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# Treatment of the Advanced Heart Failure Patient

**John Rommel, MD**

# Disclosures

**Previous Speaker For Novartis**

**Speaker for AbioMed**

**Speaker for BI and Eli-Lilly**

**Tar Heel Fan**

# Definitions

**A complex clinical syndrome that occurs when the heart is unable to meet the metabolic demands of the body at normal cardiac filling pressures.**

# How Serious Is the Problem?

**6.2 million people in the United States with Heart Failure**

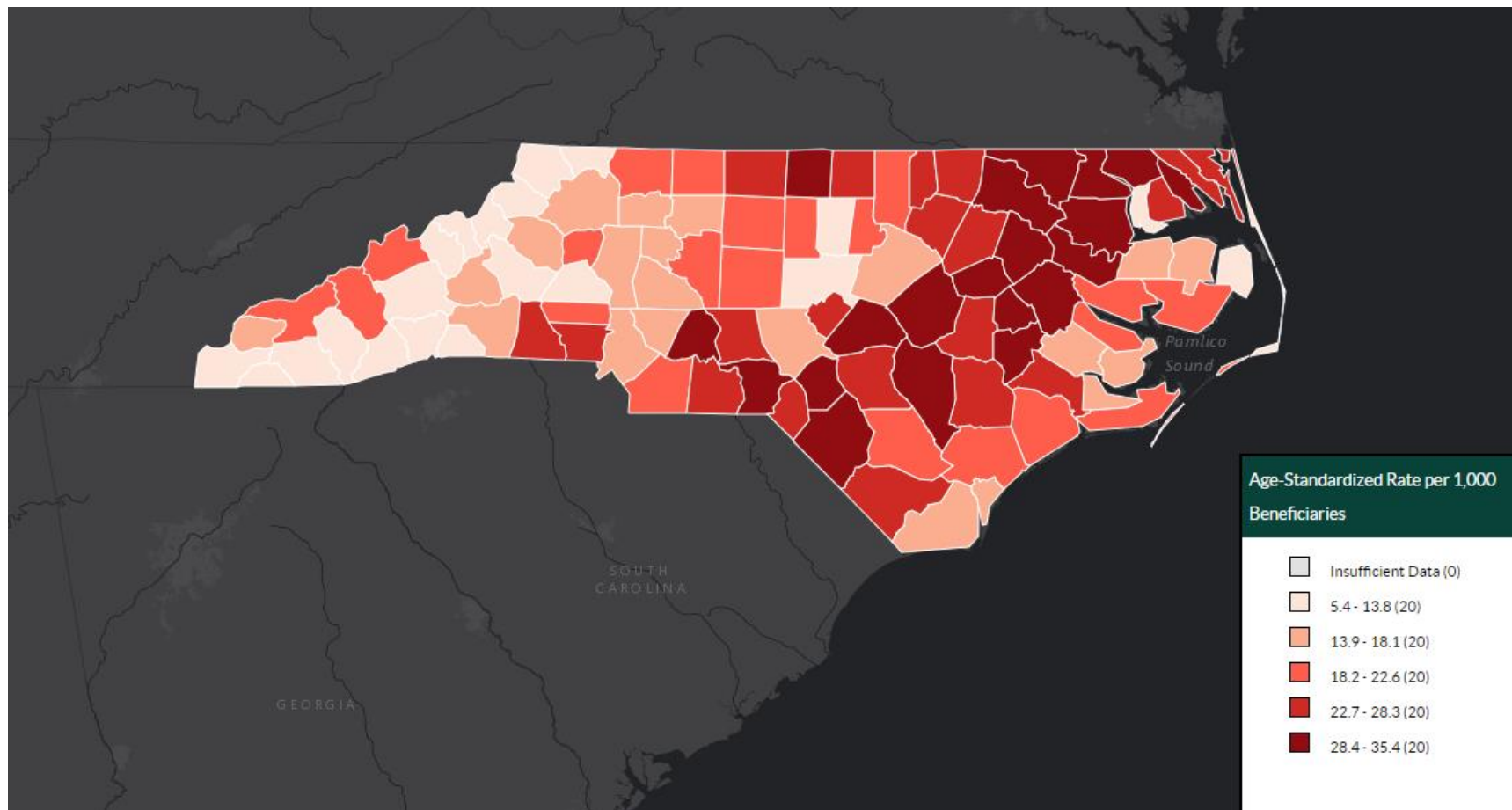
**26 million cases worldwide**

**1/5 people over the age 40 will get diagnosed with heart failure**

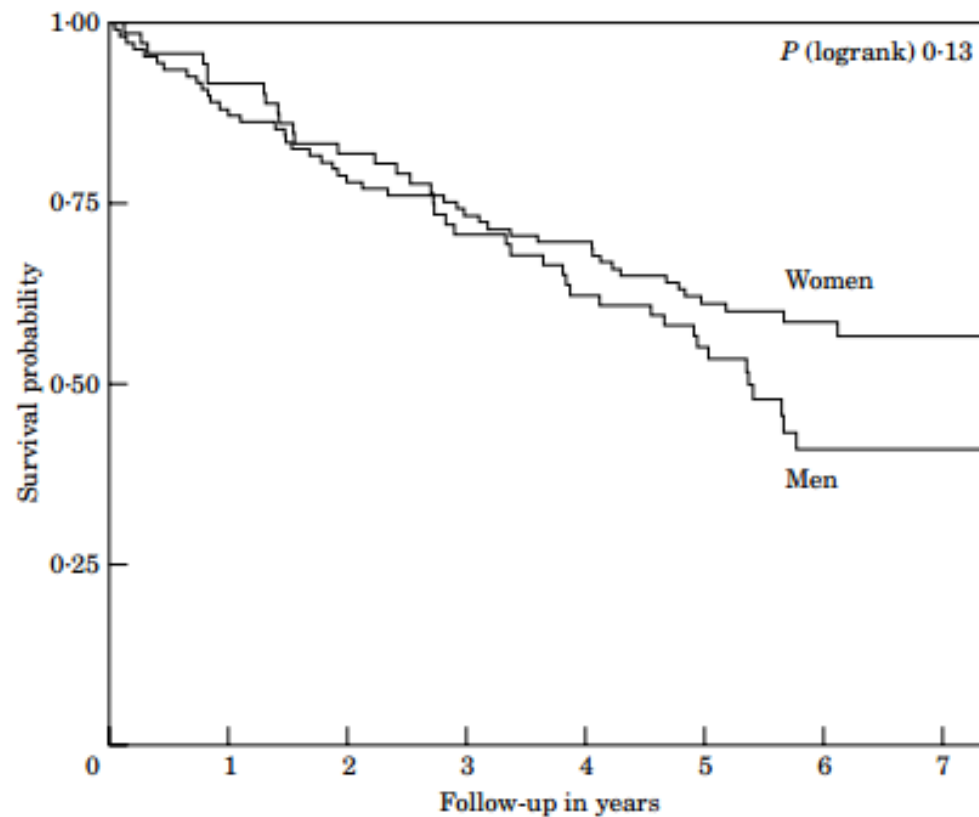
**500,000-650,000 new cases a year**

**The incidence increases over a person's lifetime**

# Hospitalizations



# Mortality



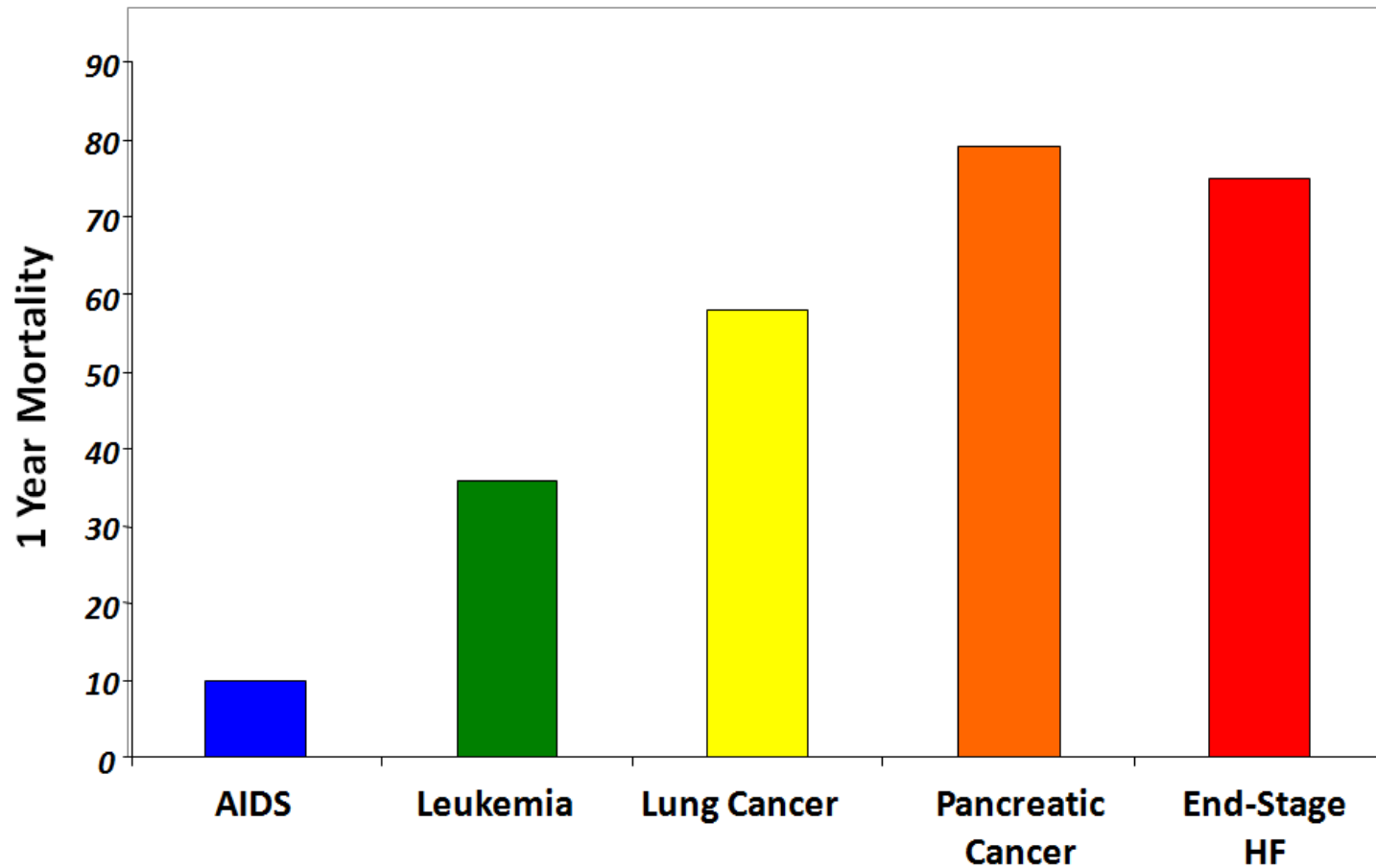
