

PHARMACIST SUPPLY OF VEDAFIL[®] (sildenafil citrate) WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION



Brought to you by Viatris New Zealand in association with Vedafil[®]



This learning activity has been accredited by the Pharmaceutical Society of NZ Inc (PSNZ) and is suitable for inclusion in a pharmacist's continuing education (CE) records for Continuing Professional Development (C PD) purposes.

INTRODUCTION



The 51st Medicine Classification Committee (MCC) meeting held in April 2014 approved the reclassification of sildenafil to:

"[prescription medicine] except in medicines for oral use containing 100 milligrams or less per dose unit when sold in the manufacturer's original pack containing not more than 12 solid dosage units for the treatment of erectile dysfunction in males aged 35-70 years by a registered pharmacist who has successfully completed a training programme endorsed by the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand".¹

Reference: 1. https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/class/minutes/2011-2015/mccmin8april2014.htm

TRAINING CONTENTS

- Introduction to erectile dysfunction
- Physiology of erection
- Erectile dysfunction causes and risk factors
- Erectile dysfunction management
- Mechanism of action of Vedafil (sildenafil)
- Vedafil (sildenafil) indication and presentations
- Vedafil (sildenafil) dosage and administration
- Vedafil (sildenafil) precautions and contraindications
- Vedafil (sildenafil) adverse effects
- Erectile dysfunction assessment for pharmacists
- Vedafil (sildenafil) patient assessment tool
- Patient counselling
- Advising the patient's doctor of the supply of Vedafil (sildenafil)
- Resupply of Vedafil (sildenafil)
- Assessment of understanding





ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION (ED)¹

- Persistent inability to attain and/or maintain penile erection sufficient for satisfactory sexual performance.
- ED is a common condition affecting approximately one in three NZ men aged between 40 – 70 years.¹ It can be the total inability to achieve an erection, an inconsistent ability to do so, or a tendency to sustain only brief erections.
- ED affects the quality of life for men and their partner.

Reference: 1. Quilter et al. Male Sexual Function in New Zealand. A Population-Based-Cross-Sectional Survey of the Prevalence of Erectile Dysfunction in men 40 – 70 years. J Sex Med; 2017; (14)7:1928-1936.

