

nary inpatient care for elderly people with hip fracture: a randomized controlled trial. *CMAJ* 2002;167(1):25-32.

Disclosure at Pfizer Canada

In a recent letter to the editor,¹ Joel Lexchin discusses the results of his requests for published clinical information from 12 Canadian pharmaceutical companies. Pfizer Canada Inc. received a written request from Lexchin for a list of all randomized, controlled, fully published clinical trials regarding the use of sildenafil for treatment of erectile dysfunction published in English at the time the product was first marketed in Canada. On Sept. 24, 2001, we provided Lexchin with a list of the requested sildenafil studies. We were therefore surprised not to be mentioned by Lexchin as one of the companies who provided complete and accurate information.

Pfizer Canada is committed to an

open dialogue with the Canadian health care community. We welcome criticism as an opportunity to improve the quality of our services. We therefore would like to understand why our response to Lexchin did not meet his expectations.

Bernard M. Prigent
Vice President and Medical Director
Pfizer Canada Inc.
Kirkland, Que.

Reference

1. Lexchin J. Inaccessibility of drug reports [letter]. *CMAJ* 2002;166(10):1251.

[The author responds:]

Pfizer Canada Inc. responded to my initial request¹ 1 month after it was mailed. Three other companies replied more rapidly, but most took longer than Pfizer Canada; relatively speaking, Pfizer Canada's response was prompt. In its response, Pfizer Canada did list all of the relevant trials, but 3 additional

papers were listed that did not fulfil the criteria in my request. One was an uncontrolled nonblinded trial,² the second was a retrospective subanalysis of data from double-blind, placebo-controlled studies³ and the third analyzed safety and tolerability data from a series of double-blind, placebo-controlled studies and open-label extension studies.⁴

Joel Lexchin
Emergency Physician
University Health Network
Toronto, Ont.

References

1. Lexchin J. Inaccessibility of drug reports [letter]. *CMAJ* 2002;166(10):1251.
2. Boolell M, Allen MJ, Ballard SA, Gepi-Attee S, Muirhead GJ, Naylor AM, et al. Sildenafil, a novel effective oral therapy for male erectile dysfunction. *Br J Urol* 1996;78:257-61.
3. Conti CR, Pepine CJ, Sweeney M. Efficacy and safety of sildenafil citrate in the treatment of erectile dysfunction in patients with ischemic heart disease. *Am J Cardiol* 1999;83:29C-34C.
4. Morales A, Gingell C, Collins M, Wicher PA, Osterloh IH. Clinical safety of oral sildenafil citrate (Viagra) in the treatment of erectile dysfunction. *Int J Impot Res* 1998;10:69-74.

McNeil

Children's Motrin

2 x 1/2 page, 4 clr.

May 14, 2002