

Check Change Control

*Hypertension Management
Strategies & Tools from the
Physician's Office to the
Community*

Promoting A Healthier Wyoming Conference
September 18, 2019



**American
Heart
Association®**



2

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No Financial Disclosures

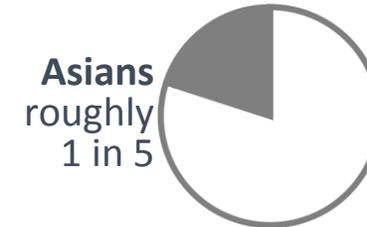
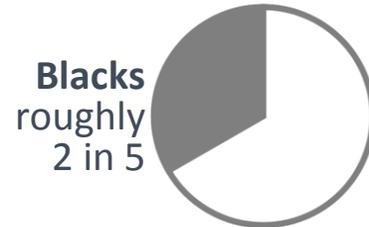
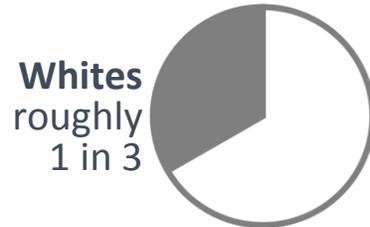
The American Heart Association logo is partially visible on the right side of the slide. It features a stylized red heart with a white caduceus (a staff with two snakes) in the center. The logo is rendered in a bold, graphic style.

80 million adults have HBP

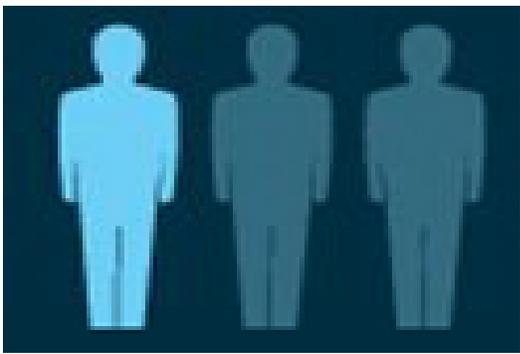


Blood Pressure Category	Systolic (mmHg)		Diastolic (mmHg)
Normal / Ideal	less than 120	and	less than 80
Prehypertension	120-139	or	80-89
Hypertension stage 1	140-159	or	90-99
Hypertension stage 2	160 or higher	or	100 or higher
Hypertensive crisis	higher than 180	or	higher than 110

Prevalence of HPB varies by race and ethnicity:



AHA 2015 Statistical Update



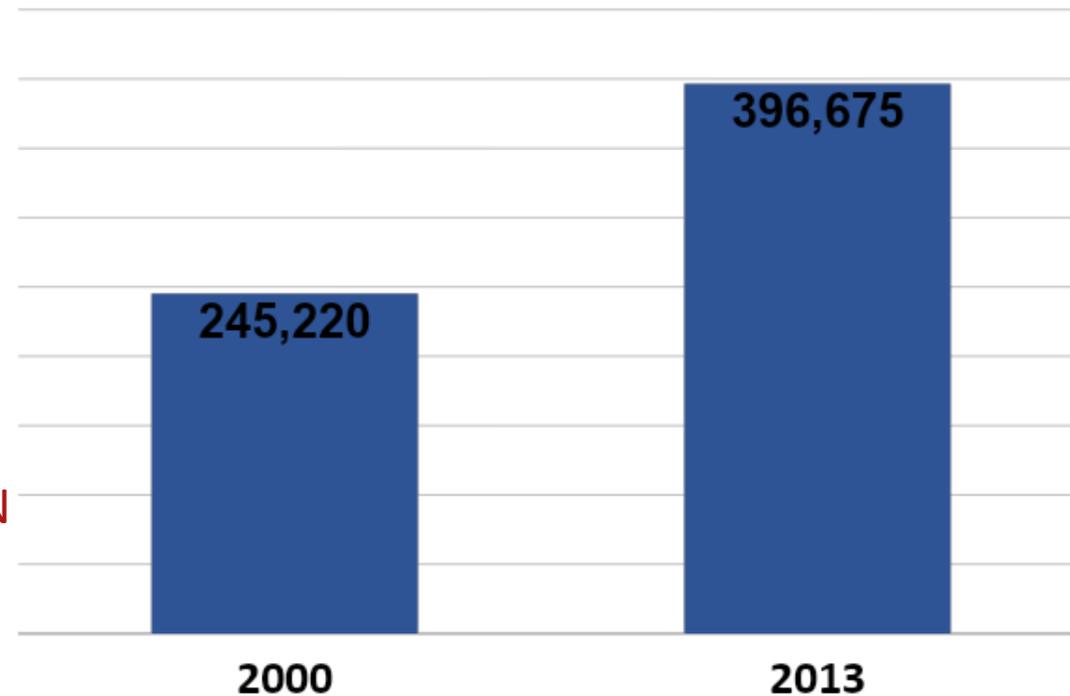
80 million
U.S. adults have
high blood pressure

46% are uncontrolled

Most adults with uncontrolled HTN
have health insurance and a usual
source of care

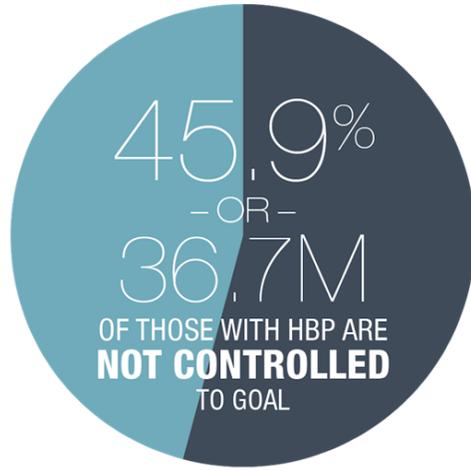
2015 – Prevalence rate 33%
2030 – Prevalence rate 41%
(projected)

**62% increase in annual deaths
related to hypertension**



Source: CDC, AHA

Our Goal for Better Control



GOAL
- MOVE -
13.6M
PEOPLE
TO CONTROL
- BY 2020 -



From 2009 to 2012 among US adults with HBP



AHA 2015 Statistical Update

Blood pressure of 130 is the new 'high,' according to update of guidelines



ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Whelton PK, et al.

2017 High Blood Pressure Clinical Practice Guideline

2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on
Clinical Practice Guidelines

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Blood pressure of 130 is the new 'high,' according to update of guidelines



High blood pressure accounts for the second largest number of preventable heart disease and stroke deaths, second only to smoking.

It's known as the "silent killer" because often there are no symptoms, despite its role in significantly increasing the risk for heart disease and stroke.



What does this mean?

- The 2017 AHA/ACC guidelines for treating high blood pressure in adults are the first comprehensive set in the U.S. since 2003.
- Rather than **1 in 3 U.S. adults** having high blood pressure (32 percent) with the previous definition, the new guidelines will result in nearly **half of the U.S. adult population** (46 percent) having high blood pressure, or hypertension.



What's behind these changes?

Research shows that adults with **blood pressure readings considered prehypertensive under the old guidelines** are already at up to double the risk of having a major cardiac event—a heart attack or stroke—compared to those with a normal blood pressure.

In addition, recent clinical trials find that lowering systolic blood pressure to 120 mm Hg results in **significant cardiovascular benefit** in high-risk patients compared with blood pressure control to <140 mm Hg.



