

# Hypertension

## Quoi de neuf?

PROF BELEN PONTE.

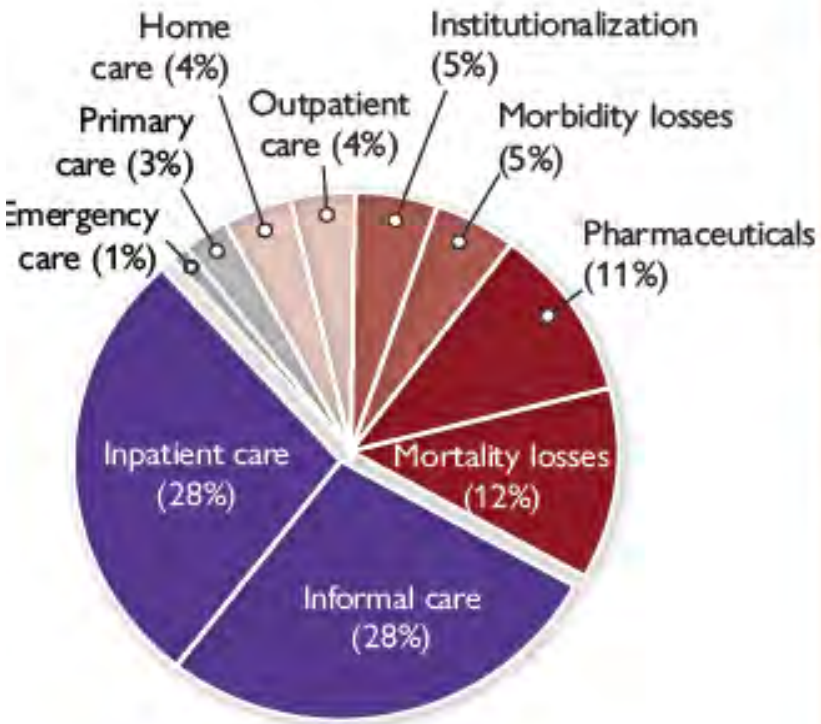
RESPONSABLE DE L'UNITÉ  
D'HYPERTENSION.

SERVICE DE NEPHROLOGIE ET  
HYPERTENSION



# Economic burden of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in 27 European Union countries is €282 billion annually

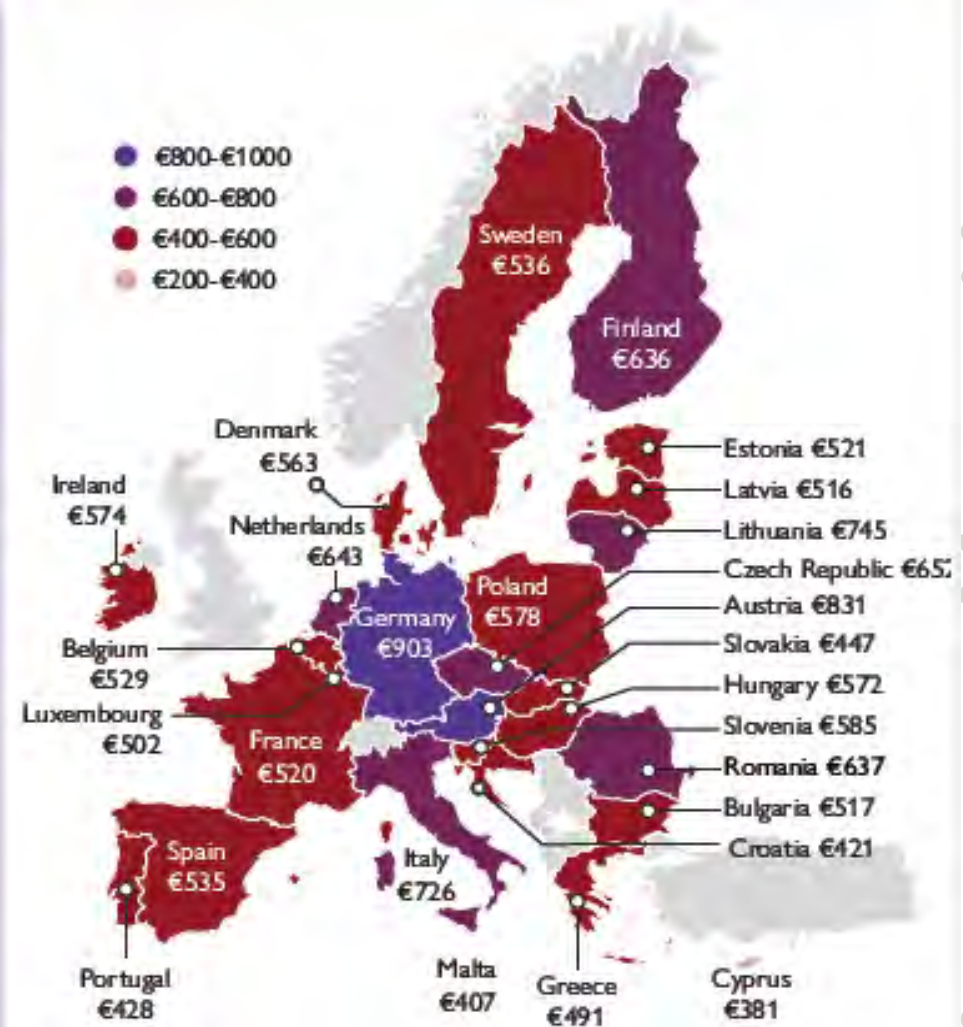
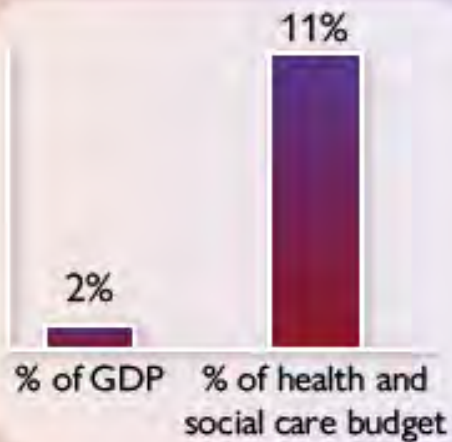
## Costs by categories



Coronary heart disease:  
**€77 Billion (27%)**

Cerebrovascular disease:  
**€76 Billion (27%)**

**€630 per capita across EU**  
(ppp-adjusted)



# Global Effect of Modifiable Risk Factors on Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality

112 cohorts, 34 countries; n > 1.5 mio

RESEARCH SUMMARS

## Global Effect of Modifiable Risk Factors on Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality

Global Cardiovascular Risk Consortium | DOI: 10.1056/NEJM200916

**CLINICAL PROBLEM**  
Five modifiable risk factors — body-mass index (BMI), systolic blood pressure, non-high-density lipoprotein (non-HDL) cholesterol level, current tobacco smoking, and diabetes — are associated with cardiovascular disease and death from any cause. Studies using individual-level data to evaluate the regional and sex-specific associations of these risk factors with the development of cardiovascular disease are lacking.

**STUDY DESIGN**  
A pooled analysis harmonized individual-level data from 112 cohort studies conducted in 34 countries and 8 geographic regions including 1,516,028 participants (median age, 54.4 years) to assess the effects of the five risk factors mentioned above on the 10-year incidence of cardiovascular disease and death from any cause.

**RESULTS**  
The prevalence of the five risk factors and the incidence of cardiovascular disease and death from any cause varied across geographic regions worldwide, with women having consistently lower event rates than men. For both men and women, more than half the cases of incident cardiovascular disease and one fifth of deaths may be attributable to the five risk factors. Among the risk factors, elevated systolic blood pressure appeared to be the largest contributor to the population-attributable fraction of cardiovascular disease events.

**LIMITATIONS AND REMAINING QUESTIONS**

- The cohorts included in the study varied with respect to definitions of end points, how the data were collected, and the quality and quantity of data.
- The effects of overweight and obesity may be mediated by hyperlipidemia, hypertension, and diabetes.
- Smoking cessation during follow-up might have led to an underestimation of smoking as a risk factor.

Links: Full Article | NEJM Quick Take | Editorial

**Modifiable Risk Factors**

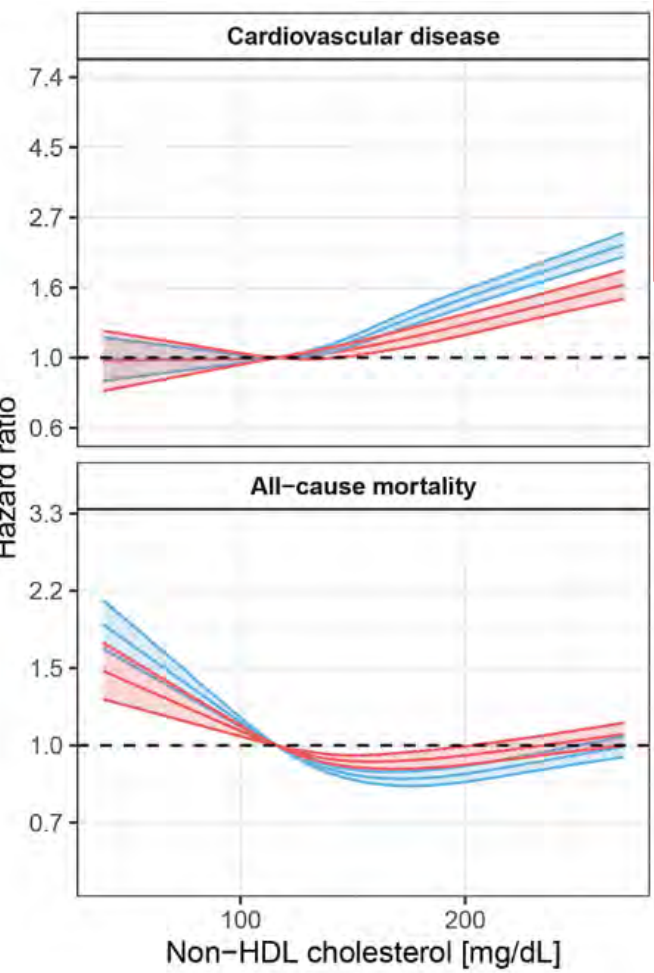
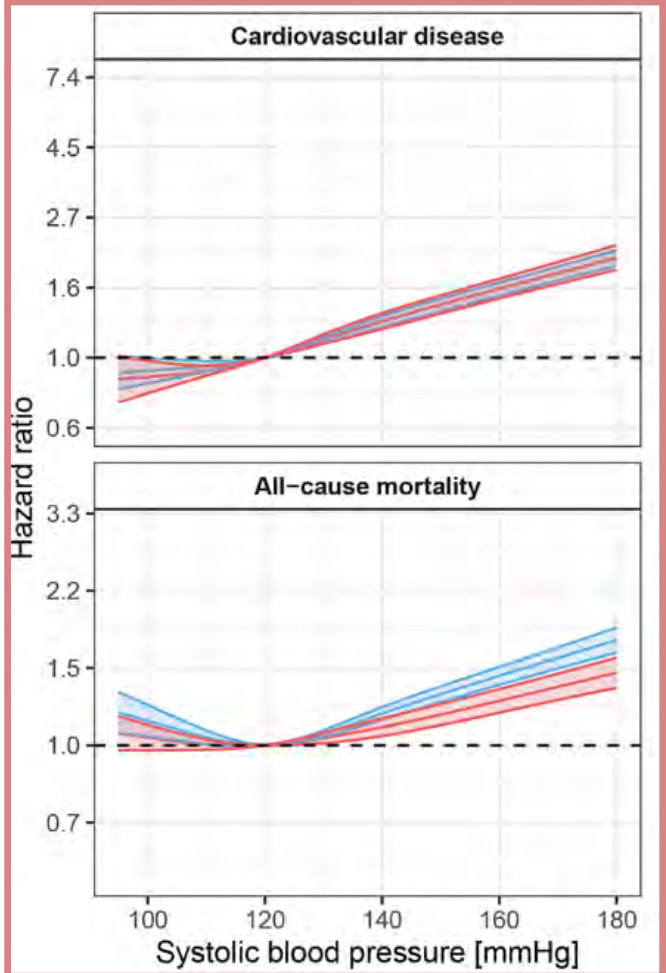
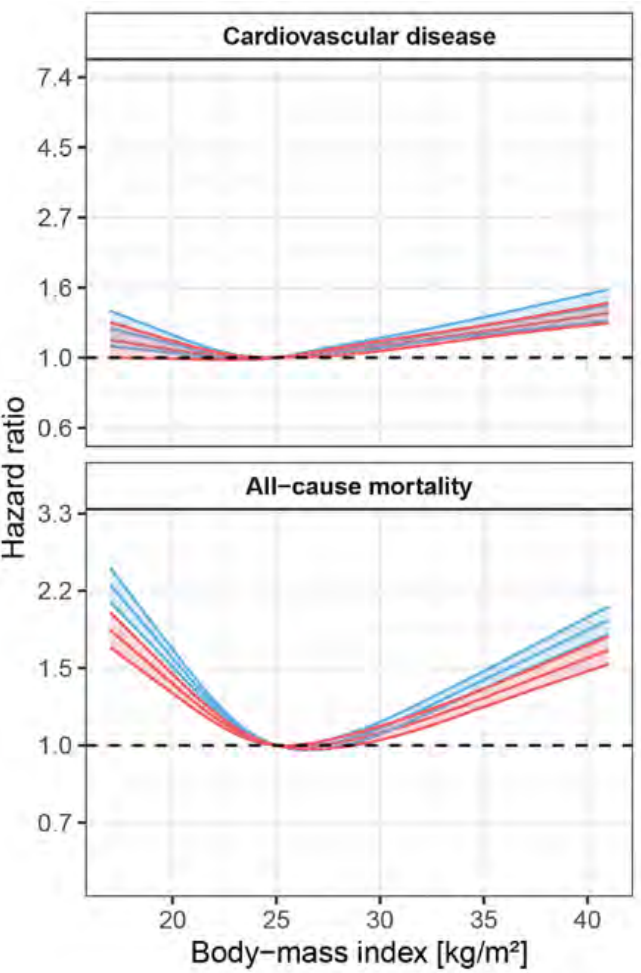
**Population-Attributable Fractions for the Risk Factors Combined**

Cardiovascular Disease	29.3%	14.8% (Men)	14.4% (Women)
Death From Any Cause	21.6%	11.7% (Men)	10.9% (Women)

**Population-Attributable Fractions for the Individual Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease**

Risk Factor	Men (%)	Women (%)
Systolic Blood Pressure	22.1	22.1
Non-HDL Cholesterol	13.6	13.6
Current Smoking	11.8	11.8
Diabetes	11.7	11.7
BMI	7.4	7.4

**CONCLUSIONS**  
Harmonized individual-level data from a global cohort showed that over 10 years, more than half the cases of incident cardiovascular disease and one fifth of deaths in adults may be attributable to five modifiable risk factors.

