

# **Erectile Dysfunction and Testosterone Therapy**

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# Objectives

- To define and recognize erectile dysfunction
- How to approach and test
- Overview to initiate treatment
- To understand the role of the Urology ED Clinic
- Other aspects of hypogonadism: the role of bioavailable testosterone

# Definition of Erectile Dysfunction (ED)

- ED is the persistent inability to attain and/or maintain an erection sufficient to permit satisfactory sexual intercourse
- More accurate estimates of the prevalence of ED have become possible due to the development of the International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) in 1998
- It is recognized that desire, orgasmic capacity and ejaculatory capacity may be intact in the presence of ED or may be deficient to some extent and contribute to the sense of inadequate sexual function

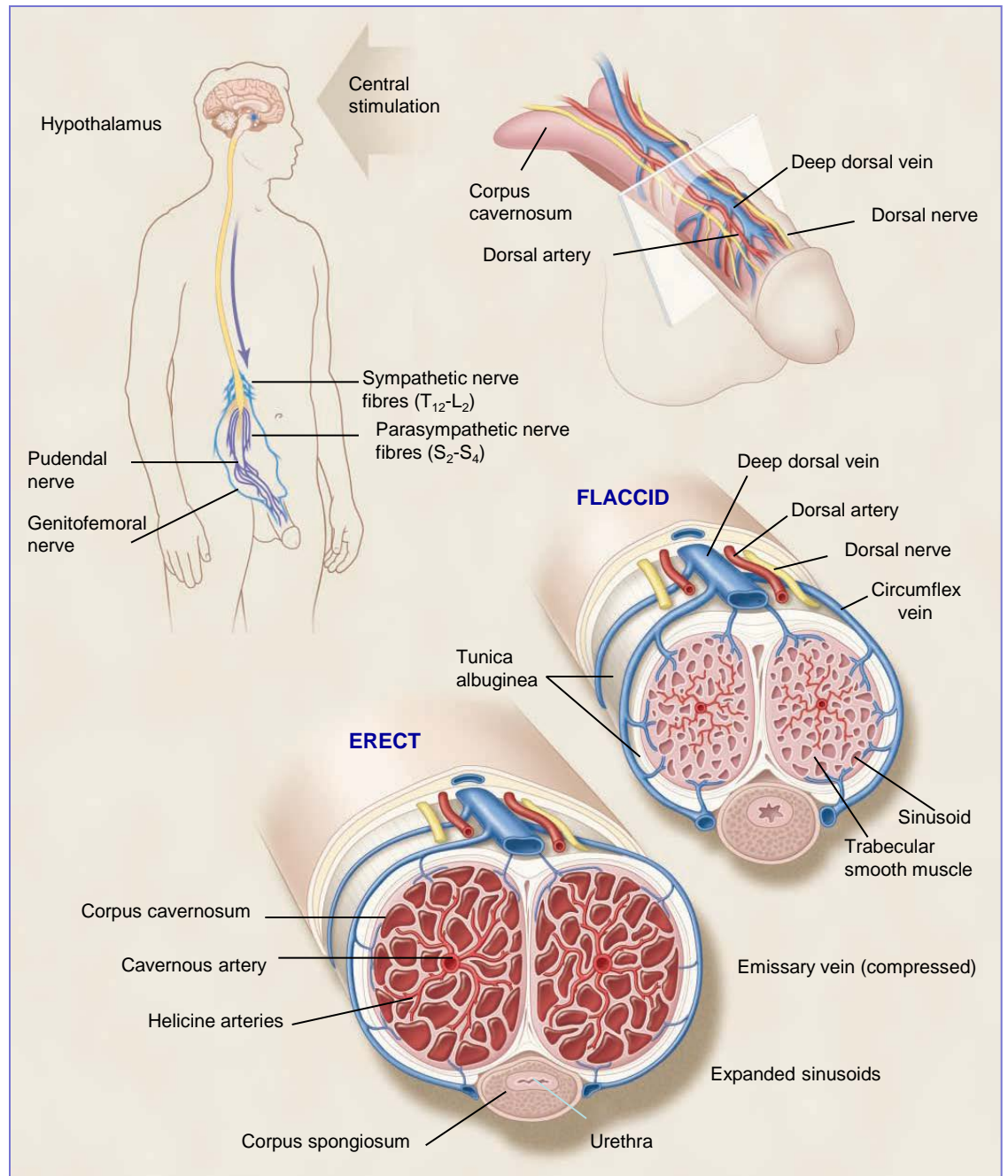
- NIH Consensus Conference. JAMA 1993;270:83-90.
- Canadian Urological Association Guidelines Committee. CJU 2002;9:1583-7.
- Hackett G et al. British Society for sexual medicine guidelines. J Sex Med 2008;5:1841-65.

**What are the risk factors contributing  
to ED**

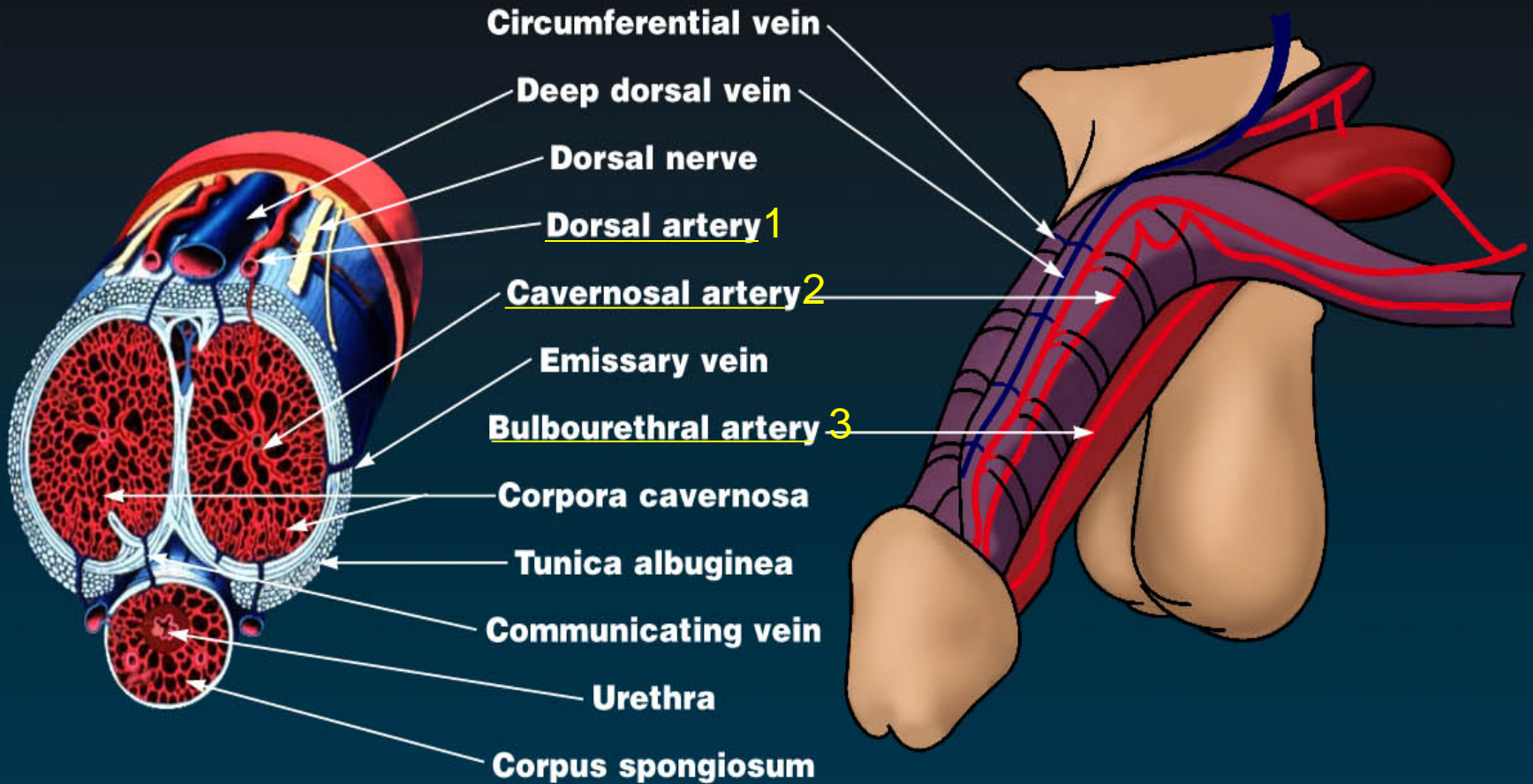
# Anatomy and mechanism of penile erection

The erection pathway can be triggered by direct genital stimulation and by auditory and visual stimulation, which act in concert to increase penile blood flow.

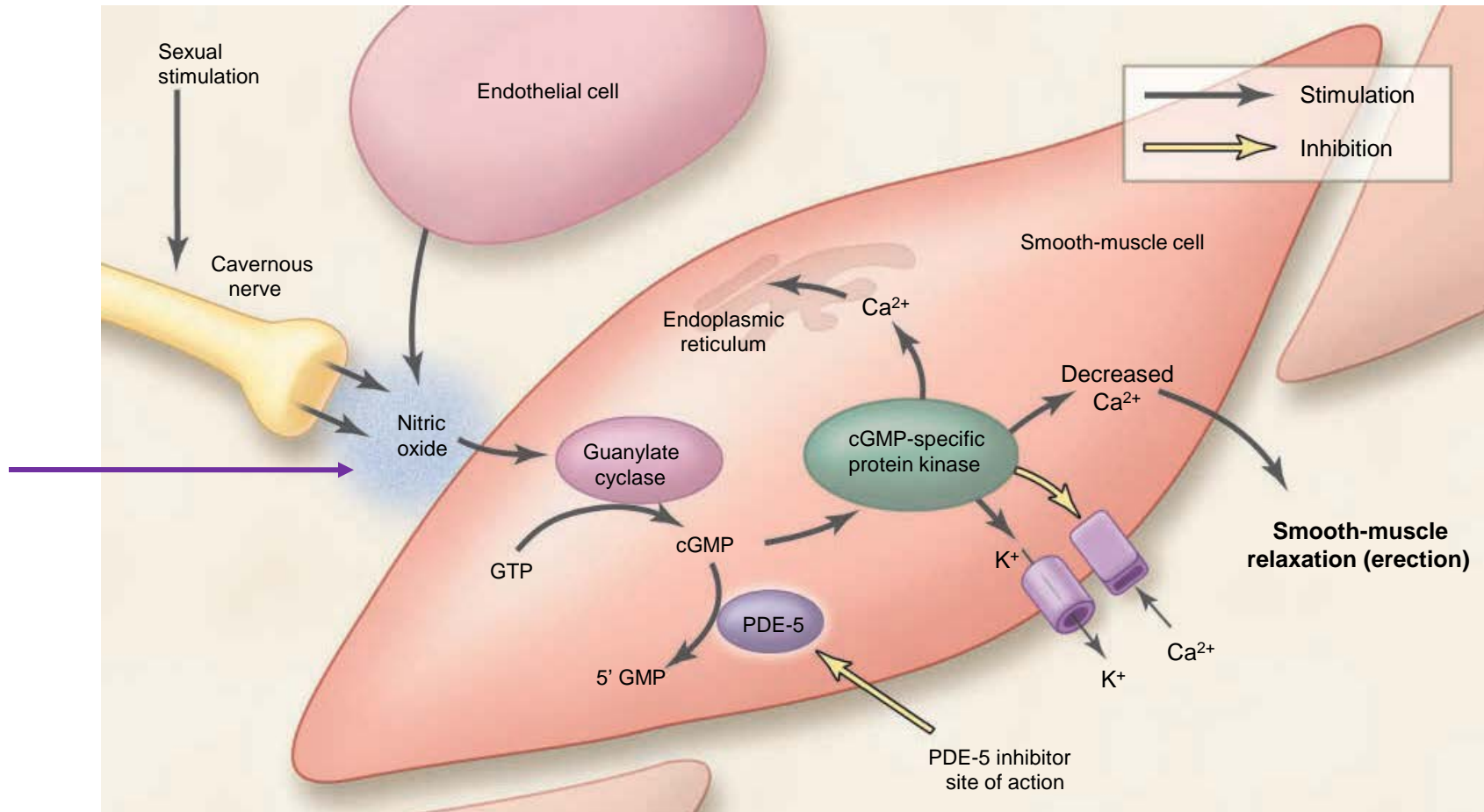
The penis has a highly specialized anatomical structure that allows a massive increase in blood flow to be trapped within the inelastic layers surrounding the penis (the tunica albuginea), which causes rigidity and expansion of the cavernous smooth muscle.



