

## Supplementary Online Content

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This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

## eMethods. Statistical Software Programs Used in Analyses

The following programs were employed using SAS version 9.3 (SAS Institute Inc):

- *PROC MI* for multiple imputation

The following programs were employed using Stata version 14.1 (StataCorp):

- *psmatch2* for propensity score matching
- *pstest* for assessing propensity score covariate balance
- *stcrreg* for competing risk regressions
- *stcox* for Cox proportional hazard regressions
- *regression* with post-estimation margins and bootstrapping for blood pressure difference-in-differences analyses
- *evaluate* for e-value estimation.

Detailed software code is available by request to the corresponding author.

**eTable 1.** Serious Adverse Event Outcome Definitions

Outcome	ICD-9 Codes
Injurious fall <sup>a</sup>	Fall-related E-code code (817, 824, 880-888, or 927) <b>AND</b> an injury code (800 to 994.99).
Acute kidney injury	584.X Acute kidney failure
Syncope	780.2 Syncope
	992.1 Heat Syncope
	458.0 Orthostatic hypotension
Electrolyte disturbances	276.0 Hyperosmolality and/or hypernatremia
	276.1 Hyposmolality and/or hyponatremia
	276.2 Acidosis
	276.3 Alkalosis
	276.4 Mixed acid-base balance disorder
	276.7 Hyperpotassemia
	276.8 Hypopotassemia
	276.9 Electrolyte and fluid disorders not elsewhere classified
Hypotension	458.1 Iatrogenic hypotension NEC
	458.8 Hypotension NEC
	458.9 Hypotension NOS
Medication poisoning <sup>b</sup>	972.6 Poisoning by other antihypertensive agents
	972.5 Poisoning by other vasodilators
	972.3 Poisoning by ganglion-blocking agents
	974.0 Poisoning by mercurial diuretics
	974.1 Poisoning by purine derivative diuretics
	974.4 Poisoning by other diuretics
	E944.0 Mercurial diuretics causing adverse effects in therapeutic use
	E942.0 Cardiac rhythm regulators causing adv eff in therapeutic use
	E942.5 Other vasodilators causing adverse effects in therapeutic use
	E942.6 Other antihypertensive agents causing adverse effects in therapeutic use
	E942.3 Ganglion-blocking agents causing adverse effects in therapeutic use
	E944.1 Purine derivative diuretics causing adverse effects in therapeutic use
	E944.4 Other diuretics causing adverse effects in therapeutic use

<sup>a</sup> Source: Tinetti ME, Baker DI, King M, et al. Effect of dissemination of evidence in reducing injuries from falls. *N Engl J Med.* 2008;359(3):252-61.

<sup>b</sup> Source: Poudel DR, Acharya P, Ghimire S, Dhital R, Bharati R. Burden of hospitalizations related to adverse drug events in the USA: a retrospective analysis from large inpatient database. *Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf.* 2017;26(6):635-641.

**eTable 2.** Cardiovascular Event Outcome Definitions

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>ICD-9 Codes</b>
Acute myocardial infarction	410.xx excluding those with 410.x2
Acute coronary syndrome / Unstable angina	411.1 Intermediate coronary syndrome
	411.8 Other acute and subacute forms of ischemic heart disease
	411.81 Acute coronary occlusion without myocardial infarction
	411.89 Other acute and subacute forms of ischemic heart disease, other
Heart failure	402.01 Malignant hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
	402.11 Benign hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
	402.91 Unspecified hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
	404.01 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, malignant, with heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.03 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, malignant, with heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	404.11 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, benign, with heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.13 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, benign, with heart failure and chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	404.91 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, unspecified, with heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.93 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, unspecified, with heart failure and chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	428.x Heart failure
Stroke	362.31 central retinal artery occlusion
	362.32 retinal arterial branch occlusion
	362.33 partial retinal arterial occlusion
	362.34 transient retinal arterial occlusion
	430.xx, Subarachnoid hemorrhage
	431.xx Intracerebral hemorrhage
	432.xx Other and unspecified intracranial hemorrhage
	433.xx Occlusion and stenosis of precerebral arteries
	434.xx Occlusion of cerebral arteries
	435.xx Transient cerebral ischemia
	436.xx Acute, but ill-defined, cerebrovascular disease
Hypertension	401.x Essential hypertension
	402.00 Malignant hypertensive heart disease without heart failure
	402.10 Benign hypertensive heart disease without heart failure
	402.90 Unspecified hypertensive heart disease without heart failure
	403.x Hypertensive chronic kidney disease
	404.00 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, malignant, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.02 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, malignant, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	404.10 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, benign, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.12 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, benign, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	404.90 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, unspecified, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage I through stage IV, or unspecified
	404.92 Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease, unspecified, without heart failure and with chronic kidney disease stage V or end stage renal disease
	405.x Secondary hypertension
	437.2 Hypertensive encephalopathy

**Sources:**

Dharmarajan K, Wang Y, Lin Z, et al. Association of Changing Hospital Readmission Rates With Mortality Rates After Hospital Discharge. *JAMA*. 2017;318(3):270-278.

Hawn MT, Graham LA, Richman JS, et al. Risk of major adverse cardiac events following noncardiac surgery in patients with coronary stents. *JAMA*. 2013;310(14):1462-72.

**eTable 3.** Complete Baseline Characteristics Before and After Propensity Score Matching

	Before Propensity Score Matching			After Propensity Score Matching <sup>a</sup>		
Characteristics	Intensified (N=2074)	Not intensified (N=12841)	SMD	Intensified (N=2028)	Not intensified (N=2028)	SMD
Age, mean (SD), y	76.8 (8.4)	76.6 (8.6)	-0.02	76.8 (8.4)	76.6 (8.7)	-0.02
Female sex, No. (%)	52 (2.5)	326 (2.5)	0.00	51 (2.5)	44 (2.2)	0.02
Race/ethnicity, No. (%)						
White	1450 (69.9)	10036 (78.2)	0.20	1428 (70.4)	1432 (70.6)	0.03
Black	507 (24.4)	2192 (17.1)		487 (24)	482 (23.8)	
Hispanic	55 (2.7)	222 (1.7)		52 (2.6)	45 (2.2)	
Other	62 (3)	391 (3)		61 (3)	69 (3.4)	
Median zip code household income, mean (SD), \$ <sup>b</sup>	45950 (19949)	47573 (18939)	0.08	46052 (20032)	45450 (18990)	-0.03
VISN, No. (%) <sup>c</sup>						
New England Health Care System	54 (2.6)	576 (4.5)	0.19	53 (2.6)	53 (2.6)	0.09
Healthcare New York/New Jersey	126 (6.1)	781 (6.1)		124 (6.1)	129 (6.4)	
VISN4 Network	69 (3.3)	517 (4)		68 (3.4)	71 (3.5)	
Capitol Healthcare Network	85 (4.1)	477 (3.7)		82 (4)	67 (3.3)	
Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network	114 (5.5)	804 (6.3)		109 (5.4)	97 (4.8)	
Southeast Network	114 (5.5)	606 (4.7)		112 (5.5)	119 (5.9)	
Sunshine Healthcare Network	214 (10.3)	1234 (9.6)		212 (10.5)	216 (10.7)	
MidSouth Healthcare Network	149 (7.2)	923 (7.2)		147 (7.2)	151 (7.4)	
Healthcare System	61 (2.9)	342 (2.7)		58 (2.9)	68 (3.4)	
Great Lakes Healthcare System	205 (9.9)	1077 (8.4)		197 (9.7)	213 (10.5)	
Heartland Network	89 (4.3)	640 (5)		87 (4.3)	90 (4.4)	
South Central VA Healthcare Network	283 (13.6)	1396 (10.9)		273 (13.5)	277 (13.7)	
Heart of Texas Healthcare System	92 (4.4)	621 (4.8)		92 (4.5)	83 (4.1)	
Southwest Healthcare Network	87 (4.2)	558 (4.3)		86 (4.2)	82 (4)	
Rocky Mountain Network	33 (1.6)	336 (2.6)		33 (1.6)	23 (1.1)	
Northwest Health Network	41 (2)	392 (3.1)		41 (2)	44 (2.2)	
Sierra Pacific Network	85 (4.1)	501 (3.9)		85 (4.2)	73 (3.6)	
Desert Pacific Healthcare Network	93 (4.5)	615 (4.8)		90 (4.4)	97 (4.8)	
Midwest Healthcare Network	80 (3.9)	445 (3.5)		79 (3.9)	75 (3.7)	
Pre-admission clinical characteristics, mean (SD) <sup>b</sup>						
Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	27.9 (6.7)	27.6 (6.5)	-0.05	27.9 (6.7)	28.1 (6.7)	0.02
Pulse, bpm	73.6 (12.7)	74.6 (12.5)	0.08	73.6 (12.7)	73.9 (12.5)	0.02
Systolic BP, mmHg	138.6 (19)	132.3 (17.1)	-0.34	138.3 (18.9)	137.9 (18.9)	-0.02
Characteristics of index hospitalization						
Length of stay, mean (SD), d	6.8 (7.3)	5.4 (6.7)	-0.2	6.7 (7.1)	7.1 (11.6)	0.04
Year of hospitalization, No. (%)						
2011	786 (37.9)	4761 (37.1)	0.03	766 (37.8)	774 (38.2)	0.03
2012	681 (32.8)	4153 (32.3)		668 (32.9)	683 (33.7)	
2013	607 (29.3)	3927 (30.6)		594 (29.3)	571 (28.2)	