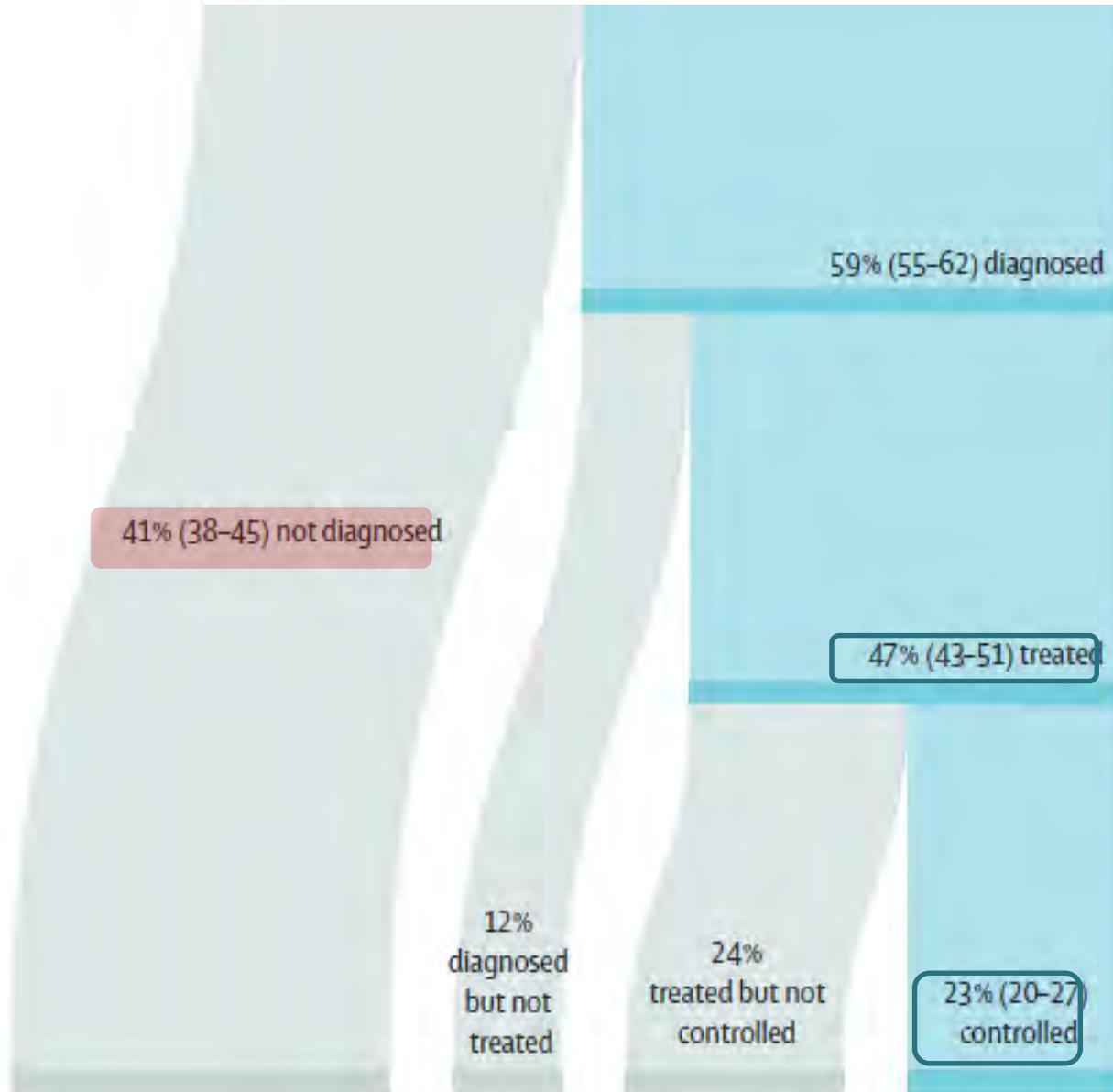


**PAF CVD SBP:**  
W 29.3%  
M 21.6%



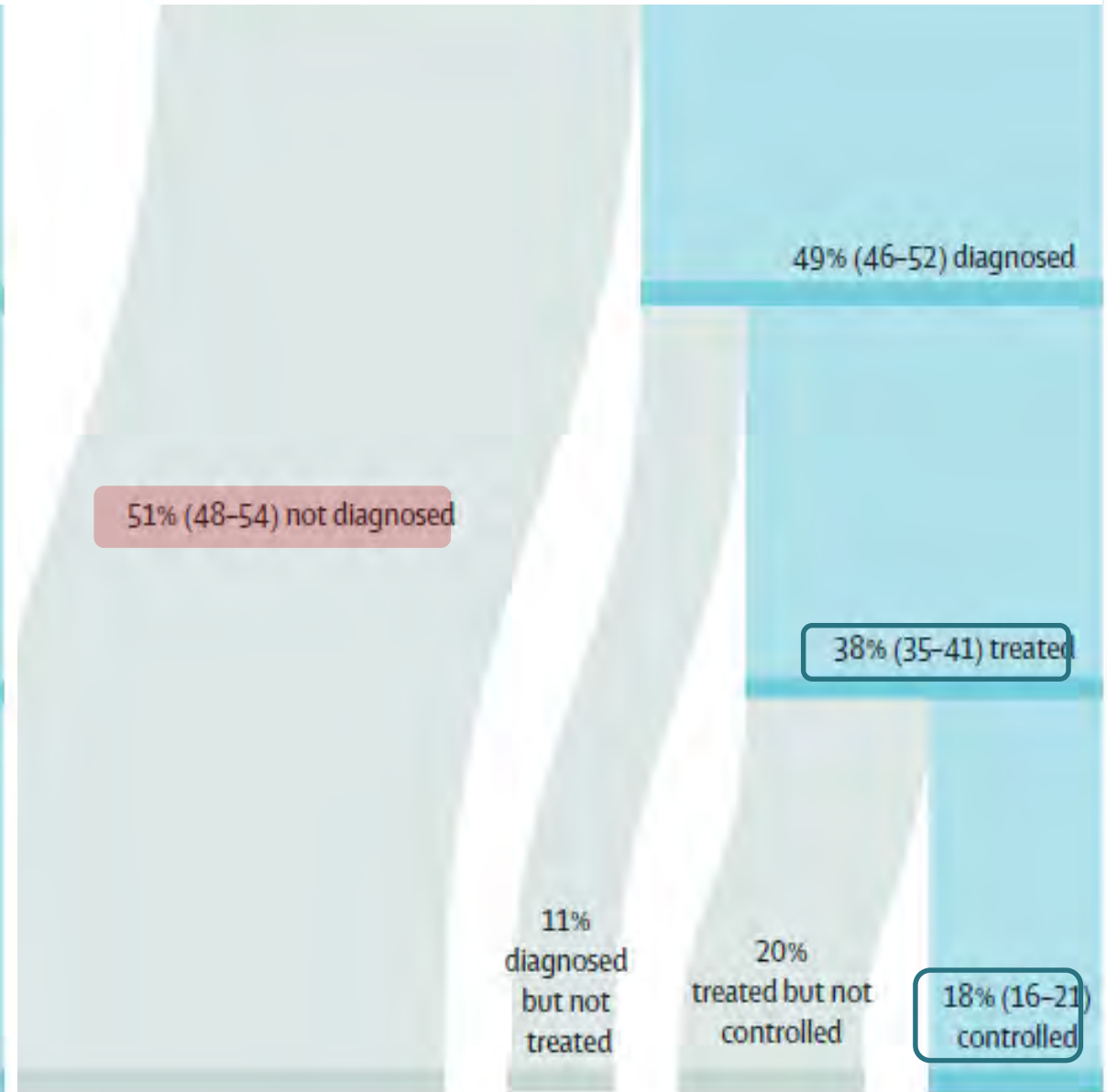
### All women with hypertension (world)

**Women: 32% (30-34), stable**



### All men with hypertension (world)

**Men: 34% (32-37), stable**



# Switzerland

## Hypertension profile

Total population (2019): 8 576 000

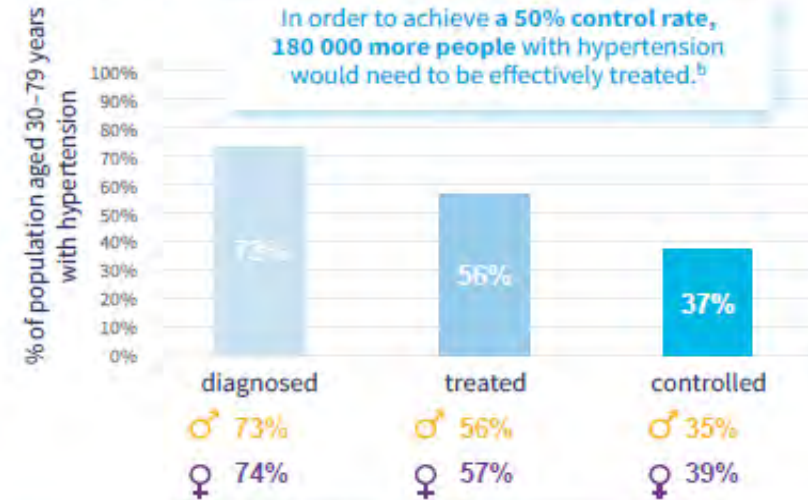
Total deaths (2019): 69 100

Age-standardized prevalence of hypertension among adults aged 30–79 years (2019)<sup>a</sup> ♀ 22% ♂ 26% ♀ 18%

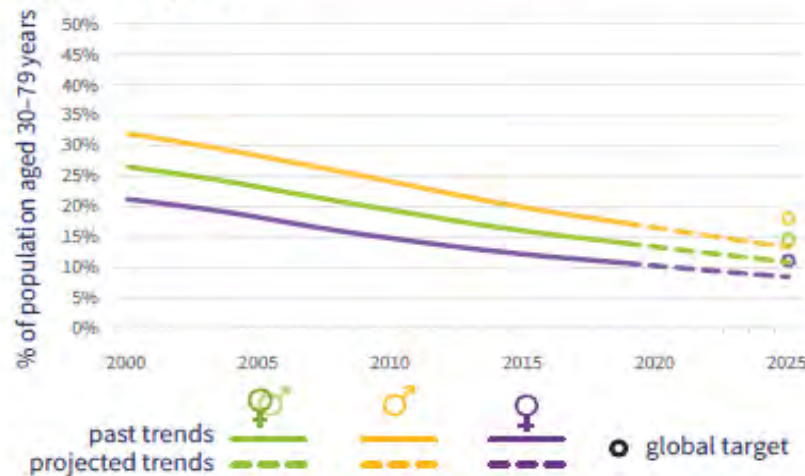
### Prevalence of hypertension – global comparison (both sexes)<sup>a</sup>



### Of the 1.5 million adults aged 30–79 years with hypertension:



### Trends in uncontrolled hypertension in adults aged 30–79 years<sup>c</sup>



### Hypertension control rate scenarios



## Global report on hypertension

The race against a silent killer



# What is new and what has changed?

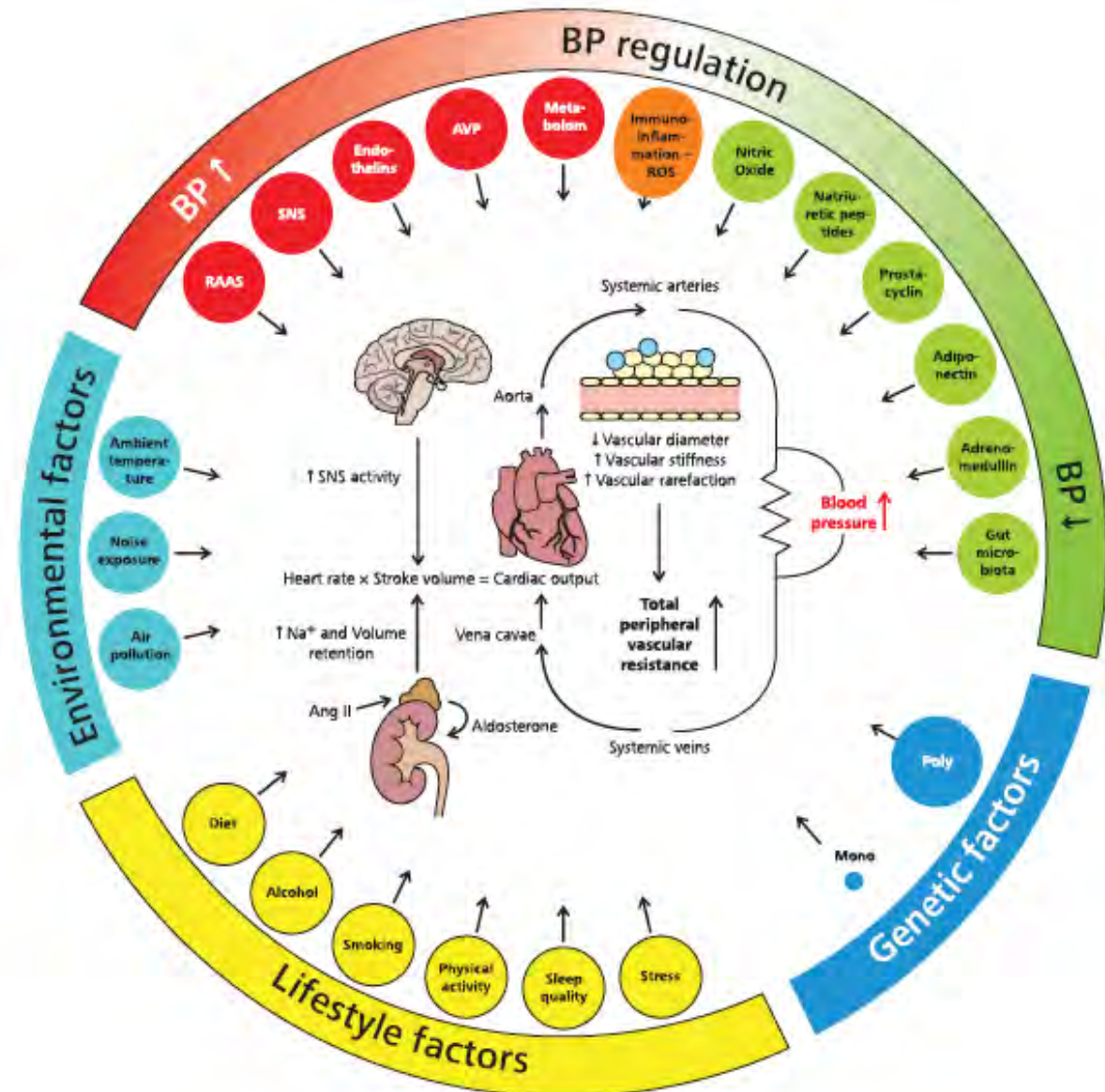
24 items...

198 pages...

Journal of Hypertension 2023



- Modified and simplified criteria for evidence grading recommendations
- Pathophysiological background of primary hypertension
- Clinical BP measurements by different methods and in different settings and clinical conditions
- Thorough description of office, ambulatory and home BP measurements and value in different demographic and clinical conditions
- Upgrading of out-of-office BP measurements in hypertension management
- New HMOD measurements and their clinical value in hypertension work-up
- New CV risk factors and update on CV risk assessment
- Update and comprehensive summary of secondary forms of hypertension
- Update on lifestyle interventions
- Update on threshold and targets for antihypertensive drug treatment, including their possible heterogeneity in demographic and clinical subgroups of patients
- Confirmation of preferred use of RAS blockers, CCBs and Thiazide/Thiazide-like diuretics, and their various combinations for BP-lowering treatment. Inclusion of BBs among the major antihypertensive drugs
- Update on available combination-based drug treatment strategies, including the quadpill and the polypill
- Emphasis and update on the diagnosis and management of true resistant hypertension
- Update on use and position of renal denervation for antihypertensive treatment
- Impact of hypertension and its treatment on cognitive dysfunction and dementia
- Management of hypertension in older people according to the frailty and functional level
- Update on treatment of hypertension in HFrEF and HFpEF
- New diagnostic approaches to diagnosis and treatment in hypertensive patients with AF
- Update on treatment in CKD, including kidney transplantation
- Update and novel treatment approaches to patients with type 2 diabetes
- Epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment in different BP phenotypes
- Diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of hypertension in demographic and clinical conditions not or only marginally addressed in previous guidelines:
  - Children/adolescents and transition to adulthood
  - Young patients
  - Sex-related differences
  - Pregnancy and puerperium
  - Peripheral artery disease
  - Aortic aneurism
  - Valvular heart disease
  - Treatment of hypertension in acute cerebrovascular diseases
  - Hypertensive emergencies/urgencies
  - Perioperative hypertension
  - Obesity
  - COVID-19
  - Chronic inflammatory diseases
  - Hypertension in oncology
  - Baroreflex failure and dysautonomia
  - Glaucoma
- Detailed recommendations on patients' follow-up strategies, including assessment and minimization of nonadherence and clinical inertia.



# Definitions

- Same definitions as in ESH 2018

Definition of BP categories, hypertension grades and stages according to office BP

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
It is recommended that BP is classified as optimal, normal, high normal, or grade 1, 2 or 3 hypertension, according to office BP.	I	C
In addition to grades of hypertension, which are based on BP values, it is recommended to distinguish stage 1, 2, and 3 hypertension.  Stage 1: Uncomplicated hypertension without HMOD, diabetes, CVD and without CKD $\geq$ stage 3.  Stage 2: Presence of HMOD, diabetes, or CKD stage 3.  Stage 3: Presence of CVD or CKD stage 4 or 5.	I	C

TABLE 1. Classification of office BP and definitions of hypertension grades

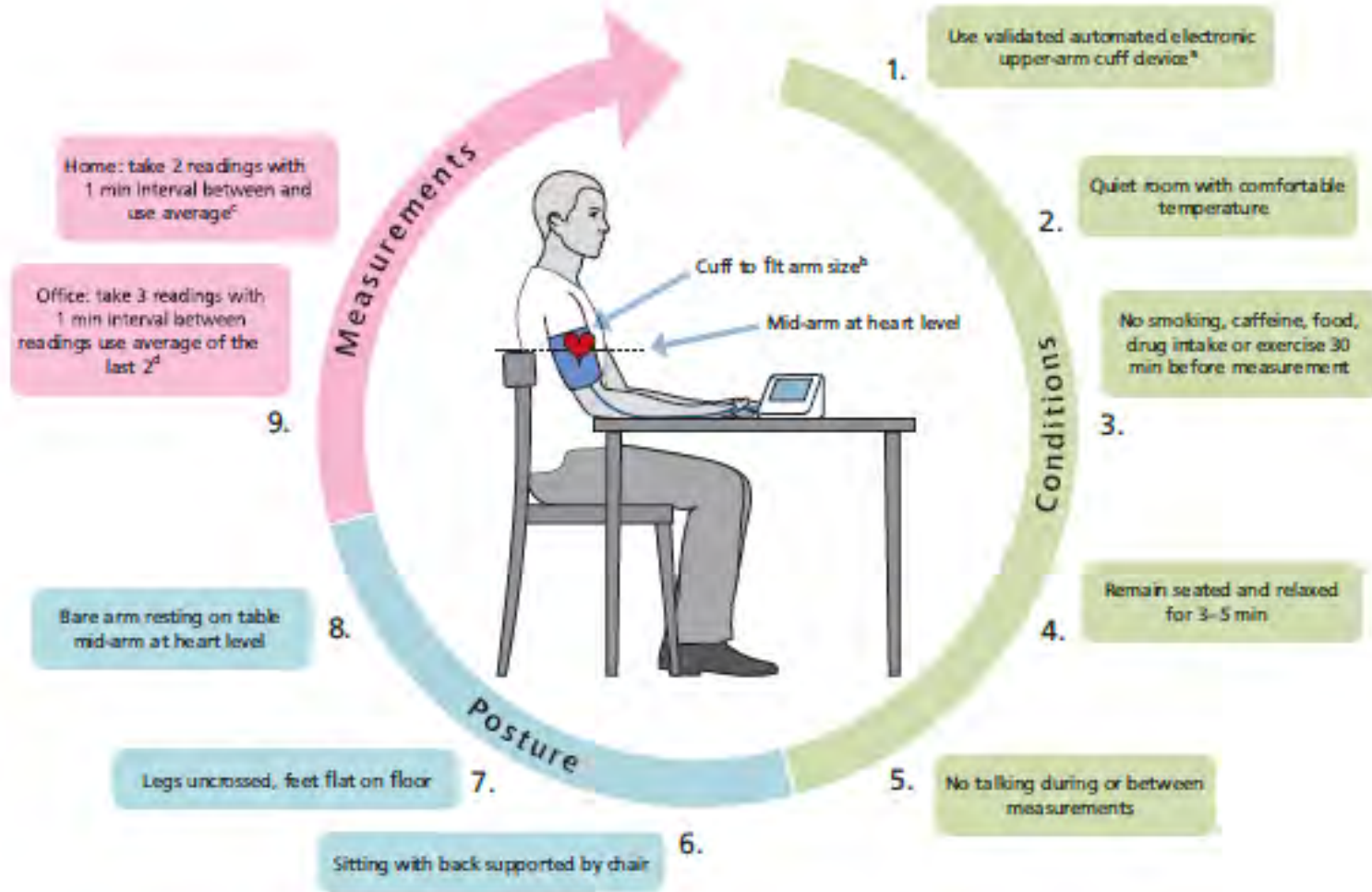
Category	Systolic (mmHg)		Diastolic (mmHg)
Optimal	<120	and	<80
Normal	120–129	and	80–84
High-normal	130–139	and/or	85–89
Grade 1 hypertension	140–159	and/or	90–99
Grade 2 hypertension	160–179	and/or	100–109
Grade 3 hypertension	$\geq$ 180	and/or	$\geq$ 110
Isolated systolic hypertension <sup>a</sup>	$\geq$ 140	and	<90
Isolated diastolic hypertension <sup>a</sup>	<140	and	$\geq$ 90

The BP category is defined by the highest level of BP, whether systolic or diastolic.

<sup>a</sup>Isolated systolic or diastolic hypertension is graded 1, 2 or 3 according to SBP and DBP values in the ranges indicated. The same classification is used for adolescents  $\geq$ 16 years old (see Section 15.1).