**Figure 1** Kaplan-Meier survival curves for 72 men ( $74.5 \pm 7.4$  years) and 109 women ( $79.2 \pm 7.8$ ) with heart failure.

# Mortality

Stage D, NYHA Class IV	50% Mortality
Acute cardiogenic shock	Imminent
End organ dysfunction	1 month
Inotrope-dependent	3-6 months
ACE-inhibitor intolerant	6 months
Cachexia, hyponatremia, CKD	6-12 months
Tolerating oral therapies	± 12 months
Stabilized to NYHA Class III	> 24 months

*Stevenson LW, Rose EA. Circulation  
2003;108:3059*

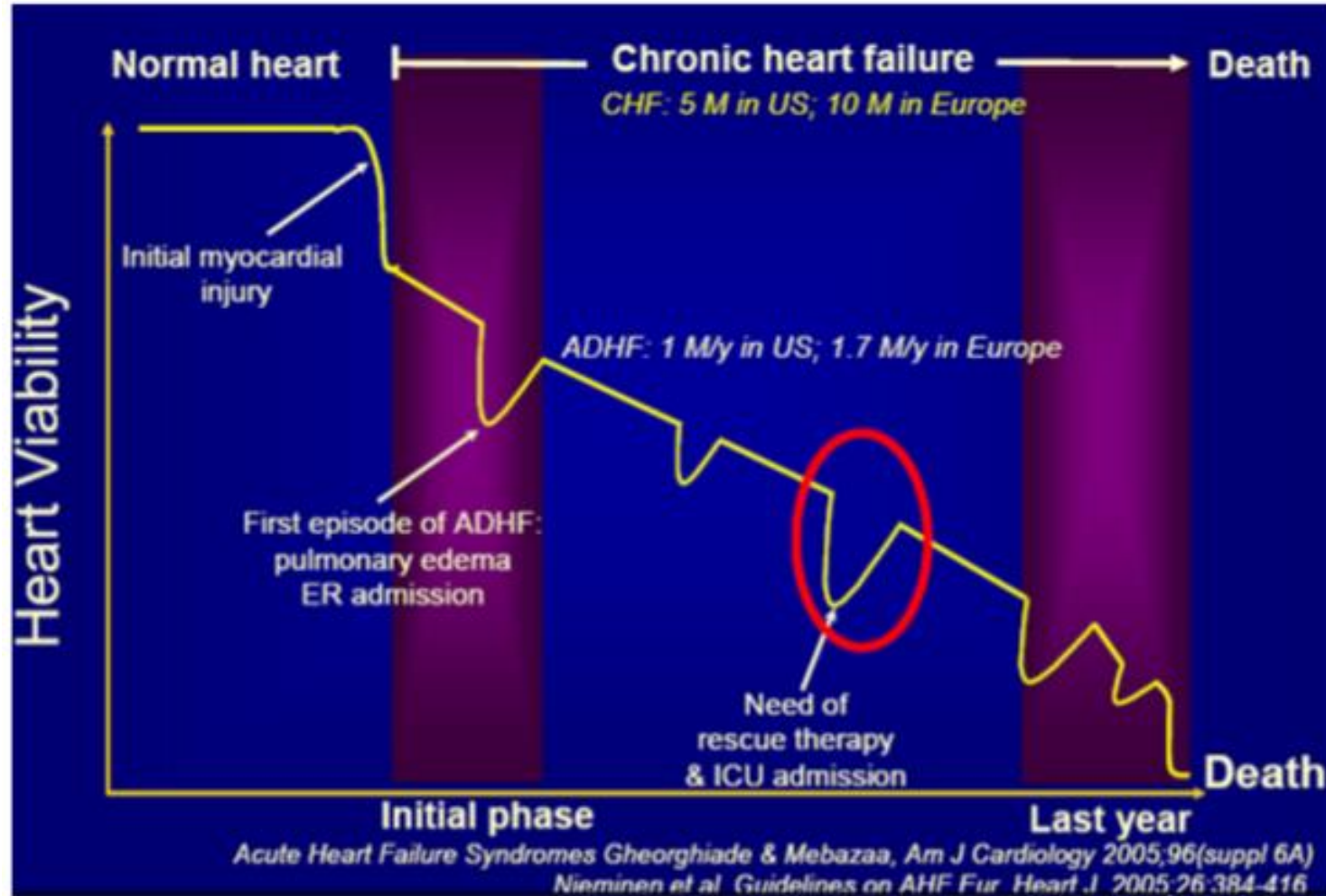
## Heart Failure in Context...



*Rose EA, et al. Long-term mechanical left ventricular assistance for end-stage heart failure. N Engl J Med. 2001 Nov 15;345(20):1435-43*



