



## HTN-2: Controlling High Blood Pressure

### 2024 Performance Year

Medicare (MSSP)

#### Description

Percentage of patients 18-85 years of age who had a diagnosis of essential hypertension starting before and continuing into, or starting during the first six months of the performance year, and whose most recent blood pressure was adequately controlled (<140/90 mmHg) during the performance year.

**Note:** The 2024 BP reading must occur on or after the date of the second diagnosis of hypertension and within the above date range.

#### Required Exclusions

- Patients who receive hospice or palliative care services anytime during the performance year
- Patients who passed away anytime during the performance year
- Patients with evidence of end stage renal disease (ESRD), dialysis, or renal transplant before or during the performance year
- Patients with a diagnosis of pregnancy during the performance year

*Note: The following exclusions are closed by **claims only**.*

- Medicare patients 66 years of age and older as of December 31, 2024 who meet either of the following: enrolled in an Institutional SNP (I-SNP) or residing in long-term care as identified by the LTI flag in the CMS Monthly File for more than 90 consecutive days at any time during the year.
- Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND either
  - a dispensed medication for dementia, OR
  - one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness OR two outpatient, observation, ED, or non-acute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the performance year or year prior.
- Patients 81 years of age and older with two frailty indications on different dates of service during the performance year.

#### Documentation Tips

- Document BP on every patient encounter.
- Retake BP when found to be  $\geq 140/90$  after the patient has been seated and visited with the clinician. The lowest systolic and diastolic value may be used if the readings are from the same visit.
- Patient reported blood pressures can be used as long as the patient did not use a manual cuff and stethoscope.
- Blood pressures can be taken from a Remote Patient Monitoring device.
- If no blood pressure is recorded during the performance year, the patient's blood pressure is assumed "not controlled".
- **Remember, the last blood pressure of the performance year is the abstracted BP and will determine gap compliance.**

#### Resources

2024 CMS Web Interface 8.0