PHYSIOLOGY OF ERECTION



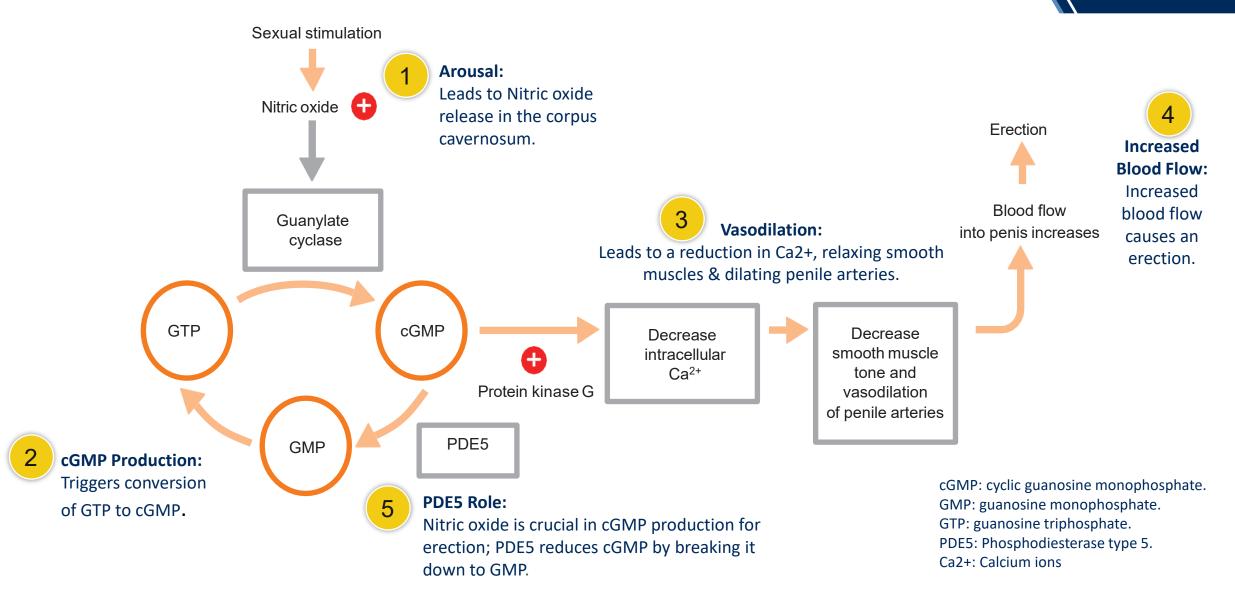


Figure 1: Mechanism of erection (Adapted from Stacey P, Mount N. Male erectile dysfunction: the biochemistry of Viagra. The Biochemist 2002;24(2):16-18.)



ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION CAUSES^{1,2}

Multifactorial aetiology:

ED has multiple underlying causes.

Possible Factors:

- **Organic:** Physical health issues.
- **Psychological:** Psychological factors.
- **Combination:** A mix of both.

Practice Point: During consultations, identify potential ED causes by considering the patient's concerns, symptoms, and treatment history.

Organic and psychological causes of ED				
Organic	Psychological			
Vascular disease	Performance anxiety			
Diabetes mellitus	Generalised anxiety			
MedicationsAntidepressantsPsychotropicsAntihypertensives	Major depression			
Cigarette smoking				
Alcohol				
Neurological disorders				
Hypogonadism				

References:

1. Arduca P. Erectile dysfunction: A guide to diagnosis and management. Aust Fam Physician 2003; 32(6): 414-420. **2.** McMahon CG. Current diagnosis and management of erectile dysfunction. Med J Aus 2019;210(10):469-476.

ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION RISK FACTORS

Risk factors may include¹:

- **Physiological:** increased Age, Metabolic syndrome
- Medical Condition:
 - Cardiovascular disease and its risk factors e.g. sedentary lifestyle, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, smoking.
 - Endocrine disorders e.g. diabetes, androgen deficiency, thyroid disorders, hyperprolactinaemia.
 - Neurological conditions affecting the brain, spinal cord, or autonomic nervous system.
 - Prostate cancer therapy.
 - Penile disorders e.g., Peyronie disease
- Prescription Medication: e.g., beta blockers, antidepressants, antipsychotics
- Lifestyle: recreational drugs, cigarette smoking, alcoholism
- Psychological: Performance Anxiety, Depression

Practice Point: During patient consultations, identify and address potential ED risk factors to provide comprehensive care and appropriate treatment options.





ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION MANAGEMENT

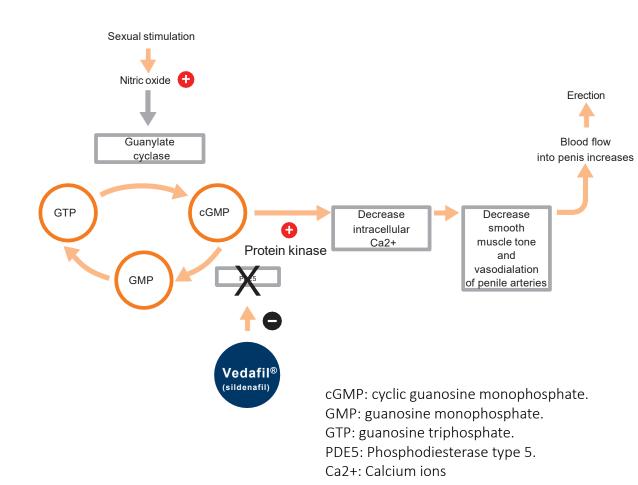
ED Management depends on causes and risk factors and can involve non-pharmacological and pharmacological interventions¹.

- Consider causes and risk factors: e.g. discussing anxiety, stress, or performance issues, and exploring ways to enhance your relationship may help couples have a more satisfying sex life.
- Consider lifestyle changes: e.g. discuss, where applicable, reducing alcohol consumption, smoking cessation
- Review medicines: e.g. review medicines that may contribute to ED, if possible, discuss with prescriber discontinuation or switching to alternatives.
- Pharmacological options: can include PDE5 inhibitors (e.g. sildenafil, tadalafil, vardenafil), hormonal therapy and surgical options.
- **Other interventions:** e.g. vacuum devices or intracavernosal injections.

