

Package leaflet: information for the user

Sildenafil 25 mg, 50 mg and 100 mg film-coated tablets

Sildenafil

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Sildenafil is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Sildenafil
3. How to take Sildenafil
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Sildenafil
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Sildenafil is and what it is used for

Sildenafil contains the active substance sildenafil (as citrate), which belongs to a group of medicines called phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitors. It works by helping to relax the blood vessels in your penis, allowing blood to flow into your penis when you get sexually excited. This medicine will only help you to get an erection if you are sexually stimulated. You should not take this medicine if you do not have erectile dysfunction. You should not take this medicine if you are a woman.

This medicine is a treatment for men with erectile dysfunction, sometimes known as impotence. This is when a man cannot get, or keep a hard, erect penis suitable for sexual activity.

2. What you need to know before you take Sildenafil

Do not take Sildenafil

- If you are taking medicines called nitrates, as the combination may cause a potentially dangerous decrease in your blood pressure. Tell your doctor if you are taking any of these medicines which are often given for relief of angina pectoris (or “chest pain”). If you are not certain, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- If you are using any of the drugs known as nitric oxide donors such as amyl nitrite (“poppers”), as the combination may also lead to a potentially dangerous decrease in your blood pressure.
- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to sildenafil or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- If you have a severe heart or liver problem.

- If you have recently had a stroke or a heart attack, or if you have low blood pressure.
- If you have certain rare inherited eye diseases (such as *retinitis pigmentosa*).
- If you have ever had loss of vision due to non-arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy (NAION).

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Sildenafil

- If you have sickle cell anaemia (an abnormality of red blood cells), leukaemia (cancer of blood cells), multiple myeloma (cancer of bone marrow).
- If you have a deformity of your penis or Peyronie's Disease.
- If you have problems with your heart. Your doctor should in that case carefully check whether your heart can take the additional strain of having sex.
- If you currently have a stomach ulcer, or a bleeding problem (such as haemophilia).
- If you experience sudden decrease or loss of vision, stop taking this medicine and contact your doctor immediately.

You should not use this medicine with any other oral or local treatments for erectile dysfunction.

Special considerations for patients with kidney or liver problems

You should tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver problems. Your doctor may decide on a lower dose for you.

Children and adolescents

This medicine should not be given to individuals under the age of 18.

Other medicines and Sildenafil:

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take other medicines.

Sildenafil tablets may interfere with some medicines, especially those used to treat chest pain. In the event of a medical emergency, you should tell any health care professional treating your condition that you have taken this medicine and when you did. Do not take this medicine with other medicines unless your doctor tells you that you can.

You should not take this medicine if you are taking medicines called nitrates, as the combination of these products may cause a potentially dangerous decrease in your blood pressure. Always tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of these medicines that are often used for the relief of angina pectoris (or "chest pain").

You should not take this medicine if you are using any of the drugs known as nitric oxide donors such as amyl nitrite ("poppers") as the combination may also lead to a potentially dangerous decrease in your blood pressure.

If you are taking medicines known as protease inhibitors, such as for the treatment of HIV, your doctor may start you on the lowest dose (25 mg) of this medicine.

Some patients who take alpha-blocker therapy for the treatment of high blood pressure or prostate enlargement may experience dizziness or light-headedness, which may be caused by low blood pressure upon sitting or standing up quickly. Certain patients have experienced these symptoms when taking this medicine with alpha-blockers. This is most likely to occur within 4 hours after taking this medicine. In order to reduce the likelihood that these symptoms occur, you should be on a regular daily dose of your alpha-blocker before you start this medicine. Your doctor may start you on a lower dose (25 mg) of this medicine.

Sildenafil with food, drink and alcohol

This medicine can be taken with or without food. However, you may find that this medicine takes longer to start working if you take it with a heavy meal.

Drinking alcohol can temporarily impair your ability to get an erection. To get the maximum benefit from your medicine, you are advised not to drink excessive amounts of alcohol before taking this medicine.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

This medicine is not indicated for use by women.

Driving and using machines

This medicine can cause dizziness and can affect vision. You should be aware of how you react to this medicine before you drive or use machinery.

