

INACCURACY OF BLOOD PRESSURE (BP)
MEASUREMENTS (Mm) BEFORE HEMODIALYSIS
(HD) TREATMENTS (RX). Paul G. Jenkins and Marilyn
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BP Mm prior to each HD RX is used as a measure of adequacy of hypertension (HTN) control in chronic HD patients (pts). We obtained serial upper extremity sitting BP Mm on 54 adult outpatient HD pts, as they arrived at their station (1stBP), after 5 minutes of sitting (2ndBP), and at the initiation of HD (3rdBP), using the automated device in the Fresenius 2008F HD machines. The 3rdBP was usually obtained within 5 minutes of the 2ndBP.

Pts (#)	1 st BP	2 nd BP	3 rd BP	P value
All patients (54)	145/76	139/73	134/71	<0.05
BP>140/90 (31)	165/84	154/77	149/76	<0.01
BP≤ 140/90 (23)	119/67	118/65	115/64	NS

Systolic HTN was present in 31 pts (57%) at 1stBP but in only 19 pts (35%) at 3rdBP. Diastolic HTN was present in 12 pts (22%) at 1stBP but in only 5 pts (9%) at 3rdBP. All pts normotensive at 1stBP remained so. There was a significant decrease in BP between the 1stBP and 3rdBP in the 54 pts and particularly in the 31 pts with high BP (>140/90). We conclude that pre-dialysis BP is often falsely elevated. We recommend that the pre-dialysis BP of record in HD pts should be the BP taken at the initiation of HD RX or after sitting for 5-10 minutes before the HD RX and not the BP taken when pts arrive at their dialysis station.