

RI ACC 12th Annual Symposium
Cardiology Update for Primary Care
Providers

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Heart Failure Readmissions

Can we prevent the inevitable?

Disclosures

None

Evidence-Based Treatment Across the Continuum of Systolic LVD and HF

Control Volume

Diuretics

Renal Replacement
Therapy*



**ACEI
or ARB**

Improve Clinical Outcomes

β -Blocker

**Aldosterone
Antagonist
or ARB**



**CRT \pm
an ICD***

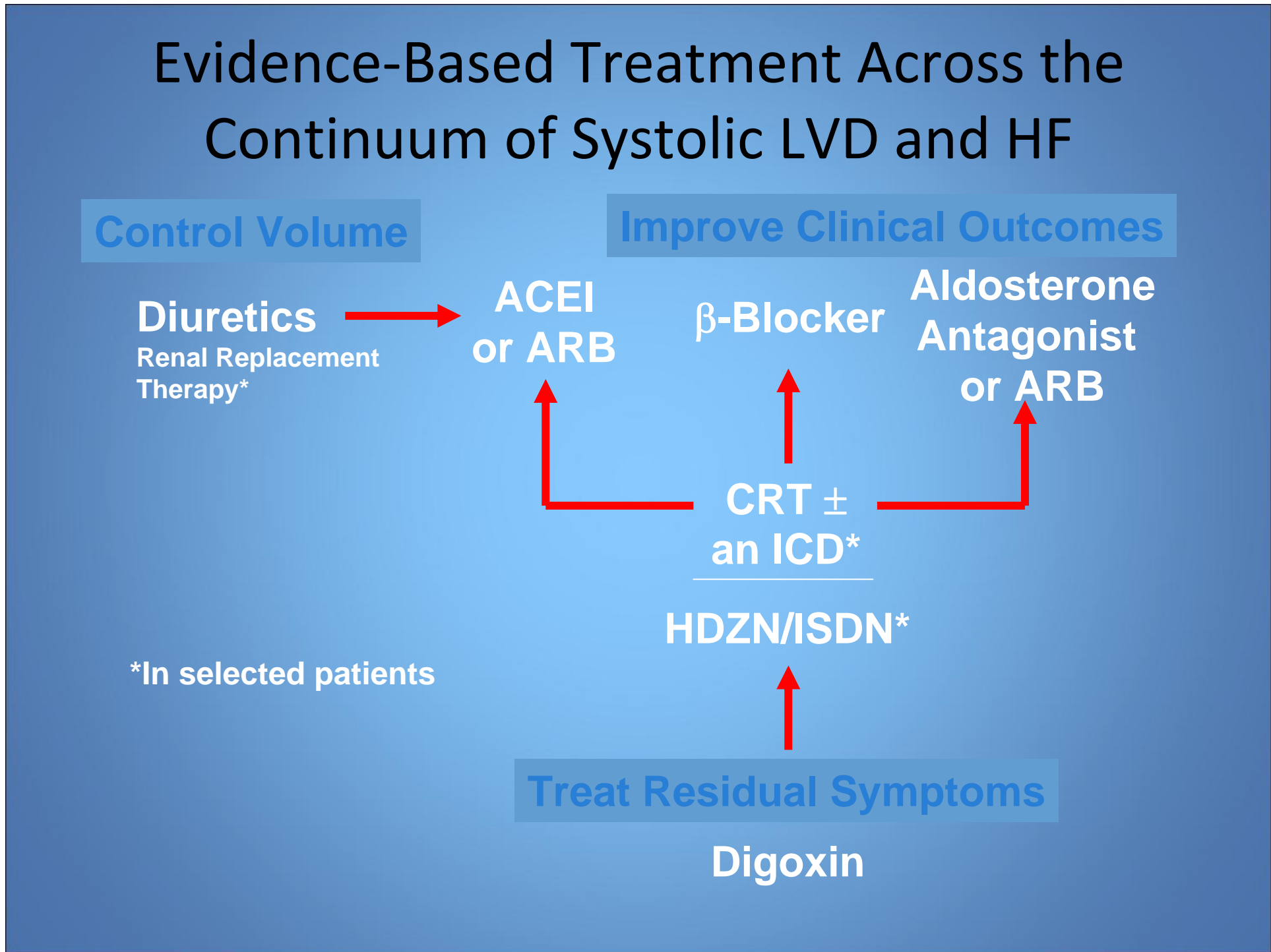
HDZN/ISDN*



Treat Residual Symptoms

Digoxin

*In selected patients



Predictors of Mortality Based on Analysis of ADHERE Database

- Classification and Regression Tree (CART) analysis of ADHERE data shows:
- Three variables are the strongest predictors of mortality in hospitalized ADHF patients:

BUN > 43 mg/dL

Systolic blood pressure < 115 mmHg

Serum creatinine > 2.75 mg/dL

HFSA 2010 Practice Guideline (12.25, Table 12.7) Discharge Criteria for Hospitalized ADHF Patients

•**Recommended** prior to discharge for all patients with HF:

- Exacerbating factors addressed
- Near optimum fluid status and pharmacologic therapy achieved
