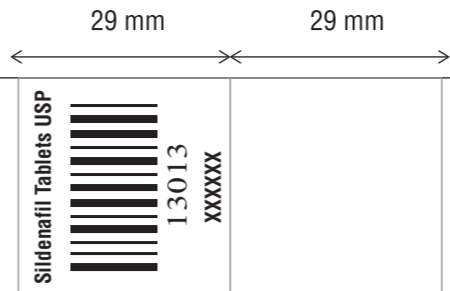


28 mm



## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use SILDENAFIL TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for SILDENAFIL TABLETS.

**SILDENAFIL Tablets, for oral use**  
**Initial U.S. Approval: 1998**

### RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Warnings and Precautions, Effects on the Eye (5.3) 08/2017

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Sildenafil is a phosphodiesterase-5 (PDE5) inhibitor indicated for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED) (1)

### DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION

- For most patients, the recommended dose is 50 mg taken, as needed, approximately 1 hour before sexual activity. However, sildenafil tablets may be taken anywhere from 30 minutes to 4 hours before sexual activity (2.1)
- Based on effectiveness and toleration, may increase to a maximum of 100 mg or decrease to 25 mg (2.1)
- Maximum recommended dosing frequency is once per day (2.1)

### DOSE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets: 25 mg, 50 mg and 100 mg (3)

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Administration of sildenafil tablets to patients using nitric oxide donors, such as organic nitrates or organic nitrites in any form. Sildenafil was shown to potentiate the hypotensive effect of nitrates (4.1, 7.1, 12.2)
- Known hypersensitivity to sildenafil or any component of tablet (4.2)
- Administration with guanylate cyclase (GC) stimulators, such as riociguat (4.3)

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Patients should not use sildenafil if sexual activity is inadvisable due to cardiovascular status (5.1)

- Patients should seek emergency treatment if an erection lasts >4 hours. Use sildenafil with caution in patients predisposed to priapism (5.2)
- Patients should stop sildenafil tablets and seek medical care if a sudden loss of vision occurs in one or both eyes, which could be a sign of non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION). Sildenafil tablets should be used with caution, and only when the anticipated benefits outweigh the risks, in patients with a history of NAION. Patients with a "crowded" optic disc may also be at an increased risk of NAION. (5.3)
- Patients should stop sildenafil tablets and seek prompt medical attention in the event of sudden decrease or loss of hearing (5.4)
- Caution is advised when sildenafil is co-administered with alpha-blockers or anti-hypertensives. Concomitant use may lead to hypotension (5.5)
- Decreased blood pressure, syncope, and prolonged erection may occur at higher sildenafil exposures. In patients taking strong CYP inhibitors, such as ritonavir, sildenafil exposure is increased. Decrease in sildenafil dosage is recommended (2.4, 5, 6)

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions ( $\geq 2\%$ ) include headache, flushing, dyspepsia, abnormal vision, nasal congestion, back pain, myalgia, nausea, dizziness and rash (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact [www.umedicalabs.com](http://www.umedicalabs.com) at 1-855-288-577 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

### DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Sildenafil can potentiate the hypotensive effects of nitrates, alpha blockers, and anti-hypertensives (4.1, 5.5, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 12.2)
- With concomitant use of alpha blockers, initiate sildenafil at 25 mg dose (2.3)
- CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir, ketoconazole, itraconazole, erythromycin): Increase sildenafil exposure (2.4, 7.4, 12.3)
  - Ritonavir: Do not exceed a maximum single dose of 25 mg in a 48 hour period (2.4, 5, 6)
  - Erythromycin or strong CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole, itraconazole, saquinavir): Consider a starting dose of 25 mg (2.4, 7.4)

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Geriatric use: Consider a starting dose of 25 mg (2.5, 8.5)
- Severe renal impairment: Consider a starting dose of 25 mg (2.5, 8.6)
- Hepatic impairment: Consider a starting dose of 25 mg (2.5, 8.7)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

Revised: 11/2023

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## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Sildenafil tablets are indicated for the treatment of erectile dysfunction.

### 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 2.1 Dosage Information

For most patients, the recommended dose is 50 mg taken, as needed, approximately 1 hour before sexual activity. However, sildenafil tablets may be taken anywhere from 30 minutes to 4 hours before sexual activity. The maximum recommended dosing frequency is once per day.

Based on effectiveness and toleration, the dose may be increased to a maximum recommended dose of 100 mg or decreased to 25 mg.

#### 2.2 Use with Food

Sildenafil tablets may be taken with or without food.

#### 2.3 Dosage Adjustments in Specific Situations

Sildenafil tablets was shown to potentiate the hypotensive effects of nitrates and its administration in patients who use nitric oxide donors such as organic nitrates or organic nitrites in any form is therefore contraindicated [see *Contraindications* (4.1), *Drug Interactions* (7.1), and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

When sildenafil tablets are co-administered with an alpha-blocker, patients should be stable on alpha-blocker therapy prior to initiating sildenafil tablets treatment and sildenafil tablets should be initiated at 25 mg [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.5), *Drug Interactions* (7.2), and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

#### 2.4 Dosage Adjustments Due to Drug Interactions

##### Ritonavir

The recommended dose for ritonavir-treated patients is 25 mg prior to sexual activity and the recommended maximum dose is 25 mg within a 48 hour period because concomitant administration increased the blood levels of sildenafil by 11-fold [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.6), *Drug Interactions* (7.4), and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

##### CYP3A4 Inhibitors

Consider a starting dose of 25 mg in patients treated with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole, itraconazole, or saquinavir) or erythromycin. Clinical data have shown that co-administration with saquinavir or erythromycin increased plasma levels of sildenafil by about 3 fold [see *Drug Interactions* (7.4) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

#### 2.5 Dosage Adjustments in Special Populations

Consider a starting dose of 25 mg in patients > 65 years, patients with hepatic impairment (e.g., cirrhosis), and patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance <30 mL/minute) because administration of sildenafil tablets in these patients resulted in higher plasma levels of sildenafil [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.5, 8.6, 8.7) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

### 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Sildenafil tablets, USP are supplied as pale blue to blue, caplet shaped film-coated tablets containing sildenafil citrate USP equivalent to 50 mg, or 100 mg of sildenafil. Tablets are marked on one side and plain on the other to indicate the dosage strengths viz. 100 mg and 50 mg respectively. Sildenafil tablets 25 mg USP is supplied as Pale blue to blue, round film-coated tablets, debossed with "25" on one side and "SL" on other side.

