

# Hypertension-linked ER visits common and increasing

November 18 2015

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(HealthDay)—Hypertension-related emergency department visits are relatively common and increased from 2006 to 2012, according to a study published in the Dec. 1 issue of *The American Journal of Cardiology*.

Candace D. McNaughton M.D., M.P.H., from the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., and colleagues examined the burden of hypertension-related emergency department visits, as well as the associated patient and hospital characteristics. Hypertension-related emergency department visits were identified using the Nationwide Emergency Department Sample from 2006 to 2012; population-based rates for each study year were determined by linking to U.S. Census Bureau July population estimates.

The researchers found that during the seven-year study period there were 165,946,807 hypertension-related emergency department visits (23.6 percent of all adult visits); hypertension was the primary diagnosis for 0.9 percent of all adult emergency department visits. Per year there was a 5.2 percent increase in the estimated yearly incidence rate for hypertension-related visits (P safety net hospitals and among uninsured patients increased).

"These data indicate that hypertension-related [emergency department](#) visits are common and increasing," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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Citation: Hypertension-linked ER visits common and increasing (2015, November 18) retrieved 24 April 2024 from  
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