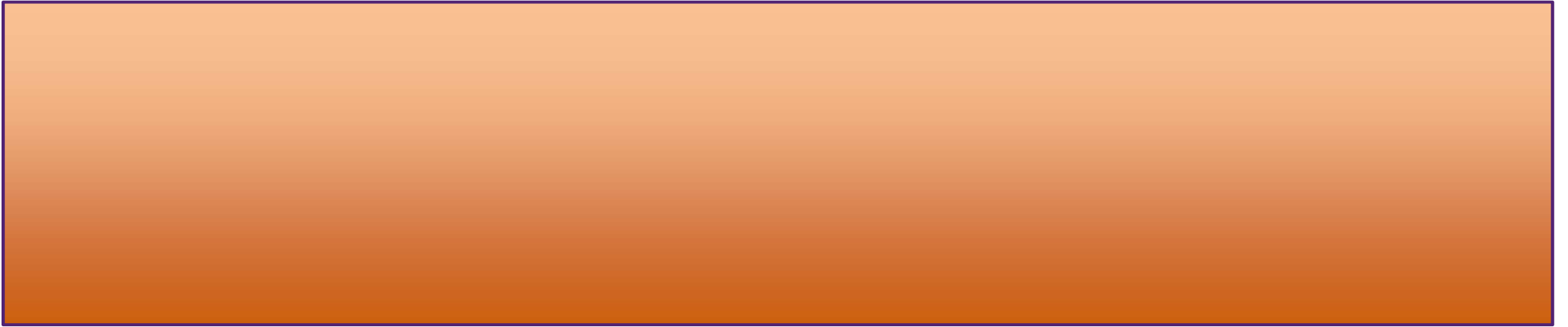


ΚΑΡΔΙΑΚΗ ΑΝΕΠΑΡΚΕΙΑ ΘΕΡΑΠΕΙΑ

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ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΚΑΡΔΙΑΚΗ ΑΝΕΠΑΡΚΕΙΑ

Βασικοί θεραπευτικοί στόχοι

ληψη της δημιουργίας και της επιδείνωσης της ΚΑ

εμπόδιση της μετάπτωσης της ασυμπτωματικής δυσλειτουργίας της αρ. κοιλίας σε συμπτωματική ΚΑ

πτωση της θνητότητας που συνεπάγεται η ΚΑ

λειψη ή έστω η βελτίωση της συμπτωματολογίας του ασθενούς με ΚΑ

ωση των νοσηλειών που σχετίζονται με ΚΑ

τίωση της ποιότητας ζωής ασθενών με ΚΑ

Recommendations for the primary prevention of heart failure in patients with risk factors for its development

Recommendations	Class	Level
Treatment of hypertension is recommended to prevent or delay the onset of HF, and to prevent HF hospitalizations.	I	A
Treatment with statins is recommended in patients at high risk of CV disease or with CV disease in order to prevent or delay the onset of HF, and to prevent HF hospitalizations.	I	A
SGLT2 inhibitors (canagliflozin, dapagliflozin, empagliflozin, ertugliflozin, sotagliflozin) are recommended in patients with diabetes at high risk of CV disease or with CV disease in order to prevent HF hospitalizations.	I	A
Interventions counselling against sedentary habit, obesity, cigarette smoking, and alcohol abuse are recommended to prevent or delay the onset of HF.	I	C

CV=cardiovascular; HF=heart failure; SGLT2=sodium-glucose co-transporter 2.

γενικές οδηγίες- γενικά μέτρα

γενικές οδηγίες αφορούν:

την καθημερινή ζύγιση

τη συμμετοχή σε κοινωνικές εκδηλώσεις

την εργασία

και ταξίδια

τους εμβολιασμούς και

την αντισύλληψη και ορμονική υποκατάσταση

Συστάσεις

Τεχνικά μέτρα εντάσσονται οι συστάσεις για:

η διαίτα

η κάπνισμα

η χρήση οινοπνεύματος,

η σωματική άσκηση και

η σωματική ανάπαυση

Παραγοντες που επιδεινώνουν την καρδιακή ανεπάρκεια

Μη συμμόρφωση του ασθενούς στην θεραπευτική αγωγή (φάρμακα, περιορισμός άλατος και αλκοόλ)

Αρρυθμιστη υπέρταση

Επίπτωση άλλου καρδιολογικού αιτίου (έμφραγμα, ταχυ/βραδυαρρυθμίας, βαλβιδοπάθειας, ενδοκαρδίτιδος, πνευμονικής εμβολής κ.α.)

Αίτια υπερδυναμικής κυκλοφορίας (αναιμία, κύηση, υπερθυροειδισμός)

Λοίμωξη (π.χ. Πνευμονία)

Λήψη καρδιολογικών αρνητικών ινότροπων φαρμάκων (αντιαρρυθμικά, calcium blockers)

