

HYPERTENSION (A43)

Malignant Hypertension: BP > 220 systolic or > 120 diastolic when accompanied by signs of serious organ damage such as: coronary ischemic discomfort, pulmonary edema, severe headache, vomiting, altered mental status, seizures, hematuria and generalized edema.

Pre-Eclampsia & Eclampsia: Pregnancy (usually > 20 weeks) or up to 6 weeks postpartum, BP > 140/110, confusion, headache, tremor, visual disturbances, epigastric pain, coma or diastolic BP > 100 even in the absence of other findings. Seizure activity indicates progression from pre-eclampsia to eclampsia.

	F	E	O	P	D
ASSESSMENT	X	X	X	X	
PULSE OXIMETRY: apply and monitor.		X	X	X	
CAPNOGRAPHY: apply and monitor.				X	
OXYGEN: if pulse oximetry <94% or signs respiratory distress or hypoperfusion.	X	X	X	X	
ECG MONITOR: lead placement may be delegated. Treat as indicated.				X	
VASCULAR ACCESS: IV/IO, rate as indicated				X	

Caution should be exercised in stroke victims, especially patients with long-standing high blood pressure. Rapid blood-pressure reduction can aggravate brain ischemia.

Consider:

- CORONARY ISCHEMIC CHEST DISCOMFORT A07
- PULMONARY EDEMA A12
- CVA A21
- PREECLAMPSIA/ECLAMPSIA A71

EFFECTIVE:
Provider Key:

November 1, 2023
F = First Responder/EMR
P = Paramedic

E = EMT O = EMT Local Optional SOP
D = Base Hospital Physician Order Required