

Most IV HTN meds ordered for patients with SBP

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(HealthDay)—Intravenous (IV) antihypertensives are often ordered and administered for patients with asymptomatic uncontrolled blood pressure (BP) levels that are not associated with immediate cardiovascular risk, according to a study published online Nov. 12 in the *Journal of Hospital Medicine*.

Melissa Lipari, Pharm.D., from Wayne State University in Detroit, and colleagues examined the frequency of prescribing and administering episodic IV antihypertensives and outcome in non-critically ill, hospitalized patients. Data were included for 246 patients with an episodic IV antihypertensive order.

Of the patients with an episodic IV antihypertensive order, 172 received 458 doses, with 48 percent receiving a single dose. The researchers



found that more than 98 and 84.5 percent of episodic IV antihypertensive doses were administrated for systolic <u>blood pressure</u> (SBP) of

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