

Congestive Heart Failure CD 9 Summary

- Congestive heart failure is a complex clinical syndrome with signs and symptoms that are a result of structural and/or functional impairment of ventricular ejection or filling which results in objective evidence of pulmonary or systemic congestion.^{1,2}
- Identification of the etiology of the cardiac dysfunction is crucial in the diagnosis of heart failure (HF) to determine subsequent management.²⁻⁴
- Evaluation of HF usually entails multiple different diagnostic tools incorporating tools such as echocardiogram, stress testing, genetic testing, nuclear imaging, CT/ MRI imaging, endomyocardial biopsy and cardiac catheterization.^{1,2,5}
- Treatment of heart failure (HF) is targeted towards treating the underlying cause, improving the function and structure of the heart, reducing mortality and morbidity. This not only includes medications but may also entail the use of cardiac resynchronization devices, monitoring devices, ventricular assist devices, cardiothoracic surgery and heart transplant.⁶⁻⁹

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