- Transition from IV to oral diuretic completed
- Patient education completed with clear discharge instructions
- Follow-up clinic visit scheduled, usually 7-10 days

•**Should be considered** prior to discharge for patients with advanced HF or a history of recurrent admissions:

- Oral regimen stable for 24 hours
- No IV inotrope or vasodilator for 24 hours
- Ambulation before discharge to assess functional capacity
- Plans for post-discharge management
- Referral for disease management, if available

Strength of Evidence =C

Source ; HFSA 2010 Guidelines:

HFSA 2010 Practice Guideline (8.1)

Heart Failure Patient Education

- It **is recommended** that patients with HF and their family members or caregivers receive individualized education and counseling that emphasizes self-care.
- This education and counseling should be delivered by providers using a team approach.
- Teaching should include skill building and target behaviors.

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Strength of Evidence = B

Source: HFSA 2010 Guidelines

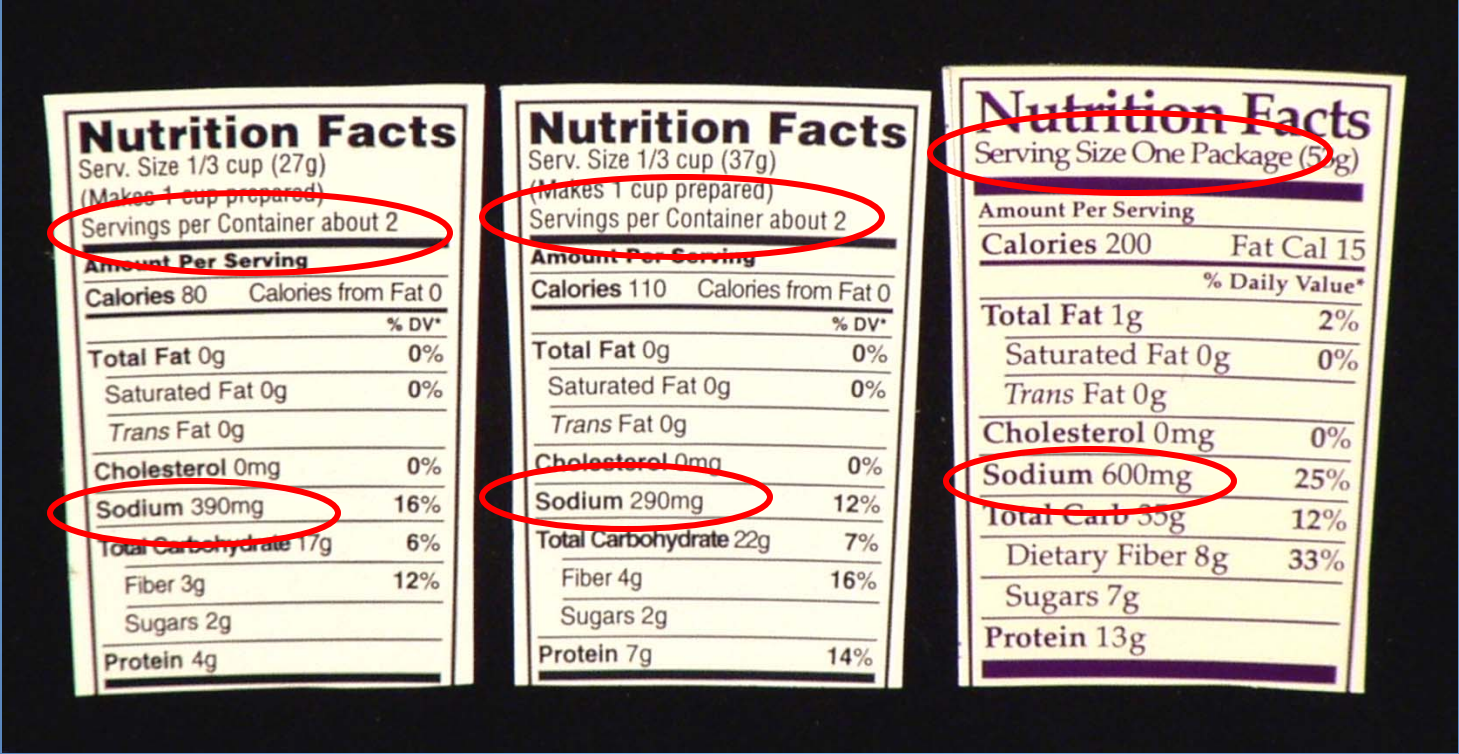
The Potential Impact of Effective Education on Patient Compliance