Practice Point: Evaluate risk factors, provide counseling, assess cardiac risk, and tailor treatment to individual needs.

Reference 1. McMahon CG. Current diagnosis and management of erectile dysfunction. Med J Aus 2019;210(10):469-476.

MECHANISM OF ACTION OF VEDAFIL (sildenafil)¹



cGMP Breakdown:

- PDE5 breaks down cGMP to GMP and then to GTP.
- This causes penile arteries to constrict, reducing blood flow and resulting in a flaccid penis.

Vedafil (sildenafil) Action:

- Vedafil (sildenafil), potent selective inhibitor of PDE5.
- Prevents cGMP degradation in the corpus cavernosum.
- Sustains erection by maintaining cGMP levels.

Nitric Oxide/cGMP Pathway:

 Activated by sexual stimulation. PDE5 inhibition increases cGMP, enhancing erection.

Practice Point: Sildenafil requires sexual stimulation to be effective by inhibiting PDE5, thereby sustaining erection.



VEDAFIL (sildenafil) INDICATION AND PRESENTATION

Indication:

- Used for the treatment of ED¹.
- Requires sexual stimulation for effectiveness¹.

Presentation:

Available in various doses (e.g., 25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg)¹.

Access:

Prescription only but can be supplied by a registered pharmacist without a prescription when sold in the original pack containing not more than 12 tablets for the treatment of ED in males aged 35-70 years after undertaking this training programme².



References:

1. Vedafil® Data Sheet (20 August 2021). Retrieved from: www.medsafe.govt.nz. Accessed July 2024.

2. Sildenafil. Medsafe Classification Database. Retrieved from: www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/class/classintro.asp



VEDAFIL (sildenafil) DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION¹

Effectiveness:

 Works only with sexual stimulation, taking usually **30 minutes to 1 hour** to work.

Dosage:

- Recommended starting dose: 50 mg one hour before sexual activity.
- **Adjust** based on efficacy and tolerance.
- Maximum dose: is 100 mg per day.
- **Do not** exceed one dose per day.

Special Considerations:

- **Elderly:** consider lower starting dose of 25 mg due to reduced clearance.
- Potent CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g. ketoconazole, itraconazole, erythromycin): start with 25 mg.
- Alpha Blockers: Stabilise alpha blocker therapy before starting sildenafil; consider a lower dose.

Food Interaction:

Onset may be delayed if taken with food. High-fat meals reduce absorption rate. Adjust dosing based on food intake and individual response.

Practice Point: Vedafil (sildenafil) requires sexual stimulation to work and has specific dosage recommendations and considerations for elderly patients and those on certain medications. Adjust based on efficacy, tolerability.

VEDAFIL (sildenafil) PRECAUTIONS AND CONTRAINDICTIONS¹



Identification of any of the following precludes supply of Vedafil (sildenafil) by pharmacists without a prescription and medical referral is required:

Cardiovascular (CV) health

- Advised by doctor to avoid vigorous exercise incl. sexual activity
- Difficulty walking briskly for 5 minutes or uphill without experiencing breathlessness or chest pain
- Previous heart attack/stroke/transient ischaemic attack
- History of angina (chest pain/tightness)
- Arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat or palpitations)
 - If Resting Heart Rate (HR) < 50 or > 100 bpm
- Previous coronary intervention (e.g. angioplasty, bypass, surgery, valve replacement)
- Cardiomyopathy (heart muscle disorder)
- Diabetes
- Low blood pressure or uncontrolled high blood pressure*
 - If Blood Pressure (BP) < 110/70 or > 160/95 mmHg
- High cholesterol (uncontrolled or untreated)
- Current tobacco smoker

Other medical conditions

- Deformity of the penis (e.g. Peyronie's diseases)
- Severe liver dysfunction
- Severe kidney dysfunction
- Blood disorders (sickle cell disease, leukaemia, multiple myeloma)
- Personal or family history of serious eye disorders (e.g. Retinitis pigmentosa), excluding glaucoma and cataracts

Concomitant medication:

- 2 or more antihypertensives
- Nitrates (e.g. glyceryl trinitrate, isosorbide salts) for chest pain
- Poppers (e.g. amyl nitrite) for recreational purposes
- Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatments
- Ritonavir and saquinavir to treat HIV infection
- ED medication incl. other PDE5 inhibitors

Refer to the Vedafil[®] Data Sheet for further details on precautions, contraindications and drug interactions that warrant medical referral.

