



Employer Health Leadership for a New Era



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Pressure Points: Addressing Hypertension at Work

National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions | November 14, 2023, 3:30 pm - 4:25 pm ET



Disclosure

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Objective

To activate the audience—including coalitions, employers and the vendors who work with them—to be proactive in identifying hypertension as a priority for their health and well-being strategy through sharing tools that will help them as they move forward on this journey.













Together Our Impact Is Greater

We unleash the power of collaboration between CDC and philanthropies, organizations, corporations, governments and individuals in order to protect the health, safety and security of America and the world.

We believe that by aligning diverse interests and leveraging all parties' unique strengths, these collaborations create **greater impact** than any one entity could alone.



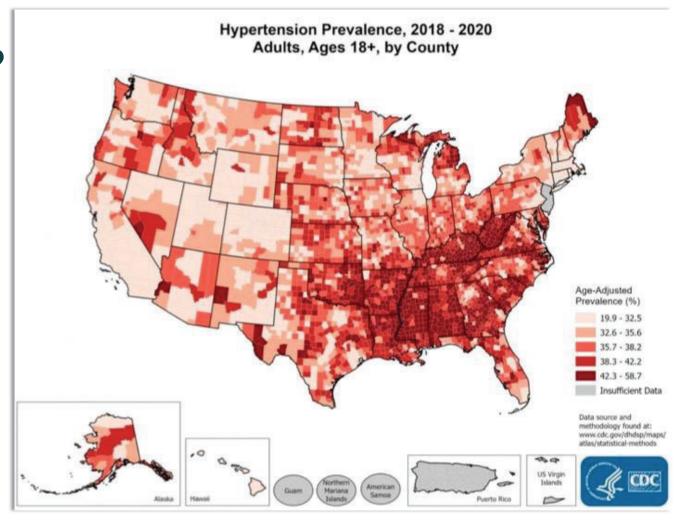
Advancing Major Health Priorities

Our work, and our partners' and donors' involvement, generally falls into these categories:

- 1. Safeguarding Americans' health
- 2. Fighting global threats
- 3. Responding to emergencies
- 4. Developing disease fighters
- 5. Supporting a specific fund or cause
- 6. Giving for greatest need

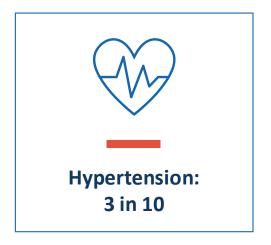
Who is affected by hypertension?

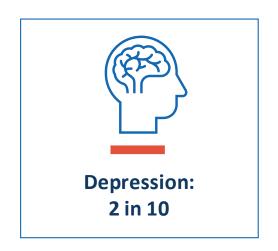
Hypertension, also called high blood pressure, affects almost half the U.S. adult population and presents significant potential health risks.¹



^{1.} Estimated Hypertension Prevalence, Treatment, and Control Among U.S. Adults. Million Hearts. Available at: https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/data-reports/hypertension-prevalence.html#:~:text=Nearly%20half%20of%20adults%20have,5%20adults%20(25.0%20million).

Hypertension, also called high blood pressure, is the **most common** health condition among US adults aged 18-59 and affects more workers than either diabetes or depression.







Employed adults are younger on average than the overall US adult population, yet 3 in 10 employees have hypertension.

^{1.} FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy analyses of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Population Health, BRFSS SMART City and County Prevalence & Trend Data for 2020 (https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/smart/Smart_data.htm). High blood pressure data from 2019. Prevalence rates vary across metro regions and states.

