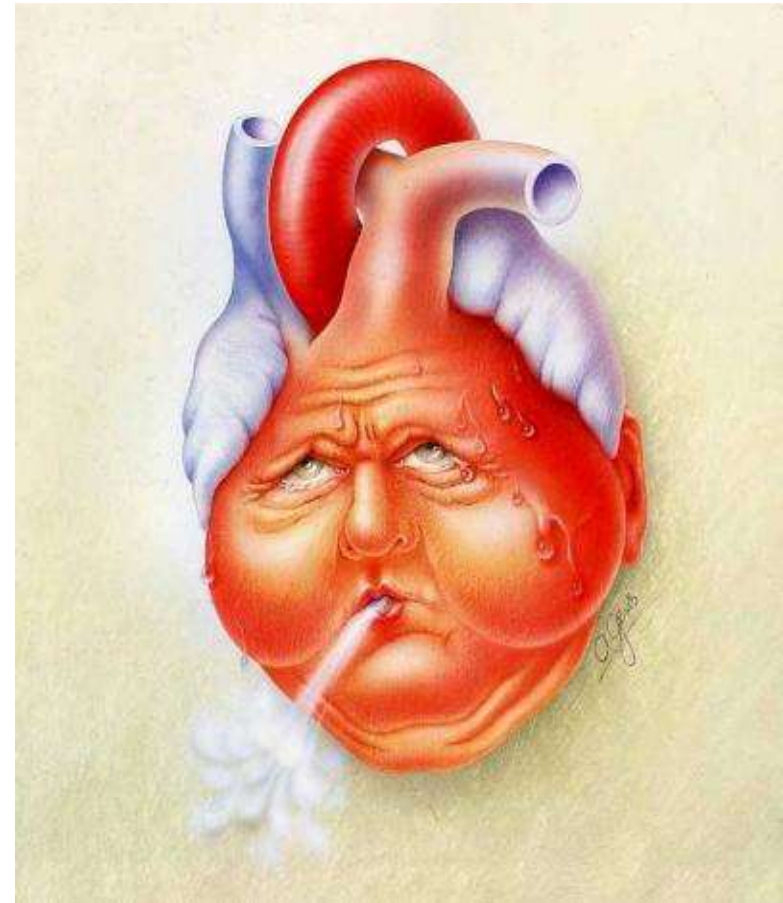




# Part 1: Chronic Heart Failure

Karen Kopacek, M.S., R.Ph.  
Associate Professor (CHS)  
Spring 2021





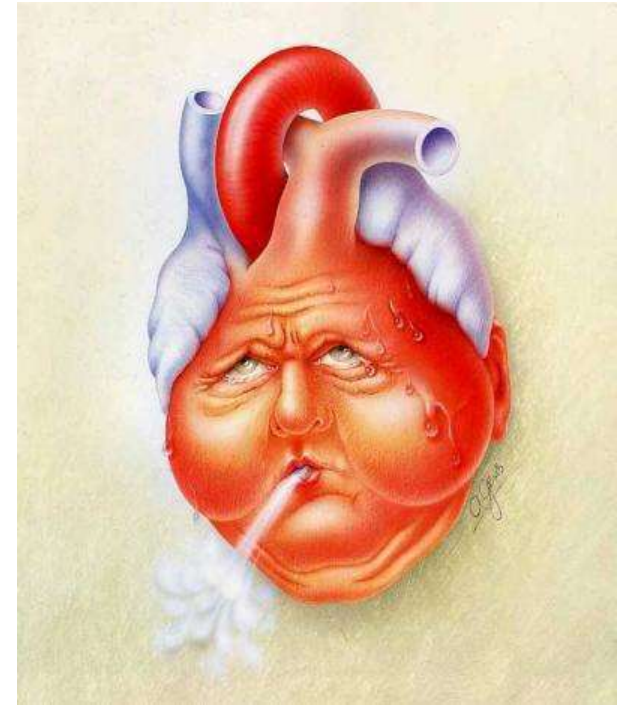
# Objectives for Part 1

- Explain the pathophysiology of HF with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) and preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF).
- Define the components that affect cardiac output.
- Describe the main compensatory mechanisms that lead to HF.
- List the symptoms of congestion and hypoperfusion.
- Review the classification and stages of HF.



# HF Part 1

- **Statistics**
- Definitions
- Risk Factors
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- Symptoms of HF
- Classification and Staging
- Patient Case



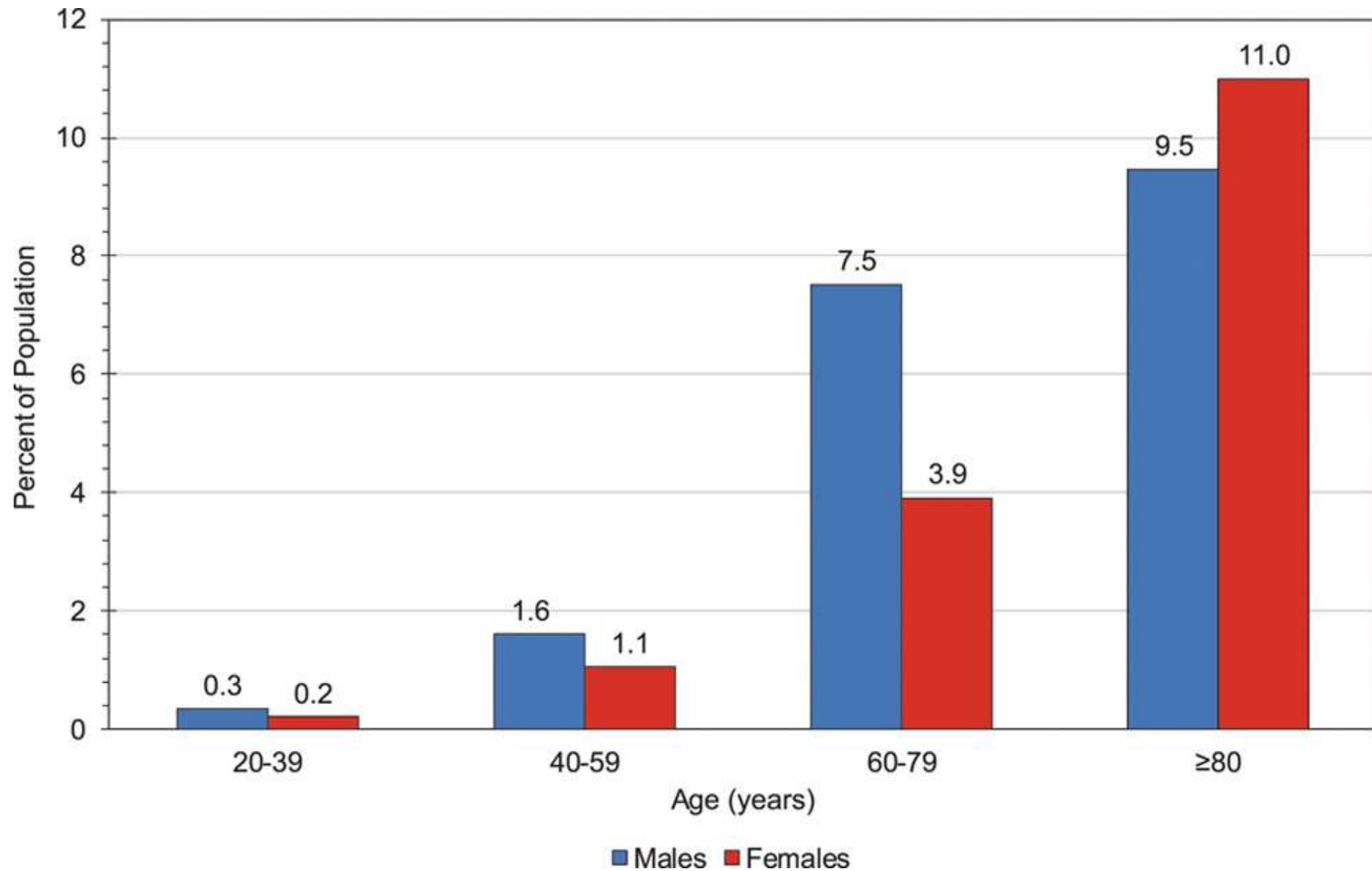


# HF Statistics 2021

- Estimated 6 M Americans  $\geq$  20 years have HF (~2.5%)
  - By 2030, prevalence will be > 8 M Americans
  - 1 M new cases diagnosed each year
  - AA have highest risk of developing HF, followed by Hispanic, Caucasian, and Chinese Americans
  - Lifetime risk for HF increases with higher BP and BMI at any age
- Common cause of hospitalization and 30-day readmission in the US
  - Incidence: 11.6/1000 people per yr; recurrent 6.6/1000 per yr
- Mortality: 83,616 patients died in 2018 from HF
  - 1-year HF mortality rate 29.6%
  - 5-year HF mortality rate ~ 50%
- Total cost for HF ~ \$30.7 B in 2012; by 2030, cost will increase to \$69.8 B