**! Sur ABPM, définition HTA: (1) jour  $\geq$  135/85mmHg  
(2) nuit  $\geq$  120/70mmHg  $\longrightarrow$  (3) 24h  $\geq$  130/80mmHg**

# Measure and monitoring

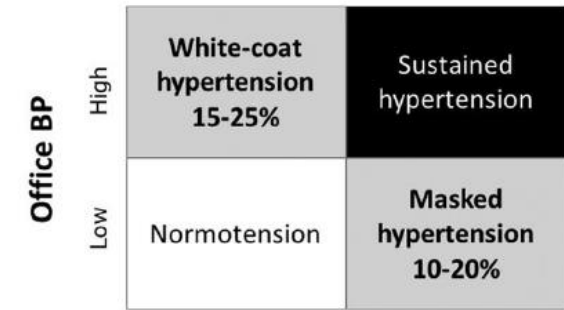


## Office BP measurements

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
Office BP is recommended for diagnosis of hypertension, because it is the one method by which hypertension-related risk, benefits of antihypertensive treatment, and treatment-related BP thresholds and goals are based.	I	A
Office BP measurements should be performed in standardized conditions, using a standard measurement protocol. Triplicate measurements should be taken and the average of the last two should be referred to as the representative value.	I	C
It is recommended to diagnose hypertension during at least 2 separate office visits (within 4 weeks) unless office BP indicates grade 3 hypertension ( $\geq 180/110$ mmHg) or patients presents with hypertension related symptoms or there is evidence of HMOD or CVD.	I	C
At the first office visit, BP should be measured in both arms. A consistent between-arm SBP difference $> 15-20$ mmHg suggests atheromatous disease and is associated with increased CV risk. All subsequent measurements should be made on the arm with the highest BP readings.	I	C
Out-of-office BP is a source of multiple BP-related information before and during treatment. It is therefore recommended to obtain additional information on BP values by ABPM or HBPM or both if available.	I	C



# 2021 European Society of Hypertension practice guidelines for office and out-of-office blood pressure measurement



**TABLE 4. Interpretation of average OBP (at least 2-3 visits with 2-3 measurements per visit)**

	Normal-optimal BP (<130/85 mmHg)	High-normal BP (130–139/85–89 mmHg)	Hypertension Grade 1 (140–159/90–99 mmHg)	Hypertension Grade 2 and 3 (≥160/100 mmHg)
<b>Diagnosis</b>	Normotension highly probable	Consider MH	Consider WCH	Sustained hypertension highly probable
<b>Action</b>	Remeasure after 1 year (6 months in those with other risk factors)	Perform HBPM and/or ABPM. If not available confirm with repeated office visits		Confirm within a few days or weeks <sup>a</sup> . Ideally use HBPM or ABPM

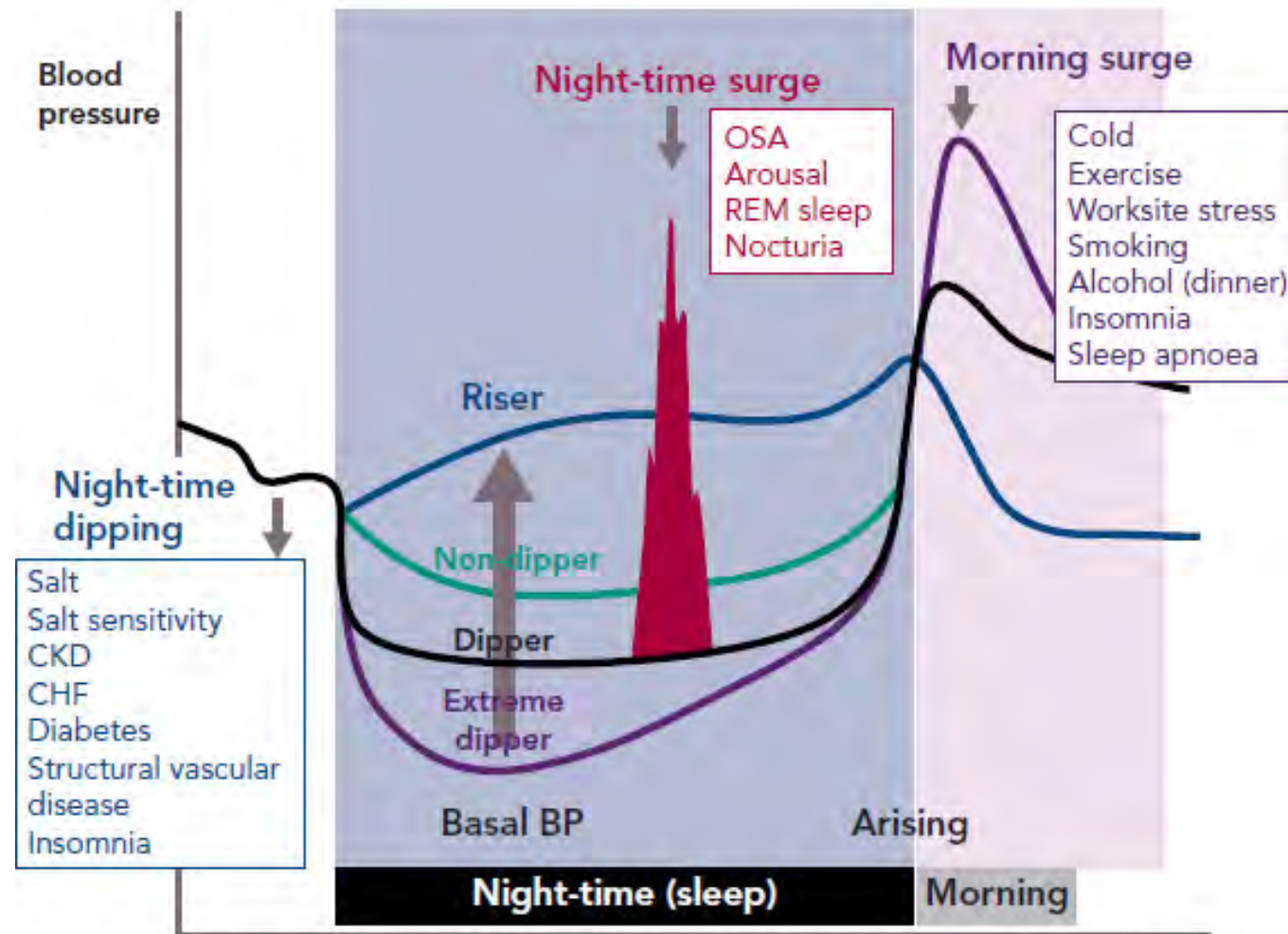
<sup>a</sup>Treat immediately if OBP is very high (e.g. ≥180/110 mmHg) and there is evidence of target organ damage or CVD.

**TABLE 12. Clinical utility of office and out-of-office BP measurement methods**

Clinical use	Office	Home	24 h ambulatory	Pharmacy
Screening	+++	+	-	++
Initial diagnosis	+	++	+++	-
Treatment titration	+	++	++	-
Follow-up	++	+++	+	+
Main indication	Screening of untreated individuals. Follow-up of treated patients	Long-term follow-up of treated patients (preferred method)	Initial diagnosis (preferred method)	Screening of untreated individuals. Follow-up of treated patients
Hypertension (mmHg)	≥140/90	≥135/85	≥130/80	≥135/85 (?)

# Sur profil tensionnel: PA nocturne

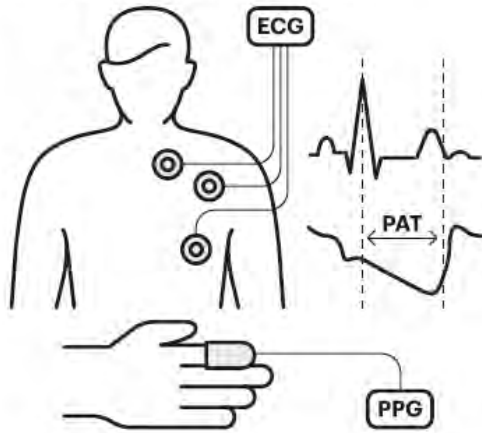
Nocturnal HT  
SBP  $\geq 120$   $\pm$  DBP  $\geq 70$   
Normal dip 10-20%



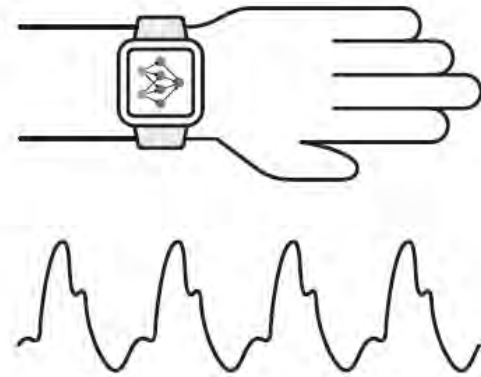
CHF = chronic heart failure; CKD = chronic kidney disease; OSA = obstructive sleep apnoea; REM = rapid eye movement. Source: Kario et al. 2018.<sup>8</sup> Reproduced with permission from Wolters Kluwer Health.

# Cuffless blood pressure measuring devices: review and statement by the European Society of Hypertension Working Group on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability

(a) Pulse transit time



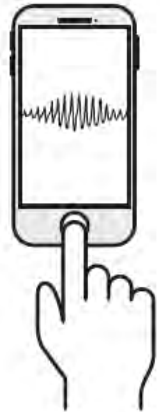
(b) Pulse wave analysis



(c) Facial video processing



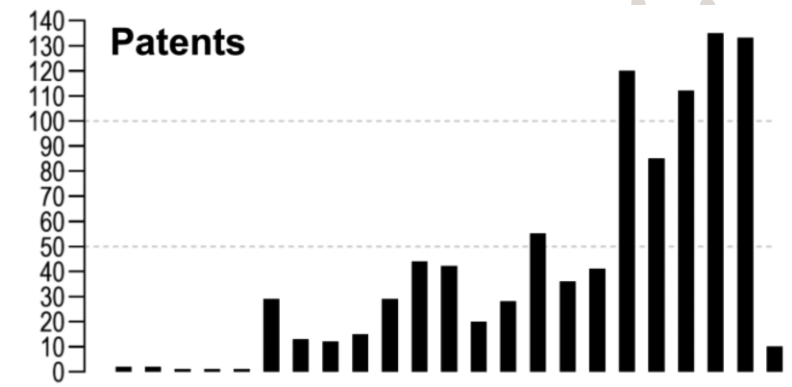
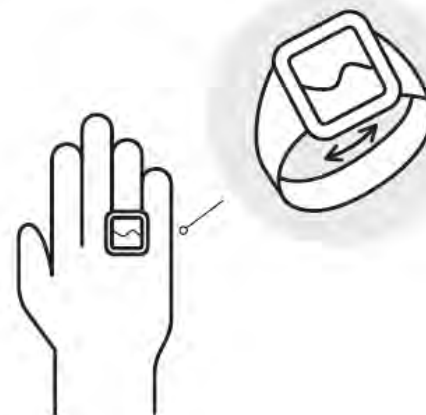
(d) Oscillometric finger pressing



(e) Ultrasound



(f) Volume control



# Cuffless devices: validation

	IEEE Standard 1708-2014 <sup>[18]</sup> & 1708a- 2019 <sup>[19]</sup>	ISO Standard 81060-3 : 2022 <sup>[12]</sup>	ESH Recommendations 2023 (current document)
Device type	Cuffless wearable BP devices	Cuffless continuous BP devices	Cuffless intermittent BP devices (9 types - cf. )

**NOT RECOMMENDED**

<i>D. Before recalibration</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes, for some device types <sup>a</sup>
Test and reference BP measurement	Simultaneous or sequential	Simultaneous	Sequential (24-h BP simultaneous)
Pass requirements (BP difference)	$\leq 7$ mmHg (mean absolute difference)	$\leq 6 \pm 10$ mmHg (mean $\pm$ SD of difference)	$\leq 5 \pm 8$ mmHg (mean $\pm$ SD of difference)

# Workup HT: CV risk + Target Organs

**TABLE 2. Factors that influence CV risk in patients with hypertension**

**Parameter for risk stratification, which are included in SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP**

- Sex (men >women)
- Age
- Level of SBP<sup>a</sup>
- Smoking – current or past history
- Non-HDL cholesterol

**Established and suggested novel factors**

- Family or parental history of early onset hypertension
- Personal history of malignant hypertension
- Family history of premature CVD (men aged <55 years; women aged <65 years)
- Heart rate (resting values >80bpm)
- Low birth weight
- Sedentary lifestyle
- Overweight or Obesity
- Diabetes
- Uric acid
- Lp(a)

- Adverse outcomes of pregnancy (recurrent pregnancy loss, preterm delivery, hypertensive disorders, gestational diabetes)
- Early-onset menopause
- Frailty
- Psychosocial and socioeconomic factors
- Migration
- Environmental exposure to air pollution or noise

**Additional clinical conditions or comorbidities**

- True resistant hypertension
- Sleep disorders (including OSA)
- COPD
- Gout
- Chronic inflammatory diseases
- Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NASH)
- Chronic infections (including long COVID-19)
- Migraine
- Depressive syndromes
- Erectile dysfunction

**Hypertension-mediated organ damage (HMOD)**

- Increased large artery stiffness:
  - Pulse pressure (in older people)  $\geq 60$  mmHg
  - Carotid–femoral PWV  $>10$  m/s (if available)
- Presence of non-hemodynamically significant atheromatous plaque (stenosis) on imaging
- ECG LVH (Sokolow–Lyon index  $>35$  mm, or R in aVL  $\geq 11$  mm; Cornell voltage-duration product (+6 mm in women)  $>2440$  mm<sup>2</sup>ms, or Cornell voltage  $>27$  mm in men or  $>20$  mm in women)
- Echocardiographic LVH (LV mass index: men  $>50$  g/m<sup>2.7</sup>; women  $>47$  g/m<sup>2.7</sup> (m = height in meters); indexation for BSA may be used in normal-weight patients)  $>115$  g/m<sup>2</sup> in men and  $>95$  g/m<sup>2</sup> in women
- Moderate increase of albuminuria 30–300 mg/24 h or elevated ACR (preferably in morning spot urine) 30–300 mg/g
- CKD stage 3 with eGFR 30–59 ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>
- Ankle–brachial index  $<0.9$
- Advanced retinopathy: hemorrhages or exudates, papilledema

**Established cardiovascular and kidney disease**

- Cerebrovascular disease: ischemic stroke, cerebral hemorrhage, TIA
- Coronary artery disease: myocardial infarction, angina, myocardial revascularization
- Presence of hemodynamically significant atheromatous plaque (stenosis) on imaging
- Heart failure, including heart failure with preserved ejection fraction
- Peripheral artery disease
- Atrial fibrillation
- Severe albuminuria  $> 300$  mg/24h or ACR (preferably in morning urine)  $>300$  mg/g
- CKD stage 4 and 5, eGFR  $< 30$  ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>

Hypertension disease staging	Other risk factors, HMOD, CVD or CKD	BP (mmHg) grading			
		High-normal SBP 130–139 DBP 85–89	Grade 1 SBP 140–159 DBP 90–99	Grade 2 SBP 160–179 DBP 100–109	Grade 3 SBP $\geq 180$ DBP $\geq 110$
Stage 1	No other risk factors <sup>a</sup>	Low risk	Low risk	Moderate risk	High risk
	1 or 2 risk factors	Low risk	Moderate risk	Moderate to high risk	High risk
	$\geq 3$ risk factors	Low to moderate risk	Moderate to high risk	High risk	High risk
Stage 2	HMOD, CKD grade 3, or diabetes mellitus	Moderate to high risk	High risk	High risk	Very high risk
Stage 3	Established CVD or CKD grade $\geq 4$	Very high risk	Very high risk	Very high risk	Very high risk

	<50 years	60–69 years	$\geq 70$ years	
Low risk	<2.5%	<5%	<7.5%	Complementary risk estimation in Stage 1 with SCORE2/SCORE2-OP
Moderate risk	2.5 to <7.5%	5 to <10%	7.5 to <15%	
High risk	$\geq 7.5\%$	$\geq 10\%$	$\geq 15\%$	

# CV risk assessment



The ESC Congresses & Events Journals Guidelines

European Society of Cardiology Education Practice Tools & Support CVD Prevention Toolbox

## Practice Tools & Support

- CVD Prevention Toolbox
- EACVI Imaging Toolboxes
- ACVC Clinical Decision-Making Toolkit
- Pocket Guidelines App
- Guidelines Summary Cards
- ACS Trials Comparison Tool
- Atrial Fibrillation Patient Website
- Heart Failure Patient Website
- ESC Science In Your Language
- ESC Prevention of CVD Programme

## SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP

Risk assessment models to estimate the 10-year risk of cardiovascular disease in Europe.

### SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP

Two new algorithms, SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP (older persons), were published in June 2021:

#### SCORE2

**SCORE2 risk prediction algorithms: new models to estimate 10-year risk of cardiovascular disease in Europe**

SCORE2 working group and ESC cardiovascular risk collaboration

*European Heart Journal*, ehab309, <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehab309>

#### SCORE2-OP

**SCORE2-OP risk prediction algorithms: estimating incident cardiovascular event risk in older persons in four geographical risk regions**

SCORE2-OP working group and ESC cardiovascular risk collaboration

*European Heart Journal*, ehab312, <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehab312>

#### SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP interactive version

Access [HeartScore](#), the interactive tool based on the SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP algorithms.