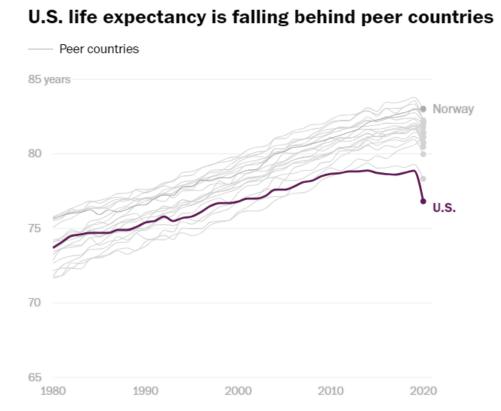


The National Hypertension Control Roundtable (NHCR) is a coalition of public, private, and nonprofit organizations dedicated to eliminating disparities in hypertension control through dialogue, partnership, evidence, and innovation.

The NHCR prioritizes supporting people in controlling their blood pressure wherever they live, learn, work, play, and pray; and equitably advancing patient care to increase hypertension control.

Life expectancy is dropping due to chronic disease

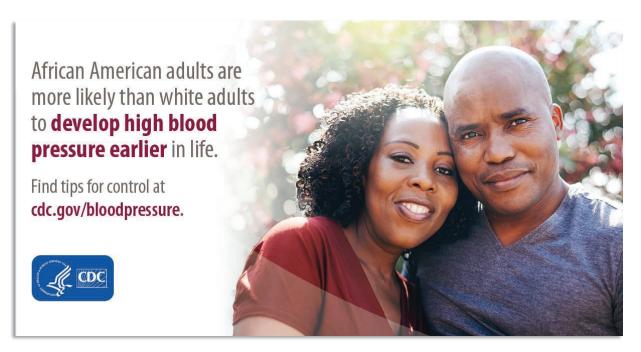
In a quarter of the nation's counties, mostly in the South and Midwest, working-age people are dying at a higher rate than 40 years ago.



Achenbach, Keating, Chikwendiu, McGinley, Johnson. Life expectancy in U.S. is falling amid surges in chronic illness. Washington Post. https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/interactive/2023/american-life-expectancy-dropping/. Published October 3, 2023.

Racial disparities in HTN diagnosis





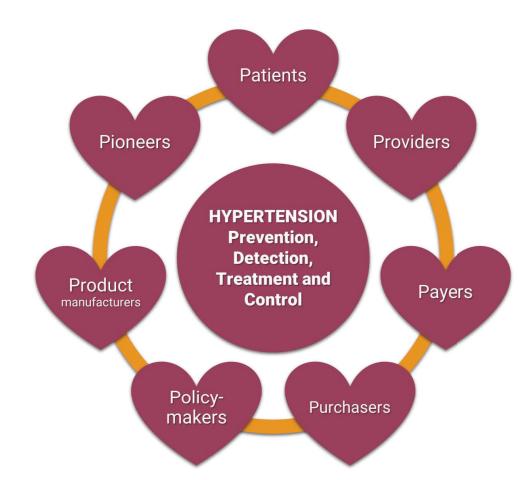
Earlier age at hypertension onset may mean greater cumulative exposure to high blood pressure over a lifetime. This is associated with an increased risk of heart disease and may contribute to racial disparities in hypertension-related outcomes.

Huang X, Lee K, Wang MC, Shah NS, Khan SS. Age at Diagnosis of Hypertension by Race and Ethnicity in the US From 2011 to 2020. *JAMA Cardiol*. 2022;7(9):986–987. doi:10.1001/jamacardio.2022.2345

NHCR Key Initiatives

The NHCR fosters cross-sector collaboration and capacity building by catalyzing relationships.

- Annual Summit
- Fireside Chats
- Payer Taskforce
- Member Recruitment and Engagement
- Key Partner Networking
- Communications and Publications



Highlights from 2023 include the National Association of Community Health Centers' Health Ecosystem model for promoting validated blood pressure devices (shown above).

Steering Committee





Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc.

Saving the Hearts & Minds of a Diverse America













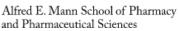




ALZHEIMER'S \\\ \) ASSOCIATION



















Help us make hypertension control a national priority.

Scan the QR code to join the National Hypertension Control Roundtable.