# Mortality



# When Patients Reach “End Stage”



# Defining End Stage

**NYHA class IIIb-IV despite optimal medical treatment**

**Intolerant to oral therapies due to hypotension/end organ dysfunction**

**Volume overload resistant to diuretics**

**Increasing hospitalizations**

**Increasing life threatening arrhythmias**

**High risk scores in a heart failure mortality predictor model**

**Class 1: No symptoms**

**Class 2: Mild symptoms with normal activity**

**Class 3: Moderate symptoms with normal activity**

**Class 4: Symptoms at rest**

# Cardiac Transplant

Only “cure” for heart failure

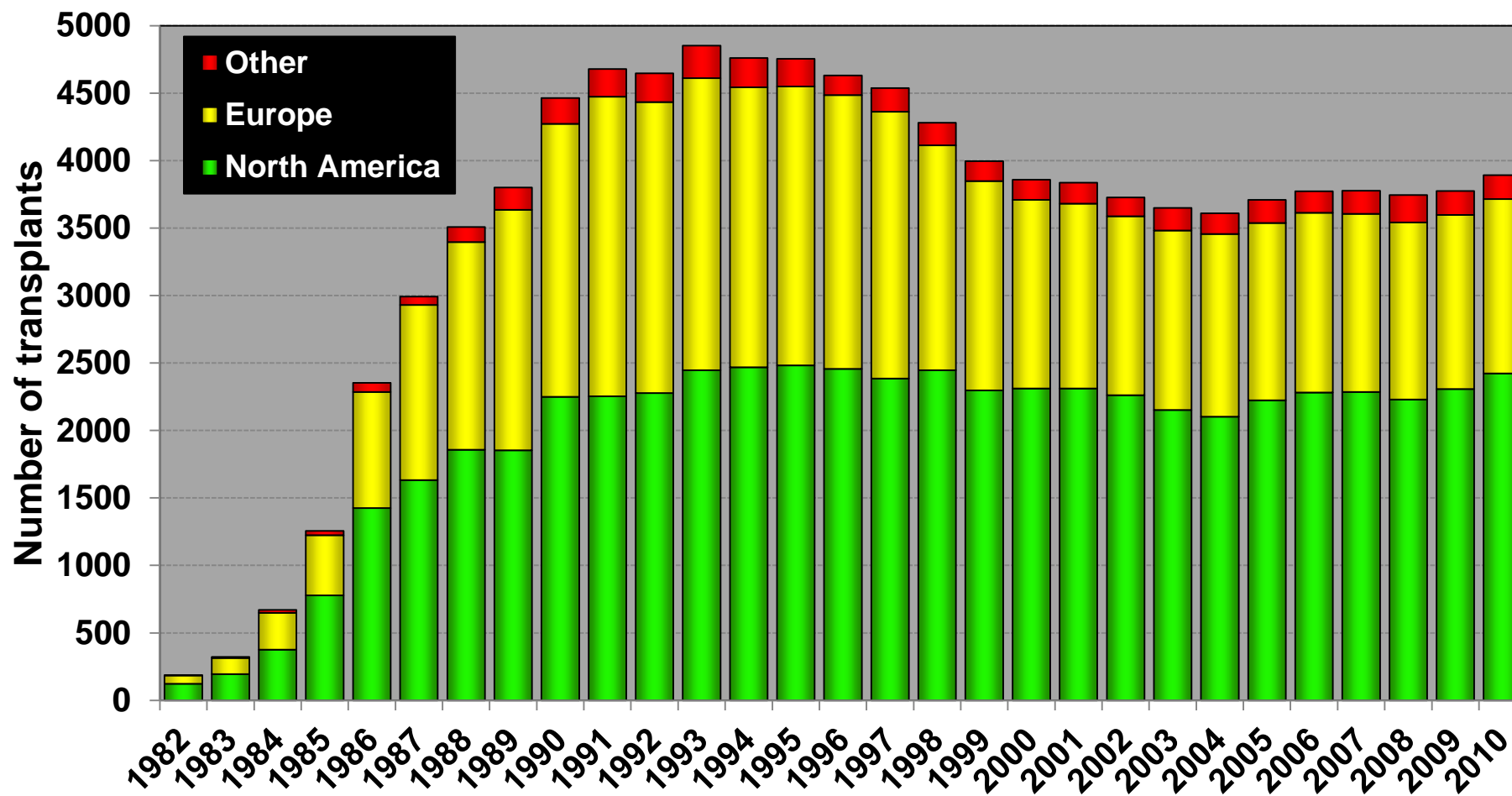
First case was done 12/3/1967

Major improvements came in 1983 when Cylosporine became available

>100,000 transplants have been done all across the world

Average survival is 10.9 years

# Cardiac Transplant



# Cardiac Transplant

Region	UNOS Status at Listing	Year Listed	Registrations Added	Median Waiting Time (Days)	95% Confidence Interval
U.S.	Heart Status 1A	2003-2006	2930	64	(57, 73)
U.S.	Heart Status 1B	2003-2006	3152	79	(74, 86)
U.S.	Heart Status 2	2003-2006	5302	293	(269, 324)
U.S.	Heart Status 1A	2007-2010	3701	67	(61, 73)
U.S.	Heart Status 1B	2007-2010	4453	133	(121, 144)
U.S.	Heart Status 2	2007-2010	4965	465	(432, 506)
U.S.	Heart Status 1A	2011-2014	4659	87	(80, 95)
U.S.	Heart Status 1B	2011-2014	5940	253	(240, 273)
U.S.	Heart Status 2	2011-2014	4457	726	(657, 817)

*Data subject to change based on future data submission or correction. \* Denotes a Median Waiting Time was not computed due to N less than 10, or fewer than half the registrants have been transplanted.*

# Cardiac Transplant

		All Donor Types
To Date		84,297
2022		918
2021		3,817
2020		3,658
2019		3,552
2018		3,408
2017		3,244
2016		3,191
2015		2,804
2014		2,655
2013		2,531
2012		2,378
2011		2,322
2010		2,332
2009		2,212
2008		2,163
2007		2,209
2006		2,193
2005		2,125
2004		2,015
2003		2,057
2002		2,155
2001		2,202

CDC public reported Data.

# Cardiac Transplant

Status	Clinical Criteria
1a	MCS with device-related complication Continuous mechanical ventilation Continuous infusion of multiple inotropic agents or a single agent at high-dose
1b	VAD implanted Continuous inotrope usage
2	Does not meet criteria for 1a/1b
7	Temporarily paused

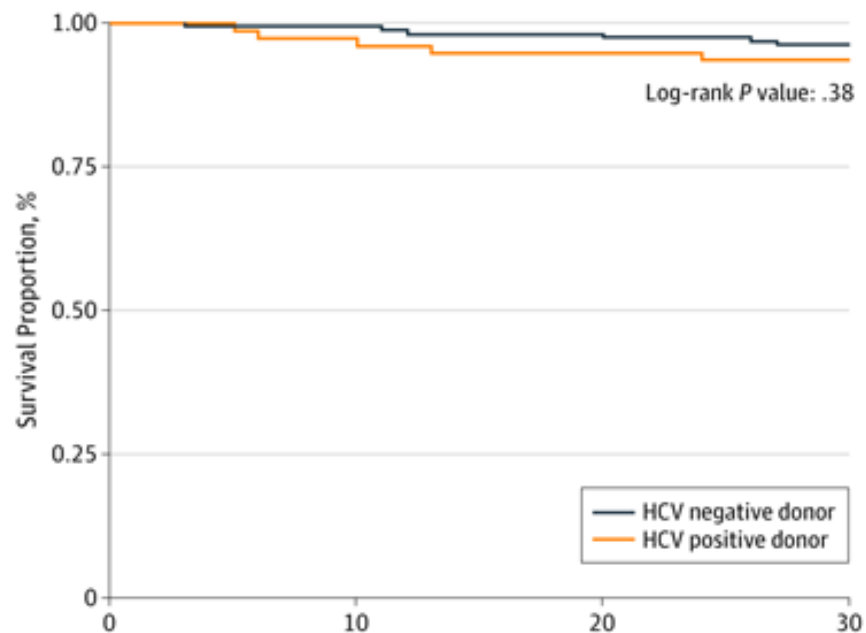


# Cardiac Transplant

	VA-ECMO	✓
<b>1</b>	Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular biventricular support device	✓
	MCSD with life threatening ventricular arrhythmia	✓
<b>2</b>	Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular LVAD	✓
	TAH, BiVAD, RVAD, or VAD for single ventricle patients	
	MCSD with malfunction	✓
	Percutaneous endovascular MCSD	✓
	IABP	✓
	VT or VF	✓
	Dischargeable LVAD for discretionary 30 days	
	Multiple inotropes or a single high-dose inotrope and hemodynamic monitoring	✓
<b>3</b>	MCSD with hemolysis	
	MCSD with pump thrombosis	
	MCSD with right heart failure	
	MCSD with device infection	
	MCSD with mucosal bleeding	✓
	MCSD with AI	
	VA-ECMO after 7 days	✓
	Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular LVAD after 14 days	✓
	Percutaneous endovascular circulatory support device after 14 days	✓
	IABP after 14 days	✓
<b>4</b>	Dischargeable LVAD without discretionary 30 days	
	Inotropes without hemodynamic monitoring	
	Congenital heart disease	
	Ischemic heart disease with intractable angina	
	Amyloidosis, or hypertrophic or restrictive cardiomyopathy	
Heart re-transplant		
<b>5</b>	On the waitlist for at least one other organ at the same hospital	
<b>6</b>	Adult candidate suitable for transplant	
<b>7</b>	Patient is inactive	

