

# Changing the Paradigm: Strategies for Improved Management of Hypertension

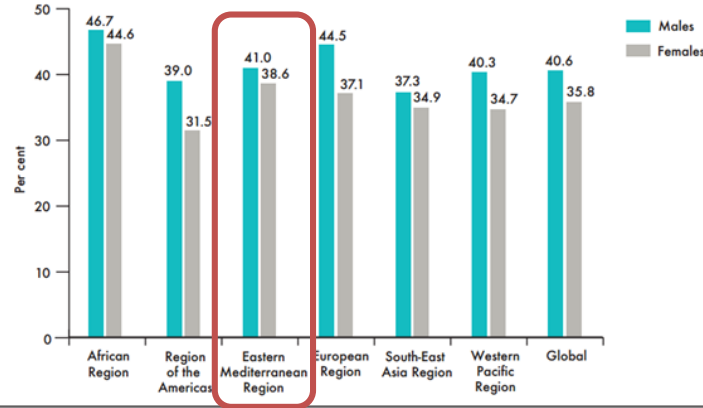
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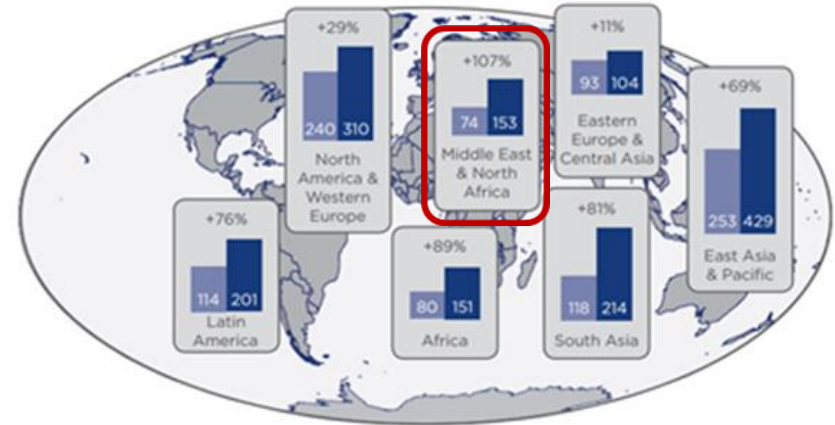
# Increasing Prevalence of Hypertension by WHO Region

Age-standardized prevalence of raised blood pressure in adults aged 25+ years by WHO Region, 2008



Source: Global status report on noncommunicable diseases, 2010. Geneva, World Health Organization 2011.

Worldwide prevalence of hypertension is high and is expected to increase to 1.56 billion by 2025



BLOOD PRESSURE — TAKE CONTROL

Number of adults with hypertension in 2000: 972 million  
Estimated number of adults with hypertension in 2025: 1.56 billion (+60% increase)



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# Awareness, treatment, and control of hypertension in the Middle East and Africa

Table 1. Prevalence rates of hypertension in adults in selected countries from Africa and the Middle East.

	Hypertension prevalence (%)			CV death rates (per 100,000) <sup>a</sup>	Median age of population (y) <sup>10</sup>
	Men	Women	Overall		
Africa/Middle East					
Egypt <sup>c</sup>	26	27	26	560	25
Iran <sup>a,b</sup>	25	29	27	466	27
Lebanon <sup>8</sup>	—	—	23 <sup>c</sup>	453	29
Saudi Arabia <sup>6</sup>	29	24	26	405	22
South Africa <sup>7</sup>	21 <sup>b</sup>	21 <sup>b</sup>	21 <sup>b</sup>	410	24
Selected developed countries for comparison					
Australia	32	21	—	140	37
Germany	60	50	55	211	44
Greece	30	27	28	258	42
Japan	50	43	—	106	44
Spain	46	44	45	137	41
USA	24	23	23	188	37

- Despite prevalence of hypertension in >¼ of the populations, no more than 50% of hypertensive pts aware of condition in any region.
- No more than 1 patient in 3 with hypertension were on therapy.