NORMAL

below
120



below
80

ELEVATED

120
to
129



below
80

HIGH

STAGE 1

130
to
139



80
to
89

STAGE 2

140
and above



90
and above

Also called *Hypertension*

Hypertension Management – Across the Continuum

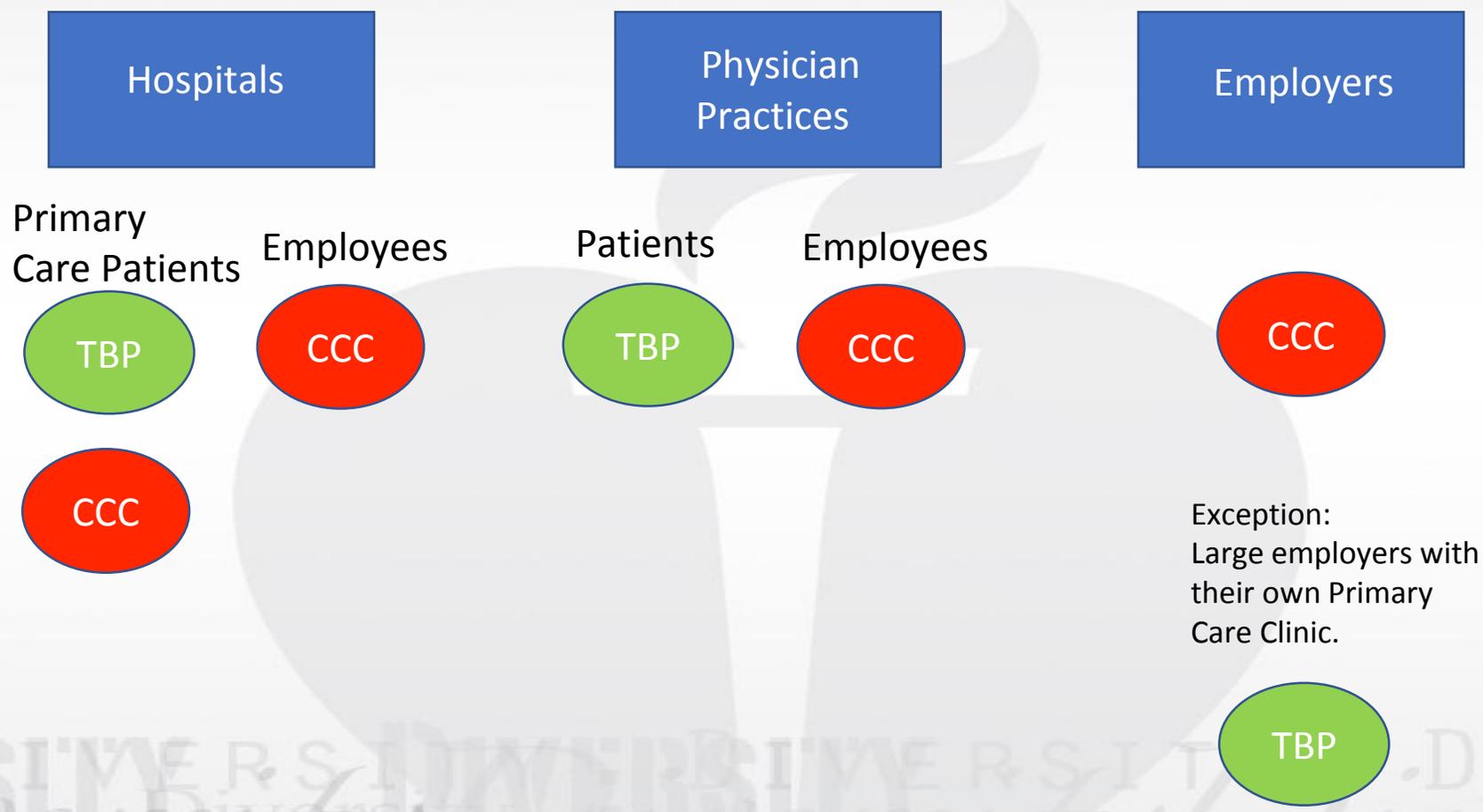
(American Heart Association tools)

Target Blood Pressure:

A tool for health professionals who oversee the ongoing health of a patient population

Check Change Control Hypertension

A self-help tool; available to patients. It can be incorporated with Target Blood Pressure initiatives within clinics, as well as employee health programs.



TARGET: **BP**™



From Registration to Recognition

What is Target: BP?



- ✓ A call to action motivating medical practices, practitioners and health services organizations to prioritize blood pressure control
- ✓ Recognition for healthcare providers who attain high levels of blood pressure control in their patient populations, particularly those who achieve 70, 80 percent or higher control
- ✓ A source for tools and assets for healthcare providers to use in practice, including the AHA/ACC/CDC Hypertension Treatment Algorithm and the AMA's M.A.P. Checklist

Who is our Target Audience?

- Primary Care System
 - Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC)
 - Practice/Clinic with mission to serve publicly insured, underinsured, or uninsured
 - Private Clinical System (non-FQHC)
- Government Agency or Organization providing care to patients



Why should a clinic participate?

- We know what medicines work but systems aren't in place to drive control rates
- Algorithm and systems approach described in AHA's treatment algorithm are proven to increase control rates within a clinical setting
- Sites will receive recognition from the AHA and AMA
- Help meet required performance metrics
- ***Improved health and care of their patients!***

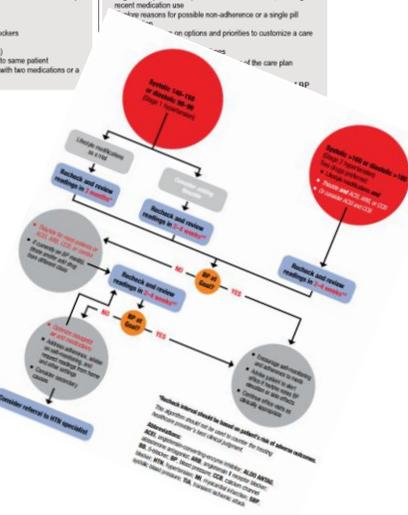
<http://targetbp.org/>

Resources

- Clinical checklists and resources to improve quality of BP measurement
- Algorithms and standardized treatment protocols
- Web-based trainings and peer-to-peer best practices
- Resources to empower patients to self-manage blood pressure
- Lifestyle change/ patient education resources
- Additional resources available after November

The 2015 M.A.P. checklists for improving BP control

Measure accurately	Act rapidly	Partner with patients, families and communities
<p>Screening checklist</p> <p>When screening patients for high blood pressure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a validated, automated device to measure BP¹ Use the correct cuff size on a bare arm^{2,3} Ensure patient is positioned correctly^{2,4-6} <p>Confirmatory checklist</p> <p>If screening blood pressure is $\geq 140/90$ mm Hg, obtain a confirmatory measurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeat screening steps above Ensure patient has an empty bladder^{2,3,8} Ensure patient has rested quietly for at least five minutes^{2,11,12} Obtain the average of at least three BP measurements^{2,13} <p>Evidence-based tips for correct positioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure patient is seated comfortably with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back supported Arm supported Cuff at heart level Legs uncrossed Feet flat on the ground or supported by a foot stool No one talking during the measurement 	<p>If a patient has blood pressure $\geq 140/90$ mm Hg confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use evidence-based protocol to guide treatment^{14,15} Risk-assess patient every 2-4 weeks until BP is controlled^{16,18} Whenever possible, prescribe single-pill combination therapy^{19,21} <p>Evidence-based protocols typically include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counsel on and reinforce lifestyle modifications Ensure early follow-up and add preferred medications in a step-wise fashion, until BP is controlled For most patients, give preference to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thiazide diuretics Dihydropyridine calcium channel blockers ACE inhibitors (ACEi) or Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB) Do not prescribe both ACEi and ARB to same patient If BP $\geq 160/100$ mm Hg, start therapy with two medications or a single pill combination 	<p>To empower patients to control their blood pressure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage patients using evidence-based communication strategies²²⁻²⁵ Help patients accurately self-measure^{26,27} Direct patients and families to resources that support medication adherence and healthy lifestyles <p>Evidence-based communication strategies include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin with open-ended questions about adherence, including recent medication use Identify reasons for possible non-adherence or a single pill combination Offer options and profiles to customize a care plan



