

Web Table 1 Results of sensitivity analysis

	Costs (£)	QALYs	Incremental cost (£)	Incremental QALYs	ICER (£/QALY)
<i>Varying time horizon</i>					
<i>20 years</i>					
Standard target	8,962	7.1032			
Intensive BP lowering	8,794	7.1762	-168	0.0729	Dominant
<i>10 years</i>					
Standard target	5,092	5.1861			
Intensive BP lowering	5,012	5.2191	-80	0.0329	Dominant
<i>7 years</i>					
Standard target	3,387	4.0737			
Intensive BP lowering	3,362	4.0916	-25	0.0179	Dominant
<i>6 years</i>					
Standard target	2,786	3.6247			
Intensive BP lowering	2,779	3.6381	-7	0.0134	Dominant
<i>3 years</i>					
Standard target	1,270	2.0192			
Intensive BP lowering	1,286	2.0225	15	0.0034	4,590
<i>2 years</i>					
Standard target	834	1.3954			
Intensive BP lowering	850	1.3967	15	0.0012	11,707
<i>1 year</i>					
Standard target	409	0.7233			
Intensive BP lowering	419	0.7234	10	0.00007	141,231

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*Varying acute and chronic costs simultaneously*

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*30 percent decrease*

Standard target	7,173	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	7,177	7.5539	4	0.0820	44

*30 percent increase*

Standard target	12,604	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	12,263	7.5539	-341	0.0820	Dominant

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*30 per cent increase in the initial cost for the Intensive BP lowering arm*

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Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	10,093	7.5539	204	0.0820	2,492

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*Varying the intensive BP lowering arm according to the 95% CI of the BP reduction difference achieved at 12 months*

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*0.2 points difference*

Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	10,188	7.4824	299	0.0104	28,613

*5.7 points difference*

Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	9,345	7.6125	-543	0.1406	Dominant

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*Reduction in quality of life due to antihypertensive medication in the intensive BP lowering arm*

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*1 percent reduction*

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Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	9,720	7.4944	-169	0.0225	Dominant
<i>2 percent reduction</i>					
Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	9,720	7.4349	-169	-0.0371	** 4,552
<i>5 percent reduction</i>					
Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	9,720	7.2562	-169	-0.2157	** 782
<i>10 percent reduction</i>					
Standard target	9,889	7.4719			
Intensive BP lowering	9,720	6.9584	-169	-0.5135	** 328

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\*\* These positive ICERs represent points in the south-west quadrant of the incremental cost-effectiveness plane: they indicate a cost saving accompanied by a loss of QALYs. In each case, the ICER is below all recognised thresholds: if these were to be the true values, this would indicate that the cost saving was not worth making.