# Prevalence of HF in Adults (NHANES: 2015-2018)



# Why is HF incidence so high?

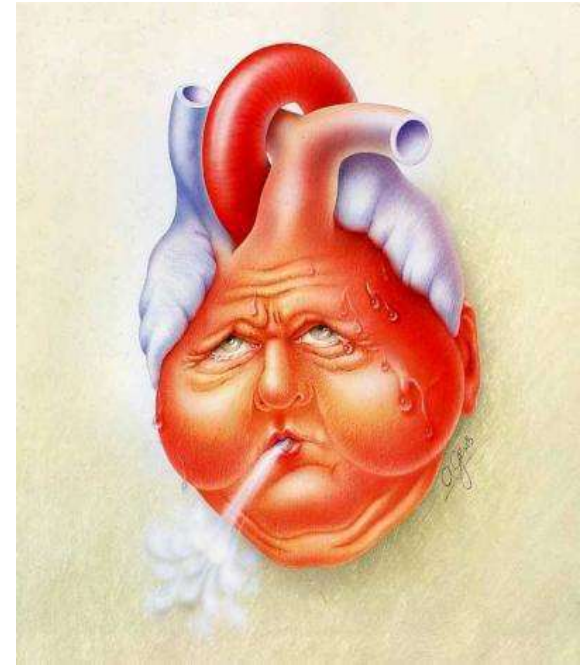
- Baby boomer generation is aging
  - By 2040, people  $\geq$  75 years will increase to 77.2M
- HF is a progressive condition amenable to preventive interventions at early stages
  - Better treatment of HTN and CHD
  - Patients surviving CV events
  - Valvular disease is a treatable disorder
- Patients are being identified earlier





# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- **Definitions**
- Risk Factors
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- Symptoms of HF
- Classification and Staging
- Patient Case





# Etiology of Cardiomyopathy

CM defined as a group of diseases that negatively affect the heart muscle

## 1. Ischemic CM

- CHD is cause in 67% of HF population
- MI or other event

## 2. Non-ischemic CM

- Prolonged HTN (70%), valvular disorders (regurgitation and stenosis), endocrine disorders (thyroid), pregnancy, viral illness, chemotherapy, alcohol or illicit drug use

## 3. Idiopathic CM

- Unknown

**Regardless of the initial cause, the resulting pathophysiology is the SAME.**





# Working Definition of HF

- HF: complex and **progressive clinical syndrome** characterized by **a constellation of symptoms and signs** caused by a structural or functional cardiac disorder that **impairs the ability of the heart to generate a cardiac output sufficient to meet the body's demand.**
  - Disorders of pericardium, myocardium, endocardium, or great vessels; most due to left ventricular dysfunction
- **Result is impairment in ventricular filling (diastolic failure) or loss of pumping capacity to eject blood (systolic failure)**

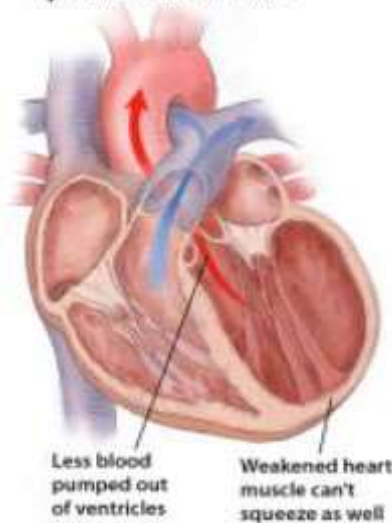


# HF Definition Continued

- **HFrEF: EF < 40% (systolic dysfunction)**
- **HFpEF: EF > 50% (diastolic dysfunction)**

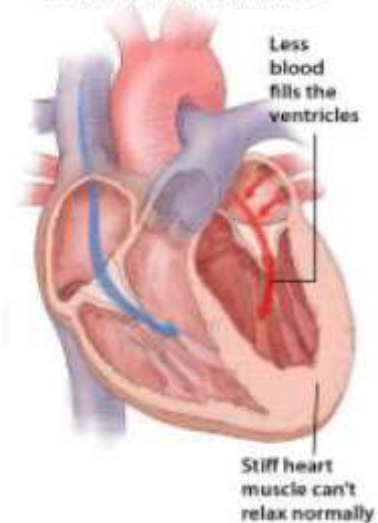
Inability to pump

Systolic Heart Failure



Inability to fill

Diastolic Heart Failure

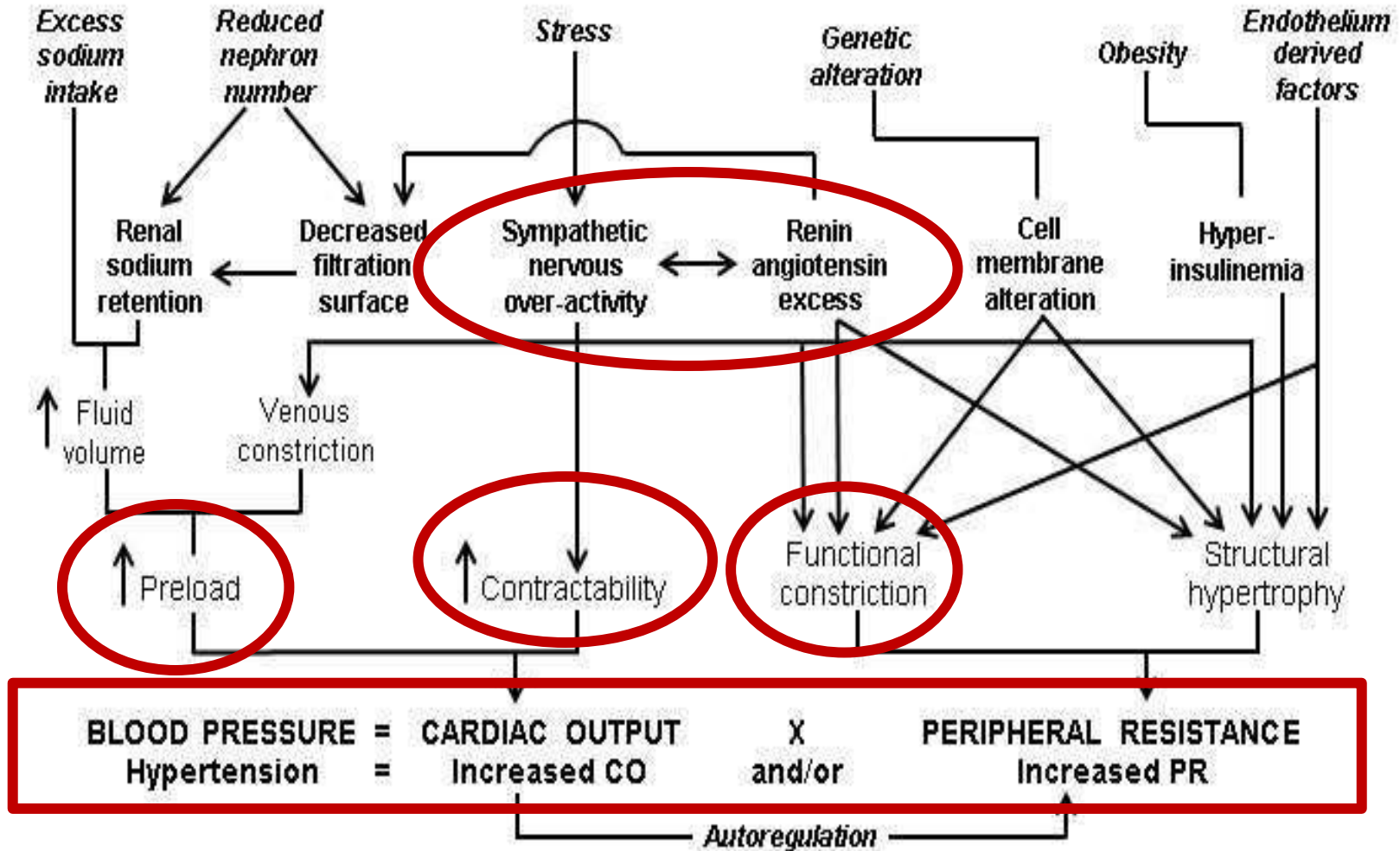


Both phenotypes have decreased SV and CO that leads to failure!