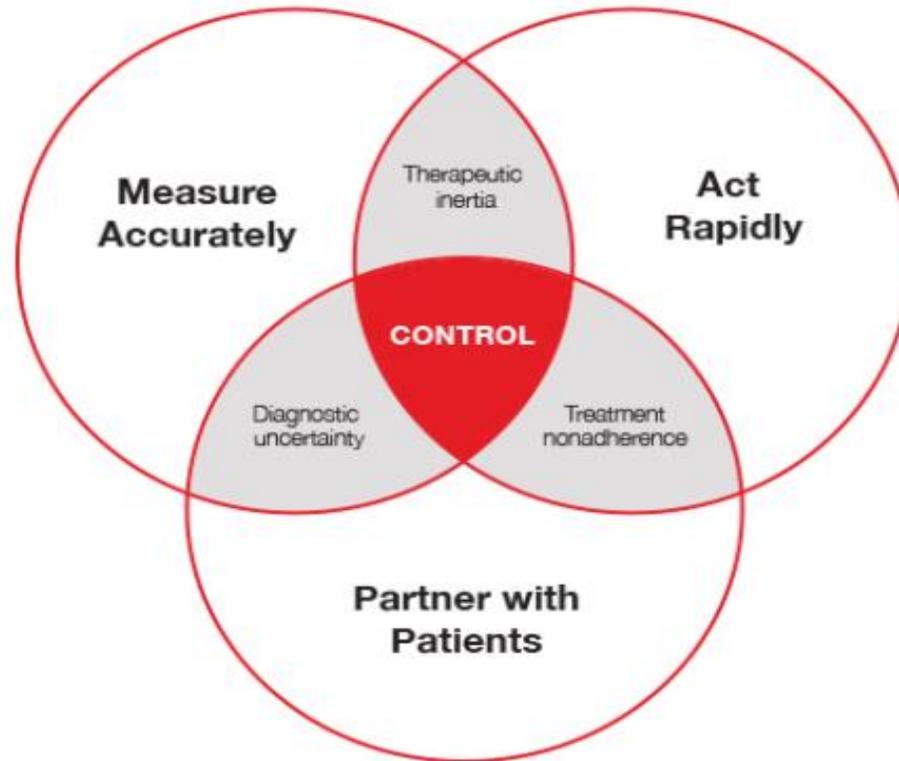

Recognition criteria and levels

- **Participation**
 - Target: BP registration
 - Submit data
- **Achievement**
 - Blood pressure control measure (NQF#18/PQRS#236)
 - **≥70%** of adult patients with diagnosis of hypertension whose blood pressure adequately controlled (<140/90mmHg) in 2019



M.A.P. Framework for Improving BP Control

All 3 are critical for control



Boonyasai RT, Rakotz MK, Lubomski LH, et al. Measure accurately, Act rapidly, and Partner with patients: An intuitive and practical three-part framework to guide efforts to improve hypertension control. J Clin Hypertens. 2017;19:684-694. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jch.12995>

The M.A.P. Improvement Program in Target: BP

Putting it All Together

1. Standardized BP measurement
2. Confirmatory measurement if initial bp high
3. Self-Measured BP Monitoring
4. Standardized treatment protocol
5. Single-pill combination therapy
6. Frequent follow-up visits until bp is controlled
7. Feedback using performance metrics when available
8. Patient centered communication strategies to promote treatment adherence and healthy lifestyle changes

TARGET: **BP**™



The Importance of Measuring Blood Pressure Accurately



AMA Blood Pressure Check Challenge

- 159 students from medical schools in 37 states attending the American Medical Association's House of Delegates Meeting in June 2015 were assessed on an 11-element skillset on BP measurement
- Only one student demonstrated proficiency on all 11 skills
- Measuring BP correctly should be taught and reinforced throughout medical school, residency, and the entire career of clinicians.

Rakotz MK, Townsend RR, Yang J, et al. Medical students and measuring blood pressure: Results from the American Medical Association Blood Pressure Check Challenge. *J Clin Hypertens*. 2017;19:614–619.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jch.13018>

Why is accurate BP measurement important?

BLOOD PRESSURE MEASUREMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION | AMERICAN STROKE ASSOCIATION
Life is why™

- DON'T SMOKE, EXERCISE, DRINK CAFFEINATED BEVERAGES OR ALCOHOL WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF MEASUREMENT.**
- REST IN A CHAIR FOR AT LEAST 5 MINUTES WITH YOUR LEFT ARM RESTING COMFORTABLY ON A FLAT SURFACE AT HEART LEVEL. SIT CALMLY AND DON'T TALK.**
- MAKE SURE YOU'RE RELAXED. SIT STILL IN A CHAIR WITH YOUR FEET FLAT ON THE FLOOR WITH YOUR BACK STRAIGHT AND SUPPORTED.**
- TAKE AT LEAST TWO READINGS 1 MIN. APART IN MORNING BEFORE TAKING MEDICATIONS, AND IN EVENING BEFORE DINNER. RECORD ALL RESULTS.**
- USE PROPERLY CALIBRATED AND VALIDATED INSTRUMENT. CHECK THE CUFF SIZE AND FIT.**
- PLACE THE BOTTOM OF THE CUFF ABOVE THE BEND OF THE ELBOW.**

American Heart Association recommended blood pressure levels

BLOOD PRESSURE CATEGORY	SYSTOLIC mm Hg (upper number)	and	DIASTOLIC mm Hg (lower number)
NORMAL	LESS THAN 120	and	LESS THAN 80
ELEVATED	120-129	and	LESS THAN 80
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE (HYPERTENSION, STAGE 1)	130-139	or	80-89
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE (HYPERTENSION, STAGE 2)	140 OR HIGHER	or	90 OR HIGHER
HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS (seek all your doctor's care immediately)	HIGHER THAN 180	and/or	HIGHER THAN 120

BLOOD PRESSURE: KNOW YOURS AND TAKE IT BY THE REINS.

LEARN MORE AT HEART.ORG/HBP

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The need for accurate BP measurement

Recommendation for Accurate Measurement of BP in the Office		
COR	LOE	Recommendation
I	C-EO	1. For diagnosis and management of high BP, proper methods are recommended for accurate measurement and documentation of BP (Table 8).

COR	LOE	Recommendation for Out-of-Office and Self-Monitoring of BP
I	A ^{SR}	Out-of-office BP measurements are recommended to confirm the diagnosis of hypertension and for titration of BP-lowering medication, in conjunction with telehealth counseling or clinical interventions.

- To categorize level of blood pressure
- Establish BP- related cardiovascular disease risk
- To guide the management of high blood pressure

Whelton PK, Carey RM, Aronow WS, et al. 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *Hypertension*. 2017. doi:10.1161/HYP.0000000000000065



Methods of Blood Pressure Measurement



24 Hour ambulatory
blood pressure
monitoring (ABPM)



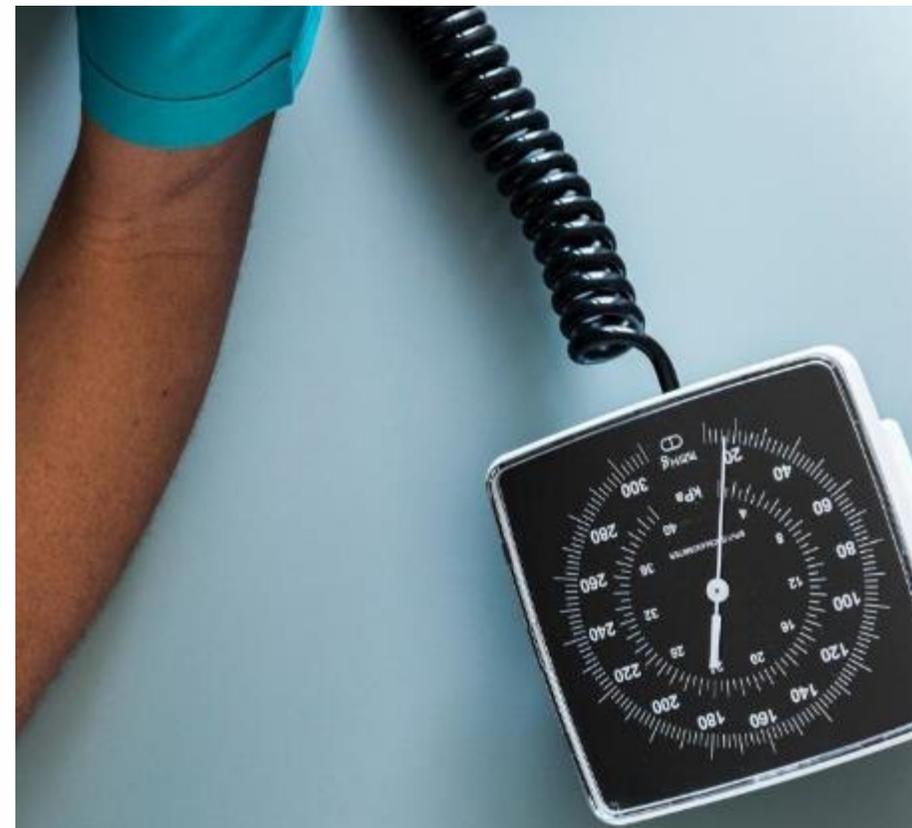
Self-measured
blood pressure
(SMBP)



