



Step 1: Evaluate for Evidence of Hypertensive Emergency

- Brain: ICH, PRES, HTN encephalopathy
- Eyes: Flame hemorrhages, papilledema
- Cardiac: MI, dissection
- Pulmonary: Pulmonary edema (often associated w/ diastolic failure)
- Renal: AKI

Step 2: Treatment

Hypertensive Emergency

- Labetalol IV push 10-20mg
- Hydralazine IV push 10-20mg
- Nitroglycerin SL/gtt
- Nicardipine gtt

vs

Hypertensive Urgency

- Hydralazine PO or IV 10-20mg
- Labetalol IV 10-20mg
- Lisinopril 10-20mg
- Clonidine 100mcg + Amlodipine 5mg
- HCTZ 12.5-25mg
- Restart home meds
- Nothing

Step 3: Disposition/Prescriptions

Hypertensive Emergency

- Admit

Hypertensive Urgency – start new home med:

- Calcium Channel Blocker (Amlodipine)
- Thiazide (HCTZ)
- ACE/ARB (Lisinopril or Losartan)
- Nothing: could let PMD make decision