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PP.45.26 TRENDS IN PREVALENCE, AWARENESS, TREATMENT AND CONTROL OF HYPERTENSION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES (AFRICAN REGION) BETWEEN 1989 AND 2013

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**Objective:** We assessed the awareness, treatment and control of hypertension in the Seychelles between 1989 and 2013. In the Seychelles, health care is free to all inhabitants within a national health system, inclusive all hypertension medications.

**Design and method:** Four surveys were conducted in 1989, 1994, 2004 and 2013 (Seychelles Heart Studies I, II, III and IV) in random samples of the population aged 25-64 (N >1000 and participation rate >75% in each survey) acceptance of the program, though no objective index could be calculated. In total, 15% of device measurements were above high normal values and would correspond to either newly diagnosed HTN (second measurement required) or to poorly controlled known HTN. It should be stressed that 53 women without HTN who completed the questionnaire had abnormal BP values, including the 29 women who also contacted the research team. It could be speculated that approximately 2% of women would be first diagnosed with HTN following the completion of the initial phase of the screening program.

**Conclusions:** Hypertension screening in the hair salon setting was proved to be conveniently applicable and well accepted both by owners and by customers and could lead to the new diagnosis of hypertension for 2% of the female clients. Further research is warranted to assess the effectiveness of the program.

	Device Measurements	Completed Questionnaires	Team Contacts
n	1938	683	119
mean SBP (mmHg)	138	145	148
mean DPB (mmHg)	76	83	85
history of HTN (n, %)	n/a	396 (58%)	63 (53%)
mean age (years)	n/a	48	44
<b>SBP<math>\geq</math>140mmHg and/or DBP<math>\geq</math>90mmHg</b>			
with hHTN (n, %)	n/a	97 (14%)	52 (44%)
no hHTN (n, %)	n/a	53 (8%)	29 (24%)
total	291 (15%)	150 (22%)	81 (68%)
<i>SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; HTN, hypertension; hHTN, history of hypertension</i>			