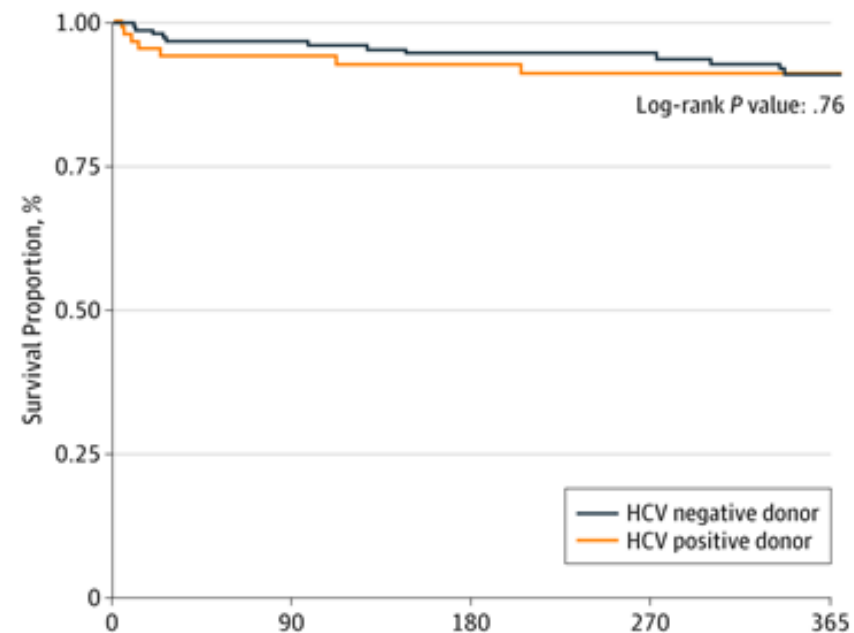
# Advances in Transplant

**C** 30-d Survival



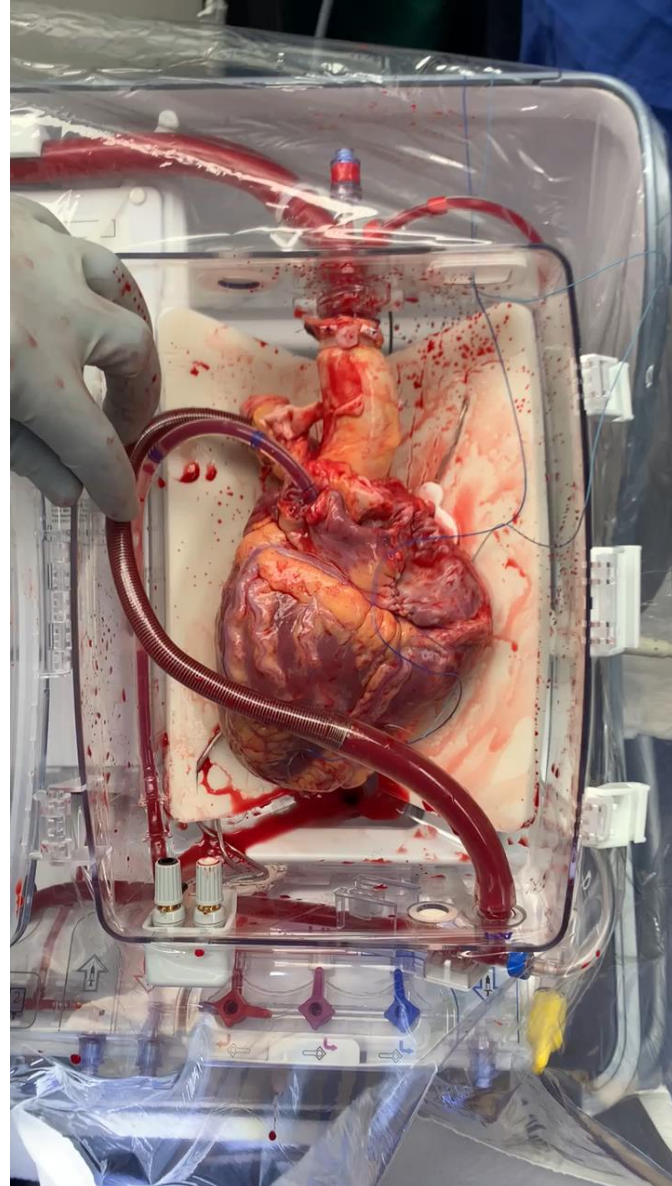
No. at risk		Follow-up, d		
HCV negative donors	159	158	156	152
HCV positive donors	80	78	76	74

**D** 1-y Survival

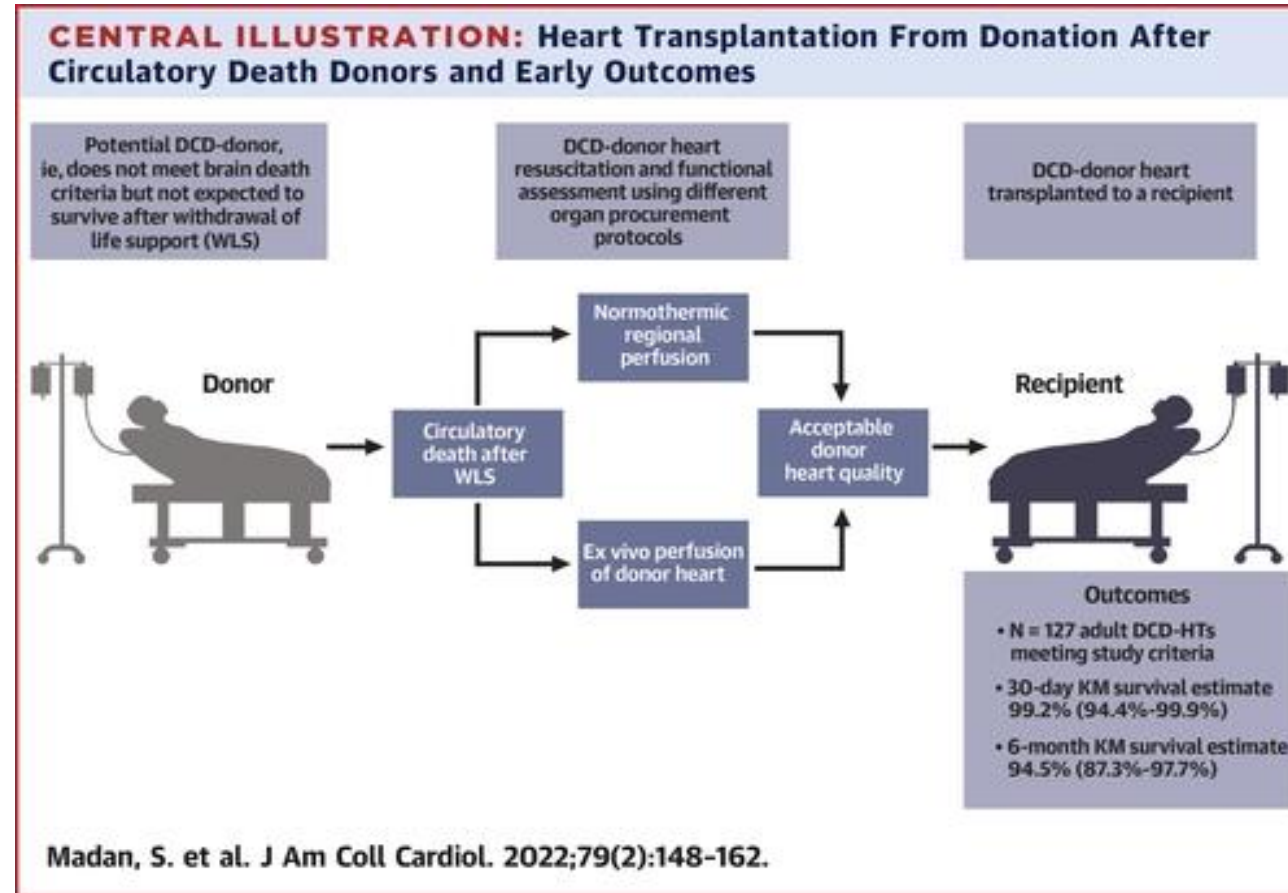


No. at risk		Follow-up, d				
HCV negative donors	159	139	128	111	98	
HCV positive donors	80	69	58	45	39	

# Advances in Transplant



# Advances in Transplant



Shivank Madan et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2021; 79:148-162.

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# Advances in Transplant

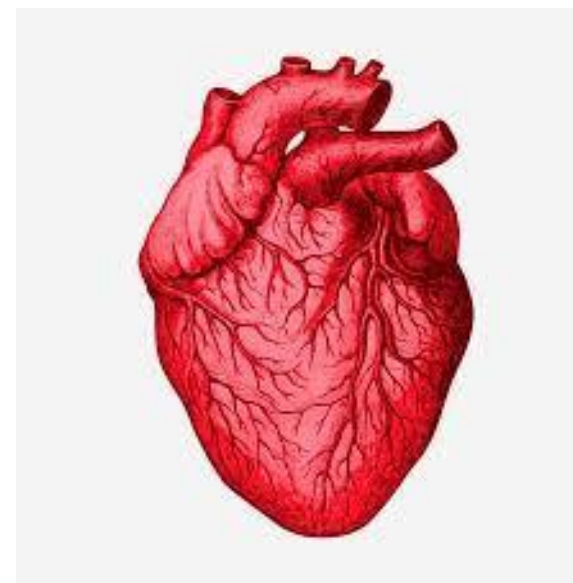
**Table 7**  
**Posttransplant Mortality in Propensity Matched Cohort of DCD-HT vs DBD-HT**

	DCD-HT (n = 126) Cumulative KM Estimates (95% CI)	DBD-HT (n = 252) Cumulative KM Estimates (95% CI)	Unadjusted Cox HR (95% CI)	P Value	Adjusted Cox HR <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	P Value
30-d mortality	0.8% (0.1%-6.5%)	3.3% (1.6%-6.5%)	0.26 (0.03- 2.09)	0.206	0.11 (0.01- 1.88)	0.127
6-mo mortality	5.5% (2.3%-12.7%)	6.1% (3.6%-10.5%)	0.81 (0.29- 2.25)	0.688	0.47 (0.10- 2.14)	0.331

DBD-HT = donation after brain death heart transplantation; DCD-HT = donation after circulatory death heart transplantation; other abbreviations as in **Table 4**.

a Propensity matched and adjusted for ischemic time.