Λήψη κορτιζόλης NSAID, νεώτερων υπογλυκαιμικών κ.α



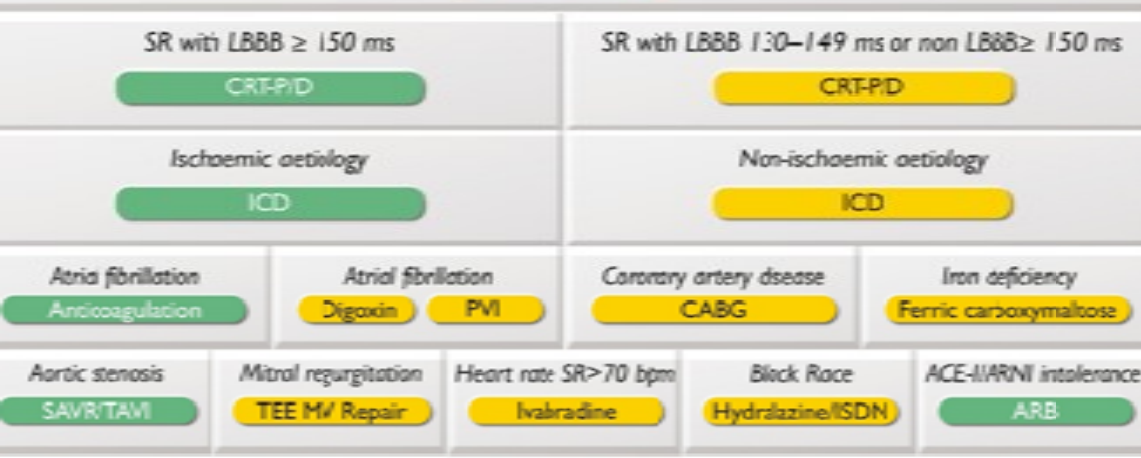
Management of HFrEF

To reduce mortality - for all patients

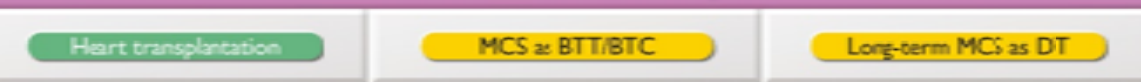


To reduce HF hospitalization/mortality - for selected patients

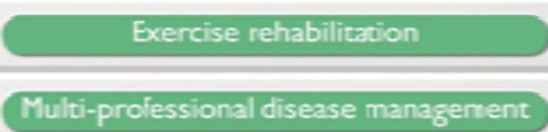
Volume overload
Diuretics



For selected advanced HF patients



To reduce HF hospitalization and improve QOL - for all patients



Strategic phenotypic overview of the management of heart failure with reduced ejection fraction

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB = angiotensin receptor blocker; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; BB = beta-blocker; b.p.m. = beats per minute; BTT = bridge to transcatheter; BTT = bridge to transplantation; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; CRT-D = cardiac resynchronization therapy with defibrillator; CRT-P = cardiac resynchronization therapy pacemaker; DT = destination therapy; HF = heart failure; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; ISDN = isosorbide dinitrate; LBBB = left bundle branch block; MCS = mechanical circulatory support; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; MV = mitral valve; PVI = pulmonary vein isolation; QOL = quality of life; SAVR = surgical aortic valve replacement; SGLT2i = sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitor; SR = sinus rhythm; TAVI = transcatheter aortic valve replacement; TEE = transcatheter edge-to-edge. Colour code for classes of recommendation: Green for Class I of recommendation; Yellow for Class IIa of recommendation (see Table 1 for further details on classes of recommendation). The Figure shows management options with Class I and IIa recommendations. See the specific Tables for those with Class IIb recommendations.



Multidisciplinary interventions recommended for the management of chronic heart failure



Recommendations	Class	Level
It is recommended that HF patients are enrolled in a multidisciplinary HF management programme to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and mortality.	I	A
Remote management strategies are recommended to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and mortality.	I	A
Both home-based and/or clinic-based programmes improve outcomes and are recommended to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and mortality.	I	A
Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations should be considered in order to prevent HF hospitalizations.	IIa	B

failure.



Important characteristics and components in a heart failure management program (2)

- Optimized management; lifestyle choices, pharmacological and devices
- Patient education, with special emphasis on self-care and symptom management
- Provision of psychosocial support to patients and family caregivers
- Follow-up after discharge (clinic; home visits; telephone support or telemonitoring)
- Easy access to healthcare, especially to prevent and manage decompensation
- Assessment of (and appropriate intervention in response to) an unexplained change in weight, nutritional and functional status, QOL, sleep problems, psychosocial problems or other findings (e.g., laboratory values)
- Access to advanced treatment options; supportive and palliative care

Atrial fibrillation; BNP = B-type natriuretic peptide; E/e' ratio = early filling velocity on transmitral Doppler/early relaxation velocity on tissue Doppler; HFpEF = heart failure with preserved ejection fraction; NP = natriuretic peptide; NT-proBNP = N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide; SR = sinus rhythm. Note: The greater the number of abnormalities the higher the likelihood of HFpEF. *Only commonly used indices are listed in the table; for less commonly used indices refer to the core consensus document of the ESC/EFSA.

Recommendations for exercise rehabilitation in patients with chronic heart failure



Recommendations	Class	Level
Exercise is recommended for all patients who are able in order to improve exercise capacity, QOL, and reduce HF hospitalization. ^a	I	A
Supervised, exercise-based, cardiac rehabilitation programme should be considered in patients with more severe disease, frailty, or with comorbidities.	IIa	C

HF = heart failure; QOL = quality of life.

