

### Measure Description

Patients 18-59 years of age who had a diagnosis of hypertension (HTN) and whose BP was adequately controlled (<140/90) during the measurement year.

Note: Patients are included in the measure if there was a claim/encounter with a diagnosis of hypertension on or before June 30<sup>th</sup> of the measurement year.

The most recent BP during the measurement year is used.

### Using Correct Billing Codes

#### Codes to identify Hypertension

Description	ICD-9 Code	ICD-10 Code*
Hypertension	401.0, 401.1, 401.9	I10

\* ICD-10 -CM codes are to be used on or after 10/1/2015.

### How to Improve HEDIS® Scores

- Calibrate the sphygmomanometer annually.
- Select the appropriately sized BP cuff.
- Upgrade to an automated blood pressure machine.
- If the BP is high at the office visit (140-90 or greater), take it again. HEDIS® allows us to take the lowest systolic and the lowest diastolic readings in the same day, and oftentimes the second reading is lower.
- Do Not round BP values up. If using an automated machine, record exact values.
- Review hypertension medication history and patient compliance, and consider modifying treatment plans for uncontrolled blood pressure as needed. Have the patient return in 3 months.
- Current guidelines recommend two BP drugs started at first visit if the initial reading is very high and is unlikely to respond to a single drug and lifestyle modification.