Automated office
blood pressure
monitoring (AOBP)



Conventional
blood pressure
monitoring



Methods of BP Measurement

24-hour Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM)

Pros

- Most evidence for accurate diagnosis of HTN
- Most reliable for predicting future CV events
- Rule out white coat HTN
- Identify patients with masked HTN
- Provides BP information during sleep

Cons

- Device is expensive
- Inconvenient for patients
- Hard to get scheduled (specialist)
- Training required to interpret



Albert L. Siu, MD, MSPH, on behalf of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for High Blood Pressure in Adults: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. *Ann Intern Med.* 2015;163:778-786. doi:10.7326/M15-2223

Self-measured Blood Pressure (SMBP)

Pros

- Correlates better with 24-hour ABPM readings (compared to office BP)
- Better predictor of future CV events than conventional office BP
- Rule out white coat HTN
- Identify patients with masked HTN
- Inexpensive



Cons

- Requires the patient to have a home BP monitor
- Requires patient to be trained by a healthcare professional
- Requires clinical support for maximum benefit

Albert L. Siu, MD, MSPH, on behalf of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for High Blood Pressure in Adults: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. *Ann Intern Med.* 2015;163:778-786. doi:10.7326/M15-2223

Uhlig K1, Patel K, Ip S, Kitsios GD, Balk EM. Self-measured blood pressure monitoring in the management of hypertension: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Ann Intern Med.* 2013 Aug 6;159(3):185-94.

Automated Office Blood Pressure (AOBP)

Pros

- Validated, automated BP monitors with multiple cuff sizes
- Monitors can take 3 BP measurements and then average them
- Provides unattended measurement, reducing white coat effect
- Intervals can be set at 1-2 minutes between measurements

Cons

- Expensive
- Perception that it will disrupt workflow



Myers MG. Automated office blood pressure; the preferred method for recording blood pressure. *Journal of the American Society of Hypertension*. 2016;10(3):194-196.

Conventional Office Blood Pressure Measurement

Pros

- Convenient
- Inexpensive

Cons

- Heavily impacted by observer (person taking the BP), patient and environmental factors
- Many offices not set up for proper positioning
- Requires time (>5 minutes) to be done effectively – but can be accomplished
- Terminal digit preference more likely if done manually
- Cannot rule out white coat HTN
- Cannot identify patients with masked HTN
- Rarely performed correctly

Pickering TG, Hall JE, Appel LJ, et al; Subcommittee of Professional and Public Education of the American Heart Association Council on High Blood Pressure Research. Recommendations for blood pressure measurement in humans and experimental animals: part 1: blood pressure measurement in humans: a statement for professionals from the Subcommittee of Professional and Public Education of the American Heart Association Council on High Blood Pressure Research. Hypertension 2005; 45:142–161.

Office Blood Pressure Measurement

Single routine office BP – poor correlation with patient's *true* BP. Why do we continue to use them?

- Most convenient and often the only opportunity to obtain a BP

What can we do to improve the quality of office BP measurements?

- Reduce measurement errors
- Standardize the process of measuring BP which reduces variation in measurement technique
- Perform multiple measurements and average them

Which method is preferred?





Common Errors and Solutions for Accurate Measurement

Impact on Accurate Measurements...

Patient has legs crossed.
Reading off by 2-8mmHg.

Cuff over clothing.
Reading off by 5-50mmHg.

Cuff too small.
Reading off by 2-10mmHg.

Full Bladder.
Reading off by 10mmHg.

Talking or Active Listening.
Reading off by 10mmHg.

Unsupported arm/back/legs.
Reading off by 6-10mmHg.



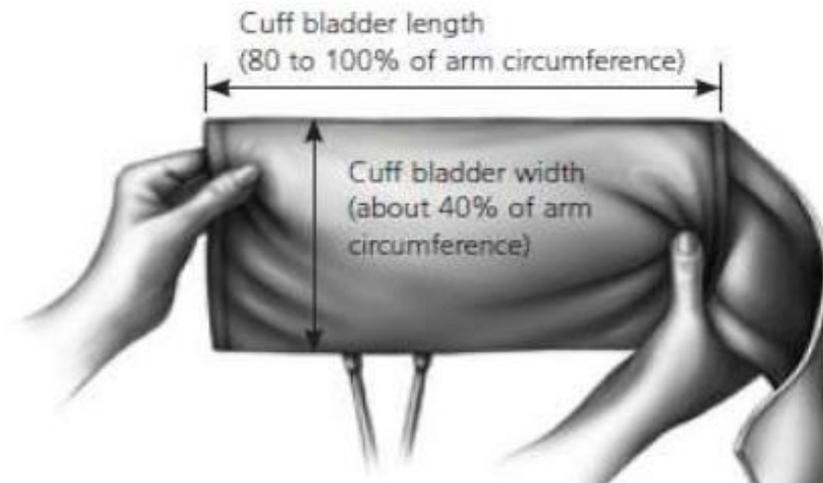
Improvement Examples

- One clinic put red graphics in every exam room by BP machine.
- Another clinic holds annual BP measuring accurately trainings for all staff.
- Some sites have purchased stools to ensure that patient's feet are supported.
- Some sites move furniture around in rooms to allow for a more accurate measurement where arms, feet, and back are supported.

Cuff Size and Placement

A properly-fitted cuff should have

- Bladder length that is 80-100% of the circumference of the arm
- Bladder width that is at least 40% of the circumference of the arm



Pickering TG, Hall JE, Appel LJ, et al. Recommendations for blood pressure measurement in humans and experimental animals: part 1: blood pressure measurement in humans: a statement for professionals from the Subcommittee of Professional and Public Education of the American Heart Association Council on High Blood Pressure Research. *Circulation*. 2005;111:697-716.

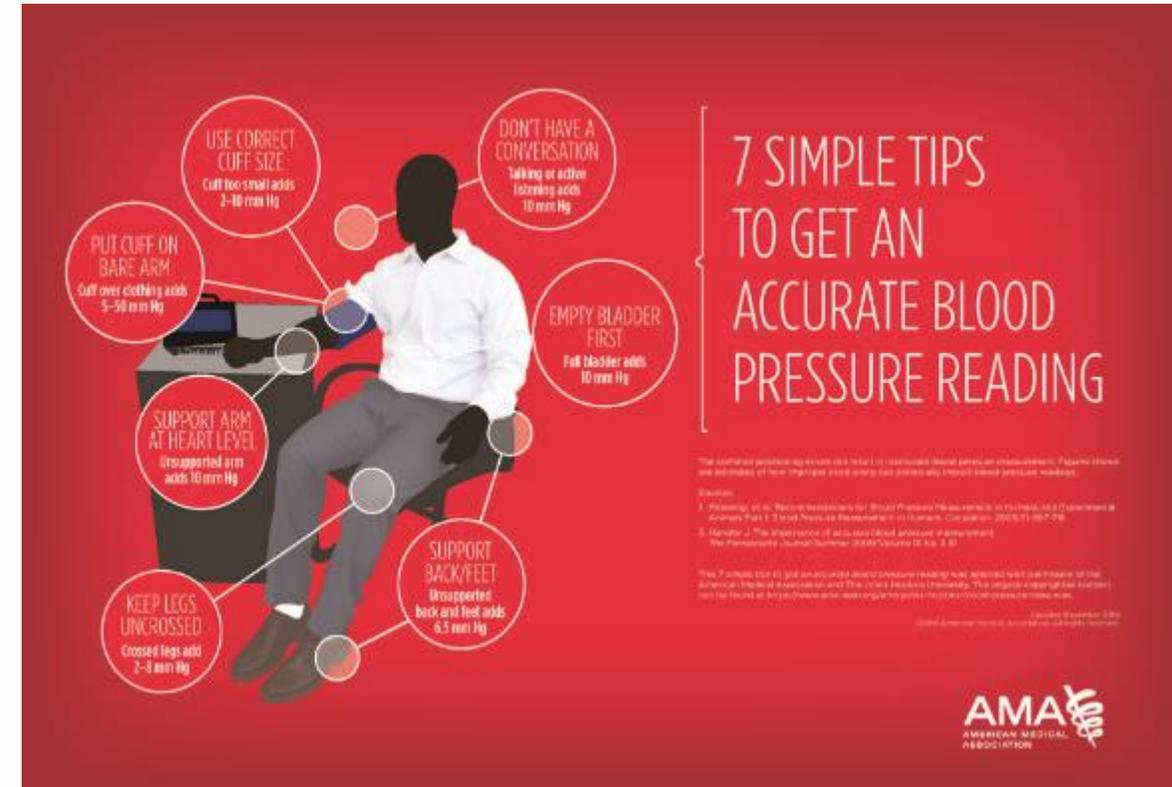


Six Steps to Measuring Blood Pressure Accurately

What's Wrong With This Picture?