### 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Nitrates
- Consistent with its known effects on the nitric oxide/cGMP pathway [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.1, 12.2)], sildenafil tablets were shown to potentiate the hypotensive effects of nitrates, and its administration to patients who are using nitric oxide donors such as organic nitrates or organic nitrites in any form either regularly and/or intermittently is therefore contraindicated.

After patients have taken sildenafil tablets, it is unknown when nitrates, if necessary, can be safely administered. Although plasma levels of sildenafil at 24 hours post-dose are much lower than at peak concentration, it is unknown whether nitrates can be safely co-administered at this time point [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.3), *Drug Interactions* (7.1), and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

#### 4.2 Hypersensitivity Reactions

Sildenafil tablets are contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to sildenafil, as contained in sildenafil tablets and REVATIO, or any component of the tablet. Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported, including rash and urticaria [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)].

#### 4.3 Concomitant Guanylate Cyclase (GC) Stimulators

Do not use sildenafil tablets in patients who are using a GC stimulator, such as riociguat. PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil, may potentiate the hypotensive effects of GC stimulators.

### 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

#### 5.1 Cardiovascular

There is a potential for cardiac risk of sexual activity in patients with preexisting cardiovascular disease. Therefore, treatments for erectile dysfunction, including sildenafil, should not be generally used in men for whom sexual activity is inadvisable because of their underlying cardiovascular status. The evaluation of erectile dysfunction should include a determination of potential underlying causes and the identification of appropriate treatment following a complete medical assessment.

Sildenafil has systemic vasodilatory properties that resulted in transient decreases in supine blood pressure in healthy volunteers (mean maximum decrease of 8.4/5.5 mmHg). [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)]. While this normally would be expected to be of little consequence in most patients, prior to prescribing sildenafil, physicians should carefully consider whether their patients with underlying cardiovascular disease could be affected adversely by such vasodilatory effects, especially in combination with sexual activity.

Use with caution in patients with the following underlying conditions which can be particularly sensitive to the actions of vasodilators including sildenafil – those with left ventricular outflow obstruction (e.g., aortic stenosis, idiopathic hypertrophic subaortic stenosis) and those with severely impaired autonomic control of blood pressure.

There are no controlled clinical data on the safety or efficacy of sildenafil in the following groups; if prescribed, this should be done with caution.

- Patients who have suffered a myocardial infarction, stroke, or life-threatening arrhythmia within the last 6 months;
- Patients with resting hypotension (BP <90/50 mmHg) or hypertension (BP >170/110 mmHg);
- Patients with cardiac failure or coronary artery disease causing unstable angina.

#### 5.2 Prolonged Erection and Priapism

Prolonged erection greater than 4 hours and priapism (painful erections greater than 6 hours in duration) have been reported infrequently since market approval of sildenafil tablets. In the event of an erection that persists longer than 4 hours, the patient should seek immediate medical assistance. If priapism is not treated immediately, penile tissue damage and permanent loss of potency could result.

Sildenafil should be used with caution in patients with anatomical deformation of the penis (such as angulation, cavernosal fibrosis or Peyronie's disease), or in patients who have conditions which may predispose them to priapism (such as sickle cell anemia, multiple myeloma, or leukemia). However, there are no controlled clinical data on the safety or efficacy of sildenafil in patients with sickle cell or related anemias.

#### 5.3 Effects on the Eye

Physicians should advise patients to stop use of a phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitors, including sildenafil, and seek medical attention in the event of a sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes. Such an event may be a sign of non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION), a rare condition and a cause of decreased vision including permanent loss of vision, that has been reported rarely post-marketing in temporal association with the use of all PDE5 inhibitors. Based on published literature, the annual incidence of NAION is 2.5-11.8 cases per 100,000 in males aged >50. An observational case-crossover study evaluated the risk of NAION when PDE5 inhibitor use, as a class, occurred immediately before NAION onset (within 5 half-lives), compared to PDE5 inhibitor use in a prior time period. The results suggest an approximate 2-4 fold increase in the risk of NAION, with a risk estimate of 1.2 (95% CI 1.06, 4.34). A similar case-crossover result, with a risk estimate of 2.27 (95% CI 0.98, 5.20). Other risk factors for NAION, such as the presence of a "crowded" optic disc, may have contributed to the occurrence of NAION in these studies.

Neither the rare post-marketing reports, nor the association of PDE5 inhibitor use and NAION in the observational studies, substantiate a causal relationship between PDE5 inhibitor use and NAION [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.2)].

Physicians should consider whether their patients with underlying NAION risk factors could be adversely affected by use of PDE5 inhibitors. Individuals who have already experienced NAION are at increased risk of NAION recurrence. Therefore, PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil, should be used with caution in these patients and only when the anticipated benefits outweigh the risks. Individuals with "crowded" optic disc are also considered at greater risk for NAION compared to the general population, however, evidence is insufficient to support screening of prospective users of PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil, for this uncommon condition.

There are no controlled clinical data on the safety or efficacy of sildenafil in patients with retinitis pigmentosa (a minority of these patients have genetic disorders of retinal phosphodiesterases); if prescribed, this should be done with caution.

#### 5.4 Hearing Loss

Physicians should advise patients to stop taking PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil, and seek prompt medical attention in the event of sudden decrease or loss of hearing. These events, which may be accompanied by tinnitus and dizziness, have been reported in temporal association to the intake of PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil. It is not possible to determine whether these events are related directly to the use of PDE5 inhibitors or to other factors [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1, 6.2)].

#### 5.5 Hypotension when Co-administered with Alpha-blockers or Anti-hypertensives

Caution is advised when PDE5 inhibitors are co-administered with alpha-blockers. PDE5 inhibitors, including sildenafil, and alpha-adrenergic blocking agents are both vasodilators with blood pressure lowering effects. When vasodilators are used in combination, an additive effect on blood pressure may occur. In some patients, concomitant use of these two drug classes can lower blood pressure significantly [see *Drug Interactions* (7.2) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)] leading to symptomatic hypotension (e.g., dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting).

Consideration should be given to the following:

- Patients who demonstrate hemodynamic instability on alpha-blocker therapy alone are at increased risk of symptomatic hypotension with concomitant use of PDE5 inhibitors. Patients should be stable on alpha-blocker therapy prior to initiating a PDE5 inhibitor.
- In those patients who are stable on alpha-blocker therapy, PDE5 inhibitors should be initiated at the lowest dose [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.3)].
- In those patients already taking an optimized dose of a PDE5 inhibitor, alpha-blocker therapy should be initiated at the lowest dose. Stepwise increase in alpha-blocker dose may be associated with further lowering of blood pressure when taking a PDE5 inhibitor.
- Safety of combined use of PDE5 inhibitors and alpha-blockers may be affected by other variables, including intravascular volume depletion and other anti-hypertensive drugs.