For more information visit hypertensioncontrol.org

Follow us on in LinkedIn and 🗶 @HtnRoundtable.













Hypertension is a workforce issue that affects individuals, their employers, and factors critical to a business' success.

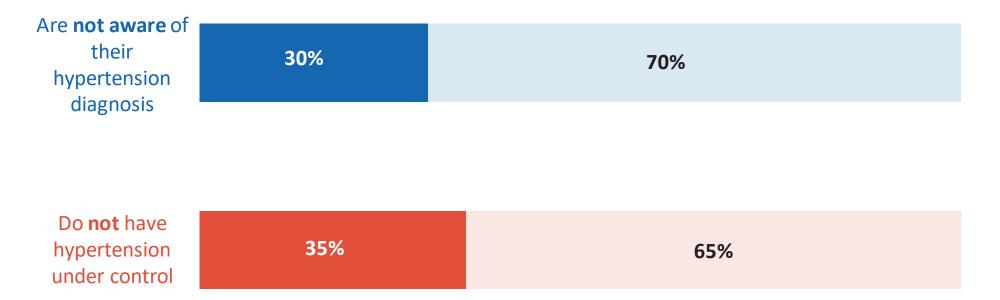
#1 Priority for CEOs...

...should be the physical health and well-being of their employees.

- 1. "CEO Leadership Redefined 2023," FTI Consulting (2023), https://fticommunications.com/ceo-leadership-redefined-2023/.
- "CEO Leadership Redefined: Part 1," FTI Consulting (2022), https://www.fticonsulting.com/insights/articles/ceo-leadership-redefined-part-1.

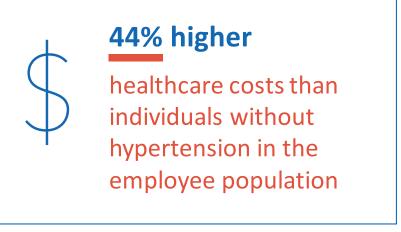
Many employees with hypertension are unaware of their condition or have uncontrolled hypertension.

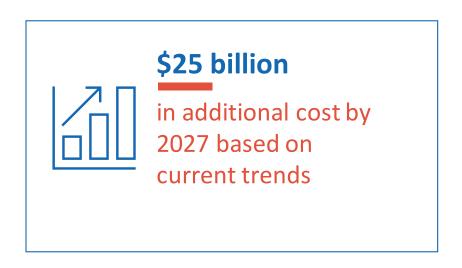
Employee Hypertension Control and Awareness



^{1.} Davila, E. P., Kuklina, E. V., Valderrama, A. L., Yoon, P. W., Rolle, I., & Nsubuga, P., "Prevalence, management, and control of hypertension among US workers: does occupation matter?," Journal of occupational and environmental medicine (2012), https://www.jstor.org/stable/45010119.

Employers face higher healthcare costs from employees with hypertension than those without hypertension.

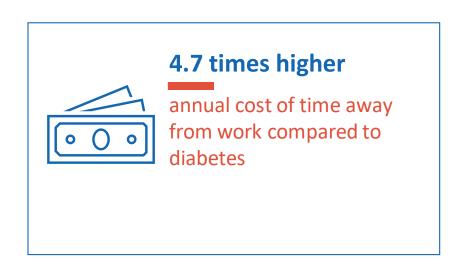




^{1. &}quot;Budget Impact Model to Estimate the Cost of Hypertension for Employers," FTI Consulting (2023). Note: Estimates from the hypertension budget impact model developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

Employers face higher productivity costs from employees with hypertension than those without hypertension.

2.3 times more hours away from work among those with uncontrolled compared to controlled hypertension



^{1.} Unmuessig, V., Fishman, P. A., Vrijhoef, H. J., Elissen, A. M., & Grossman, D. C., "Association of Controlled and Uncontrolled Hypertension With Workplace Productivity," The Journal of Clinical Hypertension (2016), https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/ich.12648

^{2.} Asay, G. R. B., Roy, K., Lang, J. E., Payne, R. L., & Howard, D. H., "Incidence of Hypertension-Related Emergency Department Visits in the United States, 2006–2012," Preventing chronic disease (2016), https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5055401/.



