

## FC2 Research – Extended Summary

### FC2 is Effective:

With over 20 years of safety, effectiveness, and acceptability data available, it is proven that the FC2 Female Condom provides protection against both pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, (STIs) including HIV.

- World Health Organization Female Condom Technical Review Committee [Summary Report](#) on FC2.
- The female condom: the [international](#) denial of a strong potential.
- A review of female-condom effectiveness: patterns of use and [impact](#) on protected sex acts and STI incidence.
- [Performance](#) of female condom.
- It is reported that female condoms may [provide more protection](#) against ulcer infections, such as herpes.
- The [efficacy](#) of a female condom skills training in HIV risk reduction among women.
- The [effectiveness](#) of condoms in preventing HIV transmission.

### FC2 Saves Money:

A female condom program in Washington, DC prevents enough infections in its first year to save more than \$8 million in future medical costs.

- [Cost-utility analysis](#) of a female condom promotion program in Washington, DC.
- Country-wide distribution of FC2 in Brazil and South Africa: a [cost-effectiveness](#) analysis.

### FC2 Increases Protected Sex Acts:

Studies have found that female condoms, when offered alongside male condoms, increase the number of protected sex acts. The data shows that when there is more choice there is more protected sex.

- Female Condom introduction is associated with [increased use of protection](#) to levels that reduce STI risk.
- The efficacy of female condom [skills training](#) in HIV risk reduction among women.

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### Women like FC2 (and men, too):

More and more studies are detailing that the FC2 Female Condom is found acceptable to both women and men around the world, correcting comfort issues of the first generation FC1.

- Women at risk of STDs find the female condom [acceptable](#) and will try it and use it.
- [Male partner](#) involvement and assistance in female condom use.
- Now that we are [asking men](#) what they think of female condoms, they are talking.

### FC2 Providers walk the walk

When providers learn how to effectively talk with clients about FC2 the client is more likely to try FC2, use it properly, and personally like the method.

- Teaching condom use skills: [practice](#) is superior to observation.
- [Health Care Providers](#): A missing link in understanding acceptability of the female condom.
- A provider-delivered [dual protection](#) intervention for women using family planning services in New York City.
- [Culturally tailored intervention](#) increases sexual barrier use and reduce sexual risk.
- Female condom use, [practice](#), and involvement of male partners.

Research Note: The Female Health Company (FHC) produces the FC2 Female Condom. In 2009, FC2 replaced the first generation FC1 Female Condom, also produced by FHC. FC1 and FC2 are sometimes known by different names (for example, Femidom and Reality). The studies included here and the most of female condom research conducted around the world have been conducted using FHC's FC1 and FC2 Female Condoms. While other female condom prototypes do exist, it is important to note that they are not necessarily made of the same material, follow the same instructions for use, or have established safety and efficacy of use as the FC1 or FC2 Female Condoms.