# Penile Anatomy and Circulation



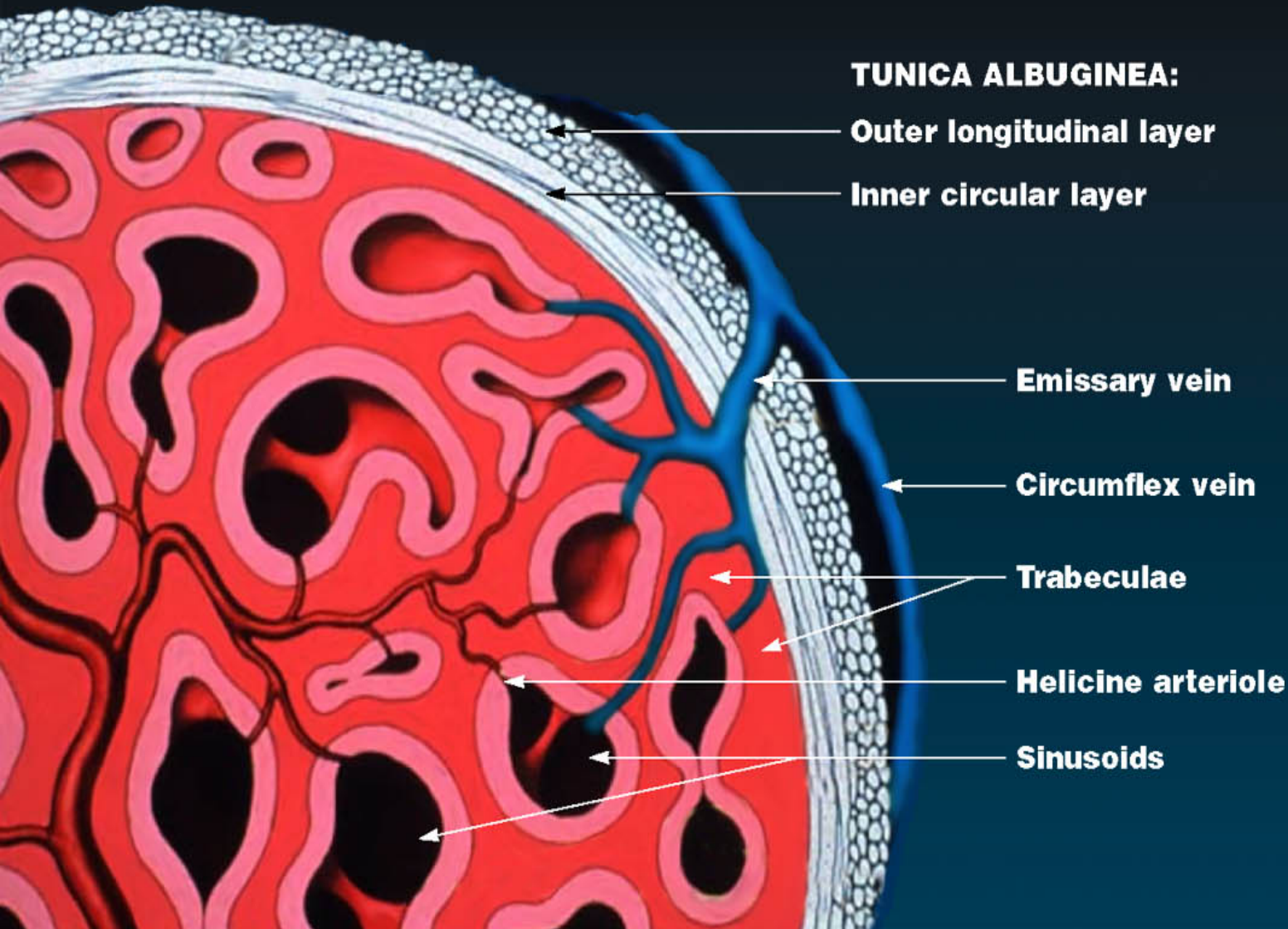
# Cellular perspective of the erection pathway



The signal (nitric oxide) is released from nerve endings or from endothelial cells and activates a cascade reaction, which ultimately leads to an increased cellular concentration of cGMP (cyclic guanosine monophosphate). This second messenger molecule induces a series of events that lead to smooth-muscle relaxation through a reduction in the intracellular calcium ion concentration. The enzyme PDE-5 (phosphodiesterase type 5) reverses this effect by metabolizing the cGMP to GMP rapidly.

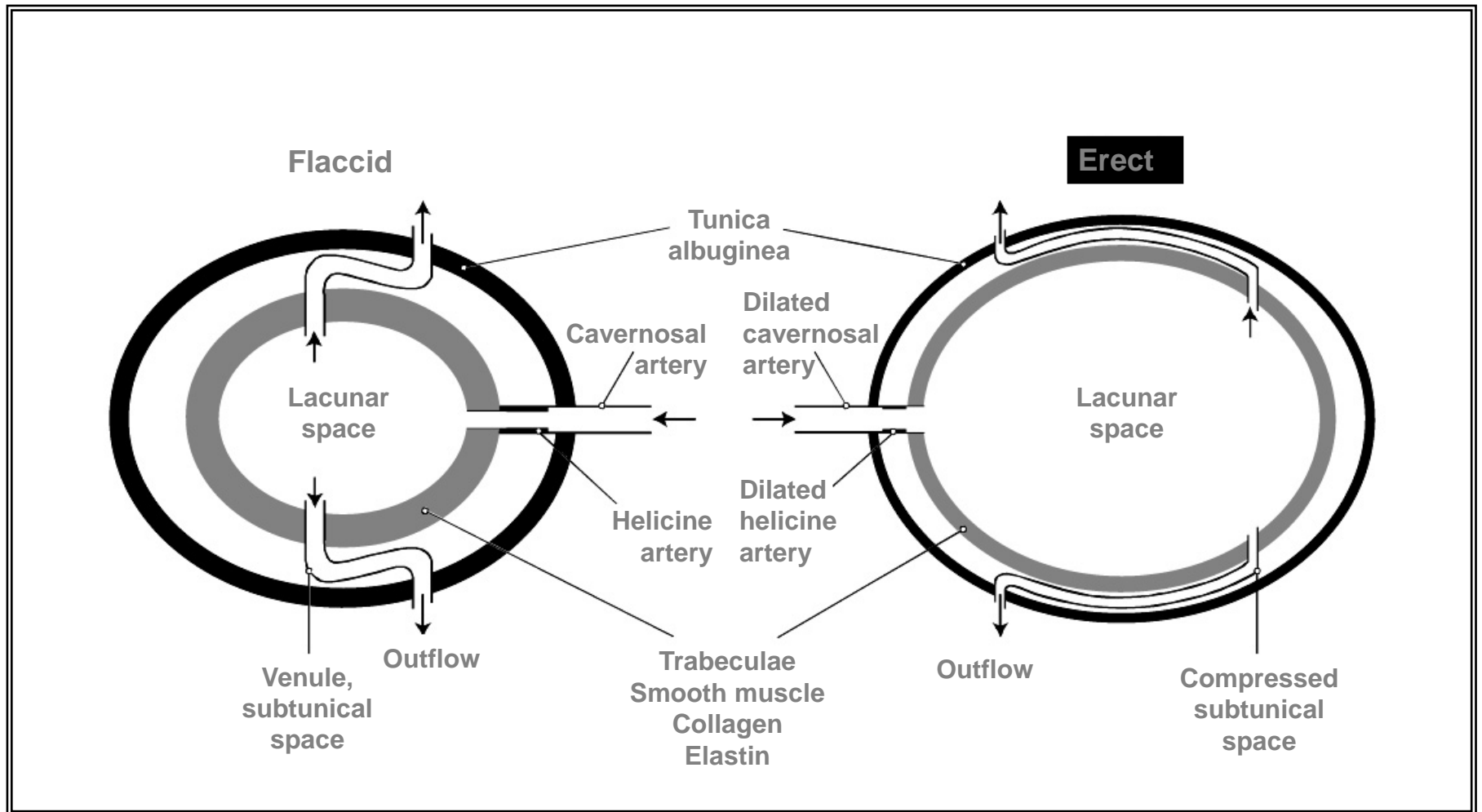
The clinically important inhibitors of this enzyme (**sildenafil/Viagra**, **vardeafil /Lavitra** and **tadalafil/Cialis**) all act to promote smooth-muscle relaxation by their ability to allow cGMP to accumulate when nitric oxide is released, as is the case when sexual stimulation is present.

# Physiology of Penile Erection





# Physiology of Penile Erection



Adapted from Kramer et al, 1989.

# Erectile Dysfunction:

- Erectile dysfunction is estimated to affect as many as 100 million men worldwide.
- Prevalence of erectile dysfunction increases with age, but erectile dysfunction is not a necessary consequence of aging.
- Social impact of erectile dysfunction can be significant.
- Erectile dysfunction is underdiagnosed due to a reluctance of patients and healthcare providers to discuss sexual function.
- Erectile dysfunction is an important public health problem.

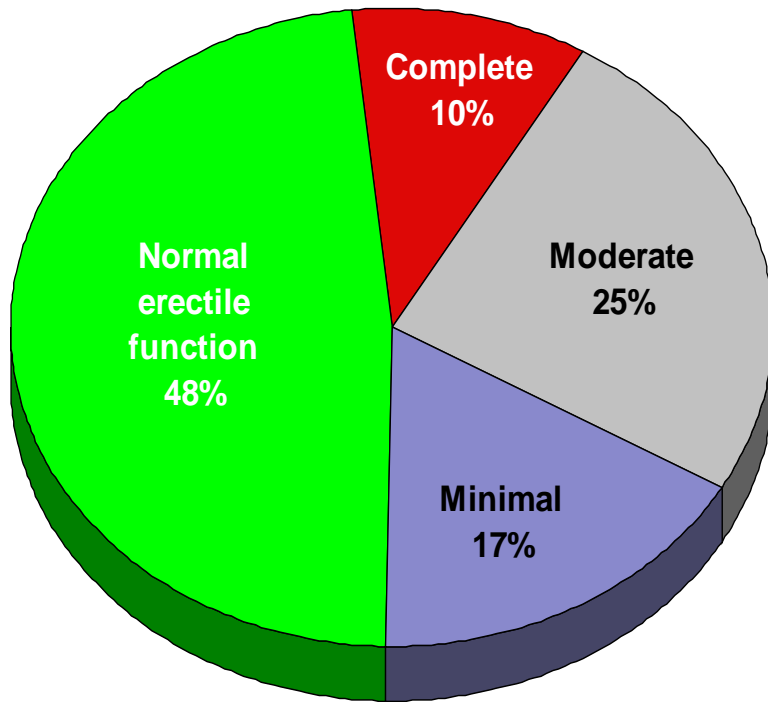
## Data for Responses - the ED Question by Age:

†The exact question asked was as follows: “How would you describe your ability to get and keep an erection adequate for satisfactory intercourse?”

Age, y	Response†			
	Always or Almost Always Able	Usually Able	Sometimes Able	Never Able
All	65.0	16.5	12.3	6.2
20-29	81.0	12.5	4.7	1.8
30-39	88.4	7.8	3.4	0.4
40-49	71.7	20.0	7.0	1.2
50-59	56.5	19.6	19.9	4.0
60-69	28.7	27.5	27.0	16.7
70-74	18.8	21.0	38.7	21.5
≥75	5.7	16.8	30.1	47.5

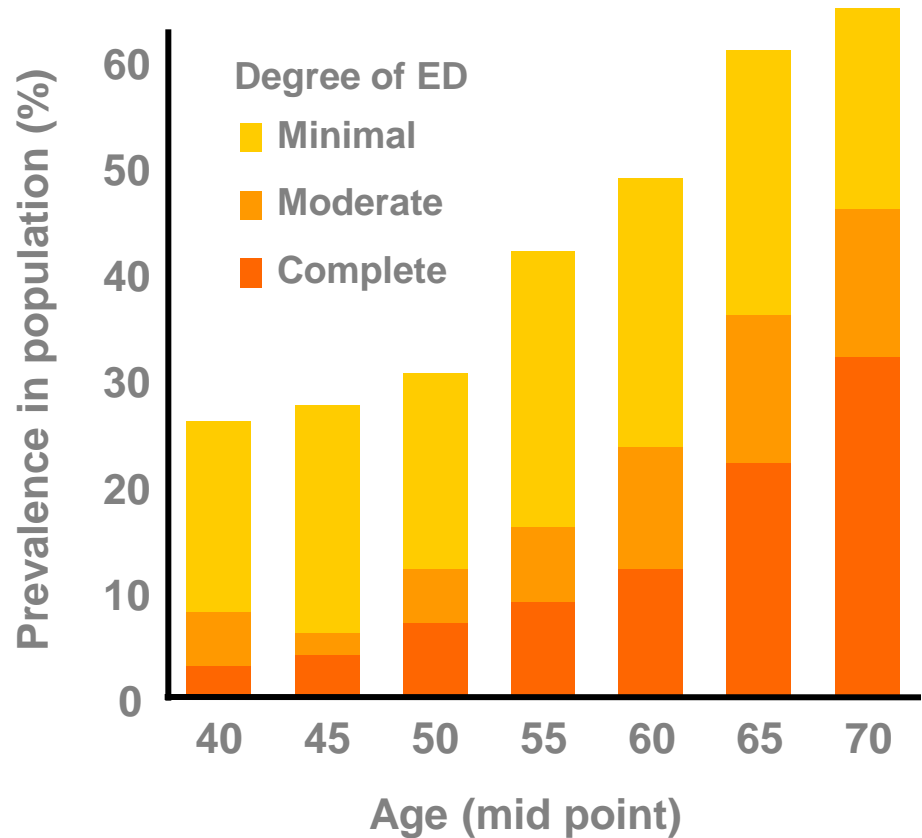
# High Prevalence of ED

## Prevalence



1. Feldman HA, et al. J Urol 1994;151:54-61.

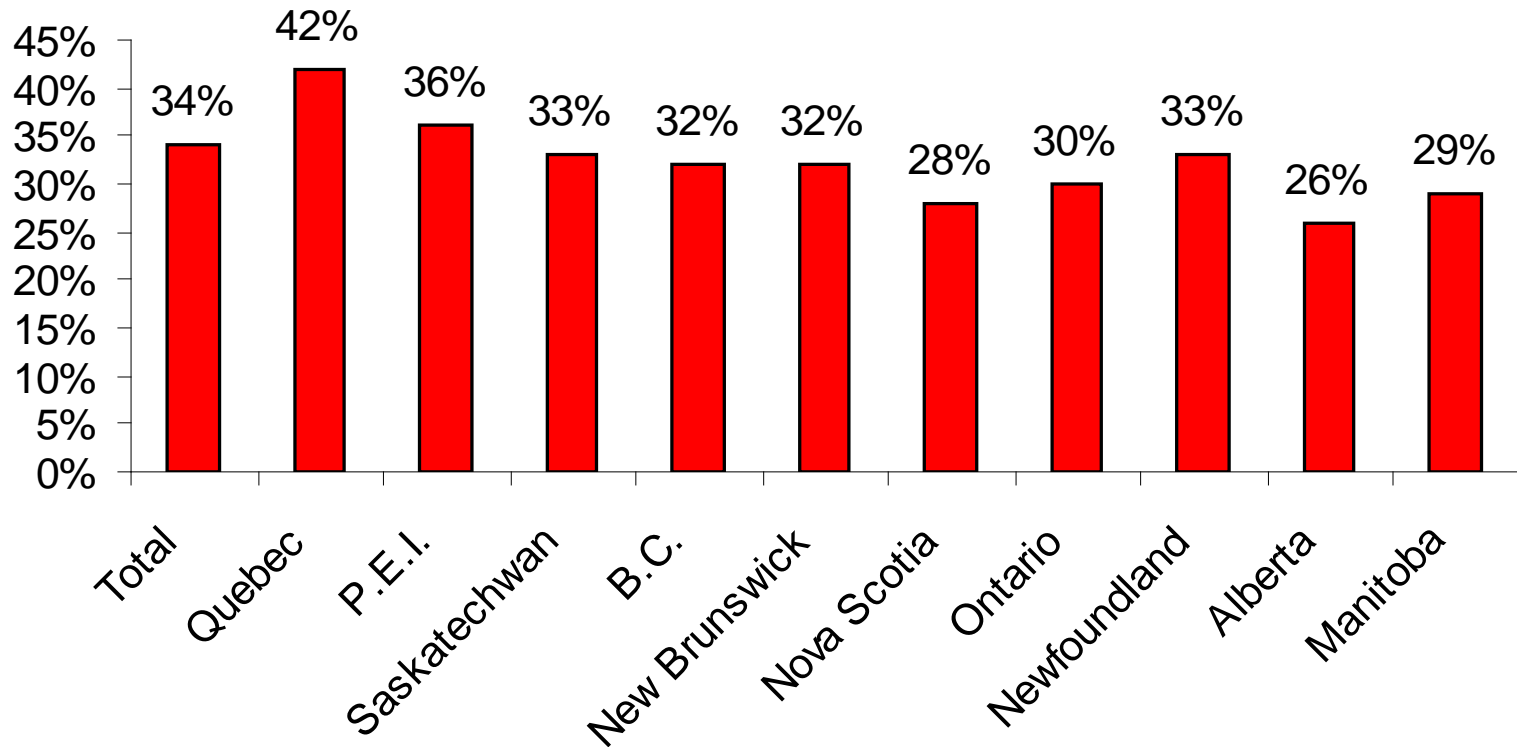
## Age and prevalence



2. McKinlay JB. Int J Impot Res 2000;12(suppl 4):S6-11.

# Incidence of Erectile Dysfunction

- One-third (34%) of men over 40 suffer from ED.
- Levels are similar across the country, although are slightly higher in Quebec and P.E.I and slightly lower in Manitoba, Alberta and Nova Scotia.