The budget impact model (BIM) uses employer specific data to estimate costs related to hypertension and can be used by employers of all sizes.

Data required to use the model

Number of employees



Data useful to have but not required to use the model

- Employee population-level demographic characteristics (e.g., % by age group)
- Percent of employees with hypertension
- Average median wage
- Average total healthcare costs (i.e., per employee medical and pharmacy costs)
- Average productivity loss (e.g., average number of hours absent from work)

In addition to default data provided in the BIM, more data can be obtained from published research articles, internal data sources, or claims analysis reports from health benefit providers.

Note: The BIM can estimate health care and productivity loss costs for self-funded employers. Fully-insured employers can also use the BIM to estimate productivity loss costs for their specific population and use these health care cost estimates to better understand the impact of hypertension on medical and pharmacy costs.

^{1. &}quot;Budget Impact Model to Estimate the Cost of Hypertension for Employers," FTI Consulting, (2023). Note: Developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

Employers can use the BIM to estimate both annual incremental medical costs as well as lost productivity due to hypertension.

Model Results

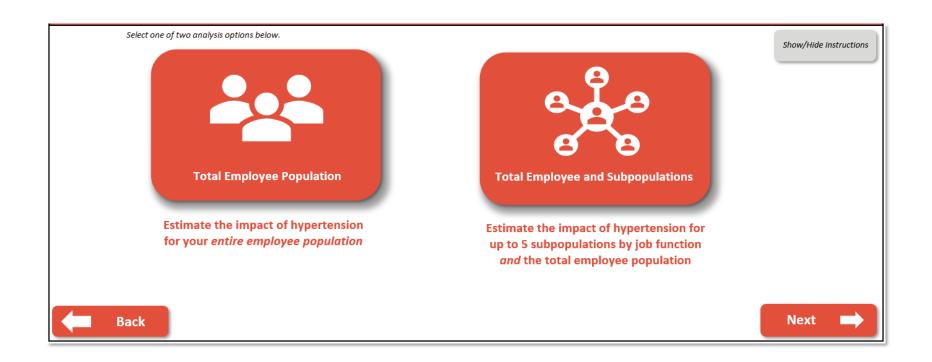


- Estimated Number of Covered Employees with Hypertension (e.g., overall and by demographic subgroups)
- Additional per Employee Annual Cost due to Hypertension (e.g., medical and pharmacy costs, productivity loss costs)
- Additional Total Employer Cost due to Hypertension

Results can be exported and shared with internal teams and senior leadership to show impact and take next steps to inform insurance design or specialized benefit programs.

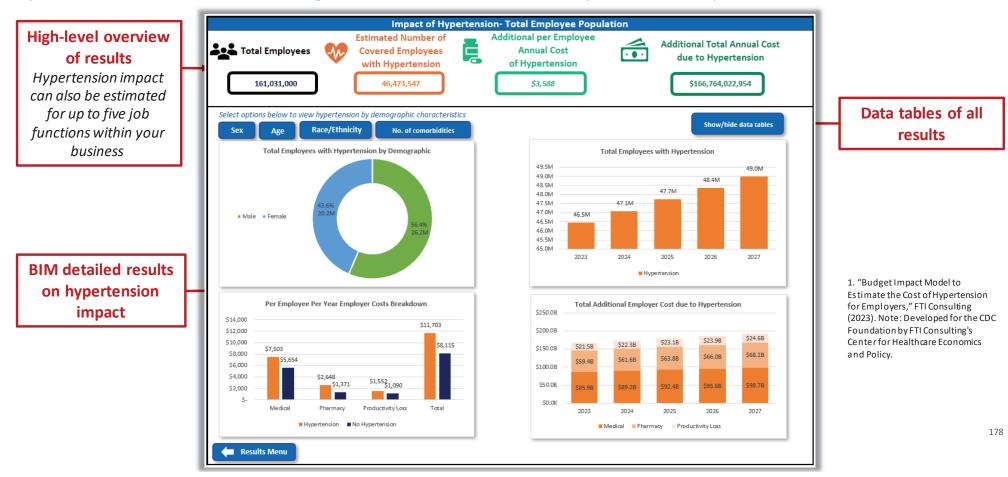
^{1. &}quot;Budget Impact Model to Estimate the Cost of Hypertension for Employers," FTI Consulting (2023). Note: Developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