## Risk assessment in hypertension with SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
CV risk assessment with the SCORE2 and SCORE2-OP system is recommended for hypertensive patients who are not already at high or very high risk due to established CVD or CKD, long-lasting or complicated diabetes, severe HMOD (e.g. LVH) or a markedly elevated single risk factor (e.g. cholesterol, albuminuria).	I	B

#### Données d'ordre général

Age (en années) (40-89 ans)  ans

PA systolique en mmHg (100-225 mmHg)  mmHg

Sexe   
 Homme  Femme

#### Lipides sanguins

Cholestérol total (3-9 mmol/l)  mmol/l

HDL (0.65-1.94 mmol/l)  mmol/l

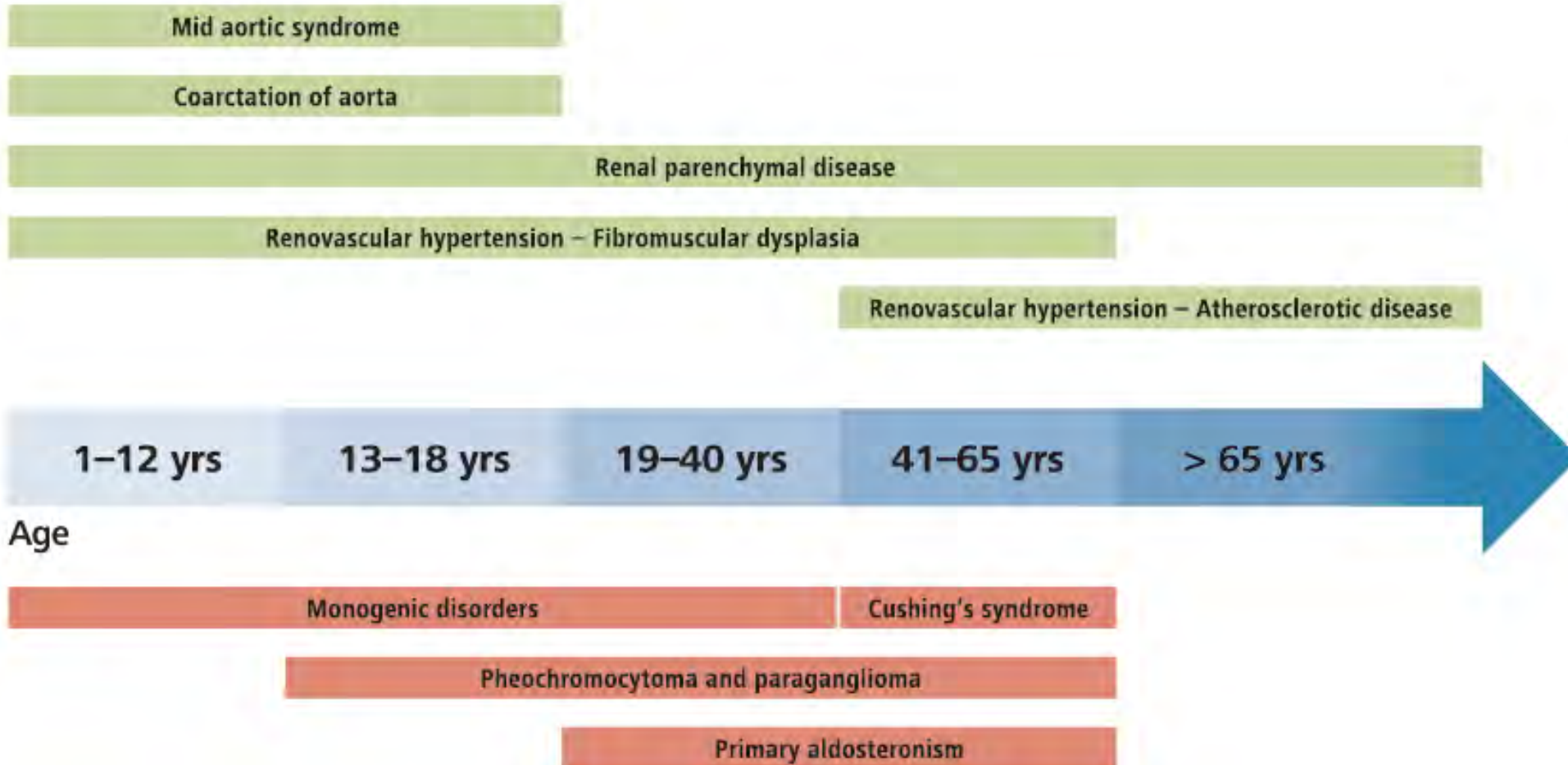
#### Autres données

Fumeur   
 Oui  Non

# Secondary HT

**TABLE 13. Patient characteristics that should raise the suspicion of secondary hypertension**

Younger patients (<40 years) with grade 2 or 3 hypertension or hypertension of any grade in childhood
Sudden onset of hypertension in individuals with previously documented normotension
Acute worsening of BP control in patients with previously well controlled by treatment
True resistant hypertension
Hypertensive emergency
Severe (grade 3) or malignant hypertension
Severe and/or extensive HMOD, particularly if disproportionate for the duration and severity of the BP elevation
Clinical or biochemical features suggestive of endocrine causes of hypertension
Clinical features suggestive of atherosclerotic renovascular disease or fibromuscular dysplasia
Clinical features suggestive of obstructive sleep apnea
Severe hypertension in pregnancy (>160/110mmHg) or acute worsening of BP control in pregnant women with preexisting hypertension



**Prevalence:**  
6–20%<sup>a</sup>

**Suggestive symptoms, signs and findings**

Resistant hypertension  
Grade 2 or 3 hypertension  
Hypokalemia/Potassium in the low-normal range  
Atrial fibrillation  
OSA  
Adrenal incidentaloma<sup>b</sup>  
Family history of PA/early stroke

**1st choice screening test<sup>c</sup>**

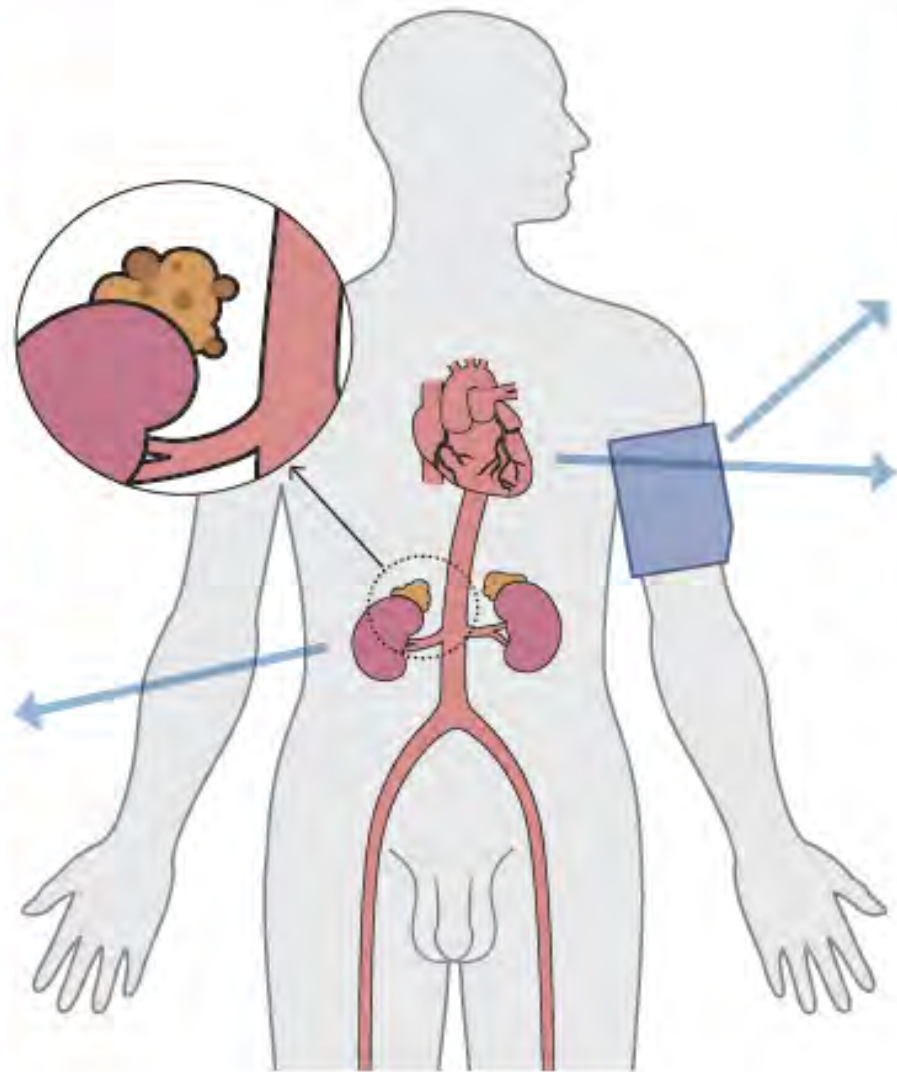
Plasma aldosterone to renin ratio (ARR)

**Further work-up<sup>d</sup>**

CT scanning  
IV saline infusion test (SIT)  
Fludrocortisone suppression test (FST)  
Oral sodium loading test (SLT)  
Captopril challenge test (CCT)  
Adrenal vein sampling  
Genetic testing in selected cases<sup>e</sup>

**Treatment**

Surgical treatment (laparoscopic adrenalectomy) – unilateral PA  
Medical treatment – bilateral adrenal disease<sup>f</sup>



**Cardiovascular phenotype**

24 ABPM – true resistant hypertension, frequent non-dipping

- LVH
- Decreased diastolic function
- Myocardial fibrosis (MRI)

**Increased CV Risk and mortality**

# Primary Hyperaldosteronism



# Tests activité renine/aldo on neutral treatment: **doxazocine, diltiazem** (non DHP calcium blocker)

Plasmatic renine activity  
+ aldostérone  
Morning 8h, fasting

+ Aldosteronuria 24h  
(N ≤ 10ug/j)

Médications	Aldostérone	Rénine	RAR	Délai d'interruption (en semaines)
Diurétiques thiazidiques	→↑	↑↑	↓ (FN)	2
Diurétiques de l'anse	↑	↑↑	↓ (FN)	2
Antag. Rc minéralocortic.	↑	↑↑	↓(FN)	6
IEC et Sartan	↓	↑↑	↓ (FN)	2
Inhibiteur de la rénine	↓	↑ si RD ↓ si ARP	↑ (FN) ↑ (FP)	6
β-bloqueur	↓	↓↓	↑ (FP)	2
Agoniste alpha2 central (clonidine)	↓	↓↓	↑ (FP?)	2 (idéalement)
α1bloquant, non DHP doxazosin, moxonidine	→	→	→	
Anti-calciques	↓ (DHP)	↑ (DHP)	↓ (DHP)	2 (DHP)

## (A) Atherosclerotic renovascular disease

**Prevalence:**  
6–14%<sup>a</sup>

### Suggestive symptoms, signs and findings

Resistant hypertension  
Flash pulmonary edema  
Rapidly declining kidney function  
Acute renal function degradation on ACEi or ARB  
Generalized atherosclerosis<sup>b</sup>

### 1st choice screening test

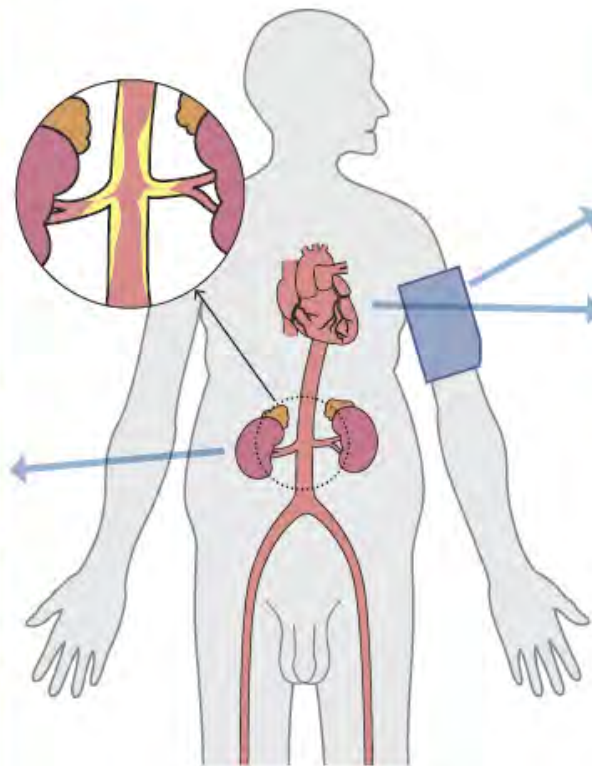
Renal artery duplex ultrasound;  
otherwise angio-CT or angio-MR

### Further work-up

Angio-CT or angio-MR  
Invasive catheter angiography

### Treatment<sup>c,d</sup>

Antihypertensive treatment  
Strict control of CV risk factors  
Revascularization (selected cases)

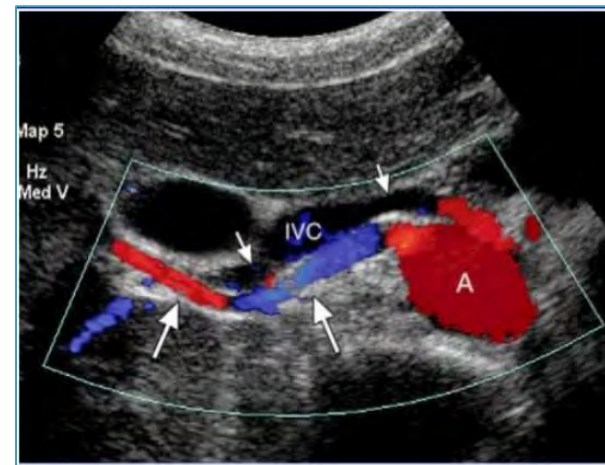


### Cardiovascular phenotype

24h ABPM – resistant hypertension,  
frequent non-clipping

- LVH
- Decreased diastolic function
- Decreased systolic function

Increased CV Risk and mortality



## (B) Fibromuscular Dysplasia

**Prevalence:**  
<1 to 6%<sup>a</sup>

### Suggestive symptoms, signs and findings

Early-onset/ severe hypertension  
Migraine  
Pulsatile tinnitus

### 1st choice screening test<sup>b</sup>

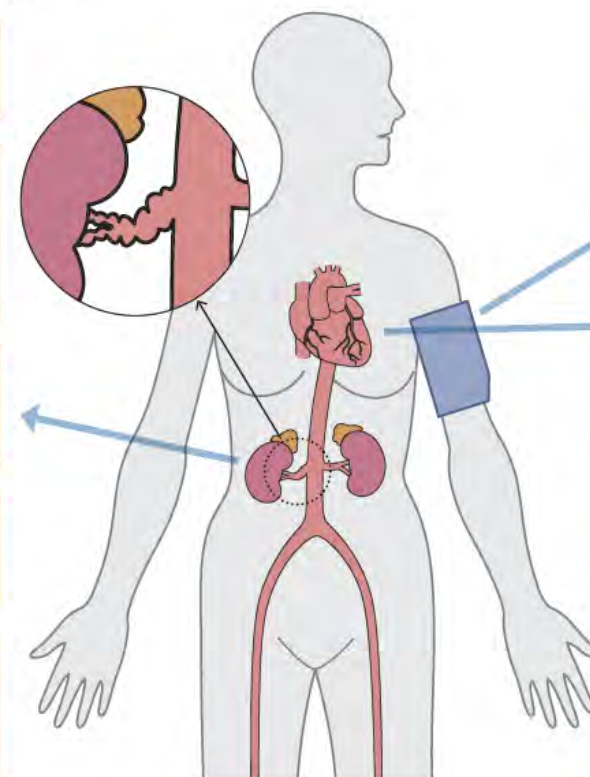
Renal artery duplex ultrasound;  
otherwise angio-CT or angio-MR

### Treatment

Antihypertensive treatment  
Angioplasty without stenting<sup>c,d</sup>

### Follow-up

- Whole body angio-CT or angio-MR at diagnosis<sup>e</sup>
- Indefinite follow-up



### Cardiovascular phenotype

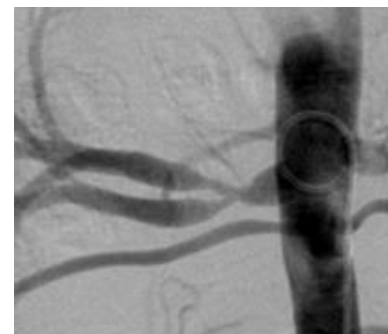
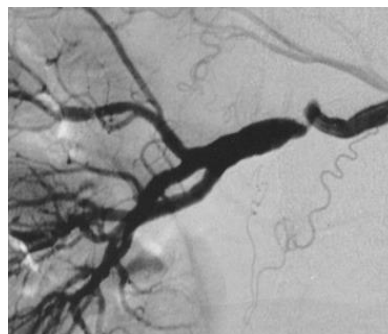
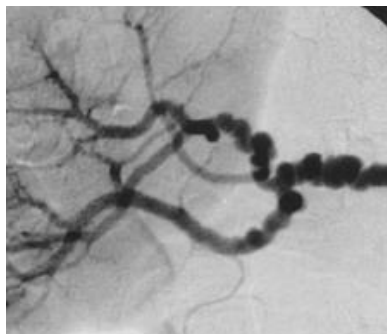
24h ABPM – early onset or resistant hypertension

Frequent in patients with Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD)

May affect all medium sized arteries (most frequent: renal and cervical arteries)

Often associated with arterial dissections and aneurysms

Cardiovascular phenotype:  
From asymptomatic to resistant hypertension, stroke, renal, mesenteric or myocardial infarction



## (E) Cushing's syndrome

Prevalence: 2–5%<sup>a</sup>

### Suggestive symptoms and signs

Resistant hypertension  
Easy bruising, facial plethora, 'moon' face, skin thinning  
Proximal myopathy  
Weight gain with centripetal distribution of body fat  
Diabetes mellitus

### 1st choice screening test<sup>b</sup>

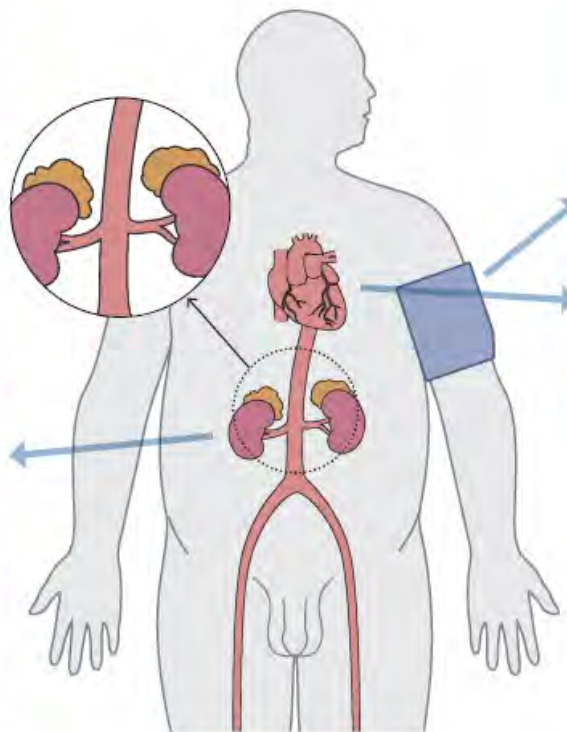
Overnight 1 mg dexamethasone suppression test  
24-h urinary free cortisol  
Late-night salivary cortisol

### Further work-up

Morning plasma ACTH  
ACTH stimulation by CRH or desmopressin  
CT

### Treatment

Medical – normalization of cortisol levels  
Surgical – first line treatment for Cushing's disease, ectopic Cushing's syndrome and ACTH-independent hypercortisolism



### Cardiovascular phenotype

24h ABPM – frequent non-dipping  
Short-term BP variability

- LVH
- Decreased systolic function
- Decreased diastolic function

Increased CV Risk and mortality

## (D) Pheochromocytoma and paraganglioma

Prevalence:  
<1%<sup>a</sup>

### Suggestive symptoms and signs<sup>b</sup>

- paroxysmal symptoms (such as headache, sweating, palpitation, increased HR)
- large BP variation
- CV manifestations (e.g. MI, arrhythmias, Takotsubo cardiomyopathy)

