Hypertension 101

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Objectives

1. Understand differences between JNC-7 and JNC-8

2. Understand the approach to the diagnosis and evaluation of hypertension

3. Recognize when to look for secondary hypertension

4. Understand current recommendations for the management of hypertension
### References

- JNC 7
- JNC 8
- Wright et al. Evidence Supporting a Systolic Blood Pressure Goal of Less Than 150 mmHg in Patients Aged 60 Years or Older: The Minority View. Annals of Internal Medicine. Published online January 14, 2014.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JNC7</th>
<th>JNC8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nonsystematic review of evidence</td>
<td>• Systematic review of randomized control trials only*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Large range of study designs</td>
<td>• Standardized protocol for reviewing RCT’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recommendations based on consensus</td>
<td>• Standardized protocol for making recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 100% consensus if possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2/3 majority for evidence based recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 75% majority for expert opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*In accordance with IOM standards for systematic reviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from JNC8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JNC7</th>
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<tr>
<td>• 5 Classes of medications</td>
<td>• 4 Classes of medications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Thiazide-type diuretics</td>
<td>• Thiazide-type diuretics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ACE inhibitors</td>
<td>• ACE inhibitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ARBs</td>
<td>• ARB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Calcium Channel Blockers</td>
<td>• Calcium Channel Blockers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Beta Blockers</em></td>
<td>• Therapy dependent on subgroups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Nonblack: CCB, ACEi, ARB, Thiazide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Black: CCB, Thiazide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• CKD: ACEi, ARB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from JNC8
JNC7

- Comprehensive discussion of the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of hypertension
  - How to measure BP’s appropriately
  - Defines hypertension
  - Initial evaluation of the hypertensive patient
  - Evaluation of secondary hypertension
  - Effects of lifestyle modification on BP

JNC8

- Review limited to answering high priority questions
  - Should therapy be initiated at specific BP thresholds?
  - Should treatment be focused on achieving BP goals?
  - What are the differing benefits of different drugs and drug classes?

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Adapted from JNC8
Diagnosing Hypertension

- Normal- Recheck in 2 years
  - Systolic: <120 mmHg
  - Diastolic: <80 mmHg
- Prehypertension- Recheck in 1 year
  - Systolic: 120 – 139 mmHg
  - Diastolic: 80 – 89 mmHg
- Stage 1 Hypertension- Confirm within 2 months
  - Systolic: 140 – 159 mmHg
  - Diastolic: 90 – 99 mmHg
- Stage 2 Hypertension- Immediate treatment or within 1 month
  - Systolic: ≥ 160 mmHg
  - Diastolic: ≥ 100 mmHg

Blood pressure readings should be obtained

- With patient’s feet on the floor
- After 5 minutes of rest
- Arm supported at heart level
- Caffeine, exercise, and smoking avoided 30 minutes prior
Diagnosing Hypertension

• Home blood pressure measures
  • white coat hypertension
  • masked hypertension

• 24 hour ambulatory blood pressure monitoring
  • Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial (SPRINT).

JNC 7
Once the diagnosis is made, evaluate for cardiovascular risk factors:

- Diabetes
- Family history of premature cardiovascular disease
- History of strokes/MI
- Retinopathy
- CKD
- Smoking
- Left ventricular hypertrophy
- Age

New Diagnosis Hypertension:

- 12 Lead ECG
- urinalysis
- blood glucose
- hematocrit
- serum calcium
- serum potassium
- serum creatinine
- lipid profile

- Liver Function Tests:
  - ASH/ISH recommendation

JNC 7
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When to evaluate for secondary hypertension:

- Age, severity of hypertension, or labs indicate

- BP’s poorly controlled despite appropriate therapy
  - Resistant Hypertension: Uncontrolled BP despite use of 3 medications in different classes with one being a diuretic

- Previously controlled BP’s become uncontrolled

- Sudden onset of hypertension
Etiology of Secondary Hypertension

- Hyperaldosteronism
  - Potassium is frequently in the normal, low-normal range
- Obstructive sleep apnea
- Coarctation of the aorta
- Cushing syndrome
- Pheochromocytoma
- Thyroid/parathyroid disease

43YO male with history of hypertension, hyperlipidemia, Type 2 DM, with previously well controlled hypertension presented after home blood pressure readings of 173/103. He was taking lisinopril and atenolol. He had been on hydrochlorothiazide previously but this was discontinued due to significant hypokalemia.

