

# Hypertension: Local and Global Interventions

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## Disclosures

I have no disclosures

## Objectives

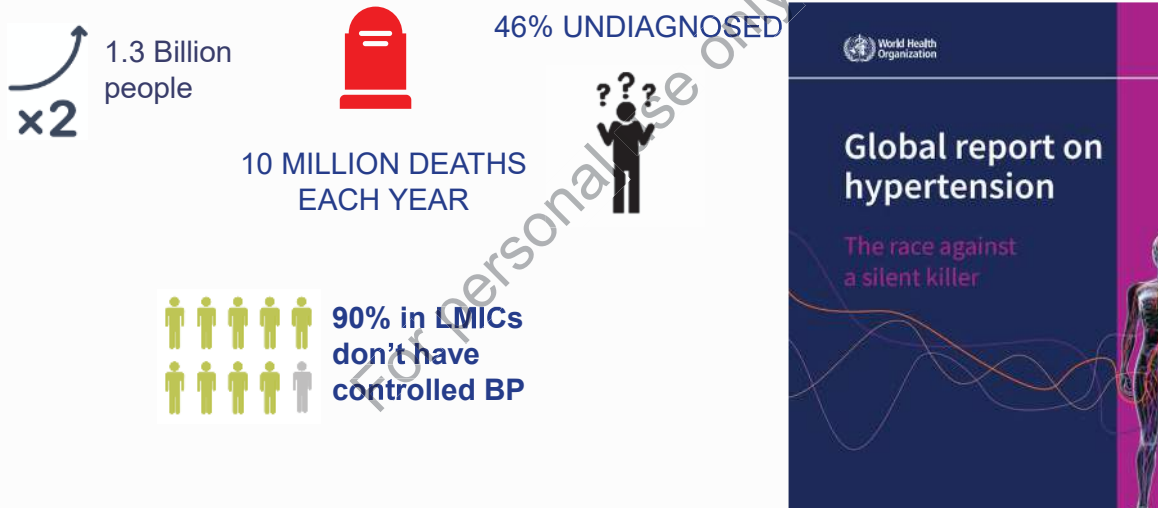
1. **Analyze** hypertension epidemiology and its socioeconomic impact locally and globally.
2. **Examine** key factors contributing to uncontrolled hypertension and resulting health disparities across populations.
3. **Evaluate** the effectiveness of evidence-based multi-level interventions for hypertension management.
4. **Discuss** comprehensive nursing approaches for hypertension prevention, treatment, and long-term control.

# Definition and Classification of Hypertension

BP Category	Systolic BP		Diastolic BP	Treatment or Follow-up
Normal	<120 mm Hg	and	<80 mm Hg	Evaluate yearly; encourage healthy lifestyle changes to maintain normal BP
Elevated	120-129 mm Hg	and	<80 mm Hg	Recommend healthy lifestyle changes and reassess in 3-6 months
Hypertension: stage 1	130-139 mm Hg	or	80-89 mm Hg	Assess the 10-year risk for heart disease and stroke using the <a href="#">atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk calculator</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If risk is less than 10%, start with healthy lifestyle recommendations and reassess in 3-6 months</li> <li>If risk is greater than 10% or the patient has known clinical cardiovascular disease (CVD), diabetes mellitus, or chronic kidney disease, recommend lifestyle changes and BP-lowering medication (1 medication); reassess in 1 month for effectiveness of medication therapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If goal is met after 1 month, reassess in 3-6 months</li> <li>If goal is not met after 1 month, consider different medication or titration</li> <li>Continue monthly follow-up until control is achieved</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Hypertension: stage 2	≥140 mm Hg	or	≥90 mm Hg	Recommend healthy lifestyle changes and BP-lowering medication (2 medications of different classes); reassess in 1 month for effectiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If goal is met after 1 month, reassess in 3-6 months</li> <li>If goal is not met after 1 month, consider different medications or titration</li> <li>Continue monthly follow-up until control is achieved</li> </ul>

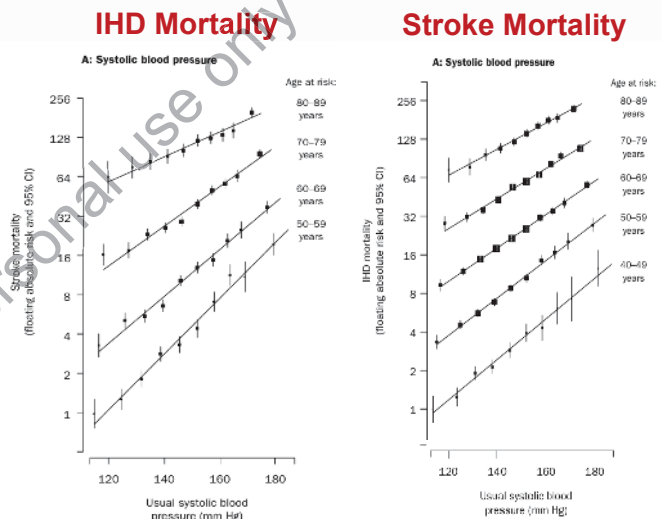
Whelton, P. et al 2017. *Hypertension*

## Hypertension is a global health challenge



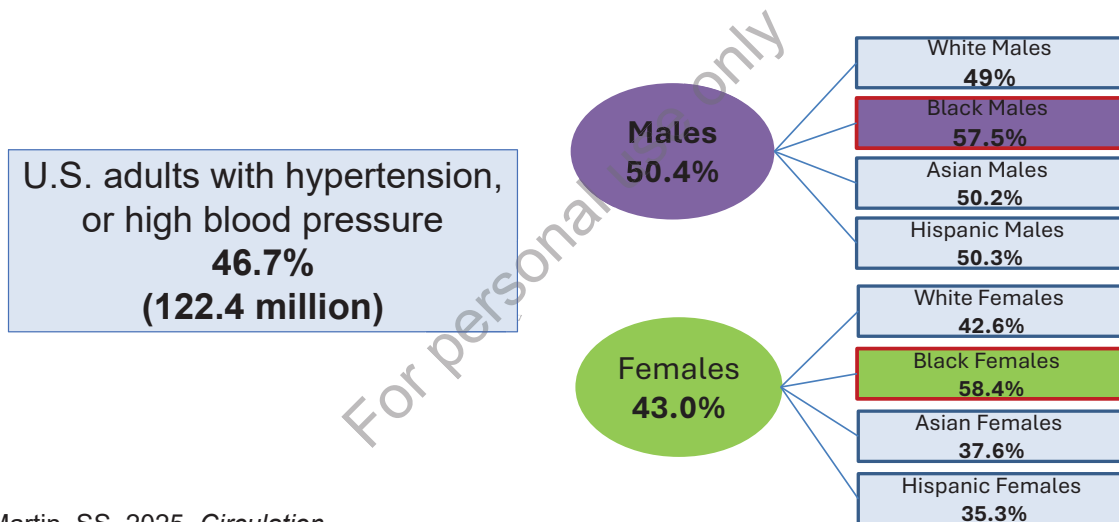
## BP lowering reduces CVD risk

- A 10-mm Hg reduction in systolic blood pressure (SBP) is associated with :
  - 15% to 20% reduction in the risk of coronary artery disease (CAD)
  - 25% to 30% reduction in the risk of stroke.



