

# Viagra

# **Adjuvant therapy**

### What is adjuvant therapy?

Adjuvant therapy, also known as 'add-ons', adjunct, complementary or alternative therapies, are recognised as an addition to standard assisted reproductive treatment and may be recommended to you with the intention to increase your success during your fertility treatment. There are numerous options available to you when accessing adjuvant therapies, including but not limited to the technology in laboratories, medical procedures, prescribed medications, nutritional supplements, and traditional medicines such as Chinese medicine, including acupuncture.

At present, the effectiveness of many adjuvant therapies is unknown, with little to no evidence that they will increase the success of your treatment or improve live birth rates. However, your health care provider may recommend adjuvant therapy when considering your medical history and tailoring your treatment plan.

It is important to consider the effectiveness, risks and financial costs of adjuvant therapies.

#### What is Viagra and how it is normally used?

Viagra belongs to a group of medicines called phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors, which is most commonly used to treat erectile dysfunction in men. It works by relaxing the blood vessels, in turn increasing blood flow. However, there have been recent studies that indicate Viagra may also aid in thickening endometrial lining to support the implantation process.

#### Why is Viagra recommended, and will it increase the success of my treatment?

Your fertility specialist may recommend Viagra to you if you have a history of embryo implantation failure. It is thought that Viagra can increase uterine blood flow and may help to improve implantation of the embryo.

#### What are the common side effects?

Some common side effects can include:

- Nausea and/or an upset stomach
- Nasal congestion or dry nose
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Abnormal vision
- Irregular heartbeat
- Rash
- Flushing
- Muscle pain

Regarding any additional side effects or contraindications for Viagra, please refer to the Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) sheet.

Please notify your fertility specialist if you:

- Have severe liver problems
- Have suffered a heart attack or stroke in the last 6 months
- · Have blood pressure that is unusually high or low or is not effectively treated
- Have loss of vision in one or both eyes from an eye disease called non-arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy (NAION) or an eye disease called retinitis pigmentosa

## Are there risks to using Viagra during pregnancy?

Viagra (Sildenafil) is a Category B2 drug, meaning drugs which have been taken by only a limited number of pregnant women and women of childbearing age, without an increase in the frequency of malformation or other direct or indirect harmful effects on the human foetus having been observed.

We recommend stopping the use of Viagra before an embryo transfer occurs to ensure optimal safety.

#### What are the costs?

Cost of Viagra: The cost of Viagra will vary depending on the brand and pharmacy.

Is Viagra included in the cost of my cycle: Viagra is an additional expense and is not included in the cost of your cycle.

The information provided above is intended for educational purposes only and should not be used as a substitute or replacement for medical advice received from a medical professional. It is important to discuss your individual circumstances and situation with your treating doctor.

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Name:
Date of birth:
Address:
, have read and understood the above information and consent to the use of Prednisolone as prescribed by my fertility specialist.
Signature