Inpatient SBP, No (%) <sup>b</sup>						
>3 reading < 90 mmHg	45 (2.2)	419 (3.3)	0.07	44 (2.2)	42 (2.1)	0.01
>3 readings ≥ 160 mmHg	719 (34.7)	2041 (15.9)	0.44	711 (35.1)	760 (37.5)	-0.06
>3 readings ≥ 180 mmHg	349 (16.8)	428 (3.3)	0.46	311 (15.3)	278 (13.7)	0.06
Inpatient pulse, No (%) <sup>b</sup>						
>3 readings < 60 bpm	464 (22.4)	2073 (16.1)	0.16	447 (22)	437 (21.5)	0.01
>3 readings ≥ 100 bpm	96 (4.6)	743 (5.8)	0.05	95 (4.7)	93 (4.6)	0.00
Discharge diagnosis, No (%)						
Pneumonia	1045 (50.4)	6681 (52)	0.05	1027 (50.6)	1019 (50.2)	0.01
Urinary tract infection	790 (38.1)	4849 (37.8)		771 (38)	773 (38.1)	
Venous thromboembolism	239 (11.5)	1311 (10.2)		230 (11.3)	236 (11.6)	
<b>Laboratory values at index hospitalization discharge, mean (SD)<sup>b, d</sup></b>						
Hemoglobin, g/dL	11.5 (1.9)	11.5 (1.8)	-0.02	11.5 (1.9)	11.5 (1.8)	-0.02
Platelets, k/mm3	234.2 (102.2)	231.8 (101.4)	-0.02	234.2 (101.9)	236.1 (101.2)	0.02
Sodium, mEq/L	138.2 (3.5)	138.1 (3.5)	-0.01	138.2 (3.5)	138.2 (3.7)	0.02
Potassium, mEq/L	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	-0.06	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	
Blood urea nitrogen, mg/dL	23.9 (15.1)	21.5 (12.7)	-0.17	23.8 (15.1)	23.9 (15.2)	0.01
Carbon dioxide, mEq/L	26.3 (4.1)	26 (3.9)	-0.08	26.3 (4.1)	26.4 (4.1)	0.02
Estimated glomerular filtration rate, mL/min per 1.73 m2	66.3 (32.1)	71.2 (31.8)	0.16	66.5 (32.1)	66.8 (32.2)	0.01
<b>Health Care Use, No. (%)</b>						
Medicare utilization in prior year	565 (27.2)	3603 (28.1)	0.02	557 (27.5)	569 (28.1)	0.01
No. ED visits in the year preceding index hospitalization						
0	853 (41.1)	5335 (41.5)	0.03	832 (41)	831 (41)	0.01
1	536 (25.8)	3159 (24.6)		527 (26)	533 (26.3)	
2	293 (14.1)	1792 (14)		283 (14)	281 (13.9)	
>3	392 (18.9)	2555 (19.9)		386 (19)	383 (18.9)	
No. hospitalizations in the year preceding index hospitalization						
0	744 (35.9)	4330 (33.7)	0.05	726 (35.8)	683 (33.7)	0.06
1	449 (21.6)	2946 (22.9)		439 (21.6)	471 (23.2)	
2	310 (14.9)	1914 (14.9)		301 (14.8)	322 (15.9)	
>3	571 (27.5)	3651 (28.4)		562 (27.7)	552 (27.2)	
≥ 8 admission medications (polypharmacy)	914 (44.1)	6387 (49.7)	0.11	910 (44.9)	921 (45.4)	0.01
Serious fall in prior year	94 (4.5)	569 (4.4)	0.00	93 (4.6)	89 (4.4)	0.01
<b>Antihypertensive use patterns, No (%)</b>						
Admission antihypertensive use and adherence <sup>e</sup>						
0 antihypertensives	526 (25.4)	3077 (24)	0.19	501 (24.7)	508 (25)	0.05
1 antihypertensive, PDC<80%	270 (13)	1289 (10)		261 (12.9)	278 (13.7)	
1 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	282 (13.6)	2255 (17.6)		281 (13.9)	294 (14.5)	
2 antihypertensives, PDC<80%	221 (10.7)	1032 (8)		215 (10.6)	207 (10.2)	
2 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	327 (15.8)	2378 (18.5)		324 (16)	302 (14.9)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC<80%	138 (6.7)	668 (5.2)		136 (6.7)	140 (6.9)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	310 (14.9)	2142 (16.7)		310 (15.3)	299 (14.7)	

No. antihypertensives filled in year prior to index hospitalization						
0	232 (11.2)	2071 (16.1)	0.21	232 (11.4)	229 (11.3)	0.03
1	460 (22.2)	3324 (25.9)		455 (22.4)	479 (23.6)	
2	604 (29.1)	3577 (27.9)		589 (29)	583 (28.7)	
3	418 (20.2)	2320 (18.1)		410 (20.2)	393 (19.4)	
4	242 (11.7)	1054 (8.2)		231 (11.4)	234 (11.5)	
5	118 (5.7)	495 (3.9)		111 (5.5)	110 (5.4)	
<b>Cardiovascular medication classes used at hospital admission, No (%)<sup>f</sup></b>						
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	656 (31.6)	4302 (33.5)	0.04	650 (32.1)	648 (32)	0.00
Angiotensin II inhibitors	175 (8.4)	1121 (8.7)	0.01	174 (8.6)	167 (8.2)	0.01
Beta blockers	883 (42.6)	5481 (42.7)	0.00	873 (43)	854 (42.1)	0.02
Calcium channel blockers	587 (28.3)	3759 (29.3)	0.02	579 (28.6)	584 (28.8)	0.01
Non-loop diuretics	423 (20.4)	2528 (19.7)	0.02	416 (20.5)	415 (20.5)	0.00
Loop diuretics	332 (16)	2396 (18.7)	0.07	331 (16.3)	309 (15.2)	0.03
Other antihypertensives	230 (11.1)	1046 (8.1)	0.10	224 (11)	205 (10.1)	0.03
Alpha blockers	641 (30.9)	4121 (32.1)	0.03	631 (31.1)	627 (30.9)	0.00
Anti-lipemic agents	1040 (50.1)	6890 (53.7)	0.07	1025 (50.5)	1032 (50.9)	0.01
Antianginals	231 (11.1)	1303 (10.1)	0.03	227 (11.2)	220 (10.8)	0.01
Anti-arrhythmics	20 (1)	102 (0.8)	0.02	20 (1)	14 (0.7)	0.03
Digitalis	34 (1.6)	243 (1.9)	0.02	34 (1.7)	26 (1.3)	0.03
<b>Other medication classes used at hospital admission, No. (%)<sup>f</sup></b>						
Anti-histamines	270 (13)	1850 (14.4)	0.04	268 (13.2)	274 (13.5)	0.01
Anti-microbials	86 (4.1)	612 (4.8)	0.03	86 (4.2)	83 (4.1)	0.01
Anti-neoplastics	62 (3)	451 (3.5)	0.03	61 (3)	59 (2.9)	0.01
Autonomic medications	43 (2.1)	311 (2.4)	0.02	42 (2.1)	37 (1.8)	0.02
Anticoagulants	96 (4.6)	598 (4.7)	0.00	93 (4.6)	89 (4.4)	0.01
Platelet aggregation inhibitors (including aspirin)	201 (9.7)	1206 (9.4)	0.01	198 (9.8)	198 (9.8)	0.00
Other central nervous system medications	215 (10.4)	1459 (11.4)	0.03	214 (10.6)	209 (10.3)	0.01
Non-opioid analgesics	581 (28)	3741 (29.1)	0.02	571 (28.2)	569 (28.1)	0.00
Opioid analgesics	467 (22.5)	2915 (22.7)	0.00	455 (22.4)	472 (23.3)	0.02
Sedatives and hypnotics	242 (11.7)	1693 (13.2)	0.05	239 (11.8)	235 (11.6)	0.01
Anti-convulsants	361 (17.4)	2520 (19.6)	0.06	360 (17.8)	377 (18.6)	0.02
Anti-depressants	540 (26)	3735 (29.1)	0.07	532 (26.2)	566 (27.9)	0.04
Anti-psychotics	126 (6.1)	832 (6.5)	0.02	123 (6.1)	121 (6)	0.00
Gastrointestinal medications	1064 (51.3)	7043 (54.8)	0.07	1048 (51.7)	1051 (51.8)	0.00
Genitourinary medications	197 (9.5)	1376 (10.7)	0.04	194 (9.6)	204 (10.1)	0.02
Hormones	612 (29.5)	4141 (32.2)	0.06	604 (29.8)	585 (28.8)	0.02
Insulin	400 (19.3)	2695 (21)	0.04	394 (19.4)	433 (21.4)	0.05
Non-insulin hypoglycemics	352 (17)	1747 (13.6)	0.09	338 (16.7)	347 (17.1)	0.01
Musculoskeletal medications	377 (18.2)	2577 (20.1)	0.05	373 (18.4)	382 (18.8)	0.01
Systemic decongestants and antitussives	102 (4.9)	815 (6.3)	0.06	102 (5)	93 (4.6)	0.02
<b>Comorbidities, No. (%)<sup>g</sup></b>						
Heart failure	715 (34.5)	3272 (25.5)	0.20	691 (34.1)	729 (35.9)	0.04
Acute myocardial infarction	116 (5.6)	610 (4.8)	0.04	112 (5.5)	102 (5)	0.02
Unstable angina and other acute ischemic heart disease	95 (4.6)	540 (4.2)	0.02	93 (4.6)	98 (4.8)	0.01
Chronic angina and coronary artery disease	895 (43.2)	5239 (40.8)	0.05	880 (43.4)	890 (43.9)	0.01