# Awareness, Treatment, and Control of Hypertension: Saudi Arabia

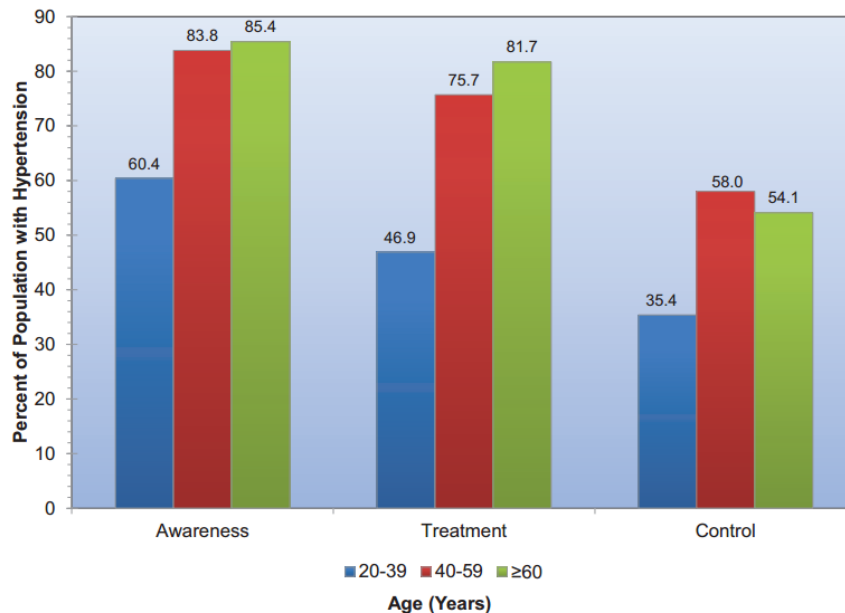


- 44.7% known hypertensives confirmed by clinician
  - 71.8% on therapy
  - **37% controlled**
- **55.3% unaware of disease**
  - Higher awareness among females, older adults, eastern region, diabetes, active

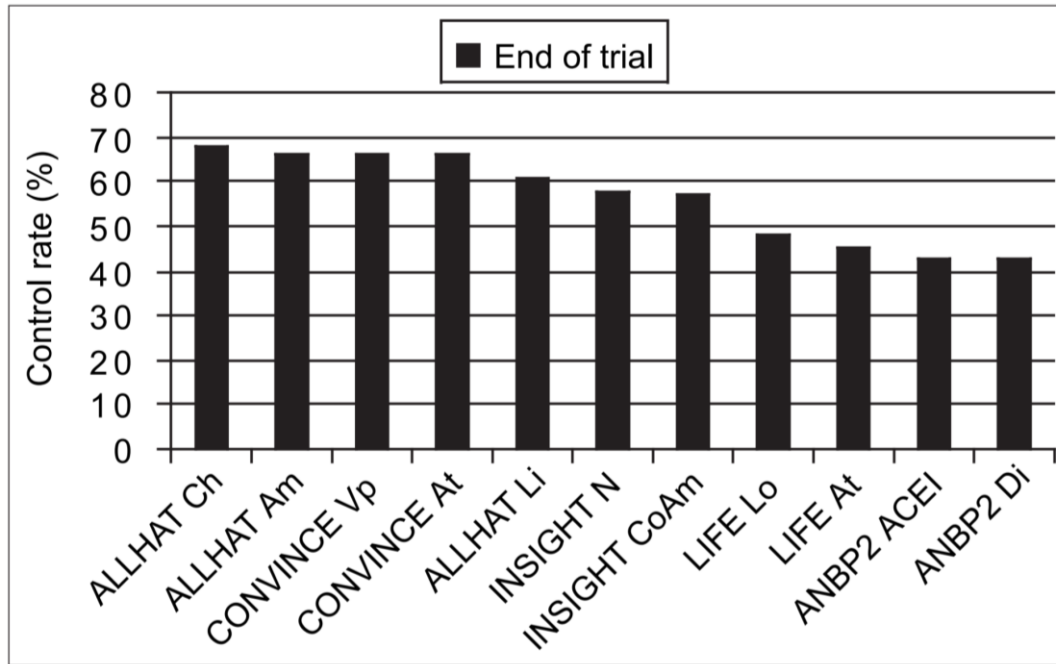


# Awareness, treatment, and control of hypertension in the US 2007-12 NHANES

- Prevalence of hypertension among US adults  $\geq 20$  years of age estimated to be 32.6%
- Awareness: 82.7%
- Treatment: 76.5%
- Control: 35.4-58.0%