- Step 1: Properly prepare the patients
 - Chuck, Red graphic
- Step 2: Use proper technique for BP measurements
 - Cuff size, validate device, arm placement
- Step 3: Take proper measurements needed for diagnosis and management of HBP
 - # of measurements, 1-2 minutes apart
- Step 4: Properly document BP readings
- Step 5: Average the readings
- Step 6: Provide BP readings to patients



Whelton PK, Carey RM, Aronow WS, et al. 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *Hypertension*. 2017. doi:10.1161/HYP.0000000000000065

Measure Accurately Tools: Technique quick-check



Technique quick-check

Excellent measurement technique requires training and skill building, but a few common problems related to patient preparation and positioning often account for unreliable readings.^{1,2}

Use this tool to **verify** everyone in your practice or health center obtains blood pressure readings the right way and the same way every time. **Complete** four observations for each team member (e.g., medical assistant, nursing staff and physicians) who regularly takes blood pressure measurements, using one sheet for each person. **Repeat** on a quarterly or monthly basis or as needed.

General information												
Site name:						Date:						
Observer name(s):						Observation location (clinic, unit, etc.):						
	Patient #1			Patient #2			Patient #3			Patient #4		
Device used	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments
1. Used a manual device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Used an automated device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Additional notes on availability, accessibility, quality and/or use patterns of blood pressure measurement devices in the practice (optional):												
Patient preparation and positioning	Yes	No	If no, why not?	Yes	No	If no, why not?	Yes	No	If no, why not?	Yes	No	If no, why not?
1. Patient in the correct position ...												
1.1. Seated with back supported	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.2. Feet flat on the floor or footstool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Measure Accurately Tools: Office Positioning Poster

Blood pressure measurement: Measure accurately

Screening for high blood pressure

- Use a validated, automated device to measure BP
- Use the correct cuff size on a bare arm
- Ensure the patient is positioned correctly

If initial blood pressure is elevated, obtain a confirmatory measurement

- Repeat above steps
- Ensure the patient has an empty bladder
- Ensure the patient has rested quietly for at least five minutes
- Obtain the average of at least three BP measurements

Evidenced-based tips for correct positioning

- Ensure the patient is seated comfortably with:
 - 1 Back supported
 - 2 Legs uncrossed with feet flat on the floor/
supported with a stool
 - 3 Arm supported with the BP cuff at heart level



7 SIMPLE TIPS TO GET AN ACCURATE BLOOD PRESSURE READING

- 1. **USE CORRECT CUFF SIZE**
Cuff too small adds 2-10 mm Hg
- 2. **PUT CUFF ON BARE ARM**
Cuff over clothing adds 5-50 mm Hg
- 3. **SUPPORT ARM AT HEART LEVEL**
Unsupported arm adds 10 mm Hg
- 4. **KEEP LEGS UNCROSSED**
Crossed legs add 2-8 mm Hg
- 5. **SUPPORT BACK/FEET**
Unsupported back and feet adds 6.5 mm Hg
- 6. **DON'T HAVE A CONVERSATION**
Talking or active listening adds 10 mm Hg
- 7. **EMPTY BLADDER FIRST**
Full bladder adds 10 mm Hg

The standard procedure to prevent an error in blood pressure measurement. Figures shown are averages of four readings over three consecutive readings. Figures shown are averages of four readings over three consecutive readings.

1. Whinnery, et al. Recommendations for Blood Pressure Measurement in Primary Care Clinicians. *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The 2014 Evidence Synthesis*. The original report is located at <http://www.ama-assn.org/speical-reports/2014/05/01/2014-05-01>.

2. Whinnery, et al. Recommendations for Blood Pressure Measurement in Primary Care Clinicians. *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The 2014 Evidence Synthesis*. The original report is located at <http://www.ama-assn.org/speical-reports/2014/05/01/2014-05-01>.

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7. Whinnery, et al. Recommendations for Blood Pressure Measurement in Primary Care Clinicians. *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The 2014 Evidence Synthesis*. The original report is located at <http://www.ama-assn.org/speical-reports/2014/05/01/2014-05-01>.

AMA
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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American Heart Association It's a why

AMA AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

About Target: BP | BP Improvement Program | Recognition Program | BP Guideline | Tools & Downloads

MOTIVATING MILLIONS TO **CONTROL** BLOOD PRESSURE

Learn More



JOIN TARGET: BP



Commit to reducing the number of Americans with uncontrolled blood pressure.

Register

RECOGNITION PROGRAM



Achieve recognition for maintaining blood pressure control rates.

Learn More

DATA SUBMISSION



Submit data to be recognized by the Target: BP Recognition Program.

Submit Data

TARGET:BP™



Information from this presentation was obtained from the AHA/AMA Webinar titled The Importance of Measuring Blood Pressure Accurately unless otherwise noted

For additional information, please access the webinar using this link:

https://targetbp.org/tools_downloads/cme-course-measure-accurately/

To download the full version of the 2017 Hypertension Guideline, please visit

<http://professional.heart.org/hypertension>

Whelton PK, Carey RM, Aronow WS, Casey DE Jr, Collins KJ, Dennison Himmelfarb C, DePalma SM, Gidding S, Jamerson KA, Jones DW, MacLaughlin EJ, Muntner P, Ovbiagele B, Smith SC Jr, Spencer CC, Stafford RS, Taler SJ, Thomas RJ, Williams KA Sr, Williamson JD, Wright JT Jr. 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA guideline for the prevention, detection, evaluation, and management of high blood pressure in adults: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines [published online ahead of print November 13, 2017]. Hypertension. doi: 10.1161/HYP.000000000000065.

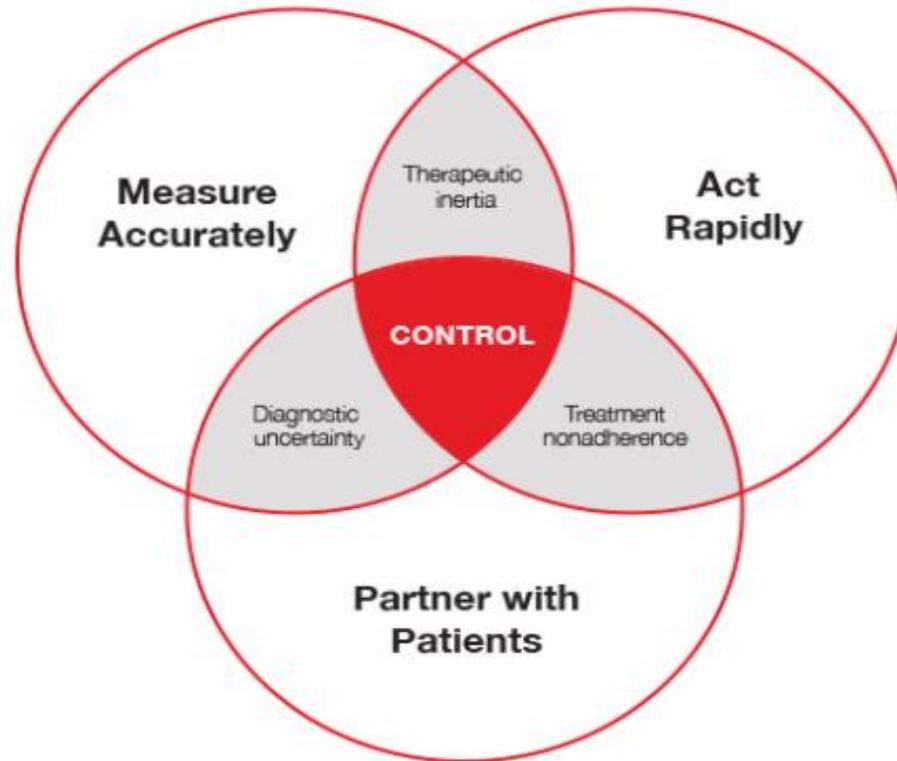
TARGET: **BP**™



Act Rapidly: The Importance of Treating
Patient's High Blood Pressure

M.A.P. Framework for Improving BP Control

All 3 are critical for control



Boonyasai RT, Rakotz MK, Lubomski LH, et al. Measure accurately, Act rapidly, and Partner with patients: An intuitive and practical three-part framework to guide efforts to improve hypertension control. J Clin Hypertens. 2017;19:684-694. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jch.12995>