Labs:
- Sodium: 139mmol/L
- Potassium: 3.7mmol/L
- Bicarb: 32mmol/L
- BUN: 10mg/dL
- Creatinine: 1.13mg/dL

- Renin: <0.1ng/mL/hr
- Aldosterone: 15.5 ng/dL

High suspicion for primary hyperaldosteronism
Objectives

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Lifestyle Modification

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<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>SBP Reduction</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maintain normal body weight: BMI 18.5-24.9kg/m²</td>
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<td>No more than 2 alcoholic drinks per day for men and 1 for women</td>
<td>2-4 mm Hg</td>
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</table>
Hypertension Management

Stage 1 Hypertension: 140-159 / 90-99 mmHg
- Consider starting treatment based on cardiovascular risk factors
- May consider trial of lifestyle modification

Stage 2 Hypertension: ≥160 / ≥100 mmHg
- Initiate treatment
- Consider 2 drug regimen right away

Strength of Recommendation

- Grade A
  - Strong Recommendation- high certainty of substantial benefit
- Grade B
  - Moderate Recommendation- moderate certainty of moderate benefit
- Grade C
  - Weak Recommendation- moderate certainty of a small net benefit
- Grade D
  - Recommendation against- moderate certainty of no benefit or of risk of harm
- Grade E
  - Expert Opinion- Net benefit is unclear but it was important to make a recommendation
- Grade N
  - No recommendation for or against
JNC 8: Strength of Recommendation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation Grade</th>
<th>Number of Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Does my patient have hypertension?  
Yes  
No  

Does my patient have chronic kidney disease?  
Yes  
No  

Does my patient have diabetes?  
Yes  
No  

Does my patient have >3g proteinuria?  
Yes  
No  

Age, race appropriate BP goals and medications  
If >18 YO Goal BP <140/90  
ACEi or ARB Goal BP <140/90  
ACEi or ARB Goal BP <130/80


History of stroke, heart failure, or other conditions which may modify treatment goals and medications need to be considered separately.
Does my patient have hypertension?

Does my patient have chronic kidney disease?

Does my patient have diabetes?

Age, race appropriate BP goals and medications

If >18 YO
Goal BP <140/90

ACEi or ARB
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ACEi or ARB
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History of stroke, heart failure, or other conditions which may modify treatment goals and medications need to be considered separately


Hypertension Management JNC8

- 18-59 Years Old
  - Treatment Goal: <140/90 mmHg

- >60 Years Old
  - Treatment Goal: <140-150*/90 mmHg

- >80 Years Old
  - Treatment Goal: <150/90 mmHg
### 18-59 Years Old: Treatment Goal <140/90 mmHg
JNC 8 recommendations 2 and 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Systolic BP Goals &lt;140 mmHg (Grade E)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• No trials comparing other systolic BP goals to the goal of &lt;140 mmHg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current standard of treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In diastolic BP trials, many of those who reached diastolic BP goal of &lt;90 mmHg also had systolic pressures &lt;140 mmHg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 18-59 Years Old: Treatment Goal <140/90 mmHg
JNC 8 recommendations 2 and 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diastolic BP Goal &lt;90 mmHg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-59YO (Grade A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-29YO (Grade E)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• BP goal <90 mmHg non-inferior to goals <85 mmHg or <80 mmHg
### Hypertension Management

**JNC8**

- **18-59 Years Old**
  - Treatment Goal: <140/90 mmHg

- **>60 Years Old**
  - Treatment Goal: <140-150**/90 mmHg

- **>80 Years Old**
  - Treatment Goal: <150/90 mmHg

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### >60 Years Old Treatment Goal: <140-150**/90 mmHg