The BIM provides employers with the ability to evaluate the impact of hypertension on various employee groups (e.g., job function or departments).



^{1. &}quot;Budget Impact Model to Estimate the Cost of Hypertension for Employers," FTI Consulting (2023). Note: Developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

The BIM estimates the impact of hypertension on healthcare costs and productivity for your specific business, accounting for the different industry sectors of your workforce.





Employers can use the Claims Analysis Guide to inform health and wellbeing interventions and insurance benefit decision-making.



Question 1: How many employees have hypertension?

 Provides data points for decision making including current number of employees with hypertension and number of employees newly diagnosed.



Question 2: What are the costs related to hypertension?

Provides detailed insights on hypertension-related direct medical costs broken
out by various categories such as age group, race/ethnicity, type of care (e.g.,
inpatient hospitalization, physician office visit), treatment category, and
neighborhood characteristics as measured by the Social Deprivation Index (SDI).

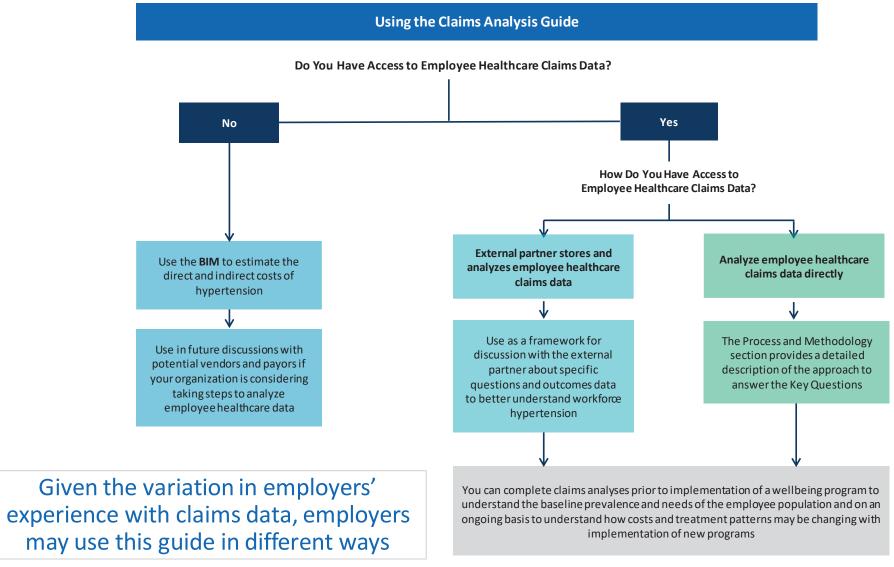


Question 3: How many employees are treated with medication for hypertension?

 Provides data on hypertension treatment and adherence as measured by proportion days covered (PDC).

1. "Health Insurance Claims Analysis Guide for Employers," FTI Consulting (2023). Note: Developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

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^{1. &}quot;Health Insurance Claims Analysis Guide for Employers," FTI Consulting (2023). Note: Developed for the CDC Foundation by FTI Consulting's Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy.