Sildenafil tablets contain lactose

If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, such as lactose, contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. How to take Sildenafil

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. The recommended dose is 50 mg.

You should not take Sildenafil more than once a day.

You should take this medicine about one hour before you plan to have sex. Swallow the tablet whole with a glass of water.

If you have the impression that the effect of this medicine is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

This medicine will only help you to get an erection if you are sexually stimulated. The amount of time this medicine takes to work varies from person to person, but it normally takes between half an hour and one hour. You may find that this medicine takes longer to work if you take it with a heavy meal.

If this medicine does not help you to get an erection, or if your erection does not last long enough for you to complete sexual intercourse you should tell your doctor.

If you take more Sildenafil than you should:

You may experience an increase in side effects and their severity. Doses above 100 mg do not increase the efficacy.

You should not take more tablets than your doctor tells you to.

Contact your doctor if you take more tablets than you should.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects although not everybody gets them. The side effects reported in association with the use of this medicine are usually mild to moderate and of a short duration.

If you have chest pains during or after intercourse:

- Get in a semi-sitting position and try to relax.
- **Do not use nitrates** to treat your chest pain.
- Contact your doctor immediately.

All medicines including this medicine can cause allergic reactions. You should contact your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms after taking this medicine: sudden wheeziness, difficulty in breathing or dizziness, swelling of the eyelids, face, lips or throat.

Prolonged and sometimes painful erections have been reported after taking this medicine. If you have an erection which lasts for more than 4 hours, you should contact a doctor immediately.

If you experience a sudden decrease or loss of vision, stop taking this medicine and contact your doctor immediately.

A very common side effect (may affect more than 1 in 10 people) is headache.

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people) include: facial flushing, indigestion, effects on vision (including colour tinge to vision, light sensitivity, blurred vision or reduced sharpness of vision) stuffy nose and dizziness.

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people) include: vomiting, skin rash, bleeding at the back of the eye, eye irritation, bloodshot eyes /red eyes, eye pain, double vision, abnormal sensation in the eye, watery eyes, irregular or rapid heartbeat, muscle pain, feeling sleepy, reduced sense of touch, vertigo, ringing in the ears, nausea, dry mouth, penile bleeding, presence of blood in semen and/or urine, chest pain and feeling tired.

Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people) include: high blood pressure, low blood pressure, fainting, stroke, heart attack, nosebleed and sudden decrease or loss of hearing.

Additional side effects reported from post-marketing experience include: pounding heartbeat, chest pain, sudden death or temporary decreased blood flow to parts of the brain. Most, but not all, of these men had heart problems before taking this medicine. It is not possible to determine whether these events were directly related to this medicine. Cases of convulsions or seizures and serious skin reactions characterised by rash, blisters, peeling skin and pain which require immediate medical attention have also been reported.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

5. How to store Sildenafil

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not store above 30°C.

Store in the original package, in order to protect from moisture.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the blister. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Sildenafil tablets contain

- The active substance is sildenafil. Each tablet contains 25 mg, 50 mg or 100 mg of sildenafil (as the citrate salt).
- The other ingredients are:
 - Tablet core: microcrystalline cellulose, calcium hydrogen phosphate (anhydrous), croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate.
 - Film coat: hypromellose, lactose (see section 2 'sildenafil tablets contain lactose'), triacetin, titanium dioxide (E171).

What Sildenafil tablets look like and contents of the pack

Sildenafil 25 mg film-coated tablets are white to off-white, with a rounded-diamond shape and they are marked "25" on one side.

Sildenafil 50 mg film-coated tablets are white to off-white, with a rounded-diamond shape and they are marked "50" on one side.

Sildenafil 100 mg film-coated tablets are white to off-white, with a rounded-diamond shape and they are marked "100" on one side.

The tablets are provided in blister packs containing 2, 4, 8, 12 or 24 tablets in a carton. Some pack sizes may not be marketed in your country.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

The marketing authorisation holder is Pfizer Limited, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9NJ. United Kingdom.

The manufacturer of this medicine is Pfizer PGM, Zone Industrielle, 29 route des Industries, 37530 Pocé-sur-Cisse, France.

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