Reference: 1. Vedafil® Data Sheet (20 August 2021). Retrieved from: www.medsafe.govt.nz. Accessed July 2024.

^{*} Pharmacists conducting the vedafil[®] assessment must be appropriately trained in the measurement of blood pressure. Where an electronic monitor is used, the monitor must be of an appropriate standard for professional use and be regularly calibrated

VEDAFIL (sildenafil) ADVERSE EFFECTS (AEs)¹

Most Common AEs:

- Headache
- Flushing
- Dyspepsia
- Nasal congestion

- Urinary tract infection
 - Diarrhoea
- Rash.
- Dizziness

Serious AEs: (seek medical attention)

- Sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes.
- Sudden decrease or loss of hearing.
- Prolonged erections > 4 hours (or priapism > 6 hours) Conditions such as sickle cell anaemia, multiple myeloma or leukaemia can predisposes those.

Other AEs:

Transient visual disturbances (colour tinge, sensitivity to light, blurred vision) and dizziness have been reported, particularly at 100 mg dose .Driving or operating machinery is cautioned.

Reference: 1. Vedafil® Data Sheet (20 August 2021). Retrieved from: www.medsafe.govt.nz. Accessed July 2024.







ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION ASSESSMENT FOR PHARMACISTS

Key Steps

- Take a thorough medical history.
- Use screening questions to address concerns and identify potential causes.

Health Checks:

- ED can signal vascular disease.
- Encourage all men with ED to see a doctor for heart and diabetes checks.

Patient Assessment Tool (see next slide):

Identify low-risk men for whom Vedafil (Sildenafil) can be supplied without a prescription.

Important: Ensure comprehensive evaluation before dispensing.



VEDAFIL (sildenafil) PATIENT ASSESSMENT TOOL

Use the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool to:

- Assess if Vedafil (sildenafil) is safe and appropriate for your patient
- Provide a record of your consultation

The Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool includes the following sections:

- Contact Details: Consumer and GP
- Age
- Record Blood Pressure & Heart Rate
- Presentation / History of ED
- Medical History
- Vedafil (sildenafil) Dose Selection
- Counselling Tips

GP Referral:

Certain responses may immediately indicate that a patient requires referral.
 The Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool includes a tear off section where referral notes may be filled out for the patient to share with their GP.

Ensure the patient consultations are conducted in a private consultation room/area.

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	REFER to GP If < 35 years or > 70 years
mmHg	REFER to GP If BP < 110/70 or > 160/95 mmHg
	If HR < 50 or > 100 bpm
Yes No	Discuss concerns and possible contributing
Yes No	causes such as performance anxiety, depression, major life stress, medicines etc. REFER as necessary
-	
Yes No	REFER to GP If previous use of ED medication has not
	been effective, or if significant adverse events occurred.
Yes No	Report any adverse events directly to Medsafe, or to Viatris via email
	(medinfo_anz@viatris.com) or call 0800 168 169.
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hiessness or chest pa	Yet No Yet No
nction. We had a f Vedafil [®] due to his	