Employers can take action to help their employees get their hypertension under control and improve health and well-being outcomes - with a wide range of measurable benefits



Innovative Insurance Design

...such as *value-based insurance design* that reduces cost-sharing to encourage greater adherence to high-value services and providers (e.g., reducing cost-sharing of antihypertensive medications, provide coverage for home blood pressure monitors)



Specialized Benefit Programs

...such as free on-site blood pressure assessments and meetings with pharmacists, and incentives to encourage healthy lifestyles among employees (e.g., organized activity programs and healthy food and drink options at work)

^{1.} Musich, S., Wang, S., & Hawkins, K, "The impact of a value-based insurance design plus health coaching on medication adherence and medical spending," Population Health Management (2015). https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/pop.2014.0081.

^{2.} Gibson, T., Sara W., Emily K., Candace B., Christine T., Feride F., Joseph D., & Edward Mauceri, "A value-based insurance design program at a large company boosted medication adherence for employees with chronic illnesses, "(2011). https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/abs/10.1377/hlthaff.2010.0510.

^{3. &}quot;Pharmacy coaching program improves Ohio health scores," Drug Topics (8/29/2011), https://www.drugtopics.com/view/pharmacy-coaching-program-improves-ohio-health-scores.

Comprehensive Benefits Design Guide for Hypertension

Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health

Methods

Informal conversations

Evidence scan (peerreviewed literature, grey literature, reputable agencies)

CDC Foundation & FTI reports

GPBCH Employee Health & Well-being Interest Group input

Results

Comprehensive Benefit Design for Hypertension

7 Strategies for prevention, screening, and management

Employers are encouraged to view the strategies as a **checklist of key interventions** to implement for reducing the impact of hypertension: both by **reducing the number of individuals with hypertension** and **helping to control blood pressure for those diagnosed** with this chronic condition.



Comprehensive Benefit Design for Hypertension Employer Recommendations for Action

Hypertension (high blood pressure) affects nearly 50% of working-age adults in the U.S., resulting in significant impacts on health and well-being (e.g., cognitive decline, kidney disease), direct costs of care (e.g., hospitalization, physician visits), and indirect costs (absenteeism and presenteeism). This Comprehensive Benefit Design for Hypertension is intended to help employers, as purchasers of health benefits, and stewards of population health, develop and implement well-being and benefit design strategies to prevent, control, and manage the impact of hypertension.

The Comprehensive Benefit Design for Hypertension draws on a wide variety of resources from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Heart Association, and similar organizations that are committed to improving population health and blood pressure control. These, and other resources are listed toward the end of this quide.

How Employers Can Use this Comprehensive Benefit Design for Hypertension

Employers are encouraged to view the following strategies as a checklist of key interventions to implement for reducing the impact of hypertension: both by reducing the number of individuals with hypertension, and helping to control blood pressure for those diagnosed with this chronic condition. These strategies are intended to improve the health of the workforce and the community, and lower healthcare costs. The Resource List provides additional information and tools to assist employers in implementing these seven strategies.



www.GPBCH.org

Strategy 1: Primary Prevention/Lifestyle Support

- ☐ Healthy eating and physical activity programs
- ☐ Availability of healthy foods, including low-sodium options
- ☐ Promote smoke-free campus and smoking cessation
- ☐ Education and resources to limit alcohol intake
- ☐ Education and resources to promote healthy sleep
- ☐ Promote healthy weight: lifestyle, Rx benefit, surgical benefit
- ☐ Promote access to mental health resources, including EAP



Strategy 2: Screening & Detection

- ☐ Promote primary care relationships
- ☐ Incorporate blood pressure (BP) measurement into health fairs and other events
- ☐ HRA's should include family history, and selfreported BP, or biometric measurement
- □ Determine how high BP findings will be referred/followed-up