# Hypertension Control Rates in RCTs: Benchmarks for Healthcare Systems?



- Percent of participants achieving BP <140/90 mmHg



# Global agreement in hypertension management



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# Global agreement in hypertension management

- Survey by International Society of Hypertension
  - 90 regional affiliated professional societies
  - 77 countries
  - 31 respondents (9 HIC, 17 UMIC, 5 LMIC/LIC)
- **Remarkable consistency across countries from different regions and varying economic conditions**



# Global agreement in hypertension management

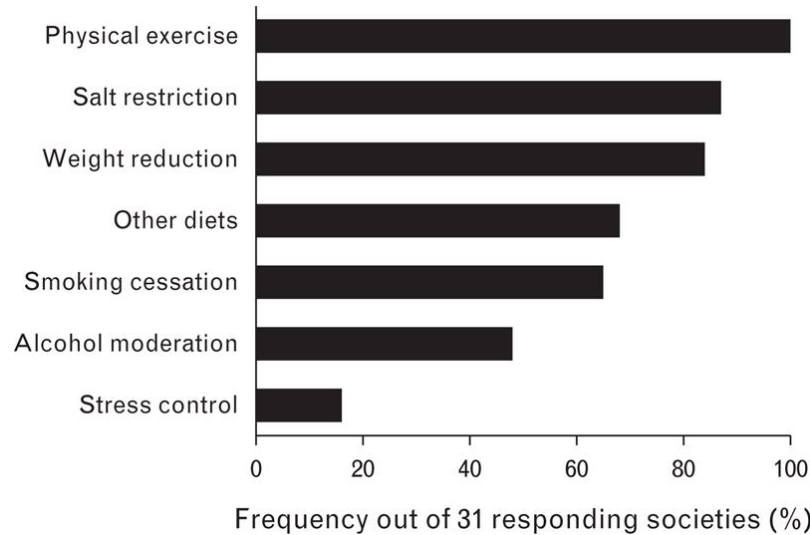
- Blood pressure measurement

BP measures recommended for decision making	
Clinic BP	27 (87)
Home BP	15 (48)
ABPM	19 (61)
ABPM, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring; BP, indicates blood pressure. <sup>a</sup> Percentage out of 31 responding societies.	



