HEARTS IN THE AMERICAS

Regional Workshop

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
May 14-17, 2019

Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization
Americas
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Blood Pressure Devices: Burden of the Problem and Potential Solutions

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Burden of the problem?

(EXTENT OF NON-VALIDATED BP DEVICES)

Mixed…….
We don’t know

What is known

- Mix of aneroid and automated BP devices
- Some countries had mostly aneroid devices (mainly for clinic use)
- Some home BP monitoring using automated devices (prevalence N/K)
- Resistance from doctors to move from auscultation to automated devices (mistrust/taking away independence) – educational needs
- Mixed situations (Cuba, developed own monitor/Panama, seeking validation of Omron devices for HEARTS/Trin&Tob, auditing)
- Device validation generally not considered (hits and misses)
- Confusion around validation (do we need to do our own?)

Needs Solutions

- Audits at health service level to determine situation and needs
- Access to validated device listings
- Google search “Make…. Model…. validation Medaval” (preferred) or https://medaval.ie/ (not preferred; case sensitive & may miss)

Audit Project

- Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, PAHO, UWI, UTAS
- Quality assurance audit all Primary Care Centres (TT=105/SL=36)
  - Survey/questionnaire
  - Validated BP and blood glucose monitors at point of care (+knowledge)
  - Inform policy and needs (publish)
  - Develop policy/regulations: template resource for other HEARTS countries