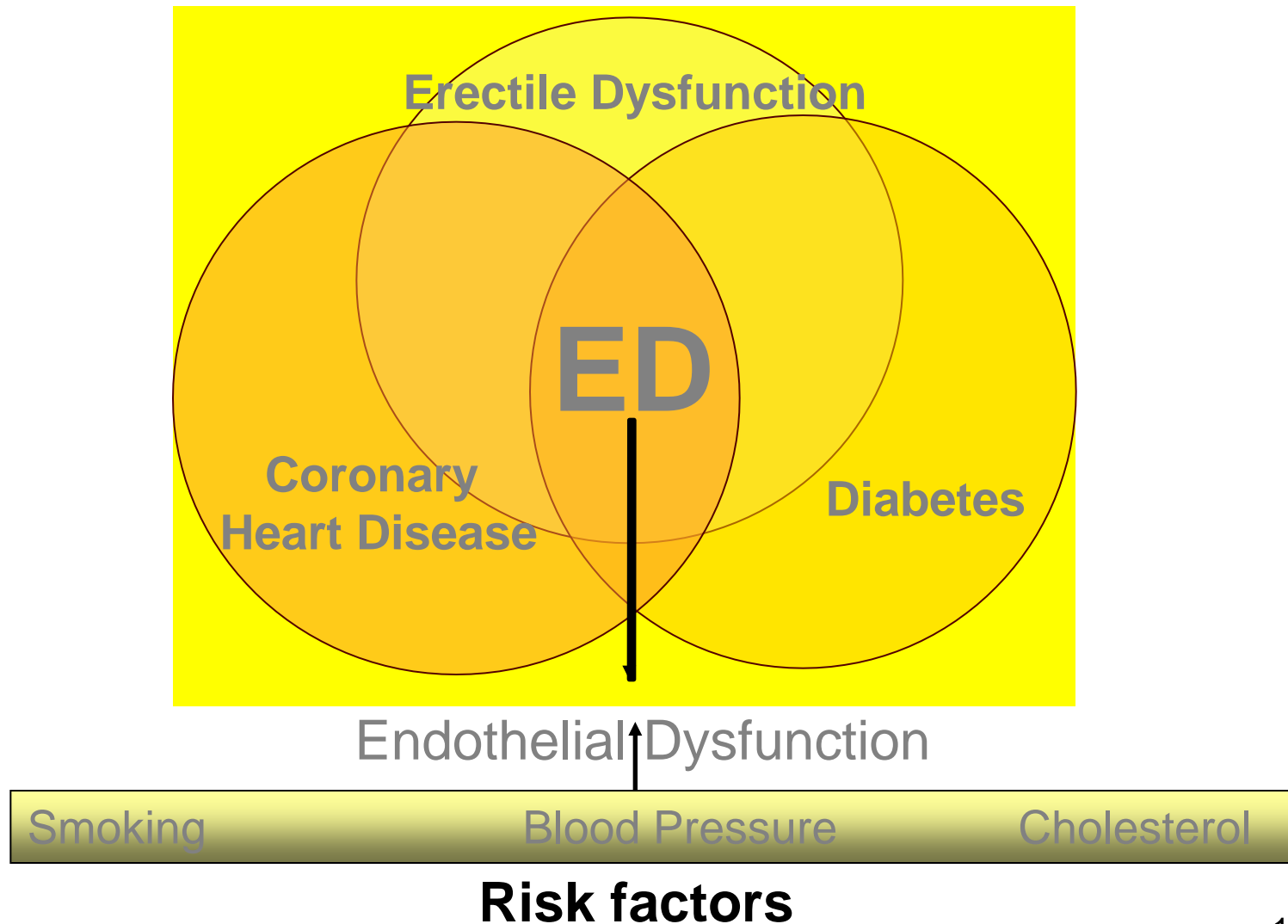
Base: total men with SHIM scores of 21 and below (n=4,539)

## Associations Between ED and Various Comorbid States

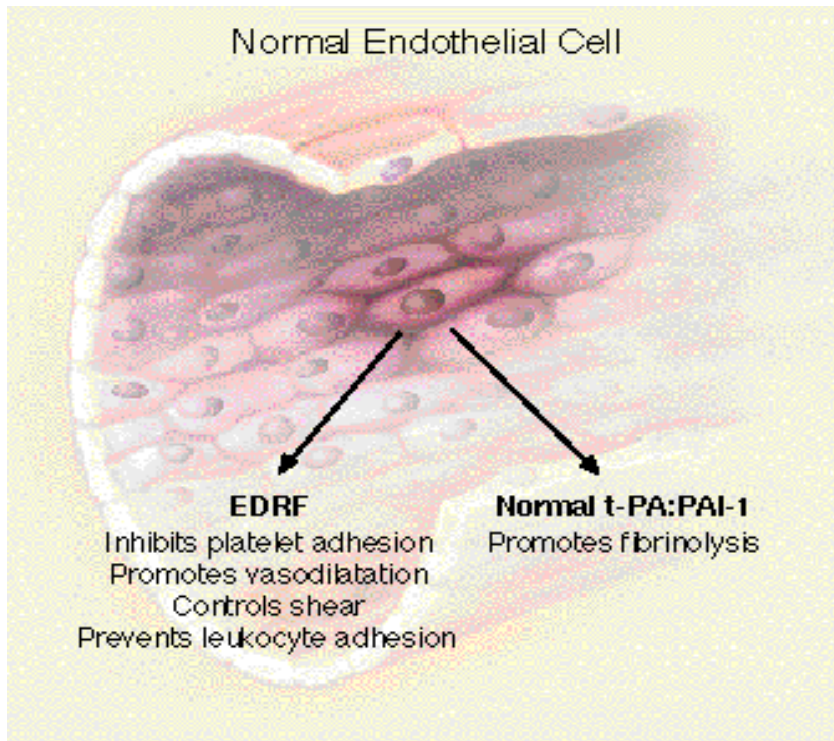
Comorbid Diagnosis	ED Absent*	ED Present*	Prevalence of ED Among Men With a Comorbid Diagnosis, %
Diabetes mellitus	3 675 146	3 572 607	49.3
Obesity	16 206 023	4 990 098	23.5
Heart disease	3 055 592	3 344 306	52.3
Hypertension	13 124 111	7 184 282	35.4
Smoking	20 088 443	3 543 914	15.0

\*Data are given as number percentage [95% confidence interval] of subjects for each age group. Percentages may not total 100 because of rounding.

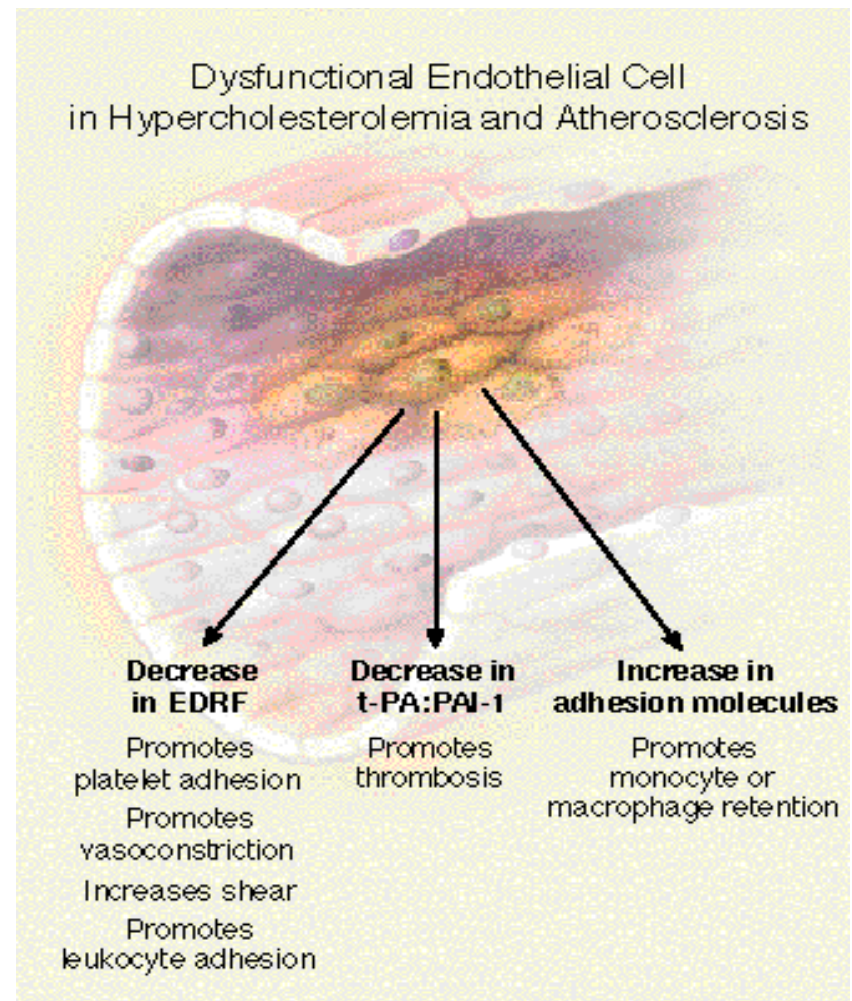
# Risk Factors Associated with ED



# Endothelial Function is Altered in Ischemic Heart Disease



EDRF: Endothelium derived relaxing factor  
tPA: Tissue plasminogen activator  
PAI-1: Plasminogen activator inhibitor-1





## Clinical Clues to causes of sexual dysfunction

Finding	Cause
Rapid onset	Psychogenic
	Genitourinary trauma – eg. radical prostatectomy
Non-sustained erection	Anxiety
	Vascular steal
Depression or use of certain drugs	Depression
	Drug-induced
Complete loss of nocturnal erections	Vascular disease
	Neurologic disease



# Causes of Erectile Dysfunction

Classification	Causes
<b>Aging</b>	an indirect risk factor as it is associated with direct risk factors
<b>Vasculogenic</b>	Cardiovascular and ischemic heart disease, atherosclerosis, hypertension, peripheral vascular disease, venous incompetence, cavernosal disorders, major surgery (retroperitoneum), radiotherapy (retroperitoneum)
<b>Psychological/Psychogenic disorders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depression, Anxiety</li> <li>• Generalized type (lack of arousability, disorders of sexual intimacy), Situational type (eg, partner-related, performance-related issues, from distress)</li> </ul>
<b>Neurogenic-central causes</b>	Multiple sclerosis, multiple atrophy, Parkinson disease, tumors, stroke, disk disease, spinal cord disorders, Pudendal nerve injury
<b>Neurogenic-peripheral causes</b>	Diabetes mellitus, alcoholism, uremia, polyneuropathy, surgery (pelvic or retroperitoneal, radical prostatectomy)
<b>Anatomic-structural</b>	Pyronie disease, penile fibrosis (after pelvic readiotherapy or pelvic surgery), penile trauma (penile fracture), congenital curvature of the penis, micropenis, hypospadias, epispadias
<b>Hormonal</b>	Primary hypogonadism (eg, late onset gonadism), secondary hypogonadism/hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (eg, hyperprolactinemia), hyper- and hypothyroidism, Cushing disease, Addison disease
<b>Drug- and/or substance-induced</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antihypertensives (thiazides and <math>\beta</math>-blockers are most common), antidepressants, antipsychotics, antiandrogens, antihistamines</li> <li>• Marijuana use, alcohol abuse, narcotics, cigarette smoking*</li> </ul>
<b>Other disease</b>	Diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidemia, renal failure, chronic obstructive lung disease

- Smoking has an adverse effect on erectile function as it accentuates the effects of other risk factors, eg vascular disease and hypertension.

- Wespes E et al. Eur Assoc Urol 2009
- Alberson M et al. Med Clin N Am 2011;95:201-12
- Fazio L & Brock G. CMAJ 2004;170:1429-37

## Frequency of decreased erectile rigidity and ejaculatory dysfunction by medication class

Medication class	Decreased erectile rigidity	Ejaculatory dysfunction
$\beta$ -adrenergic antagonists	Common	Less common
Sympatholytics	Expected	Common
$\alpha_1$ agonists	Uncommon	Uncommon
$\alpha_2$ agonists	Common	Less common
$\alpha_1$ antagonists	Uncommon	Less common*
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	Uncommon	Uncommon
Diuretics	Less common	Uncommon
Antidepressants	Common <sup>†</sup>	Uncommon <sup>‡</sup>
Antipsychotics	Common	Common
anticholinergics	Less common	Uncommon

•Patients able to ejaculate, but retrograde ejaculation is seen in 5%-30%

<sup>†</sup> Uncommon with serotonin reuptake inhibitors

<sup>‡</sup> Delayed or inhibited ejaculation with serotonin reuptake inhibitors.