Ettehad, D. et al. 2016. *The Lancet*  
Lewington S. et al. 2002. *The Lancet*

# Hypertension Prevalence in US, 2017–2020, age ≥20y



Martin, SS. 2025. *Circulation*

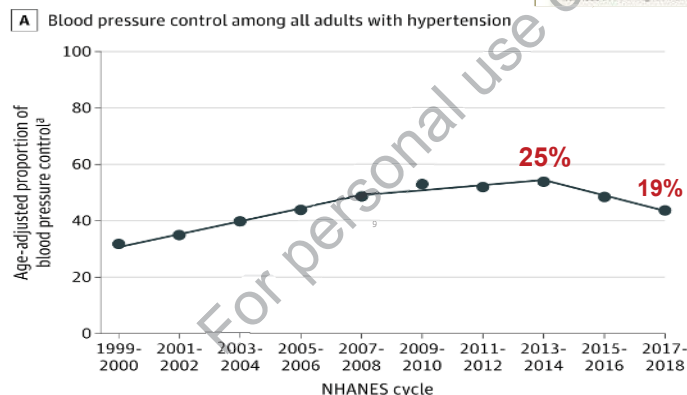
## Hypertension Burden in the US



Martin, SS. et al. 2025. *Circulation*

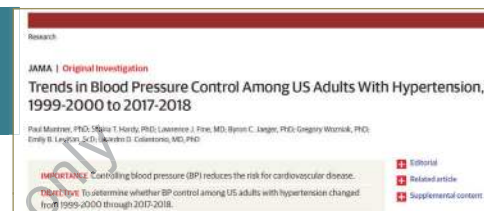
## Uncontrolled Hypertension is Worsening in the US

Hypertension control: <130/80 mm Hg



About 1 in 5 adults with hypertension have controlled BP

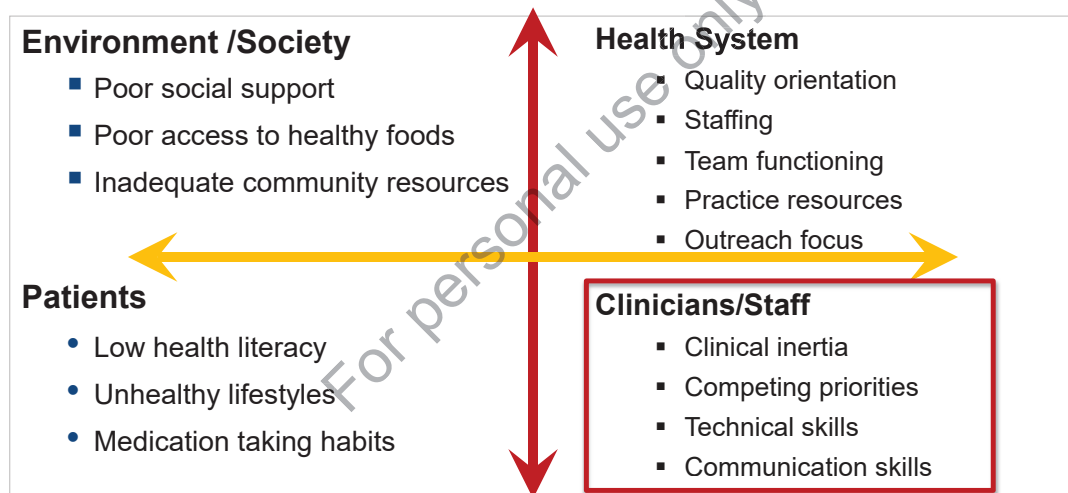
Muntner P et al. 2020. *JAMA*



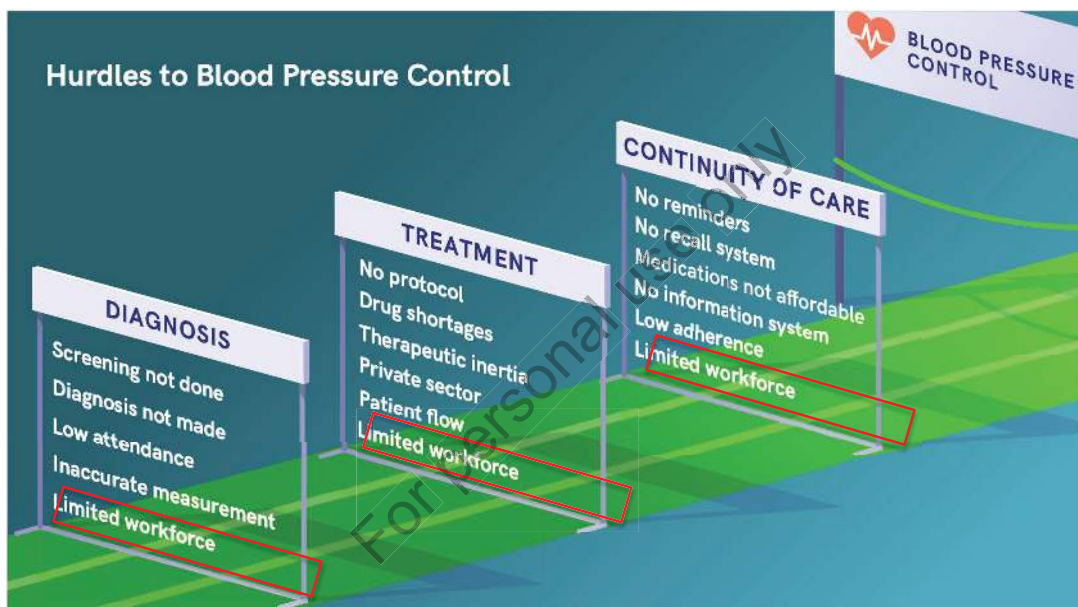
# BARRIERS TO HYPERTENSION CONTROL



## Why are BP Control Rates Poor?

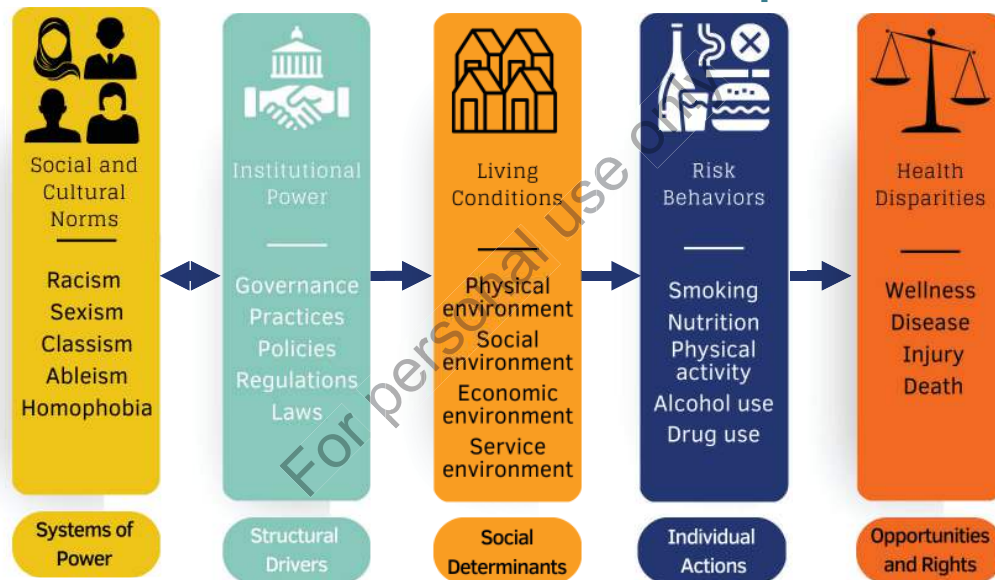


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# The Causal Chain of Health Disparities