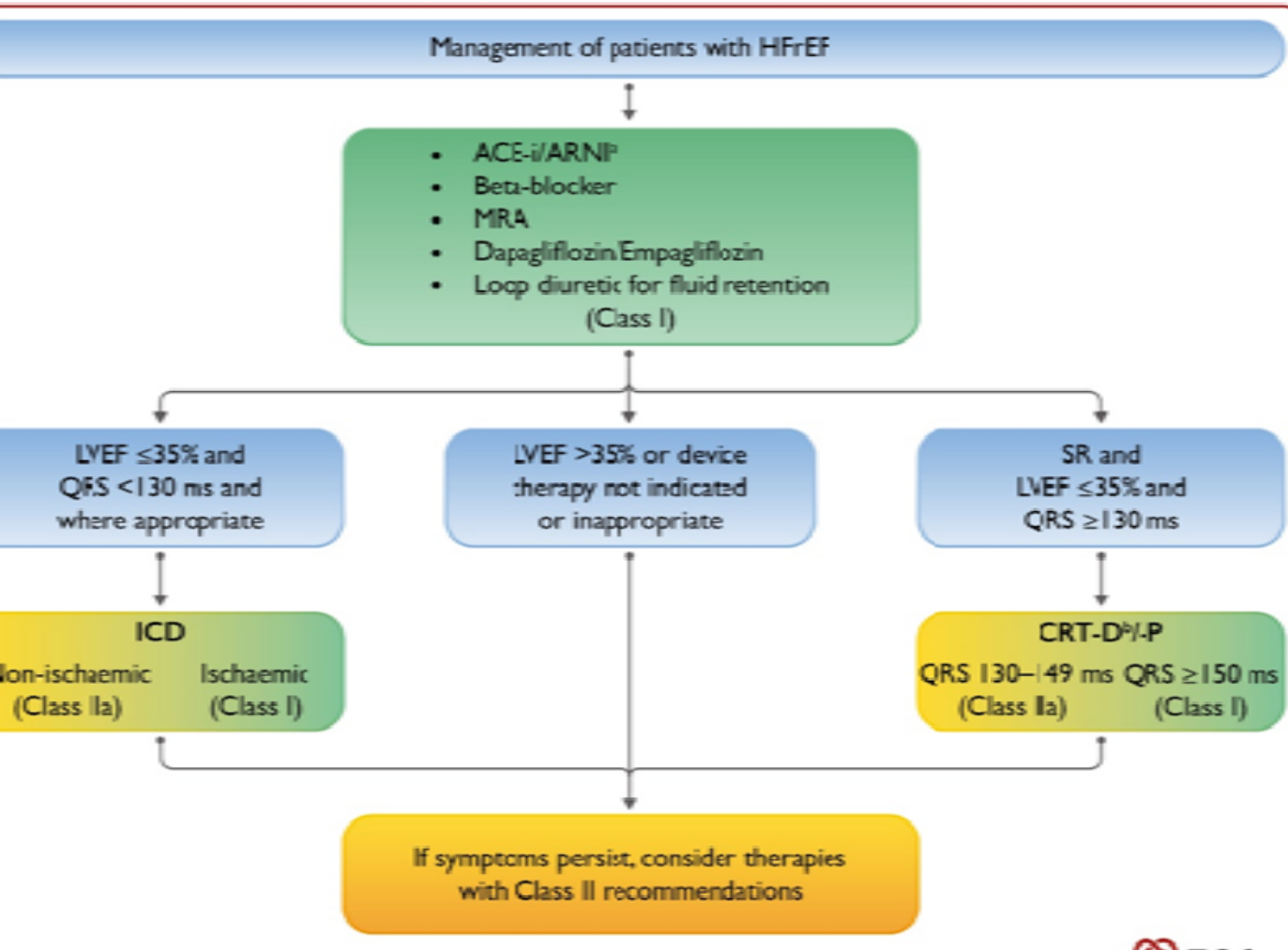
^aPatients who are able to adhere to the exercise programme.



Recommendations for telemonitoring

Recommendations	Class	Level
Minimally invasive HTM may be considered for patients with HF in order to reduce the risk of recurrent CV and HF hospitalizations and CV death.	IIb	B
Monitoring of pulmonary artery pressure using a wireless haemodynamic monitoring system may be considered in symptomatic patients with HF in order to improve clinical outcomes.	IIb	B

CV = cardiovascular; HF = heart failure; HTM = home telemonitoring; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction.



Therapeutic algorithm of Class I Therapy Indications for a patient with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; CRT-D = cardiac resynchronization therapy with defibrillator; CRT-P = cardiac resynchronization therapy pacemaker; ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; QRS = Q, R, and S waves of an ECG; SR = sinus rhythm.
^aAs a replacement for ACE-I.
^bWhere appropriate. Class I=green. Class IIa=Yellow.



Pharmacological treatments indicated in patients with (NYHA class II-IV) heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF $\leq 40\%$)

Recommendations	Class	Level
ACE-I is recommended for patients with HFrEF to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	I	A
Beta-blocker is recommended for patients with stable HFrEF to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	I	A
MRA is recommended for patients with HFrEF to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	I	A
SGLT2i (dapagliflozin or empagliflozin) are recommended for patients with HFrEF to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	I	A
ARB (lisinopril/valsartan) is recommended as a replacement for an ACE-I in patients with HFrEF to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	I	B

ACE-I= angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; HF= heart failure; HFrEF= heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; LVEF= left ventricular ejection fraction; MRA= mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; NYHA= New York Heart Association.



