ANGELA L. BROWN, MD

## Disclosure of Relationships past 12 months

-Research Support: Medtronic<br>-Speaker's Bureau: Arbor<br>- Consultant:<br>Lundbeck

I do not plan to discuss off-label content

## Learning Objectives

- Understand the unique issues related to hypertension diagnosis and management that effect women throughout the lifespan
- Understand how the new hypertension guidelines effect the diagnosis and management of hypertension in women


## Case Presentation

- 52 yo woman with no known history of HTN presents for yearly gynecologic follow-up
-No significant PMH; G2P2; LMP ~ 1 yr ago
-Meds: MVI, Tylenol prn
-Works as an accountant - moderate stress
-No tobacco; occasional wine with dinner
- 1 cup of caffeinated coffee daily, no sodas
- aerobic exercise 30 minutes 3 times per week


## Case Presentation

"BP 152/96 RUE, 150/92 LUE; repeat 144/88 RUE
-(last year 132/76)
-Exam unremarkable
-Labs unremarkable
-Does this lady have hypertension?
-If so, are there special considerations for diagnosis and therapy?

## Hypertension

-Estimated 103 million US adults with HTN

- Prevalence of HTN increases with age in both sexes -Women - more likely to be aware of their diagnosis, to be treated with medications, and to have controlled BP
- Women - more commonly prescribed diuretics and less frequently ACEIs
- Diagnosis and treatment of HTN in women is directly related to stage of reproductive health


## Prevalence of HTN Among US Adults NHANES 2011-2014



## Prevalence of HTN Among US Adults NHANES 2015-2016



## Prevalence of Controlled HTN by Sex and Age, 2015-2016



Prevalence of Controlled HTN by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, 2015-2016


## Women Through the Lifespan

- Childbearing
- Pregnancy
- Menopause
- Postmenopause


## Oral Contraceptives and HTN

-OCPs associated with increase in BP and risk of CV events

- $2 x$ risk of CHD, CVA, and VTE
- absolute risk is low in those without risk factors
-Risk increases with:
- increasing age
- tobacco use
- duration of OCP use
- obesity
- Generally reversible with discontinuation of OCP


## Relative Risk for Development of HTN by OC Use in Nurses Health Study



## Oral Contraceptives and HTN

- Associated with concentration of ethinyl estradiol
- Less effect on BP with newer $3^{\text {rd }}$ generation combination OCP (Estrogen 20-35 mcg and progesterone)
- Drospirenone (progestin) has antimineralocorticoid/diuretic effects that minimize BP effects of estrogen when used in combination
- ACOG recommends:
- low-dose combination OCP use in women with wellcontrolled HTN
- progestin only or levonorgestrel IUD in women with uncontrolled HTN
- monitor closely


## Pregnancy and HTN ACOG Categories

- Preeclampsia/eclampsia
- New onset HTN and proteinuria or HTN associated with TOD (in absence of proteinuria)
- Chronic HTN of any cause
- BP $>140 / 90$ before pregnancy, before the $20^{\text {th }}$ week of pregnancy, or lasting $>12$ weeks postpartum
- Chronic HTN with superimposed preeclampsia
- Development preeclampsia/eclampsia in women with chronic hypertension
- Gestational HTN
- Elevated BP after 20 weeks without preeclampsia


## Pregnancy and HTN <br> Risk Factor for CVD Postpartum

- Early-onset preeclampsia associated with HTN ( $38 \%$ vs $14 \%$ ) and metabolic syndrome (18\% vs $2 \%)$ compared with normotensive pregnant women
- More frequent development of cardiomyopathy
- Offspring of women with HTN during pregnancy develop higher BP in adolescence (long-term CVD risk unclear)


## New paradigm for enhanced cardiovascular risk in women exposed to preeclampsia



## Pregnancy and HTN Treatment

- All antihypertensive medications cross the placenta
- Methyldopa - long-term safety profile
-Labetalol, nifedipine, hydralazine considered safe
- AVOID:
-ACEIs, ARBs, DRI, nitroprusside