Valvular/rheumatic heart disease	263 (12.7)	1508 (11.7)	0.03	262 (12.9)	247 (12.2)	0.02
Other cardiac disease including congenital heart and hypertensive disease	1375 (66.3)	7735 (60.2)	0.13	1339 (66)	1342 (66.2)	0.00
Arrhythmias and conduction disorders	666 (32.1)	4225 (32.9)	0.02	649 (32)	632 (31.2)	0.02
Pleural effusion/pneumothorax	287 (13.8)	1738 (13.5)	0.01	280 (13.8)	261 (12.9)	0.03
Chest pain	552 (26.6)	3392 (26.4)	0.00	537 (26.5)	526 (25.9)	0.01
Syncope	205 (9.9)	1146 (8.9)	0.03	196 (9.7)	202 (10)	0.01
Acute stroke/transient ischemic attack	360 (17.4)	2040 (15.9)	0.04	353 (17.4)	377 (18.6)	0.03
Pulmonary embolism/deep venous thrombosis	344 (16.6)	2066 (16.1)	0.01	331 (16.3)	340 (16.8)	0.01
Other peripheral vascular disease	466 (22.5)	2600 (20.2)	0.05	457 (22.5)	508 (25)	0.06
Cardio-respiratory failure	122 (5.9)	772 (6)	0.01	117 (5.8)	119 (5.9)	0.00
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/asthma	1021 (49.2)	6695 (52.1)	0.06	1006 (49.6)	1028 (50.7)	0.02
Pneumonia including aspiration pneumonitis	1268 (61.1)	7985 (62.2)	0.02	1244 (61.3)	1231 (60.7)	0.01
Septicemia/shock	454 (21.9)	2631 (20.5)	0.03	442 (21.8)	452 (22.3)	0.01
Urinary tract infection and urinary system complaints	1069 (51.5)	6556 (51.1)	0.01	1046 (51.6)	1024 (50.5)	0.02
Cellulitis	322 (15.5)	1986 (15.5)	0.00	316 (15.6)	321 (15.8)	0.01
Clostridium difficile-associated infection	17 (0.8)	131 (1)	0.02	17 (0.8)	24 (1.2)	0.03
Renal disorders including renal failure and fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base abnormalities	1513 (73)	8862 (69)	0.09	1476 (72.8)	1479 (72.9)	0.00
Anemia	992 (47.8)	5949 (46.3)	0.03	974 (48)	963 (47.5)	0.01
Gastrointestinal hemorrhage	228 (11)	1407 (11)	0.00	222 (10.9)	205 (10.1)	0.03
Diabetes and its complications	1167 (56.3)	6661 (51.9)	0.09	1135 (56)	1166 (57.5)	0.03
Fibrosis of lung and other chronic lung disorders	86 (4.1)	670 (5.2)	0.05	85 (4.2)	79 (3.9)	0.02
Hip fracture	36 (1.7)	276 (2.1)	0.03	36 (1.8)	42 (2.1)	0.02
Complications of care	331 (16)	2101 (16.4)	0.01	325 (16)	307 (15.1)	0.02
Other lung disorders including acute, congenital, and unspecified lung abnormalities	1064 (51.3)	6998 (54.5)	0.06	1046 (51.6)	1045 (51.5)	0.00
Primary cancer of the trachea, bronchus, lung, and pleura	100 (4.8)	958 (7.5)	0.11	100 (4.9)	102 (5)	0.00
Other infections	1153 (55.6)	7441 (57.9)	0.05	1129 (55.7)	1131 (55.8)	0.00
Cancer	597 (28.8)	4340 (33.8)	0.11	589 (29)	627 (30.9)	0.04
Endocrine/metabolic	1878 (90.5)	11724 (91.3)	0.03	1836 (90.5)	1841 (90.8)	0.01
Liver disease	213 (10.3)	1306 (10.2)	0.00	206 (10.2)	184 (9.1)	0.04
Gastrointestinal	1454 (70.1)	9551 (74.4)	0.10	1423 (70.2)	1421 (70.1)	0.00
Musculoskeletal	1698 (81.9)	10733 (83.6)	0.05	1661 (81.9)	1672 (82.4)	0.01
Other hematologic	463 (22.3)	3189 (24.8)	0.06	449 (22.1)	474 (23.4)	0.03
Cognitive	501 (24.2)	3050 (23.8)	0.01	493 (24.3)	498 (24.6)	0.01
Substance abuse	261 (12.6)	1638 (12.8)	0.01	254 (12.5)	274 (13.5)	0.03
Psychiatric	974 (47)	6364 (49.6)	0.05	963 (47.5)	955 (47.1)	0.01
Development disorders	37 (1.8)	225 (1.8)	0.00	37 (1.8)	34 (1.7)	0.01
Spinal cord	99 (4.8)	689 (5.4)	0.03	96 (4.7)	105 (5.2)	0.02
Neuromuscular	1109 (53.5)	7208 (56.1)	0.05	1090 (53.7)	1075 (53)	0.01

Non-acute cerebrovascular disease	397 (19.1)	2216 (17.3)	0.05	385 (19)	366 (18)	0.02
Other pulmonary	97 (4.7)	543 (4.2)	0.02	94 (4.6)	96 (4.7)	0.00
Ophthalmologic	1424 (68.7)	9176 (71.5)	0.06	1391 (68.6)	1407 (69.4)	0.02
Ear, nose, and throat	1054 (50.8)	7008 (54.6)	0.08	1039 (51.2)	1016 (50.1)	0.02
Other renal	582 (28.1)	3304 (25.7)	0.05	565 (27.9)	596 (29.4)	0.03
Genitourinary	1385 (66.8)	8809 (68.6)	0.04	1354 (66.8)	1347 (66.4)	0.01
Other dermatologic	1010 (48.7)	6249 (48.7)	0.00	989 (48.8)	1008 (49.7)	0.02
Injury excluding hip fracture	487 (23.5)	3324 (25.9)	0.06	477 (23.5)	470 (23.2)	0.01
Symptoms (major and minor) excluding respiratory	1116 (53.8)	7227 (56.3)	0.05	1092 (53.8)	1102 (54.3)	0.01
Miscellaneous surgical and non-surgical procedures	2033 (98)	12655 (98.6)	0.04	1987 (98)	1988 (98)	0.00
Durable medical equipment	698 (33.7)	4396 (34.2)	0.01	681 (33.6)	707 (34.9)	0.03
Other	1746 (84.2)	10959 (85.3)	0.03	1709 (84.3)	1716 (84.6)	0.01
Skin ulcer including decubitus ulcer	267 (12.9)	1636 (12.7)	0.00	264 (13)	261 (12.9)	0.00

**Abbreviations:** BP, blood pressure; SMD, standardized mean difference; VISN, Veterans Integrated Service Networks; PDC, proportion of days covered

<sup>a</sup> Patients who were discharged with intensified antihypertensive medications were matched with patients who were discharged without antihypertensive intensifications based on 1:1 propensity score matching without replacement. Matching was performed using a caliper width of 0.2 times the pooled SD of the logit of the propensity scores for the cohort. Balance between the groups was assessed before and after matching by comparing standardized mean differences (SMD) for each variable for which a difference of less than 0.10 was considered to indicate adequate balance.

<sup>b</sup> Missing data: income (n=6), BMI (n=960), outpatient blood pressure (n=425), outpatient pulse (n=534), inpatient blood pressure (n=167), inpatient pulse (n=174), hemoglobin (n=1170), potassium (n=586), sodium (n=534), blood urea nitrogen (n=839), carbon dioxide (n=735), platelets (n=866).

<sup>c</sup> Healthcare services within the national Veterans Affairs Health System are delivered through 18 geographically divided administrative areas called VISNs

<sup>d</sup> Laboratory data collected from day of index hospitalization discharge or during index hospitalization up to 2 days prior to day of discharge

<sup>e</sup> Adherence calculated from electronic pharmacy dispensing data as the proportion of days covered (PDC) for each admission antihypertensive in the year prior to index hospital admission. A threshold of 80% is a commonly used criterion to determine clinically significant nonadherence. To account for patients taking multiple antihypertensives at hospital admission, a composite PDC was calculated as the mean of each individual antihypertensive PDC, as individual antihypertensive PDCs were highly collinear within patients.

<sup>f</sup> All medications classified using VA drug class coding. Combination medications were split into component parts. Topical, inhaled, otic and optic medications were excluded.

<sup>g</sup> Comorbidities include both secondary discharge diagnoses from index hospitalization and preadmission diagnoses from the year preceding index hospitalization.

**eTable 4:** Components of Composite Outcomes Associated with Receiving Antihypertensive Intensifications at Hospital Discharge

	30 days			365 days		
	Intensified (N=2028)	Not Intensified (N=2028)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Intensified (N=2028)	Not Intensified (N=2028)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
	<i>No. of patients (%)</i>			<i>No. of patients (%)</i>		
<b>Serious adverse events</b>						
Acute kidney injury	36 (1.8)	26 (1.3)	1.39 (0.84 to 2.30)	96 (4.7)	84 (4.1)	1.15 (0.86 to 1.54)
Injurious fall	38 (1.9)	28 (1.4)	1.36 (0.83 to 2.21)	214 (10.6)	199 (9.8)	1.08 (0.89 to 1.31)
Electrolyte abnormality	26 (1.3)	19 (0.9)	1.37 (0.76 to 2.47)	110 (5.4)	85 (4.2)	1.30 (0.98 to 1.72)
Syncope	18 (0.9)	9 (0.4)	2.00 (0.90 to 4.45)	64 (3.2)	56 (2.8)	1.15 (0.80 to 1.64)
Medication poisoning	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1
<b>Cardiovascular events</b>						
Acute myocardial infarction	45 (2.2)	48 (2.4)	0.94 (0.62 to 1.41)	10 (0.5)	7 (0.4)	1.43 (0.54 to 3.75)
Unstable angina	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1.00	0 (0.0)	1	0
Stroke	16 (0.8)	1 (0.1)	16.0 (2.1 to 120.9)	68 (3.4)	58 (2.8)	1.22 (0.86 to 1.74)
Heart failure	46 (2.3)	37 (1.8)	1.25 (0.81 to 1.92)	189 (7.6)	154 (9.3)	1.24 (1.00 to 1.53)
Hypertension	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1.00	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1.00

**eTable 5.** Baseline Characteristics Before and After Propensity Score Matching, Well-Controlled Baseline BP subgroup

	Before Propensity Score Matching			After Propensity Score Matching		
Characteristic	Intensified (N=1,138)	Not Intensified (N=8,933)	SMD	Intensified (N=1122)	Not Intensified (N=1122)	SMD
Age, mean (SD), y	76.9 (8.4)	76.4 (8.6)	-0.05	76.9 (8.4)	77.1 (8.8)	0.02
Female sex, No. (%)	23 (2)	212 (2.4)	0.02	23 (2)	18 (1.6)	0.03
Race/ethnicity, No. (%)			0.15			0.02
White	827 (72.7)	7069 (79.1)		815 (72.6)	813 (72.5)	
Black	242 (21.3)	1455 (16.3)		238 (21.2)	235 (20.9)	
Hispanic	31 (2.7)	159 (1.8)		31 (2.8)	34 (3)	
Other	38 (3.3)	250 (2.8)		38 (3.4)	40 (3.6)	
Median zip code household income, mean (SD), \$	46273 (19739)	47846 (19038)	0.08	46293 (19755)	46387 (18495)	0.00
VISN, No. (%)			0.15			0.20
New England Health Care System	49 (4.3)	387 (4.3)		49 (4.4)	45 (4)	
Healthcare New York/New Jersey	58 (5.1)	554 (6.2)		58 (5.2)	61 (5.4)	
VISN4 Network	42 (3.7)	354 (4)		42 (3.7)	47 (4.2)	
Capitol Healthcare Network	50 (4.4)	323 (3.6)		49 (4.4)	42 (3.7)	
Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network	65 (5.7)	549 (6.1)		65 (5.8)	72 (6.4)	
Southeast Network	61 (5.4)	448 (5)		59 (5.3)	69 (6.1)	
Sunshine Healthcare Network	119 (10.5)	840 (9.4)		115 (10.2)	117 (10.4)	
MidSouth Healthcare Network	101 (8.9)	642 (7.2)		100 (8.9)	84 (7.5)	
Healthcare System	36 (3.2)	230 (2.6)		36 (3.2)	24 (2.1)	
Great Lakes Healthcare System	90 (7.9)	759 (8.5)		88 (7.8)	103 (9.2)	
Heartland Network	60 (5.3)	440 (4.9)		60 (5.3)	48 (4.3)	
South Central VA Healthcare Network	129 (11.3)	1014 (11.4)		126 (11.2)	136 (12.1)	
Heart of Texas Healthcare System	39 (3.4)	446 (5)		38 (3.4)	62 (5.5)	
Southwest Healthcare Network	36 (3.2)	377 (4.2)		34 (3)	33 (2.9)	
Rocky Mountain Network	29 (2.5)	223 (2.5)		29 (2.6)	37 (3.3)	
Northwest Health Network	39 (3.4)	256 (2.9)		39 (3.5)	27 (2.4)	
Sierra Pacific Network	42 (3.7)	349 (3.9)		42 (3.7)	36 (3.2)	
Desert Pacific Healthcare Network	51 (4.5)	424 (4.7)		51 (4.5)	35 (3.1)	
Midwest Healthcare Network	42 (3.7)	318 (3.6)		42 (3.7)	44 (3.9)	
<b>Pre-admission clinical characteristics, mean (SD)</b>						
Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	27.7 (6.4)	27.5 (6.4)	-0.03	27.7 (6.4)	27.6 (6.4)	-0.01
Pulse, bpm	74.5 (12.9)	75.4 (12.5)	0.07	74.5 (12.9)	74.3 (12.2)	-0.02
Systolic BP, mmHg	125.4 (10.7)	123.8 (11.1)	-0.15	125.3 (10.7)	124.6 (11.1)	-0.07
<b>Index hospitalization characteristics</b>						
Length of stay, mean (SD), d	6.9 (8.2)	5.5 (7.2)	-0.18	6.8 (8.2)	7.1 (11.4)	0.03