# **How to approach and test**

# Basic diagnostic work-up in patients with erectile dysfunction

## European Association of Urology Guidelines-Sexual Medicine

### Recommendations

Clinical use of a validated questionnaire related to ED may help assess all sexual function domains and the effect of a specific treatment modality

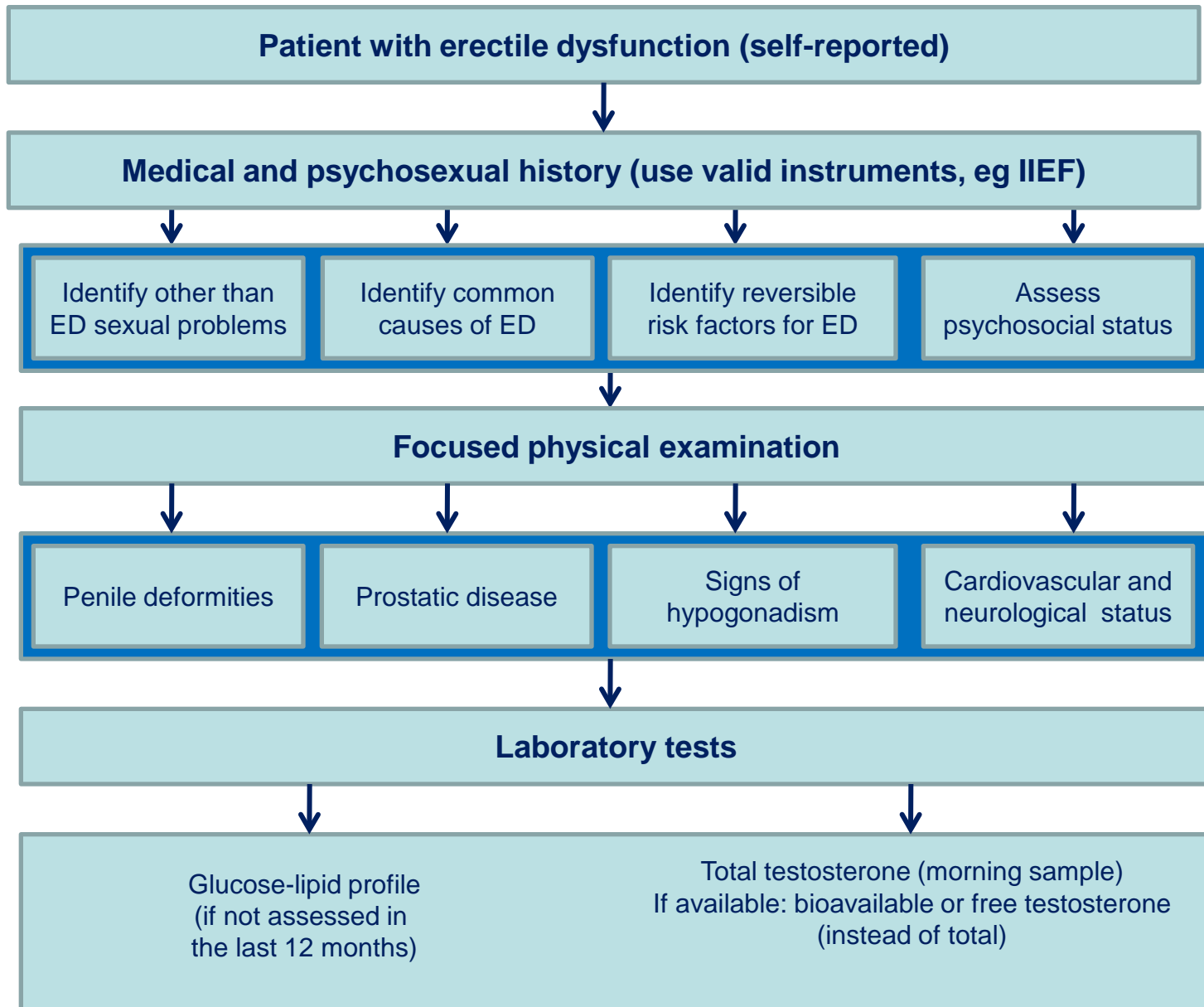
Physical examination is needed in the initial assessment of ED to identify underlying medical conditions associated with ED

Routine laboratory tests, including glucose-lipid profile and total testosterone, are required to identify and treat any reversible risk factors and modifiable lifestyle factors

Specific diagnostic tests are indicated by only a few conditions

# Basic diagnostic work-up in patients with erectile dysfunction

European Association of Urology Guidelines-Sexual Medicine



## Specific examinations and tests

### Indications for specific diagnostic tests

Patients with primary erectile disorder (not caused by organic disease or psychogenic disorder)

Young patients with a history of pelvic or perineal trauma who could benefit from potentially curative vascular surgery

Patients with penile deformities (eg, Peyronie's disease, congenital curvature) that might require surgical correction

Patients with complex psychiatric or psychosexual disorders

Patients with complex endocrine disorders

Specific tests may also be indicated at the request of the patient or his partner

For medicolegal reasons (eg, penile prosthesis implant, sexual abuse)

### Specific diagnostic tests

Nocturnal penile tumescence and rigidity using Rigiscan  
Vascular studies

- Intracavernous vasoactive drug injection
- [Duplex ultrasound of the cavernous arteries](#)
- Dynamic infusion cavernosometry and cavernosography
- Internal pudendal arteriography

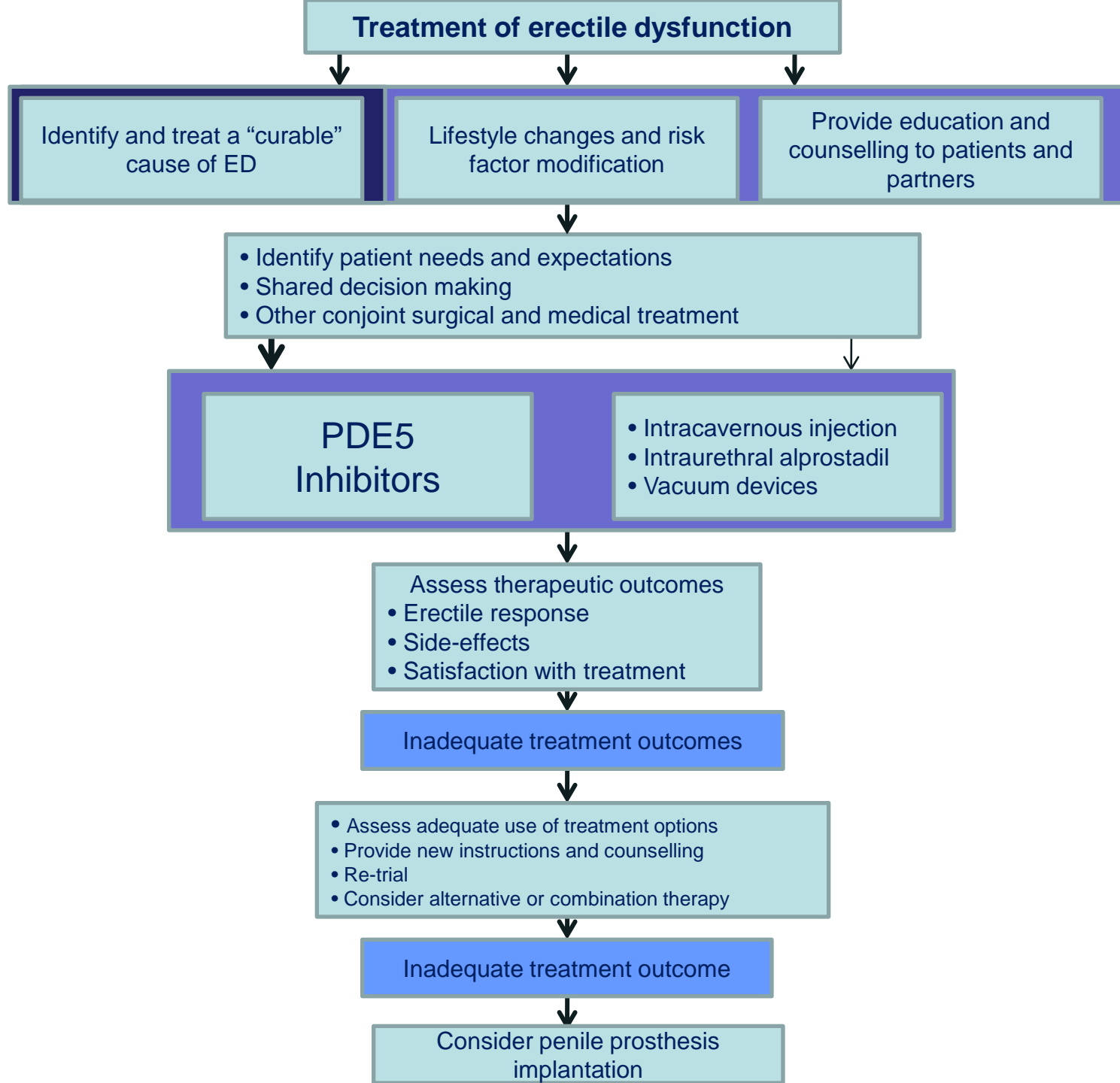
Neurologic studies (eg, bulbocavernosus reflex latency, nerve-conduction studies)

[Endocrinologic studies](#)

Specialised psychodiagnostic evaluation



# Overview to initiate treatment



# Recommendations for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED)

## Recommendations

Lifestyle changes and risk factor modification must precede or accompany ED treatment

Pro-erectile treatments must be given at the earliest opportunity after radical prostatectomy.

If a curable cause of ED is found, treat the cause first

PDE5-Is are first-line therapy.

Daily administration of PDE5-Is may improve results and restore erectile function

Inadequate/incorrect prescription and poor patient education are the main causes of a lack of response to PDE5-Is

Testosterone replacement restores efficacy in hypogonadic nonresponders to PDE5-Is

A vacuum constriction device can be used in patients with stable relationship

Intracavernous injection is second-line therapy.

Penile implant is third-line therapy.

# **The role of the Urology ED Clinic**

# SEXUAL HEALTH INVENTORY FOR MEN – (SHIM) IIEF-5

BASED ON THE  
INTERNATIONAL INDEX OF ERECTILE FUNCTION

OVER THE PAST 6 MONTHS:

1. How do you rate your <b>confidence</b> that you could get and keep an erection?		Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
		1	2	3	4	5
2. When you had erections with sexual stimulation, how often were your erections hard enough for penetration?	No sexual activity	Almost never/never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always/always
	0	1	2	3	4	5
3. During sexual intercourse, <b>how often</b> were you able to maintain your erection after you had penetrated (entered) your partner?	Did not attempt intercourse	Almost never/never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always/always
	0	1	2	3	4	5
During sexual intercourse, <b>how difficult</b> was it to maintain your erection to completion of intercourse?	Did not attempt intercourse	Extremely difficult	Very difficult	Difficult	Slightly difficult	Not difficult
	0	1	2	3	4	5
When you attempted sexual intercourse, how often was it satisfactory for you?	Did not attempt intercourse	Almost never/never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always/always
	0	1	2	3	4	5

SCORE \_\_\_\_\_

Add the numbers corresponding to questions 1-5. If your score is 21 or less, you may be showing signs of erectile dysfunction and may want to speak with your doctor.

# Male Sexual Health Questionnaire

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

## Epidemiology

Age: \_\_\_ Sexual partner: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Multiple\_\_\_ Occasional \_\_\_

Marital status: Married \_\_\_ Single \_\_\_ Divorced\_\_\_ Widow\_\_\_ Common-law\_\_\_

## Erections

Duration of ED: \_\_\_\_\_yrs \_\_\_\_\_mo Onset of ED: Sudden\_\_\_ Gradual\_\_\_ Intermittent\_\_\_\_\_

Erection Quality:	___Gr. 0 (No erection)	Morning :	___Gr. 0 (No erection)
	___Gr. 1 (Increase in size, not rigid)		___Gr. 1 (Increase in size, not rigid)
	___Gr. 2 (Not rigid enough to penetrate)		___Gr. 2 (Not rigid enough to penetrate)
	___Gr. 3 (Penetrate, not completely rigid)		___Gr. 3 (Penetrate, not completely rigid)
	___Gr. 4 (Completely rigid)		___Gr. 4 (Completely rigid)

Erection with self-stimulation: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Morning: Always\_\_\_ Often\_\_\_ Rare\_\_\_ Never\_\_\_

Duration of erection: \_\_\_\_\_minutes

Pain with erection: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Curve with erection: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Treatment to Date

Counseling\_\_\_\_\_: Successful: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

PDE-5\_\_\_\_\_: Viagra\_\_\_ Cialis\_\_\_ Levitra\_\_\_ MUSE\_\_\_\_ Successful: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Intercavernosal injection\_\_\_\_\_: Type\_\_\_\_\_ Dose:\_\_\_\_\_ Successful: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Vacuum erection device\_\_\_\_\_: Successful: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Penile implant\_\_\_\_\_: Successful: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Intercourse

Ejaculation: Normal\_\_\_ Premature\_\_\_ Delayed\_\_\_ Retrograde\_\_\_ None\_\_\_

Orgasm: Normal\_\_\_ Absent\_\_\_ Painful\_\_\_ Unknown\_\_\_

Libido: Normal\_\_\_ Low\_\_\_ Increased\_\_\_

Number of successful intercoursces in the last 3 months: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Social

Smoking: Ppd\_\_\_ # yrs\_\_\_ Ex-smoker\_\_\_ Pipe\_\_\_ Partner\_\_\_

Alcohol: None\_\_\_ Social\_\_\_ Moderate\_\_\_ Heavy\_\_\_ Recovering Alcoholic\_\_\_

Non-prescription drugs: No\_\_\_ Yes\_\_\_ (If yes, list in comment section below)

Stressors: Financial\_\_\_ Employment\_\_\_ Social\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Partner History

Relationship: Stable\_\_\_ Unstable\_\_\_ No current\_\_\_

Discussed erectile difficulties with partner: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Partner have sexual concerns: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Partner's attitude: Supportive/Concerned\_\_\_ Indifferent\_\_\_ Angry/Resentful\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Medical History

HTN\_\_\_ Spinal Cord Injury\_\_\_ Depression\_\_\_ Stroke\_\_\_

IHD\_\_\_ Multiple Sclerosis\_\_\_ Prostate cancer\_\_\_ Diabetes: IDDM or NIDDM

PVD\_\_\_ Parkinson's Disease\_\_\_ Hypothyroid\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Surgical History

