**Controlling High Blood Pressure:** Quality ID #236

**Purpose:** To Define roles and responsibilities for ensuring Blood Pressure readings are consistently measured and documented.

**Directions:** This is an interactive document. Please fill in the drop-down boxes with your identified staff chosen to complete the responsibility chart.

The <Select Staff Member> will screen all patients 18-85 years of age diagnosed with “essential hypertension” with a visit in the current measurement period. Before taking the blood pressure, the <Select Staff Member> will ask the patient if they have consumed caffeine or exercised within the past 30 minutes. The <Select Staff Member> will take a blood pressure reading if the patient replies, “No.” If yes, then the <Select Staff Member> will wait 15 minutes before taking a reading.

If the patient’s blood pressure reading is greater than or equal to 140/90, the <Select Staff Member> will recheck the blood pressure after 15 minutes. Should the blood pressure reading still be 140/90 or above, the <Select Staff Member> will notify <Select Staff Member> of the elevated reading.

The <Select Staff Member> will document the multiple blood pressure readings in the discrete field located in the EMR, as shown below. If you are unsure where to capture this information in your EMR, please contact your EMR vendor for the workflow to capture this measure.



Attach a screenshot of the discrete field in the EMR, where blood pressure readings are documented.

**Standing Orders:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Referral to Chronic Care Management (CCM):** The <Select Staff Member> will discuss CCM with the patient if they have two or more chronic conditions. If the patient would like to participate, the <Select Staff Member> will provide a consent form for the patient to complete and update in the EMR. For further resources on CCM, please reference the [HQIN Chronic Care Management Toolkit.](https://hqin.org/resource/chronic-care-management-toolkit/)

If the patient’s blood pressure is uncontrolled, the <Select Staff Member> will schedule a follow-up appointment with <Select Staff Member> to review medication changes or updates. The follow-up appointment will be scheduled before the patient leaves the office.

**Please note:** Patient encounters for this measure conducted via telehealth (e.g., encounters coded with GQ, GT, 95, or POS 02 modifiers) are allowable.

* If blood pressure is not documented on the date of visit during the measurement period, the patient’s blood pressure is assumed “not controlled.”
* If there are multiple blood pressure readings on the same day, you may use the lowest systolic and diastolic readings as the most recent blood pressure readings (when reporting quality measures for CMS).
* If blood pressure is taken during a virtual visit, blood pressure readings taken by a remote monitoring device and conveyed by the patient to the clinician are acceptable. (*It is the clinician’s responsibility and discretion to confirm whether the remote monitoring device used to obtain the blood pressure is acceptable and reliable and whether the blood pressure reading is considered accurate before documenting it in the patient’s medical record). These readings must be documented in your EMR in a discrete field****.***

The following are denominator exclusions for this measure and should be documented and/or coded in the chart to claim an exclusion.

*\*Denominator exclusions* ***MUST*** *be reported for quality reporting regardless of whether the quality action was performed or not.*

**Denominator Exclusions:**

* Hospice services provided anytime during the measurement period (G9740) **OR**
* Palliative care services anytime during the measurement period (G0031) **OR**
* End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), dialysis, renal transplant before or during the measurement period, or pregnancy during the measurement period (G9231) **OR**
* Age 66 or older in special needs plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with POS code 32, 33, 34, 54, or 56 **for more than 90 consecutive days** during the measurement period (G9910) **OR**
* Age 66-80 with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period **AND** a dispensed medication for dementia during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period (G2115) **OR**
* Patients 66-80 years with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period **AND** either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED, or nonacute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period (G2116) **OR**
* Patients 81 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period (G2118)

**Table of Dementia Exclusion Medications:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Prescriptions** |
| Cholinesterase Inhibitors | Donepezil; Galantamine; Rivastigmine |
| Miscellaneous central nervous system agents | Memantine |

**References:**

[2024 MIPS CQM Measure Specifications: Controlling HBP: Quality ID 236](https://hqin.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2024_Measure_236_MIPSCQM.pdf)

[Claims Measures: Controlling High Blood Pressure (ID #236)](https://hqin.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2024_Measure_236_MedicarePartBClaims.pdf)

[Office Blood Pressure Infographic | HQIN](https://hqin.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HQIN-Office-Blood-Pressure-Infographic_508.pdf)