

## 2001 Canadian Hypertension Recommendations: Corrections and Clarifications

Earlier this year *CJHP* published an article concerning the 2001 Canadian hypertension recommendations.<sup>1</sup>

Because of a typographic error, the section “Pharmacotherapy” (page 48) contained what appeared to be contradictory information about the role of  $\alpha$ -blockers. The fourth and fifth sentences of this section should read as follows:

$\beta$ -Blockers are recommended as first-line therapy in those under age 60, but not in those age 60 or over.  $\alpha$ -Blockers are not recommended as first-line therapy, and short-acting calcium-channel blockers should not be used as antihypertensive agents.

In Table 6, “Considerations in the individualization of antihypertensive therapy” (page 49), one of the

recommendations might be open to misinterpretation. In the row beginning “Renal disease” the “Notes and cautions” column should read “Use caution in administering ACE inhibitors if bilateral renal artery stenosis is suspected or confirmed”, rather than “Give ACE inhibitors if there is bilateral renal artery stenosis.”

In the same table, in the row for left ventricular hypertrophy, the first line of the entry in column 3 was omitted. The entry should read “Does not affect initial treatment recommendations”, rather than just “recommendations”.

The correct version of the affected rows of this table are reproduced below.

### Reference

1. Canadian Hypertension Recommendations Working Group. The 2001 Canadian hypertension recommendations: What's new and what's not so new but is still important. *Can J Hosp Pharm* 2002;55:46-51.

**Table 6. Considerations in the Individualization of Antihypertensive Therapy [corrected excerpt]**

Risk Factor or Disease	Initial Therapy	Second-Step Therapy	Notes and Cautions
Renal disease	ACE inhibitors (diuretics as additive therapy)	Combinations of additional agents	Use caution in administering ACE inhibitors if bilateral renal artery stenosis is suspected or confirmed
Left ventricular hypertrophy	Does not affect initial treatment recommendations	Does not affect initial treatment recommendations	Avoid hydralazine and minoxidil.

ACE = angiotensin-converting enzyme