### 1st choice screening test

Plasma or urinary free metanephrines

### Further work-up

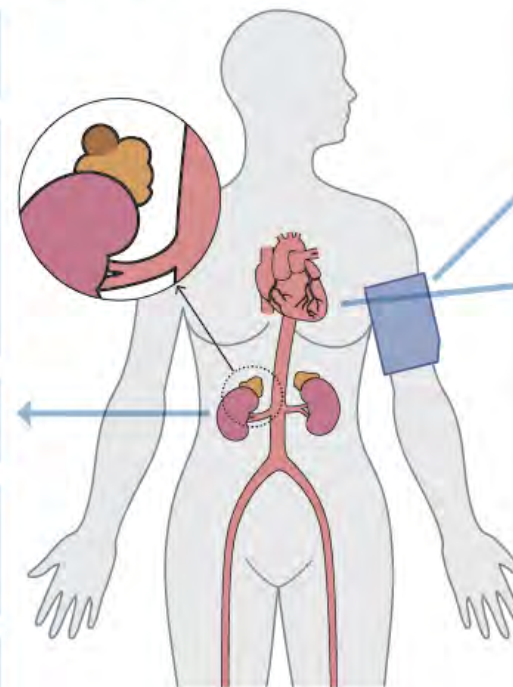
Contrast enhanced CT or MRI  
Functional imaging  
Genetic testing<sup>c</sup>

### Treatment<sup>d</sup>

Surgical resection  
(Pheochromocytoma: minimally invasive laparoscopic adrenalectomy)

### Follow-up<sup>e</sup>

In most cases > 10 yrs



### Cardiovascular phenotype

24h ABPM – frequent non-dipping

- LVH
- Decreased systolic function
- Myocardial fibrosis (MRI)

Increased CV Risk and mortality

# Hypertension and drugs

NSAIDs	Inhibition of COX-1 and 2 decreasing PG I <sub>2</sub> and E <sub>2</sub> synthesis with subsequent reduction in urinary Na excretion and an increased systemic vascular resistance.	Mild, dose-dependent increase in BP. Increased risk with age, preexisting hypertension, salt-sensitive patients, patients with renovascular hypertension.
Paracetamol (acetaminophen)	Presumably via inhibition of cyclooxygenases and reduced production of prostaglandins.	Increased relative risk of 1.34 of hypertension with almost daily paracetamol use.
Estrogens and progestins	Increased renin synthesis (by estrogens) leading to RAS activation and subsequent Na <sup>+</sup> and water retention.	Mild, sustained increase in BP (6/3 mmHg increase with high doses of estrogen >50 µg of estrogen and 1–4 µg progestin) but can be severe, common in premenopausal women, cause hypertension in 5% of women.
Glucocorticoids	Enhanced Na <sup>+</sup> reabsorption and fluid retention via stimulation of mineralocorticoid receptors. Increased systemic vascular resistance due to upregulation of AT1 receptors on vascular smooth muscle cells.	Dose-dependent, low doses have less effect on BP, more common in older patients, or with a family history of primary hypertension.
Calcineurin inhibitors	Reduced NO production, ET-1 overproduction, systemic and renal vasoconstriction, renal Na <sup>+</sup> retention.	Dose-dependent, mild-to-moderate increase in BP. Severe hypertension has been reported. Increased risk with preexisting hypertension, elevated creatinine levels and maintenance therapy with corticosteroids. See Section 20.8.2
Antidepressants SNRIs	Increased noradrenaline release causing adrenergic activation and increased SNS activity.	Dose-dependent, mild (2/1 mmHg) increase in BP.
Nasal decongestants	Vasoconstriction due to stimulation of alpha-1 receptors on vascular smooth muscles.	Dose-dependent, sustained increase in BP.
Erythropoietin-stimulating agents	Increased thromboxane, reduced prostacyclin levels and activation of the local RAS. Increased ET-1 production, decreased NO synthesis with subsequent vasoconstriction.	Dose-dependent, mild increase in BP, increased risk with preexisting hypertension, or when the initial hematocrit level is low. See Section 20.8.2
Stimulants		
- Modafinil - Amphetamines - Methylphenidate	Block noradrenaline or dopamine reuptake. Promote release of catecholamines	
VEGF inhibitors	Decreased NO production via VEGFR-2 antagonism and stimulation of ET-1 receptors promoting vasoconstriction.	A class effect. The incidence of hypertension is dose-related, risk is increased by preexisting hypertension, old age and overweight. See Section 20.8.2.
Substances of abuse		
- MDMA - PCP - Methamphetamine	Increased release and inhibited reuptake of monoamine neurotransmitters with subsequent SNS activation. Increased CNS catecholamine release with decreased neuronal uptake.	Cocaine induces both acute and chronic increases in BP.
- Cocaine	Cocaine induces acute sympathomimetic effects and chronic HMOD, i.e. an increase in arterial wall stiffness.	Alcohol causes a dose-dependent, sustained increase in BP.
- Alcohol	Alcohol increases SNS and RAS activity.	
Herbal products		
- Licorice - Ephedra - St. John's wort - Yohimbine - Ginseng (high doses) - Ma huang	Chronic excessive liquorice use mimics hyperaldosteronism by stimulating the mineralocorticoid receptor and inhibiting cortisol metabolism. Ephedra activates the alpha-1 receptor increasing SNS activity.	Licorice: Dose-dependent, sustained increase in BP characterized by hypokalemia, metabolic alkalosis and suppressed plasma renin activity and aldosterone levels. Yohimbine causes acute, dose-dependent increase in BP.
Diet pills		
- Sibutramine - Phenylpropanolamine	Increased levels of norepinephrine with subsequent activation of noradrenergic transmission	Mild increase in BP.





# Treatments

# Treatments (1) Health life style



Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
In adults with elevated BP who are overweight or obese, weight reduction is recommended to reduce BP and improve CV outcomes.	I	A
Preferred dietary products include vegetables, fruits, beans, nuts, seeds, vegetable oils, and fish and poultry among meat products. Fatty meats, full-fat dairy, sugar, sweetened beverages, and sweets should be limited. Overall, a healthy dietary pattern including more plant-based and less animal-based food is recommended.	I	B
In adults with hypertension consuming a high sodium diet (most Europeans), salt substitutes replacing part of the NaCl with KCl is recommended to reduce BP and the risk for CVD.	I	A
Dietary salt (NaCl) restriction is recommended for adults with elevated BP to reduce BP. Salt (NaCl) restriction to < 5 g (~2g sodium) per day is recommended.	I	B
Increased potassium consumption, preferably via dietary modification, is recommended for adults with elevated BP, except for patients with advanced CKD.	I	B

**Recommendations**

**Movement and body weight**

- Maintain healthy weight: Waist-to-height ratio < 0.5
- Minimize sedentary behaviour
- Engage in aerobic exercise:
  - Moderate (brisk walking): 30 min, 5x week
  - Vigorous (running): 20 min, 3x week
  - Interval training: 25 min, 3x week
- Engage in dynamic resistance exercise (weight training): 2 or more days non-consecutive
- Engage in isometric resistance exercise (muscle tightening): 4x2 min contractions 3 non-consecutive days

**Food and drink\***

- Eat at least 5 portions of fruits and vegetables
- Eat more lean protein (e.g. fish) and nuts
- Eat less salt: < 5 g or 1 tsp
- Eat at least 3.5 g of potassium
- Limit sugar: Refined and processed food
- Eat 25-29 g of fibre
- Limit alcohol: Ideally zero
- Drink 2-3 cups of coffee and/or tea: Unsweetened
- Other drinks: Drink beetroot and pomegranate juice and cocoa drinks

\*Recommended daily quantities

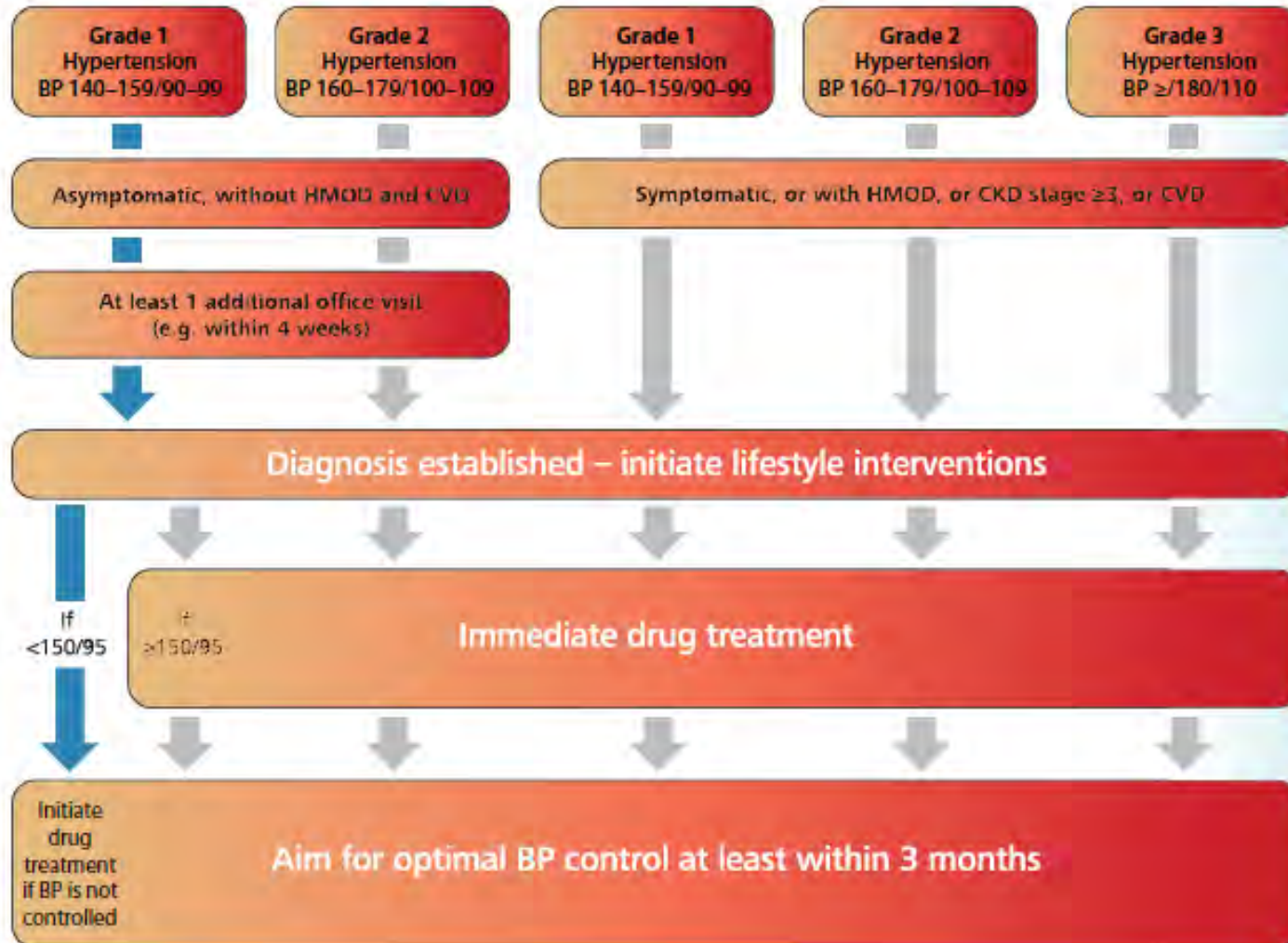
**Body and mind**

- Sleep: 7-9 h/day
- Reduce stress: E.g. practice mindfulness, meditation or yoga ~30 min/day
- Listen to music: At least 25 min, 3x week

**Others**

- Stop smoking
- Limit pollution exposure
- Use digital wearables/apps to track movement and sleep

# Treatments(2) Initiation



**BP thresholds for drug treatment initiation**

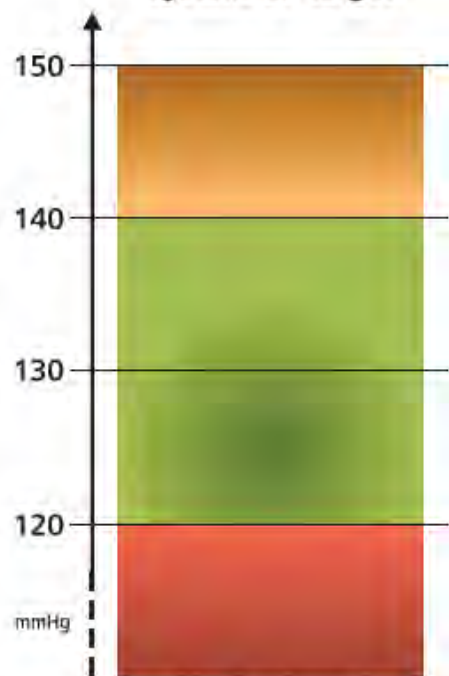
Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
In patients 18 to 79 years, the recommended office threshold for initiation of drug treatment is 140 mmHg for SBP and/or 90 mmHg for DBP.	I	A
In patients ≥80 years, the recommended office SBP threshold for initiation of drug treatment is 160 mmHg. ★	I	B
However, in patients ≥80 years a lower SBP threshold in the range 140 – 159 mmHg may be considered.	II	C
The office SBP and DBP thresholds for initiation of drug treatment in frail patients should be individualized.	I	C
In adult patients with a history of CVD, predominantly CAD, drug treatment should be initiated in the high-normal BP range (SBP ≥130 or DBP ≥80 mmHg).	I	A

Use HBPM and/or ABPM whenever possible



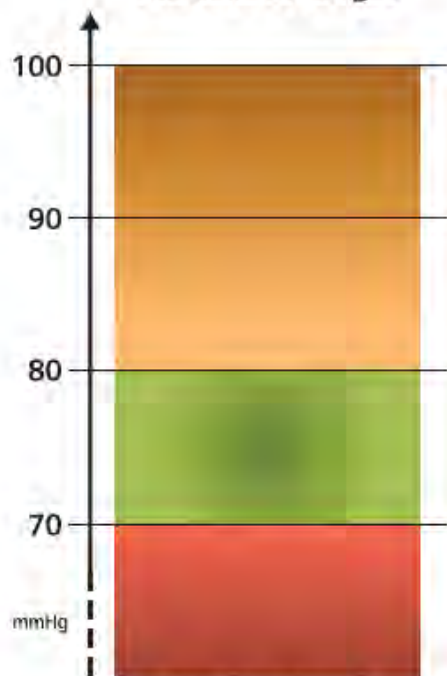
# Target...

Systolic BP target



Most patients<sup>a</sup>

Diastolic BP target



Most patients<sup>a</sup>



Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
<b>Patients 18 to 64 years old</b>		
The goal is to lower office BP to <130/80mmHg.	I	A
<b>Patients 65 to 79 years old</b>		
The primary goal of treatment is to lower BP to <140/80mmHg.	I	A
However, lowering BP to below 130/80mmHg can be considered if treatment is well tolerated.	II	B
<b>Patients 65 to 79 years old with ISH</b>		
The primary goal of treatment is to lower SBP in the 140 to 150 mmHg range.	I	A
However, a reduction of office SBP in the 130 to 139 mmHg range should be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if DBP is already below 70 mmHg.	I	B
<b>Patients ≥80 years old</b>		
Office SBP should be lowered to a SBP in the 140 to 150 mmHg range.	I	A
However, reduction of office SBP between 130 to 139 mmHg may be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if DBP is already below 70 mmHg.	II	B
<b>Additional safety recommendations</b>		
In frail patients, the treatment target for office SBP and DBP should be individualized.	I	C
Do not aim to target office SBP below 120 mmHg or DBP below 70 mmHg during drug treatment.	III	C
However, in patients with low office DBP, i.e. below 70 mmHg, SBP should be still lowered, albeit cautiously, if on-treatment SBP is still well above target values.	II	C
Reduction of treatment can be consider in patient aged 80 years or older with a low SBP (< 120 mmHg) or in the presence of severe orthostatic hypotension or a high frailty level.	II	C



# Drugs

## Prescribing patterns:

- Start with dual combination therapy in most patients
- Uptitrate to maximum well tolerated doses and to triple therapy if needed
- **Once daily (preferred in the morning)**
- **Add further drugs if needed**
- **Preferred use of SPCs at any step**



T/TL Diuretic<sup>a</sup>

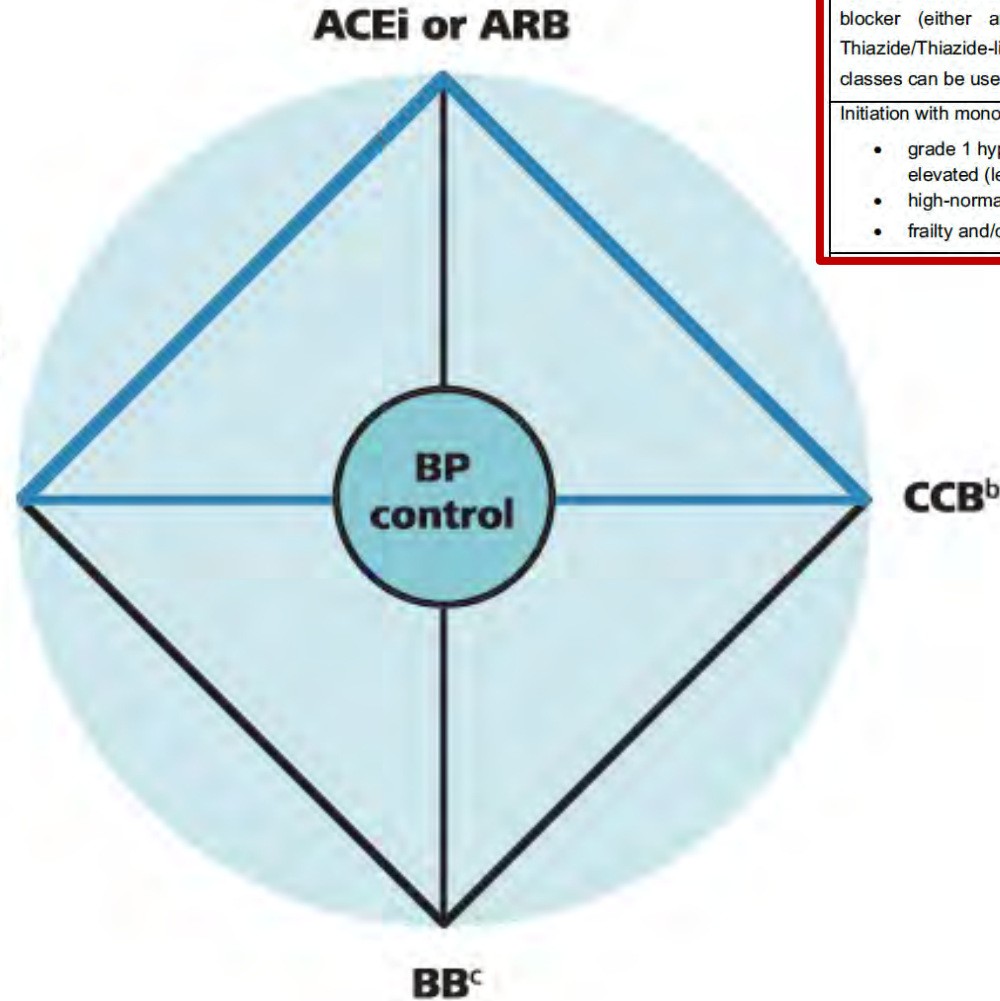
## Additional drug classes

### General antihypertensive therapy:

- Steroidal MRA
- Loop Diuretic
- Alpha-1 Blocker
- Centrally acting agent
- Vasodilator