Year of hospitalization, No. (%)			0.02			0.06
2011	421 (37)	3287 (36.8)		417 (37.2)	400 (35.7)	
2012	382 (33.6)	2944 (33)		373 (33.2)	358 (31.9)	
2013	335 (29.4)	2702 (30.2)		332 (29.6)	364 (32.4)	
Inpatient SBP, No (%)						
≥3 reading < 90 mmHg	37 (3.3)	361 (4)	0.04	37 (3.3)	34 (3)	0.02
≥3 readings ≥160 mmHg	329 (28.9)	1039 (11.6)	0.44	324 (28.9)	340 (30.3)	0.03
≥3 readings ≥180 mmHg	113 (9.9)	168 (1.9)	0.35	102 (9.1)	96 (8.6)	0.02
Inpatient pulse, No (%)						
≥3 readings < 60 bpm	235 (20.7)	1350 (15.1)	0.14	229 (20.4)	232 (20.7)	0.01
≥3 readings ≥100 bpm	56 (4.9)	538 (6)	0.05	56 (5)	52 (4.6)	0.02
Discharge diagnosis, No (%)			0.02			0.01
Pneumonia	584 (51.3)	4646 (52)		578 (51.5)	571 (50.9)	
Urinary tract infection	430 (37.8)	3377 (37.8)		424 (37.8)	428 (38.1)	
Venous thromboembolism	124 (10.9)	910 (10.2)		120 (10.7)	123 (11)	
<b>Index hospital discharge laboratory values, mean (SD)</b>						
Hemoglobin, g/dL	11.5 (1.8)	11.4 (1.8)	-0.05	11.5 (1.8)	11.5 (1.8)	-0.04
Platelets, k/mm3	231.5 (102.4)	231.4 (101.9)	0.00	232.4 (102.5)	234.2 (100.9)	0.02
Sodium, mEq/L	138.2 (3.6)	138.2 (3.5)	0.01	138.2 (3.6)	138.3 (3.6)	0.04
Potassium, mEq/L	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	-0.07	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	0.01
Blood urea nitrogen, mg/dL	22.9 (13.4)	21 (12.3)	-0.15	22.8 (13.2)	23.3 (13.7)	0.04
Carbon dioxide, mEq/L	26.4 (4.2)	26.1 (3.9)	-0.08	26.4 (4.2)	26.4 (3.9)	0.00
Estimated glomerular filtration rate, mL/min per 1.73 m2	68.9 (31.9)	72.7 (32)	0.12	69.1 (32)	67.7 (32.2)	-0.04
<b>Health Care Use, No. (%)</b>						
Medicare utilization in prior year	315 (27.7)	2530 (28.3)	0.01	310 (27.6)	306 (27.3)	0.01
No. ED visits in the year preceding index hospitalization			0.08			0.04
0	487 (42.8)	3743 (41.9)		477 (42.5)	483 (43)	
1	295 (25.9)	2186 (24.5)		292 (26)	273 (24.3)	
2	164 (14.4)	1228 (13.7)		162 (14.4)	173 (15.4)	
≥3	192 (16.9)	1776 (19.9)		191 (17)	193 (17.2)	
No. hospitalizations in the year preceding index hospitalization			0.08			0.03
0	416 (36.6)	2940 (32.9)		408 (36.4)	407 (36.3)	
1	245 (21.5)	2010 (22.5)		242 (21.6)	249 (22.2)	
2	156 (13.7)	1362 (15.2)		152 (13.5)	159 (14.2)	
≥3	321 (28.2)	2621 (29.3)		320 (28.5)	307 (27.4)	
Polypharmacy prior to hospitalization	559 (49.1)	4404 (49.3)	0.00	550 (49)	577 (51.4)	0.05
Serious fall	55 (4.8)	404 (4.5)	0.01	53 (4.7)	65 (5.8)	0.05
<b>Antihypertensive use patterns, No (%)</b>						

Admission antihypertensive use and adherence			0.19			0.07
0 antihypertensives	300 (26.4)	2235 (25)		292 (26)	283 (25.2)	
1 antihypertensive, PDC<80%	149 (13.1)	878 (9.8)		146 (13)	138 (12.3)	
1 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	178 (15.6)	1684 (18.9)		178 (15.9)	192 (17.1)	
2 antihypertensives, PDC<80%	116 (10.2)	659 (7.4)		112 (10)	120 (10.7)	
2 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	195 (17.1)	1692 (18.9)		195 (17.4)	184 (16.4)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC<80%	58 (5.1)	384 (4.3)		57 (5.1)	49 (4.4)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	142 (12.5)	1401 (15.7)		142 (12.7)	156 (13.9)	
Antihypertensive used year prior to hospital admission			0.19			0.04
0	131 (11.5)	1512 (16.9)		131 (11.7)	128 (11.4)	
1	285 (25)	2461 (27.5)		285 (25.4)	290 (25.8)	
2	356 (31.3)	2527 (28.3)		352 (31.4)	340 (30.3)	
3	221 (19.4)	1540 (17.2)		215 (19.2)	224 (20)	
4	103 (9.1)	632 (7.1)		100 (8.9)	95 (8.5)	
5	42 (3.7)	261 (2.9)		39 (3.5)	45 (4)	
<b>Cardiovascular medication classes used at hospital admission, No (%)</b>						
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	394 (34.6)	3028 (33.9)	0.02	388 (34.6)	383 (34.1)	0.01
Angiotensin II inhibitors	76 (6.7)	723 (8.1)	0.05	76 (6.8)	71 (6.3)	0.02
Beta blockers	466 (40.9)	3754 (42)	0.02	459 (40.9)	452 (40.3)	0.01
Calcium channel blockers	277 (24.3)	2362 (26.4)	0.05	275 (24.5)	288 (25.7)	0.03
Non-loop diuretics	185 (16.3)	1633 (18.3)	0.05	184 (16.4)	189 (16.8)	0.01
Loop diuretics	244 (21.4)	1817 (20.3)	0.03	238 (21.2)	232 (20.7)	0.01
Other antihypertensives	99 (8.7)	600 (6.7)	0.07	97 (8.6)	95 (8.5)	0.01
Alpha blockers	366 (32.2)	2941 (32.9)	0.02	361 (32.2)	350 (31.2)	0.02
Anti-lipemic agents	579 (50.9)	4885 (54.7)	0.08	572 (51)	565 (50.4)	0.01
Anti-tianginals	140 (12.3)	919 (10.3)	0.06	137 (12.2)	136 (12.1)	0.00
Anti-arrhythmics	13 (1.1)	87 (1)	0.02	13 (1.2)	9 (0.8)	0.04
Digitalis	25 (2.2)	187 (2.1)	0.01	24 (2.1)	25 (2.2)	0.01
<b>Other medication classes used at hospital admission, No. (%)</b>						
Anti-histamines	145 (12.7)	1334 (14.9)	0.06	145 (12.9)	141 (12.6)	0.01
Anti-microbials	49 (4.3)	458 (5.1)	0.04	49 (4.4)	46 (4.1)	0.01
Anti-neoplastics	32 (2.8)	321 (3.6)	0.04	31 (2.8)	41 (3.7)	0.05
Autonomic medications	26 (2.3)	222 (2.5)	0.01	25 (2.2)	28 (2.5)	0.02
Anticoagulants	70 (6.2)	470 (5.3)	0.04	70 (6.2)	74 (6.6)	0.01
Platelet aggregation inhibitors (including aspirin)	124 (10.9)	854 (9.6)	0.04	122 (10.9)	108 (9.6)	0.04
Other central nervous system medications	134 (11.8)	1062 (11.9)	0.00	134 (11.9)	140 (12.5)	0.02
Non-opioid analgesics	321 (28.2)	2657 (29.7)	0.03	319 (28.4)	298 (26.6)	0.04
Opioid analgesics	271 (23.8)	2097 (23.5)	0.01	266 (23.7)	271 (24.2)	0.01

