

Ambulatory Blood Pressure Terminology

ABPM Term	Definition
Ambulatory	Moving about; not stationary. <i>(Note: ABPM enables the clinician to monitor patient's blood pressure while the patient moves about during everyday tasks.)</i>
Artifact	A structure or substance not normally present but produced by some external action. Artifact refers primarily to noise that may interfere with auscultatory monitoring.
Auscultatory	Refers to "listening" method for monitoring sounds made by internal organs or body parts.
Autodump	Programmed function that enables ABPM to automatically disengage air pressure from the cuff assembly a present pressure.
Autonomic neuropathy	Causative factor whereby symptoms are triggered by some psychological stimulus or reaction.
Autozeroing	Part of the self-test during which the pressure gauging circuitry resets itself to a zero pressure constant.
Bladder	Accessory that fits into the arm cuff and fills with air to tighten around the arm, then slowly deflated for blood pressure testing.
Brachial Artery	The main artery that runs roughly along the inside center of the arm; the brachial artery is the primary anatomical point used for gathering auscultatory blood pressure data
Cuff & Bladder	Assembly commonly used on blood pressure gauging apparatus, the cuff functions to compress the arm; it tightens as the clinician squeezes the bulb, increasing the cuff pressure.
Hypertension	(High Blood Pressure) Abnormal tension or rigidity in arteries and muscles often symptomatic of excessive psychological or environmental stress.
Normotensive	(Normal Blood Pressure) Medical demographic label for a group falling into the category for normal non-pathological blood pressure characteristics.
Pneumatic Assembly	Component of ABPM apparatus that uses compressed air to tighten or loosen the cuff assembly around the patient's arm.
Self-Test	Initializing function run by ABPM at each startup; self-test confirms that the ABPM system is properly functioning.
Sphygmomanometer	(Manometer). An instrument used for measuring blood pressure in the arteries through barometric gauging.
Target Organ Pathology	A Diagnosis that links a group of symptoms to a specific organ dysfunction
Therapy Resistant	Term used to describe patients who respond poorly to a variety of treatments.
Transient Symptomatology	Symptoms with no recognizable correlation to objective controls or environmental situations, symptoms occurring in a haphazard manner.