### Special comorbidities:

- ARNi
- SGLT2i
- Non-Steroidal MRA



Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
BP lowering should be prioritized over the selection of specific antihypertensive drug classes because treatment benefit largely originates from BP reduction.	I	A
Five major drug classes including ACEis, ARBs, BBs, CCBs, and Thiazide/Thiazide-like diuretics have effectively reduced BP and CV events in RCTs. These drugs and their combinations are recommended as the basis of antihypertensive treatment strategies.	I	A
Initiation of therapy with a two-drug combination is recommended for most hypertensive patients. Preferred combinations should comprise a RAS blocker (either an ACE inhibitor or an ARB) with a CCB or Thiazide/Thiazide-like diuretic. Other combinations of the five major drug classes can be used.	I	A
Initiation with monotherapy should be considered in patients with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• grade 1 hypertension and low-risk if BP is only marginally elevated (less than 150 mmHg SBP and 95 mmHg DBP)</li> <li>• high-normal BP and very high CV risk,</li> <li>• frailty and/or and advance age.</li> </ul>	I	C

**TABLE 16. Selected diseases and conditions for the use of BBs in patients with hypertension [591]**

**Selected indications with guideline directed medical therapy for BBs**

Chronic coronary syndromes, antiischemic therapy  
Postmyocardial infarction: arrhythmias, angina, known incomplete re-vascularization, HF  
Acute coronary syndrome  
HFrEF and HFpEF if coronary disease (ischemia), arrhythmias and tachycardia  
Atrial fibrillation: prevention, rhythm control, heart rate control  
Women with child-bearing potential/planning pregnancy  
Hypertension disorders in pregnancy

**Selected other conditions in which therapy with BBs can be favourable**

Hypertension with elevated resting heart rate >80 bpm  
Emergency, urgency and parenteral administration  
Perioperative hypertension  
Major noncardiac surgery  
Excessive pressor response to exercise and stress  
Hyperkinetic heart syndrome  
Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome  
Orthostatic hypertension  
OSA  
Peripheral arterial disease with claudication ?  
COPD  
Portal hypertension, cirrhosis-related esophageal varices and recurrent variceal bleeding  
Glaucoma  
Thyrotoxicosis, hyperthyroidism  
Hyperparathyroidism in uremia ?  
Migraine headache  
Essential tremor  
Performance anxiety and anxiety disorders  
Psychiatric disorders (posttraumatic stress)

**BB rehabilitation : really?**

**Prefer SPCs  
at any step**



**Step 1**

Dual combination

**Start with Dual Combination  
Therapy in most patients**

**Start with Monotherapy only in selected patients:**

- Low risk hypertension and BP <150/95 mmHg
- or high-normal BP and very high CV risk
- or frail patients and/or advanced age

**ACEi or ARB + CCB or T/TL Diuretic<sup>a</sup>**



Increase to full-dose if well tolerated

→ up to ~ 60% controlled<sup>c</sup>

**BB<sup>b</sup>**

Can be used  
as monotherapy  
or at any step  
of combination  
therapy

**Step 2**

Triple combination

**ACEi or ARB + CCB + T/TL Diuretic**



Increase to full-dose if well tolerated

→ up to ~ 90% controlled<sup>c</sup>

**True resistant Hypertension<sup>d</sup>**

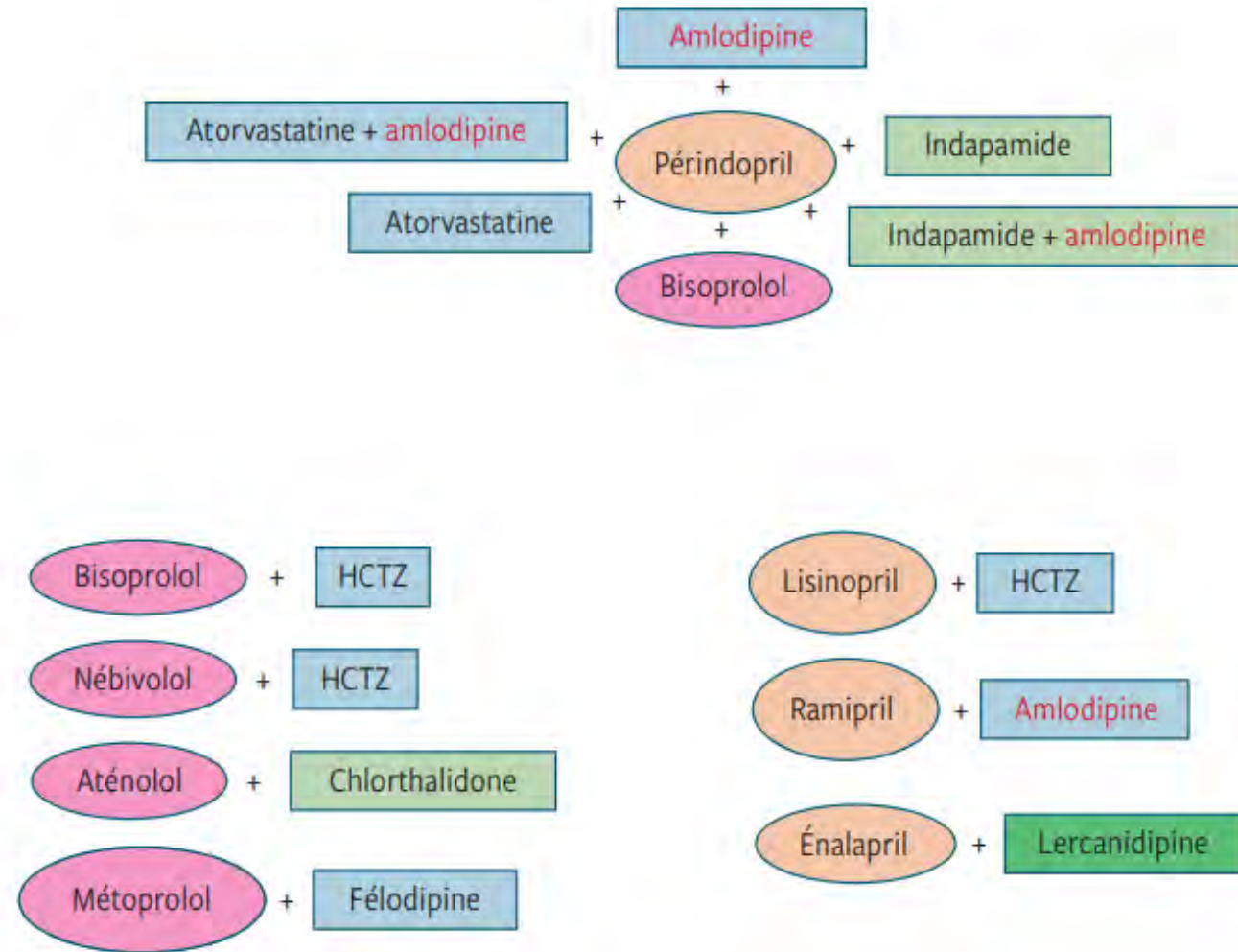
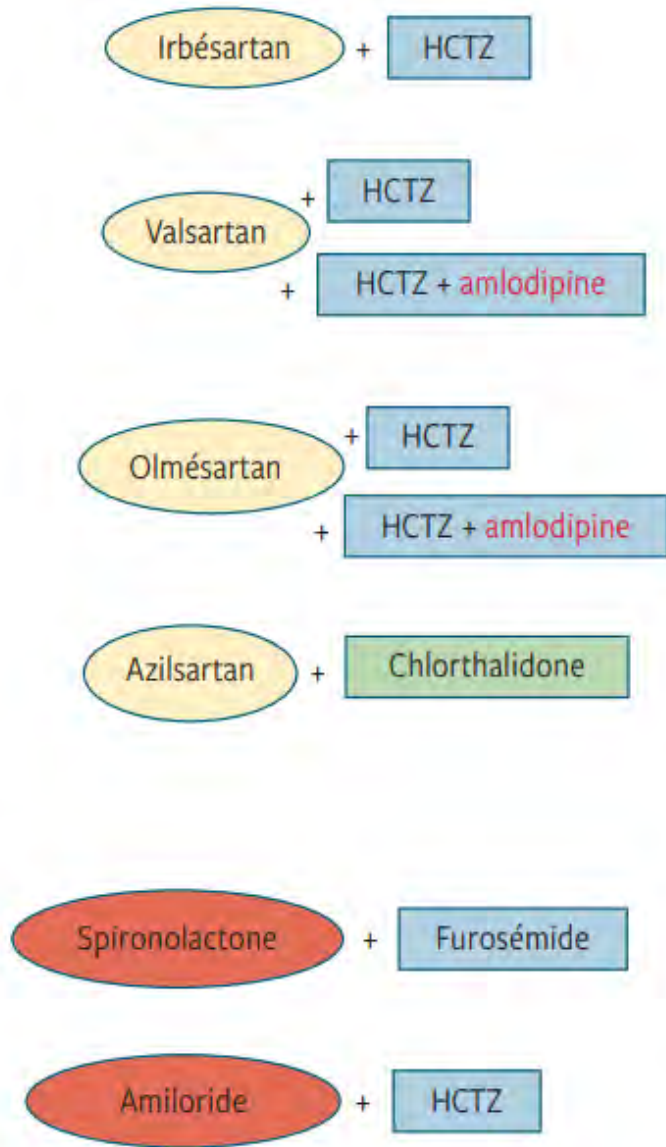
→ up to ~ 5%

Consider to consult hypertension  
specialist in patients who are still  
not controlled

**Step 3**

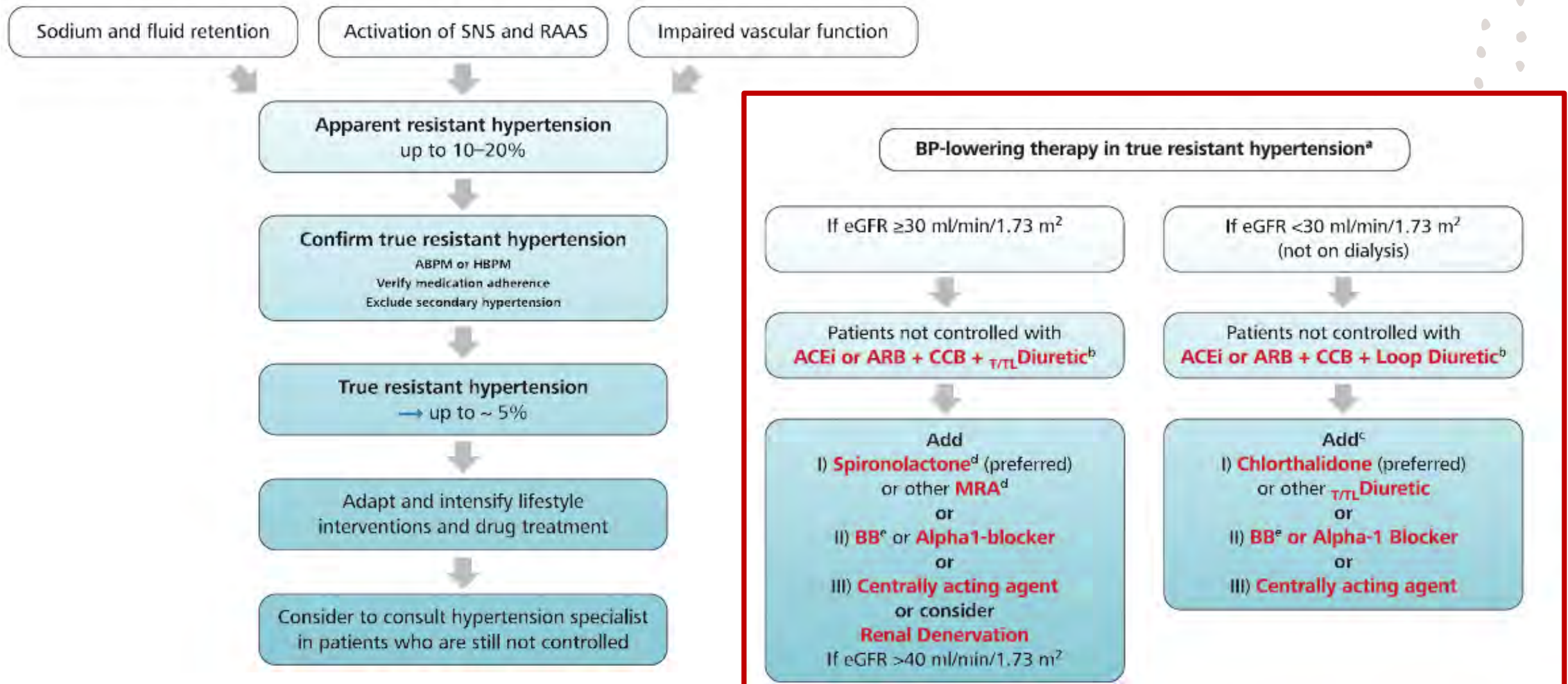
Add further drugs

Note Diuretics: prefer thiazide-like (indapamide, chlorthalidone) to HCT  
Ok also for eGFR < 30ml/min



Combinations e.g (Sandoz E. RMS 2023)

# Resistant HT - Strategies



# Renal Denervation

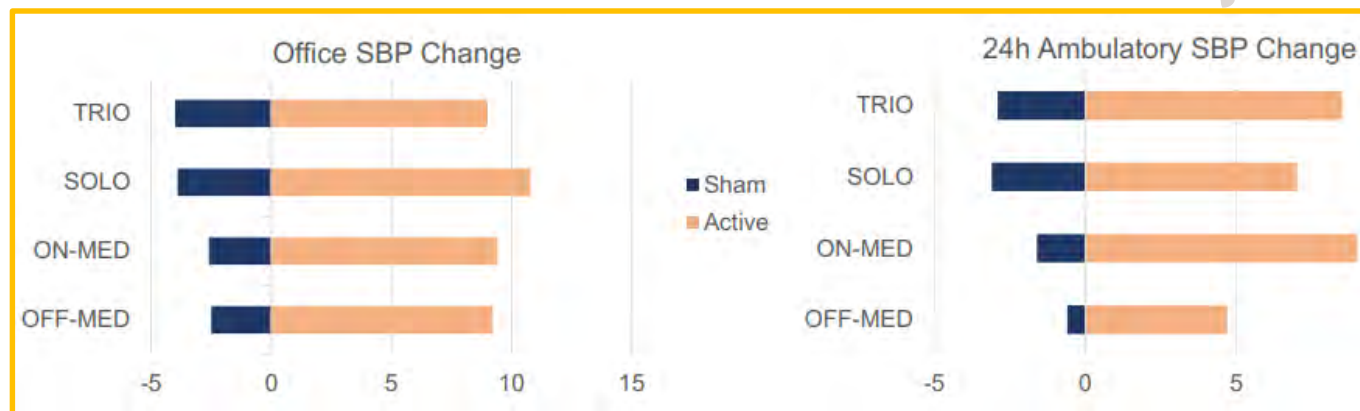
**Table 1.** Completed Trials of Renal Denervation<sup>24-27,41-44</sup>

Study	Method	N	Active:Sham	Inclusion	Primary Outcome	Results
<b>Trials excluding patients with reduced eGFR<sup>a</sup></b>						
SPYRAL HTN-OFF MED Pivotal <sup>25</sup>	RFA	331	1:1	Office BP 150-179/ ≥90 mm Hg on no BP meds	24-h ABPM SBP at 3 mo	RDN: ↓5 mm Hg; sham: ↓1 mm Hg
RADIANCE-HTN SOLO <sup>24</sup>	US	146	1:1	Office BP 140-180/ 90-110 mm Hg on no BP meds	Daytime ABPM SBP at 2 mo	RDN: ↓7 mm Hg; sham: ↓2 mm Hg
SPYRAL HTN-ON MED Pilot <sup>27</sup>	RFA	80	1:1	Office BP 150-179/ ≥90 mm Hg on 1-3 stable BP meds	24-h ABPM SBP at 6 mo	RDN: ↓9 mm Hg; sham: ↓2 mm Hg
RADIANCE-HTN TRIO <sup>26</sup>	US	136	1:1	Office BP ≥140/ ≥90 mm Hg on 3 stable BP meds	Daytime ABPM SBP at 2 mo	RDN: ↓8 mm Hg; sham: ↓3 mm Hg
<b>Studies in patients with CKD</b>						
Ott et al <sup>41</sup>	RFA	27	No sham	CKD 3-4 with resistant HTN (ESH/ESC definition)	Nephroprotection	eGFR slope improved at 1 y post intervention
Kiuchi and Chen <sup>42</sup>	RFA	108	No sham	CKD with or without controlled HTN	Nephroprotection	CKD with uncontrolled HTN had better eGFR outcome vs CKD with controlled HTN at 6 mo
Hering et al <sup>43</sup>	RFA	46	No sham	eGFR ≤60 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	Nephroprotection	eGFR stabilized over 12-24 mo follow-up
Ott et al <sup>44</sup>	RFA	6	No sham	HD and 24 h ABPM ≥135/85 mm Hg on 3 meds	Δ24-h ABPM	24-h ABPM: ↓20/15 mm Hg at 6 mo

Abbreviations: ABPM, ambulatory blood pressure measurement; CKD, chronic kidney disease; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; ESH/ESC, European Society of Hypertension/European Society of Cardiology; HD, hemodialysis; HTN, hypertension; RDN, renal denervation; RFA, radiofrequency ablation; SBP, systolic blood pressure; US, ultrasound.

<sup>a</sup>Defined variously as eGFR <40-45 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>.

