

The validation of BP measurement devices for clinical accuracy

The AMA is committed to reducing the impact of cardiovascular disease in the U.S.

Through AMA MAP BP, we are helping physicians across the nation to improve hypertension control rates for their patient populations and save lives.

An important aspect of the diagnosis and treatment of hypertension is physician confidence in the accuracy and reliability of blood pressure (BP) measurements. In the U.S., physicians have not had access to readily available information regarding the clinical accuracy of BP measurement devices.

To help fill this gap, hypertension experts began meeting in 2015 to lay the framework for what would constitute validation criteria for clinical accuracy of BP measurement devices. In consultation with this group and others, the AMA developed a set of criteria (VDL Criteria) to aid in determining which BP measurement devices in the U.S. have been validated for clinical accuracy. The AMA enlisted the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago to assist in the design and management of an independent process to determine which BP devices meet the VDL Criteria.

An independent committee comprised of physician experts in the BP field assesses whether a BP device satisfies the VDL Criteria for validation of clinical accuracy. This independent review process results in a formal list of BP devices that have been validated for clinical accuracy (the US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing™ or VDL™).

For more information on VDL Criteria and how to find validated blood pressure devices and view the latest US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing™, visit www.validatebp.org.

Disclaimer: AMA does not receive funding from any third party in relation to the development of the VDL Criteria, and does not receive funding from any BP device manufacturer or other third party in relation to the VDL process.