NO-SCALPEL VASECTOMY
An Illustrated Guide for Surgeons
Third Edition

ENGENDERHEALTH
Improving Women's Health Worldwide
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Preface to the Third Edition

Vasectomy has long been a safe, effective, easy-to-perform method of contraception for men. Throughout its history, people have been trying to find ways to make the procedure simpler. In 1974, Dr. Li Shunqiang developed the no-scalpel vasectomy technique, and in 1986, EngenderHealth (then known as AVSC International), in cooperation with Dr. Li, began to introduce the technique to the rest of the world.

EngenderHealth first published No-Scalpel Vasectomy: An Illustrated Guide for Surgeons in 1992. The manual has since become one of EngenderHealth’s most successful publications, with thousands having been distributed. Meanwhile, EngenderHealth has trained doctors in more than 40 countries in the no-scalpel vasectomy technique. In the United States alone, more than 1,000 doctors have been directly trained by EngenderHealth, and hundreds more have been trained by those we trained.

Because of the ongoing demand for this publication, we are publishing this third edition. We have updated the content and made changes in the illustrations to provide a more detailed representation of the anatomy. We have expanded the description of ligation and excision with fascial interposition, as evidence indicates that fascial interposition significantly improves the effectiveness of vasectomy by ligation and excision and leads to a more rapid decrease in sperm counts after vasectomy (Sokal et al., 2001). We have also expanded the discussion of cautery and have updated the Appendix to reflect eligibility criteria for vasectomy published by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2000. Overall, what we have now is an even more timely version of an already useful book.

However, as good as it is, we continue to feel that this book alone is not sufficient preparation to perform no-scalpel vasectomy. We strongly recommend that those interested in the technique get hands-on training from a skilled provider. In addition to this
third edition, EngenderHealth has updated its training curriculum for no-scalpel vasectomy. For information about the curriculum or about training in no-scalpel vasectomy, contact EngenderHealth at: 212-561-8000 (phone); info@engenderhealth.org (e-mail); or www.engenderhealth.org.

I believe that this revised guide will continue to be an important resource for making vasectomy more accessible and acceptable, and of higher quality, throughout the world.

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Medical Director, EngenderHealth
Acknowledgments

The first edition of this book was written by Betty Gonzales, former deputy director of the Medical Division of EngenderHealth (then known as AVSC International); Shelby Marston-Ainley, former assistant director of EngenderHealth’s National Division; Dr. Gilberte Vansintejan, former medical technology advisor for EngenderHealth’s Medical Division; and Dr. Philip Shihua Li, who was then a consultant to EngenderHealth and a research investigator for the Population Council. Dr. Li is now director of microsurgical research and training at the Center for Male Reproductive Medicine and Microsurgery, Cornell Institute for Reproductive Medicine, Weill Medical College at Cornell University in New York. Dr. Philip Shihua Li has performed more than 5,000 no-scalpel vasectomy procedures and is a former student and co-worker of Dr. Li Shunqiang, the originator of the no-scalpel technique.

The original illustrations for the first and second editions of this book were created by David Rosenzweig. Illustrations for the third edition were prepared by Laura Pardi Duprey.

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Terrence W. Jezowski, now vice president for development at EngenderHealth, provided the impetus needed to get the first edition of this book produced. Lynn Bakamjian, currently senior vice president for programs at EngenderHealth, developed the proposal for the project.

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