CABG\_\_\_ Pelvic radiation\_\_\_ Thyroidectomy\_\_\_ Hernia\_\_\_

Vascular\_\_\_ Back/Disc surgery\_\_\_ A-P repair\_\_\_ RRP\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Medications

1 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

9 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

8 \_\_\_\_\_

10 \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Physical Examination

Vitals: BP: \_\_\_\_\_ mmHg HR \_\_\_\_\_ RR \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

General: Gynecomastia: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Facial hair: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Pubic hair: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Femoral Pulses: Norm bilat/unilat \_\_\_/\_\_\_ Dec Bilat/unilat \_\_\_/\_\_\_ None bilat/unilat \_\_\_/\_\_\_

Penis: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal \_\_\_ Peyronie's plaque \_\_\_ Scars \_\_\_

Testis: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal: Number \_\_\_ Location \_\_\_ Size \_\_\_ Consistency \_\_\_ (see comments)

Scrotal content: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal \_\_\_ (see comments section)

Prostate: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal \_\_\_ (see comments section) Size \_\_\_ g

Abdominal: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal \_\_\_ (see comments section)

Neurological: Normal \_\_\_ Abnormal \_\_\_ (see comments section)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Investigations to Date

Lab: TT \_\_\_ BAT \_\_\_ LH \_\_\_ FSH \_\_\_ Prolactin \_\_\_ PSA \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Plan/Follow-up

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# General Considerations before initiating pharmacological treatment for ED

- Before initiating treatment, patients should be informed that sexual stimulation is essential for the efficacy of the drugs
- Although some may experience limited efficacy after the first trial, patients should be informed that results generally improve with repeated dosing
- A minimum of six attempts should be made before treatment is considered a failure
  - Daily tadalafil 2.5-5 mg
- Between 30-50% of non-responders may be converted to responders through
  - Re-education on proper dosing techniques
  - Dose escalation

# Oral treatments for male sexual dysfunction

Medication	Mechanism	Pros and Cons	Dosing	Cost
<b>Sildenafil (Viagra)</b>	Inhibits phosphodiesterase-5 enzyme, allowing cyclic GMP to accumulate within the penis	100 mg effective in 75% of men	Take one hour before sex and effective up to four hours	<b>\$65.96 for 4 x 100 mg tabs</b>
		Side effects: headaches, dyspepsia, vasodilatation, diarrhea and blue tinge of vision	Stimulation needed for erection	
		Contraindicated if using nitrates	Dose: 25-100 mg	
<b>Vardenafil (Levitra)</b>	Same as Sildenafil	Similar efficacy/side effects to Sildenafil, but no visual effects	Similar onset and duration of action as Sildenafil	<b>\$70.82 for 4 x 20 mg tabs</b>
			Dose: 2.5-20 mg	
<b>Tadalafil (Cialis)</b>	Same as Sildenafil	Similar efficacy/side effects to Sildenafil, but no visual effects	Similar onset of action as Sildenafil	<b>\$72.45 for 4 x 20 mg tabs</b>
			Duration of action is up to 36 hours	
		Low-back pain	Dose: 2.5-20 mg (daily 5 mg x 14 d)	<b>\$136.31 for 28 x 2.5 mg tabs</b>

# **The role of the Urology ED Clinic**

## **Second-line therapy**

### **Who should be referred**

- **Patients in whom PDE5 pathway is disturbed/diminished NO availability will benefit far less from PDE5Is:**
  - **Degeneration of erectile tissue after radical prostatectomy**
  - **Severe diabetes**
  - **Atherosclerosis**
  - **Metabolic syndrome**
  - **Aging**
  - **Hypogonadism**

# Suppositories, injections and devices for male sexual dysfunction

Treatment	Effect	Pros and Cons	Usage pattern	Cost
<b>Suppository</b>				
MUSE	alprostadil (prostaglandin E <sub>1</sub> ) in gel form delivered by applicator into meatus of penis	Can be used twice daily. Not recommended with pregnant partners.	Inserted 5-10 minutes before sex. Effects last one hour.	
<b>Penile injection</b>				
TriMix	Combines papaverine 18-25 mg, phentolamine 1-2 mg, and alprostadil 10-25 µg/mL	Effective in 92% of 116 patients in original study  Prolonged erection, bleeding, fibrosis (?)	1-2 times/week	≈\$60
<b>Device</b>				
Vacuum pump	Removes air from chamber over penis, creating a vacuum and drawing blood into penile cavernosae. Elastic tourniquet at base holds blood in penis.	One time expense. Safe if erection not maintained more than one hour (30 minutes). May not be acceptable to partner. Penis is hinged at base. May interfere with ejaculation.	Inflated just before sexual activity. Erection lasts until elastic ring removed	\$70-700

## Education: Vacuum pump for erectile dysfunction

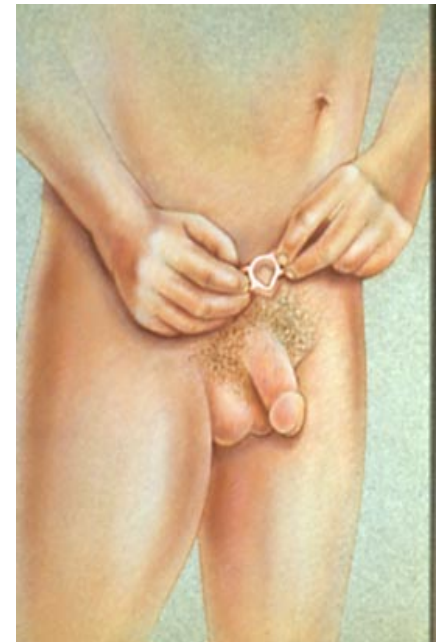


- Using a pump may be a good option if erectile dysfunction medications don't work and penile implant surgery isn't a good choice and may also help regain sexual function following prostate surgery.:
  - Less risk of side effects or complications
  - Cost: initial only
  - Non-invasive
  - Can be used with other treatments
  - Benefits following surgery

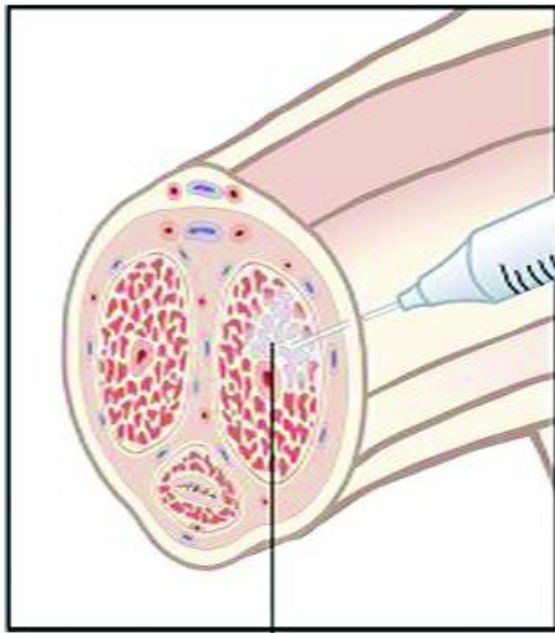


# Treatments for Erectile Dysfunction

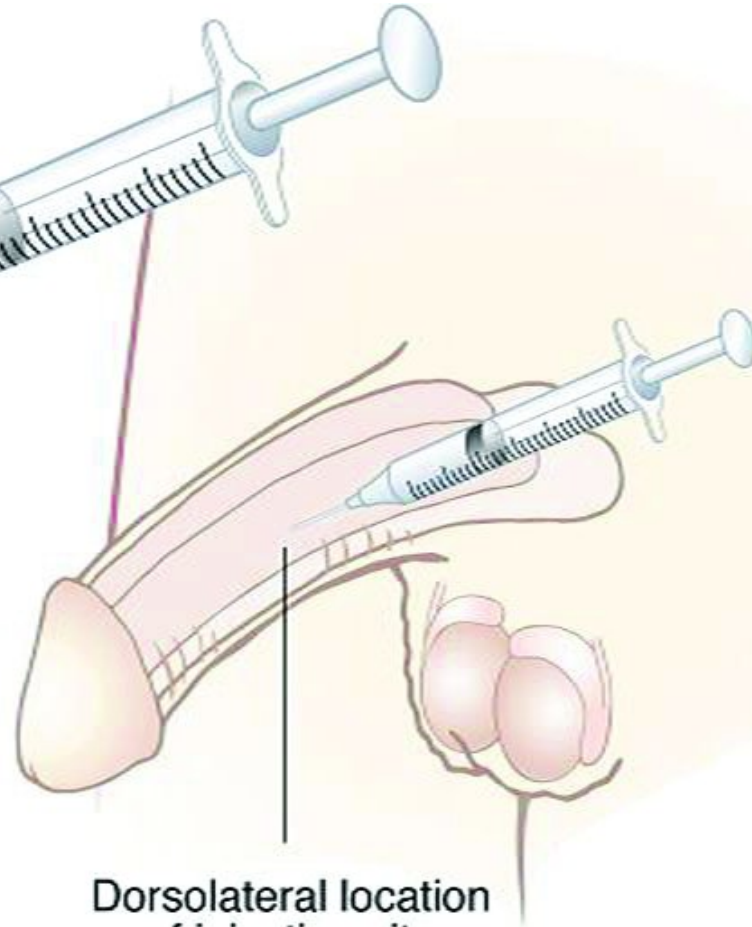
## *Vacuum and Constriction Device*



# Intracavernosal injection

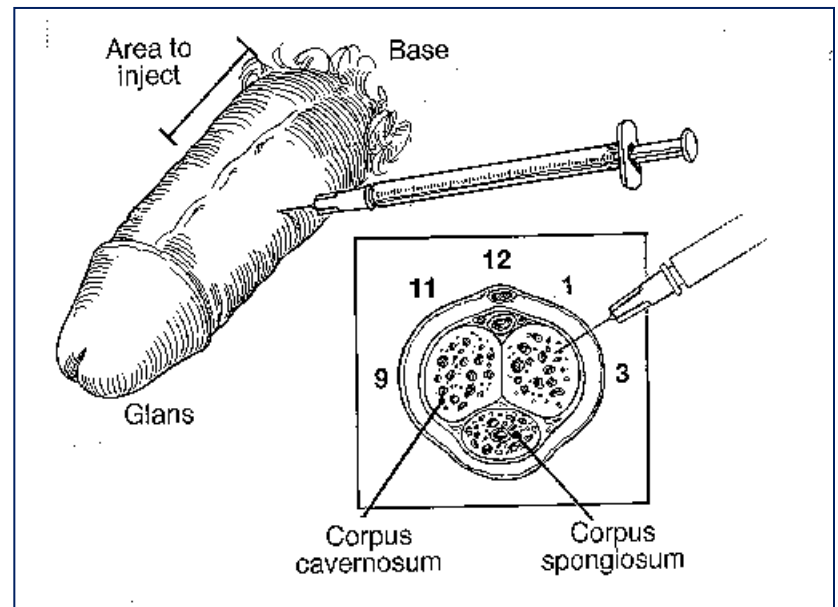
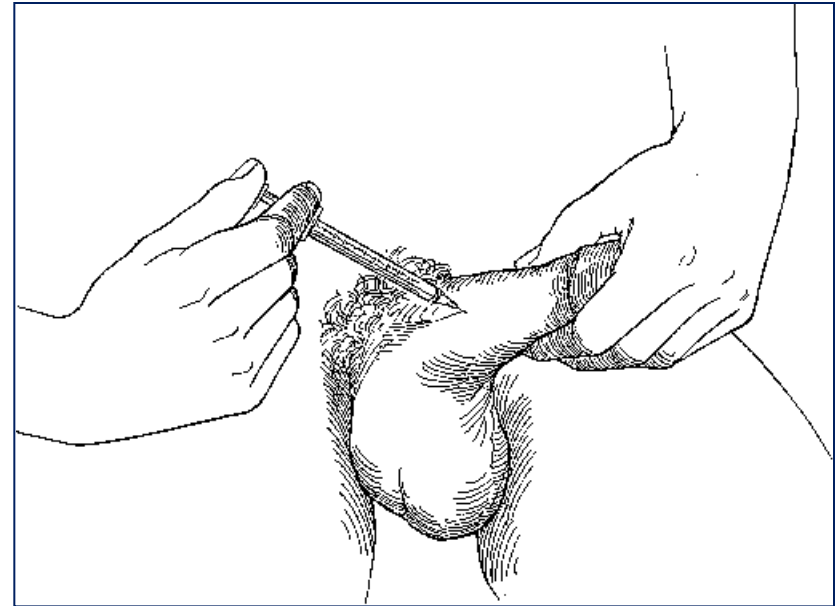


Vasoactive substance is injected into the corpus cavernosum



Dorsolateral location of injection site

# Education: Intracavernosal injections



- To be fully effective, the medication must be injected directly into one of the penile erectile bodies, the corpus cavernosum.
- The medication will diffuse to the other side of the penis so that symmetrical erection is achieved.