# Global agreement in hypertension management

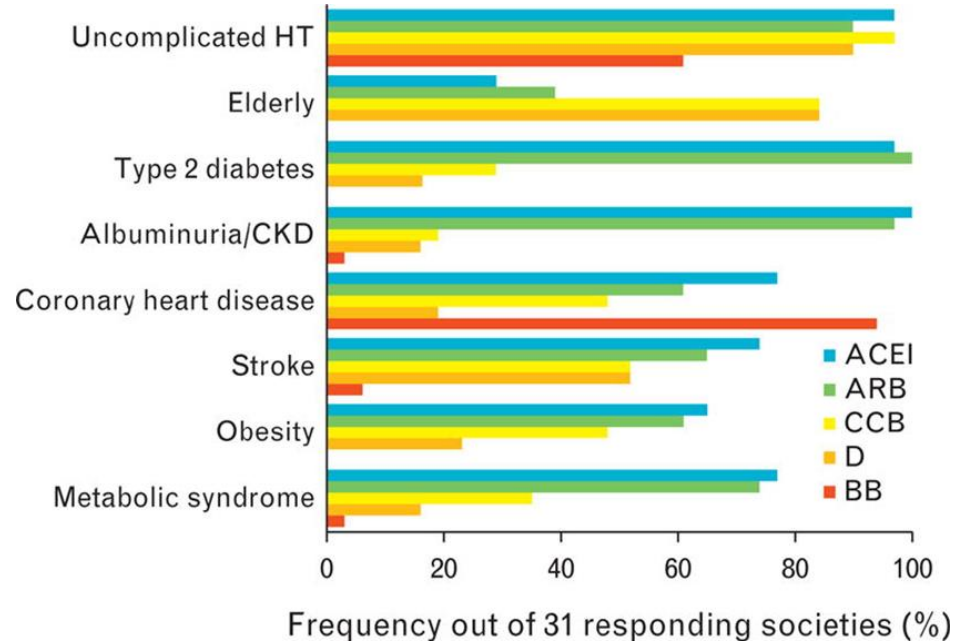
- Implementation of lifestyle measures



# Global agreement in hypertension management

## Medications preferred in various pt populations

- Uncomplicated HTN
  - All used 4 major drug classes
  - Less use of BB
- Elderly
  - Infrequent use of BB
- CHD
  - BB universally used



# Global agreement in hypertension management

## Preferred combination drug regimens

Groups	N (%) <sup>a</sup>				
	RASI/CCB	RASI/D	CCB/D	CCB/BB	D/BB
Hypertensive patients	27 (87)	22 (71)	5 (16)	6 (19)	3 (10)
Patients with type 2 diabetes	26 (84)	12 (39)	1 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)

BB,  $\beta$  blocker; CCB, calcium channel blocker; D, diuretic; RASI, indicates renin–angiotensin system inhibitor (angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker).

<sup>a</sup>Percentage out of 31 responding societies.



# Global agreement in hypertension management

## Blood pressure thresholds and targets for BP-lowering drugs

Groups	Mean mmHg	Most common value		Range mmHg
		mmHg	N (%) <sup>a</sup>	
Thresholds				
Uncomplicated HT	142/90	140/90	28 (90%)	140/90 to 165/90
Elderly	145/90	140/90	18 (58%)	140/90 to 165/85
Coronary heart disease	136/86	140/90	12 (39%)	130/80 to 160/90
		130/80	11 (35%)	
Stroke <sup>b</sup>	137/86	140/90	14 (45%)	130/80 to 150/90
		130/80	8 (26%)	
Type 2 diabetes	132/83	130/80	16 (52%)	130/80 to 140/90
Adolescents <sup>c</sup>	141/89	140/90	11 (35%)	120/80 to 160/90
Blood pressure targets				
Uncomplicated HT	139/88	140/90	22 (71%)	130/80 to 150/85
Elderly	143/89	140/90	15 (48%)	135/85 to 150/90
Coronary heart disease	136/84	130/80	13 (42%)	120/80 to 180/90
		140/90	11 (35%)	
Stroke	138/86	140/90	13 (42%)	120/80 to 180/90
		130/80	9 (29%)	
Type 2 diabetes	131/82	130/80	16 (52%)	120/80 to 140/90
Adolescents <sup>d</sup>	131/83	140/90	5 (16%)	120/70 to 140/90



# Barriers to Implementation of Evidence-based Guidelines in Hypertension



# Clinical Practice Guidelines

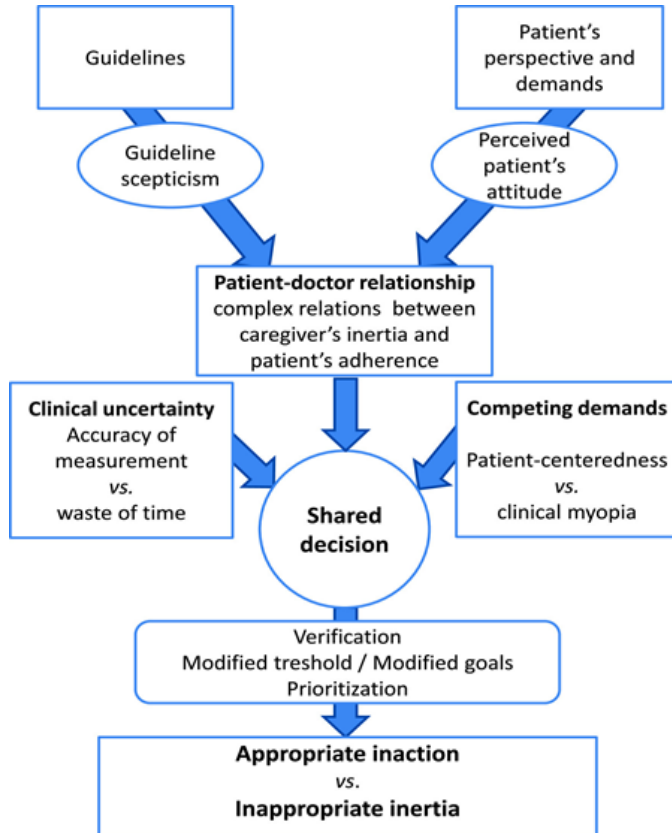
- Implementation of clinical practice guidelines is delayed and inconsistent.
- Limited effect on physician behavior change
- It takes on average 17 years for new knowledge to be incorporated into clinical practice.
- **Guidelines do not implement themselves.**



