How low do you go? An investigation of treatment thresholds for intraoperative hypotension in elder patients in the UK

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Introduction

- Intraoperative hypotension (IOH) is prevalent¹, associated with morbidity and mortality²
- Therapy requires consensus on the treatment threshold.
- Aim: to identify commonly applied treatment thresholds for IOH

Methods

- Ethical and regulatory approvals were granted.
- Delivered by RAFT anaesthetic trainees.
- Survey of all anaesthetists who provided GA or RA to patients' aged ≥65 years old over a 48hr period

Results

- 2643 anaesthetists were surveyed from 147 centres.
- 59.2% were consultants and 15.0% registrars

Blood Pressure Target		N (%) using target	Median value (25 th – 75 th quartile) triggering vasopressor use
Systolic BP	Absolute value	1832 (69.3%)	90.0mmHg (80.0 – 95.0)
	Relative reduction (%)	1929 (73.0%)	20.0% (20.0 – 30.0)
Mean BP	Absolute value	1597 (60.4%)	60.0mmHg (55.0 – 65.0)
	Relative reduction (%)	1365 (48.4%)	20.0% (20.0 – 20.0)

Table 1: Stated BP targets for vasopressor use

Figure 1: participating centres

Conclusions

- Most anaesthetists use a combination of targets, both absolute and relative
- The favoured 20% drop is less than the stated absolute drop
- Adherence to a relative target might encourage tighter blood pressure control

References 1. Wickham A et al. Periop Med 2016;5:12. 2. Monk T et al. Anesthesiology 2015;123:307