

# MINNESOTA UROLOGY

## Tadalafil (tah da' la fil) ( generic Cialis ) tablets

Tadalafil is used to treat erectile dysfunction, and the symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia which include difficulty urinating, painful urination, and urinary frequency and urgency in adult men. Tadalafil is used to improve the ability to exercise in people with pulmonary arterial hypertension. Tadalafil is in a class of medications called phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitors. It works to treat erectile dysfunction by increasing blood flow to the penis during sexual stimulation. This increased blood flow can cause an erection. Tadalafil treats PAH by relaxing the blood vessels in the lungs to allow blood to flow more easily.

If you are taking tadalafil to treat erectile dysfunction, you should know that it does not cure erectile dysfunction or increase sexual desire. Tadalafil does not prevent pregnancy or the spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

### Before taking tadalafil

- tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are allergic to tadalafil, any other medications, or any of the ingredients in tadalafil tablets. Ask your pharmacist for a list of the ingredients.
- tell your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken riociguat (Adempas) or nitrates such as isosorbide dinitrate (Isordil), isosorbide mononitrate (Monoket), and nitroglycerin (Minitran, Nitro-Dur, Nitromist, Nitrostat, others). Nitrates come as tablets, sublingual (under the tongue) tablets, sprays, patches, pastes, and ointments. Ask your doctor if you are not sure whether any of your medications contain nitrates. Your doctor will probably tell you not to take tadalafil if you are taking nitrates.
- tell your doctor if you are taking street drugs containing nitrates ('poppers') such as amyl nitrate, butyl nitrate, or nitrite while taking tadalafil. Your doctor will probably tell you not to take tadalafil if you are taking street drugs containing nitrates.
- tell your doctor if you smoke; if you have ever had an erection that lasted more than 4 hours; and if you have recently had diarrhea, vomiting, not been drinking enough fluids, or sweating a lot which may have caused dehydration (loss of a large amount of body fluids). Also tell your doctor if you have or have ever had pulmonary veno-occlusive disease (PVOD; blockage of veins in the lungs); any condition that affects the shape of the penis; diabetes; high cholesterol; high or low blood pressure; irregular heartbeat; a heart attack or heart failure; angina (chest pain); a stroke; ulcers in the stomach; a bleeding disorder; blood circulation problems; blood cell problems such as sickle cell anemia (a disease of the red blood cells), multiple myeloma (cancer of the plasma cells), or leukemia (cancer of the white blood cells); or heart, kidney, or liver disease. Also tell your doctor if you or any of your family members have or have ever had an eye disease such as retinitis pigmentosa (an inherited eye condition that causes loss of vision) or if you have ever had sudden severe vision loss, especially if you were told that the vision loss was caused by a blockage of blood flow to the nerves that help you see.
- talk to your doctor about the safe use of alcoholic beverages during your treatment with tadalafil. If you drink a large amount of alcohol (more than five glasses of wine or five shots of whiskey) while you are taking tadalafil you are more likely to experience certain side effects of tadalafil such as dizziness, headache, fast heartbeat, and low blood pressure.
- if you are taking tadalafil to treat erectile dysfunction, tell your doctor if you have ever been advised by a health care professional to avoid sexual activity for medical reasons or if you have ever experienced chest pain during sexual activity. Sexual activity may be a strain on your heart, especially if you have heart disease. If you experience chest pain, dizziness, or nausea during sexual activity, call your doctor immediately or get emergency medical treatment, and avoid sexual activity until your doctor tells you otherwise.
- If you ever need emergency medical treatment for a heart problem, the health care providers who treat you will need to know when you last took tadalafil. **What special dietary instructions should I follow?**

Talk to your doctor about eating grapefruit and drinking grapefruit juice while taking this medicine.

### What side effects can this medication cause?

**Tadalafil may cause side effects. Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or do not go away:**

headache

indigestion or heartburn

flushing

nausea

diarrhea

cough

pain in the stomach, back, muscles, arms, or legs

**Some side effects can be serious. If you experience any of these symptoms, call your doctor immediately or get emergency medical treatment:**

sudden decrease or loss of vision (see below for more information)

changes in color vision (seeing a blue tinge or having difficulty telling difference between blue and green)

sudden decrease or loss of hearing (see below for more information)

swelling of the face, throat, tongue, lips, eyes, hands, feet, ankles, or lower legs

blurred vision

dizziness

erection that lasts longer than 4 hours

ringing in ears

chest pain

blistering or peeling of skin

Hives

Rash

difficulty breathing or swallowing

Some patients experienced a sudden loss of some or all of their vision after they took tadalafil or other medications that are similar to tadalafil. The vision loss was permanent in some cases. It is not known if the vision loss was caused by the medication. If you experience a sudden loss of vision while you are taking tadalafil, call your doctor immediately or get emergency medical treatment. Do not take any more doses of tadalafil or similar medications such as sildenafil (Revatio, Viagra) or vardenafil (Levitra) until you talk to your doctor.

Some patients experienced a sudden decrease or loss of hearing after they took tadalafil or other medications that are similar to tadalafil. The hearing loss usually involved only one ear and did not always improve when the medication was stopped. It is not known if the hearing loss was caused by the medication. If you experience a sudden loss of hearing, sometimes with ringing in the ears or dizziness, while you are taking tadalafil, call your doctor immediately. Do not take any more doses of tadalafil or similar medications such as sildenafil (Revatio, Viagra) or vardenafil (Levitra) until you talk to your doctor.

Tadalafil may cause other side effects. Call your doctor if you have any unusual problems while taking this medication

If you experience a serious side effect, you or your doctor may send a report to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program online (<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch>) or by phone (1-800-332-1088).

#### **What should I know about storage and disposal of this medication?**

Keep this medication in the container it came in, tightly closed, and out of reach of children. Store it at room temperature and away from excess heat and moisture (not in the bathroom).

Unneeded medications should be disposed of in special ways to ensure that pets, children, and other people cannot consume them. However, you should not flush this medication down the toilet. Instead, the best way to dispose of your medication is through a medicine take-back program. Talk to your pharmacist or contact your local garbage/recycling department to learn about take-back programs in your community. See the FDA's Safe Disposal of Medicines website (<http://goo.gl/c4Rm4p>) for more information if you do not have access to a take-back program.

If you are unhappy with this service and would like to place a complaint with our management team please contact us at (651) 999-6800 or the Minnesota Secretary of Health and Human Services or Accreditation Commission for Health Care at (855) 937-2242

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