Other pharmacological treatments indicated in selected patients with A class II-IV heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF ≤40%) (1)

Recommendations	Class	Level
Diuretics		
Diuretics are recommended in patients with HFrEF with signs and/or symptoms of congestion to alleviate HF symptoms, improve exercise capacity, and reduce HF hospitalizations.	I	C
ARB ^a is recommended to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death in symptomatic patients unable to tolerate an ACE-I or ARNI (patients should also receive a beta-blocker and an MRA).	I	B

^aACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB = angiotensin-receptor blocker; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; CV = cardiovascular; HF = heart failure; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; NYHA = New York Heart Association.
^bwith evidence in HFrEF are candesartan, losartan, and valsartan.

Αναστολείς ΜΕΑ

WHY?

To improve symptoms and exercise capacity, reduce the risk of HF hospitalization, and increase survival.

IN WHOM AND WHEN?

Indications:

1. Patients with HFrEF.

Contraindications:

1. History of angioedema^b.
2. Known bilateral renal artery stenosis.
3. Pregnancy/risk of pregnancy.
4. Known allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

Cautions/seek specialist advice:

1. Significant hyperkalaemia ($K^+ > 5.0$ mmol/L).
2. Significant renal dysfunction [creatinine $> 221 \mu\text{mol/L}$ (> 2.5 mg/dL) or eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m²].
3. Symptomatic or severe asymptomatic hypotension (SBP < 90 mmHg).
4. Drug interactions to look out for:
 - K^+ supplements K^+ -sparing diuretics, e.g. amiloride and triamterene (beware combination preparations with furosemide).
 - MRAs.
 - Renin inhibitors^c.
 - NSAIDs^d.

HOW TO USE?

- Check renal function and electrolytes.
- Start with a low dose (see **Guidelines, Table 8**).
- Double the dose at not less than 2-week intervals in the community. More rapid dose up-titration may be carried out in patients in hospital or who are otherwise closely monitored, tolerability permitting.
- Aim for the target dose (see above) or, failing that, the highest tolerated dose [remember: some ACE-I (or ARB) is better than no ACE-I].
- Re-check blood chemistry (urea/BUN, creatinine, K^+) 1–2 weeks after initiation and 1–2 weeks after final dose titration.
- Monitor blood chemistry 4-monthly thereafter.
- When to stop up-titration, reduce dose, stop treatment—see PROBLEM SOLVING.
- It is very rarely necessary to stop an ACE-I (or ARB), and clinical deterioration is likely if treatment is withdrawn. Ideally, specialist advice should be sought before treatment discontinuation.
- A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), biochemical monitoring, and dose up-titration.

Β-αναστολείς

WHY?

To improve symptoms, reduce the risk of HF hospitalization, and increase survival.

IN WHOM AND WHEN?

Indications:

1. Patients with stable HFrEF.

Contraindications:

1. Second- or third-degree AV block (in the absence of a permanent pacemaker).
2. Critical limb ischaemia.
3. Asthma (relative contraindication): if cardio-selective beta-blockers are indicated, asthma is not necessarily an absolute contraindication, but these medications should only be used under close medical supervision by a specialist, with consideration of the risks for and against their use; COPD is not a contraindication.
4. Known allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

Cautions/seek specialist advice:

1. Severe (NYHA class IV) HF.
2. Current or recent (<4 weeks) exacerbation of HF (e.g. hospital admission with worsening HF), heart block, or heart rate <50 b.p.m.
3. If persisting signs of congestion, hypotension (SBP <90 mmHg), raised jugular venous pressure, ascites, marked peripheral oedema—try to relieve congestion and achieve 'euvolaemia' before starting a beta-blocker.
4. Drug interactions to look out for (because of risk of bradycardia/AV block):
 - Verapamil, diltiazem (are not recommended and should be discontinued)^b.
 - Digoxin.
 - Amiodarone.
 - Ivabradine.

HOW TO USE?

- Start with a low dose in a stable condition (see **Guidelines, Table 8**).
- Double the dose at not less than 2-week intervals (slower uptitration may be needed in some patients).
- Aim for the target dose (see above) or, failing that, the highest tolerated dose (remember: some beta-blocker is better than no beta-blocker).
- Monitor heart rate, blood pressure, and clinical status (symptoms, signs—especially signs of congestion, body weight).
- A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), and dose uptitration.
- When to stop uptitration, reduce dose, stop treatment—see **PROBLEM SOLVING**.

Ανταγωνιστές αλατοκορτικοειδών

...e symptoms, reduce the risk of HF hospitalization, and increase survival.

INDICATIONS AND WHEN?

...s:

...with HFrEF.

Contraindications:

...allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

Seek specialist advice:

...nt hyperkalaemia (K^+ >5.0 mmol/L)^b.

...nt renal dysfunction [creatinine >221 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (>2.5 mg/dL) or eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m²]^b.

...interactions to look out for:

...supplements/ K^+ -sparing diuretics (e.g. amiloride and triamterene; beware combination preparations with furosemide).

...ACE-Is/ARBs/renin inhibitors^c.

...AIDs^d.

...methoprim/trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole.

...w-salt' substitutes with a high K^+ content.

...ong CYP3A4 inhibitors, e.g. ketoconazole, itraconazole, nefazodone, telithromycin, clarithromycin, ritonavir, and nelfinavir (when eplerenone used).