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Fischer, et al. *Healthcare*. 2016;4:36-52  
Institute of Medicine, Committee on Quality of Health Care in America. Crossing the  
quality chasm: a new health system for the 21st century. Washington, DC: National  
Academy Press; 2001.

# Barriers to implementation of evidence-based therapies



- Provider
- Patient
- Systems of care

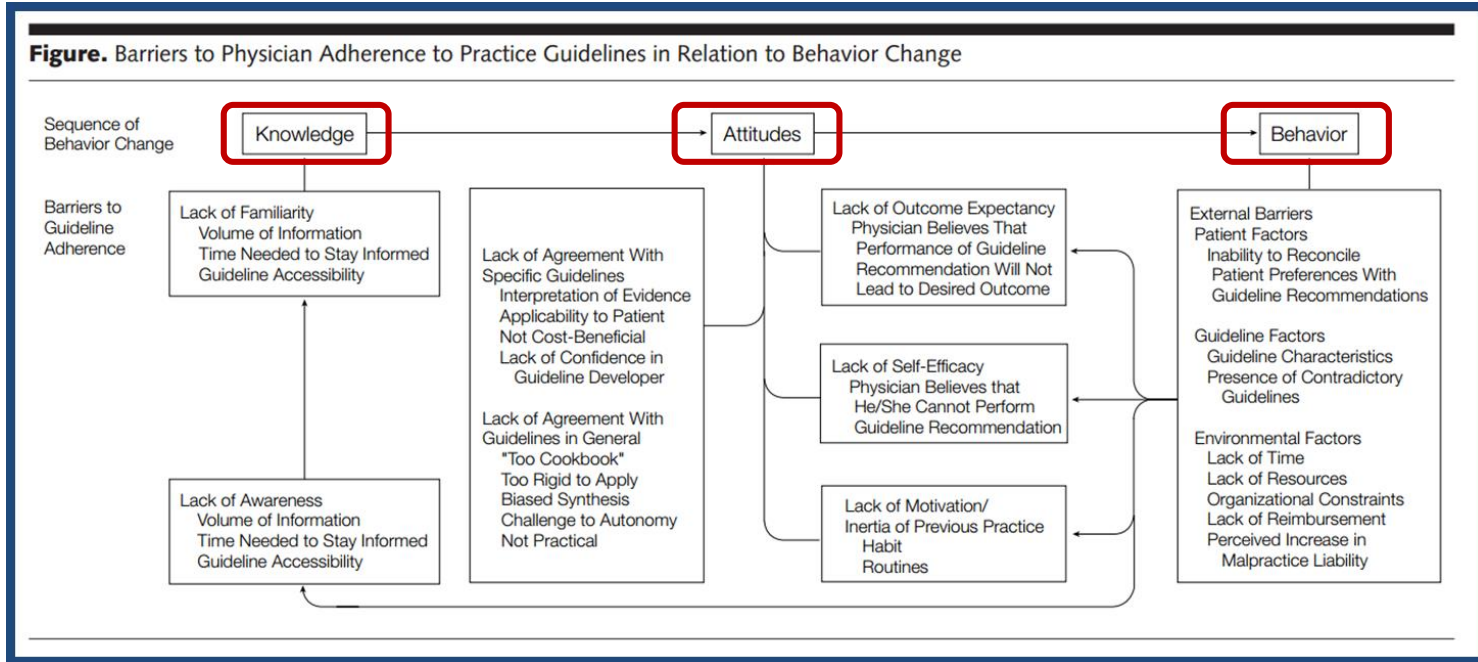
# Barriers to Guideline Implementation

## The Provider



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# Why don't clinicians follow clinical practice guidelines?



