

[Drug_Injury_Watch: Viagra - Melanoma MDL Motion For Federal Court Lawsuits Against Pfizer](#)

(Posted by Tom Lamb at www.DrugInjuryWatch.com on February 19, 2016)

On December 11, 2015 a legal document captioned In re: VIAGRA® PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION, MDL No. 2691 was filed with the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (JPMDL) seeking consolidation of all Viagra - melanoma lawsuits pending in various federal courts around the country. Soon thereafter, on December 22, the Defendant in those lawsuits, Pfizer, filed a response to the Plaintiffs' motion to transfer, agreeing that all these Viagra drug injury lawsuits should be consolidated in an MDL which should be assigned to the Northern District of California, a specific division of the federal court system.

The next JPMDL hearing is scheduled for March 31, 2016, and we expect to have the Viagra MDL ruling issued some time in April 2016, as things stand now.

Viagra (sildenafil), the most common drug prescribed for male erectile dysfunction (ED), appears to increase the risk for invasive melanoma but not cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas nor basal cell carcinomas.

Essentially, Viagra acts by inhibiting phosphodiesterase 5 (PDE5). Experimental in vitro studies show that PDE5 inhibition augments tumor cell invasiveness, supporting this new Viagra side effect finding

There are four other ED drugs which are phosphodiesterase 5 (PDE5) inhibitors:

- Cialis (tadalafil)
- Levitra (vardenafil)
- Staxyn (vardenafil)
- Stendra (avanafil)

In addition, Cialis is prescribed sometimes when doctors see the signs and symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) -- as some of you may know from the Cialis TV advertisements.

Two other phosphodiesterase 5 (PDE5) inhibitors are Revatio (sildenafil) and Adcirca (tadalafil). These drugs are prescribed for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH).

Medical researchers involved with this still emerging drug-safety issue seem to believe that these six other drugs (in addition to Viagra) are probably associated with an increased risk of melanoma skin cancer, too.

We are currently investigating cases of melanoma in men who used Viagra, Cialis, Levitra, Staxyn, or Stendra, as well as men and women who used Revatio or Adcirca. These cases are possible drug injury lawsuits against the responsible pharmaceutical companies, not the prescribing doctors.

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Earlier articles by attorney Tom Lamb on the [Side Effects Blog](#):

- [Viagra / Cialis / Levitra: Prostate Cancer Recurrence When Used After Radical Prostatectomy Surgery](#)
- [Cialis / Levitra / Viagra - Melanoma: Possible Drug Safety Issue Was Raised And Left Open In A 2011 Medical Journal Article](#)
- [The Link Between Popular Erectile Dysfunction \(ED\) Drug Viagra And Melanoma Has A Potential Molecular Basis According To Medical Expert Who Reviewed Recent Study](#)
- [Viagra May Increase Risk Of Melanoma In Men Who Have Used This ED Drug, According To An April 2014 Medical Journal Article](#)

Attorney [Tom Lamb](#) represents people in personal injury and wrongful death cases involving unsafe prescription drugs or medication errors. The above article was posted originally on his blog, **Drug Injury Watch** – with live links and readers' Comments.

<http://www.DrugInjuryWatch.com>