#### COMMUNITY CARE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## **Home Blood Pressure Monitoring for Patients**

#### Instructions

Your provider has recommended that you check your blood pressure (BP) at home. If you do not have a blood pressure cuff at home, one will be provided for you. Contact your provider if you have not received your monitor within 1 week.

### Helpful Tips for Accurate Home Blood Pressure Checks

- Don't smoke, exercise, or drink caffeine 30 minutes before checking your BP
- Use the restroom before checking your BP (a full bladder can raise your pressure)
- Relax in a comfortable upright chair
- Feet on the ground
- Left arm resting comfortably on a flat surface at the level of your heart
- Legs uncrossed
- Back supported
- Sit quietly and don't talk
- Place the cuff on your bare arm
- Adjust snuggly, so that only two fingertips can fit between your skin and the top of the cuff
- Check 2 readings separated by at least one minute
- Keep a log of your BP readings
- For a visual, please reference this diagram: http://ccnc.care/bpdiagram

#### Provider Name:

### Zone 1: ALL CLEAR

# Continue to monitor your symptoms:

- BP reading is less than 140 (top number) or less than 90 (bottom number)
- No right upper stomach pain
- No headaches or seeing spots
- No feeling nauseated or throwing up
- No swelling in face and hands

### Zone 2: CAUTION

# Call your doctor's office for any of the following:

- BP reading is greater than 150 (top number) or greater than 100 (bottom number)
- Stomach pain under your ribs in the middle or right side
- Headaches or seeing spots
- Feeling nauseated or throwing up
- Swelling in face and hands

# Zone 3: EMERGENCY

Phone:

# Seek immediate medical care if you have any of the following:

- BP reading is greater than 160 (top number) or greater than 110 (bottom number)
- Severe headaches not improving with Tylenol
- Serious difficulty catching your breath
- Any worsening symptoms from Zone 2