# The Provider

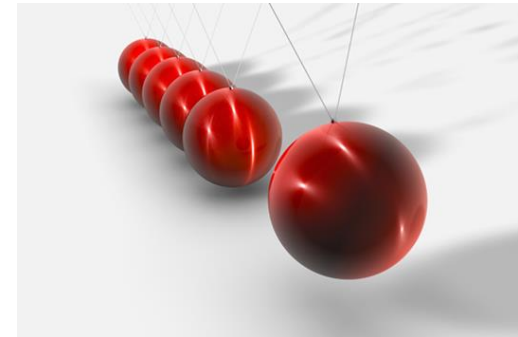
# Clinical Inertia



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# Clinical Inertia in CVD Risk Factor Management

- Definition
  - When a provider does not begin or does not intensify treatment when this is deemed necessary according to current clinical practice guidelines
    - Underutilization of therapies recognized as effective, with an adequate or even overwhelming level of proof in preventing the occurrence of... death, MI, CVA.
    - Guidelines recommending **elimination** of an established practice may be even more difficult (vitamins, niacin).



# Clinical Inertia in CVD Risk Factor Management

- Particularly of concern for illnesses in which abnormal values may be the only manifestation of the disease: hypertension, dyslipidemia, diabetes.
- Clinicians must respond to abnormal values in absence of patient symptoms
  - Response must be a high priority during clinical encounters due to the morbidity and mortality associated with ASCVD.



# Why don't clinicians follow clinical practice guidelines?

- Reasons most often by providers for failure to titrate BP medications
  - Uncertainty on the reality of elevated blood pressure readings
  - BP readings are improving and it is too soon to make a decision
  - Patient nonadherence
  - Management of hypertension is difficult, especially in diabetic patients
  - Lack of time during appointments that are too short, where hypertension was not a priority



# Barriers to Guideline Implementation

## The Patient



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# Primary Non-Adherence

- Patients do not get a new prescription filled after the prescription was written (statins)
  - 13% not filled at 30 days  
(*J Gen Intern Med.* 2012;27(1):57-64)
  - 34.1% not filled at 60 days  
(*Am J Pharm Benefits.* 2010;2(2):111-18)



# Strategies to Improve Patient Adherence in Management of Hypertension

- Factors associated with poor adherence
  - Ethnic-related factors
  - Change from generic to branded medication
  - Higher co-pay/out-of-pocket medication costs
  - Perceived or actual adverse effects
- Factors associated with higher adherence
  - Primary place/provider of care
  - Each 10-year increase in age
  - Availability of generic alternative
  - Eliminating or reducing co-pay
  - Use of coupons to reduce costs
  - Auto-prescription refill



# Strategies to Improve Patient Adherence in Management of Hypertension

- Factors associated with higher adherence
  - Use of PharmD to:
    - Synchronize medication refills
    - Reconcile of medication regimen
    - Reminder of refill/prescription pick-up
    - Review and discuss medications
- Factors associated with higher adherence
  - Meds-to-Bed Programs
  - Discharge review and discussion of medications



# Barriers to Guideline Implementation

## Systems of Care



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# Strategies for establishing policy, environmental and systems-level interventions for management of hypertension

- Medical practices organized to respond to the **acute and urgent needs** patients, or symptom-relieving treatments...
- **Less time** to addressing the needs of patients with chronic illness to **prevent** deleterious sequelae.



