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2020 ACC/AHA Clinical Performance and Quality Measures for Adults With Heart Failure

Heart Failure Performance Measure Writing Committee Chairs:

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Heart Failure Performance Measures Writing Committee

- In 2019, an 11-member writing committee was convened to revise and update the 2011 heart failure performance measure set.
- In addition to revising the existing measures, the committee was charged with developing new measures to evaluate the care of patients in accordance with the 2017 ACC/AHA/HFSA heart failure guideline update.

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Changes to the 2011 Heart Failure (HF) Measure Set

Retained Performance Measures

- Left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF)—outpatient
- Symptom activity assessment
- Symptom management
- Beta-blocker (BB) therapy—low LVEF
- Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) counseling—low LVEF

Revised Performance Measures

- 1 measure retired (LVEF—inpatient).
- 2 performance measures revised and moved to quality.
 - Appointment within 7 days—allowed for stronger statement than guideline recommendation.
 - Patient self-care education—evidence not strong enough for performance measurement.
- 1 performance measure revised.
 - Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEi)/angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) in low LVEF: angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor (ARNI) added.

7 New Performance Measures

- Cardiac resynchronization therapy—low LVEF.
- Mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists (MRA)—low LVEF.
- Lab monitoring for new MRA prescription in HF.
- Hydralazine/nitrate in Black/African American patients—low LVEF.
- ARNI if symptomatic on ACEi.
- Dose of BB $\geq 50\%$ of recommended if no evidence of intolerance.
- Dose of ACEi/ARB/ARNI $\geq 50\%$ of recommended if no evidence of intolerance.

New Quality Measures

- HF-specific patient-reported outcome (PRO) measurement.
- Outcome measure: HF PRO sustained or improved.
 - Patients whose last score within the last 6 months of the reporting period is not-significantly worse [(did not decrease by 5 or more points for the Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ) or did not increase by 7 or more points for the Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire (MLHFQ)] than the first score in the first 6 months of the reporting period.
- Structural measure: Participation in HF registry.



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Summary of Performance, Quality, and Structural Measures

For the Management of Heart Failure

Performance Measures

Measure No.	Measure Title/Description	COR/LOE
Performance Measures		
PM-1	LVEF assessment (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: C / COR: 2a, LOE: C
PM-2	Symptom and activity assessment (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: C
PM-3	Symptom management (outpatient setting)	N/A
PM-4	Beta-blocker therapy for HFrEF (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A / COR: 1, LOE: B
PM-5	ACE inhibitor or ARB or ARNI therapy for HFrEF (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A / COR: 1, LOE: B-R
PM-6	ARNI therapy for HFrEF (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: B-R
PM-7	Dose of beta-blocker therapy for HFrEF (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A
PM-8	Dose of ACE inhibitor, ARB, or ARNI therapy for HFrEF (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A / COR: 1, LOE: B-R

Performance Measures (cont'd)

Measure No.	Measure Title/Description	COR/LOE
Performance Measures		
PM-9	MRA therapy for HFrEF (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A / COR: 1, LOE: B
PM-10	Laboratory monitoring in new MRA therapy (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A
PM-11	Hydralazine/isosorbide dinitrate therapy for HFrEF in those self-identified as Black or African American (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A
PM-12	Counseling regarding ICD implantation for patients with HFrEF on guideline-directed medical therapy (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A
PM-13	CRT implantation for patients with HFrEF on guideline-directed medical therapy (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: A / COR: 1, LOE: B

Quality and Structural Measures

Measure No.	Measure Title/Description	COR/LOE
Performance Measures		
QM-1	Patient self-care education (outpatient setting)	COR: 1, LOE: B
QM-2	Measurement of patient-reported outcome-health status (outpatient setting)	N/A
QM-3	Sustained or improved health status in heart failure (outcome)	N/A
QM-4	Post-discharge appointment for heart failure patients (inpatient setting)	COR: 2a, LOE: B
Structural Measure		
SM-1	Heart failure registry participation (outpatient and inpatient setting)	COR: 2a, LOE: B

Rehabilitation Performance Measures Related to Heart Failure

(From the 2018 ACC/AHA performance measures for cardiac rehabilitation)

Measure No.	Measure Title/Description	COR/LOE
Rehabilitation Performance Measures Related to Heart Failure		
Rehab PM-2	Exercise training referral for HF from inpatient setting	COR: 1, LOE: A
Rehab PM-4	Exercise training referral for HF from outpatient setting	COR: 1, LOE: A

Summary/Goals

- 13 performance measures
- 4 quality measures
- 1 structural measure
- 2 prior published measures (exercise training referral) are referenced.
- Align performance measures with randomized trial evidence of clear outcome improvement.
- Add a safety measure (MRA) acknowledging potential for unintended consequences of new measures.
- Highlight new areas for improvement (PRO measurement, early follow-up post-discharge) that are not yet ready for performance measurement.

HF Performance Measures Publication

Citations and Links to HF Performance Measures Publication

- ACC Journal - *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*

Heidenreich PA, Fonarow GC, Breathett K, Jurgens CY, Pisani BA, Pozehl BJ, Spertus JA, Taylor KG, Thibodeau JT, Yancy CW, Ziaieian B. 2020 ACC/AHA clinical performance and quality measures for adults with heart failure: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Performance Measures. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2020; 76:XXX–XX.

<http://www.jacc.org/doi/10.1016/j.jacc.2020.07.023>

- AHA Journal - *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*

Heidenreich PA, Fonarow GC, Breathett K, Jurgens CY, Pisani BA, Pozehl BJ, Spertus JA, Taylor KG, Thibodeau JT, Yancy CW, Ziaieian B. 2020 ACC/AHA clinical performance and quality measures for adults with heart failure: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Performance Measures. *Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes.* 2020; 12:e000099. doi:10.1161/HCQ.0000000000000099.

<https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/HCQ.0000000000000099>