



****Attach to Patient's Chart****

Congestive Heart Failure Patient Fax Alert*

Patient Information

Physician:	Today's Date:
Patient:	Admitted To:
Member ID:	Admit Date:
Diagnosis:	Discharge Date:

This member was recently hospitalized. If you are considering a therapeutic trial of ACE inhibitors and/or selective beta-blockers for CHF, please refer to our applicable preferred drug list below.

Preferred Drug List*

<u>Selective Beta-Adrenergic Blockers:</u>	Coreg [®] , Topril XL [®] , metoprolol tartrate
<u>Ace Inhibitors:</u>	enalapril, lisinopril, captopril, benazepril
<u>Diuretics:</u>	furosemide, bumetanide, spironolactone, zaroxolyn
<u>Vasodilators:</u>	hydralazine, isosorbid dinitrate, isosorbide mononitrate
	Members can obtain a scale through our Congestive Heart Failure Disease Management Program by calling (866) 593-2538.
<u>Scales:</u>	

***Note: Medication coverage is subject to generic, brand and co-pay benefit structure.**

Guidelines and Recommendations*

American College of Cardiology (ACC) and American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for the Management of Congestive Heart Failure Recommend:*

Most patients with heart failure should be routinely managed with a selected combination of medications which include:

- Ace Inhibitors
- Selective Beta-adrenergic blockers
- Loop Diuretics/Spironolactone
- Vasodilators
- Digoxin

Unless there is a specific contraindication, all patients with heart failure due to left ventricular systolic dysfunction should receive an ACE inhibitor and a selective beta-blocker, because they have been shown to favorably influence the long-term prognosis of heart failure.** Clinical trial evidence supports the slow up titration of ACE Inhibitor therapy and beta-blockade with the addition of diuretics to manage fluid overload.

*ACC/AHA Guidelines for the Evaluation and Management of Chronic Heart Failure in the Adult, December 2001. (The full text may be accessed via www.acc.org and www.americanheart.org).

**Drugs for Treatment of Heart failure, Treatment Guidelines for The Medical Letter, April 2003.

Address questions to our Congestive Heart Failure Disease Management Program (866) 593-2538.

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