

Read All About It: **PRIAPISM**

Priapism is a rare, often painful condition involving an erection that lasts for an unusually long time—often more than four hours. This type of erection is not related to sexual stimulation.



Immediate treatment is important to prevent tissue damage and erectile dysfunction (ED).

PRIAPISM CAN HAPPEN IN:



YOUNG BOYS
(age 5-10)



YOUNG ADULTS
(around age 20)

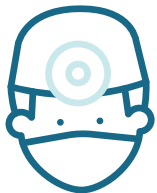


MATURE MEN
(over age 50)

The most common type of priapism is called **ischemic (or low-flow) priapism**. It happens when blood is not able to leave the penis.

CAUSES OF PRIAPISM MAY INCLUDE:

- ✓ Sickle cell anemia or other blood disorders
- ✓ Prescription medications to treat erectile dysfunction; antidepressants; medications to treat anxiety disorders; blood thinners; medications used to treat ADHD; and hormones such as testosterone
- ✓ Alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and other illicit drug use
- ✓ Injury to the penis



Emergency room doctors treat an average of **10,000** cases of priapism each year in the United States.

YOU MAY HAVE PRIAPISM IF YOU HAVE:

- ✓ An erection lasting more than four hours unrelated to sexual interest or stimulation
- ✓ A rigid penile shaft, but the tip of penis is soft
- ✓ Progressive pain in the penis



IF YOU HAVE AN
ERECTION THAT LASTS
FOR FOUR OR MORE
HOURS, GO TO THE
EMERGENCY ROOM
FOR TREATMENT.