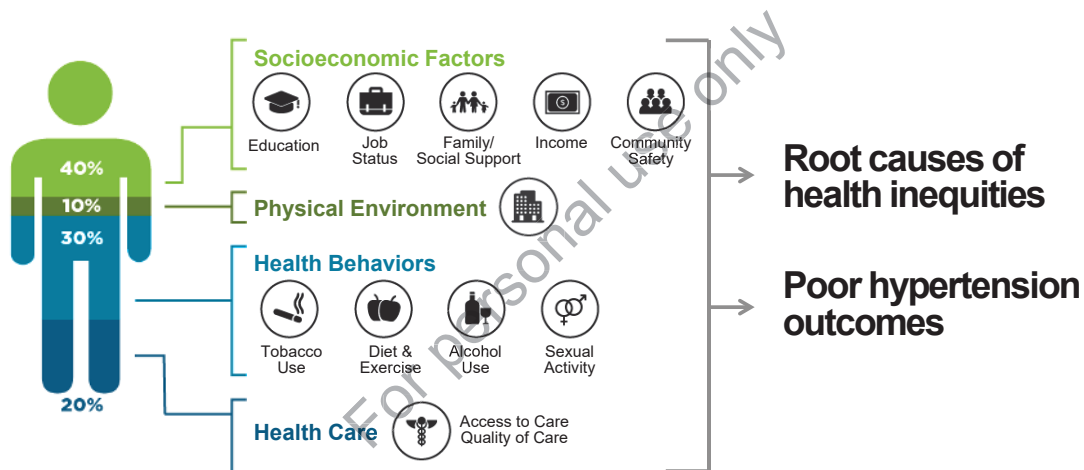
©Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity, 2023

# Advancing Equity Requires Multi-level Approaches



Purnell TS, Cooper LA, et al. Achieving Health Equity: Closing the Gaps in Health Care Disparities, Interventions, and Research. Health Aff. 2016 Aug 1; 35(8): 1410-5.

# Social Determinants of Health



National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2017. Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

# Social Determinants of Controlled BP



- N=21,664 adults (mean age 47.1 years), 51% female
- Factors associated with a lower probability of controlled BP:

- Non-Hispanic Black versus White adults
- Not having a routine place for health care
- Not having health insurance
- Being employed versus unemployed (females)
- Being married versus being unmarried (females)

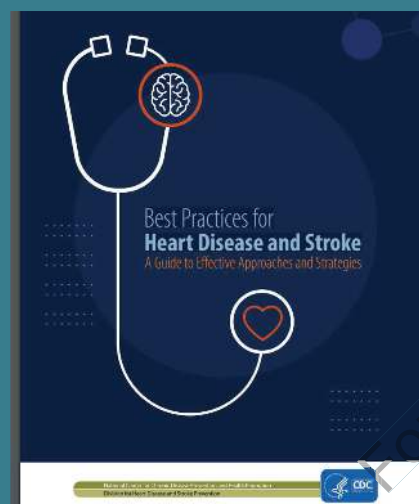
Commodore-Mensah Y, Turkson-Ocran RA, Foti K, Cooper LA, Himmelfarb CD. 2021. Associations between Social Determinants and Hypertension, Stage 2 Hypertension and Controlled Blood Pressure among Men and Women in the US. Am J Hypertens.

## Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Hypertension Outcomes: A Systematic Review



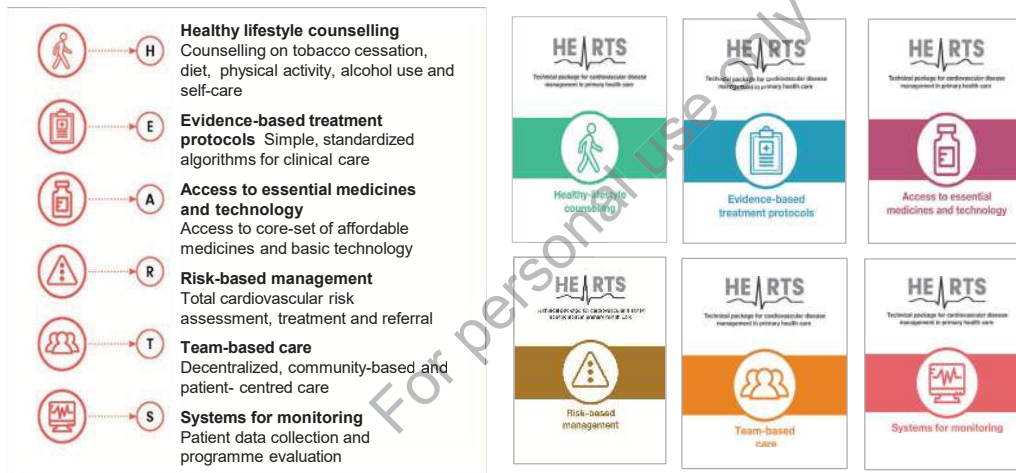
Metlock et al., 2024, *Hypertension*

Systematic Review: Social Determinants of Hypertension			
Social Determinants of Health are Associated with Hypertension Outcomes			
<b>OBJECTIVES</b> Identify recent studies that examine the association between social determinants including education attainment, healthcare access, economic stability, neighborhood and built environment, and social and community context, and hypertension outcomes in US adults.	<b>STUDY SELECTION</b> 57 studies met all criteria for inclusion <b>Study Quality:</b> Mixed Methods and Appraisal Tool	<b>KEY FINDINGS</b>	
<b>METHODS</b> PubMed, Embase.co, CINAHL Plus, Cochrane Library via Wiley, Scopus, and Web of Science PRISMA guidelines Studies from January 1, 2018 - November 5th, 2023	<b>PRIMARY OUTCOMES</b> % HTN prevalence % HTN incidence % HTN control % HTN diagnosis Mean SBP / DBP mmHg SBP / DBP effect mmHg	<b>Education Attainment</b> Higher education attainment <b>Healthcare Access</b> Having health insurance <b>Economic Stability</b> Higher income <b>Neighborhood &amp; Built environment</b> Favorable neighborhood characteristics ↑ % HTN control ↓ % HTN prevalence	



Evidence-based interventions to improve hypertension control

# Recommendations for Best Hypertension Control Practices-HEARTS Package



WHO: HEARTS: Technical package for cardiovascular disease management in primary health care: Risk-based CVD management; <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240001367>

## Implementation Strategies for Blood Pressure Control

Comparative Effectiveness based on meta-analysis of 121 comparison(55,920)





Implementation Strategy	Net Change in BP (95% CI), mm Hg	Studies, n
Systolic BP		
Team-based care with titration by nonphysician	-7.1 (-8.9 to -5.2)	10
Team-based care with titration by physician	-6.2 (-8.1 to -4.2)	19
Multilevel strategy without team-based care	-5.0 (-8.0 to -2.0)	8
Health coaching	-3.9 (-5.4 to -2.3)	38
Electronic decision-support systems	-3.7 (-5.2 to -2.2)	4
Home BP monitoring	-2.7 (-3.6 to -1.7)	26
Provider training	-1.4 (-3.6 to 0.7)	5
Audit and feedback	-0.8 (-2.1 to 0.5)	2

Mills KT, et al 2018. Ann Intern Med.