Contact Details	
Contact Details Consumer:	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone Number: Email:	
Consent: To ensure my GP is aware of my health, I (consumer) give consent for the results of th my GP. To enable your pharmacist to correctly assess whether Vedafil [®] is suitable for you, ple information you provide during this assessment is correct and complete. Consumer Signature: Date:	(√ tick) ase sign to confirm that the
General Practitioner (GP):	
Name: Telephone:	
Practice/Address:	
Age:	
Date Of Birth (DOB) DD/MM/YYYY://	REFER to GP
Age between 35-70 years old Yes No	If < 35 years or > 70 years
Record Blood Pressure & Heart Rate:	
Blood Pressure (BP): mmHg / mmHg	REFER to GP
Resting Heart Rate (HR): bpm	If BP < 110/70 or > 160/95 mmHg If HR < 50 or > 100 bpm
	e nik s do or e too opm
Erectile Dysfunction (ED):	Discuss concerns and possible contributing
Has ED (e.g. difficulty getting or maintaining an erection)? Yes No	causes such as performance anxiety, depression, major life stress, medicines etc.
Discussed with GP? Yes No	REFER as necessary
If yes what? Dosage:	If previous use of ED medication has not been effective, or if significant adverse events occurred.
Record details / treatment / comments:	been effective, or if significant adverse events occurred. Report any adverse events directly to Medsafe, or to Vistris Va email
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)ther medical conditions: (Please ✓ Yes or No as applicable)	
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evere liver dystunction Severe kidney dysfunction	
lood disorders (sickle cell disease, leukaemia, multiple myeloma)	Yes No
ersonal or family history of serious eye disorders (e.g. Retinitis pigmentosa), excluding	
jaucoma and cataracts	Yes No
Concomitant medication: (Please 🗸 Yes or No if consumer is taking any o	of the following):
2 or more antihypertensives	Yes No REFER to GP
Nitrates (e.g. glyceryl trinitrate, isosorbide salts) for chest pain	Yes No If yes to any
Poppers (e.g. amyl nitrite) for recreational purposes	Yes No
Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatments	Yes No
Ritonavir and saquinavir to treat HIV infection	Yes No
ED medication incl. other PDES inhibitors	Yes No
	See "Dose Selection" section
Npha-blockers (e.g. doxazosin, prazosin)	Yes No below and refer to the dat
otent CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g. ketoconazole, itraconazole, erythromycin)	Yes No sheet for interactions and dose adjustments.
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counselling rips: (Please V)			
Recommend to visit GP for a heart and diabetes check if not already had one. How to take Vedafil [®] What to expect with Vedafil [®] When to seek further medical assistance • Adverse effects • Warnings and precautions	REFER to Vedafile CMI / Vedafile Quick Guide	 rovide appropriate lifestyle advice including losing weigh tyling up smoking, cutting back alcohol/recreational drugs sericing regularly, reducing stress. rovide, if appropriate: Vedafil* CMI Vedafil* Quick Guide Vedafil* Loyalty card	







PATIENT COUNSELLING

Dose Selection:

The Dose Selection section of the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool provides guidance towards determining the appropriate Vedafil (sildenafil) strength and pack size for supply.

Counselling Tips:

The Counselling Tips section of the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool provides prompts for you to cover with your patients such as lifestyle changes, how to use Vedafil (sildenafil), what to expect with Vedafil (sildenafil) etc.

GP Referral:

 Recommend to visit GP for a heart and diabetes check if not already had one.

PATIENT COUNSELLING

Once a suitable product has been selected, your patient should be counselled on the correct use of Vedafil (sildenafil) including:

- How to take Vedafil (sildenafil), explaining if a lower dose has been recommended and why it is recommended to be taken an hour before anticipated sexual activity.
- What to expect with Vedafil (sildenafil), sexual stimulation is required for Vedafil (sildenafil) to work.
- **Common adverse effects** and when the patient needs to seek medical assistance.
- **Any warnings and precautions**, including advice when taking other medicines.
- **General advice** on factors that could be contributing to the patients' condition e.g. smoking and alcohol, offer Self-Care cards.
- Recommend to visit the doctor for heart health and diabetes check.
- Vedafil (sildenafil) CMI for Pharmacist supply (available from Medsafe website) should be handed out.

This is located in the **Counselling Tips** section of the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool.





ADVISING THE PATIENT'S DOCTOR OF THE SUPPLY OF VEDAFIL (sildenafil)

The **Consent** section of the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool allows to record:

- Patient's permission to contact their doctor to advise them of the supply of Vedafil (sildenafil).
 - If patient consent to contact their doctor has been granted, supply a copy of the completed Vedafil (sildenafil) patient assessment tool to the doctor.
- Some patients may prefer you not to contact their doctor.
- The Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool also includes a prompt to confirm that the information the patient has provided is complete and correct. If you have any concerns on the accuracy of the information provided, Vedafil (sildenafil) must not be made and the patient must be referred to their doctor.



