CORRIGENDUM

Viagra and its use in cardiovascular disease

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In the above commentary the clinical recommendations of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association in their Expert Consensus Document¹ were quoted. These stated that co-administration of sildenafil with some CNS drugs—fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, carbamazepine, phenytoin and the statins—by a competitive inhibition of its metabolism may prolong the half-life of sildenafil (Viagra®). The manufacturers of Viagra, Pfizer Ltd, state that the Expert Consensus Document is incorrect on this and that these drugs do not affect the half-life of sildenafil. The only drugs which significantly interfere with the metabolism of sildenafil and prolong its half-life are those 3A4 inhibitors such as erythromycin, ketoconazole, cimetidine and the protease inhibitors.

Reference

- 1 ACC/AHA Expert Consensus Document. Use of sildenafil (Viagra) in patients with cardiovascular disease. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1999; **33**: 273–282.