#### Anti-hypertensives

Sildenafil has systemic vasodilatory properties and may further lower blood pressure in patients taking antihypertensive medications.

In a separate drug interaction study, when amiodipine, 5 mg or 10 mg, and sildenafil, 100 mg were orally administered concomitantly to hypertensive patients (mean additional blood pressure reduction of 5 mmHg systolic and 7 mmHg diastolic were noted) [see *Drug Interactions* (7.3) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

#### 5.6 Adverse Reactions with the Concomitant Use of Ritonavir

The concomitant administration of the protease inhibitor ritonavir substantially increases serum concentrations of sildenafil (11-fold increase in AUC). If sildenafil is prescribed to patients taking ritonavir, caution should be used. Data from subjects exposed to high systemic levels of sildenafil are limited. Decreased blood pressure, syncope, and prolonged erection were reported in some healthy volunteers exposed to high doses of sildenafil (200-800 mg). To decrease the chance of adverse reactions in patients taking ritonavir, a decrease in sildenafil dosage is recommended [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.4), *Drug Interactions* (7.4), and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

#### 5.7 Combination with other PDE5 Inhibitors or Other Erectile Dysfunction Therapies

The safety and efficacy of combinations of sildenafil with other PDE5 inhibitors, including REVATIO or other pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatments containing sildenafil, or other treatments for erectile dysfunction have not been studied. Such combinations may further lower blood pressure. Therefore, the use of such combinations is not recommended.

#### 5.8 Effects on Bleeding

There have been postmarketing reports of bleeding events in patients who have taken sildenafil. A causal relationship between sildenafil and these events

has not been established. In humans, sildenafil has no effect on bleeding time when taken alone or with aspirin. However, *in vivo* studies with human platelets indicate that sildenafil potentiates the antiaggregatory effect of sodium nitropruside (a nitric oxide donor). In addition, the combination of heparin and sildenafil had an additive effect on bleeding time in the anesthetized rabbit, but this interaction has not been studied in humans.

The safety of sildenafil is unknown in patients with bleeding disorders and patients with active peptic ulceration.

#### 5.9 Counseling Patients About Sexually Transmitted Diseases

The use of sildenafil offers no protection against sexually transmitted diseases. Counseling of patients about the protective measures necessary to guard against sexually transmitted diseases, including the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), may be considered.

### 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following are discussed in more detail in other sections of the labeling:

- Cardiovascular [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]
- Prolonged Erection and Priapism [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)]
- Effects on the Eye [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3)]
- Hearing Loss [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.4)]
- Hypotension when Co-administered with Alpha-blockers or Anti-hypertensives [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.5)]
- Adverse Reactions with the Concomitant Use of Ritonavir [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.6)]
- Combination with other PDE5 Inhibitors or Other Erectile Dysfunction Therapies [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7)]
- Effects on Bleeding [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.8)]
- Counseling Patients About Sexually Transmitted Diseases [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.9)]

The most common adverse reactions reported in clinical trials ( $\geq 2\%$ ) are headache, flushing, dyspepsia, abnormal vision, nasal congestion, back pain, myalgia, nausea, dizziness, and rash.

#### 6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

Sildenafil was administered to over 3700 patients (aged 19-87 years) during pre-marketing clinical trials worldwide. Over 550 patients were treated for longer than one year.

In placebo-controlled clinical studies, the discontinuation rate due to adverse reactions for sildenafil (2.5%) was not significantly different from placebo (2.3%).

In fixed-dose studies, the incidence of some adverse reactions increased with dose. The type of adverse reactions in flexible-dose studies, which reflect the recommended dosage regimen, was similar to that for fixed-dose studies. At doses above the recommended dose range, adverse reactions were similar to those detailed in Table 1 below but generally were reported more frequently.

Table 1. Adverse Reactions Reported by  $\geq 2\%$  of Patients Treated with sildenafil and More Frequent than Placebo in Fixed-Dose Phase I/III Studies

Adverse Reaction	25 mg (n=312)	50 mg (n=511)	100 mg (n=506)	Placebo (n=607)
Headache	16%	21%	28%	7%
Flushing	10%	19%	18%	2%
Dyspepsia	3%	9%	17%	2%
Abnormal vision <sup>1</sup>	1%	2%	11%	1%
Nasal congestion	4%	4%	9%	2%
Back pain	3%	4%	4%	2%
Myalgia	2%	2%	4%	1%
Nausea	2%	3%	3%	1%
Dizziness	3%	4%	3%	2%
Rash	1%	2%	3%	1%

<sup>1</sup>Abnormal Vision: Mild to moderate in severity and transient, predominantly color tinge to vision, but also increased sensitivity to light, or blurred vision.

When sildenafil was taken as recommended (on an as-needed basis) in flexible-dose, placebo-controlled clinical trials of two to twenty-six weeks duration, patients took sildenafil at least once weekly, and the following adverse reactions were reported:

Table 2. Adverse Reactions Reported by  $\geq 2\%$  of Patients Treated with sildenafil and More Frequent than Placebo in Flexible-Dose Phase I/III Studies

Adverse Reaction	SILDENAFIL CITRATE N=734	PLACEBO N=725
Headache	16%	4%
Flushing	10%	1%
Dyspepsia	7%	2%
Nasal Congestion	4%	2%
Abnormal Vision <sup>1</sup>	3%	0%
Back pain	2%	2%
Dizziness	2%	1%
Rash	2%	1%

<sup>1</sup>Abnormal Vision: Mild and transient, predominantly color tinge to vision, but also increased sensitivity to light or blurred vision. In these studies, only one patient discontinued due to abnormal vision.

The following events occurred in <2% of patients in controlled clinical trials; a causal relationship to sildenafil or uncertain. Reported events include those with a plausible relation to drug use, omitted are minor events and reports too imprecise to be meaningful:

**Body as a Whole:** face edema, photosensitivity reaction, shock, asthma, pain, chills, accidental fall, abdominal pain, allergic reaction, chest pain, accidental injury.

**Cardiovascular:** angina pectoris, AV block, migraine, syncope, tachycardia, palpitation, hypotension, postural hypotension, myocardial ischemia, cerebral thrombosis, cardiac arrest, heart failure, abnormal electrocardiogram, cardiomyopathy.

