

Social changes

The physical symptoms of Peyronie's disease can cause men to avoid sex and other intimate situations, which can put pressure on existing relationships or pose barriers to forming new ones.¹

Having Peyronie's disease can feel like a heavy burden – and feelings of embarrassment, shame, and other emotions may lead to a sense of isolation.¹

Talking to a doctor, spouse, partner, family member or close friend about your Peyronie's disease can seem daunting, and requires a lot of courage. But it can provide support and ease the sense of isolation.

Useful links

See the following websites for further information and support:

www.andrologyaustralia.org

www.beyondblue.org.au

References

1. Bella AJ *et al.* *J Sex Med* 2007; 4:1527–38.
2. Data on file.
3. Nelson CJ. *J Sex Med.* 2008; 5:1985–90.

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Living with Peyronie's disease

**Have you been diagnosed
with Peyronie's disease?**

**If you are experiencing any
of the issues in this leaflet,
please speak with your doctor,
who will be able to help.**

**Read more about
Peyronie's disease at**

www.peyronie.com.au

Beyond the physical symptoms of Peyronie's disease

For many men with Peyronie's disease the impact goes beyond the physical symptoms and may affect their sexual, emotional and social wellbeing.¹ Peyronie's disease can also affect the partners of men with the condition.

'I constantly felt like I had to hide things. I constantly felt like I had this diseased secret that I could not tell anybody.'
Justin A²



Based on Bella AJ 2007¹ and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (number of males aged 18 years and over)

Sexual difficulties

Some men with Peyronie's disease may find it difficult to have sex, masturbate, or have sex in their preferred positions. Sex may be painful, for both partners, due to the curve in the erect penis.

Peyronie's disease may also cause difficulties achieving or maintaining an erection, which may interfere with the ability to have sex.

All these difficulties may lead to reduced sexual satisfaction for both the male with Peyronie's disease and his partner.

If you are concerned about how Peyronie's disease is affecting your sex life, your doctor may be able to recommend an appropriate treatment for your condition.

You might also find it helpful to discuss your concerns with your partner, if you have one.

Letting your partner know what is bothering you may help move things in a positive direction for both of you.

Your emotional health

Many men with Peyronie's disease may feel a sense of shame and loss of self-esteem. Other men say they feel angry that it has happened to them.^{1,2}

For some men, the symptoms of Peyronie's disease contribute to them becoming depressed.³

If you have physical symptoms that are bothering you, particularly if they are causing you to feel anxious or depressed, it is important that

'I was really afraid, because I didn't know what was happening.' John P²