THREE OF THE AUTHORS REPLY

We thank Gades et al. (1) for their interest in our work (2). Self-reported history of physician-diagnosed vascular disease was confirmed by medical records in our study.
(3). Clearly, age is an important risk factor for both erectile dysfunction and diabetes, and thus a confounding factor for the association between the two. We agree that the decision as to whether age adjustment removes a confounding effect or overadjusts the results is a judgment call.

In their 2005 study, Gades et al. examined the association between cigarette smoking and erectile dysfunction among 1,329 men in Olmsted County, Minnesota (4). Although the investigation was designed as a prospective cohort study, the effect of baseline cigarette smoking and subsequent incidence of erectile dysfunction was not examined. A well-designed prospective cohort study with a large, population-based sample is still needed to examine the association between cigarette smoking and risk of developing erectile dysfunction.

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REFERENCES


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