**SBP Goal** <150 mmHg: If <140 mmHg and tolerating, no need to change  
JNC 8

**SBP Goal** <140 mmHg  
American Society of Hypertension (ASH)  
International Society of Hypertension (ISH)  
American College of Cardiology (ACC)  
American Heart Association (AHA)  
European Society of Hypertension  
European Society of Cardiology  
Canadian Hypertension Education Program  
London National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
### >60 Years Old Treatment Goal: $<140-150^{**}/90$ mmHg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&lt;150/90 mmHg (Grade A)</th>
<th>&lt;140/90 mmHg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Few trials</td>
<td>• Trials are underpowered and not generalizable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No difference in outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• &lt;140 mmHg vs 140-149 mmHg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• &lt;140 vs 140-160 mmHg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No evidence to support more aggressive goal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improvements in cardiovascular disease rates likely due, in part, to BP control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Slippery Slope</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No evidence of harm with lower BP target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hypertension Management JNC8

- **18-59 Years Old**
  - Treatment Goal: $<140/90$ mmHg

- **>60 Years Old**
  - Treatment Goal: $<140-150^{**}/90$ mmHg

- **>80 Years Old (Grade E)**
  - Treatment Goal: $<150/90$ mmHg
### Hypertension Management JNC8

#### Black Patients
- First Line: (Grade B)
  - Calcium Channel Blockers
  - Thiazide Type Diuretic
- Second Line
  - ACE inhibitor**
  - ARB

#### Non-Black Patients
- First Line (Grade B)
  - Calcium Channel Blockers
  - Thiazide Type Diuretic
- Second Line
  - ACE inhibitor
  - ARB

** 51% higher rate of strokes in black patients on ACEi as first line therapy compared to CCB in ALLHAT

---

**[Flowchart Image]**

Does my patient have hypertension?  
**Yes**  
Does my patient have chronic kidney disease?  
**No**  
Does my patient have diabetes?  
**No**  
Age, race appropriate BP goals and medications  
**Yes**  
If >18 YO Goal BP <140/90

---

Does my patient have >3g proteinuria?  
**No**  
ACEi or ARB Goal BP <140/90  
**Yes**  
ACEi or ARB Goal BP <130/80

---

Hypertension Management JNC8

• DM >18 years old *without* CKD
  • Goal BP <140/90 mmHg (Grade E)

---

Hypertension Management JNC8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black Patients</th>
<th>Non-Black Patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Line: (Grade C)</td>
<td>First Line: (Grade B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Channel Blockers</td>
<td>Calcium Channel Blockers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiazide Type Diuretic</td>
<td>Thiazide Type Diuretic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Line</td>
<td>ACE inhibitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACE inhibitor</td>
<td>ARB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Beta Blockers Not Recommended in JNC8
Does my patient have hypertension?  
**Yes**

Does my patient have chronic kidney disease?  
**Yes**

Does my patient have diabetes?  
**No**

If >18 YO  
Goal BP <140/90

ACEi or ARB  
Goal BP <140/90

ACEi or ARB  
Goal BP <130/80

Does my patient have >3g proteinuria?  
**Yes**

ACEi or ARB  
Goal BP <140/90

ACEi or ARB  
Goal BP <130/80

ACEi or ARB  
Goal BP <130/80

AGE, race appropriate BP goals and medications


**Hypertension Management JNC8**

**CKD Defined:**

- GFR <60mL/min/1.73m²  
  OR
- Albuminuria: >30mg of albumin/g of creatinine

**CKD: 18-70 Years Old**

- Treatment Goal: <140/90 mmHg (Grade E)

**CKD: >70 Years Old**

- Treatment Goal: <130/80 mmHg (Grade E)

History of stroke, heart failure, or other conditions which may modify treatment goals and medications need to be considered separately

**Insufficient evidence to make recommendations for patients >70 YO**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hypertension Management JNC8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CKD 18-70YO with or without Diabetes (Grade B)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Black and Non-black patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ACE inhibitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ARB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black Patient aged 18-70YO with CKD and hypertension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• With Proteinuria (Grade E)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ACEi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ARB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Without Proteinuria (Grade E)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CCB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Thiazide Type Diuretic</td>
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If >18 YO
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ACEi or ARB
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Hypertension Management