# BP Pathophysiology

Adapted from Clinical Hypertension 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Figure 3.1

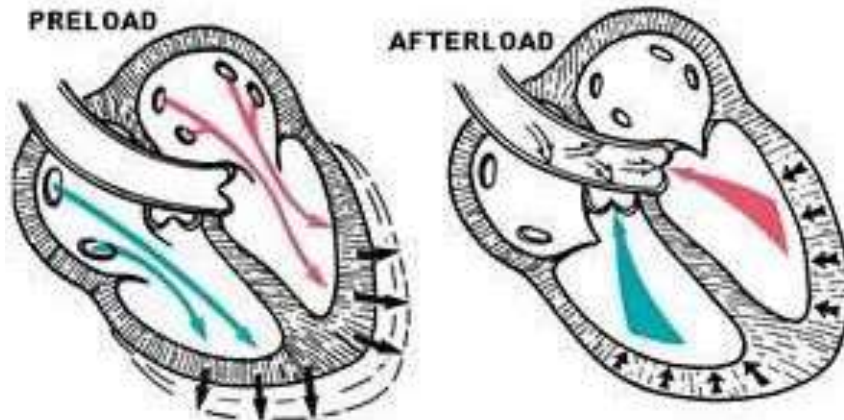


**CO = HR x SV (SV determined by preload, afterload, contractility)**



# HF Definitions Continued

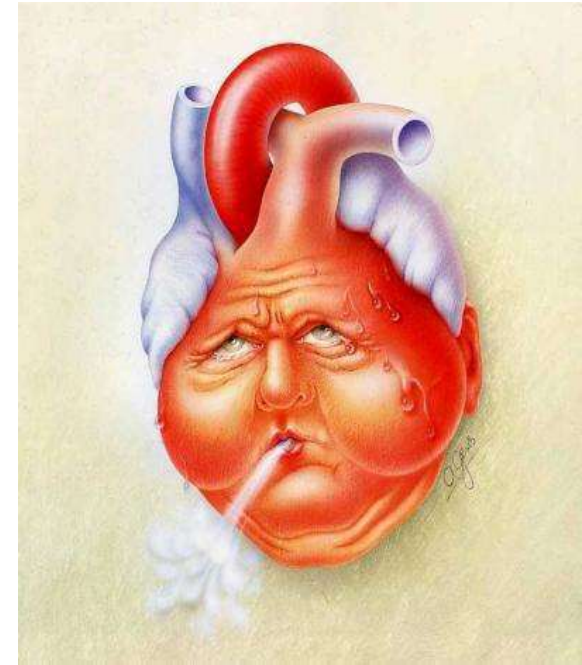
- **Preload:** measure of ventricular filling pressure, or volume of blood in left ventricle (LVEDP)
  - Determined by venous return and atrial contraction
- **Afterload:** resistance to ventricular ejection
  - Determined by ejection impedance, wall tension, regional wall geometry



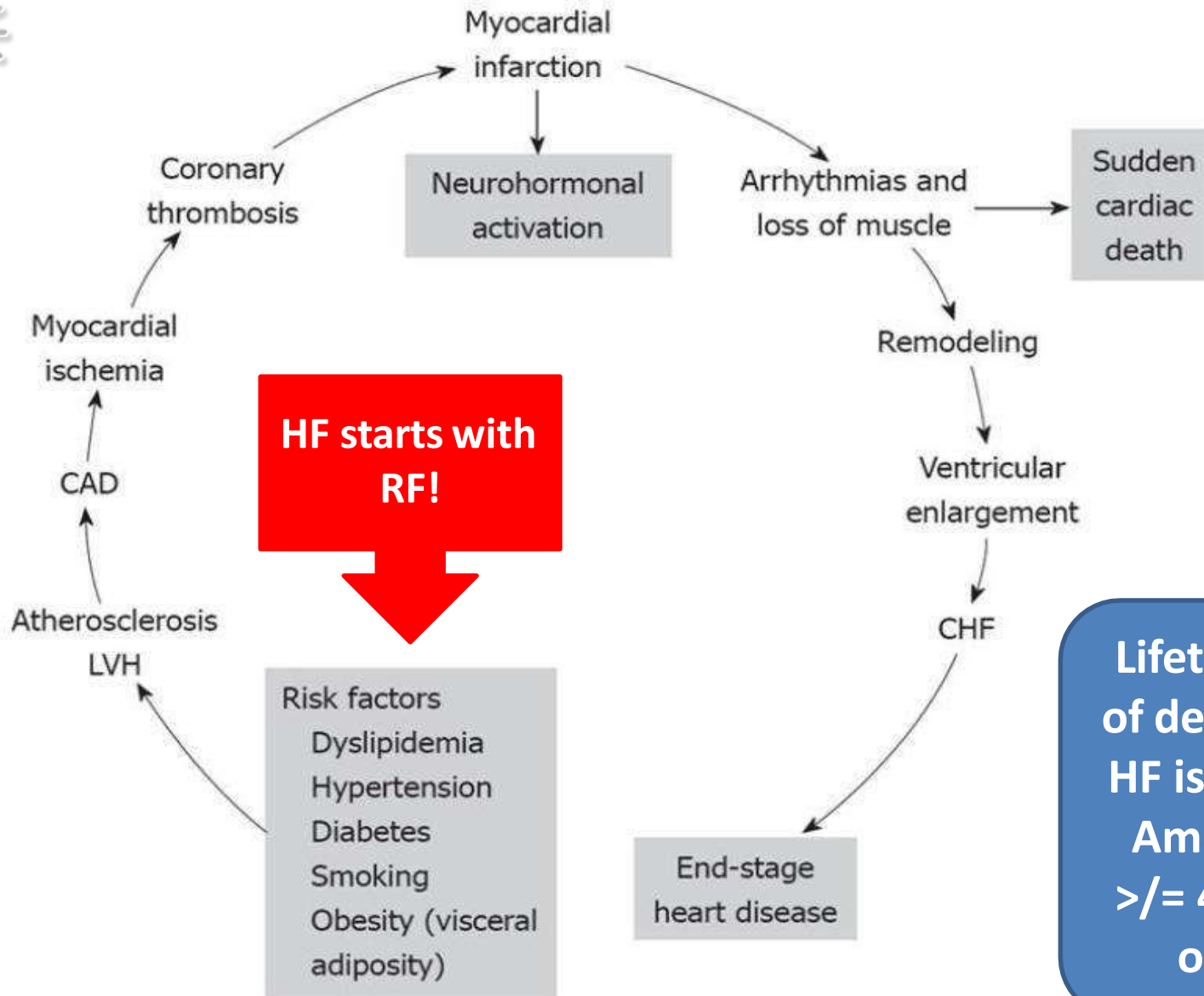


# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- Definitions
- **Risk Factors**
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- Symptoms of HF
- Classification and Staging
- Patient Case



# Risk Factors for HF in the CV Continuum



Dzau et al. Am Heart J 1991;121:1244



# Differences in HF

## HFrEF

- ~ 50% of all pts with HF
- Decreasing prevalence
- Improving survival rate
- RF: **CHD**, HTN, valvular heart disease (aortic or pulmonic), toxins (alcohol, chemotherapy, cocaine), viral infections (HIV), peripartum, pulmonary hypertension

