# Know Your Numbers! Week: 8th to 14th September 2025

#### More Than 4 in 10 UK Adults Unaware of Their Blood Pressure

Know Your Numbers! Week is a national campaign led by Blood Pressure UK to raise awareness about the importance of knowing your blood pressure numbers. Taking place from **8**<sup>th</sup> **to 14**<sup>th</sup> **September 2025**, the week encourages everyone to get their blood pressure checked and take simple steps to look after their heart health.

Here in **North West London**, approximately **11% of the population** is living with high blood pressure (hypertension). Many people are unaware they have the condition. Because high blood pressure often has **no obvious signs or symptoms**, the only way to know your numbers is to have a check. As Dr Haidar Mohammed, North West London ICB Clinical Lead for Cardiovascular Disease explains: "High blood pressure often has no warning signs, yet it can quietly damage your heart, brain, and kidneys. A quick check at home, your pharmacy, or GP could save your life. When more of us know our numbers, we can prevent thousands of strokes and heart attacks."

#### Why it matters

- 1. **High blood pressure often has no warning signs or symptoms.** The only way to know if you have it is to get your blood pressure checked.
- 2. If left untreated, high blood pressure is the main cause of strokes, heart attacks, and heart failure. It also increases the risk of kidney disease and dementia.
- 3. A healthy blood pressure is 120 over 80 or below.
- 4. Readings between 121 over 81 and 139 over 89 are considered on the high side. At this stage, making lifestyle changes such as eating less salt, eating more fruit and vegetables, and losing weight if needed can help bring it down.
- 5. **High blood pressure: Readings regularly above 140 over 90 may mean a diagnosis of hypertension.** Support may include making healthier lifestyle choices and, if necessary, taking medication as advised by your doctor.

## Where you can get checked

You can have your blood pressure measured at:

- 1. Your GP surgery
- 2. Some local pharmacies
- 3. Certain workplaces
- 4. Health events in your borough

## **Discover MyHealth London**

Find information and resources on **MyHealth London**, a digital platform for residents in North West London, as well as families, carers and healthcare professionals. Visit <u>Hypertension | CVD</u> to sign up and access resources, and support for managing your heart health.

### **Take Action This Know Your Numbers Week**

Join us in spreading awareness between **8 and 14 September 2025**. Encourage friends, family and colleagues to get their blood pressure checked, and make sure you know your own numbers too. A simple check could make a big difference for your future health.