# Intraurethral (IU) Therapy:

## *Alprostadil* (MUSE<sup>®</sup>)

- Efficacy
  - Moderately effective; clinical experience suggests 1 in 3 patients respond at home
  - Improved with constriction band (Actis<sup>®</sup>)
- Adverse Effects
  - Local: Penile pain
  - Systemic: Dizziness/hypotension, syncope



# Invasive Treatment Options

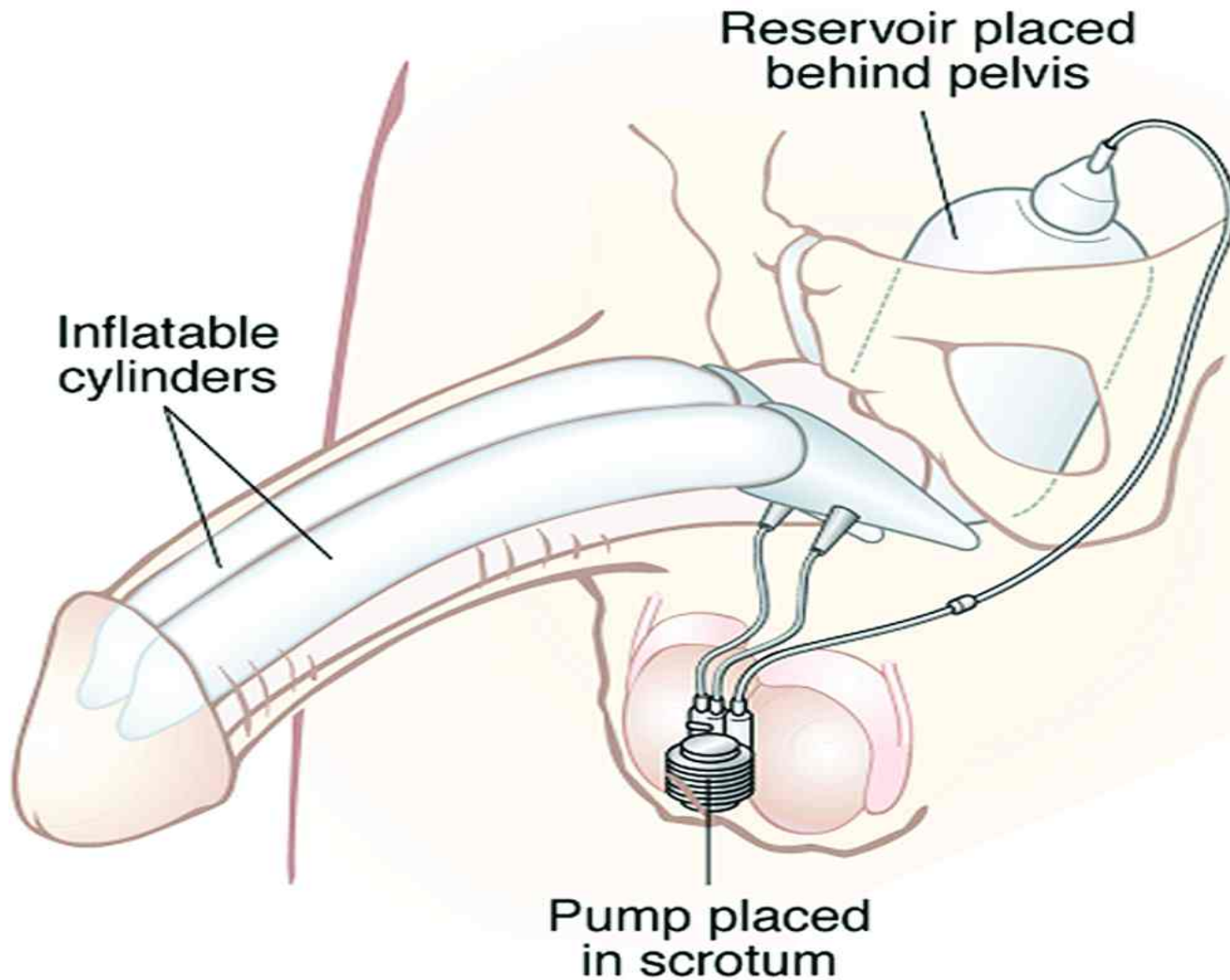
- Penile prosthesis implantation
- Venous/arterial surgery

# Third-line therapy

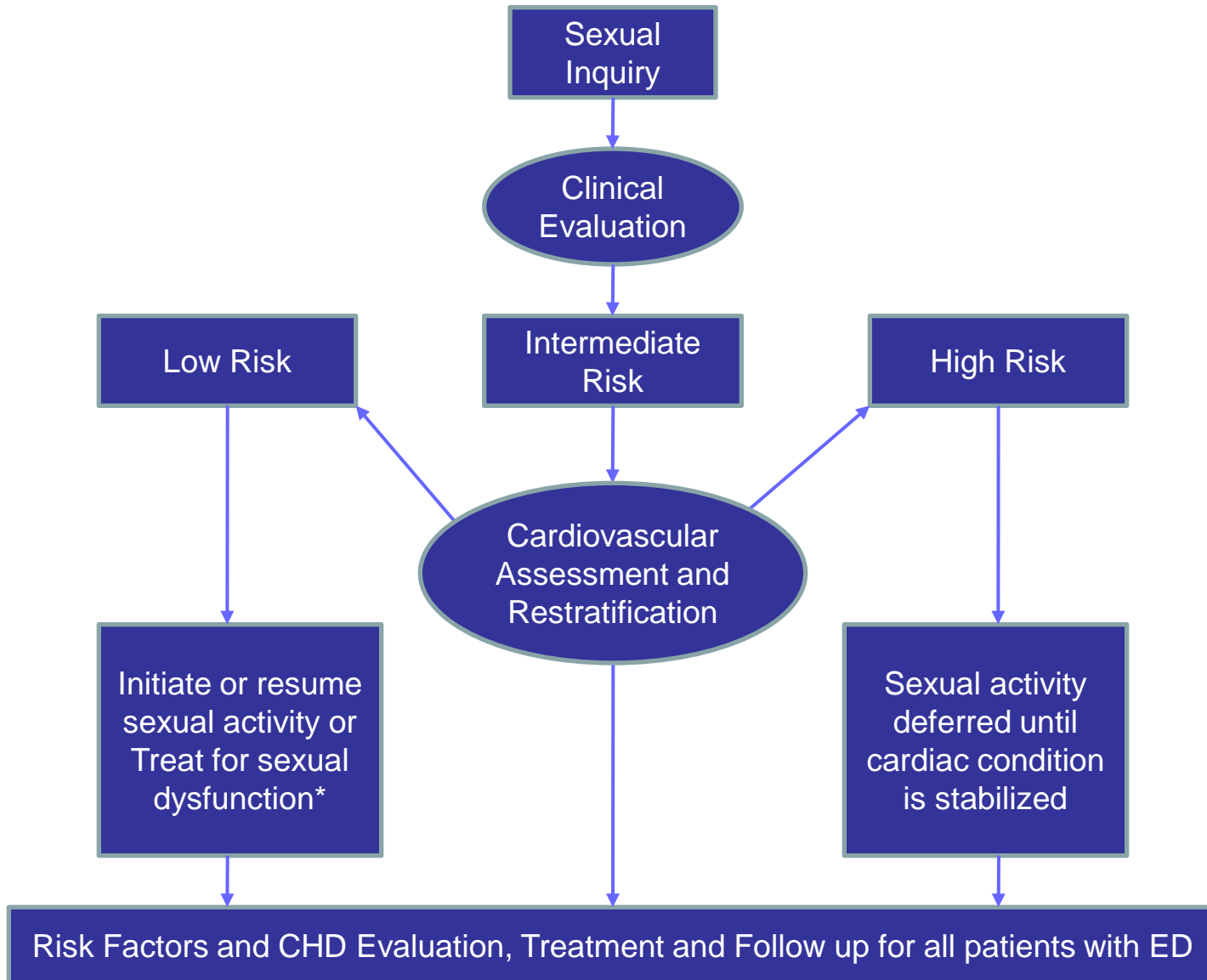
## *Surgery*

- Implantation of penile prosthesis in whom pharmacologic therapy is ineffective:
  - Inflatable
  - Malleable
- Patients should be made aware that surgery is irreversible
- Reported satisfaction rates are 70%-90%
- Adverse events:
  - Mechanical failure: 50% after a 10-year interval
  - Infection: 1-3%
  - Erosion: rare

# PENILE PROSTHESIS



# Sexual activity/dysfunction and cardiac risk: the Princeton II algorithm



- Kostis JB. Am J Cardiol 2005;96:313-321
- Alberson M et al. Med Clin N Am 2011;95:201-12
- Hackett et al. J Sex Med 2008; 5:1841-65

# **Other aspects of hypogonadism**

the role of testosterone and bioavailable  
testosterone

# Testosterone Deficiency Syndrome (TDS)

- Characterized by:
  - Deficiency in serum testosterone (T) levels
  - $\pm$  changes in receptor sensitivity to androgens
- Also known as:
  - Hypogonadism
  - Late-onset hypogonadism (LOH)
- Formerly termed: Andropause

# Clinical Manifestations<sup>1,2</sup>



- *Decreased libido*
- *Decreased vitality*
- *Fatigue*
- *Mood changes*
- *Insomnia*
- *Anemia*
- *Delayed ejaculation*
- *Flushes*
- *Erectile dysfunction*
- *Decreased muscle mass*
- *Increased visceral body fat*
- *Testicular atrophy*
- *Weakness*
- *Osteopenia/osteoporosis*
- *Loss of facial, axillary and pubic hair*



Manifestations may present alone or in combination

1. Liu PY, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2004; 89:4789-4796.
2. Zitzmann M, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2006;91:4335-4343.



# Prevalence

- Crude prevalence rate in Canada:
  - 25% of men aged 40 to 82 years are biochemically testosterone deficient<sup>1</sup>
- Prevalence rates expected to rise with life expectancy (LE)
  - Over the next 40 years LE in North America will increase by 4.8 years<sup>2</sup>
- Yet <10% of affected men receive T therapy<sup>3</sup>

1. Morley JE, et al. *Metabolism*. 2000;49:1239-1242.

2. United Nations DoEaS, Affairs Population D. *World Population Prospects: The 2006 Revision, Highlights; Working Paper No. ESA/P/WP.202*; 2007.

3. Carruthers M. *Ageing Male*. 2009;12:21-28.

# Barriers to Proper Diagnosis & Management

- Lack of physician awareness on associated diseases
  - Metabolic Syndrome (MetS)<sup>1</sup>
  - Diabetes<sup>1</sup>
  - Cardiovascular disease<sup>2-4</sup>
- Lack of physician awareness on the ability of testosterone replacement therapy (TRT) to reduce disease symptoms
- Controversy regarding prostate health<sup>5</sup>
- Lack of Canadian guidelines for distribution

1. Heufelder AE, et al. *J Androl.* 2009;30:726-733.

2. Malkin CJ, et al. *Heart.* 2004;90:871-876.

3. Pugh PJ, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2003;24:909-915.

4. Malkin CJ, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2006;27:57-64.

5. Wang C, et al. *Eur J Endocrinol.* 2008;159:507-514.

# Clinical Disorders or Conditions Associated with a High Prevalence of Low T<sup>1</sup>

- Type II diabetes mellitus
- Metabolic syndrome
- HIV-associated weight loss
- Treatment with opioids, glucocorticoids or ketoconazole
- Osteoporosis or low trauma fracture at a young age
- End-stage renal disease and maintenance hemodialysis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Infertility
- Sellar region mass, disease, radiation or trauma
- Use of street drugs
- Liver disease

**\*\*\* Patients with these clinical disorders/conditions are considered “high risk” and should be screened for testosterone deficiency**

# Diabetic Men Are at High Risk

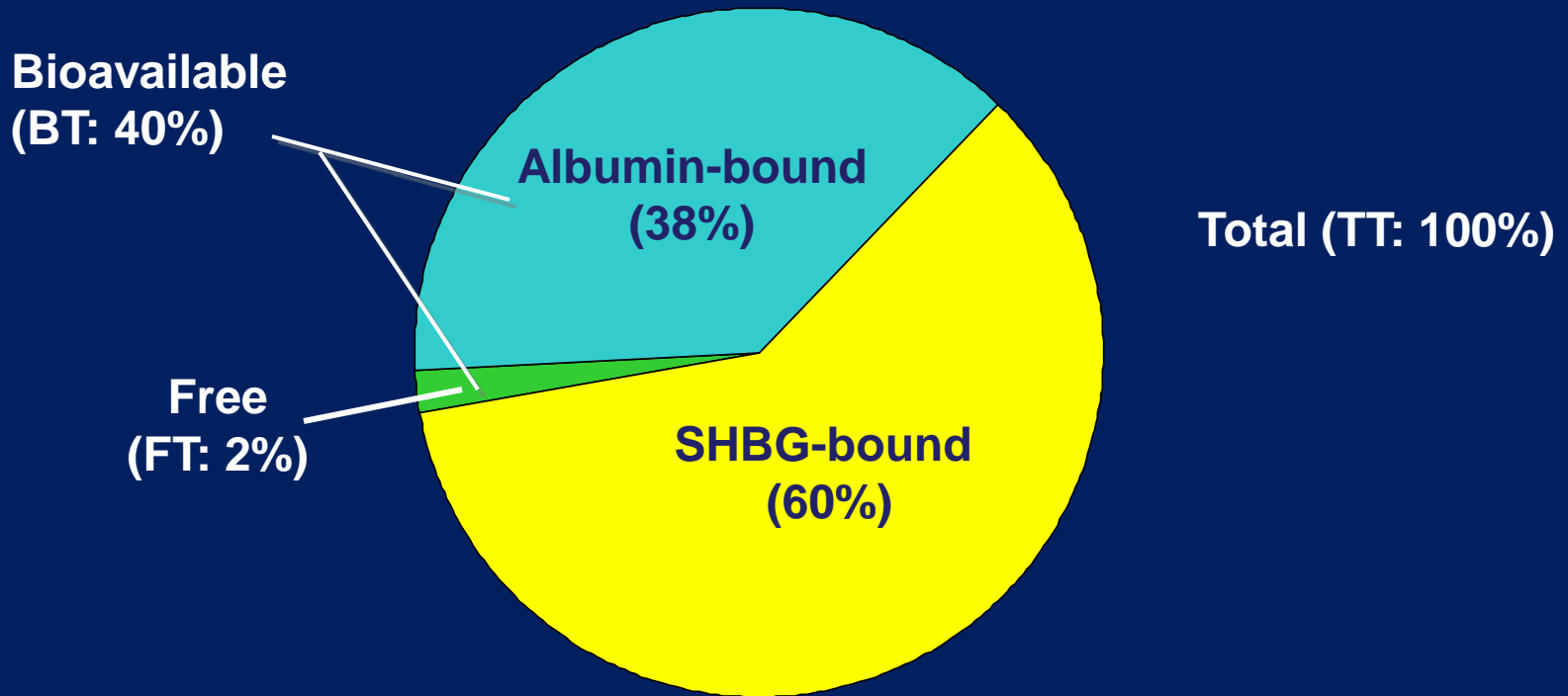
- 33% of men with diabetes have hypogonadism
- 34%-45% of men with diabetes have ED<sup>2</sup>
- Men with higher levels of T (15.6-21.0 nmol/L) have a 42% lower risk of Type II diabetes

**\*\*\* Men with Type II diabetes should be screened for testosterone deficiency<sup>4</sup>**

1. Dhindsa S, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2004;89:5462-5468.
2. Canadian Diabetes Association Clinical Practice Guidelines Expert Committee. Canadian Diabetes Association 2008 clinical practice guidelines for the prevention and management of diabetes in Canada. *Can J Diabetes.* 2008;32:S1-S201.
3. Ding EL, et al. *JAMA.* 2006;295:1288-1299.
4. Bhasin S, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2006;91:1995-2010.