## HFpEF

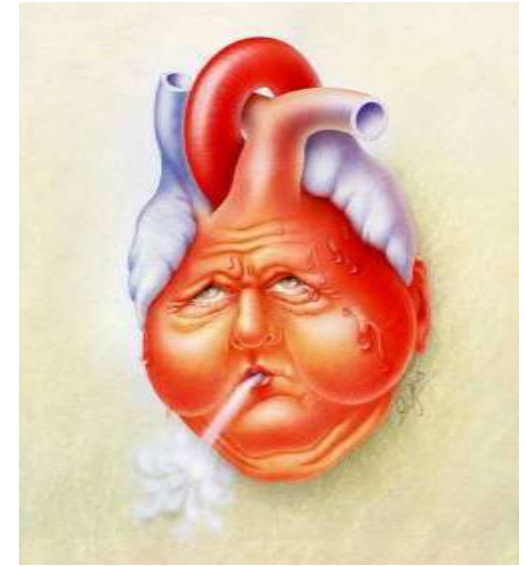
- ~50% of all pts with HF
- Increasing prevalence due to increasing age and rate of obesity
- Highest risk: elderly, women
- Other RF: **HTN, DM**, A fib, CHD, renal insufficiency, valvular heart disease (mitral or tricuspid)
- No improvement in survival rate
- Have more co-morbidities; non-cardiac causes of death more common





# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- Definitions
- Risk Factors
- **Compensatory Mechanisms**
  1. Preload and Frank-Starling Mechanism
  2. Tachycardia and increased afterload
  3. Cardiac hypertrophy and remodeling
  4. Natriuretic peptides
- Symptoms of HF
- Classification and Staging
- Patient Case







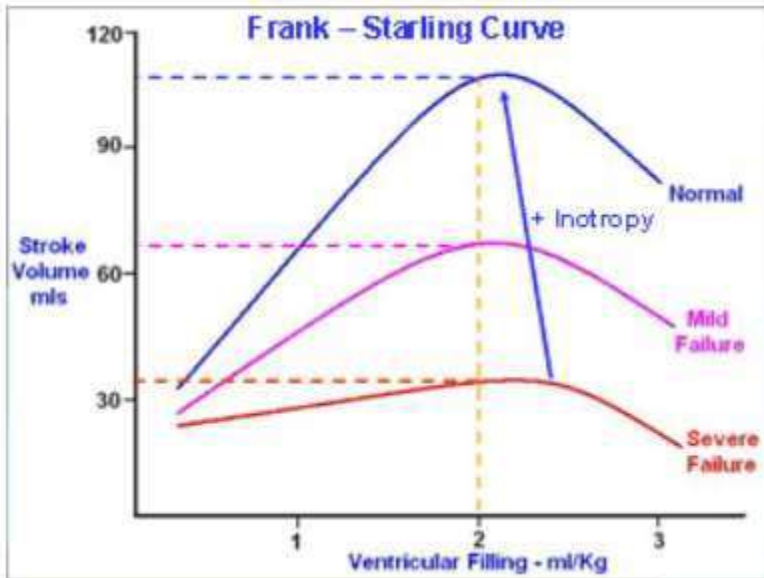
# Compensatory Mechanism #1

## Preload & Frank-Starling Mechanism

- Body responds to decreased contractility and CO by decreasing blood flow to periphery to maintain perfusion for the heart and brain
- Drop in blood flow leads to decreased renal perfusion, kidneys responds by activating the **renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS)**
- **Aldosterone** causes sodium and water retention to increase preload
- This increase in preload **in normal hearts** leads to stretch of sarcomeres, increase in cross-bridges formed between actin & myosin for increased force of contraction (inotropy)
- **Diseased hearts** are unable to adapt to the increase in preload, leading to further decrease in CO



# Frank-Starling Law

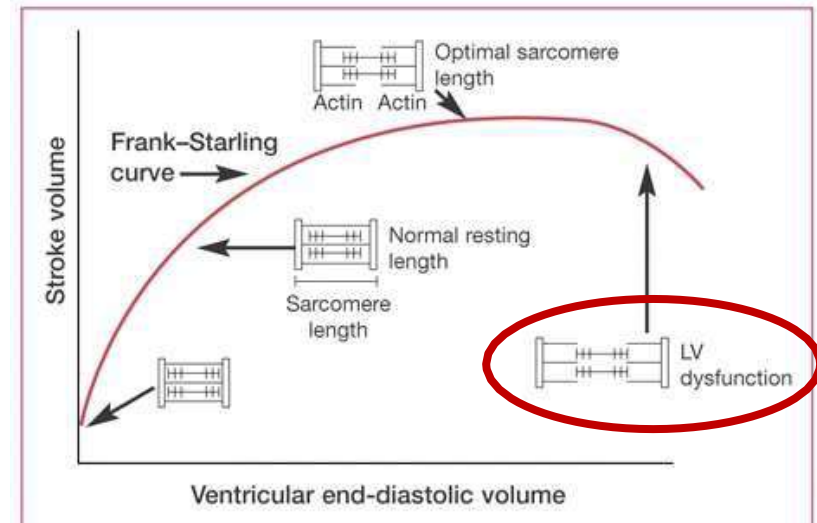


1. The more forcefully cardiac muscle is stretched within physiologic limits, the more forcefully it will contract (inotropy).

2. Increased blood volume in the ventricles increases the stretch and thus the force generated by ventricular wall contraction.

3. Greater stretch means more blood volume is pumped out, up to its physical limits.

3. However, failing hearts reach a point where further stretching does not lead to increased force of contraction with increased blood volume. Thus force of contraction declines, as does CO.



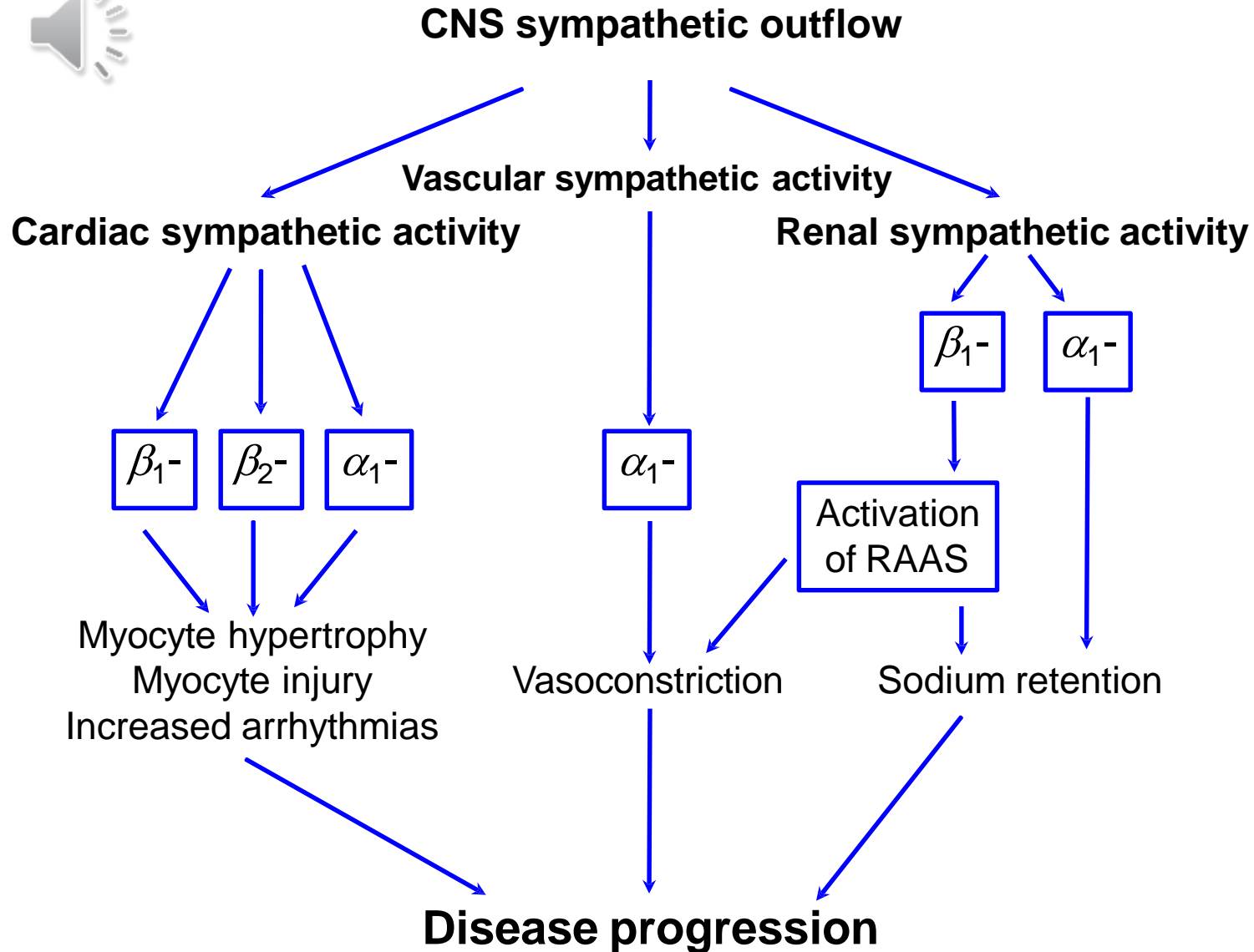


# Compensatory Mechanism #2

## Tachycardia and Increased Afterload

- Decreased contractility and CO also results in **activation of sympathetic nervous system (SNS)** to increase HR through  $\beta$  receptors
- **Increased HR leads to increased myocardial oxygen demand** and worsening ischemia
- **Both RAAS and SNS cause vasoconstriction which increases afterload** and impairs forward blood ejection from ventricles

