

A Letter to the Editor Concerning the Meta-Analysis by Zhou et al: Meta-Analysis of the Long-Term Efficacy and Tolerance of Tadalafil Daily Compared With Tadalafil On-Demand in Treating Men With Erectile Dysfunction



We read with great interest the meta-analysis by Zhou et al¹ regarding the long-term efficacy and tolerance of tadalafil daily compared with tadalafil on demand, published in *Sexual Medicine* in June 2019. It was a well-designed and well-conducted study, following Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses guidelines.

In this article, the authors analyzed 4 randomized controlled trials and concluded that tadalafil daily provides a preferable therapeutic effect for erectile dysfunction with a lower incidence of side effects relative to tadalafil on demand after, at least, 24 weeks of treatment.

The conclusion regarding the superiority of daily usage in comparison with tadalafil on demand was drawn by the analysis of the IIEF-EF questionnaire and the response to questions 2 (Sexual Encounter Profile [SEP2]) and 3 (SEP3) of the SEP Diary. In the results section, the authors reported that the tadalafil daily group had a greater increase of IIEF-EF (MD = 1.24; 95% CI = 0.03–2.44; $P = 0.04$), SEP2 (MD = 10.08; 95% CI = 9.15–11.01; $P < 0.00001$) and SEP3 (MD = 8.19; 95% CI = 2.09–14.29; $P < 0.00001$) in comparison tadalafil on demand, which suggest the superiority of tadalafil daily. However, when we analyze the forests plots figures, we observe the opposite results: this greater improvement described in the tadalafil daily group is actually observed in tadalafil on-demand group.

We kindly ask the authors to clarify this discrepancy between the results observed in the forest plot figures and what is reported in the body of the article.

Pedro Glusman Knijnik^{1,*},
Jeruza Lavanholi Neyeloff, MD, PhD², and
Brasil Silva Neto, MD, PhD^{1,3}

¹Faculty of Medicine, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil

²Vice Directory, Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil

³Urology Department, Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
2400 Ramiro Barcelos90035-002

Corresponding Author: Pedro Glusman Knijnik, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Faculty of Medicine, 2400 Ramiro Barcelos, Porto Alegre, RS, 90035-002, Brazil. Tel: +5551 981784079; Fax: +5551 3359.8001; E-mail: knijnik.pedro@gmail.com

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STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

Category 1

(a) Conception and Design

Brasil Silva Neto; Pedro Glusman Knijnik

(b) Acquisition of Data

Brasil Silva Neto; Pedro Glusman Knijnik; Jeruza Lavanholi Neyeloff

(c) Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Pedro Glusman Knijnik; Jeruza Lavanholi Neyeloff; Brasil Silva Neto

Category 2

(a) Drafting the Article

Brasil Silva Neto; Pedro Glusman Knijnik

(b) Revising It for Intellectual Content

Pedro Glusman Knijnik; Jeruza Lavanholi Neyeloff

Category 3

(a) Final Approval of the Completed Article

Brasil Silva Neto; Jeruza Lavanholi Neyeloff

REFERENCE

- Zhou Z, Chen H, Wu J, et al. Meta-analysis of the long-term efficacy and tolerance of tadalafil daily compared with tadalafil on-demand in treating men with erectile dysfunction. *Sex Med* 2019 Jul 12;7:282-291.