# Advances in Transplant





# Left Ventricular Assist Device

*Mechanical device used to replace or reproduce the pump function of the left and/or right ventricle*

- **Device Components:**
  - Propulsion
  - Inflow/Outflow Cannula
  - Power Supply
  - Control Unit



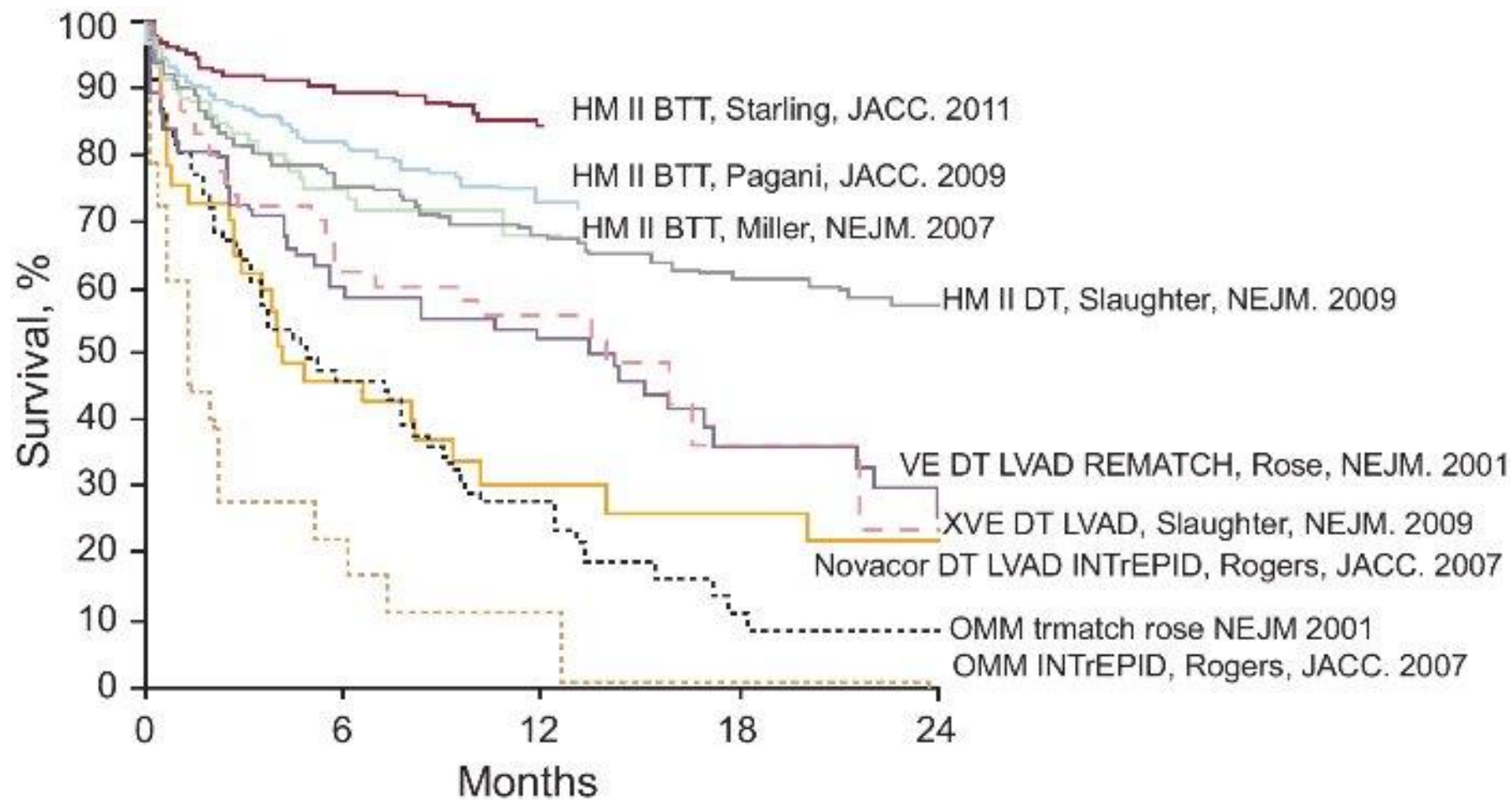
# Left Ventricular Assist Device

	First-Generation	Second-Generation	Third-Generation
Flow Profile	Pulsatile	Continuous (Axial)	Continuous (Centrifugal)
Device Example	HeartMate XVE	HeartMate II	HeartWare HVAD
Device Size	1150 grams	290 grams	160 grams
Recommended Anticoagulation	Aspirin Only	Aspirin + Coumadin	Aspirin + Coumadin
Power Source	Pneumatic or Electric	Electric	Electric
Implant Site	Abdomen	Abdomen/Chest	Pericardium
Approved Indication	BTT, DT	BTT, DT	BTT

Abbreviations: BTT – bridge-to-transplant, DT – destination therapy



# Left Ventricular Assist Device



# Left Ventricular Assist Device

**Improvement in 6-Minute Walk**

**Improvement in NYHA class**

**Improvement in quality of life**



# Left Ventricular Assist Device

## ADVERSE EVENT PROFILE<sup>1</sup>

Adverse events through six months for patients implanted with the HeartMate 3™ LVAD (n = 151).

Device thrombosis	0	0%	0
Hemolysis not associated with pump thrombosis	1	0.7%	1
GI bleeding	24	15.9%	47
Stroke*	12	7.9%	12
Ischemic	8	5.3%	8
Hemorrhagic	4	2.6%	4
Bleeding requiring surgery	15	9.9%	15
Device malfunction requiring reoperation	1	0.7%	1
Driveline infection	18	11.9%	21
RVAD usage	4	2.6%	4

# Left Ventricular Assist Device

**Abbott developing a Fully Implantable Left Ventricular Assist System (FILVAS).**



# Inotropes

## Dobutamine

Beta adrenergic agonist

Half life: minutes

Works more centrally

Not dependent on kidney function

\$

## Milrinone

Phosphodiesterase inhibitor

Half life: hours

Works more peripherally

Dependent on kidney function

\$\$\$

# Inotropes

**First thought to be a viable option in 1997**

**Can decrease days in the hospital**

**Can be cost effective**

**Does not improve mortality**

**Can be used as a bridge to other therapies or as destination**

**ACC/AHA have given in a IIb indication for chronic use**

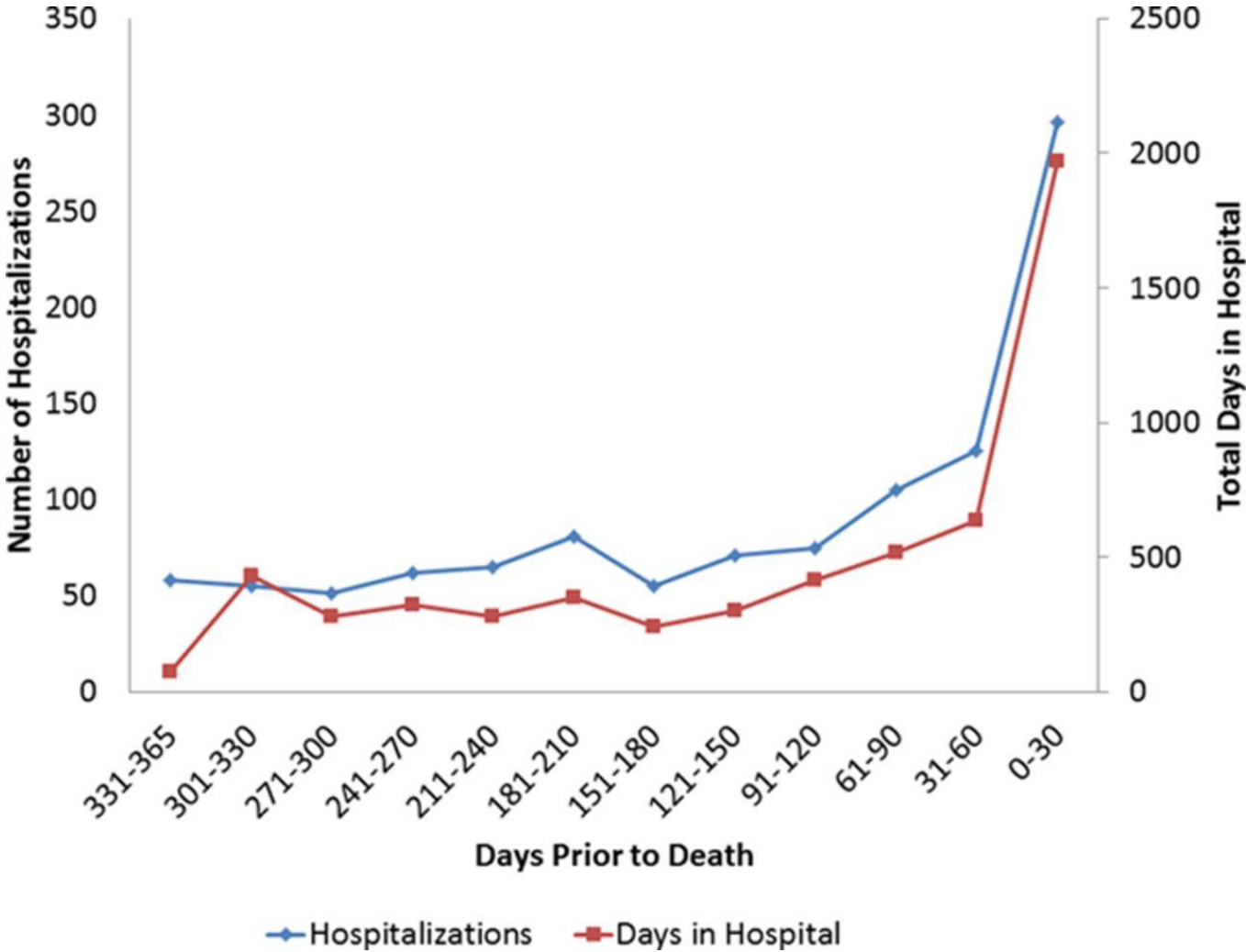


# End of Life



[https://www.flickr.com/photos/ru\\_boff/37915499055](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ru_boff/37915499055)