# Adrenergic Pathway in HF Progression





# Compensatory Mechanism #3

## Cardiac Hypertrophy and Remodeling

- Angiotensin II leads to myocyte growth in response to volume and pressure overload
  - Helps reduce cardiac wall stress short term, increases oxygen demand and accelerates cell death
- Remodeling (caused by neurohormones) leads to changes in myocardial and extracellular matrix composition and function
  - Results in structural and functional alterations to the heart



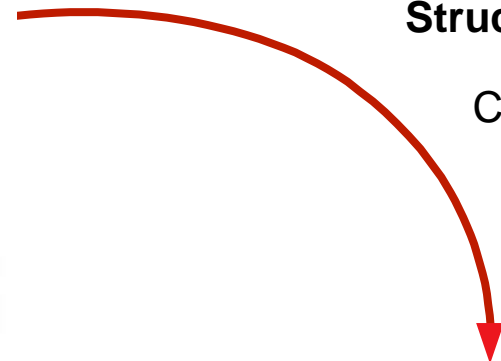
# Relation of Neurohumoral Activation to Development and Reversal of Remodeling

Relatively normal chamber size and geometry<sup>1</sup>



**Myocyte dysfunction  
Structural alteration**

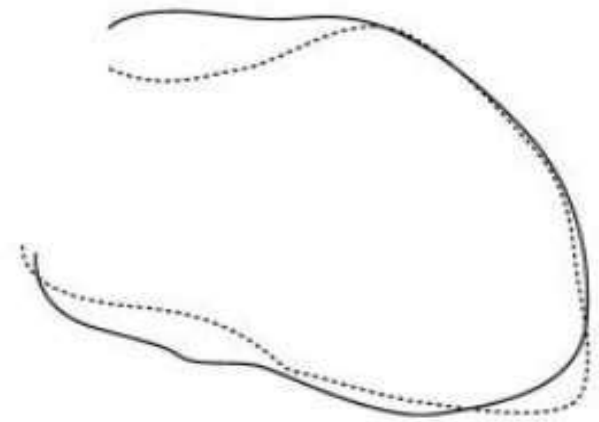
Cardiac adrenergic  
RAAS signaling



**Improved function  
Reverse remodeling**

ACE I, Ald antagonists, and  $\beta$ -blocker therapy<sup>2</sup>

2. Burnett JC Jr. *J Hypertens.* 1999;17(suppl 1):S37–S43

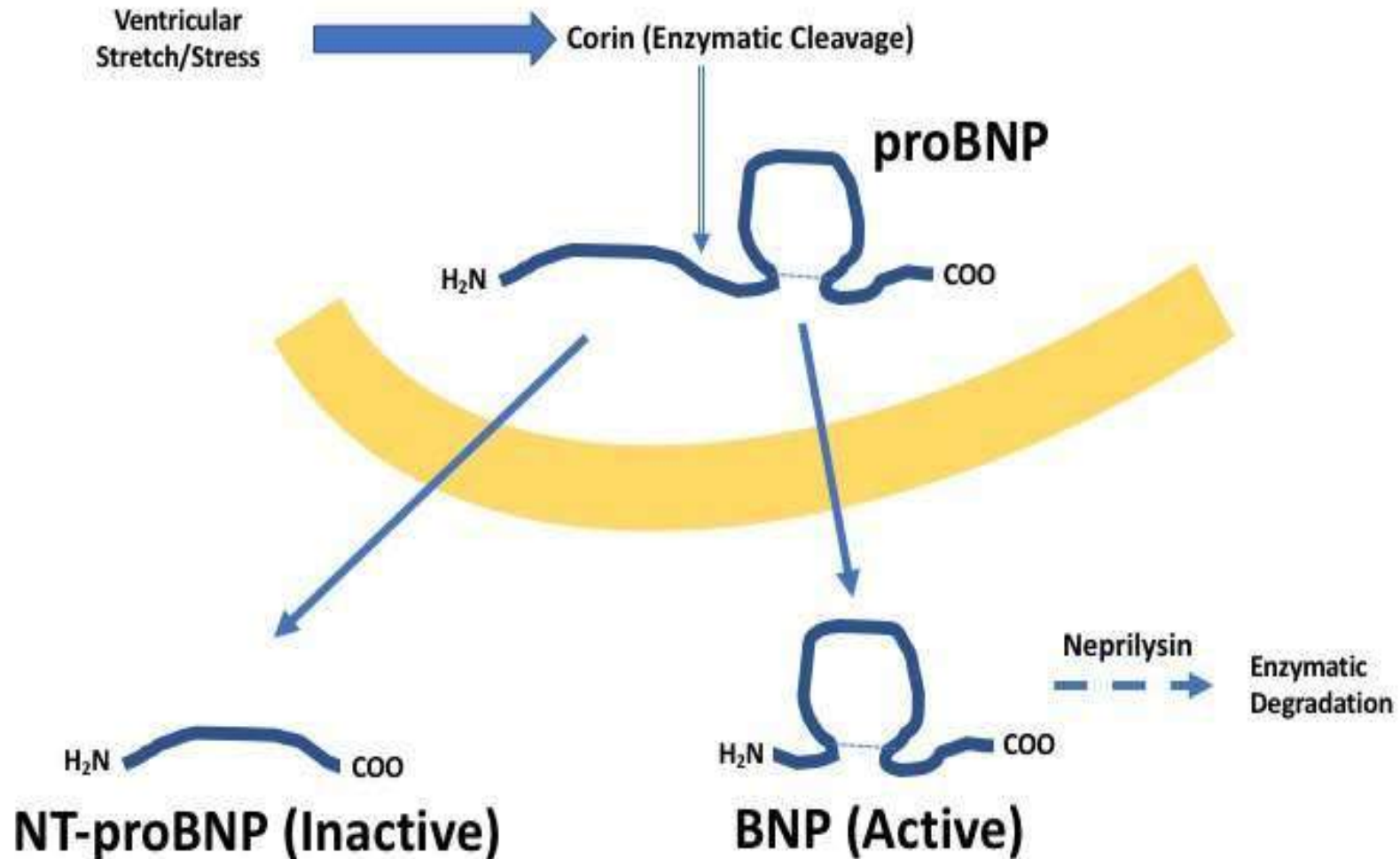


Remodeled Ventricle<sup>1</sup>



# Compensatory Mechanism #4

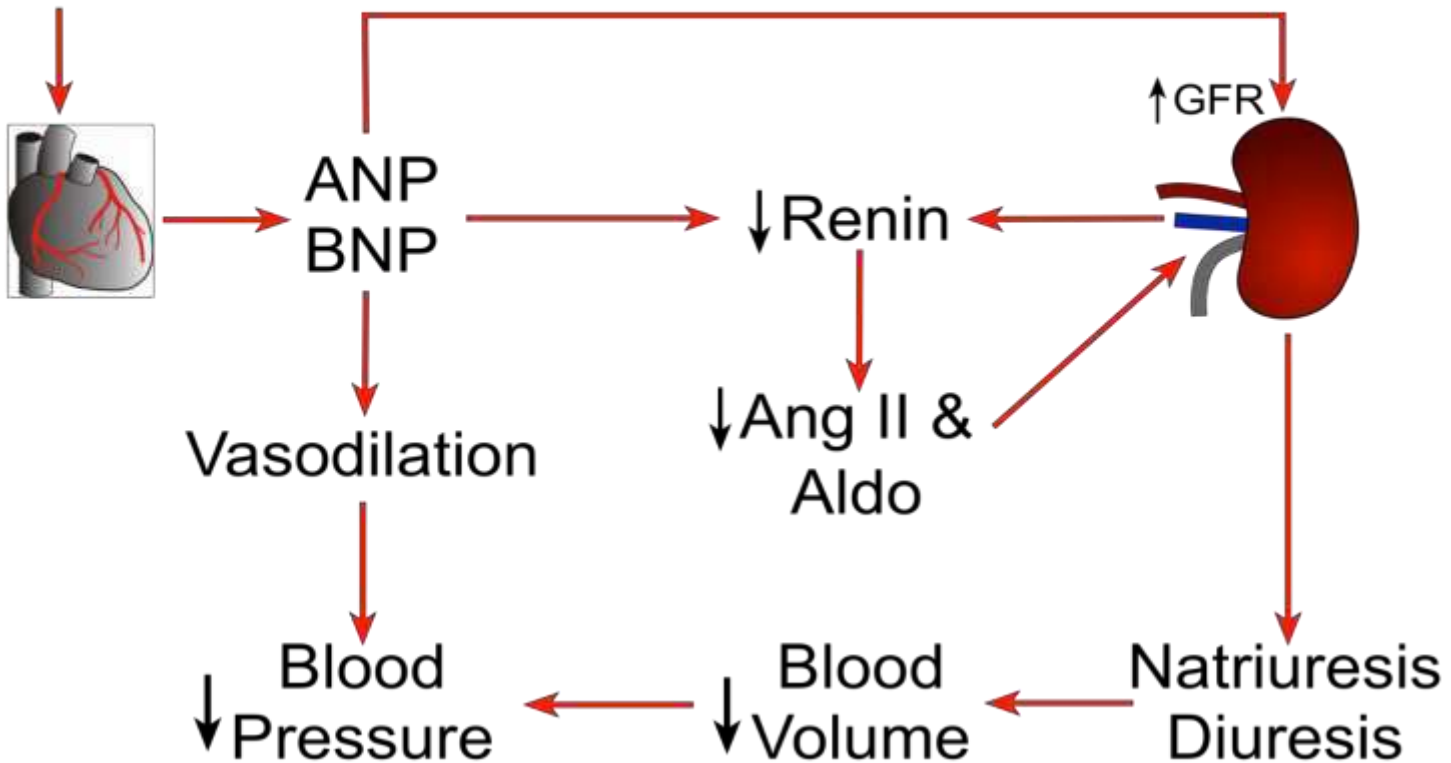
## Natriuretic Peptides



# Natriuretic Peptides Continued



Cardiac distension  
Sympathetic stimulation  
Angiotensin II





# Summary: Effects of Compensatory Mechanisms in HF



Compensatory Response	Beneficial Effects of Compensation	Detrimental Effects of Compensation
<b>Increased Preload</b> (sodium and water retention)	Optimize SV via Frank-Starling mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pulmonary and systemic congestion and edema</li><li>• Increased myocardial oxygen demand</li></ul>
<b>Vasoconstriction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain BP in face of reduced CO</li><li>• Shunt blood from non-essential organs to brain and heart</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased myocardial oxygen demand</li><li>• Increased afterload decreases SV and further activates the compensatory responses</li></ul>

# Summary: Effects of Compensatory Mechanisms in HF



Compensatory Response	Beneficial Effects of Compensation	Detrimental Effects of Compensation
