IUD, notably actinomyces, myoma-associated menorrhagia and perimenopausal amenorrhea. Although the clinics were separated by 10,000 kilometers, continuation rates and medical concerns were similar in both centers. The study will continue until remaining devices are removed at menopause.