HOW TO USE?

- Check renal function and electrolytes (particularly K^+).
- Start with a low dose (see above).
- Consider dose up-titration after 4–8 weeks.

● Check blood chemistry at 1 and 4 weeks after starting/increasing dose and at 8 and 12 weeks; 6, 9, and 12 months; 4-monthly thereafter.

● If K^+ rises above 5.5 mmol/L or creatinine rises to 221 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (2.5 mg/dL)/eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m², halve a dose and monitor blood chemistry

● If K^+ rises to >6.0 mmol/L or creatinine to >310 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (3.5 mg/dL) eGFR <20 mL/min/1.73 m², stop MRA immediately and seek specialist advice

● A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), biochemical monitoring, and dose up-titration

Σακουμπιλτρίλη/βαλσαρτάνη

symptoms, reduce the risk of HF hospitalization, and increase survival.

INDICATIONS AND WHEN?

with HFrEF as a replacement for ACE-I/ARB.

considered in patients with HFrEF in those who are ACE-I/ARB naïve (*de novo* use).

Contraindications:

angioedema.^a

severe aortic stenosis.

history of pregnancy and breastfeeding period.

allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m².

history of hypotension or a SBP <90 mmHg (PARADIGM-HF enrolled patients with SBP >95 mmHg at randomization).

Specialist advice:

A washout period of at least 36 h after ACE-I therapy is required in order to minimize the risk of angioedema.

hyperkalaemia (K⁺ >5.0 mmol/L).

Caution with the following conditions to look out for:

potassium supplements/K⁺-sparing diuretics, e.g. amiloride and triamterene (beware combination preparations with furosemide).

potassium channel inhibitors^c.

and

trimethoprim/trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole.

potassium salt' substitutes with a high K⁺ content.

HOW TO USE?

- Check renal function and electrolytes.
- Start with a low dose (see **Guidelines, Table 8**).
- In some patients, one may consider a reduced starting dose (24/26 mg *b.i.d.*), namely in those with SBP 100–110 mmHg, ACE-I/ARB naïve, or eGFR 30–60 mL/min/1.73 m².
- Double the dose at not less than 2-week intervals in the community, monitoring tolerability.
- Aim for the target dose (see above) or, failing that, the highest tolerated dose.
- Re-check blood chemistry (urea/BUN, creatinine, K⁺) 1–2 weeks after initiation and 1–2 weeks after final dose titration.
- Consider reducing diuretic where appropriate.
- Monitor blood chemistry 4-monthly thereafter.
- When to stop uptitration, reduce dose, stop treatment—see PROBLEM SOLVING.
- It is very rarely necessary to stop an ARNI, and clinical deterioration is likely if treatment is withdrawn. Ideally, specialist advice should be sought before treatment discontinuation.
- A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), biochemical monitoring, and

Αναστολείς SGLT-2

<p>reduce the risk of HF hospitalization, and increase survival.</p> <p>WHEN?</p> <p>FrEF (regardless of concomitant diabetes mellitus).</p> <p>Contraindications:</p> <p>allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).</p> <p>pregnancy and breastfeeding period.</p> <p>eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m².*</p> <p>hypotension or a SBP < 95 mmHg.</p> <p><i>(dapagliflozin) enrolled patients with an eGFR > 25 mL/min/1.73 m²</i></p> <p>Specialist advice:</p> <p>Diabetes mellitus is not an absolute contraindication, but an individual risk of ketoacidosis should be taken into account when starting this therapy.</p> <p><i>(the consequence of dapagliflozin action) may predispose to fungal genito-urinary infections.</i></p> <p>Patients should look out for: Insulin, sulfonylurea derivatives and other antidiabetic drugs predisposing to hypoglycaemia.</p> <p>Loop diuretics predisposing to excessive diuresis, dehydration, symptomatic hypotension, and prerenal renal failure.</p>	
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HOW TO USE?

- Check renal function when starting the therapy and monitor regularly. eGFR is known to dip slightly after initiation but the SGLT2 is *reno-protective*.
- Monitor glycaemia regularly, particularly when a patient is diabetic. Consider modification of other diabetic drugs.
- Identify the risk factors predisposing to ketoacidosis and eliminate them if possible.
- Monitor fluid balance regularly, particularly when a patient is taking diuretics, is old and/or frail. Consider an adjustment of diuretic intake.
- A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), and biochemical monitoring.

Διουρητικά

thlessness and oedema in patients with symptoms and signs of congestion.

INDICATIONS

All patients with symptoms and signs of congestion, irrespective of LVEF.

Diuretics should always be used in a combination with an ACE-I (or an ARB), a beta-blocker, and an MRA in patients with HFrEF (unless any of these are not tolerated/contraindicated), until signs of congestion have been relieved.

Diuretics can be used in patients with preserved renal function and mild symptoms of congestion. However, the majority of patients require diuretics (or combined with a thiazide diuretic and an MRA) due to the severity of HF symptoms and steadily deteriorating kidney function.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Avoid if the patient has never had symptoms or signs of congestion.

Avoid if there is an allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

PRECAUTIONS AND SPECIALIST ADVICE

Hypokalaemia ($K^+ \leq 3.5$ mmol/L)—may be made worse by diuretic.

Renal dysfunction [creatinine >221 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (>2.5 mg/dL) or eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m²]
—may be made worse by diuretic or patient may not tolerate diuretic (especially thiazide diuretic).

