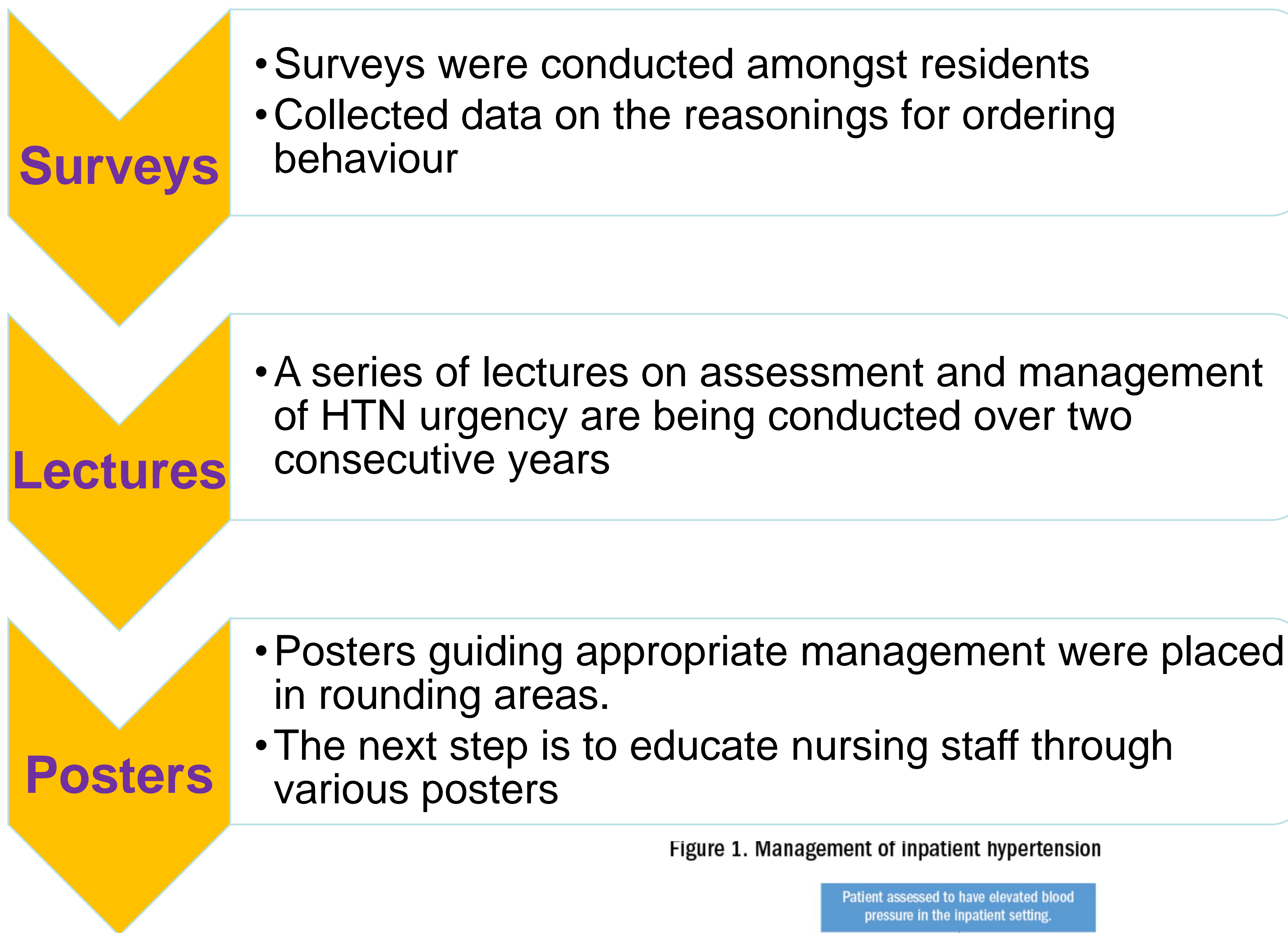


CARE SETTING

Asymptomatic severe hypertension is a highly prevalent problem (up to 70%) in inpatient setting and these readings might not be a true reflection of ambulatory blood pressures. Generally, there is no indication for immediate intervention with IV antihypertensives (IV labetalol, IV hydrazine, IV enalapril) to bring down BP rapidly and this practice could cause harm however it is not uncommon to see IV antihypertensives ordered without indication.

Sequential Interventions are being proposed with an aim to understand why providers do this and to educate providers regarding appropriate and inappropriate use of IV antihypertensives. Current interventions are planned for patients treated on 2 south internal medicine department in Vidant Medical Center.