<b>Tachycardia and increased contractility</b> (due to SNS activation)	Helps maintain CO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased myocardial oxygen demand</li><li>• Shortens diastolic filling time</li><li>• Beta receptor downregulation, decreased receptor sensitivity</li><li>• Precipitation of ventricular arrhythmias</li><li>• Increased risk of myocardial cell death</li></ul>

# Summary: Effects of Compensatory Mechanisms in HF

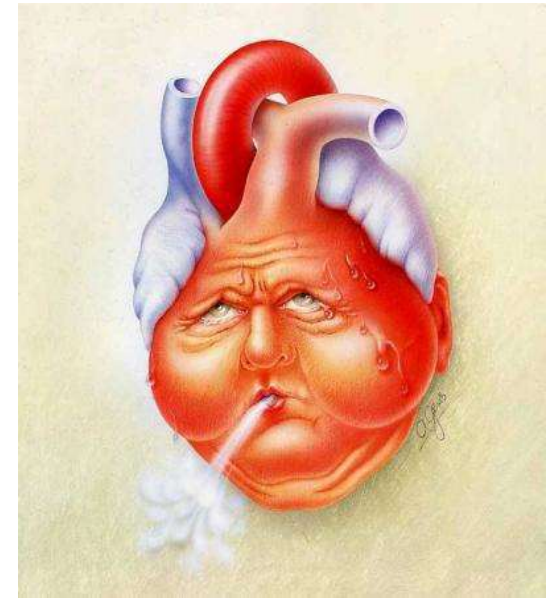


Compensatory Response	Beneficial Effects of Compensation	Detrimental Effects of Compensation
<b>Ventricular hypertrophy and remodeling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helps maintain CO</li><li>• Reduces myocardial wall stress</li><li>• Decreases myocardial oxygen demand</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diastolic dysfunction</li><li>• Systolic dysfunction</li><li>• Increased risk of myocardial cell death</li><li>• Increased risk of myocardial ischemia</li><li>• Increased risk of arrhythmias</li><li>• Fibrosis</li></ul>



# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- Definitions
- Risk Factors
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- **Symptoms of HF**
  - **Pulmonary**
  - **Periphery**
  - **Kidneys**
- Classification and Staging
- Patient Case





# Clinical Symptoms- Pulmonary

- **Dyspnea (SOB)**

- SOB with exertion, or uncomfortable awareness of breathing with exertion
- Lower level of activity causes breathlessness
- Activities: climbing stairs, carrying groceries, walking a particular distance
- **Severity of HF inversely proportional to amount of activity required to produce SOB**

- **Orthopnea**

- Pulmonary congestion and dyspnea in supine position
- **Measured by # of pillows/angle required for comfortable rest (or elevating head of the bed)**



# Clinical Symptoms- Pulmonary Continued

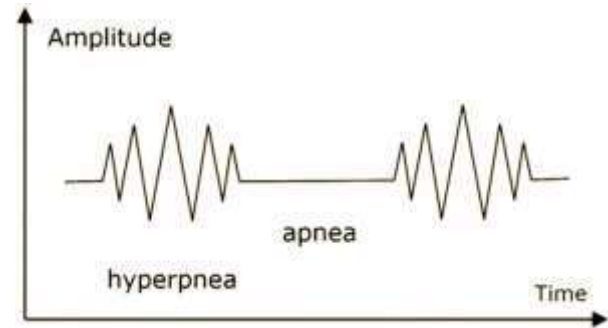
- **Paroxysmal Nocturnal Dyspnea (PND)**
  - Sudden awakening from sleep due to cough/  
wheezing (“cardiac asthma”)
  - Occurs within 1-4 hours of sleep
  - May persist after moving to upright position  
(unlike orthopnea)
- **Cough**
  - Usually non-productive, occurs at night or with  
exertion, caused by pulmonary congestion