Blood Pressure Categories

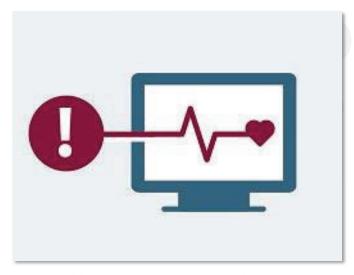


SYSTOLIC mm Hg (upper number)		DIASTOLIC mm Hg (lower number)	
LESS THAN 120 and		LESS THAN 80	
120-129	and LESS THAN 8		
130-139 or		80-89	
140 OR HIGHER	or	90 OR HIGHER	
HIGHER THAN 180	and/or	HIGHER THAN 120	
	(upper number) LESS THAN 120 120-129 130-139 140 OR HIGHER	(upper number) LESS THAN 120 and 120-129 and 130-139 or 140 OR HIGHER or	

heart.org/bplevels

Strategy 3: Know YOUR Data

- ☐ Ask health plans and vendors to provide information on:
 - Population prevalence of hypertension
 - Subgroup differences: age, gender, race/ethnicity, co-morbidities...
 - Percent (%) of population with HTN has a primary care relationship
 - Percent (%) of population with HTN on pharmacotherapy
 - For those on pharmacotherapy, what is the adherence rate
- □ Ask and learn how each of these indicators are measured
- □ Track progress over time, looking at both prevalence and cost



https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/materials for_professionals.htm

3b: Additional Questions for Health Plans

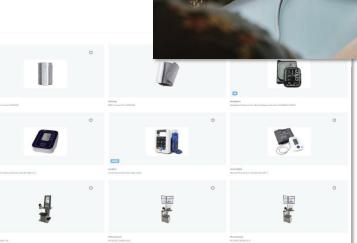
- ☐ What are your commercial HEDIS rates for the hypertension measures?
- ☐ What programs are you offering to manage hypertension?
- ☐ Is it possible to capture blood pressure in claims data?
- How are you trying to foster primary care relationships, especially for people with hypertension?

Controlling High Blood Pressure

Measure	Commerical	Commercial \$	Medicaid	Medicare	Medicare
Year	HMO		HMO \$	HMO \$	PPO \$
2021	60.3	50.8	58.6	70.4	70.1

Strategy 4: Benefit Design Considerations

- Value-based insurance design (V-BID) for HTN medications
- ☐ Coverage of self-monitoring BP cuffs (validated)
 - ☐ Check out ValidateBP.org (American Medical Association)
- Pharmacist review of formulary



https://www.validatebp.org/

Strategy 5: Promoting Appropriate Care Management

- ☐ Ensure that all people with diagnosed HTN have a PCP
- ☐ Assess health plan programs and resources to support patient education and high-quality care
- ☐ Implement MTM or CMM (pharmacist review) for those with co-morbidities
- ☐ Consider outsourcing to a HTN management vendor, or providing access to self-management apps
- ☐ Ensure appropriate follow-up for hospitalizations related to HTN



Strategy 6: Promote a Supported Workforce with Resources

- ☐ Link to resources from AHA, CDC, and other organizations
- Easy access (including \$) to educational tools and programs
- □ Identify existing resources for individual counseling (e.g., registered dietitian), and consider adding services
- □ Recognize impact of Social Determinants of Health; identify and address inequities
- Consider fostering patient resource groups



https://www.cdc.gov/bloodpressure/index.htm#print

Strategy 7: Evaluate and Continuously Improve Your Efforts

- ☐ Refer back to strategy 3: Know your data
- ☐ At least annually, track these key metrics:
 - Hypertension prevalence
 - Hypertension control
 - Obesity prevalence
 - Incidence rates and costs for HTN-related events (cardiac and cerebrovascular)
 - Overall trends in direct cost for total population, and HTN subgroup



https://www.mindtools.com/as2l 5i1/pdca-plan-do-check-act

Tackling Chronic Conditions













CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

History

- Developed by the St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition, in collaboration with Missouri Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program, in 2012.
- In 2020, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services sponsored an update to the campaign to reflect the need for virtual resources during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Turnkey awareness campaign with the goal of helping employees:



Know their blood pressure numbers



Assess their risk for hypertension



Take action to manage their blood pressure





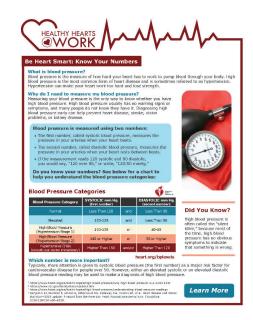
CAMPAIGN COMPONENTS

Email Messages

- Email content and design templates provided
- Five messages total (one per day)

Educational Themes

- Be Heart Smart: Blood Pressure Basics
- Under Pressure: Assessing Your Heart Risk
- Tracking Your Ticker: Blood Pressure Management
- Heart Heroes: Your Partners in Primary Care
- Cardio Care: Habits to Improve Heart Health



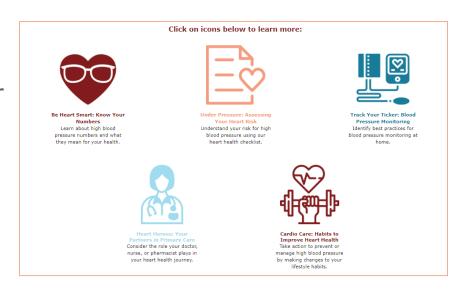




CAMPAIGN COMPONENTS

Resource Webpage

- Links to virtual resources that accompany the educational theme for each email message:
 - Educational videos
 - Handouts
 - Evidence-based websites
 - Missouri Million Hearts® resources





Innovator Showcase



To assist members in understanding the landscape of available and **emerging digital health and benefit solutions**, the BHC conducts an annual request for information (RFI) with national vendors.













90+ Vendors Evaluated



































































HealthAdvocate[®]

Choosing the Right Solutions



In Pursuit of Whole Person Health:

Sample RFI Questions to Ensure Vendors and Partners Support a Whole Person Health Strategy

This guide provides suggestions to evaluate health solutions on their commitment to a whole person health approach, including the:

- Individual Dimension
- Bio/Physical Dimension
- Psychological Dimension
- Social Dimension







Key Takeaways

An investment in hypertension prevention and management is an investment in your business.

Hypertension is a **treatable** yet chronic health condition and a **hidden business risk** to employers.

With appropriate forecasting tools and actionable data, employers have the power to manage this risk and improve health and wellbeing outcomes for their employees.

New tools, such as the budget impact model and the claims analysis guide, comprehensive benefits design guide, and choosing the right technology can make it easy to reduce risk.

To learn more about these tools and use them ...

Visit: https://hypertensioncontrol.org/ (HypertensionControl.org)

Contact us:

National Hypertension Control Roundtable

Diane Kolack - <u>DKolack@CDCFoundation.org</u>

Budget Impact Model + Claims Analysis Guide

Meg Guerin Calvert – <u>Meg.Guerin-Calvert@FTIConsulting.com</u> Kyi-Sin Than – <u>Kyi-Sin.Than@fticonsulting.com</u>

Comprehensive Benefits Design Guide

Neil Goldfarb – <u>NGoldfarb@GPBCH.org</u> Michele Bildner – <u>MBildner@CDCFoundation.org</u>

Q&A









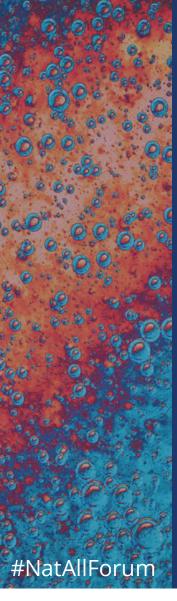








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ANNUAL FORUM TEMPERATURE RISING

IGNITING CHANGE FOR A NEW ERA

NOVEMBER 13-15, 2023

Crystal Gateway Marriott | 1700 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA

vening Reception

#NatAllForum