

DEFENITION

- Hypertension is defined as abnormally high blood pressure (more than 120/80 mm Hg) in the arteries. Persistent increase in systemic arterial blood pressure is known as hypertension.
- Usually a mean arterial pressure greater than in 110mm Hg under resting conditions is considered to be hypertensive; this level normally occurs when the diastolic blood pressure is greater than 90 mm Hg and the systolic pressure is greater than about 135-140 mm Hg.

- Hypertension is generally symptom less, but increases the risk of various other cardiovascular diseases like stroke, heart attack and non-cardiovascular diseases like renal damage, end stage of renal failure, etc.
- Hypertension is often called "the silent killer" because it generally has no symptoms until serious complications develop.

COMPLICATIONS

- Myocardial infarction
- Stroke
- Cerebral/brainstem infarction
- Cerebral haemorrhage
- Lacunar syndromes
- Multi infarct disease
- Hypertensive encephalopathy/ malignant hypertension
- Dissection aortic aneurysm
- Hypertensive nephroscelrosis
- Peripheral vascular disease

CLASSIFICATION

Based on JNC guidelines hypertension can be classified as:

BP CLASSIFICATION	SBP (mm/Hg)	DBP (mm/Hg)
NORMAL	<120	<80
PRE HYPERTENSION	120-139	80-89
STAGE 1 HYPERTENSION	140-159	90-99
STAGE 2 HYPERTENSION	≥160	≥100

TYPES OF HYPERTENSION

Primary hypertension:

Also called essential hypertension ,the cause of this type is unknown.

Secondary hypertension:

Secondary hypertension have specific identified cause for elevated B.P that is due to any other medical problem or medication.

Pseudo hypertension:

Osler's sign of pseudo hypertension, is a falsely elevated blood pressure reading due to calcification of blood vessels which cannot be compressed.

White coat hypertension:

A syndrome whereby a patient's feeling of anxiety in a medical environment results in an abnormally high reading when their blood pressure is measured.

ETIOLOGY

Essential(primary) hypertension:

- Increased peripheral resistance.
- ➢ stress , hormonal, neural
- ➢ Life style, Genetic.

Secondary hypertension:

- Renal disorders-Renin-Angiotensin, Sodium retention, ADH , Aldosterone.
- Endocrine-Cushing's, Pheochromocytoma, Acromegaly.
- Vascular- Coarctation of Aorta, Aortic insufficiency
- Neurogenic psychogenic , Polyneuritis.

RISK FACTORS

Modifiable

Excess dietary salt

Poor diet and obesity

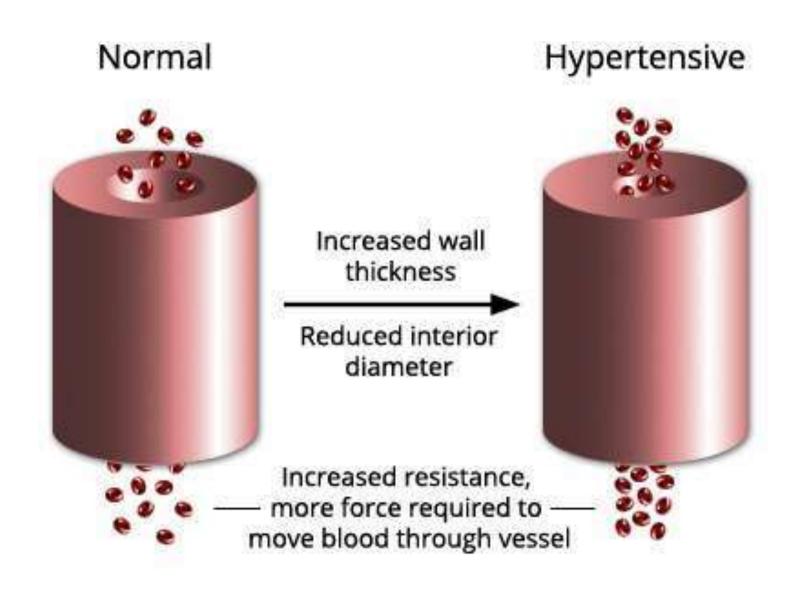
Excess alcohol consumption

Lack of physical activity

Deprivation and socio-economic status

Mental health and stress

Non-modifiable Age Ethnicity Genetics Gender



REGULATION OF BP

It is an area which attempt to explain mechanistically the causes of hypertension.

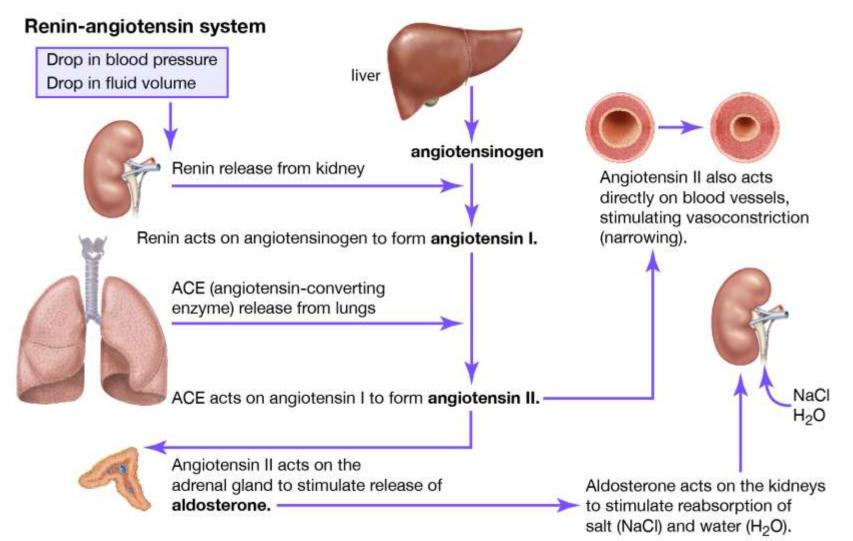
The BP is regulated by

• Humoral mechanism

The Renin Angiotensin Aldosterone System (RAAS) Natriuretic Hormone Insulin resistance and hyperinsulemia