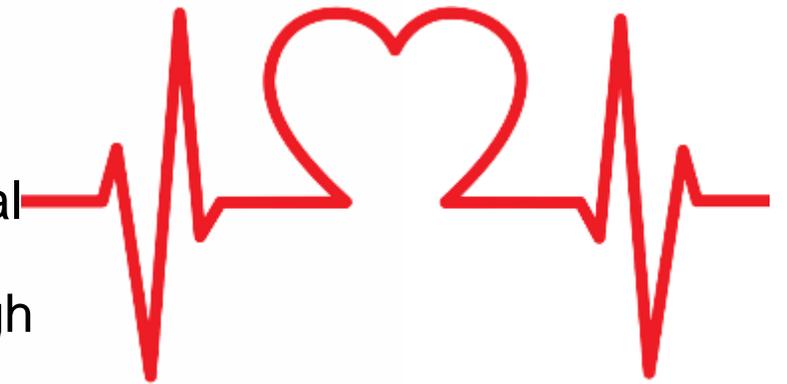
What is Therapeutic Inertia?

- **DEFINITION:** A lack of treatment initiation or intensification when a patient's blood pressure is high
- What Are Some Factors That Contribute to Clinical Inertia?
 - Clinician Factors
 - Patient Factors
 - Health System Factors



Why is Therapeutic Inertia Important?

- Studies have shown that healthcare providers increase bp meds in less than 25% of patients with uncontrolled bp
- National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (2005-2012) and the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (2005-2011) showed treatment was intensified in roughly 17% of visits when bp was high
- Therapeutic inertia accounts for approximately 20% of uncontrolled bp



Overcoming Clinical Inertia

- Standardized protocols to diagnose and treat high blood pressure



- Frequent follow-up visits



- Single-pill combination therapy to treat high bp whenever possible



- Hypertension registry: feedback, metrics, dashboards/reports

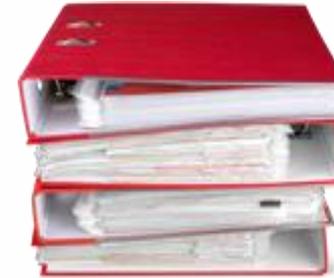


- Outreach to uncontrolled patients



Why Use Standardized Protocols?

- Standardized protocols can improve bp control
- Having a “playbook” can help to guide the entire team
- The entire team can better understand:
 - WHO needs treatment
 - WHAT treatment should be used
 - WHEN follow-up should occur



NOTE: The AHA/AMA Treatment Algorithm for blood pressure is currently being updated and can be provided when updated.

Ensuring Standardized Protocol is Being Used

- Make sure all clinical staff are familiar with the treatment protocol
- Create a system for ensuring that follow-up is conducted and a plan for outreach to the patients who do not return or respond to follow-up
- Embed the treatment protocol into the EHR, if possible, and track

Frequent Follow-Up Visits

- Have patients return frequently to confirm if treatment is effective or if it needs to be intensified



- Continue frequent follow-up every 2-4 weeks until bp is controlled
- In what ways can follow-up occur?



Feedback and Metrics in Quality Improvement Programs

How Can Feedback and Metrics Assist in Implementing a Blood Pressure Quality Improvement Program?



HTN Registry – Metrics and Reports

- The goal of a registry is to capture all individuals with HTN into a database where information can be accessed, queried and analyzed in the form of metrics, reports and dashboards
- Prevalence of HTN in a population
- Characteristics of a population and individuals



HTN Registry – Metrics and Reports

- Create metrics aligned with Target: BP M.A.P. Framework
 - Measuring Accurately: What % of time are confirmatory bps done when initial bp reading is elevated?
 - Acting Rapidly: What % of the time is clinical inertia occurring when a patient has an encounter with a clinician?
 - Partnering with Patients: What is the change in blood pressure on a visit following therapeutic intensification?
- Information can be used to identify strategies to improve bp control

HTN Registry – Patient Outreach

- Identify patients with uncontrolled bp who are overdue for follow-up
- How can outreach to patients with uncontrolled bp be conducted?



- Considerations:
 - Who will perform the outreach?
 - How will the outreach be performed?
 - Who will see the patient for their follow-up visit (MA, Nurse, Pharmacist)

Single Pill Combination Therapy

- **DEFINITION:** Two classes of drugs in a single pill
- Most patients ultimately require at least 2 medications to achieve bp control
- Using low dose single pill combination to treat high blood pressure is very effective at lowering high blood pressure and easy to titrate (adjust) without having a significant number of side effects.
- Patients are more adherent to taking their medication
 - More convenient
 - Fewer co-pays
 - Less side effects



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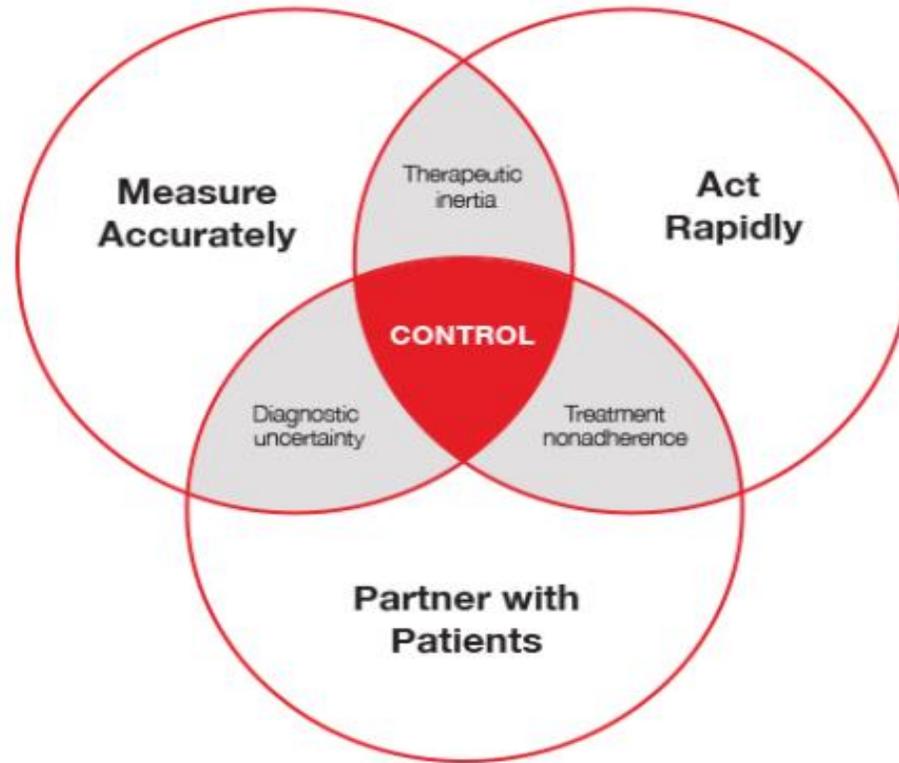


Partnering with Patients

Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring
and Patient Engagement

M.A.P. Framework for Improving BP Control

All 3 are critical for control



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What is SMBP?

- Patient self-measurement of their BP outside of the clinical setting
- Patients receive training how to properly self-measure their BP from their clinical team.
- Patients share these BP readings with their healthcare provider.

Why SMBP?

