

**TREATMENT DECISIONS OF SEXUALLY ACTIVE PATIENTS FOLLOWING
RADICAL PROSTATECTOMY (RP)**

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A review of a single surgical series (1997-2000) identified 176 sexually active population (mean age 61 years) who underwent NS RP [112/176 (63.6%)] and NNS RP [64/176 (36.3%)]. Sildenafil citrate was offered to all patients. 42% (74/176) of the patients regained spontaneous erections [61% (69/112) NS, 8% (5/64) NNS] sufficient for vaginal intercourse at a mean F/U of 18 months from RP. However, 71% (52/74) of these patients were dissatisfied with the quality of erections and sought adjuvant treatment. Severe ED after RP was observed in 58% (102/176) of the patients. Though 43% (44/102) of the severe ED patients postoperatively attempted standard treatments (IC, MUSE, and VCD), no therapy was sought by 57% (58/102). When offered sildenafil citrate, 42% (24/58) of the patients in the no-treatment subgroup tried treatments for the first time. 57.6% (25/44) switched to sildenafil citrate when it was offered. While 42% of the patients regained erectile function after RP, 71% of this group used adjuvant treatments to enhance their quality of erections. Nearly 57% of the patients with ED after RP did not seek any treatment. However, 1/3 of these patients sought treatment for the first time when offered oral therapy.