## Nonpharmacological Interventions

Intervention	Dose/Recommendation	Impact on BP (Hypertension)
<b>Weight loss</b>	Best goal is ideal body weight, but aim for at least a 1-kg reduction in body weight for most adults who are overweight. Expect about 1 mm Hg for every 1-kg reduction in body weight.	-5 mm Hg
<b>DASH dietary pattern</b>	Consume a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products, with reduced content of saturated and total fat.	-11 mm Hg
<b>Reduced dietary sodium</b>	Optimal goal is <1500 mg/d, but aim for at least a 1000-mg/d reduction in most adults.	-5/6 mm Hg
<b>Enhanced dietary potassium</b>	Aim for 3500–5000 mg/d, preferably by consumption of a diet rich in potassium.	-4/5 mm Hg

# Nonpharmacological Interventions

Intervention	Dose/Recommendation	Impact on BP (Hypertension)
 <b>Aerobic activity</b>	90–150 min/wk at 65%–75% heart rate reserve	–5/8 mm Hg
 <b>Dynamic resistance</b>	90–150 min/wk at 50%–80% 1 rep maximum, 6 exercises, 3 sets/exercise, 10 repetitions/set	–4 mm Hg
 <b>Isometric resistance</b>	4 × 2 min (hand grip), 1 min rest between exercises, 30%–40% maximum voluntary contraction, 3 sessions/wk for 8–10 wk	–5 mm Hg
 <b>Alcohol moderation</b>	In individuals who drink alcohol, reduce alcohol to: Men: ≤2 drinks daily Women: ≤1 drink daily	–4 mm Hg

Whelton, P. et al 2017. *Hypertension*

## A combination of different medications is needed to achieve BP

- Diuretics:** Remove excess sodium and water, reducing blood volume and pressure.
- ACE Inhibitors:** Block the production of angiotensin II, preventing blood vessel narrowing.
- ARBs:** Block the action of angiotensin II on blood vessels, reducing blood pressure.
- CCBs:** Prevent calcium from entering heart and blood vessel cells, causing relaxation

### Recommendation for Choice of Initial Medication

COR	LOE	Recommendation
I	A <sup>SR</sup>	1. For initiation of antihypertensive drug therapy, first-line agents include thiazide diuretics, CCBs, and ACE inhibitors or ARBs.

Whelton, P. et al 2017. *Hypertension*

## Assess and address adherence to antihypertensive medication

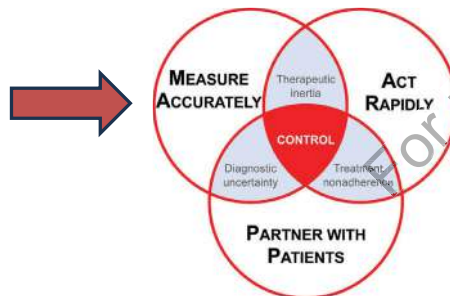
1. High rates of **non-adherence** to hypertension medication.
  - Global prevalence of 27% to 40%
  - Higher prevalence was detected in low- to middle-income and non-Western countries
2. Common factors associated with non-adherence
  - Cost of medication
  - Side effects
  - Forgetfulness
  - Inadequate knowledge about hypertension
3. Nursing interventions targeting these factors may improve adherence and hypertension control
  - Assess adherence: Hill-Bone Medication Adherence Scale

Lee, E.K.P et al. 2022. *JAHA*



# Measure blood pressure accurately

- Measuring BP is a key skill for nurses.
- Following these tips will help ensure that all BP measurements are accurate.



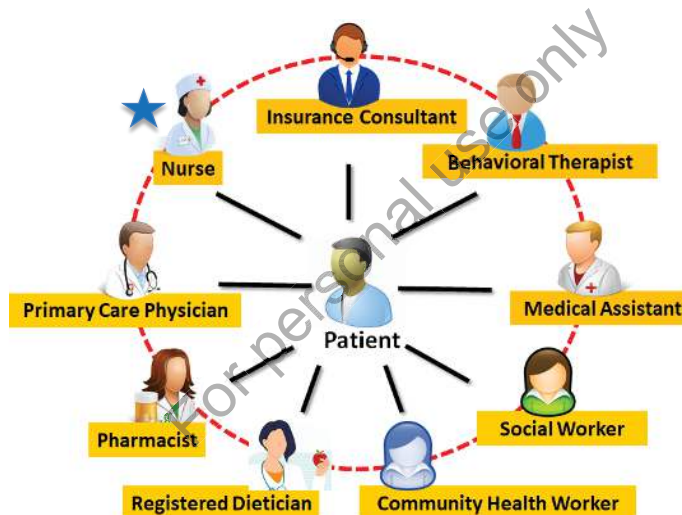
## Team-Based Care Improves Blood Pressure

- Team-based care (TBC) to improve BP control is defined as a health systems-level, organizational intervention that relies on **multidisciplinary teams** to improve the quality of hypertension care for patients. 1
  - Task-shifting/Task-sharing
- Advantages include<sup>2</sup> :
  - Improved BP control
  - Expanded healthcare access
  - Improved patient medication adherence
  - Better follow-up
  - Improved patient satisfaction



1. Proia KK, et al. 2014. Am J Prev Med.
2. HEARTS Technical package for cardiovascular disease management in primary health care: team-based care. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018 (WHO/NMH/NVI/18.4). Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

## Team-based care should be **patient-centered**



# Systematic Review and Meta-analysis on Team-based hypertension care in LMICs

eClinicalMedicine

Part of THE LANCET Discovery Science



ARTICLES | VOLUME 47, 101388, MAY 2022

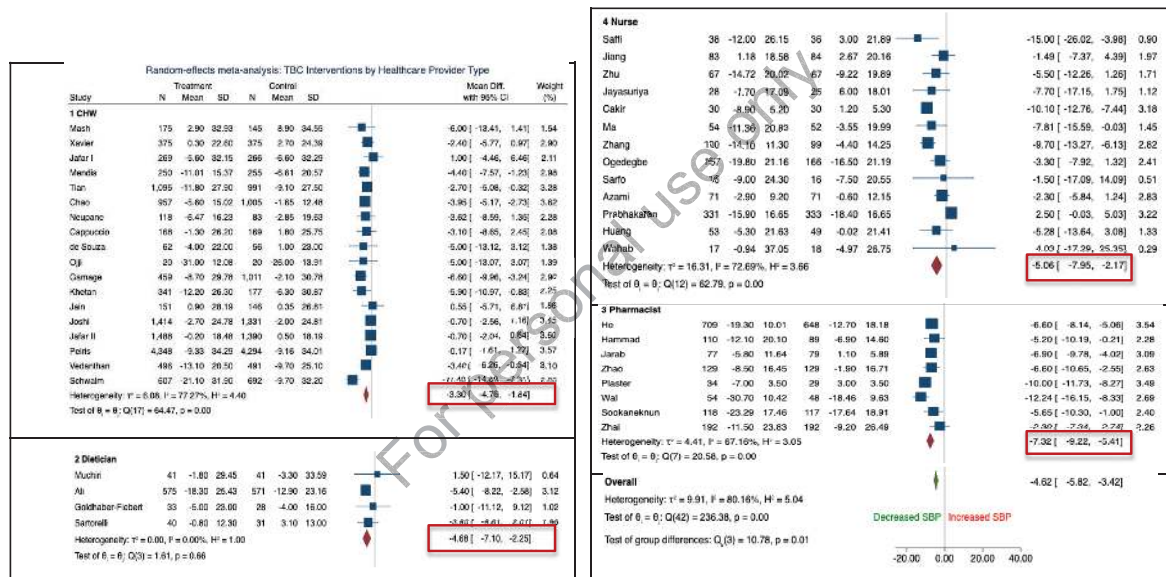
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## Determining the frequency and level of task-sharing for hypertension management in LMICs: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Oluwabunmi Ogungbe, MPH • Danielle Cazabon, MScPH • Adefunke Ajenikoko, MPH • Panniyammakal Jeemon, PhD • Andrew E. Moran, MD • Yvonne Commodore-Mensah, PhD