# Clinical Symptoms- Pulmonary Continued

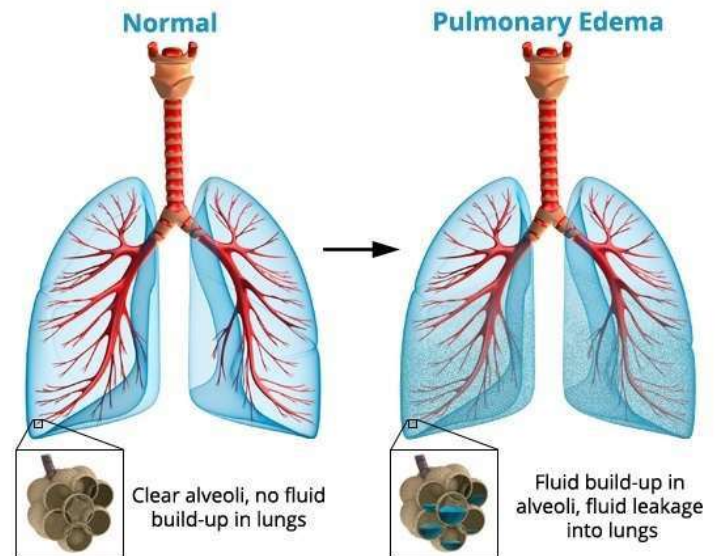
- **Cheyne-Stokes respiration**

- Rapid breathing followed by apnea, common in advanced HF



- **Pulmonary edema**

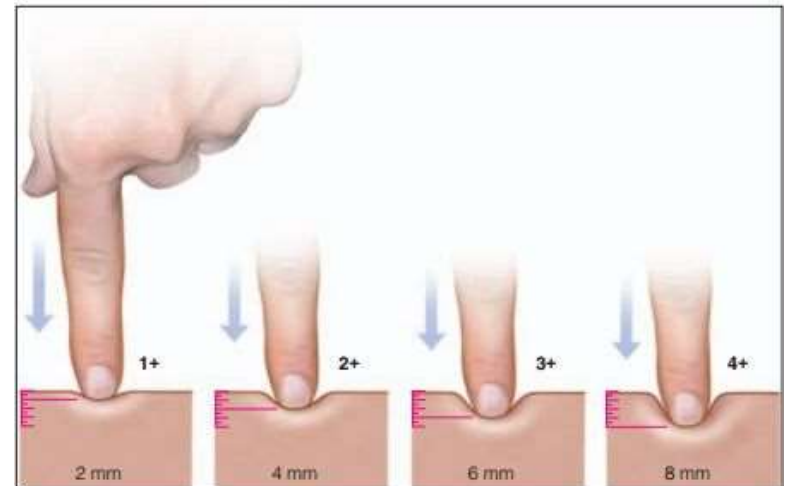
- From pulmonary congestion
- **May produce pink, frothy sputum**
- Feel extremely breathless





# Clinical Symptoms- Periphery

- **Peripheral edema**
  - Tight shoes or clothing
  - Pitting edema scale
- **Gut edema**
  - Secondary to congested liver/portal venous system; edema of gut wall
  - Includes abdominal fullness, nausea, bloating, early satiety, reduced appetite, ascites







# Clinical Symptoms- Peripheral Hypoperfusion

- **Decreased perfusion to CNS leads to:**
  - Confusion, hallucinations, insomnia, lethargy
- **Decreased perfusion to periphery leads to:**
  - Cool extremities
- **Decreased perfusion to skeletal muscle leads to:**
  - Fatigue
- **Decreased perfusion to kidneys leads to:**
  - Drop in GFR, increase SCr



# Clinical Symptoms- Kidneys

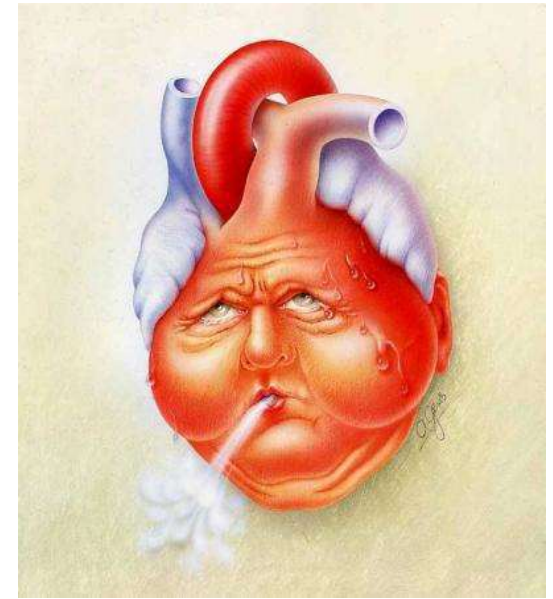
- **Polyuria (frequent urination)**
  - Increase release of natriuretic peptides due to volume overload
- **Nocturia (nighttime urination)**
  - Increased renal perfusion due to reduced SNS activity at night





# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- Definitions
- Risk Factors
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- Symptoms of HF
- **Classification and Staging**
  - **NYHA Functional Classification**
  - **ACC/AHA Staging of HF**
- Patient Case





# New York Heart Association Functional Classification

Functional Class	Patient Limitations
<b>Class I</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>No limitation</b></li><li>• Ordinary physical activity does not cause excess fatigue, SOB, palpitations</li></ul>
<b>Class II</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Slight limitation of physical activity</b></li><li>• Patient comfortable at rest</li><li>• Ordinary physical activity results in fatigue, SOB, palpitations, or angina</li></ul>



# New York Heart Association Functional Classification

Functional Class	Patient Limitations
<b>Class III</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Marked limitation of physical activity</b></li><li>• Patient is comfortable at rest</li><li>• Ordinary activities of daily living will lead to symptoms</li></ul>
<b>Class IV</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Severe limitation; symptomatic at rest</b></li><li>• Inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort</li><li>• Increased discomfort is experienced with any physical activity</li></ul>



## NEW YORK HEART ASSOCIATION (NYHA) HEART FAILURE CLASSIFICATION



CLASS I

NO LIMITATION  
OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY;  
ORDINARY PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY DOES NOT  
CAUSE SYMPTOMS



CLASS II

SLIGHT LIMITATION  
OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY;  
COMFORTABLE AT REST;  
ORDINARY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY  
CAUSES SYMPTOMS



CLASS III

MARKED LIMITATION  
OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY;  
COMFORTABLE AT REST,  
BUT LESS THAN ORDINARY  
ACTIVITY CAUSES SYMPTOMS



CLASS IV

SEVERE LIMITATION  
AND DISCOMFORT WITH  
ANY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY;  
SYMPTOMS PRESENT  
EVEN AT REST





# ACC/AHA Stages of HF

Stages	Description
<b>Stage A (At risk for HF)</b>	<p><b>Patient at high risk for HF but <u>without current or prior s/sx of HF</u> and <u>without structural or biomarkers evidence of heart disease.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes patients with HTN, CAD, obesity, DM, H/O drug or alcohol abuse, H/O rheumatic fever, FH of cardiomyopathy, and treatment with cardiotoxins.</li></ul>
<b>Stage B (Pre-HF)</b>	<p><b>Patient without current or prior s/sx of HF, but <u>with evidence of structural heart disease or abnormal cardiac function, or elevated BNP levels.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes patients with previous MI, LV remodeling including LVH and low EF, and asymptomatic valvular disease.</li></ul>

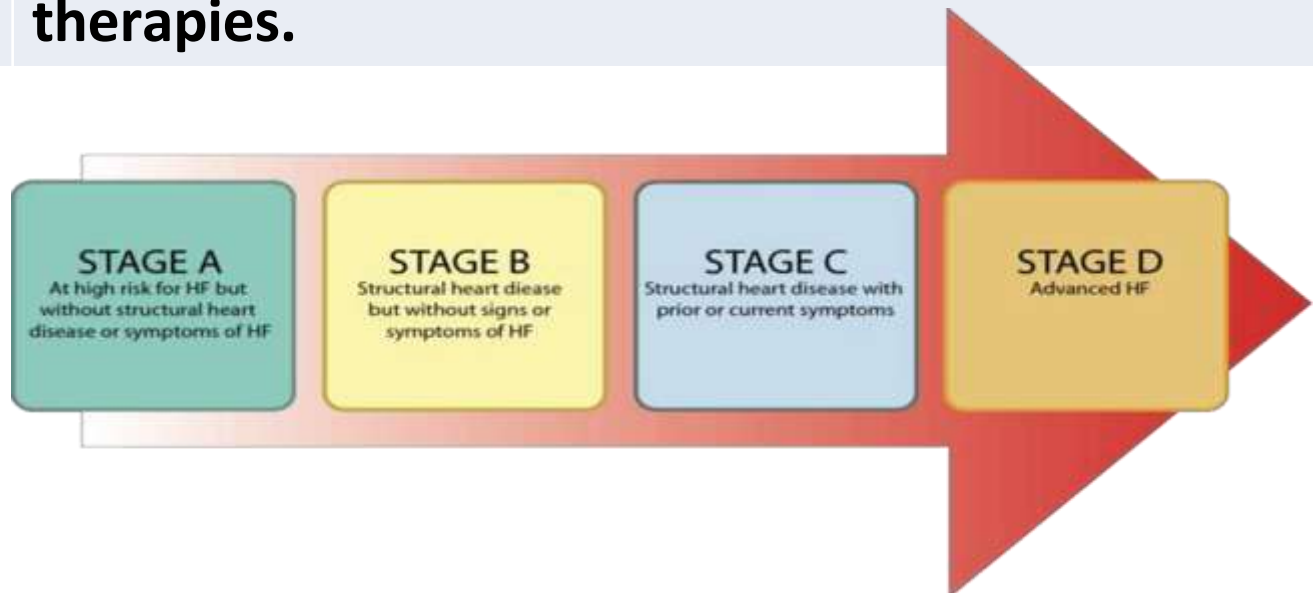
Bozkurt B et al. J Cardiac Failure 2021; 27:387-413





# ACC/AHA Stages of HF

Stages	Description
Stage C (HF)	Patients with <u>current or prior symptoms and/or signs HF</u> caused by a structural and/or functional cardiac abnormality.
Stage D (Advanced HF)	Patients with severe s/sx HF at rest, recurrent hospitalizations despite GDMT, refractory or intolerant to GDMT, requiring advanced therapies.