**Digestive:** vomiting, glossitis, colitis, dysphagia, gastritis, gastroenteritis, esophagitis, stomatitis, dry mouth, liver function tests abnormal, rectal hemorrhage, gingivitis.

**Hemic and Lymphatic:** anemia and leukopenia.

**Metabolic and Nutritional:** thirst, edema, gout, unstable diabetes, hyperglycemia, peripheral edema, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemic reaction, hypotremia.

**Musculoskeletal:** arthritis, arthrosis, myalgia, tendon rupture, tenosynovitis, bone pain, myasthenia, synovitis.

**Nervous:** ataxia, hypertonia, neuralgia, neuropathy, paresthesia, tremor, vertigo, depression, insomnia, somnolence, abnormal dreams, reflexes decreased, hypesthesia.

**Respiratory:** asthma, dyspnea, laryngitis, pharyngitis, sinusitis, bronchitis, sputum increased, cough increased.

**Effects of sildenafil on Blood Pressure When Nitroglycerin is Subsequently Administered:** Based on the pharmacokinetic profile of a single 100 mg oral dose given to healthy normal volunteers, the plasma levels of sildenafil at 24 hours post dose are approximately 2 ng/mL (compared to peak plasma levels of approximately 440 ng/mL). In the following patients, age >65 years, hepatic impairment (e.g., cirrhosis), severe renal impairment (e.g., creatinine clearance <30 mL/min), and concomitant use of erythromycin or strong CYP3A4 inhibitors, plasma levels of sildenafil at 24 hours post dose have been found to be 3 to 8 times higher than those seen in healthy volunteers. Although plasma levels of sildenafil at 24 hours post dose are much lower than at peak concentration, it is unknown whether nitrates can be safely co-administered at this time point [see *Contraindications (4.1)*].

**Effects of sildenafil on Blood Pressure When Co-administered with Alpha-Blockers:** Three double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, two-way crossover studies were conducted to assess the interaction of sildenafil with doxazosin, an alpha-1 adrenergic blocking agent.

**Study 1: Sildenafil with Doxazosin**  
In the first study, a single oral dose of sildenafil 100 mg or matching placebo was administered in a 2-period crossover design to 4 generally healthy males with benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). Following at least 14 consecutive days of doxazosin 100 mg or matching placebo was administered simultaneously with doxazosin. Following a review of the data from these first 4 subjects (details provided below), the sildenafil dose was reduced to 25 mg. Thereafter, 17 subjects were treated with sildenafil 25 mg or matching placebo in combination with doxazosin 4 mg (15 subjects) or doxazosin 8 mg (2 subjects). The mean subject age was 66.5 years.

Placebo-subtracted mean maximum decrease in systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	sildenafil citrate 25 mg
Supine	7.4 (4.0, 15.7)
Standing	6.0 (0.8, 12.8)

The mean profiles of the change from baseline in standing systolic blood pressure in subjects treated with doxazosin in combination with 25 mg sildenafil or matching placebo are shown in Figure 2.

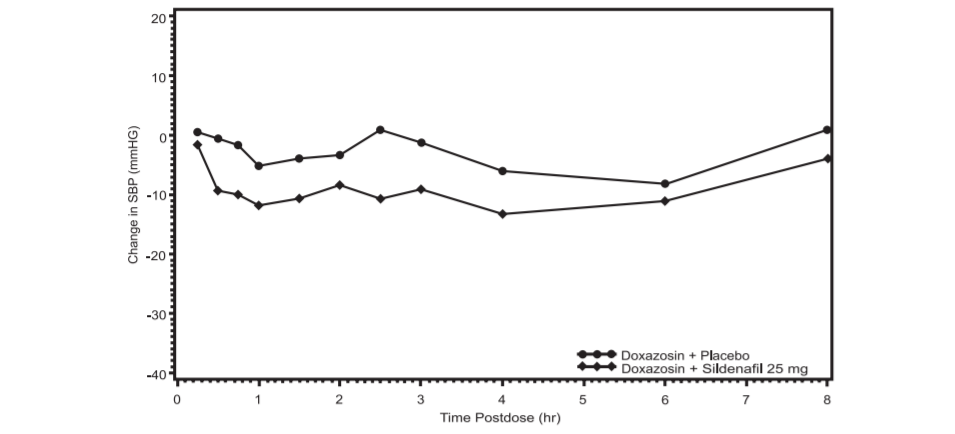


Figure 2: Mean Standing Systolic Blood Pressure Change from Baseline

Blood pressure was measured immediately pre-dose and at 15, 30, 45 minutes, and 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 6 and 8 hours after sildenafil or matching placebo. Outliers were defined as subjects with a standing systolic blood pressure of <85 mmHg or a decrease from baseline in standing systolic blood pressure of >30 mmHg at one or more time points. There were no subjects treated with sildenafil 25 mg who had a standing SBP < 85 mmHg. There were three subjects with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP >30 mmHg following sildenafil 25 mg, one subject with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following placebo and two subjects with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following both sildenafil and placebo. No severe adverse events potentially related to blood pressure effects were reported in this group.

Of the four subjects who received sildenafil 100 mg in the first part of this study, a severe adverse event related to blood pressure effect was reported in one patient (postural hypotension that began 35 minutes after first dose with sildenafil with symptoms lasting for 8 hours), and mild adverse events potentially related to blood pressure effects were reported in two others (dizziness, headache and fatigue at 1 hour after dosing; and dizziness, lightheadedness and nausea at 4 hours after dosing). There were no reports of syncope among these patients. For these four subjects, the placebo-subtracted mean maximum decreases from baseline in supine and standing systolic blood pressures were 14.8 mmHg and 21.5 mmHg, respectively. Two of these subjects had a standing SBP < 85 mmHg. Both of these subjects were protocol violators, one due to a low baseline standing SBP, and the other due to baseline orthostatic hypotension.

**Study 2: Sildenafil with Doxazosin**  
In the second study, a single oral dose of sildenafil 50 mg or matching placebo was administered in a 2-period crossover design to 20 generally healthy males with BPH. Following at least 14 consecutive days of doxazosin, sildenafil 50 mg or matching placebo was administered simultaneously with doxazosin 4 mg (17 subjects) or with doxazosin 8 mg (3 subjects). The mean subject age in this study was 63.9 years.

Twenty subjects received sildenafil 50 mg, but only 19 subjects received matching placebo. One patient discontinued the study prematurely due to an adverse event of hypotension following dosing with sildenafil 50 mg. This patient had been taking minoxidil, a potent vasodilator, during the study.