Open Access • Published: April 15, 2022 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2022.101388>

## Subgroup Analysis: Team-Based Care by Cadres of Healthcare workers

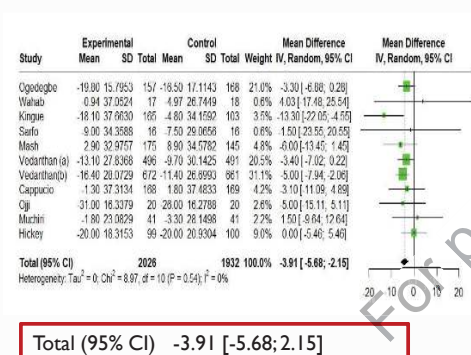


## Summary

- Overall SBP **change -4.62 mmHg (95%CI: -5.82 to -3.42)**
- Notable differences in SBP change based on healthcare provider cadre
  - CHW: **-3.30 mmHg (95% CI: -4.76, -1.84)**
  - Dieticians: **-4.68 mmHg (95% CI: -7.10, -2.25)**
  - Nurses: -5.06 mmHg (95% CI: -7.95, -2.17)**
  - Pharmacists: **-7.32 mmHg (95% CI: -9.22, -5.41)**



# Systematic Review and Meta-analysis on Team-based hypertension care in Africa



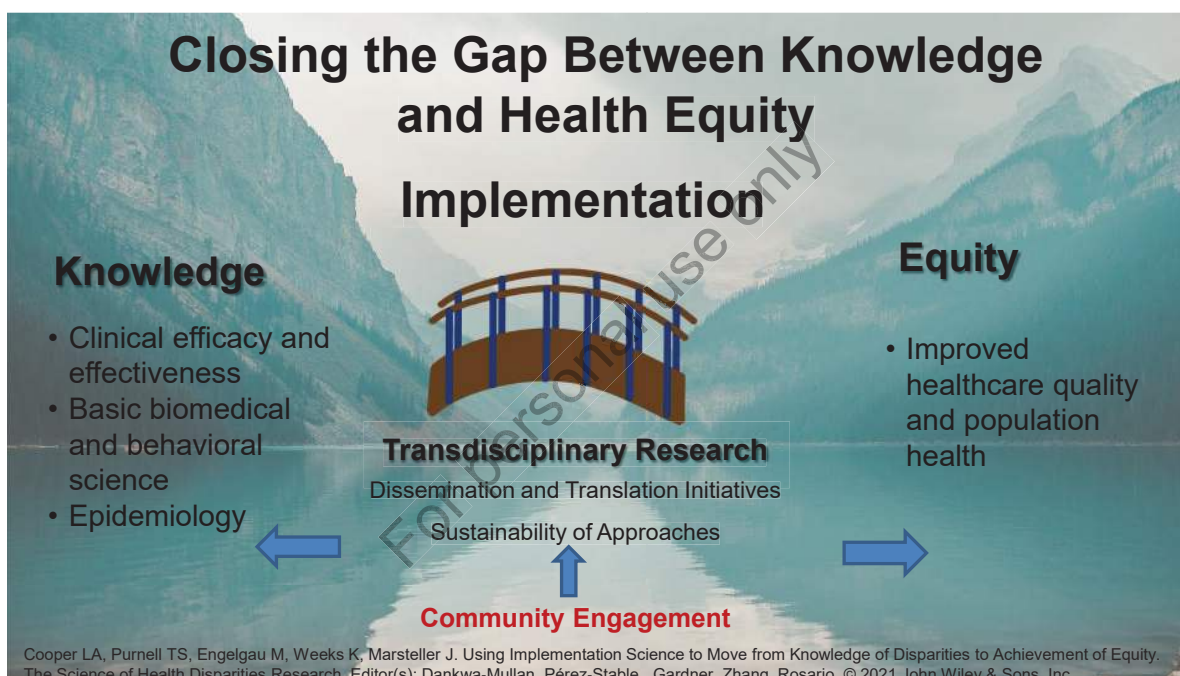
- Overall SBP **change -3.91 [95% CI: -5.68; 2.15]**

## Difference BP by HCW

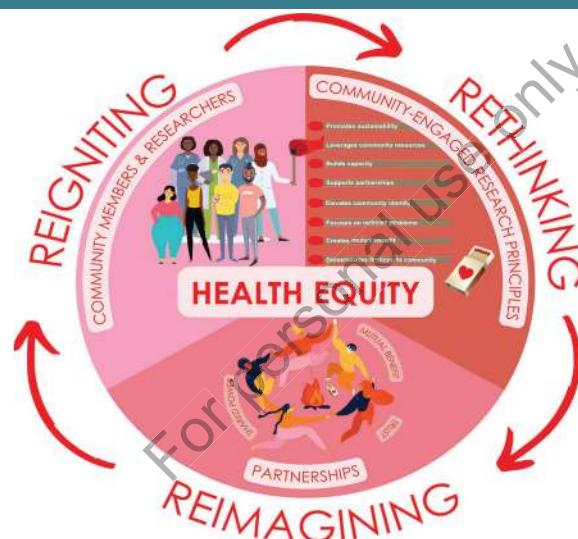
- CHW: **-4.43 mm Hg (95% CI: -5.69 to -3.17)**
- Nurses: **-3.75 mm Hg (95% CI: -10.62 to 3.12)**

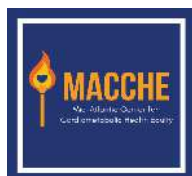
Hinne T, et al. 2024. *BMJ Open*.

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## General Principles for Engagement





1P50MD017348-01

# LINKED-HEARTS Program

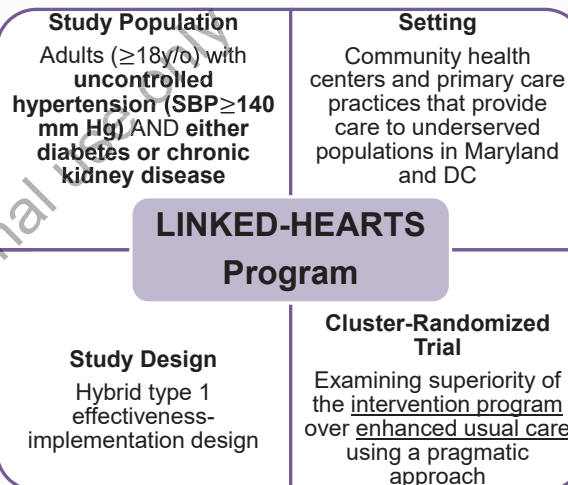
A CardiometaBolic Health Program  
LINKED with Community Health WorkErs  
 and Mobile HeAlth TelemonitoRing To  
 reduce Health DisparitieS

