**Testosterone treatment to cure sexual dysfunction 'raises risk of blood clots by 63%', study warns**

* **Many men with sexual dysfunction take testosterone treatment**
* **But a new German study has found the meds increase risk of clots in the legs and lungs by 63%**

By [Reuters](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/search.html?s=&authornamef=Reuters)

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Men may have an increased risk of blood clots after they start taking testosterone to treat sexual dysfunction, a recent study suggests.

In the first six months after starting testosterone, men have a 63 percent higher risk of clots in the legs and lungs than they did before beginning treatment, the study found.

While the absolute risk of a clot, known as a venous thromboembolism, is low and diminishes over time, men should still discuss it with their doctors, said lead study author Dr. Carlos Martinez of the Institute for Epidemiology, Statistics and Informatics GmbH in Frankfurt, Germany.

'This observational study suggests an increased risk of venous thromboembolism soon after the start of testosterone use,' Martinez said. 'The risk declines after more than six months' treatment.'

Although the increased risks are temporary, and still relatively low in absolute terms, the researchers warn that failure to investigate the timing and duration of testosterone use in previous studies could have masked this association.

For the current study, researchers examined data on about 19,000 patients with blood clots and more than 900,000 similar men without a history of clots collected from 2001 to 2013 in the U.K.

For the men treated with testosterone, researchers looked at three different groups: patients in current treatment, men with recent treatment not currently taking testosterone, and men who had not taken testosterone in the previous two years. Current treatment was subdivided into duration of more or less than six months.

Compared with men who hadn't used testosterone, current users had a 25 percent higher risk of clots, researchers report in The BMJ.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-3995898/Testosterone-treatment-cure-sexual-dysfunction-raises-risk-blood-clots-63-study-warns.html#ixzz4WDj9f7Fu>   
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