

# Erectile dysfunction secondary to repeated priapism due to chronic consumption of GHB

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## Introduction

The association between drug use and risky sexual practices has been amply demonstrated. GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) is a central nervous system depressant that produces euphoria, increased sexual desire, sensuality and sociability which is why it is frequently used to perform Chemsex in order to increase their sensitivity and achieve a rapid and lasting erection, which could damage the penis chronically and irreversibly due to ischemic lesions<sup>1,2</sup>.

## Methods

We present a clinical case.

## Results

Male patient of 45 years single, without stable partner. No drug allergies or known diseases. Consumption of cocaine via snorted 2g / week for 10 years, 6 years abstinent. Consumption of GHB between 0.5-2 grams / day in a sauna context, achieving prolonged erections and pleasurable sexual sensations. After 12 years of daily consumption, he has erectile dysfunction that has not responded to taking Sildenafil. Go to consultation for anxiety-depressive clinic secondary to the sexual situation and to the decrease in GHB consumption. You do not want to start psychopharmacological treatment.

- Hemogram, biochemistry and coagulation are performed without finding pathological findings. Negative serologies Glycemia, HbA1C, lipid profile, thyroid hormones and free testosterone calculated within normality.
- The record of rigidity and nocturnal penile tumescence: no erections.
- Intracavernous injection test: erection is not achieved.
- Dynamic Doppler mapping of penile arteries: decreased blood flow in the cavernous arteries.

## Conclusion

Episodic use of GHB leads to rapid and lasting erections while chronic use can cause erectile dysfunction due to repeated episodes of priapism that cause a prolonged ischemic state that will lead to cell death, edema and inflammation and subsequent fibrosis in the process of tissue repair<sup>1,2</sup>.

## References

<sup>1</sup>Costa, W. S.; Felix, B.; Cavalcanti, A. G.; Medeiros, J. and Sampaio, F. J. (2009). Structural analysis of the corpora cavernosa in patients with ischaemic priapism. BJU Int.

<sup>2</sup>Munarriz, R.; Park, K.; Huang, Y. H.; Saenz de Tejada, I.; Moreland, R. B.; Goldstein, I. and Traish, A. M. (2003). Reperfusion of ischemic corporal tissue: physiologic and biochemical changes in an animal model of ischemic priapism. Urology; 62 (4):760-764.