



## A. Subject

## B. Background

Erectile dysfunction (ED) is the consistent or recurrent inability to acquire or sustain an erection, and the most common sexual problem affecting males. Surveys suggest 5-10% of men between the ages of 20 to 30 are affected, and that number increases to 35-40% of men aged 70 or older. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) estimates that up to 30 million men experience erectile dysfunction.

Various treatment modalities exist for ED. One treatment option is a surgical penile implant (also called a penile prosthesis). A penile implant is indicated when there is a clear medical cause for ED and when the problem is unlikely to resolve or improve naturally or with other medical treatments. A basic penile prosthesis consists of a pair of bendable, silicone rods that are surgically implanted within the erection chambers of the penis. Identification of the underlying etiology is an important first step. This includes ruling out the adverse effects of medication(s), identifying, and treating risk factors.

## C. Definitions

- erection. – The consistent or recurrent inability to acquire or sustain an erection.
- have an erection. – Nervous system issues affecting the ability to maintain or
- impotence. – Restricted or decreased blood flow to the penis causing

## D. Policy

- I. Medication is the first line of treatment for ED, including
  - A. oral phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors
  - B. intra-urethral alprostadil
  - C. intracavernous vasoactive drug injections

Ohio Medicaid does not cover medications including oral, injectable, and transdermal varieties for the treatment of erectile dysfunction.