Severe or symptomatic hypotension (SBP <90 mmHg)—may be made worse by diuretic-induced hypovolaemia.

Caution to look out for:

Concomitant use with an ACE-I, an ARB, or a renin inhibitor^a—risk of hypotension (usually not a problem).

Concomitant use with other diuretics (e.g. loop plus thiazide)—risk of hypovolaemia, hypotension, hypokalaemia, and renal impairment^b.

Concomitant use with NSAIDs—may attenuate effect of diuretic.

DIURETIC AND WHAT DAILY DOSE?

Loop:

Starting dose 20–40 mg, usual dose 40–240 mg.

Starting dose 0.5–1 mg, usual dose 1–5 mg.

Starting dose 5–10 mg, usual dose 10–20 mg.

Thiazide-like diuretics:

Thiazide: starting dose 2.5 mg, usual dose 2.5–10 mg.

Thiazide: starting dose 25 mg, usual dose 12.5–100 mg.

Starting dose 2.5 mg, usual dose 2.5–10 mg. Can be weekly, daily, or prn.

Sulfonamide:

Starting dose 2.5 mg, usual dose 2.5–5 mg.

HOW TO USE?

- Check renal function and electrolytes, particularly in those on a combination of loop and thiazide diuretics.
- Start with a low dose but target an effective dose for a patient to achieve positive diuresis with a simultaneous reduction of body weight of 0.5–1 kg per day.
- Adjust a dose according to symptoms and/or signs of congestion, blood pressure, and renal function. Use a minimum dose needed to achieve euvolaemia—the patient's 'dry weight' (i.e. to keep the patient free of symptoms and signs of congestion).
- Dose may need to be increased or decreased according to the patient's volume status (remember that excessive diuresis is more harmful than itself).
- Re-check blood chemistry 1–2 weeks after an initiation and after any increase in dose (urea/BUN, creatinine, K^+).
- When to stop uptitration, reduce dose, stop treatment—see PROBLEM SOLVING.
- Patients can be educated to alter their own diuretic dose, according to need (based on symptoms, signs, and weight changes).
- A specialist HF nurse may assist with education of the patient, follow-up (in person or by telephone), biochemical monitoring, and weight monitoring (including patient educated in dose adjustment).



Evidence-based doses of disease-modifying drugs in key randomized trials in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (1)

	Starting dose	Target dose
Enalapril ^e	6.25 mg <i>t.i.d.</i>	50 mg <i>t.i.d.</i>
Lisinopril	2.5 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>	10–20 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>
Perindopril ^b	2.5–5 mg <i>o.d.</i>	20–35 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Quinapril	2.5 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>	5 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>
Losartan	0.5 mg <i>o.d.</i>	4 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Sacubitril/valsartan	49/51 mg <i>b.i.d.</i> ^c	97/103 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARNI = angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor; *b.i.d.* = bis in die; *o.d.* = omne in die (once daily); *t.i.d.* = ter in die (three times a day). ^aan ACE-I where the dosing target is derived from post-myocardial infarction trials. ^bdrugs where a higher dose has been shown to reduce morbidity/mortality compared with a lower dose of the same drug, but there is no substantive randomized, placebo-controlled trial and the optimum dose is uncertain. ^cSacubitril/valsartan may have an optional lower starting dose of 24/26 mg *b.i.d.* for those with a history of symptomatic hypotension.



Evidence-based doses of disease-modifying drugs in key randomized trials in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (2)

	Starting dose	Target dose
β-blockers		
carvedilol	1.25 mg <i>o.d.</i>	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>
metoprolol	3.125 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>	25 mg <i>b.i.d.</i> ^e
metoprolol succinate (CR/XL)	12.5–25 mg <i>o.d.</i>	200 mg <i>o.d.</i>
bisoprolol ^d	1.25 mg <i>o.d.</i>	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Diuretics		
furosemide	25 mg <i>o.d.</i>	50 mg <i>o.d.</i>
torsemide	25 mg <i>o.d.</i> ^f	50 mg <i>o.d.</i>

^a *o.d.* = once daily; *b.i.d.* = twice daily; CR = controlled release; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; *o.d.* = omne in die (once daily); XL = extended release. ^b A treatment not shown to reduce CV or all-cause mortality in patients with heart failure (or shown to be non-inferior to a treatment that does). ^c A maximum dose of 50 mg twice daily can be administered to patients weighing over 85 kg. ^d Bisoprolol has an optional starting dose of 12.5 mg in patients where renal status or hyperkalemia warrant caution.



Evidence-based doses of disease-modifying drugs in key randomized trials in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (3)

	Starting dose	Target dose
SGLT2 inhibitor		
Dapagliflozin	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Ertugliflozin	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>	10 mg <i>o.d.</i>
ARB agents		
Losartan	4 mg <i>o.d.</i>	32 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Valsartan	50 mg <i>o.d.</i>	150 mg <i>o.d.</i>
Irbesartan	40 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>	160 mg <i>b.i.d.</i>

b.i.d. = twice daily; *o.d.* = once daily; SGLT2 = sodium-glucose co-transporter 2; *t.i.d.* = three times a day.



