

# SEE YOUR DOCTOR

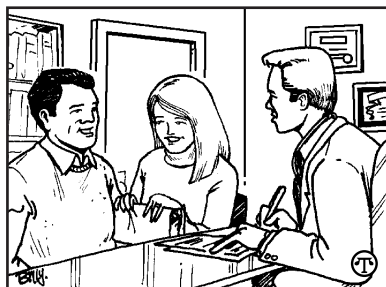
## Erectile Dysfunction: Not Just a Man's Problem

(NAPSA)—About half of men between 40 and 70 in the U.S. experience erectile dysfunction (ED) to some degree. While the emotional impact of this condition on men has become well known since the introduction of Viagra® (sildenafil citrate), little was known about the impact on their partners.

A new survey presented at the Tenth Annual Congress on Women's Health & Gender-Based Medicine, which looked at sexual attitudes and aspects of self-esteem among female partners of men both with and without ED, revealed that having a partner with ED can negatively impact women emotionally. In fact, approximately two in five women surveyed felt this impact—17 percent felt less self-confident, while 15 percent felt less attractive and eight percent even suspected their partner was having an affair.

Indeed, the stress of ED can lead to problems that extend beyond the bedroom. In an effort to forget about their condition, men with ED may physically withdraw, making excuses or attempts to avoid sexual situations with their partners. This, in turn, can impact other aspects of a couple's relationship, including time spent together doing social and recreational activities, leaving both partners disappointed, confused and angry.

Gary Haub and Carolyn Acton, a married couple from Dallas, Texas, are all too familiar with the stress that ED can cause in a relationship. Gary experienced ED for several years and even though they had been married for more than 27 years, this caused Gary to feel guilty and powerless in his relationship with Carolyn. Over time, they found their relationship deteriorating not only physically but also emotionally.



"With the absence of physical intimacy, Gary and I lost our opportunities to connect emotionally," admitted Carolyn. "I began to fear that Gary was not as attracted to me as he had once been and that perhaps I was not as interesting to be with as I once was. As we grew apart, we also became increasingly afraid and embarrassed to bring up our problems."

After researching ED and finding the courage to bring up the topic with her husband, Carolyn eventually encouraged Gary to see a doctor about his condition. Talking openly about the issue is important and in the survey, the majority of women who discussed ED with their partners felt at least moderately relieved afterwards. Furthermore, the survey revealed that communication is valuable in getting men to seek treatment for their ED, as well as helping to reduce many of the concerns that ED causes for both partners.

As for millions of other men, treatment can be successful in helping couples like Gary and Carolyn rebuild the physical and emotional intimacy that they had lost prior to finding the right treatment.

"Treating my ED has helped me feel like a whole man once again and has allowed me to express that confidence throughout all aspects of my relationship with Carolyn," said Gary. "Romance, intimacy, sexual pleasure

and self-confidence have returned for both of us and it's changed our lives for the better."

"Even though people are more comfortable with the topic of ED since the introduction of Viagra four years ago, it is still a difficult condition for many men to discuss with both their partners and physician," stated Marian Dunn, PhD, clinical associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry and director of the Center for Human Sexuality at the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center at Brooklyn. "However, open and honest communication between partners and confronting the problem together may allow a couple to regain their closeness and intimacy."

Viagra® (sildenafil citrate) is a prescription oral medication for the treatment of ED available only from doctors and should always be used in accordance with its approved labeling. Viagra is contraindicated in patients who use nitrates in any form at any time. The most common side effects of Viagra are headaches, facial flushing and indigestion.

Viagra has been approved in 119 countries around the world and is among the most widely prescribed medications, with over 100 million prescriptions written for more than 20 million men worldwide.

174 partners of ED sufferers and 478 partners of non-ED sufferers responded to the survey. The participants were female partners of men between the ages of 40 and 69. The survey was conducted online using Knowledge Network's Panel, which is the first electronic market research panel that is representative of all U.S. households.

Please see attached full prescribing information for Viagra (25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg) Tablets.