

# Erectile Dysfunction Prescribing

## County Durham and Darlington

### Summary of changes fact sheet

The introduction of a commissioning policy for Erectile Dysfunction NHS prescribing has resulted in the following key changes:

- Psychological distress is not considered for NHS treatment
- Frequency of dosage is limited to four times per month for NHS prescriptions for PDE5 inhibitors (Sildenafil, Tadalafil and Avanafil) and prostaglandin E1 intracavernosal injections and intraurethral instillations
- NHS treatment with Tadalafil and Avanafil is only recommended for patients who meet the Government Selected List Scheme (SLS) criteria AND where generic Sildenafil is ineffective
- NHS treatment with prostaglandin E1 intracavernosal injections and intraurethral instillations is only recommended for patients who meet the SLS criteria AND only if oral phosphodiesterase type-5 inhibitors are contraindicated or ineffective
- Daily dosing of PDE-5 inhibitors (e.g. tadalafil once daily), Alprostadil cream and Vardenafil are not approved in County Durham and Darlington
- Treatment with vacuum erection devices is only recommended for patients who meet the SLS criteria AND only if oral phosphodiesterase type-5 inhibitors are contraindicated or ineffective. VEDs may be the treatment of choice in well-informed older patients with infrequent sexual intercourse and comorbidity requiring non-invasive, drug-free management of ED but only after specialist initiation.
- Treatment with penile implants is commissioned by NHS England (Specialised Commissioning) for patients with end-stage erectile dysfunction
- Treatment with psychosexual interventions is not routinely commissioned in view of limited evidence for clinical and cost effectiveness

### Implementation

- Commissioners, GPs, service providers and clinical staff treating registered patients of the CCGs are expected to implement this policy for new patients with effect from 1 December 2017
- For patients who are currently in receipt of NHS prescriptions and who will no longer meet the criteria, this policy is to take effect from 31 March 2018. This is to allow a period of time for discussion with the patient to inform them about the changes

