

Policy title	Penile rehabilitation following prostate surgery v1.1
Policy position	Intervention Not Normally Funded
Date of Forum recommendation	February 2018

The goal of penile rehabilitation is to moderate the destructive processes that occur after prostatectomy in order to preserve erectile function, either through spontaneous or assisted means. Interventions, including phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors (PDE5), alprostadil products and vacuum erection devices are used for penile rehabilitation.

NICE guideline NG131 Prostate cancer: diagnosis and management, does not make recommendations on treatments specific to penile rehabilitation. A recent report and two systematic reviews have found that studies for penile rehabilitation have produced conflicting results and evidence is lacking both in quality and in quantity.

The Priorities Forum has considered the evidence for the interventions for penile rehabilitation following prostate surgery. Due to inadequate evidence of clinical effectiveness and lack of evidence of cost effectiveness NHS funding for the early regular use of PDE5 inhibitors, alprostadil and vacuum erection devices for penile rehabilitation in patients with prostate cancer after radical prostatectomy are considered **interventions not normally funded**.

This policy should be considered in conjunction with local policies on treatment of erectile dysfunction.

For information on penile prosthesis see NHS England Specialised Commissioning Clinical Commissioning Policy: Penile prosthesis surgery for end stage erectile dysfunction.

(This guidance is based on Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning policy.)

References

1. UK Medicines Information (2014). What is the rationale and evidence for the use of regular, rather than on-demand dosing of phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors after radical prostatectomy.
2. British Journal of Urology International (2013). Penile rehabilitation after radical prostatectomy: What the evidence really says. (112); 998- 1008.
3. Should we recommend an erectile rehabilitation after radical prostatectomy? Systematic review of the literature by the Sexual Medicine Committee of the French Urology Association. Dec 2014, vol. 24, no. 16, p. 10431049, 1166-7087

NOTE:

- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance e.g. from NICE
- Where a patient does not meet the policy criteria or the intervention is not normally funded by the NHS, an application for clinical exceptionality can be considered via the ICB's Individual Funding Request (IFR) Policy and Process

Clinical coding: No coding available.

Key Words: Penile rehabilitation, prostate surgery.