



[Home](#)

2. Stendra

Stendra

Generic name: [avanafil](#) [a-VAN-a-fil]

Drug class: [Impotence agents](#)

Medically reviewed by [Sophia Entringer, PharmD](#). Last updated on Apr 12, 2024.

[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#)

What is Stendra?

Stendra relaxes muscles found in the walls of blood vessels and increases blood flow to particular areas of the body.

Stendra is used to treat [erectile dysfunction](#) (impotence).

Stendra should not be taken by a woman or a child.

Warnings

Taking Stendra with certain other medicines can cause a sudden and serious decrease in blood pressure. Do not take avanafil if you also take [riociguat](#) ([Adempas](#)) or a nitrate drug such as [nitroglycerin](#), isosorbide dinitrate, or isosorbide mononitrate.

If you become dizzy or nauseated during sexual activity, or if you have pain, numbness, or tingling in your chest, arms, neck, or jaw, stop and call your doctor right away. You could be having a serious side effect.

Stop using Stendra and get emergency medical help if you have sudden vision loss. Avanafil can decrease blood flow to the optic nerve of the eye, causing sudden vision loss. This has occurred in a small number of people taking a similar medication called sildenafil (Viagra). Most of these people also had heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or certain pre-existing eye problems, and in those who smoke or are over 50 years old.

Do not take this medicine more than once a day. Allow 24 hours to pass between doses. Contact your doctor or seek emergency medical attention if your erection is painful or lasts longer than 4 hours. A prolonged erection ([priapism](#)) can damage the penis.

Before taking this medicine

You should not take Stendra if you are allergic to avanafil, or:

- If you take nitrates
- if you take medicine to treat [pulmonary arterial hypertension](#), such as riociguat ([Adempas](#)).

Do not take avanafil if you are also using a nitrate drug for chest pain or heart problems. This includes nitroglycerin, [isosorbide dinitrate](#), and [isosorbide mononitrate](#). Nitrates are also found in some recreational drugs such as amyl nitrate or nitrite ("poppers"). **Taking avanafil with a nitrate medicine can cause a sudden and serious decrease in blood pressure.**

To make sure Stendra is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- [heart failure](#);
- [angina](#) (chest pain);
- a heart rhythm disorder;
- a [heart attack](#) or stroke;
- heart surgery;
- severe or uncontrolled [high blood pressure](#);
- [low blood pressure](#);
- [retinitis pigmentosa](#) (an inherited condition of the eye);
- hearing or vision problems, or vision loss;
- bleeding problems;
- a blood cell disorder such as [sickle cell anemia](#), [multiple myeloma](#), or [leukemia](#);
- a [stomach ulcer](#);
- liver disease, kidney disease (or if you are on dialysis);
- priapism (an erection that is painful or lasts longer than 4 hours);
- a physical deformity of the penis (such as [Peyronie's disease](#)); or
- if you have been told you should not have sexual intercourse for health reasons.

Stendra can decrease blood flow to the optic nerve of the eye, causing sudden vision loss. This has occurred in a small number of people taking [sildenafil \(Viagra\)](#) or other drugs similar to avanafil. Most of these people also had heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, [high cholesterol](#), or certain pre-existing eye problems, and in those who smoked or were over 50 years old. It is not clear whether avanafil is the actual cause of vision loss.

Stendra is for use only in men. It is not known whether this medicine would be harmful if used by a woman during pregnancy or while breast-feeding.

 [Stendra pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

How should I take Stendra?

Take Stendra exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose.

Stendra can be taken with or without food.

Stendra is usually taken only when needed, about 15 to 30 minutes before sexual activity. Follow your doctor's instructions.

Stendra can help achieve an erection when sexual stimulation occurs. An erection will not occur just by taking a pill.

Do not take this medicine more than once a day. Allow 24 hours to pass between doses.

Call your doctor or seek emergency medical attention if your erection is painful or lasts longer than 4 hours. A prolonged erection (priapism) can damage the penis.

Store at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Erectile Dysfunction:

Initial dose: 100 mg orally as needed approximately 15-30 minutes before sexual activity.

Maintenance dose: 50 to 200 mg orally as needed 15-30 minutes before sexual activity.

Maximum dose: 200 mg orally once a day

Comments:

-The lowest dose that provides benefit should be taken.

-Sexual stimulation is needed for a response to treatment.