Sedatives and hypnotics	142 (12.5)	1244 (13.9)	0.04	140 (12.5)	132 (11.8)	0.02
Anti-convulsants	201 (17.7)	1820 (20.4)	0.07	200 (17.8)	221 (19.7)	0.05
Anti-depressants	326 (28.6)	2760 (30.9)	0.05	322 (28.7)	334 (29.8)	0.02
Anti-psychotics	72 (6.3)	609 (6.8)	0.02	71 (6.3)	84 (7.5)	0.05
Gastrointestinal medications	599 (52.6)	5022 (56.2)	0.07	592 (52.8)	603 (53.7)	0.02
Genitourinary medications	111 (9.8)	956 (10.7)	0.03	111 (9.9)	116 (10.3)	0.01
Hormones	333 (29.3)	2997 (33.5)	0.09	331 (29.5)	307 (27.4)	0.05
Insulin	239 (21)	1875 (21)	0.00	237 (21.1)	234 (20.9)	0.01
Non-insulin hypoglycemics	183 (16.1)	1157 (13)	0.09	181 (16.1)	180 (16)	0.00
Musculoskeletal medications	222 (19.5)	1809 (20.3)	0.02	217 (19.3)	225 (20.1)	0.02
Systemic decongestants and antitussives	64 (5.6)	618 (6.9)	0.05	64 (5.7)	69 (6.1)	0.02
<b>Comorbidities, No. (%)</b>						
Heart failure	396 (34.8)	2289 (25.6)	0.20	385 (34.3)	394 (35.1)	0.02
Acute myocardial infarction	64 (5.6)	439 (4.9)	0.03	63 (5.6)	46 (4.1)	0.07
Unstable angina and other acute ischemic heart disease	51 (4.5)	400 (4.5)	0.00	51 (4.5)	59 (5.3)	0.03
Chronic angina and coronary artery disease	514 (45.2)	3703 (41.5)	0.08	504 (44.9)	510 (45.5)	0.01
Valvular/rheumatic heart disease	145 (12.7)	1045 (11.7)	0.03	145 (12.9)	128 (11.4)	0.05
Other cardiac disease including congenital heart and hypertensive disease	745 (65.5)	5418 (60.7)	0.10	732 (65.2)	756 (67.4)	0.05
Arrhythmias and conduction disorders	392 (34.4)	3003 (33.6)	0.02	385 (34.3)	390 (34.8)	0.01
Pleural effusion/pneumothorax	147 (12.9)	1203 (13.5)	0.02	143 (12.7)	143 (12.7)	0.00
Chest pain	309 (27.2)	2398 (26.8)	0.01	303 (27)	291 (25.9)	0.02
Syncope	126 (11.1)	792 (8.9)	0.07	122 (10.9)	95 (8.5)	0.08
Acute stroke/transient ischemic attack	206 (18.1)	1420 (15.9)	0.06	204 (18.2)	194 (17.3)	0.02
Pulmonary embolism/deep venous thrombosis	194 (17)	1489 (16.7)	0.01	190 (16.9)	203 (18.1)	0.03
Other peripheral vascular disease	249 (21.9)	1815 (20.3)	0.04	248 (22.1)	253 (22.5)	0.01
Cardio-respiratory failure	79 (6.9)	600 (6.7)	0.01	77 (6.9)	75 (6.7)	0.01
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/asthma	593 (52.1)	4792 (53.6)	0.03	585 (52.1)	582 (51.9)	0.01
Pneumonia including aspiration pneumonitis	706 (62)	5588 (62.6)	0.01	699 (62.3)	698 (62.2)	0.00
Septicemia/shock	267 (23.5)	1896 (21.2)	0.05	259 (23.1)	274 (24.4)	0.03
Urinary tract infection and urinary system complaints	591 (51.9)	4581 (51.3)	0.01	584 (52)	587 (52.3)	0.01
Cellulitis	185 (16.3)	1396 (15.6)	0.02	184 (16.4)	201 (17.9)	0.04
Clostridium difficile-associated infection	10 (0.9)	93 (1)	0.02	10 (0.9)	14 (1.2)	0.03
Renal disorders including renal failure and fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base abnormalities	829 (72.8)	6119 (68.5)	0.10	816 (72.7)	825 (73.5)	0.02
Anemia	526 (46.2)	4199 (47)	0.02	520 (46.3)	538 (48)	0.03
Gastrointestinal hemorrhage	122 (10.7)	994 (11.1)	0.01	120 (10.7)	106 (9.4)	0.04

Diabetes and its complications	621 (54.6)	4608 (51.6)	0.06	612 (54.5)	607 (54.1)	0.01
Fibrosis of lung and other chronic lung disorders	51 (4.5)	487 (5.5)	0.04	51 (4.5)	50 (4.5)	0.00
Hip fracture	19 (1.7)	200 (2.2)	0.04	19 (1.7)	16 (1.4)	0.02
Complications of care	178 (15.6)	1522 (17)	0.04	177 (15.8)	170 (15.2)	0.02
Other lung disorders including acute, congenital, and unspecified lung abnormalities	579 (50.9)	4924 (55.1)	0.09	572 (51)	558 (49.7)	0.02
Primary cancer of the trachea, bronchus, lung, and pleura	59 (5.2)	727 (8.1)	0.12	59 (5.3)	59 (5.3)	0.00
Other infections	636 (55.9)	5257 (58.8)	0.06	630 (56.1)	646 (57.6)	0.03
Cancer	324 (28.5)	3010 (33.7)	0.11	321 (28.6)	349 (31.1)	0.05
Endocrine/metabolic	1038 (91.2)	8206 (91.9)	0.02	1024 (91.3)	1006 (89.7)	0.05
Liver disease	127 (11.2)	935 (10.5)	0.02	126 (11.2)	127 (11.3)	0.00
Digestive (Gastrointestinal)	803 (70.6)	6701 (75)	0.10	792 (70.6)	798 (71.1)	0.01
Musculoskeletal	930 (81.7)	7506 (84)	0.06	915 (81.6)	912 (81.3)	0.01
Other hematologic	246 (21.6)	2316 (25.9)	0.10	244 (21.7)	232 (20.7)	0.03
Cognitive	274 (24.1)	2169 (24.3)	0.00	273 (24.3)	283 (25.2)	0.02
Substance abuse	146 (12.8)	1129 (12.6)	0.01	143 (12.7)	161 (14.3)	0.05
Psychiatric	557 (48.9)	4550 (50.9)	0.04	552 (49.2)	571 (50.9)	0.03
Development disorders	20 (1.8)	160 (1.8)	0.00	20 (1.8)	14 (1.2)	0.04
Spinal cord	63 (5.5)	508 (5.7)	0.01	62 (5.5)	58 (5.2)	0.02
Neuromuscular	615 (54)	5013 (56.1)	0.04	611 (54.5)	593 (52.9)	0.03
Non-acute cerebrovascular disease	230 (20.2)	1523 (17)	0.08	227 (20.2)	222 (19.8)	0.01
Other pulmonary	54 (4.7)	375 (4.2)	0.03	53 (4.7)	47 (4.2)	0.03
Ophthalmologic	772 (67.8)	6375 (71.4)	0.08	763 (68)	766 (68.3)	0.01
Ear, nose, and throat	581 (51.1)	4879 (54.6)	0.07	576 (51.3)	590 (52.6)	0.02
Other renal	308 (27.1)	2261 (25.3)	0.04	302 (26.9)	321 (28.6)	0.04
Genitourinary	759 (66.7)	6138 (68.7)	0.04	749 (66.8)	765 (68.2)	0.03
Other dermatologic	577 (50.7)	4340 (48.6)	0.04	566 (50.4)	582 (51.9)	0.03
Injury excluding hip fracture	266 (23.4)	2368 (26.5)	0.07	264 (23.5)	262 (23.4)	0.00
Symptoms (major and minor) excluding respiratory	613 (53.9)	5075 (56.8)	0.06	605 (53.9)	603 (53.7)	0.00
Miscellaneous surgical and non-surgical procedures	1118 (98.2)	8819 (98.7)	0.04	1102 (98.2)	1102 (98.2)	0.00
Durable medical equipment	391 (34.4)	3119 (34.9)	0.01	385 (34.3)	383 (34.1)	0.00
Other	973 (85.5)	7634 (85.5)	0.00	958 (85.4)	956 (85.2)	0.01
Skin ulcer including decubitus ulcer	153 (13.4)	1196 (13.4)	0.00	151 (13.5)	144 (12.8)	0.02

**Abbreviations:** BP, blood pressure; SMD, standardized mean difference; VISN, Veterans Integrated Service Networks; PDC, proportion of days covered

**eTable 6.** Baseline Characteristics Before and After Propensity Score Matching, Elevated Baseline BP subgroup

	Before Propensity Score Matching			After Propensity Score Matching		
	Intensified (N=936)	Not intensified (N=3,908)	SMD	Intensified (N=878)	Not intensified (N=878)	SMD
<b>Characteristic</b>						
Age, mean (SD), y	76.6 (8.2)	76.8 (8.6)	0.03	76.7 (8.3)	76.7 (8.6)	0.01
Female sex, No. (%)	29 (3.1)	114 (2.9)	0.01	28 (3.2)	27 (3.1)	0.01
Race/ethnicity, No. (%)			0.24			0.04
White	623 (66.6)	2967 (75.9)		603 (68.7)	598 (68.1)	
Black	265 (28.3)	737 (18.9)		229 (26.1)	236 (26.9)	
Hispanic	24 (2.6)	63 (1.6)		22 (2.5)	24 (2.7)	
Other	24 (2.6)	141 (3.6)		24 (2.7)	20 (2.3)	
Median zip code household income, mean (SD), \$	45557 (20203)	46949 (18698)	0.07	45642 (20070)	45662 (17788)	0.00
VISN, No. (%)			0.17			0.23
New England Health Care System	32 (3.4)	162 (4.1)		27 (3.1)	38 (4.3)	
Healthcare New York/New Jersey	46 (4.9)	249 (6.4)		45 (5.1)	50 (5.7)	
VISN4 Network	31 (3.3)	159 (4.1)		30 (3.4)	41 (4.7)	
Capitol Healthcare Network	37 (4)	152 (3.9)		36 (4.1)	26 (3)	
Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network	65 (6.9)	239 (6.1)		61 (6.9)	50 (5.7)	
Southeast Network	37 (4)	174 (4.5)		37 (4.2)	39 (4.4)	
Sunshine Healthcare Network	95 (10.1)	394 (10.1)		88 (10)	95 (10.8)	
MidSouth Healthcare Network	54 (5.8)	275 (7)		50 (5.7)	62 (7.1)	
Healthcare System	31 (3.3)	106 (2.7)		29 (3.3)	25 (2.8)	
Great Lakes Healthcare System	85 (9.1)	348 (8.9)		74 (8.4)	67 (7.6)	
Heartland Network	47 (5)	182 (4.7)		45 (5.1)	44 (5)	
South Central VA Healthcare Network	116 (12.4)	420 (10.7)		111 (12.6)	93 (10.6)	
Heart of Texas Healthcare System	39 (4.2)	189 (4.8)		34 (3.9)	44 (5)	
Southwest Healthcare Network	39 (4.2)	193 (4.9)		37 (4.2)	56 (6.4)	
Rocky Mountain Network	19 (2)	98 (2.5)		18 (2.1)	21 (2.4)	
Northwest Health Network	26 (2.8)	112 (2.9)		24 (2.7)	30 (3.4)	
Sierra Pacific Network	50 (5.3)	145 (3.7)		47 (5.4)	28 (3.2)	
Desert Pacific Healthcare Network	46 (4.9)	187 (4.8)		46 (5.2)	38 (4.3)	
Midwest Healthcare Network	41 (4.4)	124 (3.2)		39 (4.4)	31 (3.5)	
<b>Pre-admission clinical characteristics, mean (SD)</b>						
Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	28.3 (7.1)	28 (6.5)	-0.03	28.3 (7.2)	28 (6.7)	-0.05
Pulse, bpm	72.6 (12.3)	72.9 (12.2)	0.02	72.5 (12.3)	72.5 (12)	-0.01
Systolic BP, mmHg	154.6 (13.8)	151.9 (11.5)	-0.21	154.3 (13.5)	154.1 (13.2)	-0.01
<b>Index hospitalization characteristics</b>						
Length of stay, mean (SD), d	6.6 (6)	5.1 (5.5)	-0.26	6.5 (5.8)	6.8 (8.9)	0.04