DETAILS & INTERVENTIONS



STRENGTHS

Avoids unnecessary interventions

- Inappropriate IV hypertensive use is not only dangerous but expensive

Educates Staff

- Created a preventive measure plan and provides a safe environments for staff to consult amongst each other

OPPORTUNITIES

Decreased spending

- Decrease the overall hospital bill for the patient
- Increases time that staff can spend appropriately for patient treatment

Better Patient care

- Can focus on the acute causes of hypertension
- Mental health interventions

Fewer liabilities

- CVA, Hypotension, falls, increased Length of Stay

RECOMMENDATIONS

Continue Preventative Measures

- Need continuous reinforcement of the preventative measures
- Allows for sustainability

Address medical students in training

- Allows for easier transition
- Trainees can easily apply the measures

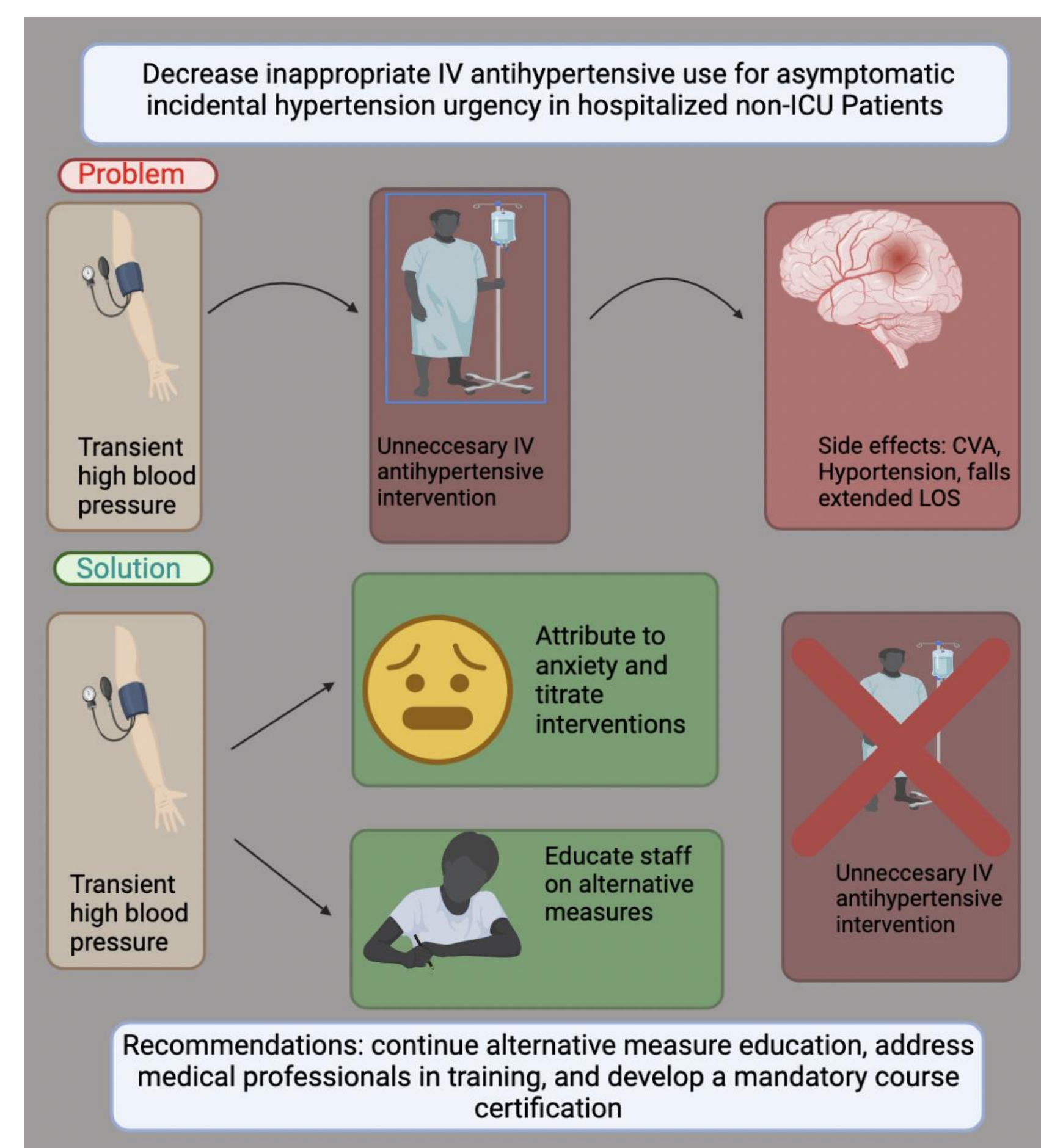
Develop a mandatory course

- Certification of staff
- Mandates that the preventative measures are understood