For the 19 subjects who received both sildenafil and matching placebo, the placebo-subtracted mean maximum decreases from baseline (95% CI) in systolic blood pressure were as follows:

Placebo-subtracted mean maximum decrease in systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	sildenafil citrate 50 mg (95% CI)
Supine	9.08 (6.48, 12.68)
Standing	11.62 (7.34, 15.90)

The mean profiles of the change from baseline in standing systolic blood pressure in subjects treated with doxazosin in combination with 50 mg sildenafil or matching placebo are shown in Figure 3.

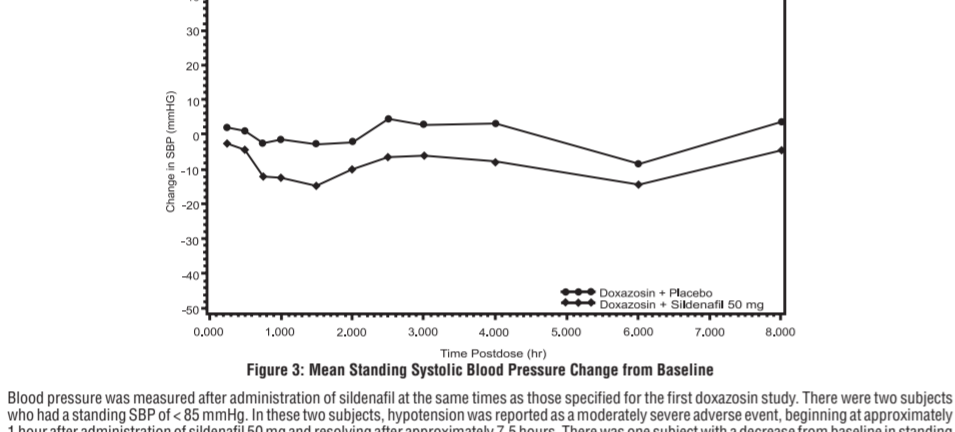


Figure 3: Mean Standing Systolic Blood Pressure Change from Baseline

Blood pressure was measured after administration of sildenafil at the same times as those specified for the first doxazosin study. There were two subjects who had a standing SBP of < 85 mmHg. In these two subjects, hypotension was reported as a moderately severe adverse event, beginning at approximately 1 hour after administration of sildenafil 50 mg and resolving after approximately 7.5 hours. There was one subject with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following sildenafil 50 mg and one subject with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following both sildenafil and placebo. There were no severe adverse events potentially related to blood pressure and no episodes of syncope reported in this study.

**Study 3: Sildenafil with Doxazosin**  
In the third study, a single oral dose of sildenafil 100 mg or matching placebo was administered in a 3-period crossover design to 20 generally healthy males with BPH. In dose period 1, subjects were administered open-label doxazosin and a single dose of sildenafil 50 mg simultaneously, after at least 14 consecutive days of doxazosin. If a subject did not successfully complete the first dosing period, he was discontinued from the study. Subjects who had successfully completed the previous doxazosin interaction study (using sildenafil 50 mg), including no significant hemodynamic adverse events, were allowed to skip dose period 1. Treatment with doxazosin continued for at least 7 days after dose period 1. Thereafter, sildenafil 100 mg or matching placebo was administered simultaneously with doxazosin 4 mg (14 subjects) or doxazosin 8 mg (6 subjects) in standard crossover fashion. The mean subject age in this study was 66.4 years.

Twenty-five subjects were screened. Two were discontinued after study period 1: one failed to meet pre-dose screening qualifications and the other experienced symptomatic hypotension as a moderately severe adverse event 30 minutes after dosing with open-label sildenafil 50 mg. Of the twenty subjects who were ultimately assigned to treatment, a total of 13 subjects successfully completed dose period 1, and seven had successfully completed the previous doxazosin study (using sildenafil 50 mg).

For the 20 subjects who received sildenafil 100 mg and matching placebo, the placebo-subtracted mean maximum decreases from baseline (95% CI) in systolic blood pressure were as follows:

Placebo-subtracted mean maximum decrease in systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	sildenafil citrate 100 mg
Supine	7.9 (4.6, 11.1)
Standing	4.3 (1.8, 10.3)

The mean profiles of the change from baseline in standing systolic blood pressure in subjects treated with doxazosin in combination with 100 mg sildenafil or matching placebo are shown in Figure 4.

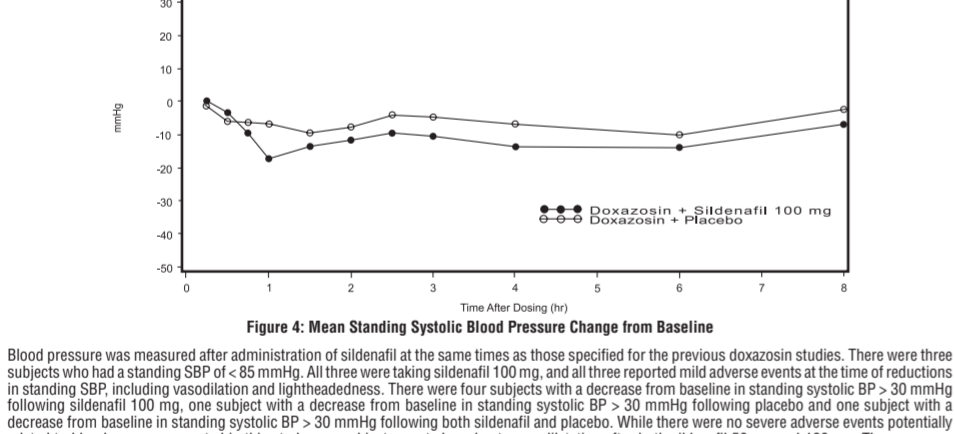


Figure 4: Mean Standing Systolic Blood Pressure Change from Baseline

Blood pressure was measured after administration of sildenafil at the same times as those specified for the previous doxazosin studies. There were three subjects who had a standing SBP of < 85 mmHg. All three were taking sildenafil 100 mg, and all three reported mild adverse events at the time of reductions in standing SBP, including dizziness and lightheadedness. There were four subjects with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following sildenafil 100 mg, one subject with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following placebo and one subject with a decrease from baseline in standing systolic BP > 30 mmHg following both sildenafil and placebo. While there were no severe adverse events potentially related to blood pressure reported in this study, one subject reported moderate vasodilation after both sildenafil 50 mg and 100 mg. There were no episodes of syncope reported in this study.