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
RDN can be considered as a treatment option in patients with an eGFR >40 ml/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> who have uncontrolled BP despite the use of antihypertensive drug combination therapy, or if drug treatment elicits serious side effects and poor quality of life.	II	B
RDN can be considered as an additional treatment option in patients with true resistant hypertension if eGFR is >40 ml/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> .	II	B
Selection of patients to whom RDN is offered should be done in a shared decision-making process after objective and complete patient's information.	I	C
RDN should only be performed in experienced specialized centers to guarantee appropriate selection of eligible patients and completeness of the denervation procedure.	I	C



# «New» antihypertensive drugs

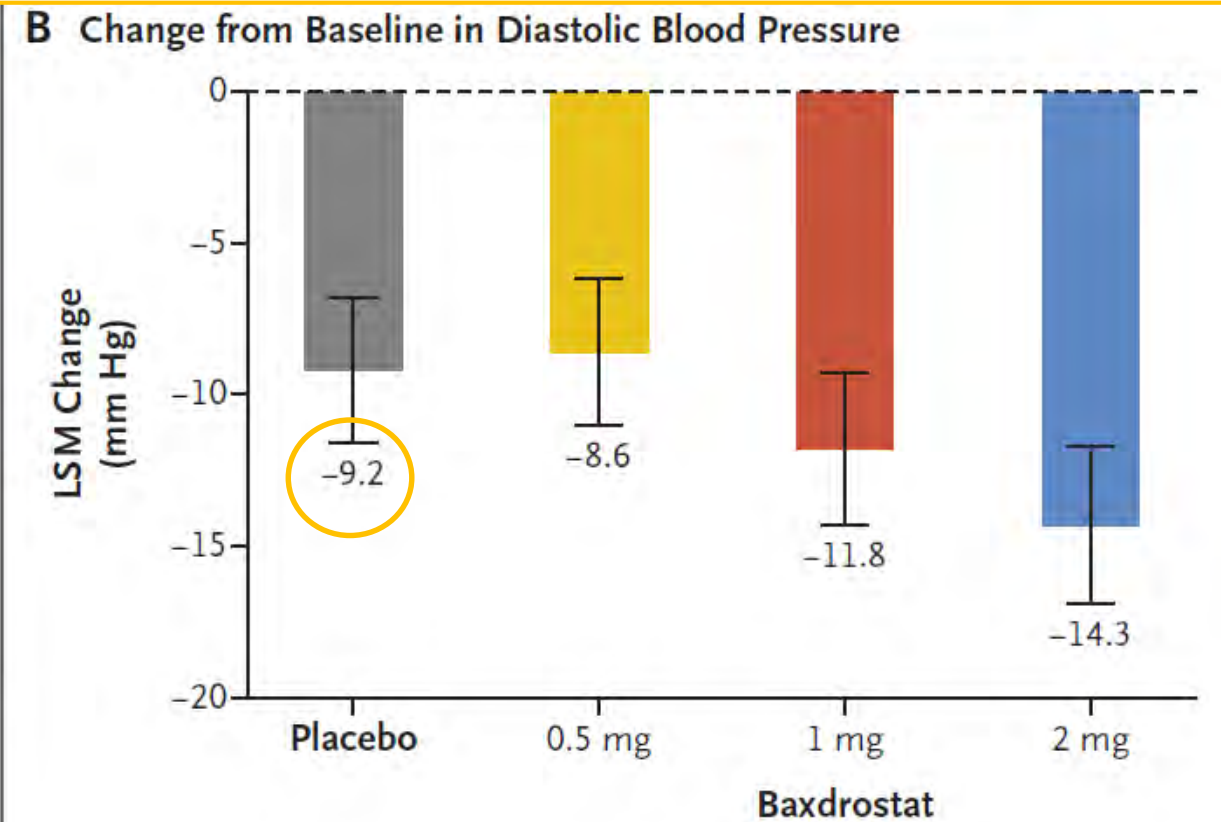
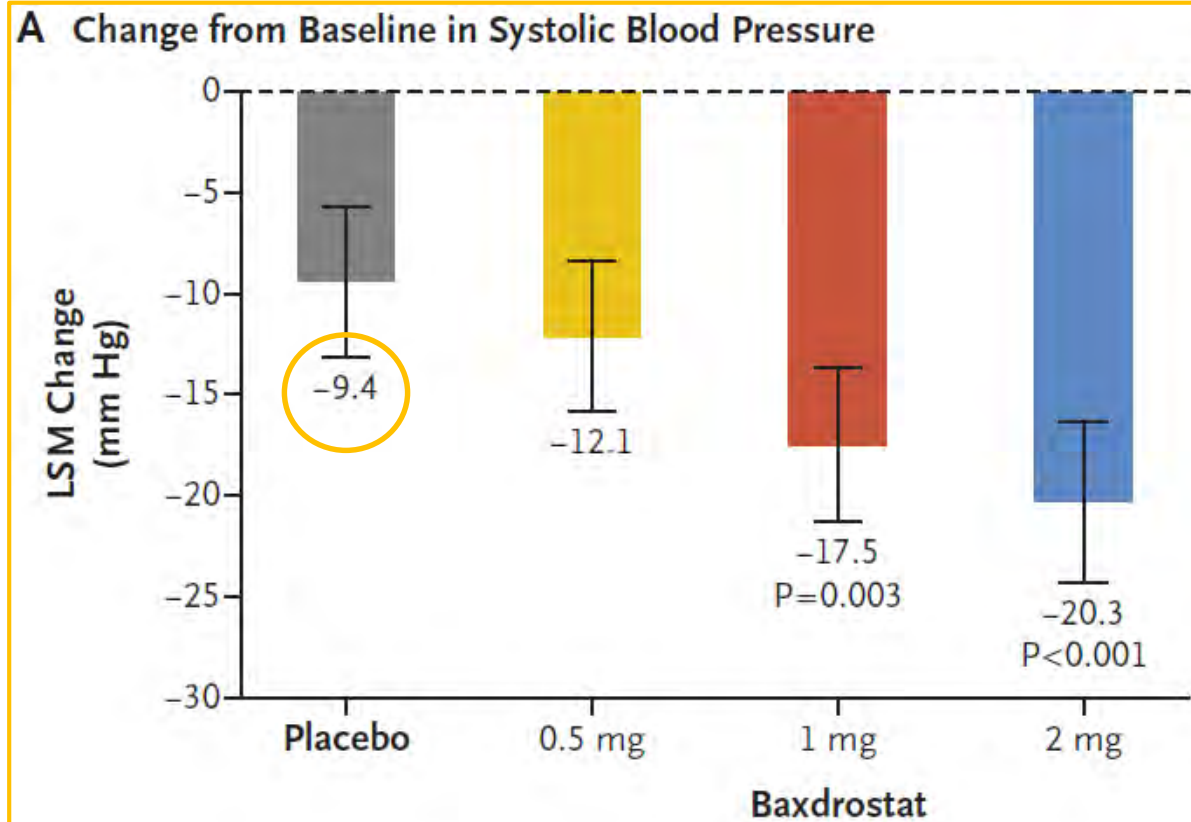
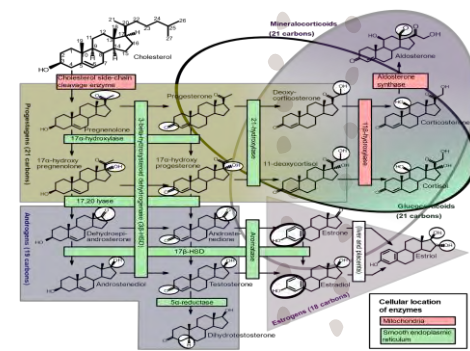
Drug class	Drug(s)/compound name(s)	Target site(s); route	Stage*
RAAS			
1. Angiotensin (1-7) analogues	AVE0991, HP-β-CD/Ang1-7	Mas receptor; oral	Preclinical
2 Angiotensin II vaccines	CYT006-AngQB, AGMG0201	Circulation; SC, IM	Phase IIa
3 Aldosterone synthase inhibitors	LCI699, LY3045697, RO6836191	Adrenal cortex; oral	Phase II
Other enzymes/receptors			
1. Dopamine β-hydroxylase inhibitors	Etamicastat, zamicastat	Adrenal medulla; oral	Phase I
2 Nephilysin inhibitors	LHW090	Kidney; oral	Phase II
3 Aminopeptidase A inhibitors	Firibastat, NI956	Brain; oral	Phase III
4 Endothelin receptor antagonists	Aprocitentan, atrasentan	Blood vessels; oral	Phase III
5 Angiotensin receptor-nephilysin inhibitors	Sacubitril/valsartan	AT2R, kidney; oral	Phase IV
6 SGLT2 inhibitor	Gliflozins	Kidney; oral	Phase IV

Ordered by stage of development. AT2R indicates angiotensin II type 2 receptor; RAAS, renin–angiotensin–aldosterone system; and SGLT2, sodium glucose co-transporter 2.

\* Highest stage of development for compound(s) in the class.

Phase 2 Trial of Baxdrostat for Treatment-Resistant  
Hypertension

Aldosterone synthesis inhibition





RESEARCH SUMMARY

# Zilebesiran, an RNA Interference Therapeutic Agent for Hypertension

Desai AS et al. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2208391

**CLINICAL PROBLEM**

Nearly half of patients with hypertension do not reach guideline-recommended blood-pressure targets. Zilebesiran is an investigational RNA interference therapeutic agent that inhibits the production of angiotensinogen, the precursor of angiotensin, which plays a key role in the pathogenesis of hypertension.



**CLINICAL TRIAL**

**Design:** A four-part, multicenter, phase 1 study assessed the safety and blood-pressure-lowering effects of zilebesiran in adults ≤65 years of age with treated or untreated hypertension.

**Intervention:** 107 patients were enrolled. In Part A, patients were randomly assigned to a single subcutaneous dose of zilebesiran (at one of seven doses ranging from 10 to 800 mg) or placebo. In Part B, zilebesiran (800 mg) or placebo was administered under low- and high-salt dietary conditions, and in Part E, irbesartan was added to zilebesiran (800 mg). (Part C was removed during a protocol amendment, and Part D is ongoing.) The primary end point was the frequency of adverse events.

**RESULTS**

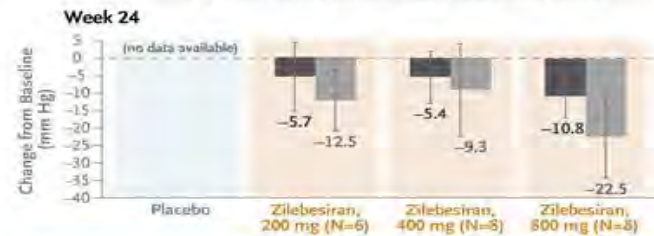
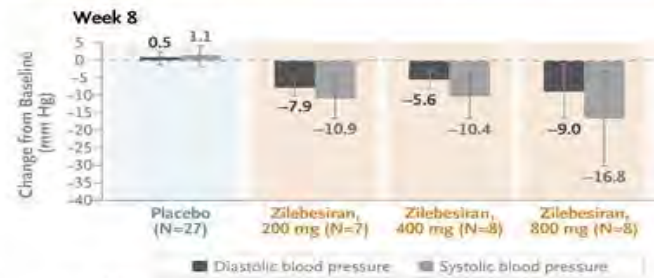
**Safety:** Overall, adverse events were not more frequent with zilebesiran than with placebo. Five zilebesiran recipients had mild, transient injection-site reactions. No patient received interventions for hypotension, hyperkalemia, or worsening of renal function.

**Efficacy:** In Part A, single doses of zilebesiran of ≥200 mg were associated with dose-dependent decreases in blood pressure that were apparent by week 8 and were sustained for up to 24 weeks. In Part B, a high-salt diet appeared to attenuate the blood-pressure-lowering effects of zilebesiran. In Part E, irbesartan appeared to enhance the effects of zilebesiran.

**LIMITATIONS AND REMAINING QUESTIONS**

- The efficacy end points were exploratory.
- The study was too small and short to fully assess safety.
- Whether zilebesiran has the teratogenic effects of other renin-angiotensin system inhibitors is unknown.

Links: Full Article | NEJM Quick Take | Science behind the Study



**CONCLUSIONS**

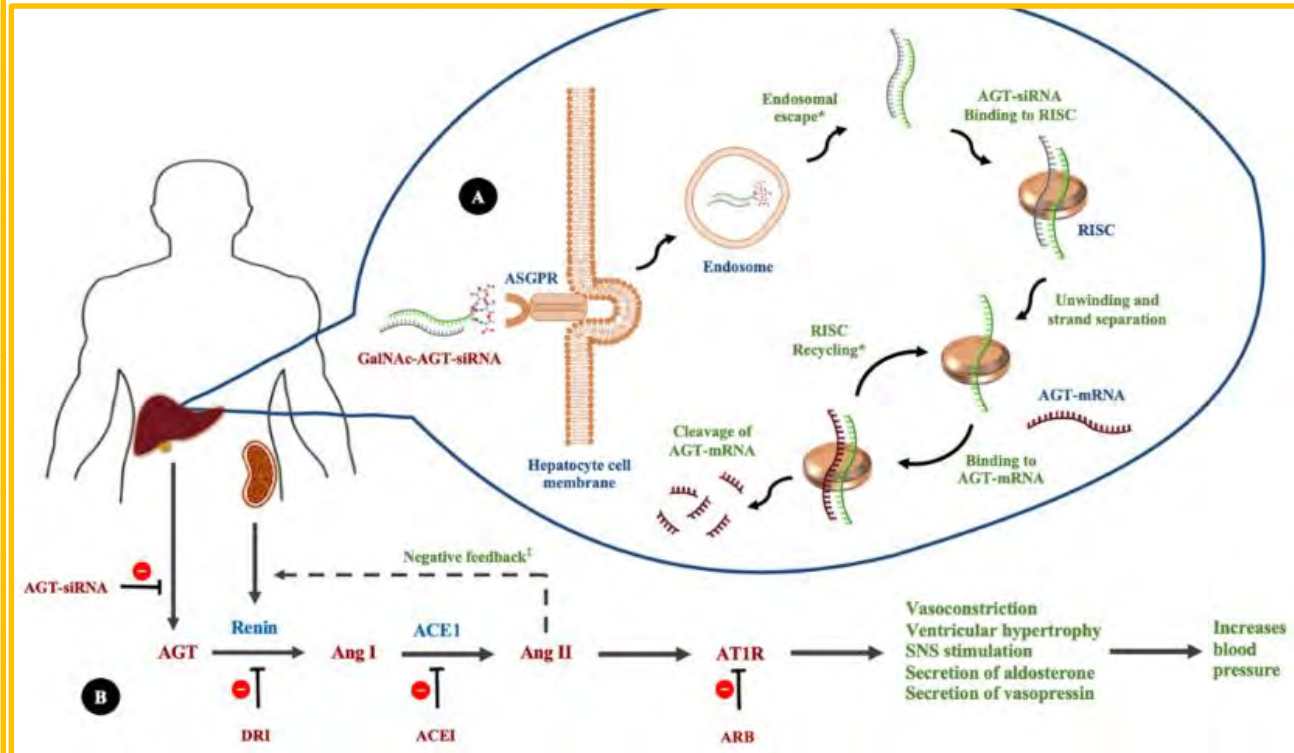
In patients with hypertension, the investigational RNA interference therapeutic agent zilebesiran was associated with mild injection-site reactions and led to dose-dependent decreases in blood pressure that were sustained at 24 weeks of follow-up.



VIEWPOINTS

## Small Interfering RNA Therapeutics in Hypertension: A Viewpoint on Vasopressor and Vasopressor-Sparing Strategies for Counteracting Blood Pressure Lowering by Angiotensinogen-Targeting Small Interfering RNA

Priyanga Ranasinghe, MD, PhD ; Melisande L. Addison, MBBS, PhD ; David J. Webb, MD, DSc





Different Populations

# Older patients (>80 ans): strategies...

**TABLE 21. Adapting BP-lowering strategies in patients older than 80 years according to their functional/autonomy status (adapted from [38])**

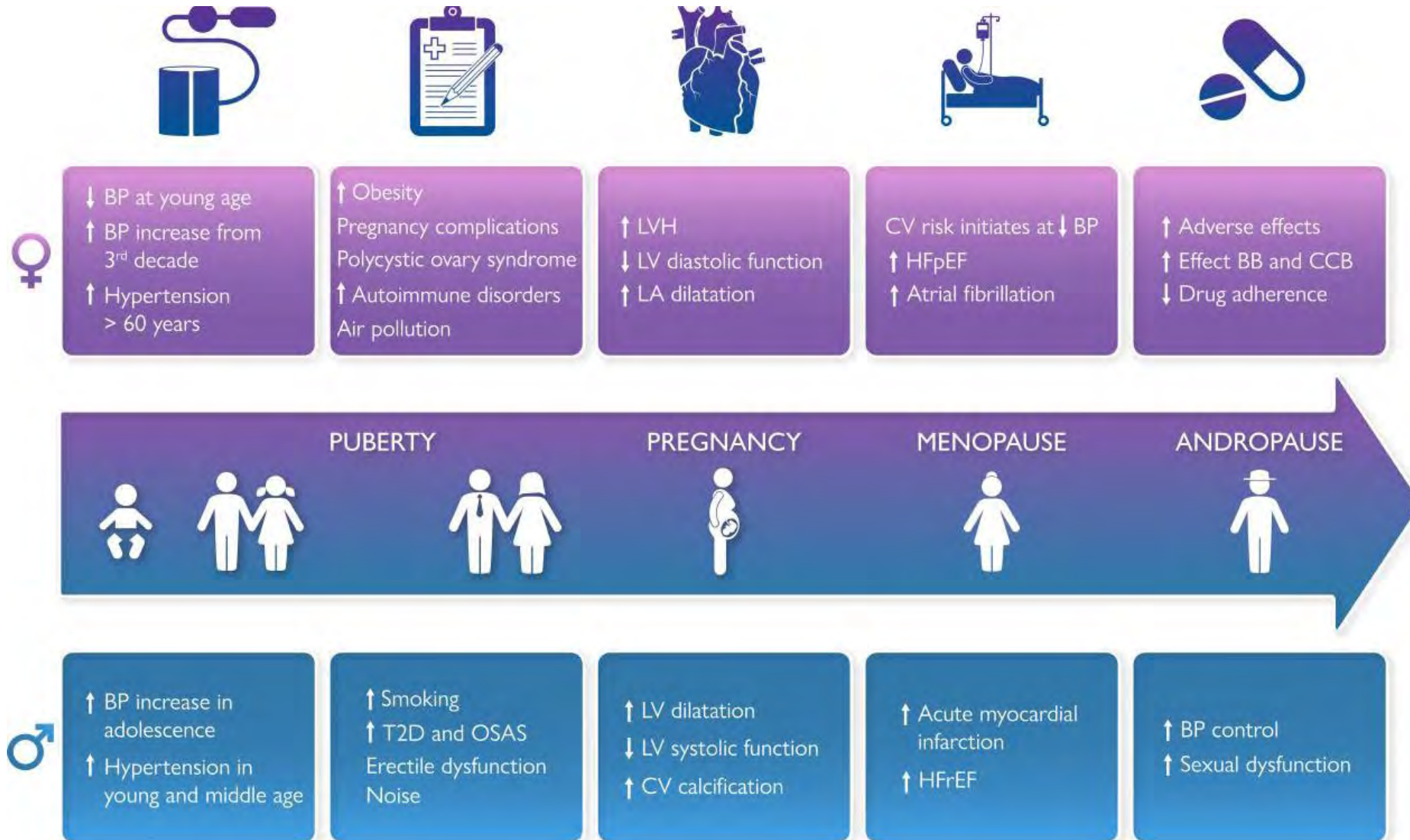
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Characteristics	Fit	Slowed but autonomous for most activities	Severely dependent
Diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-ADL (Katz) <math>\geq 5/6</math> and</li> <li>-absence of clinically significant dementia (MMSE <math>\leq 20/30</math>) and</li> <li>-routine walking activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Profile between Groups 1 and 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-ADL (Katz) <math>\leq 2/6</math> or</li> <li>-severe dementia (MMSE <math>\leq 10/30</math>) or</li> <li>chronic bedridden or</li> <li>-end of life</li> </ul>
Therapeutic strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiate drug treatment if office SBP <math>\geq 160</math> mmHg</li> <li>- However, in most cases initiation of treatment in the 140 to 159 mmHg range maybe considered</li> <li>- Office SBP should be lowered in the 140 to 150 mmHg range</li> <li>- However, reduction of office SBP between 130 to 139 mmHg may be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if DBP is already below 70 mmHg</li> <li>- Consider to start with monotherapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiate drug treatment if office SBP <math>\geq 160</math>mmHg</li> <li>- However, a lower office SBP threshold in the 140 to 159 mmHg range may be considered</li> <li>- Office SBP should be lowered in the 140 to 150mmHg range</li> <li>- However, reduction of office SBP between 130 to 139mmHg may be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if office DBP is already below 70 mmHg</li> <li>- Consider to start with monotherapy and titrate antihypertensive medication cautiously</li> <li>- Consider treatment reduction if office SBP is very low (&lt;120 mmHg) or in patients with orthostatic hypotension</li> <li>- Make a more detailed evaluation of the functional status: SPPB (mobility), handgrip (muscular force), mini-GDS scale (depression), and MNA-SF (nutritional status)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priorize therapeutic strategies according to comorbidities and polypharmacy issues</li> <li>- Consider treatment if office SBP <math>\geq 160</math> mmHg</li> <li>- Target treatment of office SBP to a range of 140–150mmHg</li> <li>- Reduce treatment if office SBP is very low (&lt;120 mmHg) or in patients with orthostatic hypotension</li> <li>- Correct other factors and medications decreasing BP</li> </ul>