RESUPPLY OF VEDAFIL (sildenafil)

Use previous Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool as a record to assess resupply of Vedafil (sildenafil).

If Vedafil (sildenafil) was dispensed with previous successful assessments:

- Pharmacist does not need to repeat the full assessment in the consultation.
- Pharmacist may use the Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Resupply Assessment Tool to determine if there has been any changes to the patient which might affect contraindications or precautions.

A full assessment is required every 12 months or sooner if clinical status of the patient has changed since last assessment.

	supply Vedafil [®] Sildenafil citrate	A full reassessment is due every 12 months. Please continue on another sheet if needed.
Patient details		
ame:		Telephone:
ate of last full assessment:	Date	next full assessment due:
Review before resupply:	0	Yes No
 Changes in concomitan Vedafil[®] efficacy 		Dose
 Vedafil[®] Adverse events 		SignatureDate
	Review before resupply:	Resupply Yes No
	Health/medical condition changes Changes in concomitant medicines Vedafil [®] efficacy Vedafil [®] Adverse events	Comments: Quantify Dose Pharmacist Name Pharmacist Signature Date
	Review before resupply: Health/medical condition changes Ohanges in concornitant medicines Vedafil* adverse events	Resupply Yes No Commenta: Quantity Dose Pharmacist Name Date
	Review before resupply:	Resupply Yes No
	Health/medical condition changes Changes in concomitant medicines Vedafil [®] efficacy Vedafil [®] Adverse events	Commenta: Quantity Dose Pharmacist Name Date
		and an ensure of the ensure of





THE END

- This concludes the training programme for the **Pharmacist Supply of Vedafil (sildenafil) without a Prescription**.
- You will now be guided through a series of multiple-choice questions to assess your understanding of the training.

Click here to start the online assessment

On the successful completion of your training:

- A certificate will be emailed to you.
- You may contact your local Viatris Representative for:
 - Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Assessment Tool Pad
 - Vedafil (sildenafil) Patient Resupply Assessment Tool Pad
 - Vedafil (sildenafil) Quick Guide
- You may access the Vedafil (sildenafil) CMI at www.medsafe.govt.nz

Vedafil[®] (sildenafil citrate) 25 mg, 50 mg & 100 mg tablets. Prescription Medicine except when supplied by a pharmacist who has successfully completed an approved training programme. Indication: For the treatment of erectile dysfunction in adult males. Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to the active ingredients or any of the excipients; concomitant use with nitric oxide donors, organic nitrates or organic nitrites in any form; concomitant use with guanylate cyclase stimulators such as riociguat; men for whom sexual intercourse is inadvisable due to cardiovascular risk factors; a previous episode of non-arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy (NAION); known hereditary degenerative retinal disorders such as retinitis pigmentosa; severe hepatic impairment; hypotension (<90/50 mmHg), hypertension (>170/110 mmHg); recent history of stroke or myocardial infarction. Precautions: Use with caution in patients with cardiovascular risks e.g., recent onset angina, left ventricular outflow obstruction and multiple system atrophy manifesting as severely impaired autonomic control of blood pressure; anatomical deformation of the penis; priapism; bleeding disorders; active peptic ulceration and diabetic retinopathy; caution when driving or operating machinery. Interactions: in combination with other PDE5 inhibitors, pulmonary arterial hypertension treatments, alpha-blockers, CYP3A4 or CYP2C9 inhibitors or inducers, ritonavir. Adverse Effects: Headache, flushing, dyspepsia, nasal congestion, diarrhoea, abnormal/decreased vision, cardiovascular events. Dosage & Administration: usual dose is 50 mg approximately one hour before sexual activity; maximum of 100 mg once per day. Vedafil[®] is an unfunded medicine- doctor's fees and pharmacy charges will apply. Special Authority and meeting the eligibility criteria may apply for select indications. Before prescribing, please refer to the full datasheet, available from www.medsafe.govt.nz. Vedafil[®] is a Viatris company trade mark, Viatris Limited, Auckland. Copyright© 2023 Viatris Inc. All rights reserved. NZ-VED-2024-00003. TAPS 2407MM-0719. PSNZ Accreditation number: 2025/01, Expiry: January 2027

