



Prostate Cancer and ED - What You Need to Know



Did you know that approximately one out of seven men will get prostate cancer in their lifetime, making it the second most common type of cancer in men after skin cancer? Fortunately, there are many different ways to treat prostate cancer, including surgery to remove the cancerous cells, destroying them with radiation, cryotherapy or chemotherapy, or using hormone therapy to inhibit their growth. While effective, all of these treatments have side effects, however, with the most common being erectile dysfunction.



Does Prostate Cancer Lead to ED?

Prostate cancer itself doesn't usually lead to erectile dysfunction. Typically, it is the *treatments of prostate cancer* that cause some trauma to the delicate nerves and blood vessels responsible for erectile function. Nearly all people who undergo treatment for prostate cancer experience erectile dysfunction to some degree.

In the case of surgical treatments to remove prostate cancer, erectile dysfunction often occurs immediately after the operation. Depending on the type of surgery, stage of the cancer and skill of the surgeon, the nerves triggering erection may be spared, but this is not always possible. This may result in a short-term ED experience, one where the man could find his erection fully restored within a year or so; but it may also lead to more prolonged ED.

The onset of erectile dysfunction after radiation therapy or hormone therapy is slower since effects for those treatments are not seen right away. Erectile dysfunction comes on gradually and usually occurs about six months to one year after radiation therapy treatments. With hormone therapy, symptoms usually appear within two to four weeks after treatment. In both cases, erectile dysfunction is often permanent.



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Treatment Options are Available

Fortunately there are treatment options for erectile dysfunction following prostate cancer. One extremely effective solution is vacuum therapy.

With a vacuum therapy system, a cylinder is placed over the penis and a vacuum pump draws blood into the penis, creating an erection. Then an elastic support ring is placed around the base of the penis to hold the blood in and maintain the erection.

Vacuum therapy is able to produce satisfying results in 90% of cases. Medications for erectile dysfunction such as sildenafil or tadalafil still rely on the body's nervous system to carry the signals that trigger an erection. Because of this, these medications are unlikely to work if the nerves triggering an erection were not able to be spared during the treatment of prostate cancer. Since vacuum therapy relies on a vacuum to physically draw blood into the penis, it will work regardless of any nerve or blood vessel damage or hormone imbalance - and, the system is simple to use.

An added benefit of vacuum therapy is that it can help prevent shortening of the penis after prostate surgery. Loss of penile length is a common, but little discussed effect of surgery on the prostate. While it is not certain exactly why this occurs, it has been observed that patients who regularly use vacuum therapy devices experience significantly less loss of length and the loss that is experienced is often temporary.

You Can Reclaim Your Life

The greatest benefit of vacuum therapy solutions is that they allow couples to experience physical intimacy again. Going through an ordeal such as prostate cancer often brings couples closer together. Not being able to express that closeness physically can be trying, especially after the stress of going through prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment. Vacuum therapy can allow couples to regain their best selves.

Vacuum therapy solutions such as the ones provided by Rejoyn Medical Systems, Inc., can be purchased over a secure website with or without a prescription. There is only a single affordable payment to be made and the devices are discreetly delivered in plain packaging.

By overcoming side effects of treatment, minimizing or eliminating shrinkage and regaining physical intimacy that may have been lost, vacuum therapy solutions can allow couples to take back their relationship and return to a more normal life.



For more eBooks, articles and information about erectile dysfunction or vacuum therapy, visit Rejoyn Medical Systems at www.RejoynMedical.com.

Ready to take the next step?

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