PLANK 3

TOOL: Methodology for Identifying HTN Patients (PriMed Physicians)

PriMed Physicians Methodology for Identifying Hypertensive Patients

All patients with a current or previously assigned diagnosis of HTN in the billing system database who are seen in a given month are pulled. The diagnostic codes include all of the 401.0-401.9 codes and all of the 405.00-405.99 codes plus 997.91.

All of the encounters for patients who have a HTN code, per the above, are grouped by physician and randomized and 50 outpatient encounters per physician per month are identified. The chart is pulled for each encounter (the encounters are specific to a date of service) and the findings recorded.

There is a further check then to see whether the patient has a diabetes diagnosis or a renal failure diagnosis in which case the threshold BP is reduced to ≤129/79 per JNC-7.

Each patient is either "at goal" or "not at goal" in exact terms. Even a BP that is one point in excess of the JNC-7 standard is "not at goal" (i.e. a non-diabetic patient with a BP of 140/89 would be "not at goal").