**Effect of sildenafil on Blood Pressure When Co-administered with Anti-hypertensives:** When sildenafil 100 mg oral was co-administered with amlodipine, 5 mg or 10 mg oral, to hypertensive patients, the mean additional reduction on supine blood pressure was 8 mmHg systolic and 7 mmHg diastolic.

**Effect of sildenafil on Blood Pressure When Co-administered with Alcohol:** sildenafil (50 mg) did not potentiate the hypotensive effect of alcohol (0.5 g/kg) in healthy volunteers. The mean maximum observed decrease in systolic blood pressure was -18.5 mmHg when sildenafil was co-administered with alcohol versus -17.4 mmHg when alcohol was administered alone. The maximum observed decrease in diastolic blood pressure was -17.2 mmHg when sildenafil was co-administered with alcohol versus -11.1 mmHg when alcohol was administered alone. There were no reports of postural dizziness or orthostatic hypotension. The maximum recommended dose of 100 mg sildenafil was not evaluated in this study [see *Drug Interactions (7.5)*].

**Effects of sildenafil on Cardiac Parameters:** Single oral doses of sildenafil up to 100 mg produced no clinically relevant changes in the ECGs of normal male volunteers.

Studies have produced relevant data on the effects of sildenafil on cardiac output. In one small, open-label, uncontrolled, pilot study, eight patients with stable ischemic heart disease underwent Swan-Ganz catheterization. A total dose of 40 mg sildenafil was administered by four intravenous infusions.

The results from this pilot study are shown in Table 3: the mean resting systolic and diastolic blood pressures decreased by 7% and 10% compared to baseline in these patients. Mean resting values for right atrial pressure, pulmonary artery pressure, pulmonary artery occluded pressure and cardiac output decreased by 28%, 28%, 20% and 7%, respectively. Even though this total dosage produced plasma sildenafil concentrations which were approximately 2 to 5 times higher than the mean maximum plasma concentrations following a single oral dose of 100 mg in healthy male volunteers, the hemodynamic response to exercise was preserved in these patients.

Means ±SD	At Rest		After 4 minutes of exercise	
	n	Baseline (95% CI)	n	Sildenafil (95% CI)
PADP (mmHg)	8	8.1 ± 5.1	8	6.5 ± 4.3
Mean PAP (mmHg)	8	16.7 ± 4	8	12.1 ± 3.9
Mean RAP (mmHg)	7	5.7 ± 3.7	8	4.1 ± 3.7
Systolic SAP (mmHg)	8	150.4 ± 12.4	8	140.6 ± 16.5
Diastolic SAP (mmHg)	8	73.6 ± 7.8	8	65.9 ± 10
Cardiac output (L/min)	8	5.6 ± 0.9	8	5.2 ± 1.1
Heart rate (bpm)	8	67 ± 11.1	8	66.9 ± 12
			8	101.9 ± 11.6
			8	99.0 ± 20.4

In a double-blind study, 144 patients with erectile dysfunction and chronic stable angina limited by exercise, not receiving chronic oral nitrates, were randomized to a single dose of placebo or sildenafil 100 mg 1 hour prior to exercise testing. The primary endpoint was time to limiting angina in the evaluable cohort. The mean times (adjusted for baseline) to onset of limiting angina were 423 and 403.7 seconds for sildenafil (N=70) and placebo, respectively. These results demonstrated that the effect of sildenafil on the primary endpoint was statistically non-inferior to placebo.

**Effects of sildenafil on Vision:** At single oral doses of 100 mg and 200 mg, transient dose-related impairment of color discrimination was detected using the Farnsworth-Munsell 100-hue test, with peak effects near the time of peak plasma levels. This finding is consistent with the inhibition of PDE5, which is involved in phototransduction in the retina. Subjects in the study reported this finding as difficulties in discriminating blue/green. An evaluation of visual function at doses up to twice the maximum recommended dose revealed no effects of sildenafil on visual acuity, intraocular pressure, or pupillometry.

**Effects of sildenafil on Spem:** There was no effect on sperm motility or morphology after single 100 mg oral doses of sildenafil in healthy volunteers.

**12.3 Pharmacokinetics**  
Sildenafil is rapidly absorbed after oral administration, with a mean absolute bioavailability of 41% (range 25-63%). The pharmacokinetics of sildenafil are dose-proportional over the recommended dose range. It is eliminated predominantly by hepatic metabolism (mainly CYP3A4) and is converted to an active metabolite with properties similar to the parent, sildenafil. Both sildenafil and the metabolite have terminal half-lives of about 4 hours.

Mean sildenafil plasma concentrations measured after the administration of a single oral dose of 100 mg to healthy male volunteers is depicted below:

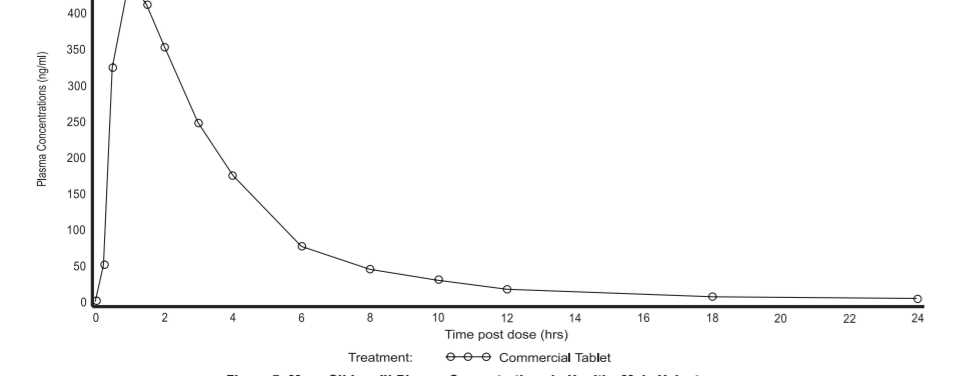


Figure 5: Mean Sildenafil Plasma Concentrations in Healthy Male Volunteers.

**Absorption and Distribution:** Sildenafil is rapidly absorbed. Maximum observed plasma concentrations are reached within 30 to 120 minutes (median 60 minutes) of oral dosing in the fasted state. When sildenafil is taken with a high fat meal, the rate of absorption is reduced, with a mean delay in  $T_{max}$  of 60 minutes and a mean reduction in  $C_{max}$  of 29%. The mean steady state volume of distribution ( $V_{ss}$ ) for sildenafil is 105 L, indicating distribution into the tissues. Sildenafil and its major circulating N-desmethyl metabolite are both approximately 96% bound to plasma proteins. Protein binding is independent of total drug concentrations.