# Strategies for establishing policy, environmental and systems-level interventions for management of hypertension

- Systems-level interventions
  - Change the way a healthcare system operates
    - Delegating responsibility for key care functions to non-physician members of the **health care team**
    - Putting **systems** in place to identify patients with hypertension and ensure appropriate follow-up with patients
    - Providing regular **feedback** to physicians on how well they manage patients' conditions



# Strategies for establishing policy, environmental and systems-level interventions for management of hypertension

- Interventions that improve outcomes for hypertension include:
  - **Standardized protocols** that are consistent with evidence-based guidelines
  - **Multidisciplinary clinical care teams**
  - **Specialized clinics** for prevention/treatment, focused management
  - **Health information technology**
    - EMR, automatic prescription systems, paper and electronic reminder **systems** for health care providers
  - **Patient education**



# The Role of Team-based Care in Successful Management of Hypertension



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# Team-based Care and Improved Blood Pressure Control

- Definition: adding new staff or changing the roles of existing staff to work with a provider
- Team includes:
  - Patient
  - Provider
  - Nurses, pharmacists, dietitians, social workers, community health workers



# Team-based Care and Improved Blood Pressure Control

- **Multidisciplinary team** provides process support and shares the responsibilities of hypertension care
  - Medication management
  - Active patient follow-up
  - Evaluation and support of adherence
  - Self-management support

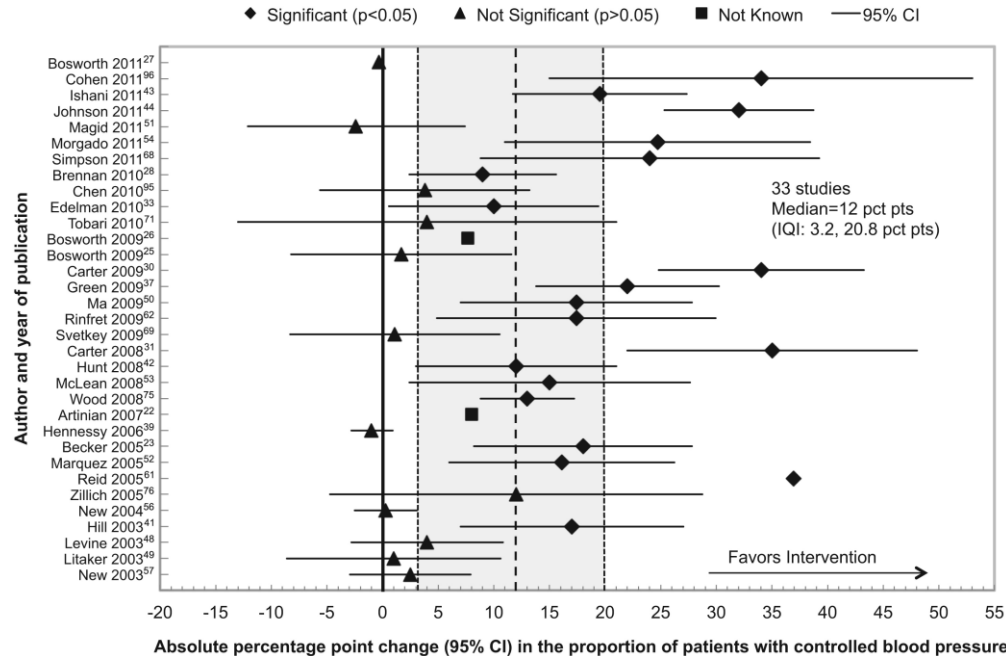


# Team-based Care and Improved Blood Pressure Control: Systematic Review

- Proportion of patients with controlled blood pressure ( $\leq 140/90$  mmHg) increased by a median of 12.0%.
  - Systolic blood pressure decreased by a median of 5.4 mmHg
    - (IQI: 2.0 to 7.2, 44 studies)
  - Diastolic blood pressure decreased by 1.8 mmHg
    - (IQI: 0.7 to 3.2, 38 studies)



# Team-based Care and Improved Blood Pressure Control



# Team-based Care and Improved Blood Pressure Control

- Also effective in improving other CVD risk factors, including:
  - Diabetes (HbA1c and Blood Glucose levels)
  - Cholesterol (Total and LDL cholesterol)
- Teams with **pharmacists**: greater improvement in control
- Allow non-physician team members to modify regimen independent of the provider, or with provider approval or consultation: greater improvement in control



# Strategies for establishing policy, environmental and systems-level interventions for management of hypertension

- Environmental interventions
  - Changes to economic, social, or physical environments
  - Making community resources available
  - Environment that permits healthier choices



# Summary: Changing the Paradigm for Improved Management of Hypertension

- Interventions
  - Provider
  - Patient
  - Team
  - Systems of care
  - Environment