## Estrogens and CVD

## Pre-menopause

- Estrogen receptor-mediated phenotype is CVD protective
- Decreases AT ${ }_{1}$ receptor expression
- Decreases ACE expression and activity
- Inhibits endothelin synthesis
- Antimitogenic; protecting against neointimal proliferation
- Antioxidant; protects against oxidative stress


## Post-menopause

- Estrogen receptor-mediated phenotype changes to promote CVD
- Reduced inhibitory effects of estrogens on vasoconstriction of vascular smooth muscle
- [Androgens] relative increase and [estrogens] decrease may:
- Promote renal $\mathrm{Na}^{+}$retention
- Increase Angiotensin II and endothelin production
- Increase oxidative stress

Relative balance of sex steroids may be critical in postmenopausal HTN development?

## Menopause and Hypertension

- Postmenopausal women have increased incidence of HTN and CVD
- Increase in SBP
- withdrawal of vasodilator effects of endogenous estrogen
- increased arterial stiffness
- increased salt sensitivity
- diminished endothelial nitric oxide production
- upregulation of $A T_{1}$ receptor expression
- obesity - 40\% postmenopausal women
- higher rates of depression and anxiety


## BP Rises After MenopauseRisk of Hypertension Triples

Changes in SBP From Baseline to Follow-up (Mean 5.2 Years)


## Menopause Increases Salt-sensitivity

Increases in Salt Intake Lead to Increases in Blood Pressure in Postmenopausal Women


## Hypertension Increases With Weight Gain in Women

Nurses’ Health Study: Hypertension ${ }^{\dagger}$ According to Weight Change


Weight Change After 18 Years, kg

Overweight=BMI $\geq 25 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$; obese $=\mathrm{BMI} \geq 30 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$; extreme obesity= $\mathrm{BMI} \geq 40 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$
*Adjusted for age, BMI at age 18 years, height, family history of myocardial infarction, parity, oral contraceptive use, menopausal status, postmenopausal use of hormones, and smoking.
${ }^{\dagger}>140 / 90 \mathrm{mmHg}$.

## Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring Important for Diagnosis

-Superior to in-office measurements in diagnosis HTN and predicting CV outcomes
-ABPM in Women

- lower day-time and night-time BPs
- higher control rates
- higher rates of hypotension in older women
- White-coat HTN
- More prevalent in older or pregnant women
- USPSTF and AHA/ACC guidelines recommend ABPM in all patients before initiating treatment
- Grade A (USPSTF)


## ABPM

## Important for CV risk stratification

- White-coat HTN
- More prevalent in older or pregnant women
- Increased anxiety and metabolic syndrome
- Small studies suggest $2 x$ increased CVD outcomes in those with >3 CVD risk factors
- Elevated Nocturnal BP - Nondippers
- Greater prevalence CVD events and mortality
- Increases with age in both men and women
- Masked HTN
- CVD risk factor
- More prevalent in men
- Increases in women with increases in BMI and alcohol intake


## CV Event Incidence and Risk in Individuals Without HTN

CV death, MI, Stroke, and HF Incidence in the Framingham Cohort


## 2017 Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

## BP Classification (JNC 7 and ACC/AHA Guidelines)

| SBP |  | DBP |  | JNC 7 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| <120 | and | $<80$ | Normal BP | Normal BP |  |
| $120-129$ | and | $<80$ | Prehypertension | Elevated BP |  |
| $130-139$ | or | $80-89$ | Prehypertension | Stage 1 hypertension |  |
| $140-159$ | or | $90-99$ | Stage 1 hypertension | Stage 2 hypertension |  |
| $\mathbf{2 1 6 0}$ | or | $\geq 100$ | Stage 2 hypertension | Stage 2 hypertension |  |

