

Hypertension (HTN) – Annual Monitoring for Serum Creatinine

CLINICAL RATIONALE

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) states that one out of every three Americans has hypertension, or high blood pressure.¹
- Even with the availability of effective treatment options, more than half of Americans with hypertension are untreated or do not have optimal levels of blood pressure while under treatment. Improvements in quality or better control of blood pressure as related to this measure would help significantly reduce the probability of serious and costly complications, including coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, ruptured aortic aneurysm, renal disease and retinopathy.²
- Monitoring lab results ensures early intervention in many conditions, especially kidney disease.
- Routine monitoring of serum creatinine is necessary to evaluate renal function.³
- For patients on hypertension medications, it is recommended that providers schedule at minimum an annual lab test for serum creatinine.



MEASURE AT A GLANCE



Applicable specialties

Cardiology
Family/General Practice
Internal Medicine
OB/GYN



Measure steward

Optum® Symmetry®
EBM Connect®



Measure description

Patient(s) with hypertension who had a serum creatinine test in the last 12 reported months

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. High blood pressure. <https://www.cdc.gov/bloodpressure/measure.htm>.
2. Yoon S.S., C.D. Fryar, M.D. Carroll. 2015. Hypertension prevalence and control among adults: United States, 2011–2014. NCHS data brief, no. 220. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.
3. James P.A., S. Oparil, B.L. Carter, W.C. Cushman, C. Dennison-Himmelfarb, et al. 2014. Evidence-based guideline for the management of high blood pressure in adults: report from the panel members appointed to the Eighth Joint National Committee (JNC8).” JAMA 311(5):507–20. doi:10.1001/jama.2013.284427.

