

## Recommendation

Sildenafil is recommended as the first line treatment for:

1. Erectile dysfunction
2. The treatment of patients post prostatectomy for the recovery of erectile function.

The patent for Viagra has recently expired and the price has now significantly reduced. The prices of the available PDE5 inhibitors are provided below

Preparation	Cost per tablet (Oct Drug Tariff)
Sildenafil 50mg	£0.38
Tadalafil 2.5 /5mg	£1.96
Vardenafil 10 – 20mg	£3.52-£5.87

Three actions are proposed to take advantage of this price reduction:

1. Patients requiring treatment for erectile dysfunction should be prescribed sildenafil as first line treatment.
2. Patients currently prescribed Tadalafil and Vardenafil for erectile dysfunction are considered for a switch to on demand generic Sildenafil.
3. Patients post prostatectomy will be prescribed Sildenafil 50mg daily by the urologist team. GPs should consider switching patients currently prescribed Tadalafil for this indication. -The Urologists at East Kent Hospitals have previously prescribed Tadalafil 2.5 – 5mg daily post prostatectomy - daily dosing of PDE5 inhibitors has been proven to be more effective than on demand dosing for recovering erectile dysfunction after radical prostatectomy. The urology team have proposed that the use of Sildenafil 50mg daily would be a more cost effective option that is supported by clinical evidence.

The Department of Health criteria for eligibility for treatment on the NHS still apply, as do the restrictions on quantity to 4 treatments per month for on demand treatment.

**Approved by:** East Kent Prescribing Group (Representing Ashford CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, South Kent Coast CCG and Thanet CCG)

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