Which Patients Benefit from SMBP

- Elevated HTN readings in the office (to confirm HTN diagnosis)
- Suspected white coat or masked hypertension
- Difficult to control HTN
- Increase engagement and adherence to treatment
- Assess the effectiveness of treatment for a patient

SMBP Program Implementation

- Identify champions



- Patients should be encouraged to purchase their own SMBP devices



SMBP Program Implementation

- Budget for 2-3 SMBP devices (\$50-\$75 each) per physician for patients who cannot afford the device
- Allocate time for the following:
 - Training Staff (1 Hour)
 - Training Patients (5-6 minutes per patient)
 - Ensuring Device Accuracy if Patient Using Own Device (5 minutes)
 - Averaging and Documenting the BP Readings (5 minutes per patient)
 - Preparing Device for Next Patient if Loaner (5 minutes)



SMBP Program Implementation

- Design Processes to Include:
 - How will patients be identified for smbp?
 - Who will train the patients on proper self-measurement?
 - How will you get the readings and device (if loaner) back from patient?
 - What will follow up look like?
 - Who will be responsible for averaging, document and notifying the provider of the smbp average?
 - Measuring mid-upper arm circumference to ensure proper cuff size for patient
 - For Loaner Program:
 - Who will disinfect devices?
 - Where will the devices be stored?
 - Please find tools and resources for loaner program on the Target BP website

Training Patients to Self-Measure Accurately

- Patient Training Video: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/261555352>
- Ask patients what they already know about SMBP and if they have any concerns
- Provide general information about hypertension
- Tell them how often and when to measure:
 - Two sets of measurements twice per day
 - One set in the morning and one set in the evening prior to taking HTN medication
 - Each set consists of two measurements 1 minute apart
 - Should be done for 7 consecutive days (minimum of 3 days or 12 readings).

Training Patients to Self-Measure Accurately

How to measure your blood pressure at home

Follow these steps for an accurate blood pressure reading

1 PREPARE

Avoid caffeine, cigarettes and other stimulants 30 minutes before you measure your blood pressure.

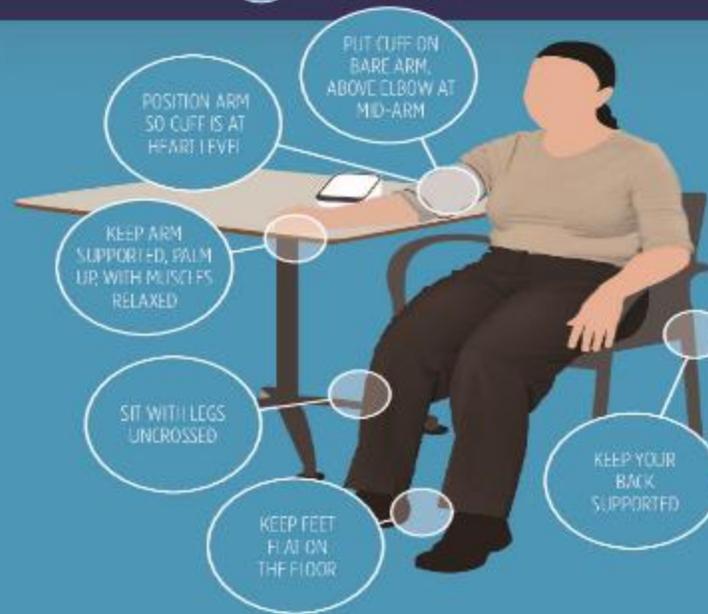
Wait at least 30 minutes after a meal.

If you're on blood pressure medication, measure your BP **before** you take your medication.

Empty your bladder beforehand.

Find a quiet space where you can sit comfortably without distraction.

2 POSITION



3 MEASURE

Rest for five minutes while in position before starting.

Take two or three measurements, one minute apart.

Keep your body relaxed and in position during measurements.

Sit quietly with no distractions during measurements – avoid conversations, TV, phones and other devices.

Record your measurements when finished.

TARGET:BP™



This Prepare, position, measure handout was adapted with permission of the American Medical Association and The Johns Hopkins University. The original copyrighted content can be found at <https://www.ama-assn.org/ama-johns-hopkins-blood-pressure-resources>.

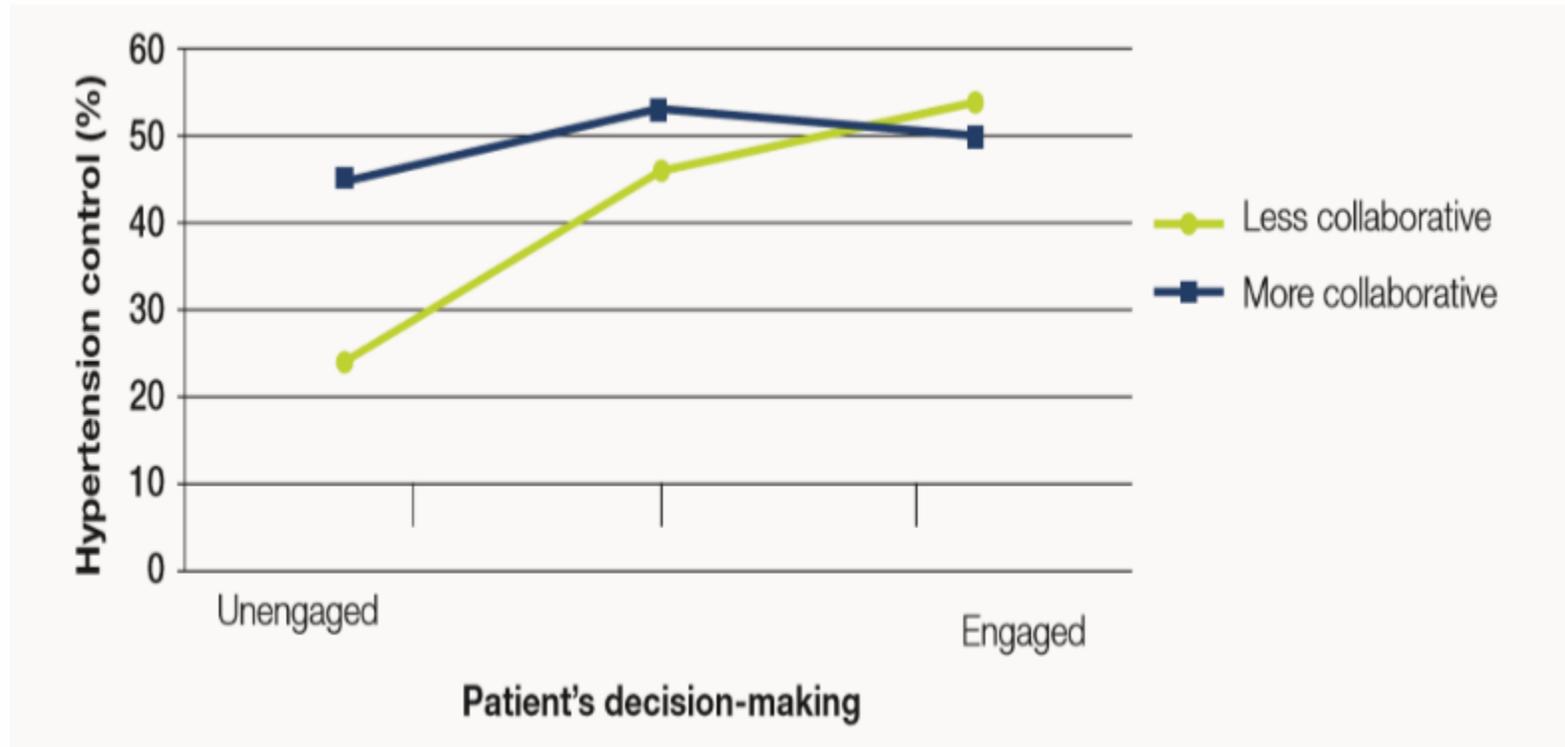
Training Patients to Self-Measure Accurately



- Teach patients how to record their measurements
 - They can use paper log or Check. Change. Control. Tracker at www.ccctracker.com.
 - Tell them what to do if their bp is too high, too low or if they are experiencing associated symptoms
 - Explain to them how they will report their results back to the clinic
 - Use teach back in order to ensure patient understanding

Collaborative Communication Strategies to Manage BP

Effect of Collaborative Care and Decision-Making Style on Hypertension



Naik AD, Kallen MA, Walder A, Street RL Jr. Improving hypertension control in diabetes mellitus: the effects of collaborative and proactive health communication. *Circulation*. 2008 Mar 18;117(11):1361-8. PMID: 18316489.

Collaborative Communication Strategies to Manage BP

Why is this Important?