Use: Treatment of erectile dysfunction

 [Detailed Stendra dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Since this medicine is used as needed, you are not likely to be on a dosing schedule.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What to avoid

Drinking alcohol can increase certain side effects of avanafil. Avoid drinking more than 3 alcoholic beverages while you are taking Stendra.

[Grapefruit](#) may interact with avanafil and lead to unwanted side effects. Avoid the use of grapefruit products.

This medication will not protect you from sexually transmitted diseases--including [HIV](#) and AIDS. Using a condom is the only way to protect yourself from these diseases.

Stendra side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Stendra**: [hives](#); difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop using Stendra and get emergency medical help if you have sudden vision loss.

During sexual activity, if you become dizzy or nauseated, or have pain, numbness, or tingling in your chest, arms, neck, or jaw, stop and call your doctor right away. **You could be having a serious side effect of Stendra.**

Stop using this medicine and call your doctor at once if you have:

- vision changes, sudden vision loss;
- ringing in your ears, or sudden [hearing loss](#);
- pain, swelling, warmth, or redness in one or both legs;
- shortness of breath, swelling in your hands or feet;
- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out; or
- penis erection that is painful or lasts 4 hours or longer.

Common Stendra side effects may include:

- [headache](#);
- flushing (warmth, redness, or tingly feeling);
- [cold symptoms](#) such as runny or stuffy nose, [sore throat](#); or
- [back pain](#).

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Stendra side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

Cialis

Cialis (tadalafil) increase increases blood flow to a certain area of the body and is used to treat ...

Reviews & ratings

8.6 / 10

[554 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Viagra

Viagra (sildenafil) is used to treat erectile dysfunction or impotence in men. Includes Viagra side ...

Reviews & ratings

8.5 / 10

[253 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

FEATURED

Repatha

Repatha (evolocumab) is a PCSK9 inhibitor used to lower high cholesterol alongside dietary changes ...

Reviews & ratings

5.3 / 10

[685 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Adcirca

Adcirca is used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension. Learn about side effects, interactions ...

Reviews & ratings

[6 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Levitra

Levitra relaxes muscles and increases blood flow to particular areas of the body and is used to ...

Reviews & ratings

7.8 / 10

[133 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Revatio

Revatio (sildenafil) is used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension. Includes Revatio side ...

Reviews & ratings

6.9 / 10

[10 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

What other drugs will affect Stendra?

Do not take avanafil with similar medicines such as sildenafil (Viagra), [tadalafil](#) ([Cialis](#)), or [vardenafil](#) ([Levitra](#), [Staxyn](#)). These medicines also have other brand names ([Adcirca](#), [Revatio](#)) that are used to treat a condition called pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- all other medications you use for erectile dysfunction;
- **an antibiotic** - [clarithromycin](#), [erythromycin](#), telithromycin, and others;
- **antifungal medicine** - [itraconazole](#), [ketoconazole](#), and others;
- **drugs to treat high blood pressure or a prostate disorder** - [alfuzosin](#), [doxazosin](#), [prazosin](#), [silodosin](#), [terazosin](#), [tamsulosin](#), and others;
- **nitrates**
- **hepatitis C medication** - boceprevir or telaprevir; or
- **HIV/AIDS medicine** - [atazanavir](#), [indinavir](#), [ritonavir](#), [saquinavir](#), and others.

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with avanafil, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Not all possible drug interactions are listed here.

 [Stendra drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Stendra interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Stendra

+

Enter a drug name

Add

References

1. [Stendra Product Label](#)

More about Stendra (avanafil)

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Pricing & coupons](#)
- [Reviews \(60\)](#)

- [Drug images](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Generic availability](#)
- [FDA approval history](#)
- [Drug class: impotence agents](#)
- [En español](#)

Professional resources

- [Stendra prescribing information](#)
- [Avanafil \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Erectile Dysfunction](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Stendra only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

Copyright 1996-2025 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 4.01.

DRUG STATUS

Availability		
Rx	Prescription only	
Pregnancy & Lactation		
	Risk data available	
CSA Schedule*		
N/A	Not a controlled drug	▼
Approval History		
	Drug history at FDA	▼

User Reviews & Ratings

5.7 / 10

[60 Reviews](#)

Images

Stendra 200 mg (200)



[View larger images](#)

Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



About

[About Drugs.com](#)
[Advertising policy](#)
[Attribution & citations](#)

Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)
[Editorial policy](#)
[Privacy policy](#)

Support

[Help center](#)
[Sitemap](#)
[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Ad Choices
ADVERTISEMENT

Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.