PROJECT AIM

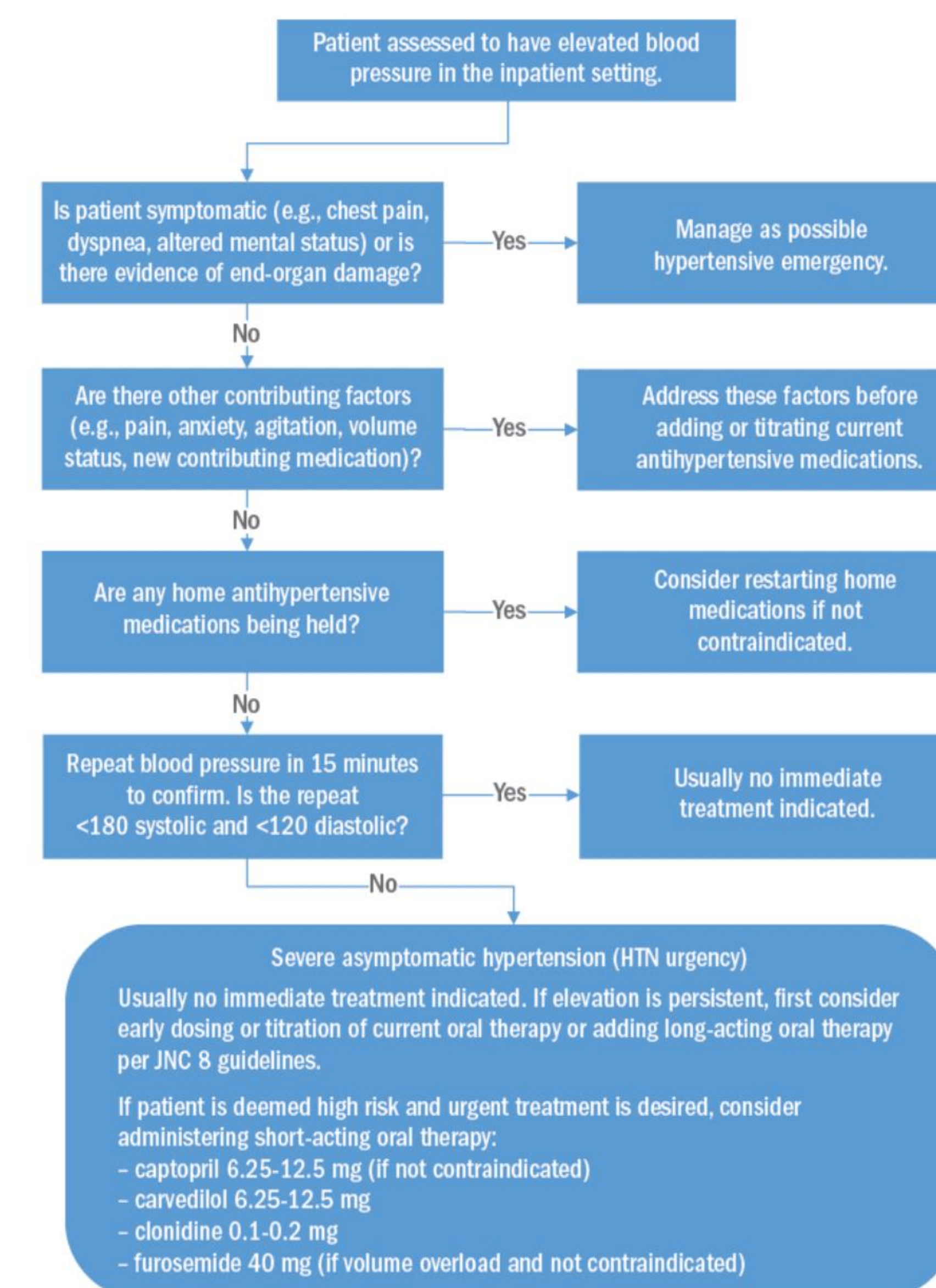
Reduce inappropriate IV antihypertensive use

30% reduction in 3 months in 2 south internal medicine patients



A graphical abstract describing the project

Figure 1. Management of inpatient hypertension



An example of lessons on alternative treatment measures given during education to the residents.