## LINKED-HEARTS: Study Team

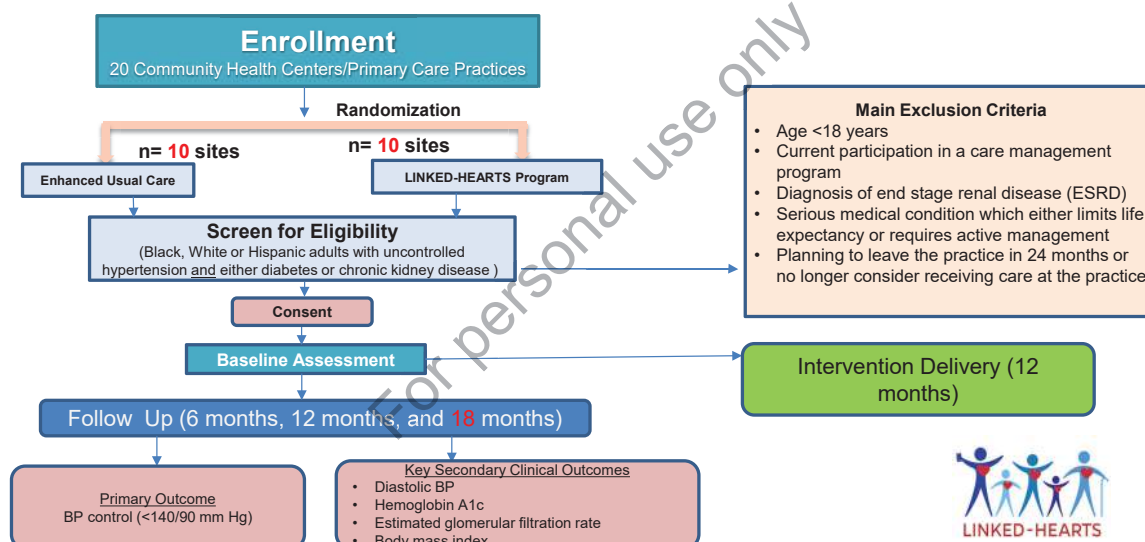


## LINKED-HEARTS Program - Aims and Methods

- **Primary Aim:** To compare the effect of the LINKED-HEARTS Program versus HBPM in improving BP control (systolic BP <140/90 mm Hg) and improving patient-centered outcomes at 6 and 12 months in adults with uncontrolled hypertension and diabetes or chronic kidney disease (CKD).
- **Secondary Aim:** To evaluate the reach, adoption, maintenance of the LINKED-HEARTS program at 12 and 24 months post-randomization and explore contextual factors that are associated with the adoption and maintenance of the program.



# LINKED-HEARTS Program - Study Design



## Participating Health Systems

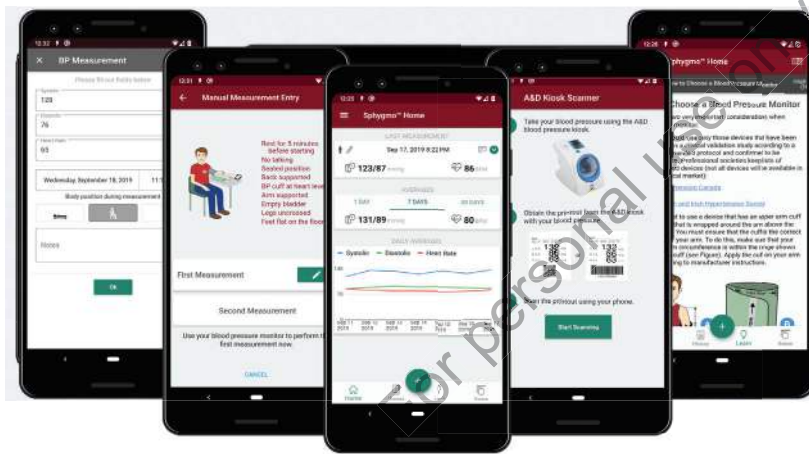


## LINKED-HEARTS Program – Multi-level Intervention

Description of Intervention Components	Patient	Provider	Community	System
Home blood pressure monitoring	X			
Sphygmo Home BP telemonitoring platform	X	X		
Evidence-based treatment algorithms		X		
Simplification of drug regimen		X		
Training on office-based BP measurement		X		X
Education and counseling on lifestyle modification	X		X	
Community health worker telehealth visits	X		X	X
Pharmacist telehealth visits		X		X



# LINKED-HEARTS Program App: Sphygmo Home



## Sphygmo App Clinician Portal

app.sphygmobp.com/x/patients

Sphygmo Patient List Practice Overview Add Patient Patient Search

Patient List + Add Patient Export Patient List

Filter by Condition Edit Column Fields Linking Status All

Patient List Showing 1-50 of 168 Units: BP: mmHg | HR: bpm

Patient ID	Patient Name	Date of Birth	Patient Email	Mean SBP 30 D (mmHg)	Mean DBP 30 D (mmHg)	Mean SBP 7 D (mmHg)	Mean DBP 7 D (mmHg)	Mean SBP 30 D (mmHg)	Mean DBP 30 D (mmHg)	BP Alerts 7 D
1555219667	Aaron Found	Apr 16, 1971	samplefound1@bluehost.com	92	64	93	67	92	64	—
9226568553	Adina Annon	Jan 29, 1946	sampleannon2@macphdesign.com	76	55	78	54	80	55	—
6453912414	Alaine Matteo	May 5, 1946	samplematteo@mtbs.com	106	73	106	73	105	72	—
1990816681	Aland Pendlebury	Feb 5, 1963	samplependlebury1@wikipedia.org	90	64	92	64	93	63	—
0595437370	Albert Hoffman	Oct 18, 1969	sampleberthe6@taobao.com	112	67	118	67	118	70	—
6246137644	Alberto Inaerfeld	Nov 20, 1965	sampleinaerfeld@afc.gov	104	71	102	72	105	72	—

## Community Health Workers



Tye Lane



Mary Richard



Melina Stavrou



Lyndsey Spies



Shellybright Manga

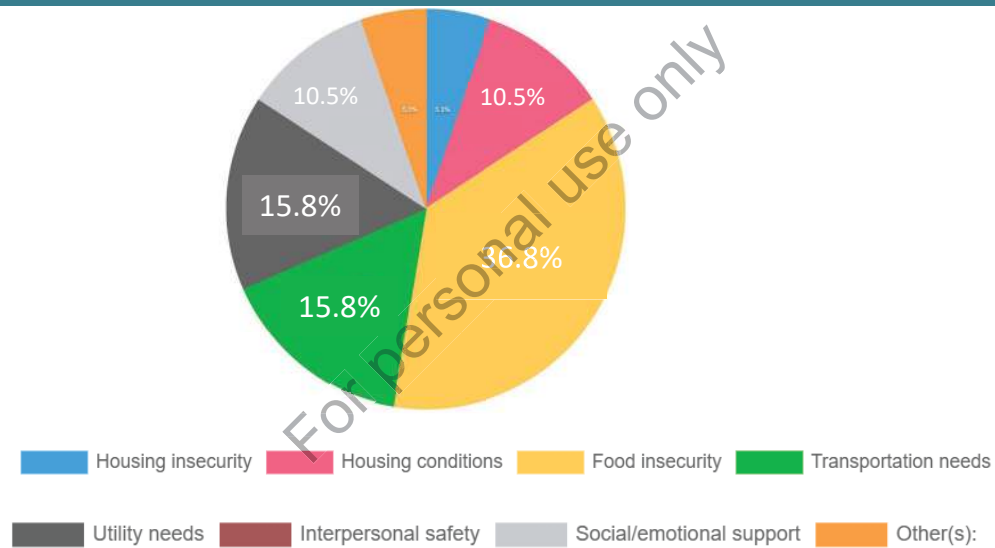


Domonique Harris



Gabriela Ortega

# Social Determinants of Health Barriers



## Current Enrollment

Targeted Enrollment Total..... 425  
Actual Enrollment to Date..... 286

	All Patients	Sex		Race/ethnicity		
		Female	Male	African American	Hispanic	White
Number enrolled	286	174	112	159	10	89
Target number	425	213	212	60	85	280
% of target	67.3%	81.7%	52.8%	265%	11.7%	31.2%