Year of hospitalization, No. (%)			0.07			0.07
2011	366 (39.1)	1473 (37.7)		340 (38.7)	328 (37.4)	
2012	304 (32.5)	1204 (30.8)		289 (32.9)	272 (31)	
2013	266 (28.4)	1231 (31.5)		249 (28.4)	278 (31.7)	
Inpatient SBP, No (%)						
≥3 reading < 90 mmHg	8 (0.9)	58 (1.5)	0.06	8 (0.9)	11 (1.3)	
≥3 readings ≥160 mmHg	390 (41.7)	1002 (25.6)	0.34	381 (43.4)	393 (44.8)	
≥3 readings ≥180 mmHg	236 (25.5)	260 (6.7)	0.52	187 (21.3)	188 (21.4)	
Inpatient pulse, No (%)						
≥3 readings < 60 bpm	229 (24.5)	723 (18.5)	0.15	209 (23.8)	233 (26.5)	0.06
≥3 readings ≥100 bpm	40 (4.3)	205 (5.2)	0.05	40 (4.6)	31 (3.5)	0.05
Discharge diagnosis, No (%)			0.07			0.05
Pneumonia	461 (49.3)	2035 (52.1)		433 (49.3)	443 (50.5)	
Urinary tract infection	360 (38.5)	1472 (37.7)		338 (38.5)	317 (36.1)	
Venous thromboembolism	115 (12.3)	401 (10.3)		107 (12.2)	118 (13.4)	
<b>Index hospital discharge laboratory values, mean (SD)</b>						
Hemoglobin, g/dL	11.5 (1.9)	11.5 (1.8)	0.04	11.5 (1.9)	11.5 (1.8)	0.00
Platelets, k/mm3	237.5 (102)	232.7 (100.4)	-0.05	237.1 (102.7)	241 (105.5)	0.04
Sodium, mEQ/L	138.2 (3.5)	138.1 (3.6)	-0.03	138.2 (3.5)	138.1 (3.8)	-0.01
Potassium, mEQ/L	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	-0.05	4.1 (0.5)	4.1 (0.5)	0.00
Blood urea nitrogen, mg/dL	25.1 (16.9)	22.5 (13.5)	-0.17	24.3 (15.7)	24.8 (15.7)	0.03
Carbon dioxide, mEQ/L	26.2 (4.1)	25.8 (3.8)	-0.12	26.2 (4.1)	26.2 (4)	0.01
Estimated glomerular filtration rate, mL/min per 1.73 m2	63 (31.9)	67.8 (31)	0.15	64.1 (31.7)	64.1 (32.1)	0.00
<b>Health Care Use, No. (%)</b>						0.00
Medicare utilization in prior year	250 (26.7)	1073 (27.5)	0.02	237 (27)	234 (26.7)	0.01
No. ED visits in the year preceding index hospitalization			0.05			0.03
0	366 (39.1)	1592 (40.7)		344 (39.2)	333 (37.9)	
1	241 (25.7)	973 (24.9)		226 (25.7)	223 (25.4)	
2	129 (13.8)	564 (14.4)		119 (13.6)	126 (14.4)	
≥3	200 (21.4)	779 (19.9)		189 (21.5)	196 (22.3)	
No. hospitalizations in the year preceding index hospitalization			0.08			0.04
0	328 (35)	1390 (35.6)		303 (34.5)	294 (33.5)	
1	204 (21.8)	936 (24)		194 (22.1)	203 (23.1)	
2	154 (16.5)	552 (14.1)		146 (16.6)	138 (15.7)	
≥3	250 (26.7)	1030 (26.4)		235 (26.8)	243 (27.7)	
Polypharmacy prior to hospitalization	465 (49.7)	1873 (47.9)	0.04	442 (50.3)	422 (48.1)	0.05
Serious fall	39 (4.2)	165 (4.2)	0.00	38 (4.3)	42 (4.8)	0.02
<b>Antihypertensive use patterns, No (%)</b>						
Admission antihypertensive use and adherence			0.17			0.07
0 antihypertensives	226 (24.1)	842 (21.5)		205 (23.3)	219 (24.9)	
1 antihypertensive, PDC<80%	121 (12.9)	411 (10.5)		112 (12.8)	119 (13.6)	
1 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	104 (11.1)	571 (14.6)		102 (11.6)	91 (10.4)	

2 antihypertensives, PDC≤80%	105 (11.2)	373 (9.5)		97 (11)	92 (10.5)	
2 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	132 (14.1)	686 (17.6)		127 (14.5)	119 (13.6)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC≤80%	80 (8.5)	284 (7.3)		76 (8.7)	81 (9.2)	
≥3 antihypertensive, PDC>80%	168 (17.9)	741 (19)		159 (18.1)	157 (17.9)	
Antihypertensive used year prior to hospital admission			0.19			0.05
0	101 (10.8)	559 (14.3)		100 (11.4)	104 (11.8)	
1	175 (18.7)	863 (22.1)		166 (18.9)	167 (19)	
2	248 (26.5)	1050 (26.9)		229 (26.1)	225 (25.6)	
3	197 (21)	780 (20)		188 (21.4)	201 (22.9)	
4	139 (14.9)	422 (10.8)		124 (14.1)	114 (13)	
5	76 (8.1)	234 (6)		71 (8.1)	67 (7.6)	
<b>Cardiovascular medication classes used at hospital admission, No (%)</b>						
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	314 (33.5)	1283 (32.8)	0.02	294 (33.5)	305 (34.7)	0.03
Angiotensin II inhibitors	99 (10.6)	398 (10.2)	0.01	94 (10.7)	88 (10)	0.02
Beta blockers	417 (44.6)	1727 (44.2)	0.01	397 (45.2)	378 (43.1)	0.04
Calcium channel blockers	310 (33.1)	1397 (35.7)	0.06	290 (33)	320 (36.4)	0.07
Non-loop diuretics	147 (15.7)	763 (19.5)	0.10	141 (16.1)	147 (16.7)	0.02
Loop diuretics	179 (19.1)	711 (18.2)	0.02	166 (18.9)	179 (20.4)	0.04
Other antihypertensives	131 (14)	446 (11.4)	0.08	123 (14)	121 (13.8)	0.01
Alpha blockers	275 (29.4)	1180 (30.2)	0.02	254 (28.9)	238 (27.1)	0.04
Anti-lipemic agents	461 (49.3)	2005 (51.3)	0.04	436 (49.7)	410 (46.7)	0.06
Antianginals	91 (9.7)	384 (9.8)	0.00	86 (9.8)	87 (9.9)	0.00
Anti-arrhythmics	7 (0.7)	15 (0.4)	0.05	7 (0.8)	5 (0.6)	0.03
Digitalis	9 (1)	56 (1.4)	0.04	9 (1)	10 (1.1)	0.01
<b>Other medication classes used at hospital admission, No. (%)</b>						
Anti-histamines	37 (4)	154 (3.9)	0.00	37 (4.2)	35 (4)	0.01
Anti-microbials	30 (3.2)	130 (3.3)	0.01	29 (3.3)	28 (3.2)	0.01
Anti-neoplastics	17 (1.8)	89 (2.3)	0.03	16 (1.8)	18 (2.1)	0.02
Autonomic medications	26 (2.8)	128 (3.3)	0.03	26 (3)	23 (2.6)	0.02
Anticoagulants	77 (8.2)	352 (9)	0.03	73 (8.3)	80 (9.1)	0.03
Platelet aggregation inhibitors (including aspirin)	81 (8.7)	397 (10.2)	0.05	80 (9.1)	78 (8.9)	0.01
Other central nervous system medications	260 (27.8)	1084 (27.7)	0.00	247 (28.1)	242 (27.6)	0.01
Non-opioid analgesics	196 (20.9)	818 (20.9)	0.00	183 (20.8)	187 (21.3)	0.01
Opioid analgesics	100 (10.7)	449 (11.5)	0.03	97 (11)	87 (9.9)	0.04
Sedatives and hypnotics	160 (17.1)	700 (17.9)	0.02	155 (17.7)	154 (17.5)	0.00
Anti-convulsants	214 (22.9)	975 (24.9)	0.05	208 (23.7)	186 (21.2)	0.06
Anti-depressants	54 (5.8)	223 (5.7)	0.00	51 (5.8)	44 (5)	0.04
Anti-psychotics	465 (49.7)	2021 (51.7)	0.04	442 (50.3)	442 (50.3)	0.00
Gastrointestinal medications	86 (9.2)	420 (10.7)	0.05	84 (9.6)	92 (10.5)	0.03
Genitourinary medications	279 (29.8)	1144 (29.3)	0.01	255 (29)	237 (27)	0.05
Hormones	161 (17.2)	820 (21)	0.10	156 (17.8)	147 (16.7)	0.03
Insulin	169 (18.1)	590 (15.1)	0.08	151 (17.2)	154 (17.5)	0.01

