

# THE LANCET

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"More than a quarter of the world's adult population—totalling nearly one billion—had hypertension in 2000, and . . . this proportion will increase to 29%—1.56 billion by 2025."

See Articles page 217

#### Mortality due to leading global risk factors



World Health Report 2002

# Cardiovascular risk factors (modifiable)

Blood pressure Lipids Diabetes Smoking Obesity





## ENVIRONMENT SALT OBESITY ALCOHOL STRESS GENETIC PREDISPOSITION (OR INTRAUTERINE FACTORS)

↑ B.P.

- Autoregulation
- Ion transport inhibitors
- Sympathetic nervous system
- Renal mechanisms
- Vascular wall contractility and structure
- Rarefaction

PATHOGENETIC MECHANISMS



#### Classification of blood pressure levels of the British Hypertension Society

| Category                       | Systolic blood pressure<br>(mmHg) | Diastolic blood pressure<br>(mmHg) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Blood Pressure                 |                                   |                                    |
| Optimal                        | <120                              | <80                                |
| Normal                         | <130                              | <85                                |
| High normal                    | 130-139                           | 85-89                              |
| Hypertension                   |                                   |                                    |
| Grade 1 (mild)                 | 140-159                           | 90-99                              |
| Grade 2 (moderate)             | 160-179                           | 100-109                            |
| Grade 3 (severe)               | <u>≥</u> 180                      | <u>≥</u> 110                       |
| Isolated systolic hypertension |                                   |                                    |
| Grade 1                        | 140-159                           | <90                                |
| Grade 2                        | <u>≥</u> 160                      | <90                                |

#### Prevalence of 'Hypertension' by different cut points





## **Progression of Atherosclerosis**



Libby P. In: Braunwald, Zipes, Libby, eds. Heart Disease. 2001:995-1006.







#### encephalopathy

#### cerebral haemorrhage

cerebral thrombosis

lacunar stroke

embolism

transient ischaemic attacks



### Ischaemic heart disease mortality linked to BP levels



Prospective Studies Collaboration. Lancet. 2002;360:1903-1913.

# Stroke mortality linked to BP levels



Prospective Studies Collaboration. Lancet. 2002;360:1903-1913.

## Additive Effect of Cholesterol and Systolic BP on Risk of CHD Death



Neaton JD, Wentworth D. Arch Intern Med. 1992;152:56-64.

## Systolic Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Death Association in type 2 diabetes



Stamler et al. 1993



## **BHS Guidelines 2004**

#### Blood pressure measurement by standard mercury sphygmomanometer or semiautomated device

- Use of properly maintain, calibrated, and validated device
- Measure sitting blood pressure routinely: standing blood pressure should be recorded at least at the initial estimation in elderly or diabetic patients
- Remove tight clothing, support arm at heart level, ensure arm relaxed and avoid talking during the measurement procedure
- Use of cuff of appropriate size



### Blood pressure measurement by standard mercury sphygmomanometer or semiautomated device

- Take the mean of at least two readings, more recordings are needed if marked differences between initial measurements are found
- Do not treat on the basis of an isolated reading
- Consider ABPM or home monitoring

### **Cardiovascular risk assessment**



#### Nondiabetic Men





#### Nondiabetic Women



## Intervention

# Lifestyle measures and drug treatment

## Lifestyle measures

- Maintain normal weight for adults (body mass index 20-25kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Reduce salt intake to < 100mmol/day (<6g NaCl or < 2.4 g Na+/day)
- Limit alcohol consumption to < 3 units/day for men and < 2 units/day for women)
- Regular physical exercise (brisk walking rather than weightlifting) for <u>></u> 30 minutes per day, ideally on most days of the week but at least on three days of the week.
- Consume at least five portions/day of fresh fruit and vegetables
- Reduce the intake of total and saturated fat

## Thresholds and treatment for antihypertensive drug treatment

- Drug treatment should be started in all patients with sustained systolic blood pressures > 160mmHg or sustained diastolic blood pressures > 100mmHg despite non-pharmacological measures
- Drug treatment is also indicated in patients with sustained systolic blood pressures 140-159mmHg or diastolic blood pressures 90-99mmHg if target organ damage is present, or there is evidence of established cardiovascular disease or diabetes, or if there is a 10 year cardiovascular disease risk of ≥ 20%

#### continued



- Unless malignant phase of hypertensive emergency confirm over 1-2 weeks then treat
- \*\* If cardiovascular complications, target organ damage or diabetes is present, confirm over 3–4 weeks then treat; if absent re-measure weekly and treat if blood pressure persists at these levels over 4–12
- \*\*\* If cardiovascular complications, target organ damage, or diabetes is present, confirm over 12 weeks then treat: if absent re-measure monthly and treat if these levels are maintained and if estimated 10 year CVD risk is ≥20%
- † Assessed with CVD risk chart

Suggested target blood pressures during antihypertensive treatment. Systolic and diastolic blood pressures should *both* be attained, e.g. <140/85 mmHg means *less than* 140 mmHg for systolic blood pressure and *less than* 85 mmHg for diastolic blood pressure

#### Clinic BP (mmHg)

|                             | No diabetes | Diabetes |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Optimal treated BP pressure | <140/85     | <130/80  |
| Audit Standard              | <150/90     | <140/80  |

Audit standard reflects the minimum recommended levels of blood pressure control.

Despite best practice, the Audit Standard will not be achievable in all treated hypertensives.

For ambulatory (mean daytime) or home blood pressure monitoring - reducing these targets by ~10/5 is recommended.





Most hypertensives will need  $\geq$  2 drugs to control BP Drug combinations may be synergistic

#### Choosing drugs for patients newly diagnosed with hypertension





National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence



### **Blood Pressure Reduction**

Implication from trial results that greater reduction in blood pressure will produce greater benefit e.g.

| Diastolic BP | <u>Stroke</u> | <u>CHD</u> |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| 5-6 mmHg     | 38%           | 16%        |
| 8-10 mmHg    | 50%           | 20% *      |
| 6-18 mmHg    | 75            | ?          |

\* Longer term therapy may reduce risk by 33%

#### Age- and gender adjusted hypertension control by country (35-64 years); 140/90 mmHg (2000)



## **Cardiovascular risk factors**

Blood pressure Lipids Diabetes Smoking

#### **Other medications for hypertensive patients**

(1) Aspirin: use 75mg daily if patient is aged  $\geq$ 50 years with blood pressure controlled to <150/90 mm Hg and either; target organ damage, diabetes mellitus, or 10 year risk of cardiovascular disease of  $\geq$ 20% (measured by using the new Joint British Societies' cardiovascular disease risk chart)

(2) Statin: use sufficient doses to reach targets if patient is aged up to at least 80 years, with a 10 year risk of cardiovascular disease of  $\geq$ 20% (measured by using the new Joint British Societies' cardiovascular disease risk chart) and with total cholesterol concentration  $\geq$ 3.5mmol/l

(3) Vitamins—no benefit shown, do not prescribe





"Large randomised trials demonstrate lowering LDL- cholesterol by 1 mmol/l reduces non-fatal MI and fatal CHD by about 25% ( about half the the effect predicted from epidemiological studies for a similar reduction in long term cholesterol lowering in people without vascular disease ) " Collins 2002

With greater reductions in cholesterol there are correspondingly larger reductions in CHD endpoints.