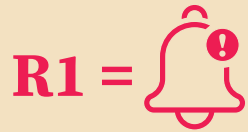


Early Detection of Possible Hypertension in a Solo Acupuncture Clinic: A Single Case Report Using an AI-Supported Escalation Pathway

A solo acupuncture clinic encountered repeated **elevated blood pressure** during routine care for shoulder pain.

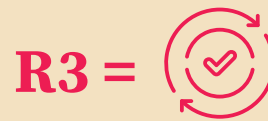
The clinic used a structured escalation pathway:



Same-day
urgent referral

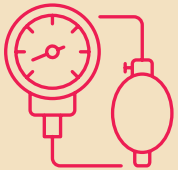


Planned physician
evaluation



Continued local care
with reassessment

In this case, repeated post-session blood pressure readings in the hypertensive range triggered R2 **referral to the patient's primary care physician**, while conservative acupuncture care continued.



Artificial intelligence was used to:

- Support red-flag organization
- Organize serial blood pressure readings
- Summarize referral communication



**But not to make diagnoses
or final clinical decisions**



The key patient safety message is that repeated abnormal vital signs in nonphysician settings **should not remain background noise.**

They should trigger:

- Structured reassessment
- Documentation
- Appropriate medical hand-off

