

### ***Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)***

The combination of physical, mental, and emotional stress, increased exertion and/or heat, and altitude appears to cause a significant increase in blood pressure in some individuals. Occasionally, hypertension reaches such a level that it is no longer safe to engage in strenuous activity. Hypertension can increase the risk of having a stroke, heart attack, or angina. **Participants should have a normal blood pressure (less than 140/90).**

Persons with significant hypertension (greater than 140/90) should be treated and controlled before attending any highadventure base, and should continue on medications while participating. **The goal of treatment should be to lower the blood pressure to normal.** Participants already on antihypertensive therapy with normal blood pressure should continue on medications. Individuals taking diuretics to treat hypertension are at increased risk for dehydration related to strenuous physical activity and should be careful to maintain good hydration during the trek. **Philmont.** Each participant who is 18 years of age or older will have his or her blood pressure checked at Philmont. **Those individuals with a blood pressure consistently greater than 160/100 at Philmont may be kept off the trail until their blood pressure decreases.**

**Florida Sea Base.** Those taking beta-blocker medication should consider a change of medication before participating in any scuba program.