Reviewer's report

Title: The BpTRU Automatic Blood Pressure Monitor compared to 24 Hour Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring in the Assessment of Blood Pressure in Patients with Hypertension

Version: 1 Date: 15 February 2005

Reviewer: Bernard Waeber

Reviewer’s report:

GENERAL

This study assessed the usefulness of an automated oscillometric blood pressure measuring device in a clinical setting. The originality of this apparatus is that it makes available several blood pressure readings. Measurements were performed in the absence of any person involved in patient’s care.

The results are not surprising. Blood pressures measured using the automated device were closer from daytime ambulatory pressures than from office blood pressures. Actually very similar observations would have been obtained by asking the patient to measure his blood pressure at home. Self-measurement of blood pressure has a major advantage compared with the procedure used here: it provides repeated blood pressure measurements over prolonged periods. Also, it represents an effective way to improve compliance.

This study has a number of limitations, which are by the way well acknowledged by the authors.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No