# End of Life Care



Shannon M. Dunlay et al. Circ Heart Fail. 2015;8:489-496



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# End of Life Care

**Heart failure only accounts for 11-14% of hospice admissions**

**Hospice services utilized in <10% of all CHF patients**

**Referrals are often late in the disease course**

**Late referrals are associated with decreased satisfaction, increased unmet needs, decreased awareness, and a perceived lack of coordination.**

# Why so hard to talk about?

**Fear of “missing something”**

**Time constraints**

**The conception of “giving up”**

**Conversations are challenging**

**Limited data**

**Hard to identify the correct time to address**

**Current treatment models might not be ideal**

# Why so hard to talk about?

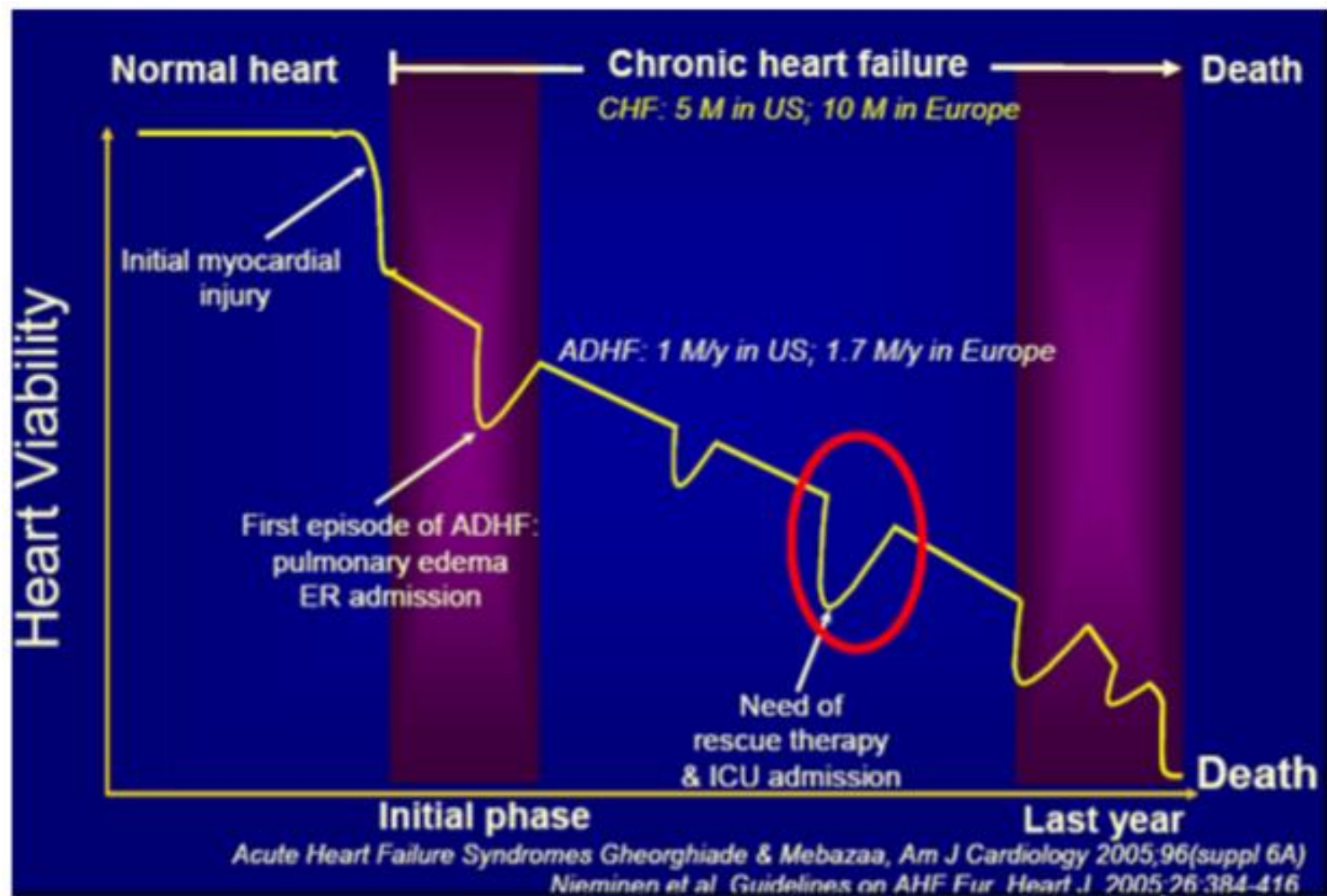
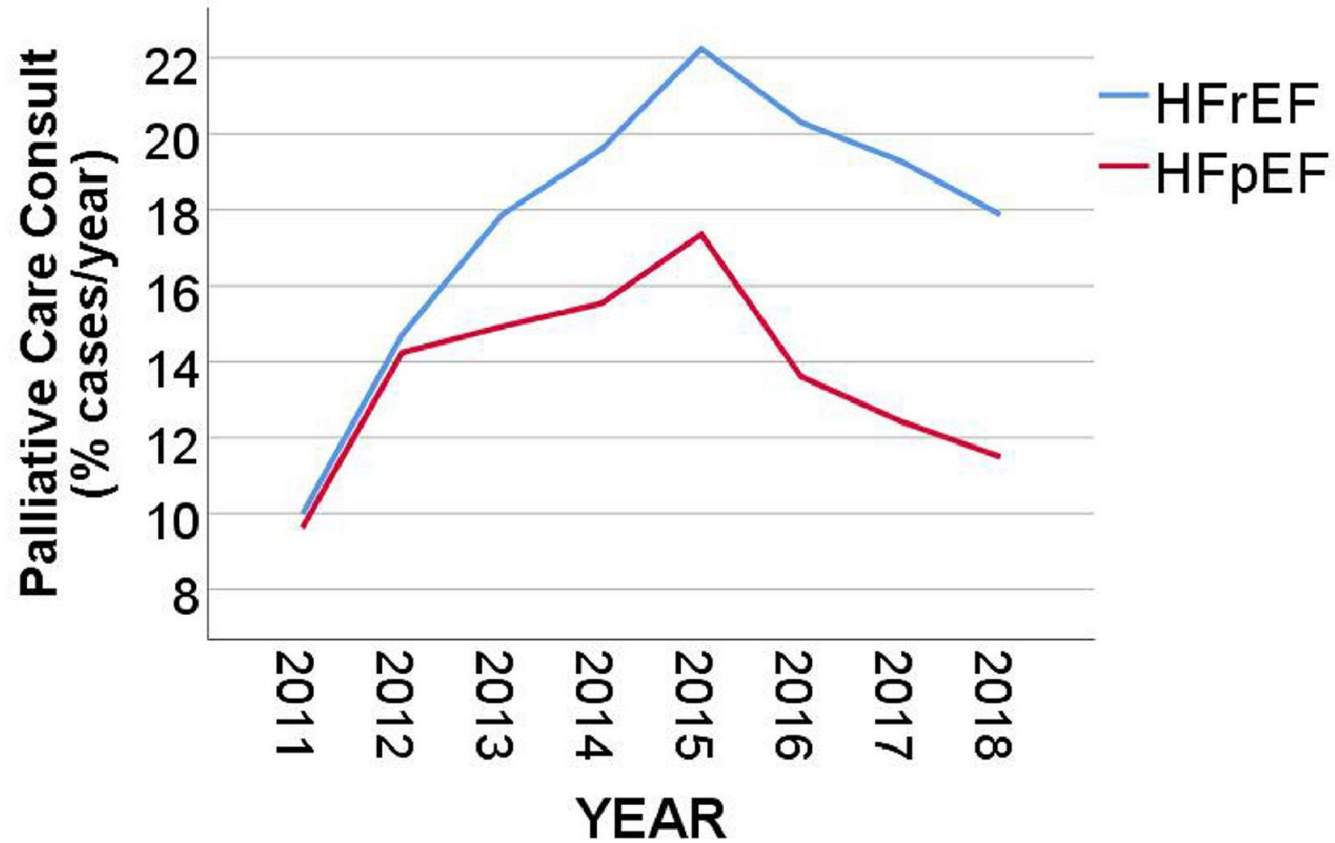
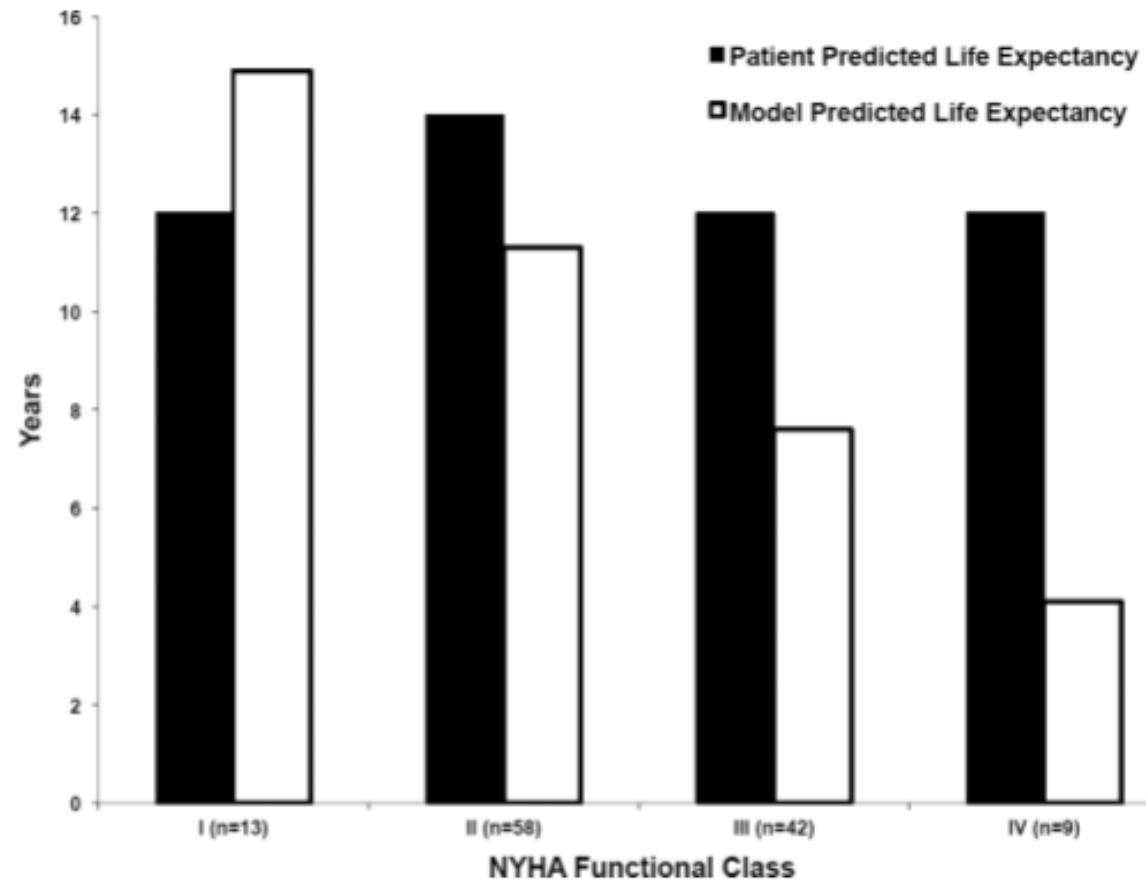