Based upon measurements of sildenafil in semen of healthy volunteers 90 minutes after dosing, less than 0.001% of the administered dose may appear in the semen of patients.

**Metabolism and Excretion:** Sildenafil is cleared predominantly by the CYP3A4 (major route) and CYP2C9 (minor route) hepatic microsomal isoenzymes. The major circulating metabolite results from N-demethylation of sildenafil, and is itself further metabolized. This metabolite has a PDE selectivity profile similar to sildenafil and an *in vitro* potency for PDE5 approximately 50% of the parent drug. Plasma concentrations of this metabolite are approximately 40% of those seen for sildenafil, and the metabolite accounts for about 20% of sildenafil's pharmacologic effects.

After either oral or intravenous administration, sildenafil is excreted as metabolites predominantly in the feces (approximately 80% of administered oral dose) and to a lesser extent in the urine (approximately 13% of the administered oral dose). Similar values for pharmacokinetic parameters were seen in normal volunteers and in the patient population, using a population pharmacokinetic approach.

**Pharmacokinetics in Special Populations**  
**Geriatrics:** Healthy elderly volunteers (65 years or over) had a reduced clearance of sildenafil, resulting in approximately 84% and 107% higher plasma AUC values of sildenafil and its active N-desmethyl metabolite, respectively, compared to those seen in healthy younger volunteers (18-45 years). Due to age-differences in plasma protein binding, the corresponding increase in the AUC of free (unbound) sildenafil and its active N-desmethyl metabolite were 45% and 57%, respectively [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.5)*].

**Renal Impairment:** In volunteers with mild (CLcr=50-80 mL/min) and moderate (CLcr=30-49 mL/min) renal impairment, the pharmacokinetics of a single oral dose of sildenafil (50 mg) were not altered. In volunteers with severe (CLcr < 30 mL/min) renal impairment, sildenafil clearance was reduced, resulting in approximately doubling of AUC and  $C_{max}$  compared to age-matched volunteers with no renal impairment [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

In addition, N-desmethyl metabolite AUC and  $C_{max}$  values significantly increased by 200% and 79%, respectively in subjects with severe renal impairment compared to subjects with normal renal function.

**Hepatic Impairment:** In volunteers with hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A and B), sildenafil clearance was reduced, resulting in increases in AUC (85%) and  $C_{max}$  (47%) compared to age-matched volunteers with no hepatic impairment. The pharmacokinetics of sildenafil in patients with severely impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh Class C) have not been studied [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.7)*].

Therefore, age >65, hepatic impairment and severe renal impairment are associated with increased plasma levels of sildenafil. A starting oral dose of 25 mg should be considered in those patients [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*].

**Drug Interactions Studies**  
**Effects of Other Drugs on sildenafil**  
Sildenafil metabolism is principally mediated by CYP3A4 (major route) and CYP2C9 (minor route). Therefore, inhibitors of these isoenzymes may reduce sildenafil clearance and inducers of these isoenzymes may increase sildenafil clearance. The concomitant use of erythromycin or strong CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., saquinavir, ketoconazole, itraconazole, etc.) as well as the nonspecific CYP inhibitor, cimetidine, is associated with increased plasma levels of sildenafil [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*].

**In vivo studies:**  
Cimetidine (800 mg), a nonspecific CYP inhibitor, caused a 56% increase in plasma sildenafil concentrations when co-administered with sildenafil (50 mg) to healthy volunteers.

When a single 100 mg dose of sildenafil was administered with erythromycin, a moderate CYP3A4 inhibitor, at steady state (500 mg bid for 5 days), there was a 160% increase in sildenafil  $C_{max}$  and a 182% increase in sildenafil AUC. In addition, in a study performed in healthy male volunteers, co-administration of the HIV protease inhibitor saquinavir, also a CYP3A4 inhibitor, at steady state (1200 mg tid) with sildenafil (100 mg single dose) resulted in a 140% increase in sildenafil  $C_{max}$  and a 210% increase in sildenafil AUC. Sildenafil had no effect on saquinavir pharmacokinetics. A stronger CYP3A4 inhibitor such as ketoconazole or itraconazole could be expected to have greater effect than that seen with saquinavir. Population pharmacokinetic data from patients in clinical trials also indicated a reduction in sildenafil clearance when it was co-administered with CYP3A4 inhibitors (such as ketoconazole, erythromycin, or cimetidine) [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)* and *Drug Interactions (7.4)*].

In another study in healthy male volunteers, co-administration with the HIV protease inhibitor ritonavir, which is a highly potent P450 inhibitor, at steady state (500 mg bid) with sildenafil (100 mg single dose) resulted in a 300% (4-fold) increase in sildenafil  $C_{max}$  and a 100% (11-fold) increase in sildenafil plasma AUC. Concomitant administration of strong CYP3A4 inducers, such as rifampin, is expected to cause greater decreases in plasma levels of sildenafil. This is consistent with ritonavir's marked effects on a broad range of P450 substrates. Sildenafil had no effect on ritonavir pharmacokinetics [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)* and *Drug Interactions (7.4)*].

Although the interaction between other protease inhibitors and sildenafil has not been studied, their concomitant use is expected to increase sildenafil levels.

In a study of healthy male volunteers, co-administration of sildenafil at steady state (80 mg b.i.d.) with endothelin receptor antagonist bosentan (a moderate inducer of CYP3A4, CYP2C9 and possibly of CYP2C19) at steady state (125 mg b.i.d.) resulted in a 63% decrease of sildenafil AUC and a 55% decrease in sildenafil  $C_{max}$ . Concomitant administration of strong CYP3A4 inducers, such as rifampin, is expected to cause greater decreases in plasma levels of sildenafil.

Single doses of antacids (magnesium hydroxide/aluminum hydroxide) did not affect the bioavailability of sildenafil.

In healthy male volunteers, there was no evidence of a clinically significant effect of azithromycin (500 mg daily for 3 days) on the systemic exposure of sildenafil or its major circulating metabolite.

Pharmacokinetic data from patients in clinical trials showed no effect on sildenafil pharmacokinetics of CYP2C9 inhibitors (such as tolvaptan, warfarin, CYP2D6 inhibitors (such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, tricyclic antidepressants), thiazide and related diuretics, ACE inhibitors, and calcium channel blockers). N-desmethyl sildenafil, the major metabolite of sildenafil, was increased 60% by loop and potassium-sparing diuretics and 100% by non-specific beta-blockers. These effects on the metabolite are not expected to be of clinical consequence.

