

# SEXUAL HEALTH INVENTORY FOR MEN (SHIM)

## Instructions

Each question has 5 possible responses. Circle the number that best describes your own situation. Select only 1 answer for each question.

### Over the past 6 months:

1. How do you rate your confidence that you could keep an erection?

1	2	3	4	5
Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high

---

2. When you had erections with sexual stimulation, how often were your erections hard enough for penetration (entering your partner)?

1	2	3	4	5
Almost never or never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always or always

---

3. During sexual intercourse, how often were you able to maintain your erection after you had penetrated (entered) your partner?

1	2	3	4	5
Almost never or never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always or always

---

4. During sexual intercourse, how difficult was it to maintain your erection to completion of intercourse?

1	2	3	4	5
Extremely difficult	Very difficult	Difficult	Slightly difficult	Not difficult

---

5. When you attempted sexual intercourse, how often was it satisfactory for you?

1	2	3	4	5
Almost never or never	A few times (much less than half the time)	Sometimes (about half the time)	Most times (much more than half the time)	Almost always or always

# SEXUAL HEALTH INVENTORY FOR MEN (SHIM)

## Scoring instructions

Add the numbers corresponding to the answers for questions 1 through 5. If the patient's score is 21 or less, erectile dysfunction (ED) should be addressed. The SHIM score characterizes the severity of the patient's ED in the following manner:

22-25 No ED

17-21 Mild ED

12-16 Mild-to-moderate ED

8-11 Moderate ED

5-7 Severe ED

**Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Purpose of SHIM

- With the advent of oral therapies for ED, the need for accurate diagnosis is greater than ever.
- The SHIM Questionnaire (also known as the IIEF-5) is an abridged and slightly modified 5-item version of the 15-item International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) designed for easy use by clinicians to diagnose the presence and severity of ED in clinical settings.
- This diagnostic tool may reduce the number of incorrectly diagnosed or underdiagnosed cases. It is intended to complement the physical examination and patient history as a means to detect ED.

Adapted by permission from Macmillan Publishers Ltd: [ *International Journal of Impotence Research* ] (17, 307-319), copyright (2005)