Nonadherence rate when patients . . .

	Recall MD advice	Don't recall advice
Medications	8.7%	66.7%
Diet	23.6%	55.8%
Activity	76.4%	84.5%
Smoking	60.0%	90.4%
Alcohol	60.0%	81.8%

Kravitz et al. Arch Int Med 1993;153:1869-78

Sample Target Behavior: Be Able to Read and Understand Food Labels



Labels from cups of soup

HFSA 2010 Practice Guideline (8.7)

Heart Failure Disease Management

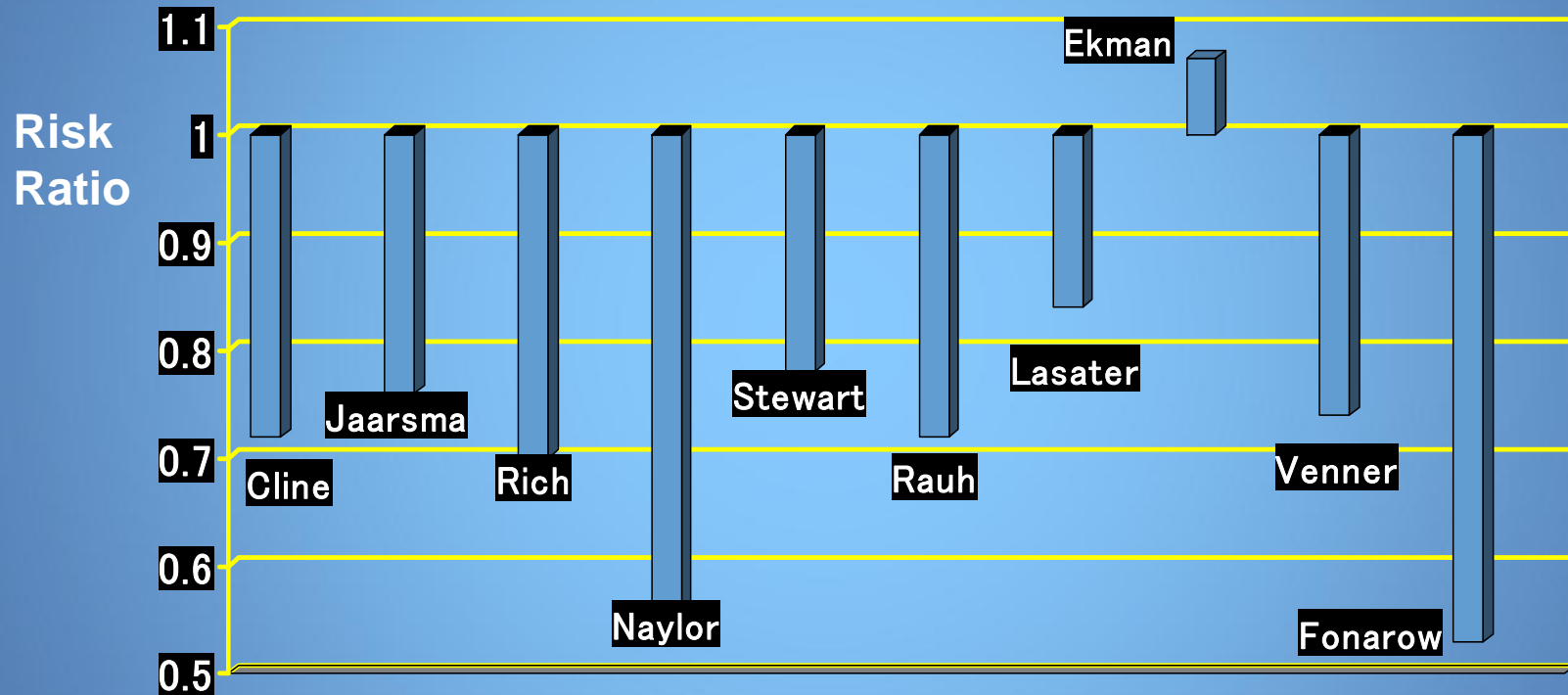
- Patients recently hospitalized for HF and other patients at high risk **should be considered** for referral to a comprehensive HF disease management program that delivers individualized care.

