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Combination therapy of tadalafil and pentoxifyllin in severe erectile dysfunction: A prospective randomised controlled open-labelled trial

Kumar Jayant² Santosh Kumar¹,, Rajesh Raot¹, Swati Agrawal², Kalpesh Parmar¹ and Shrawan K Singh¹ PGIMER, India

²Sudha Hospital & Medical Research Centre, India

Objective: To assess efficacy of tadalafil alone versus tadalafil plus pentoxifylline in the treatment of erectile dysfunction by using self-administered IIEF-5 questionnaire.

Materials and methods: Eighty three patients presenting with ED at Andrology OPD were evaluated for ED by a self-administered IIEF questionnaire. Patients were systematically randomized by alternate randomized method into two groups namely, Group A: Tadalafil only group, Group B: combination of Tadalafil + Pentoxifylline. ED was assessed by IIEF-5 questionnaires. All the patients were re-assessed by IIEF-5 questionnaire after 4 weeks of medical therapy.

Results: Eighty three patients were included in the present study, in group A: 31(96%) patients showed improvements in their IIEF score after 4 weeks of tadalafil treatment. In group B, overall 37 patients (92%) showed improvements after combination of tadalafil and pentoxifylline. 40% of patients in severe subgroup improved to mild category in group A whereas 71% of patients did so in group B. There was no significant difference in between the two groups with regard to occurrence of side effects.

Conclusions: Both tadalafil and combination of tadalafil + pentoxifylline improves erectile function equally well in patients of ED. Patients with severe ED may show better improvements in erectile function with combination of these drugs. But this observation needs further validation in a larger cohort of patients with severe ED.

jayantsun@yahoo.co.in