- Blood Pressure should be based on an average of $\geq 2$ careful readings on $\geq 2$ occasions
- Adults being treated with antihypertensive medication designated as having hypertension


## Prevalence of Hypertension, by Age and Sex


$\square$ Men ■ Women
Whelton PK et al. Hypertension. 2017
Whelton PK et al. JACC. 2017

# Distribution of US adults into BP Categories NHANES 2011-2014 



Muntner et. al., JACC. 2017
Muntner, et. al., Circulation. 2017

## Prevalence of Hypertension 2017 ACC/AHA and JN7 Guidelines



Whelton PK et al. Hypertension. 2017 Whelton PK et al. JACC. 2017

Number with hypertension, millions


■ JNC7 guideline
Muntner et. al. JACC. 2017
Muntner, et. al. Circulation 2017

Comparison of Prevalence using the 2003 JNC 7 and 2017 BP Guideline Definitions of Hypertension, by Age and Sex


Whelton PK et al. Hypertension. 2017 Whelton PK et aI. JACC. 2017

## Comparison of Prevalence using the 2003

 JNC 7 and 2017 BP Guideline Definitions of Hypertension, by Race-Ethnicity

Whelton PK et al. Hypertension. 2017
Whelton PK et al. JACC 2017

## BP THRESHOLDS and RECOMMENDATIONS for TREATMENT



## NONPHARMACOLOGIC (LIFESTYLE) <br> INTERVENTIONS FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HYPERTENSION

|  | Nonpharmacologic Intervention | Dose |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Weight loss | Weight/body fat | Ideal body weight best goal, but at least 1 kg reduction in body weight for most adults |
| Healthy diet | DASH dietary pattern | Diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products with low saturated and total fat |
| Reduce sodium intake | Dietary sodium | $<1,500 \mathrm{mg} /$ day optimal, but at least $1,000 \mathrm{mg}$ reduction in most adults |
| Enhance potassium intake | Dietary potassium | $3,500 \mathrm{mg} /$ day, preferably by consumption of a diet rich in potassium |
| Physical activity | Aerobic, dynamic resistance, isometric resistance | 90-150 min/week |
| Moderate alcohol intake | Alcohol consumption | Men: limit to 2 drinks daily Women: limit to 1 drink daily |

# BP Treatment Threshold and the use of ASCVD Risk Estimation to Guide Drug Treatment of Hypertension 



* ACC/AHA Pooled Cohort Equations to estimate 10-y risk of ASCVD. ASCVD was defined as a first nonfatal MI or CHD death, or fatal or nonfatal stroke among adults free of CVD.


## ACC/AHA Pooled Cohort Equations

## To estimate the 10-year risk of atherosclerotic CVD

Based on age, race sex, total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, treatment with a statin, systolic BP, treatment for hypertension, history of diabetes, current smoker, aspirin therapy
http://tools.acc.org/ASCVD-Risk-Estimator/

## CVD EVENTS AVOIDED BY BASELINE RISK AND MAGNITUDE OF SBP LOWERING



## Benefits of using both BP and ASCVD risk assessment in determining BP thresholds for antihypertensive drug therapy

- Treatment is focused on patients most likely to have events
- More CVD events are prevented
- Larger absolute CVD risk reduction with treatment
- Lower number needed-to-treat to prevent one CVD event
- More quality-adjusted life years are saved
- Lower cost of care


## BP GOAL FOR PATIENTS WITH HYPERTENSION

| COR | LOE | Recommendations |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SBP: } \\ & \text { B-R }{ }^{\text {SR }} \end{aligned}$ | 1. For adults with confirmed hypertension and known CVD or 10-year ASCVD event risk of $10 \%$ or higher, a BP target of less than $130 / 80 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}$ is recommended. |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DBP: } \\ & \text { C-EO } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| IIb | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { SBP: } \\ & \text { B-NR } \end{aligned}$ | 2. For adults with confirmed hypertension, without additional markers of increased CVD risk, a BP target of less than $130 / 80 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}$ may be reasonable. |