Figure 1

# Why so hard to talk about?

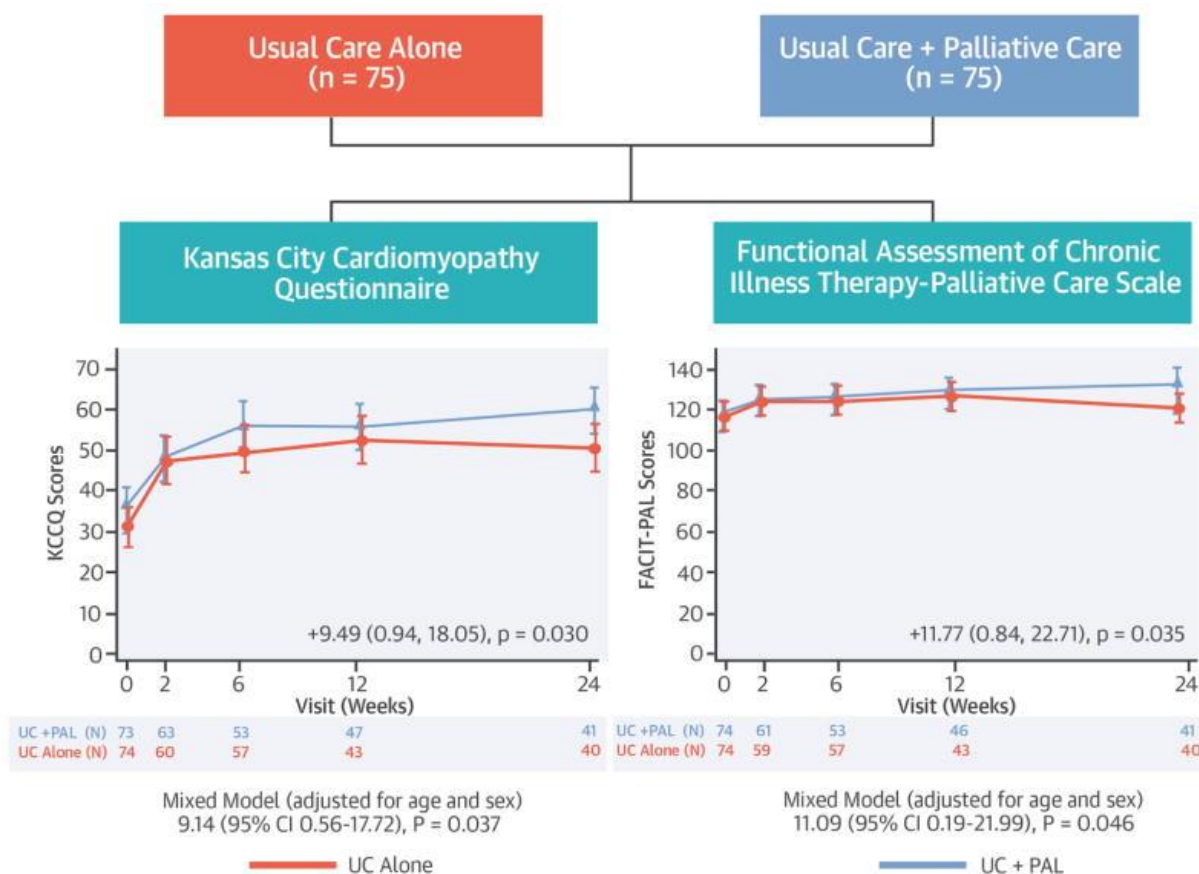


# Why so hard to talk about?



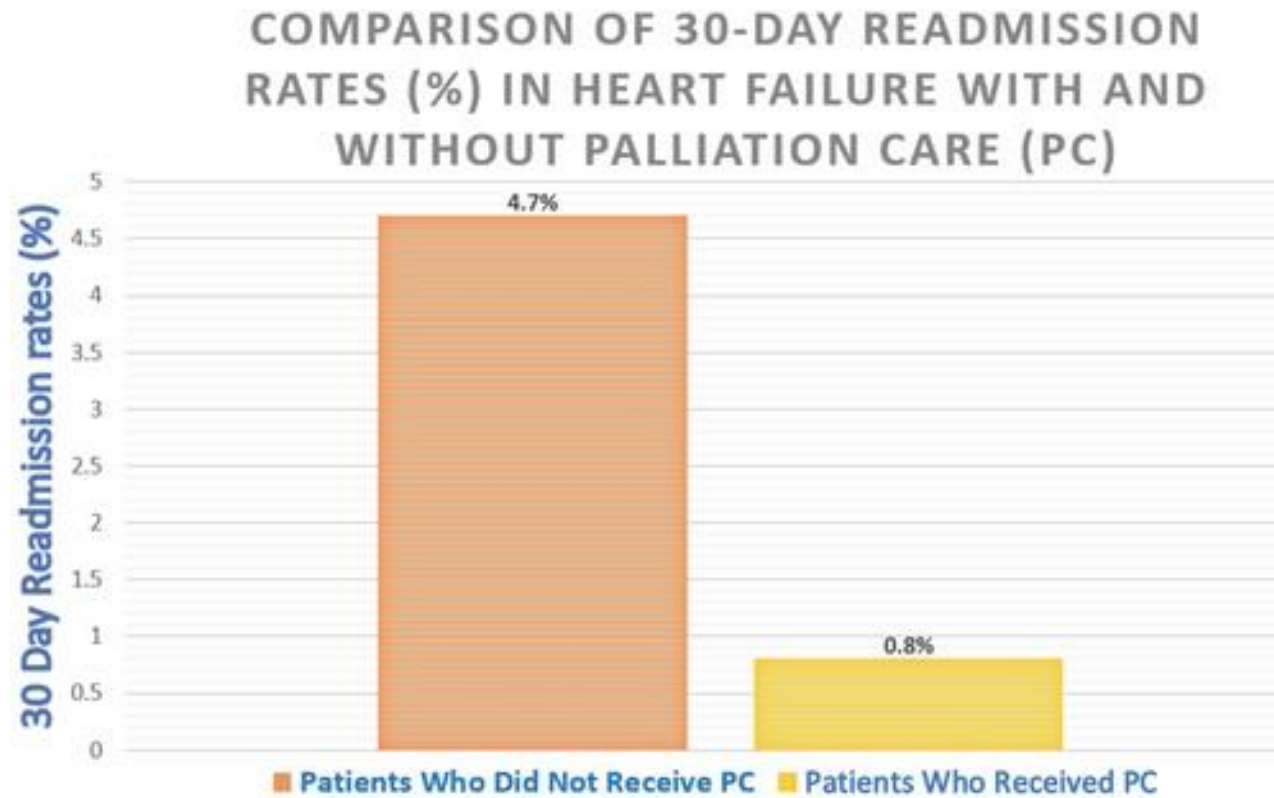
Allen et. al

# End of Life Care

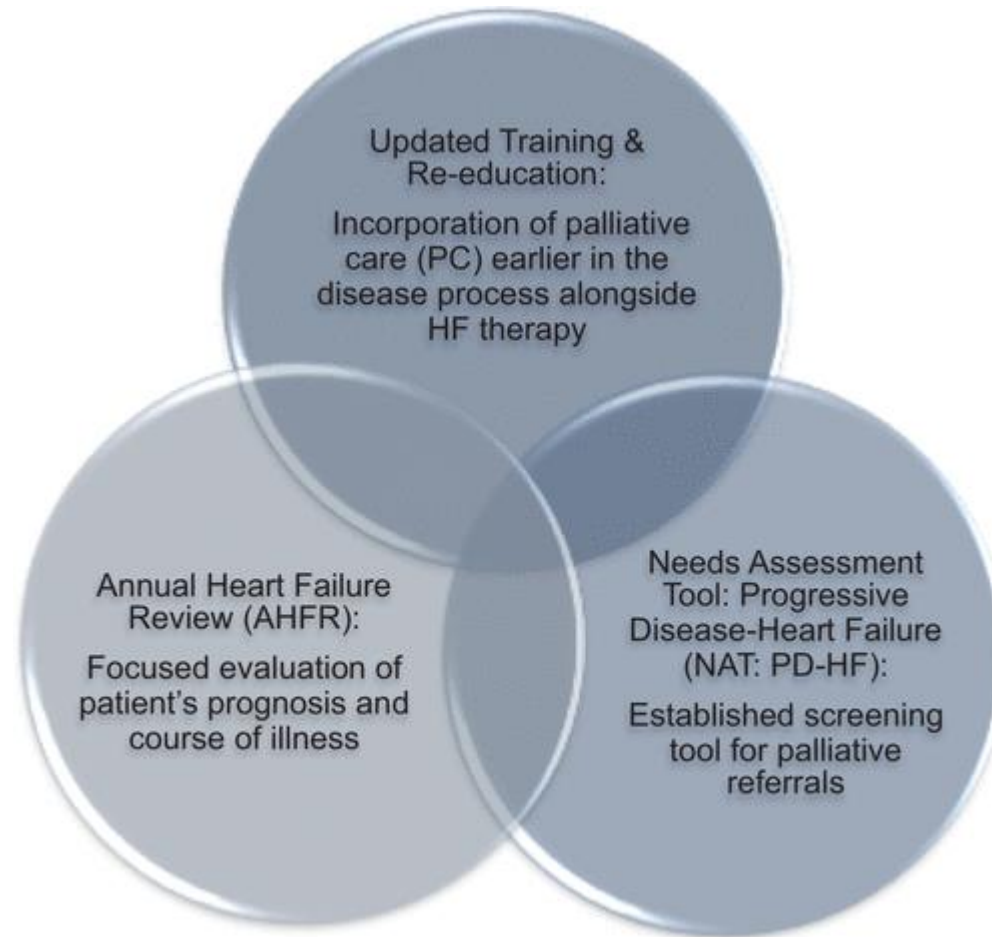


Rogers et. al

