

Title: Next generation vacuum-based cervical tenaculum, an atraumatic device that reduces the pain and bleeding associated with frequent gynaecological procedures.

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Unintended pregnancies are a global epidemic[1]. They are associated with substantial costs to healthcare systems, social services as well as significant emotional distress to women, and their families[2]. Worldwide, about 85 million pregnancies, representing 44 % of all annual pregnancies are unintended. [3,4] Of these pregnancies 50 % end in abortion, 12 % end in miscarriage, and 38 % result in unplanned births[5]. In the US alone, the annual excess costs to the economy is about 11 billion US dollars[6]. Up to 100,000 maternal deaths could be avoided each year if women who did not want children used effective contraception.[3]
40% of the unintended pregnancies are a result of contraceptive failure or incorrect use.[3] If contraception need was fully satisfied, 53 million unplanned pregnancies could be prevented.[3] The Intrauterine Device (IUD) is considered the most cost-effective reversible contraceptive solution[7,8,9].Fear of severe pain during IUD placement remains a significant adoption barrier for women[10,11,12]. Several attempts to reduce pain and bleeding have been reported in the literature such as changing the design of tenaculum[13], applying anaesthetics, without much success [10,14] .A next-generation, patent protected vacuum-based cervical device that delivers the same manoeuvrability as the tenaculum without the reported patient trauma related to pain, bleeding and tissue tear would support IUD adoption[15]. Results from "First in Women" Trial in Switzerland are expected in 2H2020.

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Biography:

Julien Finci, is a Microtechnology & Photonics engineer graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in 2008 and a certified project manager (CAPM). Julien worked for over 8 years at Danaher, a global MedTech company, driving new technology development for non-invasive measurement of transcutaneous CO2 in the blood. Since 2016, Julien has been leading R&D for ASPIVIX SA, a swiss-based, medical technology company dedicated to bringing innovation in the women´s health space.

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