- CKD: 18-70 Years Old and >3 gram proteinuria
  - Goal BP <130/80 mmHg
  - Improvement in renal outcomes only

## Beta Blockers- Recommend Against JNC 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Losartan (n=4605)</th>
<th>Atenolol (n=4588)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>66.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>White</strong></td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Initial BP (mmHg)</strong></td>
<td>174.3/97.9</td>
<td>174.5/97.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BP Reduction (mmHg)</strong></td>
<td>30.2/16.6</td>
<td>29.1/16.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Composite Endpoint: Death, MI, Stroke**
- Atenolol: 588 events / 1000 patient-years
- Losartan: 508 events / 1000 patient-years
  - HR: 0.87 (p=0.021)

**Endpoint: Stroke**
- Atenolol: 309 events / 1000 patient-years
- Losartan: 232 events / 1000 patient-years
  - HR: 0.75 (p=0.001)

---

### Additional Thoughts

- No data on RAAS blockade in patients >75 years old and higher risk of kidney injury
- No studies showing benefit of direct renin inhibitors
- Do not combine ACE inhibitors and ARBs
### Additional Thoughts

- **Thiazide Type Diuretics**: chlorthalidone is most studied in the class, longer duration of action vs HCTZ.

- **Simplicity 3 Trial**: Renal denervation for resistant hypertension. Stopped in January.

- **Sprint Trial**: ongoing trial evaluating cardiovascular outcomes for systolic BP goals <120 versus <140 in patients >50 years old.

---

### Conclusion
**Lifestyle Modification**

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*JNC 7*

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**Decision Tree**

- **Does my patient have hypertension?**
  - Yes
  - **Does my patient have chronic kidney disease?**
    - Yes
      - **Does my patient have diabetes?**
        - Yes
          - ***ACEi or ARB***
          - Goal BP <140/90
        - No
          - **ACEi or ARB***
          - Goal BP <140/90
      - Yes
        - **ACEi or ARB***
        - Goal BP <140/90
    - No
      - **ACEi or ARB***
      - Goal BP <140/90
- No
  - **Does my patient have >3g proteinuria?**
    - Yes
      - **ACEi or ARB***
      - Goal BP <140/90
    - No
      - **ACEi or ARB***
      - Goal BP <140/90

Case 1

A 43YO black male presents for evaluation of hypertension after being told his blood pressure was high at the dentist’s office. In your office, you confirm an elevated BP of 152/94. The patient has a BMI of 29.2 kg/m², he rarely exercises, and his father had an MI at age 51. Laboratory testing reveals that he has dyslipidemia, an A1C of 6.1, and an estimated GFR of 53mL/min/1.73m². He has no proteinuria. He had a normal EKG. After recommending lifestyle modification, what would be your next step in managing this patient with suspected hypertension?

Case 1

1. May be reasonable to give him a trial of lifestyle modification alone for 2-3 months
   a. Home blood pressure monitoring: alert sooner if BP >160/100
   b. Recheck GFR prior to next office visit
   c. Initiate treatment next visit if home BP’s are elevated or evidence of CKD

2. Initiate treatment right away
   a. Elevated BP on repeat measures, metabolic syndrome, and significant family history
   b. Reduce treatment at a later time if lifestyle modifications are effective
   c. Without proteinuria: CCB, Thiazide diuretic, ACEi, or ARB would be appropriate
Case 2

A 28YO white male presents to establish care. He was diagnosed with diabetes last year and is on metformin. His blood pressure in your office is 174/102 and he states he frequently has headaches. His BMI is 38 kg/m². What should be the next steps in evaluation and management?

Case 2

1. Initiate treatment with 2 antihypertensive medications
   a. Patient is potentially symptomatic from hypertension
   b. Medications: CCB, ACEi, ARB, Thiazide type diuretic
2. Home BP monitoring
3. Initiate work-up for secondary hypertension
   a. High suspicion for OSA