**Effects of sildenafil on Other Drugs**  
**In vivo studies:**  
Sildenafil is a weak inhibitor of the CYP isoforms 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 2E1 and 3A4 (IC<sub>50</sub> >150 μM). Given sildenafil peak plasma concentrations of approximately 1 μM after recommended doses, it is unlikely that sildenafil will alter the clearance of substrates of these isoenzymes.

**In vivo studies:**  
No significant interactions were shown with tolvaptan (250 mg) or warfarin (40 mg), both of which are metabolized by CYP2C9.

In a study of healthy male volunteers, sildenafil (100 mg) did not affect the steady state pharmacokinetics of the HIV protease inhibitors, saquinavir and ritonavir, both of which are CYP3A4 substrates.

Sildenafil (50 mg) did not potentiate the increase in bleeding time caused by aspirin (150 mg).  
Sildenafil at steady state, at a dose not approved for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (80 mg b.i.d.), resulted in a 50% increase in AUC and a 42% increase in  $C_{max}$  of bosentan (125 mg b.i.d.).

**13. NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**  
**13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**  
**Carcinogenesis**  
Sildenafil was not carcinogenic when administered to rats for 24 months at a dose resulting in total systemic drug exposure (AUCs) for unbound sildenafil and its major metabolite of 20- and 38- times, for male and female rats, respectively, the exposures observed in human males given the Maximum Recommended Human Dose (MRHD) of 100 mg. Sildenafil was not carcinogenic when administered to mice for 18-21 months at dosages up to the Maximum Tolerated Dose (MTD) of 10 mg/kg/day, approximately 0.4 times the MRHD on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis in a 50 kg subject.

**Mutagenesis**  
Sildenafil was negative in *in vitro* bacterial and Chinese hamster ovary cell assays to detect mutagenicity, and *in vivo* human lymphocytes and *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assays to detect clastogenicity.

**Impairment of Fertility**  
There was no impairment of fertility in rats given sildenafil up to 60 mg/kg/day for 36 days to females and 102 days to males, a dose producing an AUC value of more than 25 times the human male AUC.

**14. CLINICAL STUDIES**  
In clinical studies, sildenafil was assessed for its effect on the ability of men with erectile dysfunction (ED) to engage in sexual activity and in many cases specifically on the ability to achieve and maintain an erection sufficient for satisfactory sexual activity. Sildenafil was evaluated primarily at doses of 25 mg, 50 mg and 100 mg in randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, at-home treatment, using a variety of study designs (fixed dose, titration, parallel, crossover). Sildenafil was administered to more than 3,000 patients aged 19 to 87 years, with ED of various etiologies (organic, psychogenic, mixed) with a mean duration of 5 years. Sildenafil demonstrated statistically significant improvement compared to placebo in all 21 studies. The studies that established benefit demonstrated improvements in success rates for sexual intercourse compared with placebo.

**Efficacy Endpoints in Controlled Clinical Studies**  
The effectiveness of sildenafil was evaluated in most studies using several assessment instruments. The primary measure in the principal studies was a sexual function questionnaire (the International Index of Erectile Function - IIEF) administered during a 4-week treatment-free run-in period, at baseline, at follow-up visits, and at the end of double-blind, placebo-controlled, at-home treatment. Two of the questions from the IIEF served as primary study endpoints, categorized by intercourse. The titration studies, in which most patients received 100 mg, showed similar results. Figure 6 shows that regardless of the baseline values of function, subsequent function in patients treated with sildenafil was better than that seen in patients treated with placebo. At the same time, on-treatment function was better in treated patients who were less impaired at baseline.

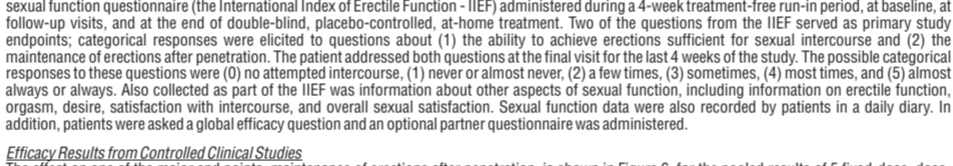


Figure 6: Effect of sildenafil and Placebo on Maintenance of Erection by Baseline Score

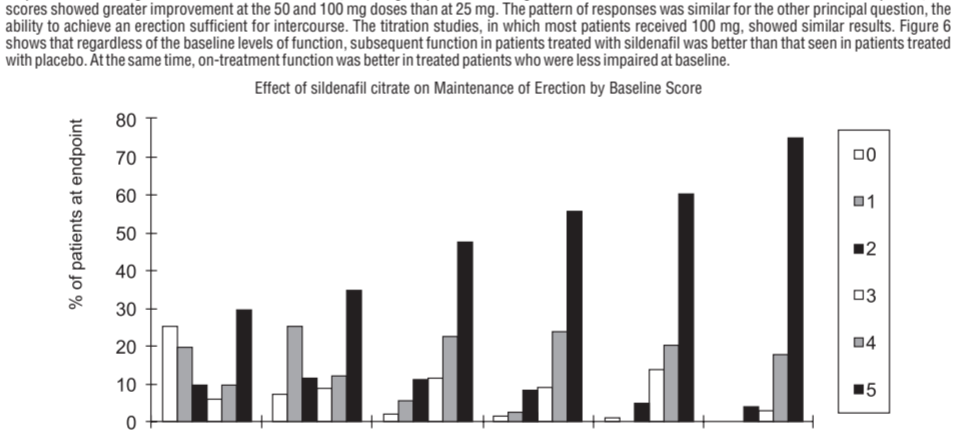


Figure 7: Percentage of Patients Reporting an Improvement in Erections.

The frequency of patients reporting improvement of erections in response to a global question in four of the randomized, double-blind, parallel, placebo-controlled fixed dose studies (1737 patients) is shown in Figure 7. These patients had erectile dysfunction at baseline that was characterized by median categorical scores of 2 (a low level) on principal study questions. Erectile dysfunction was attributed to organic (58%, generally not characterized, but including diabetes and excluding spinal cord injury), psychogenic (17%), or mixed (24%) etiologies. Sixty-three percent, 74%, and 82% of the patients on 25 mg and 100 mg of sildenafil, respectively, reported an improvement in their erections, compared to 24% on placebo. In the titration studies (n=644) (with most patients eventually receiving 100 mg), results were similar.