- Neuronal regulation
- Peripheral autoregulation
- Vascular endothelial mechanism
- Electrolytes
- salts

RAAS mechanism



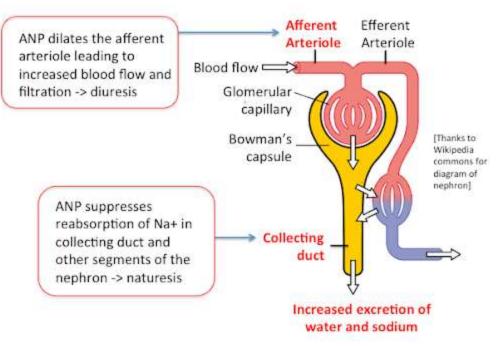
Natriuretic Hormone:

• It inhibits sodium and potassium ATPase, and interferes with

sodium transport across cell membrane.

• This hormone block the active transport of sodium out of

arteriolar smooth muscles.



Insulin resistance and hyperinsulemia:

- Increase insulin concentration led to hypertension because increase renal sodium retention enhanced symphathetic activity.
- Insulin also elevate BP by increasing intracellular calcium.

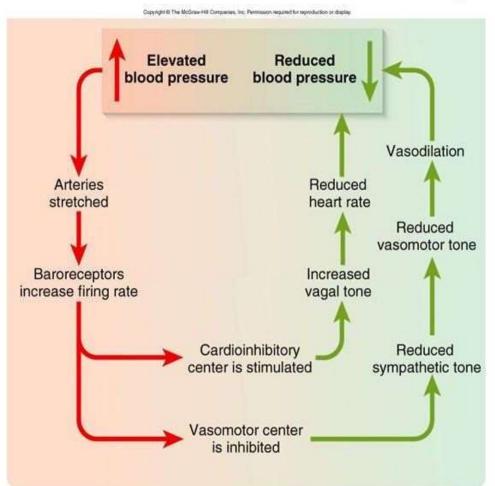
Neuronal Regulation

• Stimulation of presynaptic alpha receptors exerts negative inhibition on norepinephrine release.

• Baroreceptors are nerve endings lying in walls of large arterioles especially in carotid arteries and aortic arch.

• Purpose of this mechanism is to regulate BP and maintain homeostasis.

Baroreflex Negative Feedback Response



Peripheral Autoregulatory Component

- Renal defect in sodium excretion may develop which can then cause resetting of tissue autoregulatory process.
- Local regulatory process maintain adequate tissue oxygenation.

Vascular Endothelial Mechanism

- These regulatory functions are mediated by vasoactive substance that are synthesized by endothelial cells.
- Deficiency in local synthesis of vasodilating substance or excess vasoconstriction substance contribute to essential hypertension.

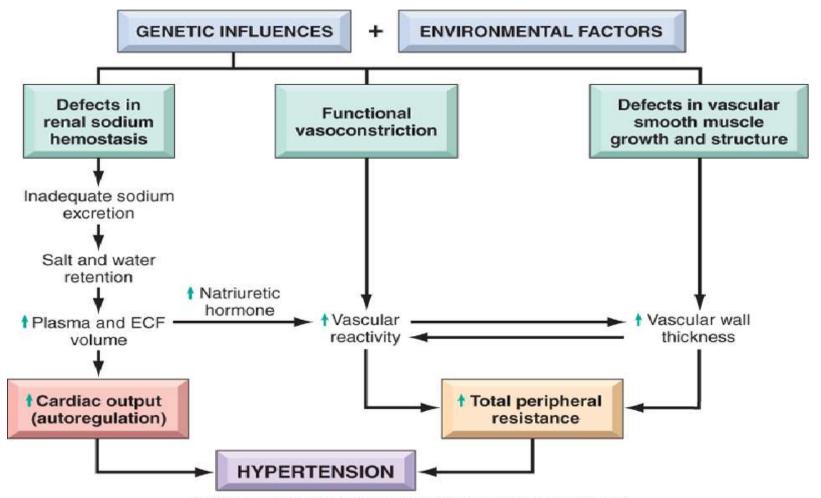
Electrolytes

- Population based studies indicate that high sodium diets are associated with high prevalence of hypertension.
- Calcium homeostasis also play an important role in pathogensis of hypertension.

Salt Sensitivity

- Effect of salt intake on blood pressure is not dependent on level of salt intake, but by salt sensitivity.
- Salt sensitive individuals will increase their blood pressure more than insensitive individuals.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY



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SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Hypertension is often called the "Silent killer" because it is frequently asymptomatic- meaning "without symptoms" until it has become severe and damage to organs have occurred.

In some people, **severe** high blood pressure can result in nosebleeds, headaches, or **dizziness**

A person with severe hypertension may have symptoms caused by the effects on the blood vessels which may be:

- Fatigue
- Dizziness

- Palpitations
- Reduced activity tolerance
- Irregular heart beat
- Blood in urine
- Pounding in your chest ,neck or ear
- Vision problem
- Angina (chest pain)
- Difficulty in breathing

DIAGNOSIS

BP can be measured by sphygmomanometer