# End of Life Care

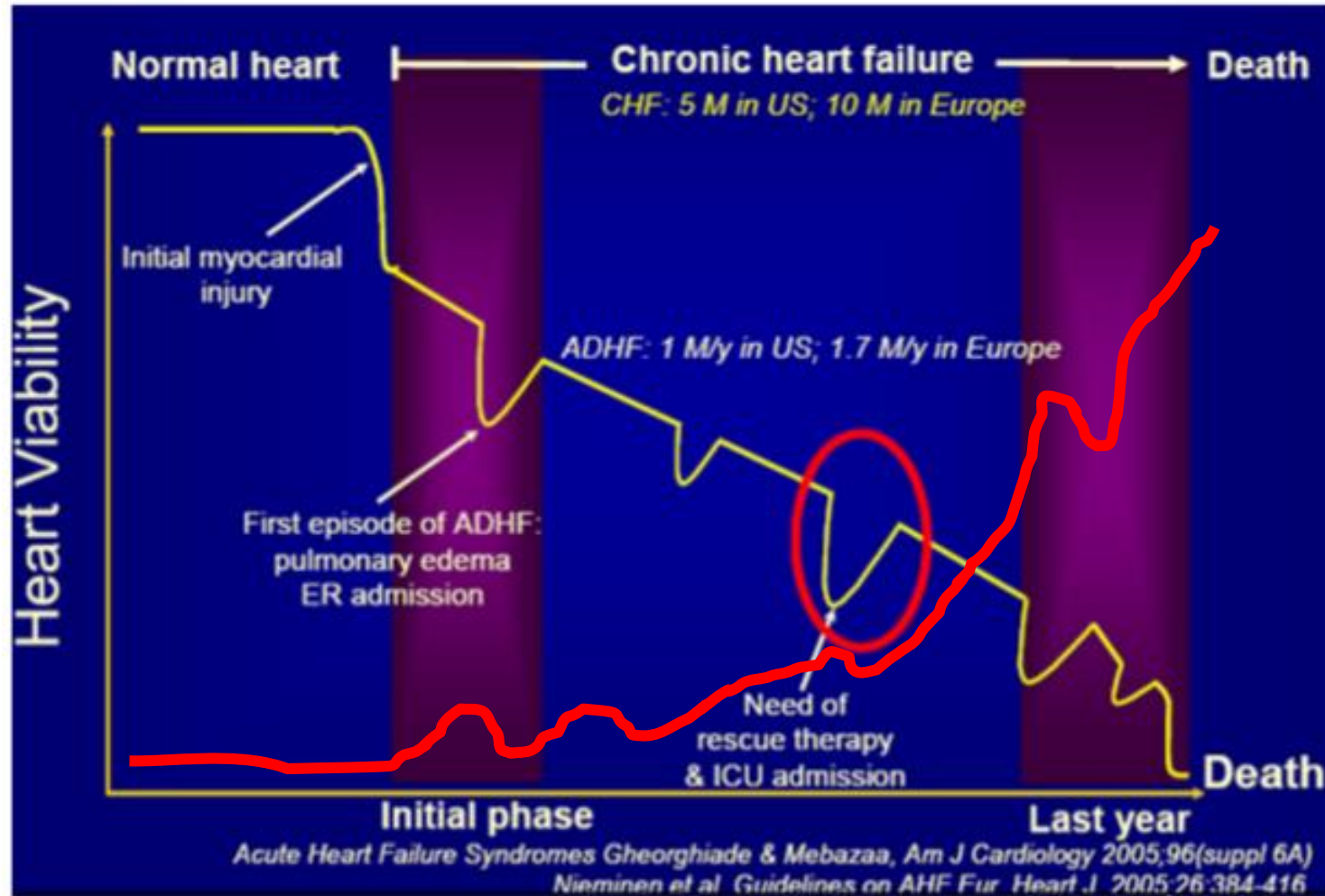


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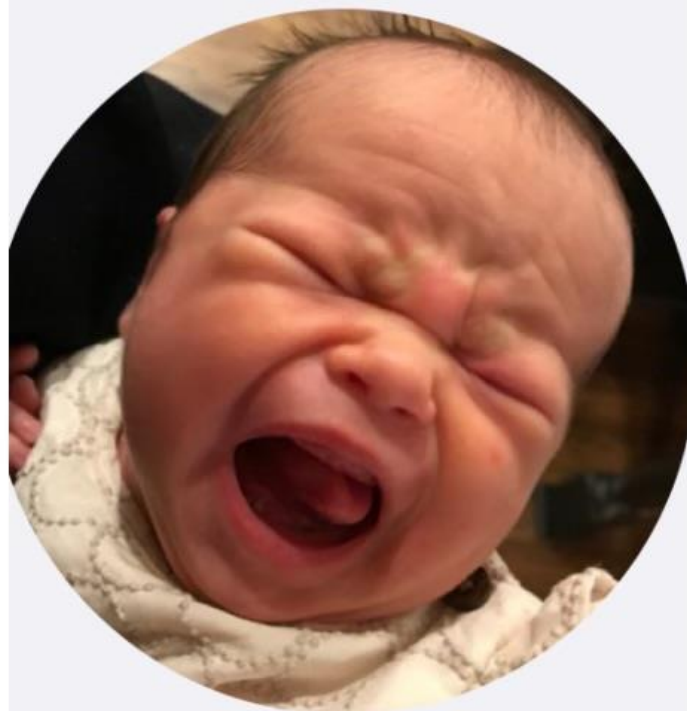


# End of Life Care



Nieminen et. al

Thank you!



Edit



# Contact Info

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