Non-insulin hypoglycemics	155 (16.6)	768 (19.7)	0.08	151 (17.2)	131 (14.9)	0.06
Musculoskeletal medications	38 (4.1)	197 (5)	0.05	36 (4.1)	41 (4.7)	0.03
Systemic decongestants and antitussives	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.00	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.00
<b>Comorbidities, No. (%)</b>						
Heart failure	319 (34.1)	983 (25.2)	0.20	288 (32.8)	296 (33.7)	0.02
Acute myocardial infarction	52 (5.6)	171 (4.4)	0.05	46 (5.2)	49 (5.6)	0.02
Unstable angina and other acute ischemic heart disease	44 (4.7)	140 (3.6)	0.06	40 (4.6)	42 (4.8)	0.01
Chronic angina and coronary artery disease	381 (40.7)	1536 (39.3)	0.03	363 (41.3)	361 (41.1)	0.00
Valvular/rheumatic heart disease	118 (12.6)	463 (11.8)	0.02	112 (12.8)	122 (13.9)	0.03
Other cardiac disease including congenital heart and hypertensive disease	630 (67.3)	2317 (59.3)	0.17	582 (66.3)	588 (67)	0.01
Arrhythmias and conduction disorders	274 (29.3)	1222 (31.3)	0.04	260 (29.6)	261 (29.7)	0.00
Pleural effusion/pneumothorax	140 (15)	535 (13.7)	0.04	131 (14.9)	130 (14.8)	0.00
Chest pain	243 (26)	994 (25.4)	0.01	226 (25.7)	228 (26)	0.01
Syncope	79 (8.4)	354 (9.1)	0.02	75 (8.5)	62 (7.1)	0.06
Acute stroke/transient ischemic attack	154 (16.5)	620 (15.9)	0.02	146 (16.6)	159 (18.1)	0.04
Pulmonary embolism/deep venous thrombosis	150 (16)	577 (14.8)	0.03	140 (15.9)	140 (15.9)	0.00
Other peripheral vascular disease	217 (23.2)	785 (20.1)	0.08	199 (22.7)	212 (24.1)	0.03
Cardio-respiratory failure	43 (4.6)	172 (4.4)	0.01	40 (4.6)	37 (4.2)	0.02
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/asthma	428 (45.7)	1903 (48.7)	0.06	411 (46.8)	429 (48.9)	0.04
Pneumonia including aspiration pneumonitis	562 (60)	2397 (61.3)	0.03	526 (59.9)	541 (61.6)	0.03
Septicemia/shock	187 (20)	735 (18.8)	0.03	171 (19.5)	182 (20.7)	0.03
Urinary tract infection and urinary system complaints	478 (51.1)	1975 (50.5)	0.01	448 (51)	427 (48.6)	0.05
Cellulitis	137 (14.6)	590 (15.1)	0.01	129 (14.7)	135 (15.4)	0.02
Clostridium difficile-associated infection	7 (0.7)	38 (1)	0.02	7 (0.8)	7 (0.8)	0.00
Renal disorders including renal failure and fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base abnormalities	684 (73.1)	2743 (70.2)	0.06	636 (72.4)	639 (72.8)	0.01
Anemia	466 (49.8)	1750 (44.8)	0.10	432 (49.2)	437 (49.8)	0.01
Gastrointestinal hemorrhage	106 (11.3)	413 (10.6)	0.02	98 (11.2)	103 (11.7)	0.02
Diabetes and its complications	546 (58.3)	2053 (52.5)	0.12	503 (57.3)	492 (56)	0.03
Fibrosis of lung and other chronic lung disorders	35 (3.7)	183 (4.7)	0.05	34 (3.9)	35 (4)	0.01
Hip fracture	17 (1.8)	76 (1.9)	0.01	16 (1.8)	15 (1.7)	0.01
Complications of care	153 (16.3)	579 (14.8)	0.04	141 (16.1)	152 (17.3)	0.03
Other lung disorders including acute, congenital, and unspecified lung abnormalities	485 (51.8)	2074 (53.1)	0.03	459 (52.3)	477 (54.3)	0.04
Primary cancer of the trachea, bronchus, lung, and pleura	41 (4.4)	231 (5.9)	0.07	39 (4.4)	44 (5)	0.03
Other infections	517 (55.2)	2184 (55.9)	0.01	483 (55)	485 (55.2)	0.00
Cancer	273 (29.2)	1330 (34)	0.10	263 (30)	254 (28.9)	0.02
Endocrine/metabolic	840 (89.7)	3518 (90)	0.01	791 (90.1)	778 (88.6)	0.05
Liver disease	86 (9.2)	371 (9.5)	0.01	81 (9.2)	84 (9.6)	0.01

Digestive (Gastrointestinal)	651 (69.6)	2850 (72.9)	0.07	618 (70.4)	612 (69.7)	0.01
Musculoskeletal	768 (82.1)	3227 (82.6)	0.01	724 (82.5)	722 (82.2)	0.01
Other hematologic	217 (23.2)	873 (22.3)	0.02	200 (22.8)	200 (22.8)	0.00
Cognitive	227 (24.3)	881 (22.5)	0.04	215 (24.5)	224 (25.5)	0.02
Substance abuse	115 (12.3)	509 (13)	0.02	110 (12.5)	104 (11.8)	0.02
Psychiatric	417 (44.6)	1814 (46.4)	0.04	398 (45.3)	376 (42.8)	0.05
Development disorders	17 (1.8)	65 (1.7)	0.01	17 (1.9)	17 (1.9)	0.00
Spinal cord	36 (3.8)	181 (4.6)	0.04	35 (4)	39 (4.4)	0.02
Neuromuscular	494 (52.8)	2195 (56.2)	0.07	473 (53.9)	471 (53.6)	0.00
Non-acute cerebrovascular disease	167 (17.8)	693 (17.7)	0.00	156 (17.8)	168 (19.1)	0.04
Other pulmonary	43 (4.6)	168 (4.3)	0.01	38 (4.3)	40 (4.6)	0.01
Ophthalmologic	652 (69.7)	2801 (71.7)	0.04	608 (69.2)	591 (67.3)	0.04
Ear, nose, and throat	473 (50.5)	2129 (54.5)	0.08	454 (51.7)	464 (52.8)	0.02
Other renal	274 (29.3)	1043 (26.7)	0.06	252 (28.7)	247 (28.1)	0.01
Genitourinary	626 (66.9)	2671 (68.3)	0.03	583 (66.4)	563 (64.1)	0.05
Other dermatologic	433 (46.3)	1909 (48.8)	0.05	408 (46.5)	414 (47.2)	0.01
Injury excluding hip fracture	221 (23.6)	956 (24.5)	0.02	205 (23.3)	204 (23.2)	0.00
Symptoms (major and minor) excluding respiratory	503 (53.7)	2152 (55.1)	0.03	474 (54)	473 (53.9)	0.00
Miscellaneous surgical and non-surgical procedures	915 (97.8)	3836 (98.2)	0.03	858 (97.7)	855 (97.4)	0.02
Durable medical equipment	307 (32.8)	1277 (32.7)	0.00	289 (32.9)	289 (32.9)	0.00
Other	773 (82.6)	3325 (85.1)	0.07	733 (83.5)	733 (83.5)	0.00
Skin ulcer including decubitus ulcer	114 (12.2)	440 (11.3)	0.03	106 (12.1)	114 (13)	0.03

**Abbreviations:** BP, blood pressure; SMD, standardized mean difference; VISN, Veterans Integrated Service Networks; PDC, proportion of days covered

**eTable 7.** Secondary Clinical Outcomes Associated with Receiving Antihypertensive Intensifications at Hospital Discharge in Well-Controlled and Elevated Baseline Blood Pressure Subgroups

	Previously Controlled BP Subgroup (SBP<140 mmHg) <sup>a</sup>				Previously Elevated BP Subgroup (SBP≥140 mmHg) <sup>b</sup>			
	Intensified (N=1122)	Not Intensified (N=1122)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	NNH (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	Intensified (N=878)	Not Intensified (N=878)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	NNH (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>
	<i>No. with event</i>				<i>No. with event</i>			
<b>30 Day Outcomes</b>								
Mortality	51	56	0.92 (0.62 to 1.35)	NA	32	49	0.66 (0.42 to 1.03)	NA
Cardiovascular events	38	20	1.91 (1.11 to 3.29)	63 (34 to 345)	32	20	1.61 (0.92 to 2.81)	NA
<b>365 Day Outcomes</b>								
Mortality	275	274	1.01 (0.85 to 1.19)	NA	198	225	0.86 (0.71 to 1.04)	NA
Readmissions	676	588	1.24 (1.11 to 1.39)	13 (8 to 27)	516	530	0.97 (0.86 to 1.09)	NA
Serious adverse events	242	217	1.13 (0.94 to 1.36)	NA	169	175	0.96 (0.78 to 1.19)	NA

Abbreviations: BP, blood pressure; NNH, number needed to harm

Note: Patients were censored at either 30 days or 365 days following index hospitalization discharge as indicated in Table. Hazard ratios for mortality generated from Cox proportional hazard models. For all other outcomes, sub-distribution hazards were generated from competing risk regression models, accounting for the competing risk of death. Serious adverse events were defined as first emergency department visit or hospitalization for injurious fall, syncope, hypotension, electrolyte abnormalities, or acute kidney injury. Cardiovascular events were defined as first emergency department visit or hospitalization for acute myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke, heart failure, and hypertension.

<sup>a</sup> Propensity matching and survival analyses were performed separately for this sub-group of patients in which previously controlled BP was defined to include all patients with an outpatient systolic BP <140 mmHg prior to index hospitalization.

<sup>b</sup> Propensity matching and survival analyses were performed separately for this sub-group of patients in which previously elevated BP was defined to include all patients with an outpatient systolic BP ≥140 mmHg prior to index hospitalization.

<sup>c</sup> The NNH was only estimated when there was a statistically significant direction of treatment effect

**eTable 8.** Changes in Systolic Blood Pressure Following Hospital Discharge in Elevated and Well-Controlled Baseline BP Subgroups

A) Subgroup patients with well-controlled baseline pre-hospitalization SBP (<140 mmHg)

	Systolic Blood Pressure, Mean (95% CI), mmHg	
	Intensified	Not intensified
Baseline SBP <sup>a</sup>	125.6 (124.8 to 126.4)	125.4 (124.6 to 126.2)
Post-baseline SBP <sup>b</sup>	130.4 (129.0 to 131.9)	130.2 (128.7 to 131.7)
Pre-post change	4.8 (3.1 to 6.5)	4.7 (3.0 to 6.4)
Difference-in-differences estimate <sup>c</sup>	0.0 (-2.2 to 2.4)	

B) Subgroup patients with elevated baseline pre-hospitalization SBP (>140 mmHg)