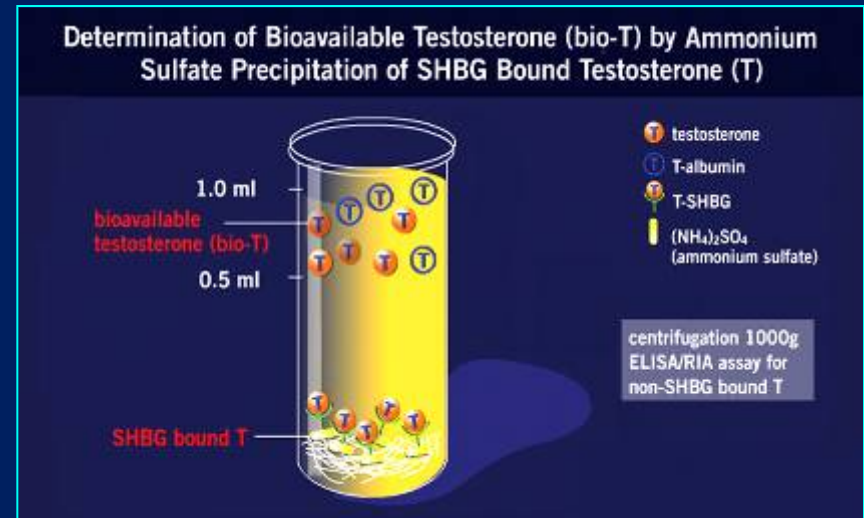
# Measurement Tests for T

# Forms of T



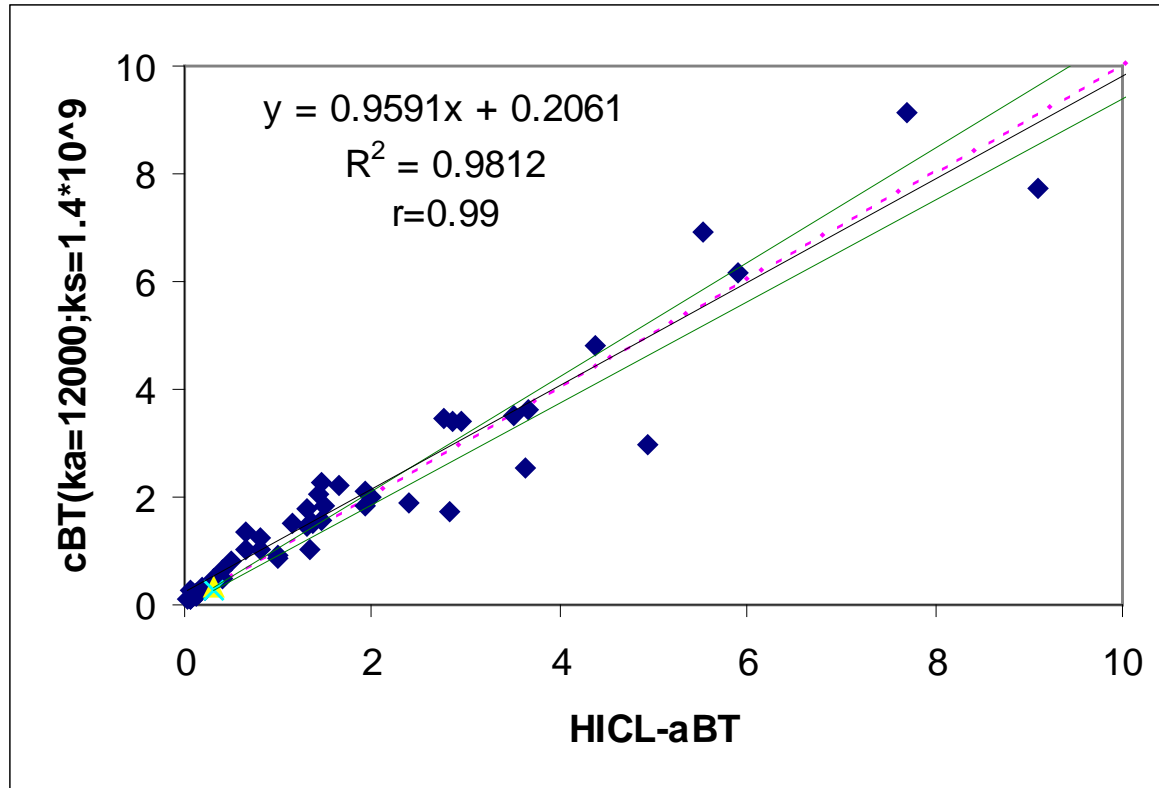
# Measurement Tests for T

- Measured BT is the gold standard
  - Ammonium sulphate precipitation correlates well with symptoms of TDS<sup>1</sup>
- If measured BT is unavailable or unaffordable, acceptable alternatives are<sup>2,3</sup>:
  - TT *or*
  - Calculated free T (cFT) *or*
  - Calculated bioavailable T (cBT)
  - Free calculator for cFT and cBT<sup>4</sup>:  
<http://www.issam.ch/freetesto.htm>



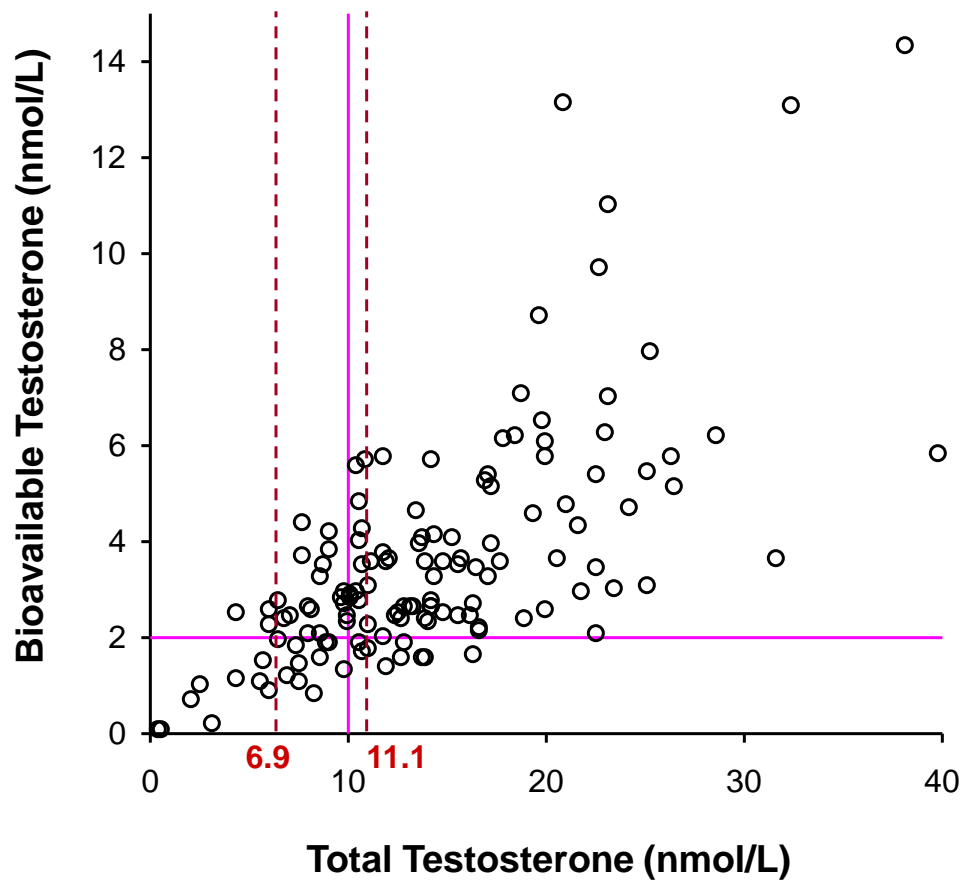
1. Rosner W, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2007;92:405-413.
2. Vermeulen A, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 1999;84:3666-3672.
3. Morales A, et al. *CUAJ.* 2010;4:268-274.
4. International Society for The Study of the Aging Male. Free & Bioavailable Testosterone calculator. <http://www.issam.ch/freetesto.htm>. Accessed March 29, 2010.

# Calculated Bioavailable Testosterone at Capital Health to Hospitals In Common Laboratory-Toronto





## Low levels of bioavailable testosterone can be present within normal total testosterone levels



# Low/Borderline T Requires Confirmation

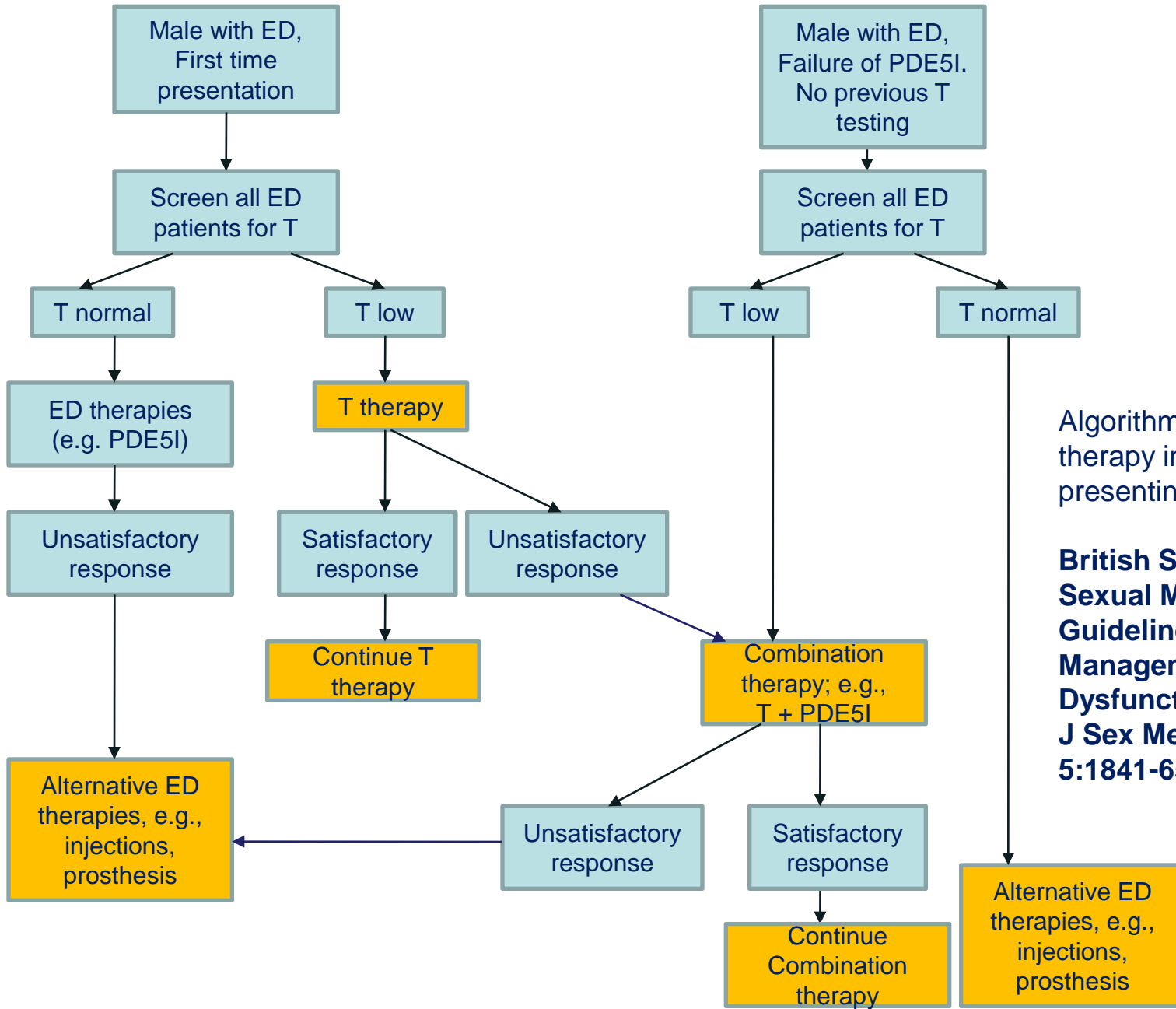
- Repeat T
- Plus, measures of:
  - SHBG
  - Luteinizing hormone (LH)
  - Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH)
  - Prolactin
- Other tests/serum markers that may be included:
  - Complete blood count (CBC)
  - Ferritin
  - Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH)
  - Prostate-specific antigen (PSA)
  - Digital rectal exam (DRE)

# Hypogonadism and Testosterone Replacement Therapy

## British Society for Sexual Medicine Guidelines on the Management of Sexual Dysfunction

Hackett et al. *J Sex Med* 2008; 5:1841-65

- Androgen deficiency increases with age but its management remains controversial
- As well as sexual dysfunction, it is also associated with Osteoporosis, Dyslipidemia, NIDDM, Metabolic syndrome, Depression
- Diagnosis of androgen deficiency:
  - Non-specific clinical features
  - Blood testing for testosterone:
    - Should be drawn in the morning: 08:00-11:00
    - Repeated after 2-3 weeks as a single assay may be misleading (pulsatile release)
    - Men with total serum testosterone < 11 nmol/L might benefit from a trial of testosterone replacement therapy for ED and should be managed according to the BSSM Guidelines.
    - There is no evidence that giving testosterone to men with ED and normal androgen levels restores or improves their erectile function
    - Hypogonadal men restored to the eugonadal state with testosterone replacement may experience:
      - A general improvement in sexual function
      - Improved erection
      - Restored or enhanced responsiveness to PDE5 inhibitors



Algorithm for androgen therapy in a man presenting with ED

**British Society for Sexual Medicine Guidelines on the Management of Sexual Dysfunction**  
**J Sex Med 2008; 5:1841-65**

# Testosterone Therapies

# Intramuscular (IM) Injectables

Generic Name	Dosage
Testosterone cypionate <sup>1</sup> (Depo-Testosterone)	200 mg every 2 weeks (Max. dose 400 mg per month)
Testosterone enanthate <sup>2</sup> (Delatestryl)	100-400 mg every 1-4 weeks

1. Prescribing Information: Depo-Testosterone (testosterone cypionate injection USP, Sterile Solution) 100 mg/mL. Kirkland, Québec: Pfizer Canada Inc.; 2007.

2. Prescribing Information: Delatestryl (testosterone enanthate, Solution for Injection) 200 mg/mL. Mississauga, Ontario: Theramed Corporation; 2007.



