

**SILDENAFIL CITRARE VERSUS TADALAFIL FOR ED TREATMENT:  
PREFERENCE OF ITALIAN PATIENTS AND REASONS OF THEIR CHOICE.**

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**Introduction**

The patient preference, efficacy and safety of sildenafil citrate and tadalafil was assessed in an open-label, multicentric, randomized, crossover study conducted in Italy and the UK. We present a post-hoc analysis of the Italian patients.

**Material and Methods**

Patients over 18, affected by ED, with long-lasting relationship, and naïve patients to PDE5-Inhibitors or any other treatment for ED therapy were enrolled from October 2003 to November 2004 at 13 Italian and 21UK sites. Patients were randomized to Sildenafil or Tadalafil assumption for 12weeks after which patients have been passed to the alternative one for 12 weeks more. During the first 8 weeks of each treatment period patients could dose titrate, both up and down, to find their optimal dose. After each treatment period efficacy was assessed using the IIEF and SEP diaries. Treatment preference and the reasons for preference were assessed after experiencing both treatments.

**Results**

In total 411 patients were enrolled of which 167 were Italian. and of these 144 completed both treatment periods and expressed a preference.

75% of the Italian patients (n=108) preferred to continue Tadalafil treatment, especially because its guarantees to have an erection many hours after consumption (first or second preference reason for 64.8% of patients) while 25% (n=36 pts) preferred Sildenafil (p=0.001). Both the two drugs improved the IIEF-EF and the SEP score compared to baseline, with a small but significant, prevalence for Tadalafil in both parameters.

**Conclusions**

Tadalafil and Sildenafil are both effective and tolerated. In the Italian subpopulation data, reflecting results from overall study, most of patients prefers Tadalafil because of the possibility to have a sexual intercourse many hours after its consumption.