## MAJOR CV EVENTS



## SUMMARY: TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Lifestyle modification is the cornerstone of the treatment of hypertension.
- New thresholds for initiation of antihypertensive drug therapy in stage1 hypertension, use of ASCVD risk estimation to determine whether to treat with
- Nonpharmacological therapy alone ("low" risk patients)
- Antihypertensive drug therapy, in addition to " nonpharmacological therapy ("high" risk patients)
- New target for BP reduction during treatment of hypertension


## Recommendations for Older Persons

| Recommendations for Treatment of Hypertension in Older Persons References that support recommendations are summarized in Online Data Supplement 54. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COR | LOE | Recommendations |
| I | A | 3. Treatment of hypertension with a SBP treatment goal of less than 130 mm Hg is recommended for noninstitutionalized ambulatory communitydwelling adults ( $\geq 65$ years of age) with an average SBP of 130 mm Hg or higher). |
| Ila | C-EO | 4. For older adults ( $\geq 65$ years of age) with hypertension and a high burden of comorbidity and limited life expectancy, clinical judgment, patient preference, and a team-based approach to assess risk/benefit is reasonable for decisions regarding intensity of BP lowering and choice of antihypertensive drugs. |

## Rationale for Blood Pressure Goal of $<130 \mathrm{mmHg}$ in Older Adults

- Large number of older adults have been enrolled in BP lowering treatment trials
- BP lowering trials have shown:
> Decreased CVD morbidity and mortality


## > SPRINT Research Group. JAMA.2016;315:2673-2682.

$>$ No increased risk for falls or orthostatic hypotension
> SPRINT Research Group. JAMA.2016;315:2673-2682.
> ACCORD: Margolis KL et al. JGIM. 2014; 29:1599-606.

## Recommendations for Women

- Clinical trials are without significant difference in blood pressure lowering or outcomes by sex
- ALLHAT - no difference primary outcome; post hoc analysis showed higher stroke rate in women on Lisinopril
- SPRINT - statistically nonsignificant benefit in the intensive treatment group for women; enrollment of fewer women than expected
- Guidelines have some variation by age and comorbidities, but not by sex: target $\leq 130 / 80$
- CVD risk-based strategy accounts for sex


## Antihypertensive Agents Special Considerations

- ACEIs, ARBs, and DRIs should not be prescribed for women who are or intend to become pregnant
- Mineralocorticoid antagonists - ambiguous genitalia
- Women 3x more likely to develop ACE-related cough
- Women more likely to complain of CCB-related edema and minoxidil-induced hirsutism
- Diuretics useful in some elderly at-risk patients due to decreased risk of hip fracture
- Women more likely to develop diuretic-induced hyponatremia and hypokalemia
- Men more frequently develop gout from thiazides and sexual dysfunction from thiazides and beta blockers
Chobanian AV et al. Hypertension. 2003;42:1206-1252.


## Case Presentation

- 52 yo woman with no known history of HTN presents for yearly gynecologic follow-up
-BP 152/96 RUE, 150/92 LUE; repeat 144/88 RUE (last year 132/76)

Does this lady have hypertension?

- Confirm with 24 hour ABPM
- ASCVD risk = 2.2\% white; 5\% AA previous yr
-Are there special considerations for therapy?
- Initiate therapy if 24 hr average greater than

135/85 or office BP greater than 140/90 (stage 2)

- Thiazide diuretic, CCB, RAS blocker


## Summary

- Women have special issues related to BP and HTN throughout their reproductive cycle
- Endogenous estrogen appears to be protective in younger women
- HTN prevalence increases with age as does the risk for CV events
- ABPM is a useful tool to diagnose HTN and stratify CVD risk
- Treatment recommendations are similar for both sexes; however, individualize due to differences in adverse events
- RAS blockers are ABSOLUTELY contraindicated in pregnancy