- The way that clinicians communicate with patients can influence whether the patients take their medications or feel motivated to change their lifestyle, especially those who need the most help—patients who aren't always interested in managing their health
- It's important for clinicians to involve patients in treatment decisions
- Non-clinical staff who use a collaborative approach can also engage patients in managing their blood pressure

Collaborative Communication Strategies to Manage BP

What Practices Can Do Partner with Patients

- Open-ended questions
- Reflective listening
- Positive reinforcement
- Ask-provide-ask
- Teach-back
- Access resources to encourage conversation at: <https://targetbp.org/tools-downloads/?sort=topic&audience=Healthcare Professionals&>

Blood Pressure
QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR **Q&A**

This list of common questions about blood pressure will help you discuss test results, risk factors and lifestyle changes (including medication) with your doctor.

USE THIS SHEET TO YOUR NEXT APPOINTMENT AND USE THE SPACES PROVIDED TO WRITE DOWN YOUR DOCTOR'S COMMENTS.

QUESTIONS	COMMENTS
• What do my blood pressure numbers mean?	
• What should my blood pressure numbers be?	
• How can high blood pressure affect my health?	
• Are there any lifestyle changes that will help me control my blood pressure?	
• How often should my blood pressure be checked?	
• Should I use a home blood pressure monitor?	
• What type of home monitor should I purchase?	
• Will I need to take blood pressure medication?	
• What kind of medication is best for me?	
• What are the side effects?	
• What if I forget to take my medication?	

How Do I Manage My Medicines?

Taking medicine may be new to you, and there may be a lot to remember. For example, why are you taking it? What time should you take it? How often do you take it, and how many pills do you take?

It's very important to take medicine the right way — just as your doctor tells you.

If you don't follow your doctor's directions, what could happen? First, of all, if medicine isn't taken the right way, it may not work. It could also cause side effects that may be mild — or very harmful. Without knowing it, you could counteract one medicine by taking it with another. Not taken properly, medicine can also make you feel sick or dizzy.



How can I remember to take my medicine? | • Start with medicine the way your doctor or pharmacist

What Is High Blood Pressure Medicine?

Your doctor has prescribed medicine to help lower your blood pressure. You also need to make the other lifestyle changes that will help reduce blood pressure, including, not smoking, reaching and maintaining a healthy weight, lowering sodium (salt) intake, eating a heart healthy diet including potassium rich foods, being more regularly physically active, and limiting alcohol to no more than one drink a day for women or two drinks a day for men. Following your overall therapy plan will help you get on the road to a healthier life!



What should I know about taking medicine?

- Your doctor may prescribe one or more drugs to bring your blood pressure down to normal.
- Use a weekly pill box with separate sections for each day or time of day.
- Ask family and friends to help remind you.

Closing the SMBP Data Loop

- EHRs typically do not have a field to record SMBP readings
- Some systems enter the SMBP readings into a visit note
- You may be able to work with your EHR in order to create a field for SMBP readings
- Enter the week the recordings were captured and the average of the SMBP readings

Next Steps After SMBP Readings

Interpret Results and Manage Patients

Use this chart to reconcile in-office BP and SMBP measurements to classify and manage patients.

In-office BP	SMBP	Classification	Management
Less than 120/80	Less than 120/80	Normal blood pressure	Recheck BP in office in one year
120-129/ less than 80	120-129/ less than 80	Elevated BP	Healthy lifestyle changes and recheck SMBP every 3-6 months
Less than 130/80	Greater than or equal to 130/80	Masked hypertension	Manage as sustained hypertension due to increased CV risk or consider 24-hour ABPM
Greater than or equal to 130/80	Less than 130/80	White coat hypertension	Recheck SMBP every six months
Greater than or equal to 130/80	120-129/ less than 80	White coat hypertension + elevated BP	Healthy lifestyle changes and recheck SMBP every 3-6 months
Greater than or equal to 130/80	Greater than or equal to 130/80	Sustained hypertension	Manage per current hypertension guideline recommendations

TARGET:BP™



Information from this presentation was obtained from the AHA/AMA Webinar titled Using self-measured blood pressure (SMBP) monitoring to diagnose and manage HBP unless otherwise noted

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Check. Change. *Control.*[®] Self-Monitoring Blood Pressure Control

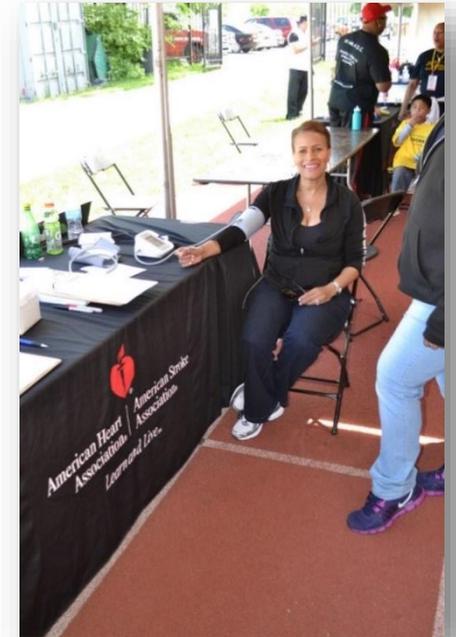
- Staff Training August 2016



Check.
Change.
Control.[®]

Check. Change. *Control.*®

- Evidence based high blood pressure management program that utilizes a tracker to empower patients to take ownership of their cardiovascular health.
- Incorporates the concepts of remote monitoring, mentoring, tracking as key features to improve HBP management, physical activity and weight reduction.
- Four month education sessions are recommended along with incentives for participation.
- Encourage participants to take weekly readings or 8 readings at least once/month over 4 months.



Check. Change. *Control.*®

Check. Change. *Control.*® was founded on successful evidence-based practices from the American Heart Association pilot program, Check It, Change It. The Check It, Change It program proved to be especially effective among the target population of African Americans (*Thomas et al. (2012). Check It, Change It: A Community-Based Intervention to Improve Blood Pressure Control*).



Check. Change. Control.® *Engages Participants*

Developed to support hypertension management among the adult population, **Check. Change. Control.®** *engages* participants, emphasizing 3 important aspects of managing hypertension:

- 1. *Checking*** for high blood pressure and symptoms;
- 2. *Changing*** lifestyle and seeking treatment;
- 3. *Controlling*** hypertension by taking preventative measures.



8 0 Why it works?

Key Evidence-Based Scientific Principles

Self Monitoring Makes a Difference

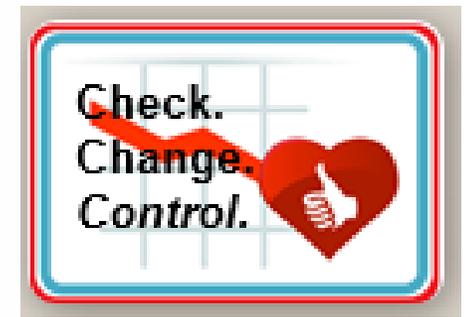
- Proven track record for taking blood pressure readings at home or outside of the healthcare provider office setting.
- Use of digital self-monitoring and communication tool
- Charting & tracking improves self-management skills related to blood pressure management.

Personal Interaction Makes a Difference

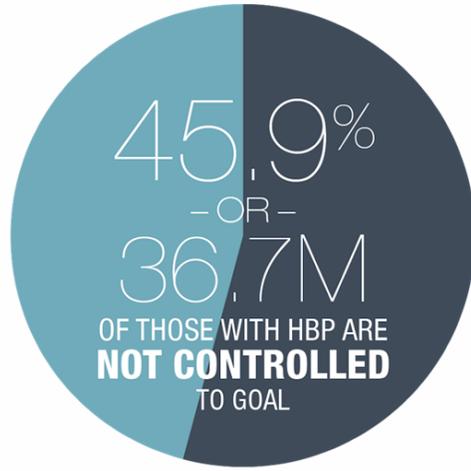
- Coaches can motivate and encourage participants.

Multicultural Program Investments Make a Difference

- Hypertension creates a health disparity for African-Americans.



Our Goal for Better Control



GOAL
- MOVE -
13.6M
PEOPLE
TO CONTROL
- BY 2020 -



From 2009 to 2012 among US adults with HBP



54.1%
HBP is
controlled



76.5%
currently
treated



82.7%
are aware
they have HBP



17.3%
remain
undiagnosed

AHA 2015 Statistical Update

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