

## Alprostadil Cream 300mcg/100mg(3mg/g) Vitaros®

### Recommendation

**EKPG has approved primary care prescribing of alprostadil cream for erectile dysfunction. This should be under SLS criteria and only if PDE5 inhibitors are contraindicated, ineffective or not tolerated.**

**Please follow treatment pathway as below.**

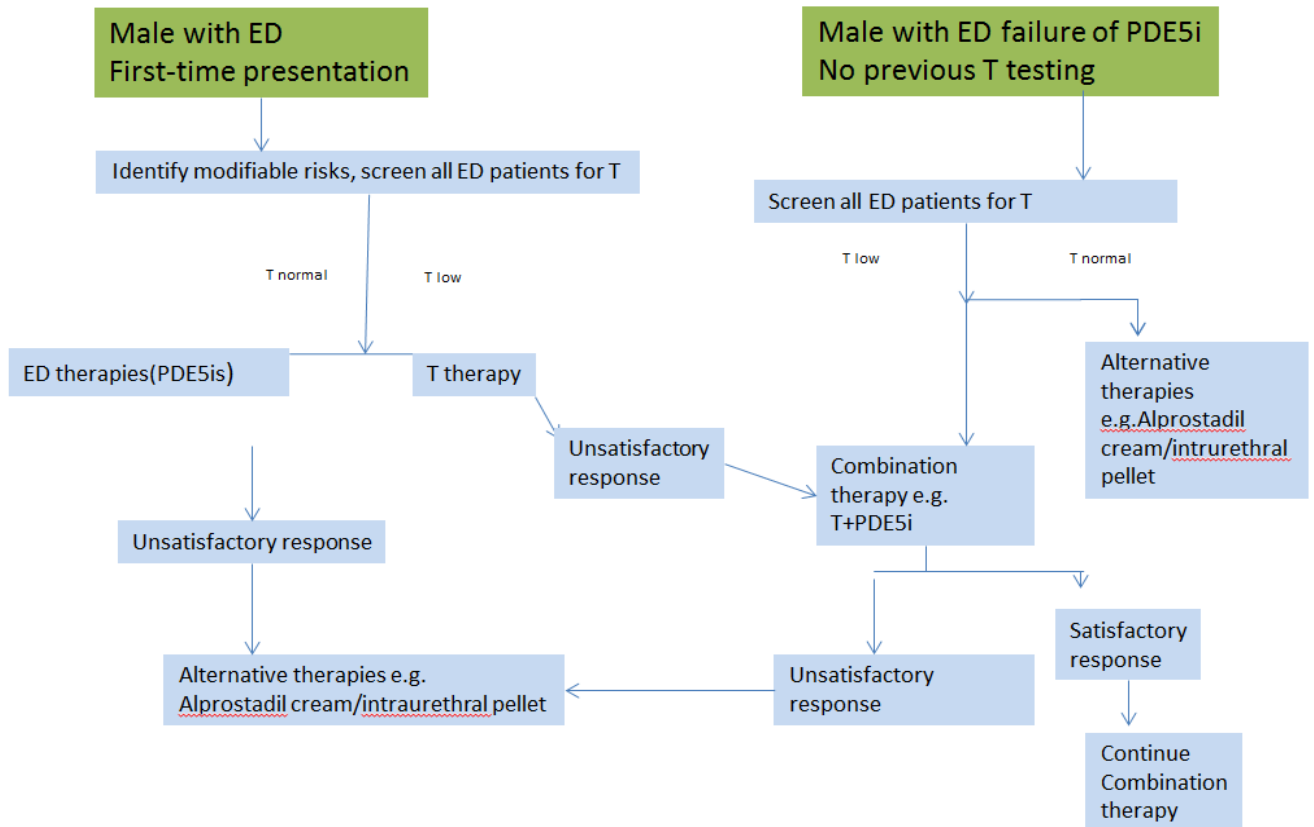
- Vitaros has been accepted for addition to the EK primary care formulary
- Alprostadil is a synthetic vasodilator, chemically identical to the naturally occurring prostaglandin E1 (PGE1), indicated for the treatment of ED
- It should be used in accordance with NHS restrictions on prescribing drugs for erectile dysfunction when PDE5 inhibitors eg sildenafil were contraindicated, ineffective or not tolerated as an alternative to intracavernosal injection of alprostadil (Caverject) or intraurethral pellet of alprostadil (MUSE).
- Prescribing is under SLS criteria and a maximum quantity of four treatments per month is recommended.
- Both the alternate alprostadil formulations cause problems for many patients in the method of delivery, a topical cream would be easier to apply.
- There are no direct comparisons of Vitaros to other formulations of alprostadil.
- Approx 40% of patients show clinical significant improvement in their ED when compared to placebo. This compares to 70-80% for Caverject and 30-60% for MUSE.
- Vitaros is priced similarly to the other products. It would mainly be an alternative to MUSE, where it is slightly cheaper.

**Approved by:** East Kent Prescribing Group (Representing Ashford CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, South Kent Coast CCG and Thanet CCG)

**Date:** October 2014

**Address:** c/o Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group, Thanet District Council Offices, Margate CT9 1XZ

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