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Strength of Evidence = A

Source: HFSA 2010 Guidelines

HF Disease Management and the Risk of Readmission



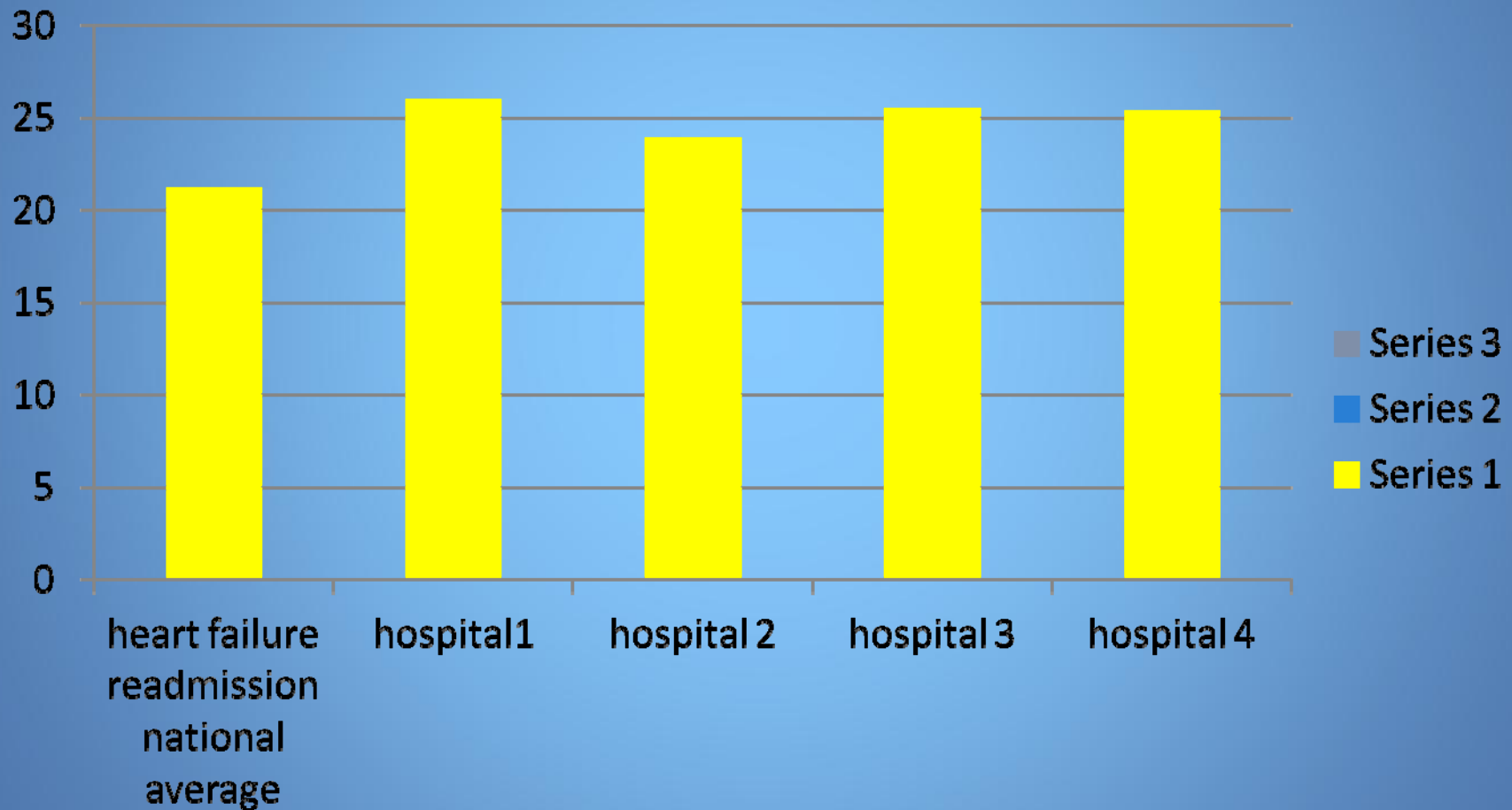
Summary RR = 0.76 (95% CI .68-.87)

Summary RR for randomized only = 0.75 (CI = .60-.95)

Readmission Rates as a Quality Measure

Patient Protection Affordable Care Act of 2010 creates both incentives and penalties with the potential for a 3% Medicare reimbursement cut by 2015 for hospitals with high heart failure readmission rates

Heart Failure Readmission Rates Among RI Hospitals



Source: Commonwealth fund data www.whynotthebest.org

Heart Failure Patients Readmitted to Hospital Within 30 Days



Hospital Strategies Associated with Reduced 30-Day Heart Failure Readmission Rates

Partnering with community physicians or physician groups (0.33%)

Partnering with local hospitals (0.34%)

Having nurses responsible for med reconciliation (0.18%)

Follow up appointments arranged before discharge (0.19)

Process in place to send discharge information to primary care provider (0.21%)

Assigned staff to follow up on test results received post discharge (0.26%)

Primary Care Initiative

- To achieve this goals: active program
- Grant to hospital system
- Mid level run program (NP/PA)
- Heart failure transition “clinic”
- Bridge between inpt, outpt
- Improve patient care
- Make available early post discharge visit (2 day goal)
- Reduce readmission

End-of-Life Care in Heart Failure

•End-of-life care **should be considered** in patients who have advanced, persistent HF with symptoms at rest despite repeated attempts to optimize pharmacologic, device, and other therapies, as evidenced by one or more of the following:

- HF hospitalization *Strength of Evidence = C*
- Chronic poor quality of life with inability to accomplish activities of daily living
Strength of Evidence = C
- Need for continuous IV inotropic therapy support
Strength of Evidence = C

Death is still the cheapest health
care alternative

Dea

Our Task

- Make sure the quality measures represent quality
- Make sure that care remains the focus of accountable care

Thank You