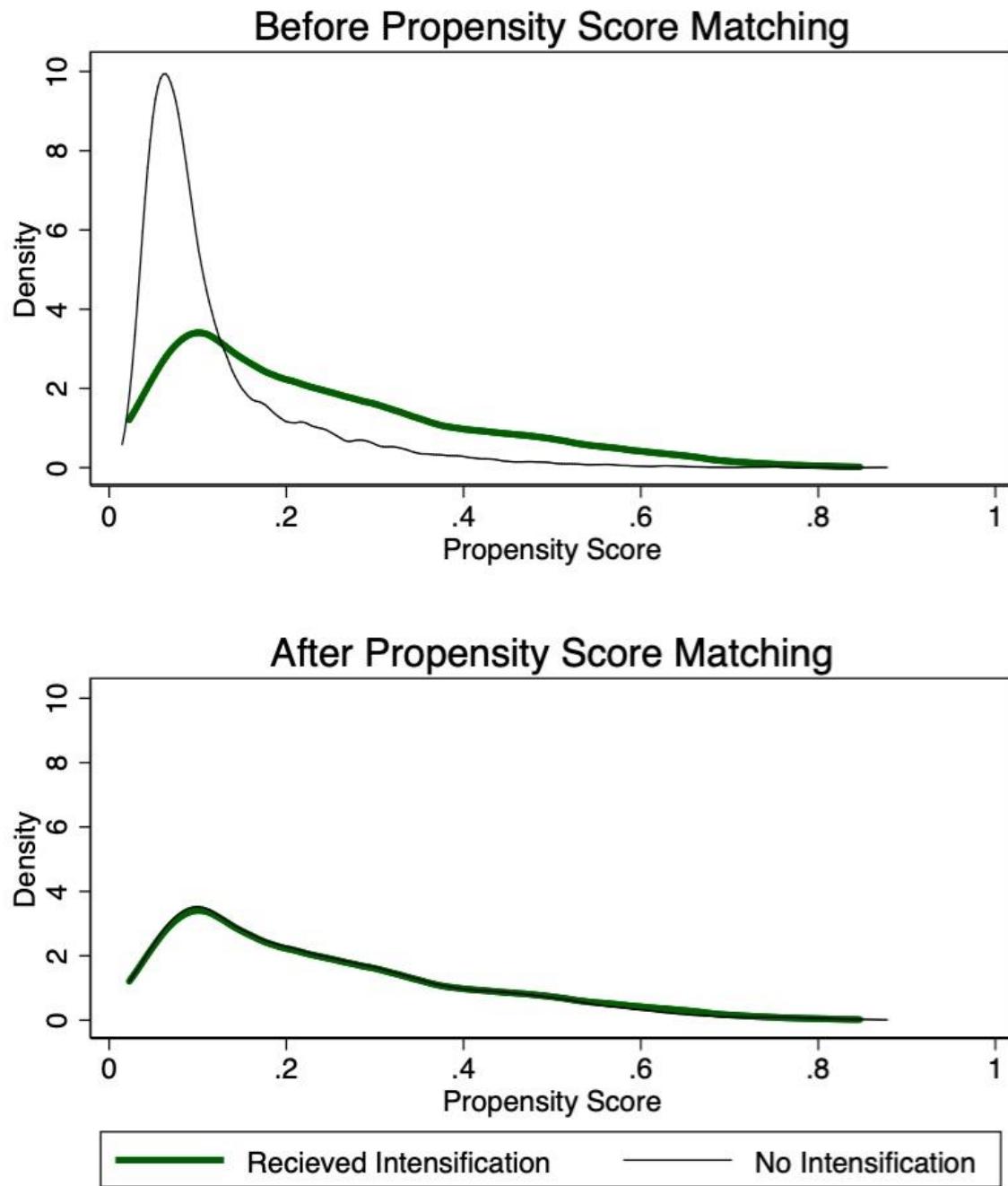
	Systolic Blood Pressure, Mean (95% CI), mmHg	
	Intensified	Not intensified
Baseline SBP <sup>a</sup>	153.8 (152.6 to 155.0)	154.3 (153.1 to 155.4)
Post-baseline SBP <sup>b</sup>	139.5 (137.8 to 141.3)	141.0 (139.2 to 142.8)
Pre-post change	-14.2 (-16.2 to -12.2)	-13.2 (-15.4 to -11.0)
Difference-in-differences estimate <sup>c</sup>	-1.0 (-4.0 to 2.0)	

<sup>a</sup> Indicates pre-hospitalization outpatient BP, recorded as median of 3 outpatient BPs collected in the one year prior to index hospitalization

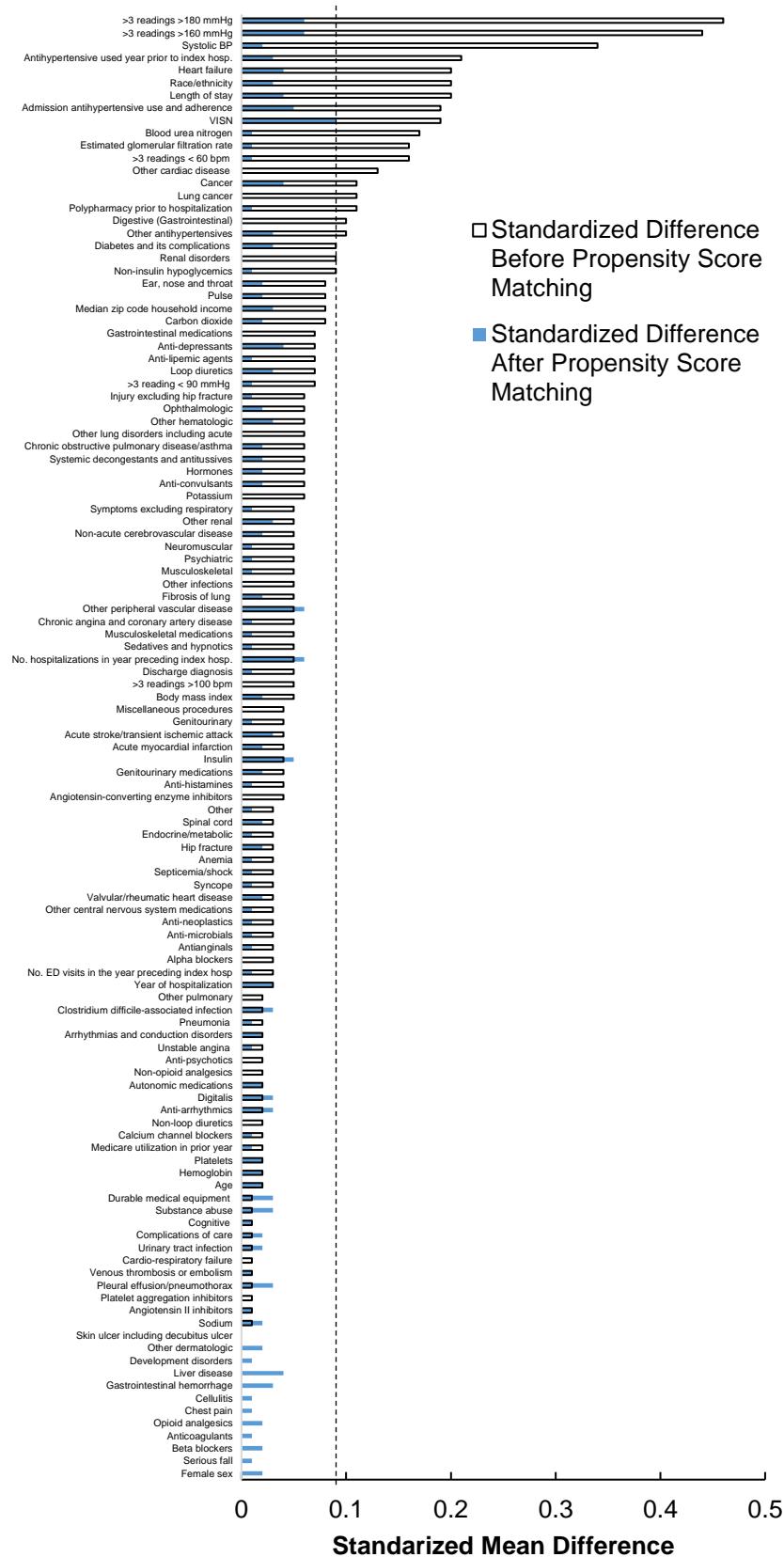
<sup>b</sup> The post-baseline SBP was assessed prior to censoring and as the BP recorded at the closest date to 1 year following index hospitalization discharge, within the range for 6 to 18 months following discharge.

<sup>c</sup> Calculated as the pre-post change in SBP for the intensified group minus the pre-post change in SBP for the not intensified group.

**eFigure 1.** Primary Cohort Propensity Score Balance Diagnostics  
A) Propensity Score Distribution Before and After Matching

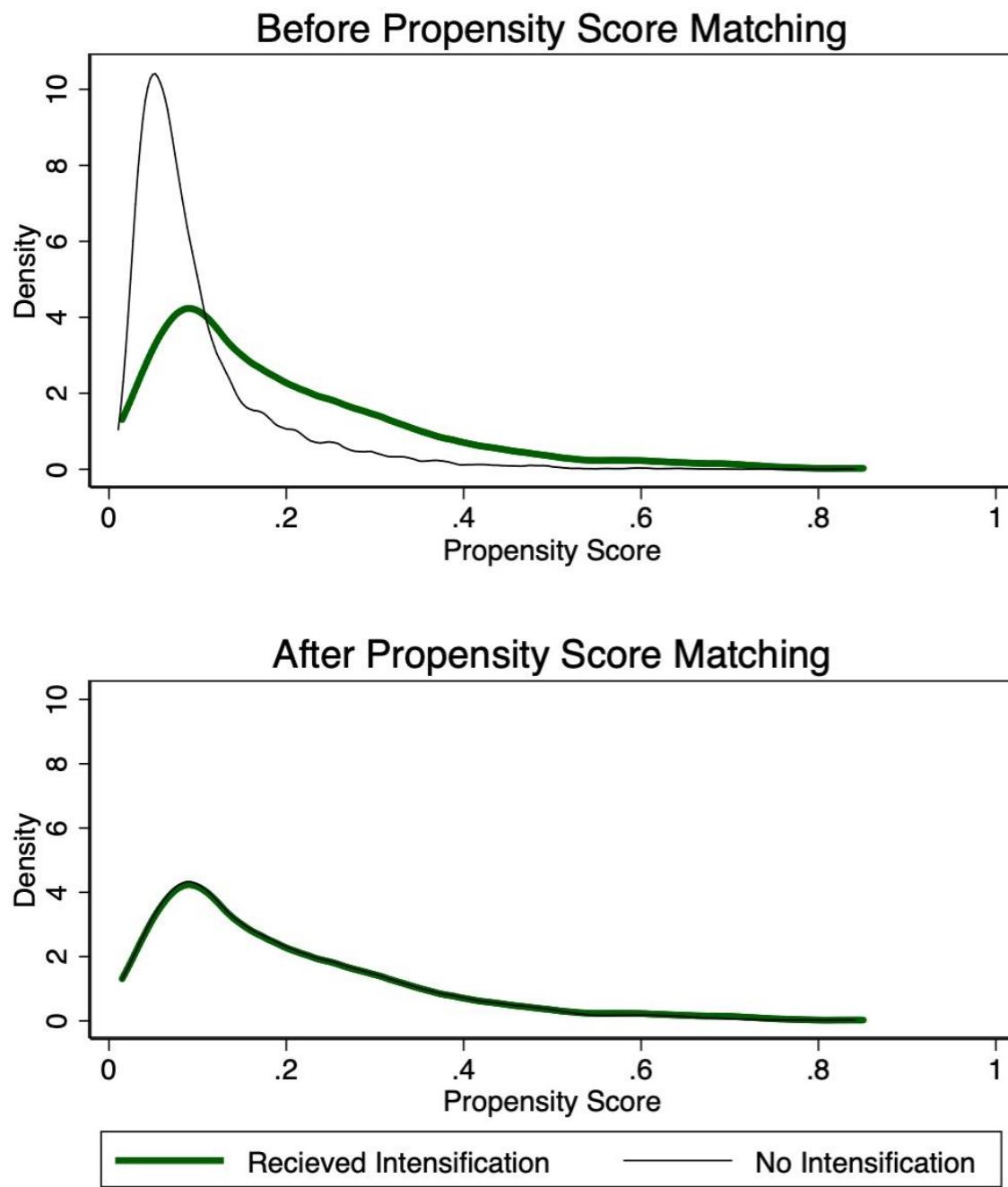


## B) Standard Mean Differences of Covariates, Before and After Matching



**eFigure 2.** Propensity Score Distribution Before and After Matching

A) Well-Controlled Pre-Hospitalization Baseline Blood Pressure Subgroup



A) Elevated Pre-Hospitalization Baseline Blood Pressure Subgroup