Additional recommendations <sup>a</sup>		
In frail patients, initiation of drug treatment and the treatment target for office SBP and DBP should be individualized.	I	C
Initiation with monotherapy should be considered in patients with frailty and/or advanced age.	I	C
Do not aim to target office SBP below 120 mmHg or DBP below 70 mmHg during drug treatment.	III	C
However, in patients with low office DBP, i.e. below 70 mmHg, SBP should be still lowered, albeit cautiously, if on-treatment SBP is still well above target values	II	C
Reduction of treatment can be considered in patients age 80 years or older with a low SBP (<120mmHg) or in the presence of severe orthostatic hypotension or a high frailty level.	II	C
Withdrawal of BP-lowering drug treatment on the basis of age, even when patients attain an age of ≥ 80 years, is not recommended, if treatment is well tolerated.	III	B
In older patients, treatment may start with lower doses and uptitration should be slower.	II	C
The search for orthostatic hypotension in old patients should be systematic, even in the absence of symptoms. Back titration or discontinuation of BP lowering drugs should be considered in patients with orthostatic hypotension.	I	C
In old patients with hypertension there should always be an assessment of functional/autonomy status including cognitive function.	I	C
In patients with reduced functional/autonomy status and/or dementia treatment should be individualized.	I	C

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
<b>Patients 65 to 79 years old</b>		
The recommended office threshold for initiation of drug treatment is 140/90 mmHg.	I	A
The primary goal of treatment is to lower BP to <140/80mmHg.	I	A
However, lowering BP to below 130/80mmHg can be considered if treatment is well tolerated.	I	B
<b>Patients 65 to 79 years old with ISH</b>		
The primary goal of treatment is to lower SBP in the 140 to 150 mmHg range.	I	A
However, a reduction of office SBP in the 130 to 139 mmHg range should be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if DBP is already below 70 mmHg.	I	B
In dedicated RCTs in older patients with ISH, CCBs and Thiazide/Thiazide-like diuretics have been mainly used. However, all other major drug classes can be used, because of the frequent co-existence of compelling indications and the need of combination therapy to control SBP.	I	A
Initiation of treatment with a two-drug combination is also recommended in most older patients with ISH, who are not frail.	I	C
<b>Patients ≥80 years old</b>		
The recommended office SBP threshold for initiation of drug treatment is 160 mmHg.	I	B
However, a lower SBP threshold in the 140 to 159 mmHg range may be considered.	II	C
Office SBP should be lowered in the 140 to 150 mmHg range.	I	A
However, reduction of office SBP between 130 to 139 mmHg may be considered if well tolerated, albeit cautiously if DBP is already below 70 mmHg.	II	B



# Gender and Hypertension



# Women

- Pregnancy: 10% HTA

**TABLE 22. Classification of hypertensive disorders in pregnancy**

## **A. Preexisting (chronic) hypertension**

Hypertension either preceding pregnancy or developing before 20 weeks gestation, usually persisting for more than 42 days postpartum, and may be associated with proteinuria.

1. Primary hypertension
2. Secondary hypertension
3. White-coat hypertension
4. Masked hypertension

## **B. Gestational hypertension**

Hypertension develops after 20 weeks gestation and usually resolves within 42 days postpartum.

### **Transient gestational hypertension**

– Usually detected in the clinic but then settles with repeated BP measurements taken over several hours, it is associated with a 40% risk of developing true gestational hypertension or preeclampsia in the remainder of the pregnancy, thus requiring careful follow-up.

**Preeclampsia** is gestational hypertension accompanied by one or more of the following new-onset conditions at or after 20 weeks gestation:

- Proteinuria (urinary albumin excretion in a 24h urine sample  $>0.3\text{g/day}$  or UACR in a random spot urine sample  $>30\text{mg/mmol}$  ( $0.3\text{mg/mg}$ ))
- Other maternal organ dysfunction
- Acute kidney injury (serum creatinine  $\geq 90\ \mu\text{mol/l}$ ;  $1\ \text{mg/dL}$ )
- Liver involvement (elevated ALT or AST  $>40\ \text{IU/l}$ ;  $0.67\ \mu\text{kat/l}$  with or without right upper quadrant or epigastric abdominal pain)
- Neurological complications (e.g. edamsia, altered mental status, blindness, stroke, clonus, severe headaches, persistent visual scotomata)
- Hematological complications (platelet count  $<150000/\mu\text{l}$ , DIC, hemolysis)
- Uteroplacental dysfunction (fetal growth restriction, abnormal umbilical artery Doppler waveform analysis, or stillbirth)

## **C. Preexisting hypertension + superimposed preeclampsia**

Preexisting hypertension associated with any of the above maternal organ dysfunctions consistent with preeclampsia or a further increase in BP with new-onset proteinuria

## **D. Antenatally unclassifiable hypertension**

When BP is first recorded after 20 weeks gestation, and hypertension is diagnosed, reassessment is necessary at or after 42 days postpartum. If hypertension resolves, it should be reclassified as gestational hypertension, whereas if hypertension persists, it should be reclassified as preexisting hypertension.

# Hypertension management in pregnancy

## RESEARCH SUMMARY

### Treatment for Mild Chronic Hypertension during Pregnancy

Tita AT et al. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2201295

#### CLINICAL PROBLEM

Chronic hypertension during pregnancy increases risk of poor pregnancy and birth outcomes. Although pharmacologic antihypertensive therapy is standard treatment for severe hypertension during pregnancy, its benefits and safety are unclear for mild chronic hypertension in pregnant women.

#### CLINICAL TRIAL

**Design:** A U.S. multicenter, open-label, randomized, controlled trial assessed whether treatment of mild chronic hypertension in pregnant women, as compared with no treatment, would reduce adverse pregnancy outcomes without harming fetal growth.

**Intervention:** 2408 women with a known or new diagnosis of mild chronic hypertension and a singleton fetus at <23 weeks' gestation were randomly assigned to receive either active treatment with antihypertensive medications approved for pregnancy or standard treatment — i.e., no treatment, unless systolic blood pressure was  $\geq 160$  mm Hg or diastolic blood pressure was  $\geq 105$  mm Hg. The primary outcome was a composite of preeclampsia with severe features, medically indicated preterm birth at <35 weeks, placental abruption, fetal death, or neonatal death.

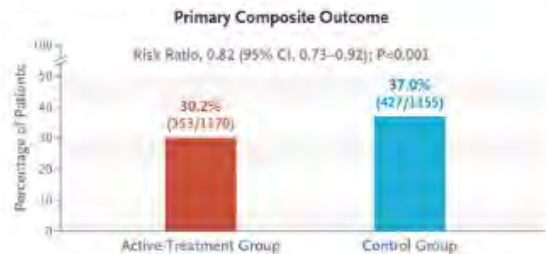
#### RESULTS

**Efficacy:** Active treatment of mild chronic hypertension reduced the frequency of primary outcome events.

**Safety:** The percentage of infants who were small for gestational age (<10th percentile) was similar in the active-treatment and control groups.

#### LIMITATIONS AND REMAINING QUESTIONS

- Patients were aware of their treatment group.
- There was a high ratio of women screened to women enrolled (12:1).
- The study was not powered to assess treatment effects across subgroups.



#### CONCLUSIONS

Treating mild chronic hypertension in pregnancy reduced adverse pregnancy outcomes without impairing fetal growth.

Recommendations and statements	CoR	LoE
In women with hypertensive disorders in pregnancy, initiation or intensification of drug treatment is recommended when SBP is $\geq 140$ mmHg and/or DBP $\geq 90$ mmHg.	I	C
In women with pre-existing hypertension (with or without superimposed pre-eclampsia), BP should be lowered to a target below 140/90 mmHg.	I	A
In women with gestational hypertension (with or without pre-eclampsia), BP should be lowered to a target below 140/90 mmHg.	I	C
In women with hypertensive disorders in pregnancy, too marked BP-lowering should be avoided. On-treatment DBP <80 mmHg is not recommended.	III	C

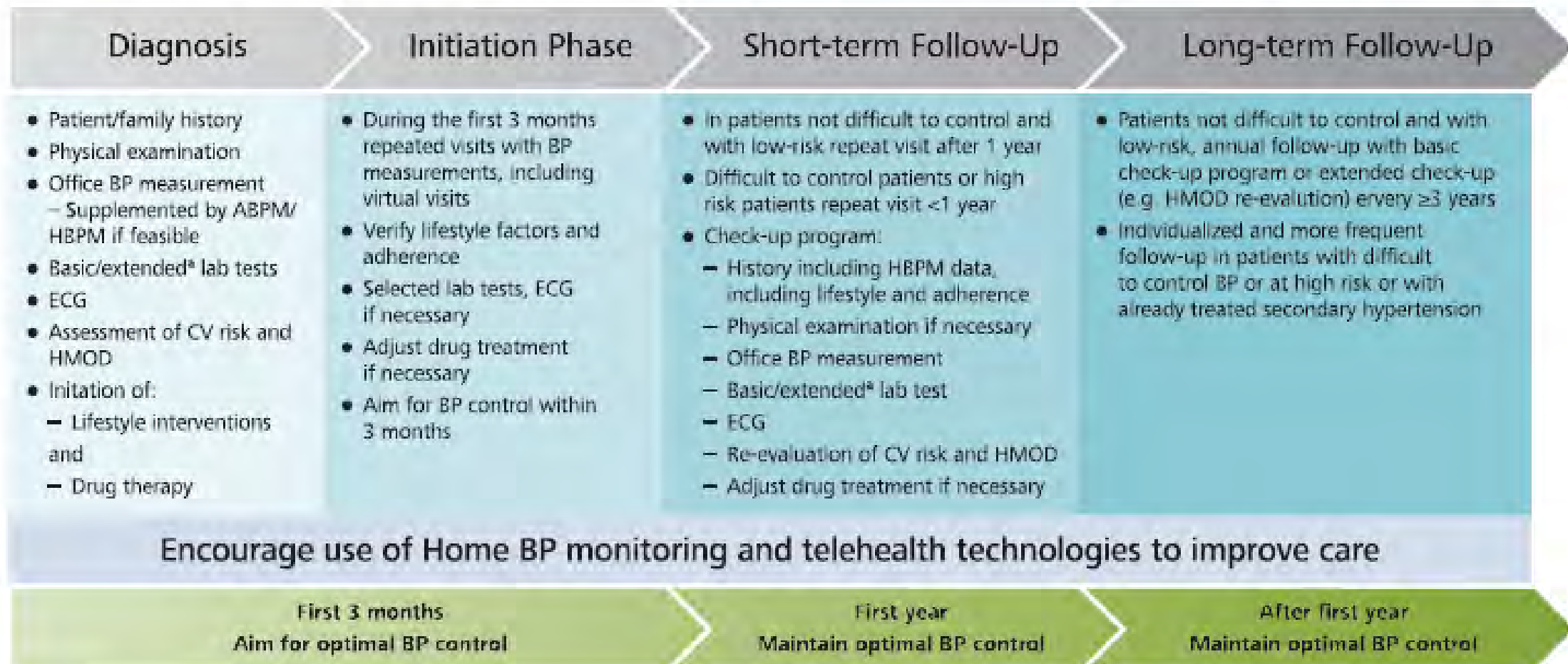
Labetalol <sup>a</sup> and $\alpha$ -methyl-DOPA are the first choice BP-lowering agents for hypertensive disorders in pregnancy unless contraindicated.	I	B
Extended-release nifedipine is recommended as an alternative BP-lowering agent during pregnancy.	I	B
Up-titration of monotherapy may precede any combination drug treatment.	II	C
Combination drug treatment between labetalol, extended-release nifedipine, or $\alpha$ -methyl-DOPA may be reasonable to achieve the desirable BP target after the failure of up-titrated monotherapy.	II	C
ACE inhibitors, ARBs, or direct renin inhibitors are not recommended during pregnancy.	III	C
Aspirin (100-150 mg, at bedtime, weeks 11-35) should be administered in pregnant women at high or moderate risk of pre-eclampsia.	I	A
Severe hypertension ( $\geq 160/110$ mmHg) in a pregnant woman requires prompt hospital admission.	I	C
In pre-eclampsia with severe features, magnesium sulfate should be administered immediately.	I	C

# CONCLUSIONS

- HT frequent worldwide and high burden in health care costs
- Increasing mainly in countries of Low-Middle Income
- Persisting problem of:
  - 1) underdiagnosed
  - 2) undertreated
  - 3) undercontrolled
- New guidelines provide evidences for diagnosis, targets, treatments
- Importance of combinations
- New treatments under the radar....
- Guidelines also considered specific populations: older, pregnancy,



# Not only start the treatment












# Global report on hypertension

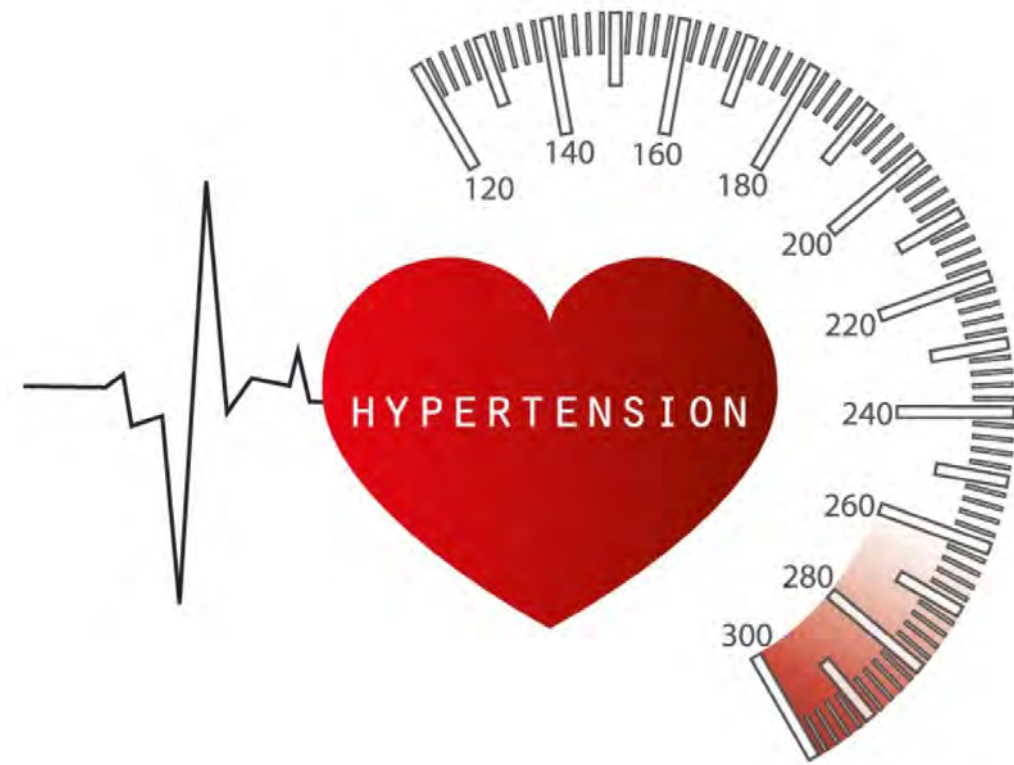
The race against a silent killer



## Targets...

-  A one third relative reduction in the overall mortality from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases by 2030<sup>a</sup>
-  A 20% relative reduction in the harmful use of alcohol by 2030<sup>b</sup>
-  A 15% relative reduction in prevalence of insufficient physical activity by 2030<sup>a</sup>
-  A 30% relative reduction in mean population intake of salt/sodium<sup>c</sup>
-  A 30% relative reduction in prevalence of current tobacco use<sup>c</sup>
-  A 25% relative reduction in the prevalence of raised blood pressure or to contain the prevalence of raised blood pressure<sup>c</sup>
-  Halt the rise in diabetes and obesity<sup>c</sup>
-  At least 50% of eligible people (aged 40 years and older with a 10-year cardiovascular risk  $\geq 20\%$ ) including those with CVD to receive drug therapy and counselling (including glycaemic control) to prevent heart attacks and strokes<sup>c</sup>
-  An 80% availability of the affordable basic technologies and essential medicines, including generics, required to treat major noncommunicable diseases in both public and private facilities<sup>c</sup>

# THANK YOU



# HYPERTENSION WORLDWIDE



**Worldwide, 1 in 3** adults has high blood pressure—a condition that leads to heart attack and stroke.



Everyone can take **five concrete steps** to help prevent high blood pressure:



Healthy diet



Physical activity



Avoiding tobacco



Avoiding harmful use of alcohol



Managing stress in healthy ways