Bozkurt B et al.  
J Cardiac  
Failure 2021;  
27:387-413

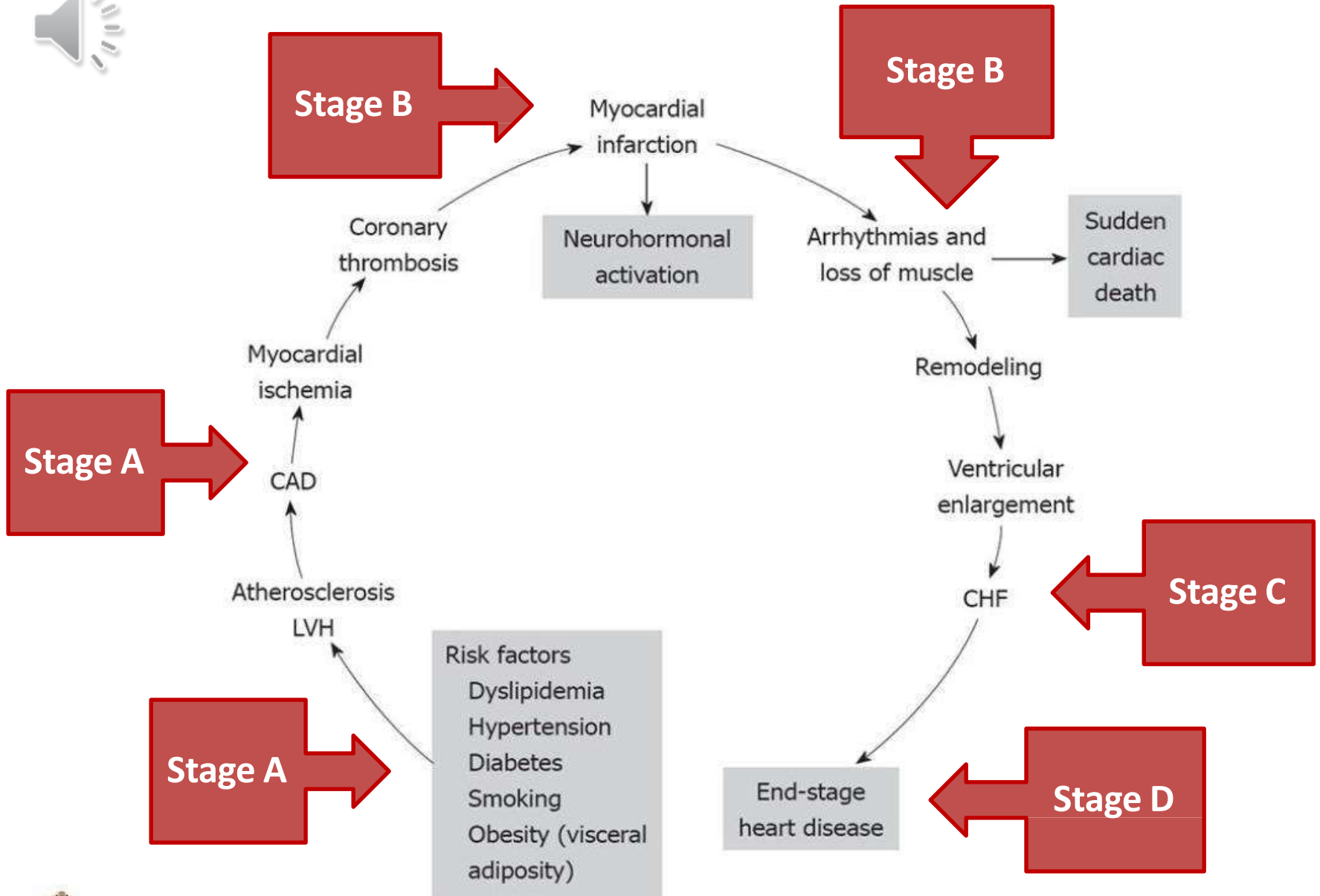


# Stage D: Advanced HF



- Findings used to ID patients with advanced HF:
  - Repeated ( $\geq 2$ ) hospitalizations or ED visits for HF in the past year
  - Progressive deterioration in renal fxn (rise in BUN and SCr)
  - Weight loss without other cause (e.g. cardiac cachexia)
  - Intolerance to ACE inhibitors due to hypotension and/or worsening renal fxn
  - Intolerance to BB due to worsening HF or hypotension
  - Frequent SBP  $< 90$  mmHg
  - Persistent dyspnea with dressing or bathing requiring rest
  - Inability to walk 1 block on level ground due to dyspnea or fatigue
  - Recent need to escalate diuretics to maintain fluid status, reaching daily furosemide dose  $> 160$  mg/day and/or use of supplemental metolazone therapy
  - Progressive decline in serum sodium, usually to  $< 133$  mEq/L
  - Frequent ICD shocks

# CV Continuum



# Comparison of Stages of HF and NYHA Functional Classifications



**ACC/AHA**

Highlights structural development and progression of HF

**Stage A**

- High risk for developing CHF
- No structural disorder of heart

**Stage B**

- Structural disorder of heart
- Never developed symptoms of CHF

**Stage C**

- Past or current symptoms of CHF
- Symptoms associated with underlying heart disease

**Stage D**

- End-stage disease
- Requires specialized treatment strategies

**NYHA**

Highlights exercise capacity and symptomatic status of HF

**Class I**

- No limitation of physical activity

**Class II**

- Slight limitation of physical activity
- Comfortable at rest

**Class III**

- Marked limitation of physical activity
- Comfortable at rest

**Class IV**

- Inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort
- Symptoms present even at rest

**Class IIIa**

- No dyspnea at rest

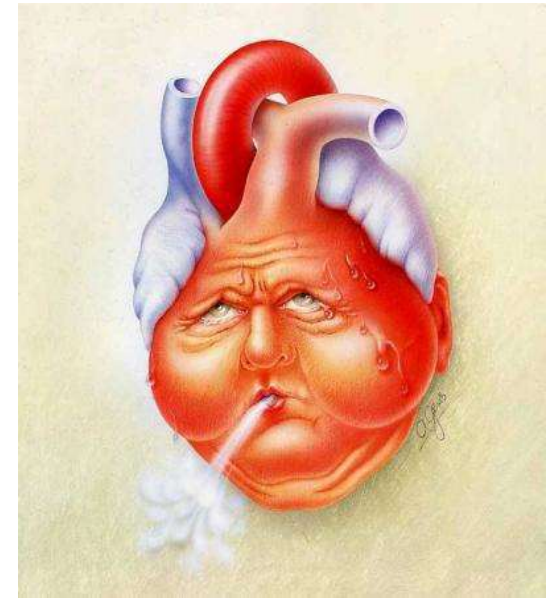
**Class IIIb**

- Recent dyspnea at rest



# HF Part 1

- Statistics
- Definitions
- Risk Factors
- Compensatory Mechanisms
- Symptoms of HF
- Classification and Staging
- **Patient Case**



# HF Case: Part I

- SB is a 64 yo female who presents to clinic complaining of SOB with getting dressed and difficulty sleeping at night due to coughing.
- She notices her ankles are swollen and her socks leave a pronounced mark on her legs.
- She feels nauseous and gets full after eating only half of her meals.
- She can't exercise lately due to fatigue and weakness.



# Questions

1. What symptoms of HF does SB have?
2. What Stage of HF does SB have?
3. What NYHA Functional Class does SB have?



# End of Part 1

Thank you!