# Hypertension Cascade in Ghana

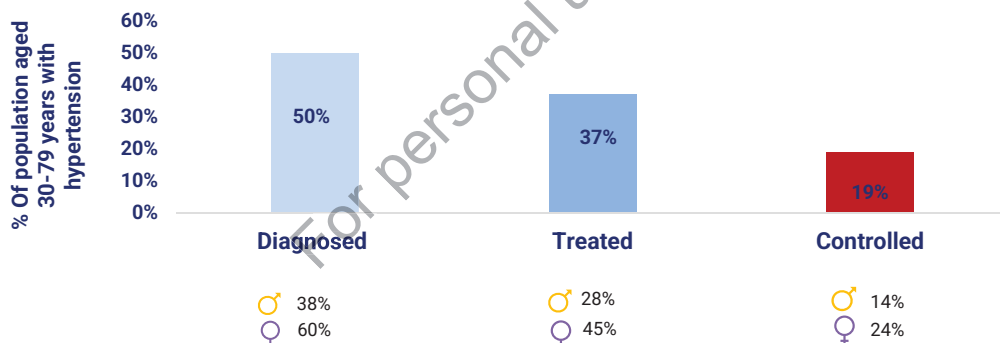
## Hypertension profile

## Ghana

Total population: 31 522 000

Total Deaths: 190 000

Age-standard prevalence of HTN (140/90mm/Hg) among adults (2019) ♀ 34% ♂ 31% ♀ 36%



1. World Health Organization. 2023. | Global hypertension Report, The race against the silent killer, Geneva, License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

## ADHINCRA Study Protocol



Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 125, February 2023, 107077

Perceived facilitators to team...



### Addressing Hypertension Care in Africa (ADHINCRA): Study protocol for a cluster-randomized controlled pilot trial

Yvonne Commodore-Mensah<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, Fred Stephen Sarfo<sup>a, c, 1</sup>, Ruth-Alma Turkson-Ocran<sup>d</sup>, Kathryn Foti<sup>i</sup>, Linda Meta Mobula<sup>a</sup>, Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb<sup>a, e</sup>, Kathryn A. Carson<sup>b, d</sup>, Lambert T. Appiah<sup>f</sup>, Michael Degani<sup>g</sup>, Chemuttaai Lang'at<sup>h</sup>, Gideon Nyamekye<sup>h</sup>, Nancy E. Molella<sup>a</sup>, Rexford Ahima<sup>a, b, d</sup>, Lisa A. Cooper<sup>a, d, e</sup>

Show more

## Project goal

- Test the **feasibility** of a **multilevel, nurse-led, mobile health enhanced** intervention in patients with uncontrolled hypertension in Kumasi, Ghana





# Methods

## Design:

Two-arm pilot cluster RCT involving **240** patients with uncontrolled HTN (SBP  $\geq$  140 mmHg)

**Setting:** Kumasi, Ghana

## Outcomes:

- ▶ **Clinical outcomes:** BP control
- ▶ **Intermediate outcomes:** Medication Adherence
- ▶ **Patient-Reported Outcome:** The acceptability and usability of the *Akoma pa* app



# Participants

## Inclusion criteria:

- ✓ Male or female
- ✓ Uncontrolled HTN: SBP  $\geq$  140 mm Hg
- ✓  $\pm$  Diabetes diagnosis
- ✓  $\pm$  CVD or stroke
- ✓ 18-70 years

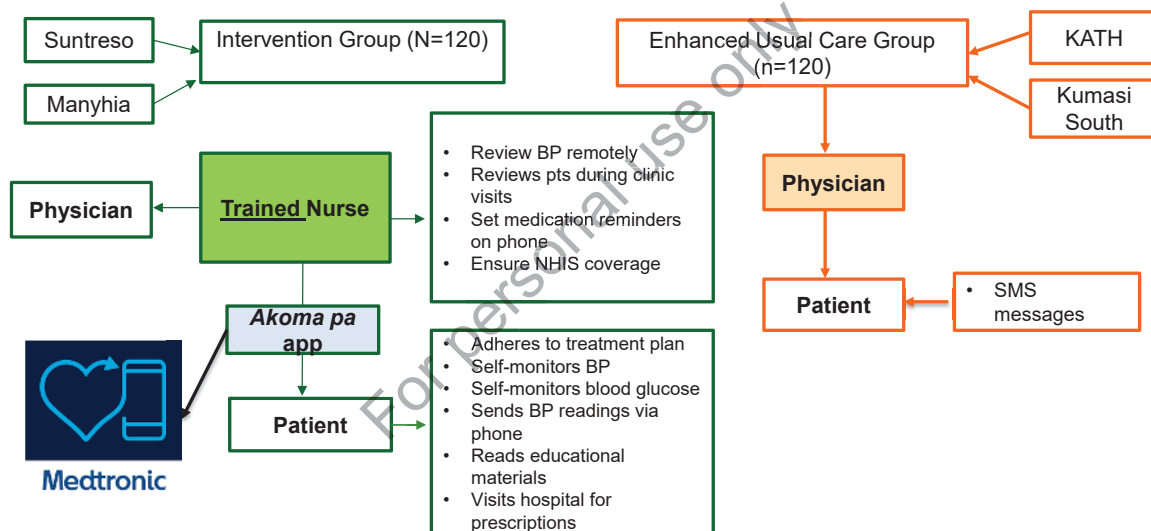
## Exclusion criteria:

- ✓ End stage renal disease (ESRD)
- ✓ Cognitive impairment/dementia
- ✓ Severe global disability

# Stakeholder Engagement



# Intervention



## Study Nurses



## Results: Baseline characteristics by Study arm

	Total (N=240)	Intervention (N=120)	Enhanced Usual Care (N=120)	P-value
Age, mean $\pm$ SD	53 $\pm$ 9.7	54 $\pm$ 9.5	52 $\pm$ 9.8	0.21
Male	117 (49)	60 (50)	57 (48%)	0.70
Married/cohabitating	178 (74.2)	90 (75.0)	88 (73.3)	0.76
Highest level of education (n, %)				
$\leq$ Primary School	78 (32.5)	20 (16.7)	58 (48.3)	<0.001
Secondary/High School	110 (45.8)	68 (56.7)	42 (35.0)	
College or higher	52 (21.7)	32 (26.6)	20 (16.7)	
Employed	186 (77.5)	95 (79.2)	91 (75.8)	0.54
Income level per month(n, %)				
<1200 GHC (\$105)	5 (2.5)	3 (3.6)	2 (1.7)	0.49
1200- < 6000GHC (\$105-528)	45 (22.3)	22 (26.5)	23 (19.3)	
6000- <12000GHC (\$528-1058)	71 (35.2)	27 (32.5)	44 (37.0)	
$\geq$ 10000 GHC (\$1058)	81 (40.1)	31 (37.4)	50 (40.0)	

