

Evaluation of how the care of patients with hypertension is organised in 2009/10

Two years ago we asked you how you organised hypertension care in your practice. We are interested to see how this has changed since then so we would be grateful if you could complete this short questionnaire. It consists of one page about how your practice looks after patients with high blood pressure (hypertension) and a second page on your thoughts concerning potential research in this area.

It should take about 5-10 minutes to complete.

GP = general practitioner PN = practice nurse

HCA = health care assistant

Please circle any answers that apply for each question

1 Have your hypertension care arrangements changed in the last 2-3 years? YES/NO
If yes, please describe how (use the reverse of the sheet if you need more space)

2 What are the present hypertension care arrangements in your practice?

A Who usually sees patients routinely to check their BP e.g. every six months?

GP only PN only Shared GP & PN HCA
 Nurse practitioner Nurse prescriber Other (please state who) _____

B If the BP is above target, who decides to change medication?

GP PN Other (who?) _____

C If a change is decided, who issues the new prescription?

GP PN Other (who?) _____

D For a newly diagnosed hypertensive patient, who would alter their medication until the target BP has been achieved?

GP PN Other (who?) _____

3 Does your practice have any plans within the next year or so to change the organisation of how hypertensive patients are cared for?

Yes No

If No: please go to next question (Q4)

If Yes: What are these plans?

Set up PN led hypertension clinics Use of pharmacists with extended training
 Augmented HCA role Increasing devolution to practice nurses
 More use of protocols Other (please state):

4. In what circumstances do your clinicians check the blood pressure in both arms?

At diagnosis Unusual reading
 Murmur or bruit Clinical concern e.g. arm symptoms
 Never Other (please state)

5 If there is a difference in blood pressure between arms, which arm do you use to measure and follow up blood pressure?

Higher Arm

Lower Arm

Don't choose an arm

6 If a randomised trial were funded within the next year or so to compare nurse-led hypertension care with either GP led care or GP/nurse shared care would your practice be interested in principle in taking part in:

(a positive response does NOT indicate any commitment at this stage)

Yes

No

7 If your practice were to take part in a randomised trial comparing nurse-led hypertension care with either GP led care or GP/nurse shared care do you perceive any of the following to be barriers to successful participation?

A Need for more nurse hours Yes No

B The need for additional nurse training Yes No

C Need for nurse prescriber training Yes No

D Agreeing practice-level BP targets Yes No

E Generating new/modified protocols
or Patient Group Directions Yes No

F Lack of Nurse Practitioner Yes No

G Other (please specify) _____

Practice Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Telephone No _____ E-Mail: _____

List Size: _____

No. OF:
Doctors _____ Practice Nurses _____ Nurse Practitioners _____ Nurse Prescribers: _____

Latest percentage of adequately controlled BP by QOF criterion: BP5 (<150/90) _____ %

Thank you for your valuable help. Please e-mail your response back to research@esrec.nhs.uk
or postback using the following freepost address:

ESReC, Freepost (BS7854), Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 9ZZ.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire...