Barbara C. Sorkin is a Program Director in the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS), Office of Disease Prevention. Prior to her position at ODS, she was a Program Director at NIH’s National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM). Barbara’s NIH portfolio has included research ranging from the molecular through clinical trials, with foci ranging from aging and cancer to energy drinks and sleep. Her Ph.D. thesis work was on cell-cell adhesion molecules critical in morphogenesis and carcinogenesis, with a focus on the structures of the genes and proteins, and the role of protein post-translational modifications, including polysialylation and acylation. She currently co-directs the NIH Centers for Advancing Research on Botanicals and Other Natural Products. Given the challenges of understanding the effects on complex organisms of complex (and inherently variable) natural products, Barbara is very interested in the application of modeling approaches in this research area.

Barbara has published on approaches to enhancing rigor and reproducibility in nutrition research, as well as on dietary supplements and cell adhesion molecules.