## Results: Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors

	Total (N=240)	Intervention (N=120)	Enhanced Usual Care (N=120)	P-value
Diabetes mellitus	60 (30)	30 (25)	30 (25)	0.61
Dyslipidemia	74 (31)	40 (33)	34 (28)	0.40
Current Alcohol use	46 (19)	35 (29)	11 (9)	<0.001
Body Mass Index (n, %)				0.60
Underweight (<18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	1 (0.4)	0 (0)	1 (0.8)	
Normal (18.5 -24.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	52 (21.7)	29 (24.2)	23 (19.2)	
Overweight (25.0-29.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	101 (42.1)	50 (41.7)	51 (42.5)	
Obesity (≥30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	86 (35.8)	41 (34.2)	45 (37.5)	
Complications (n, %)				
Stroke	8 (3)	3 (3)	5 (4)	0.50
Heart Failure	12 (5)	6 (5)	6 (5)	1.00
Systolic BP, mm Hg (mean ±SD)	157.6 ±13.8	156.8 ±14.27	158.2 ±13.4	0.45
Diastolic BP, mm Hg (mean ±SD)	95.8 ±9.0	95.9 ±10.1	95.8 ±7.8	0.93

Unpublished data

## Systolic blood pressure, mm Hg: least squares means and differences

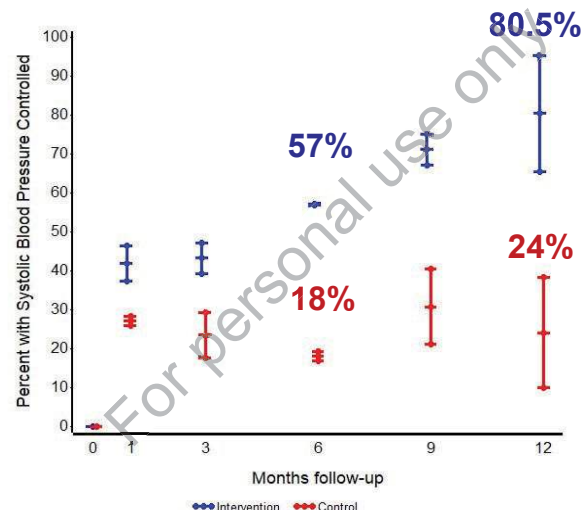
Visit	Least Squares Means (95% CI)		Difference	P value
	Enhanced Usual Care	Intervention		
Baseline	157.5 (154.3, 160.7)	156.5 (153.5, 159.4)		
6 Months	155.9 (151.8, 159.9)	138.8 (135.0, 142.6)		
Change from baseline	-1.6 (-5.4, 2.1)	-17.7 (-21.4, -14.0)	-16.0 (-21.3, -10.8)	<0.001
12 Months	153.5 (149.8, 157.1)	130.9 (127.5, 134.4)		
Change from baseline	-4.0 (-7.6, -0.4)	-25.6 (-29.1, -22.0)	-21.5 (-26.6, -16.4)	<0.001

Least squares means are from a mixed effects regression model including all available systolic blood pressure measures, controlling for clustering within hospital and repeated measures per subject. Model was adjusted for patient characteristics of age, gender, education level, and current alcohol use.

P value is for the interaction of visit and intervention group.

Unpublished data

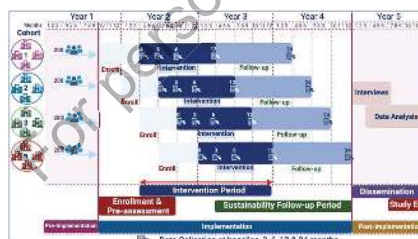
## Blood Pressure Control in the ADHINCRA Study



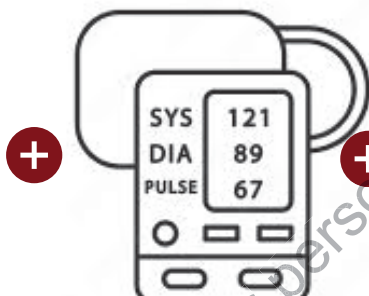


# Next Steps: ADHINCRA in Ghana & Nigeria

- Pilot intervention plus
  - Treatment intensification with **simplified hypertension treatment protocol**
  - Hypertension without diabetes
- 16 facilities (800 patients)
- Hybrid type 2 effectiveness-implementation design
  - Stepped wedge design cluster-randomized trial



## ADHINCRA Program Intervention



Mhealth

Home BP Monitoring

Nurse-led team-based care

Treatment Protocol

## ADHINCRA Program Study Team



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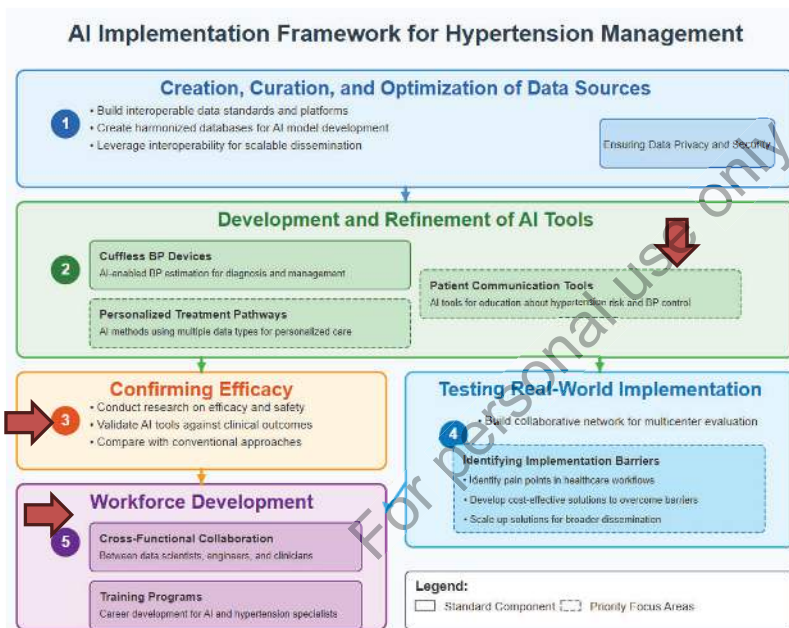
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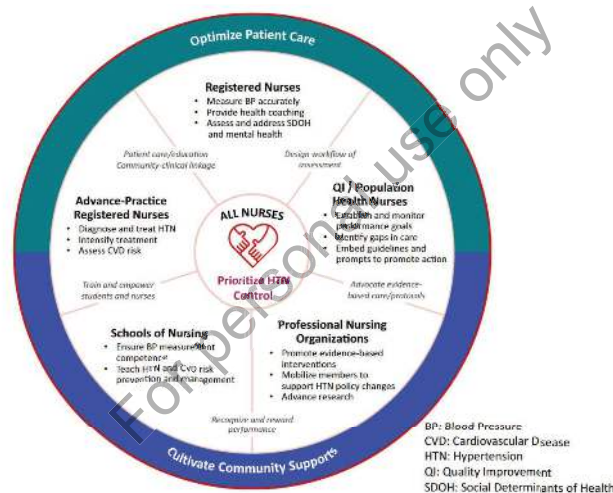
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## Call to Action for Nurses and Midwives



Hannan JA, Commodore-Mensah Y, Tokieda N, Smith AP, Gawlik KS, Murakami L, Cooper J, Koob S, Wright KD, Cassarino D, Arslanian-Engoren C, Melnyk BM. Improving hypertension control and cardiovascular health: An urgent call to action for nursing. *Worldviews Evid Based Nurs*. 2022 Feb;19(1):6-15. doi: 10.1111/wvn.12560. Epub 2022 Feb 8. PMID: 35173506; PMCID: PMC9305122.



# THANK YOU

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