Other pharmacological treatments indicated in selected patients with A class II-IV heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF ≤40%) (2)

Recommendations	Class	Level
β-blocker		
Carvedilol should be considered in symptomatic patients with LVEF ≤35%, in SR and a resting heart rate ≥70 b.p.m. despite treatment with an evidence-based dose of beta-blocker (or maximum tolerated dose below that), ACE-I/(or ARNI), and an MRA, to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and CV death.	IIa	B
Carvedilol should be considered in symptomatic patients with LVEF ≤35%, in SR and a resting heart rate ≥70 b.p.m. who are unable to tolerate or have contraindications for a beta-blocker to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and CV death. Patients should also receive an ACE-I (or ARNI) and an MRA.	IIa	C

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; b.p.m. = beats per minute; CV = cardiovascular; HF = heart failure; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; NYHA = New York Heart Association; SR = sinus rhythm.

Ιβαβραδίνη

WHY?

To reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and CV death.

IN WHOM AND WHEN?

Indications:

1. Patients with stable symptomatic HF (NYHA class II–IV) and an EF \leq 35% SR and resting heart rate \geq 70 b.p.m. despite guideline-recommended treatment (in particular, an evidence-based dose of beta-blocker).

Contraindications:

1. Unstable CV conditions (ACS, stroke/TIA, severe hypotension).
2. AF.
3. Severe liver dysfunction or renal dysfunction (no evidence on safety or pharmacokinetics for creatinine clearance $<$ 15 mL/min).
4. Pregnancy or breastfeeding.
5. Known allergic reaction/other adverse reaction (drug-specific).

Cautions/seek specialist advice:

1. Severe (NYHA class IV) HF.
2. Current or recent ($<$ 4 weeks) exacerbation of HF (e.g. hospital admission with worsening HF).
3. Resting heart rate $<$ 50 b.p.m. during treatment.
4. Moderate liver dysfunction.
5. Chronic retinal diseases, including retinitis pigmentosa.
6. Drug interactions:
 - To look out for (due to a potential risk of bradycardia and an induction of long QT as a result of bradycardia):
 - Verapamil, diltiazem (both should be discontinued/not used in HFrEF).
 - Digoxin.
 - Amiodarone.
 - To look out for drugs being strong inhibitors of isoenzyme CYP3A4:
 - Antifungal azoles (such as ketoconazole, itraconazole).
 - Macrolide antibiotics (such as clarithromycin, erythromycin).
 - HIV protease inhibitors (nelfinavir, ritonavir).
 - Nefazodone.



Other pharmacological treatments indicated in selected patients with NYHA class II-IV heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF ≤40%) (3)

Recommendations	Class	Level
Soluble guanylate cyclase stimulator		
Sildenafil may be considered in patients in NYHA class II-IV who have had worsening HF despite treatment with an ACE-I (or ARNI), a beta-blocker and an MRA to reduce the risk of CV mortality or HF hospitalization.	IIb	B
Hydralazine and isosorbide dinitrate		
Hydralazine and isosorbide dinitrate should be considered in self-identified black patients with LVEF ≤35% or with an LVEF <45% combined with a dilated left ventricle in NYHA class III-IV despite treatment with an ACE-I (or ARNI), a beta-blocker and an MRA to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and death.	IIa	B
Hydralazine and isosorbide dinitrate may be considered in patients with symptomatic HF who cannot tolerate any of an ACE-I, an ARB, or ARNI (or they are contraindicated) to reduce the risk of death.	IIb	B

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; CV = cardiovascular; HF = heart failure; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; NYHA = New York Heart Association.



Other pharmacological treatments indicated in selected patients with A class II-IV heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF $\leq 40\%$) (4)

Recommendations	Class	Level
<p>Sartan</p> <p>Sartan may be considered in patients with symptomatic HFrEF in sinus rhythm despite treatment with an ACE-I (or ARNI), a beta-blocker and an MRA, to reduce the risk of hospitalization (both all-cause and HF hospitalizations).</p>	IIb	B

ACE-I = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARNI = angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; HF = heart failure; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; MRA = mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist.



Evidence-based doses of disease-modifying drugs in key randomized trials in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (3)

	Starting dose	Target dose
Diuretic agents (continued)		
Furosemide	62.5 µg <i>o.d.</i>	250 µg <i>o.d.</i>
Hydralazine/ Isosorbide dinitrate	37.5 mg <i>t.i.d.</i> / 20 mg <i>t.i.d.</i>	75 mg <i>t.i.d.</i> / 40 mg <i>t.i.d.</i>

t.i.d. = ter in die (twice daily); *o.d.* = omne in die (once daily); SGLT2 = sodium-glucose co-transporter 2; *t.i.d.* = ter in die (three times a day).



Recommendations for an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator in patients with heart failure (1)

Recommendations	Class	Level
Secondary prevention ICD is recommended to reduce the risk of sudden death and all-cause mortality in patients who have recovered from a ventricular arrhythmia causing hemodynamic instability, and who are expected to survive for >1 year with good functional status, in the absence of reversible causes or unless the ventricular arrhythmia has occurred <48 h after a MI.	I	A
Secondary prevention ICD is recommended to reduce the risk of sudden death and all-cause mortality in patients with symptomatic HF (NYHA class II-III) of an ischaemic aetiology (unless they have had a MI in the prior 40 days—see below), and an LVEF ≤35 despite ≥3 months of OMT, provided they are expected to survive substantially longer than 1 year with good functional status.	I	A

Heart failure; ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; MI = myocardial infarction; NYHA = New York Heart Association; OMT = optimal medical therapy.