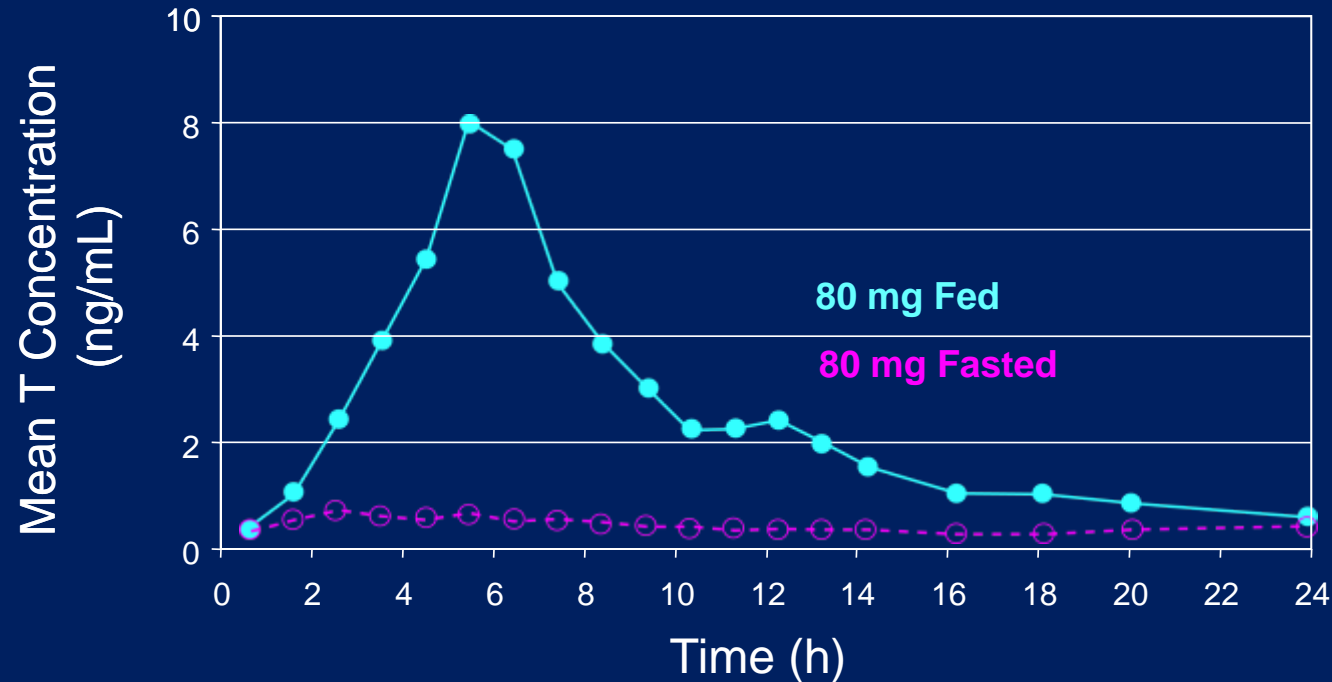
# Oral Medication

Generic Name	Dosage
Testosterone undecanoate <sup>1,2</sup> (Andriol)	120-160 mg daily divided in 2 doses <sup>a</sup>

This dose should be taken for 2-3 weeks. Subsequent dosages may be reduced to 40-120 mg daily.

1. Product Monograph: Andriol (testosterone undecanoate capsules) 40 mg. Kirkland, Québec: Schering-Plough Canada Inc.; 2008.
2. Product Monograph: pms-Testosterone (testosterone undecanoate capsules) 40 mg. Montréal, Québec: Pharmascience Inc.; 2009.

# The Effect of Food on Absorption of Testosterone Undecanoate<sup>1</sup>



- T undecanoate should be taken with a normal meal or breakfast to achieve proper T levels



# Transdermal T Gels

**Testosterone  
1% Gel  
(Testosterone USP<sup>1</sup>)**



**Testosterone  
1% Gel  
(Testosterone, Ph.Eur<sup>2</sup>)**



- Dosage: 5-10 g daily, to deliver 50-100 mg of testosterone

1. Product Monograph: AndroGel (testosterone gel) 1%. Markham, Ontario: Abbott Laboratories, Limited.; 2010.

2. Product Monograph: Testim (testosterone gel) 1%. Malvern, Pennsylvania: Auxilium Pharmaceuticals Inc.; 2009.

# Side Effects of T Formulations

## Reported Side Effects for Testosterone Products<sup>1,2</sup>

AS Reaction: Irritation, Redness, Rash	Increased PSA
Acne	High Blood Pressure
Enlarged Prostate	Increased RBC Count
Change in Mood / Depression	Prolonged or Painful Erection
Sleep Disturbances	Aggression / Aggressive Behaviour
Breast Enlargement	Breast Pain
Hair Loss / Baldness	Weight Gain
Headache	Dizziness

1. Prescribing Information: Depo-Testosterone (testosterone cypionate injection USP, Sterile Solution) 100 mg/mL. Kirkland, Québec: Pfizer Canada Inc.; 2007.
2. Prescribing Information: Delatestryl (testosterone enanthate, Solution for Injection) 200 mg/mL. Mississauga, Ontario: Theramed Corporation; 2007.
3. Product Monograph: Andriol (testosterone undecanoate capsules) 40 mg. Kirkland, Québec: Schering-Plough Canada Inc.; 2008.
4. Product Monograph: pms-Testosterone (testosterone undecanoate capsules) 40 mg. Montréal, Québec: Pharmascience Inc.; 2009.



# Potential Benefits of TRT

- **Enhanced:**

- Overall health/survival
- Strength
- Sexual desire
- Energy
- Emotional well-being
- May improve some symptoms of MetS
- Cognition
- Bone mineral density
- Glycemic control
- Cardiovascular health
- Erectile function

- **Reduced:**

- Body fat

# Contraindications to TRT

- TRT is absolutely contraindicated in patients with:
  - Breast cancer
  - Prostate cancer
  - \*\*\* PSA/DRE prior to initiating TRT: refer if abnormal
- TRT may worsen:
  - Erythrocytosis
  - Untreated obstructive sleep apnea
  - Severe congestive heart failure
  - \*\*\* Do not initiate TRT until these medical issues have been addressed
- TRT is not suggested during biological fatherhood as it may cause infertility in young men
- TRT can reduce overall body fat content

1. Bhasin S, et al. *J Androl.* 2001;22:718-731.
2. Calof OM, et al. *J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci.* 2005;60:1451-1457.
3. Rhoden EL, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2004;350:482-492.
4. Wang C, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2000;85:2839-2853.

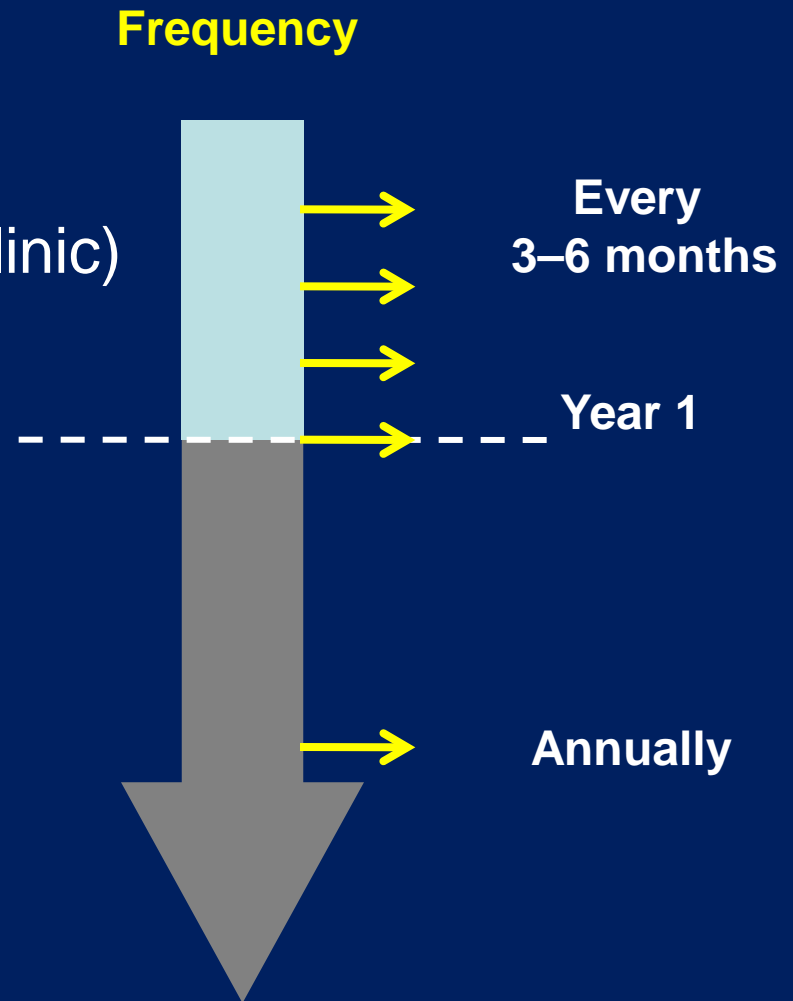
# Alternative Treatments to TRT

Approach	Anticipated Outcome(s)
Diet and exercise	Healthy weight reduction <sup>1</sup> Improved muscle strength <sup>2</sup> Enhanced emotional well-being
Bisphosphonates	Increased BMD <sup>3</sup>
Antidepressants	Enhanced emotional well-being
Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)	Treatment of sleep apnea <sup>4</sup>
Phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors	Improved erectile function <sup>5</sup>
Discontinuation of opioids	Improvement in multiple symptoms of hypogonadism <sup>6</sup>

# Monitoring

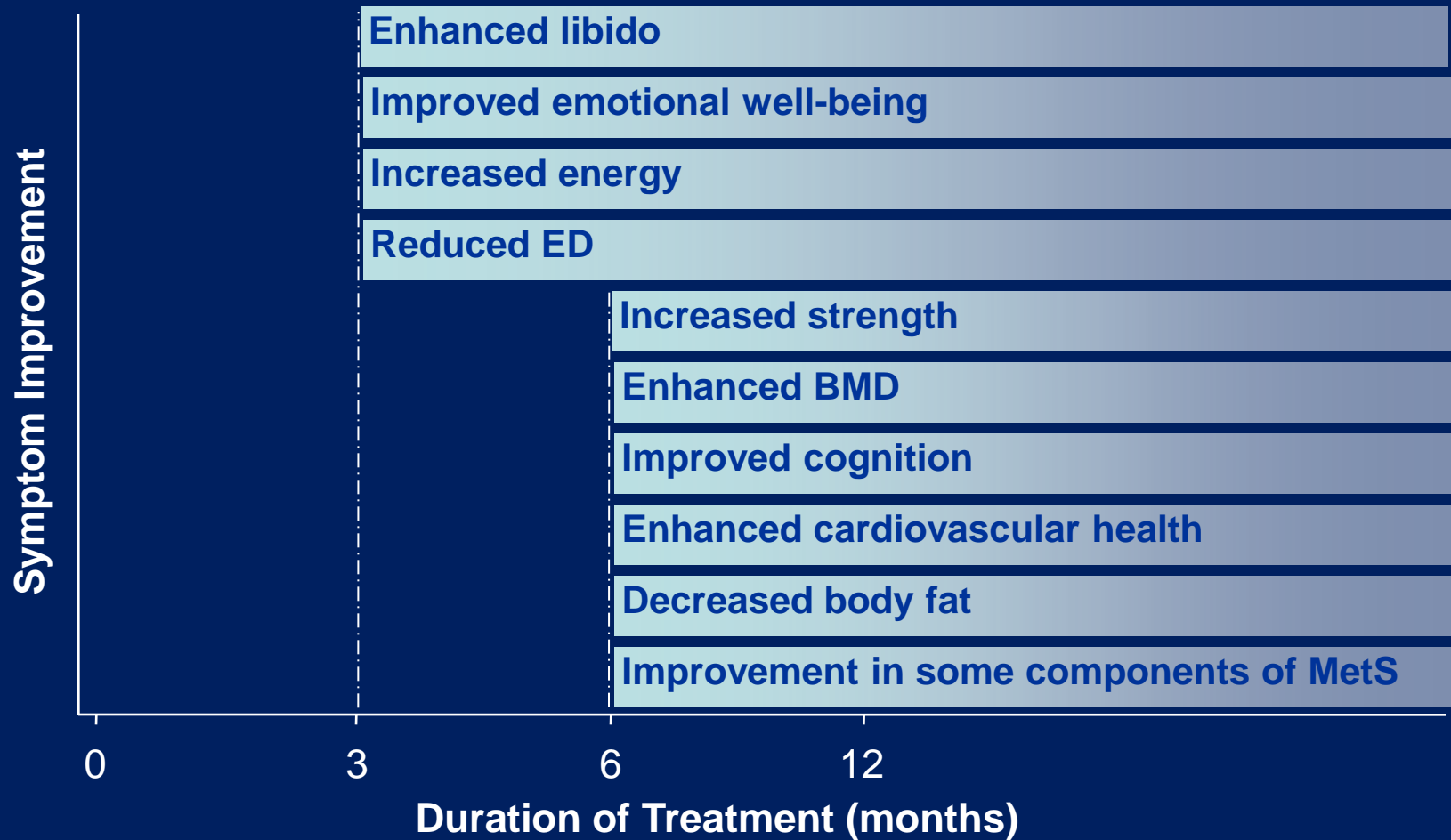
- At each appointment monitor:

- Symptom response (clinic)
- Changes in blood parameters
  - T
  - Hemoglobin
  - Hematocrit
- PSA/DRE
  - Refer if abnormal





# Timeline of Symptom Improvement



MetS = Metabolic Syndrome

1. Morales A, et al. *CUAJ*. 2010;4:268-274.

# Other endocrine disorders in hypogonadism and ED

## Hyperprolactinemia

- Hyperprolactinemia is associated with ED, loss of sexual interest and anorgasmia
- Frequently accompanied by androgen deficiency
  - because high prolactin suppresses LH production leading to hypogonadism
- High prolactin should be excluded in all men with reduced sexual interest, however moderate elevation of prolactin is unlikely to cause ED
- Causes of hyperprolactinemia
  - Medical and physical stress
  - Drugs: major tranquilizers
  - Prolactin secreting pituitary tumor
  - Chronic renal failure
  - big-big prolactin: a complex of prolactin and immunoglobulin

## Hyper- and hypothyroidism



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***Thank you***