

'Female viagra' flibanserin tested for alcohol safety, but almost exclusively in men

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.**

Flibanserin, the drug for hypoactive sexual desire disorder in women (a condition that many argue doesn't exist as for many women sexual desire is responsive, not spontaneous) has been approved by the FDA and will be sold under the brand name Addyi.

I'm underwhelmed and concerned about flibanserin for a variety of reasons, but I want to focus on one very specific and important point about the drug that appears in the REMS (Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy) required by the FDA. For those of you who may not know REMS is required by the FDA for certain drugs that have a greater risk of serious complications. Some drugs require an eight-hour training course, but with Addyi all a doctor has to do is read 12 Power Point slides, answer a couple of questions, and submit a form – truly as Sprout says “3 Easy Steps.” Because yes, you want your provider's training to be easy not thorough!

The REMS mentions what happens when the drug was taken with alcohol in 25 healthy volunteers (mostly men) – a significant drop in blood pressure in 42 percent who had the equivalent of two to four glasses of wine. Most of the study subjects were men, so I can only assume that this could even be higher/more severe for women. Just remember, the SAFETY of Addyi with alcohol was studied in 23 men and 2 women, for a drug ONLY to be prescribed for women.

**Read full, original post:** Want to take flibanserin (Addyi) for low sex drive? You can't drink alcohol. Ever.