
The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Treating impotence

Roundtable forum on impotence medications in Australia

**House of Representatives
Standing Committee on Health and Ageing**

October 2009
Canberra

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ISBN 978-0-642-79240-2 (Printed version)

ISBN 978-0-642-79241-9 (HTML version)

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Foreword

The committee hopes this report highlights some of the challenges in the area of treating and managing erectile dysfunction (ED), and that it moves the debate some way forward to addressing those issues.

Treating ED early presents a significant opportunity to treat and perhaps prevent chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. This early detection helps the patients concerned and can play a part in preventative health, as well as easing the costs on the Australian health system as a whole. Accordingly, I urge all men suffering ED to see a general practitioner for a comprehensive check-up.

Finally, on behalf of my committee colleagues, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the inquiry by appearing as witnesses or presenting submissions.

Steve Georganas MP
Chair



Membership of the committee

Chair Mr Steve Georganas MP

Deputy Chair Mr Steve Irons MP

Members Mr James Bidgood MP (*to 22/10/09*) Mrs Julia Irwin MP
Mr Mark Coulton MP Ms Catherine King MP
Mrs Joanna Gash MP Mrs Margaret May MP
Ms Jill Hall MP Ms Amanda Rishworth MP

Membership of the sub-committee

Mr Steve Georganas MP, Chair

Mr Steve Irons MP, Acting Chair

Ms Amanda Rishworth MP

Committee secretariat

Secretary	Mr James Catchpole
Inquiry Secretary	Ms Penny Wijnberg
Administrative Officers	Mrs Fiona McCann
	Mr Shaun Rowe



Terms of reference

The Committee will hold a roundtable forum to examine the health impacts of impotence medications in Australia.

The Committee is concerned that some of these medications, which are legally available for sale, may not be clinically tested and may have adverse impacts on men's health and wellbeing. The Committee also has concerns that medical advice in respect of these medications is being offered to consumers over the telephone in lieu of a face-to-face consultation with a medical practitioner.



List of abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACP	Australian Custom Pharmaceuticals
AMI	Advanced Medical Institute
ED	Erectile dysfunction
GP	General practitioner
MATeS	Men in Australia Telephone Survey
NCCTG	National Co-ordinating Committee on Therapeutic Goods
PSA	Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
RACGP	The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
STI	Sexually transmitted infection
TG Act	<i>Therapeutic Goods Act 1989</i>
TGA	Therapeutic Goods Administration
USANZ	The Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand

