

and ejaculatory. The technique is applicable to varying gland sizes and morphologies, including intravesical lobes and bladder neck obstruction. This report also reasserts Rezūm as an option to multi drug therapy, again confirming the need for clear patient understanding of all options with their respective benefits and harms.⁵

Patients who are sexually active and considering pharmacotherapy need a full disclosure of risks of sexual side effects. It is to be remembered that alpha-blockers have effects on erectile function and libido that are similar to placebo yet have more effect on ejaculation. 5-alpha-reductase inhibitors increase the risk of erectile, libido, and ejaculatory dysfunction compared to placebo. Combination therapy triples the incidence for ejaculatory dysfunction. Dosage reductions, using alternative drug options or opting for procedural intervention should all be strongly considered if sexual side effects occur. Men being evaluated for BPH symptoms must have careful consideration given to comorbidities such as diabetes and hypertension to make sure that these are adequately treated while therapy is being initiated. Continuing cost considerations for long term medical therapy must also be made in light of the current insurance climate with rising copays and deductibles for many patients.⁶

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AUTHOR REPLY

The authors appreciate the positive comments concerning this technology and our report of the 4-year Rezūm water vapor thermal therapy data. We agree with his assessments noting that targeted thermal ablation of tissue can be applied to all obstructing areas of the prostate, symptomatic and quality of life improvements are durable from the earliest time frames throughout 4 years and sexual function remains intact. Most importantly the surgical retreatment rate is very low. In addition, we feel that the 4-year study reported herein validates the effectiveness of the technique, but more importantly compares favorably with all other minimally invasive surgical treatments by providing significant clinical improvements that deliver an impactful and durable response for patient and urologist.

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