Recommendations for an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator in patients with heart failure (2)

Recommendations	Class	Level
Primary prevention (continued)		
ICD should be considered to reduce the risk of sudden death and all-cause mortality in patients with symptomatic HF (NYHA class II-III) of a non-ischaemic aetiology, and an LVEF $\leq 35\%$ despite ≥ 3 months of OMT, provided they are expected to survive substantially longer than 1 year with good functional status.	IIa	A
Patients should be carefully evaluated by an experienced cardiologist before defibrillator replacement, because management goals, the patient's needs and clinical status may have changed.	IIa	B
Temporary ICD may be considered for patients with HF who are at risk of sudden cardiac death for a limited period or as a bridge to an implanted device.	IIb	B

Heart failure; ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; NYHA = New York Heart Association; OMT = optimal medical therapy.

Recommendations for cardiac resynchronization therapy implantation in patients with heart failure (1)

Recommendations	Class	Level
is recommended for symptomatic patients with HF in SR with a QRS duration of 130–149 ms and LBBB QRS morphology and with LVEF $\leq 35\%$ despite OMT in order to improve symptoms and reduce morbidity and mortality.	I	A
should be considered for symptomatic patients with HF in SR with a QRS duration of 130–149 ms and LBBB QRS morphology and with LVEF $\leq 35\%$ despite OMT in order to improve symptoms and reduce morbidity and mortality.	IIa	B
should be considered for symptomatic patients with HF in SR with a QRS duration ≥ 150 ms and non-LBBB QRS morphology and with LVEF $\leq 35\%$ despite OMT in order to improve symptoms and reduce morbidity and mortality.	IIa	B
may be considered for symptomatic patients with HF in SR with a QRS duration of 130–149 ms and non-LBBB QRS morphology and with LVEF $\leq 35\%$ despite OMT in order to improve symptoms and reduce morbidity and mortality.	IIb	B

AF = atrial fibrillation; AV = atrio-ventricular; CRT = cardiac resynchronization therapy; HF = heart failure; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; LBBB = left bundle branch block; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; NYHA = New York Heart Association; OMT = optimal medical therapy (class I recommended medical therapies for at least 3 months); QRS = Q, R, and S waves on ECG; RV = right ventricular; SR = sinus rhythm.

Recommendations for the treatment of atrial fibrillation in patients with heart failure (1)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Anticoagulation		
Long-term treatment with an oral anticoagulant is recommended in all patients with AF, HF, and CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc score ≥ 2 in men or ≥ 3 in women.	I	A
DOACs are recommended in preference to VKAs in patients with HF, except in patients with moderate or severe mitral stenosis or mechanical prosthetic heart valves.	I	A
Long-term treatment with an oral anticoagulant should be considered for stroke prevention in AF patients with a CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc score of 1 in men or 2 in women.	IIa	B
Rate control		
Beta-blockers should be considered for short and long-term rate control in patients with HF and AF.	IIa	B
Diltiazem should be considered when the ventricular rate remains high despite beta-blockers, or when beta-blockers are contraindicated or not tolerated.	IIa	C

AF = atrial fibrillation; CHA₂DS₂-VASc = congestive heart failure or left ventricular dysfunction, Hypertension, Age ≥ 75 (doubled), Diabetes, Stroke (doubled)-Vascular disease, Age 65-74, Sex (female) (score); DOAC = direct acting oral anticoagulant; HF = heart failure; MT = medical therapy; VKA = vitamin K antagonist.

Recommendations for the treatment of atrial fibrillation in patients with heart failure (2)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Electrical cardioversion		
ECV is recommended in the setting of acute worsening of HF in patients presenting with rapid ventricular rates and haemodynamic instability.	I	C
ECV may be considered in patients in whom there is an association between AF and worsening of HF symptoms despite optimal medical treatment	IIb	B
Catheter ablation		
In cases of a clear association between paroxysmal or persistent AF and worsening HF symptoms, which persist despite MT, catheter ablation should be considered for the prevention or treatment of AF.	IIa	B

AF = atrial fibrillation; ECV = electrical cardioversion; HF = heart failure; MT = medical therapy.



Recommendations for myocardial revascularization in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (1)

Recommendations	Class	Level
Primary revascularization should be considered to relieve persistent symptoms of angina (or an angina-equivalent) in patients with HFrEF, CCS, and coronary anatomy suitable for revascularization, despite OMT including anti-anginal drugs.	IIa	C
Primary revascularization may be considered to improve outcomes in patients with HFrEF, CCS, and coronary anatomy suitable for revascularization, after careful evaluation of the individual risk to benefit ratio, including coronary anatomy (i.e. proximal stenosis >90% of large vessels, stenosis of left main or proximal LAD), comorbidities, life expectancy, and patient's perspectives.	IIb	C
In LAD candidates needing coronary revascularization, CABG should be avoided, if possible.	IIa	C

CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; CCS = chronic coronary syndrome; HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; LAD = left anterior descending artery; LVAD = left ventricular assist device; OMT = optimal medical therapy



Recommendations for myocardial revascularization in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (2)

Recommendations	Class	Level
CABG should be considered as the first-choice revascularization strategy, in patients suitable for surgery, especially if they have diabetes and for those with peripheral artery disease.	IIa	B
PCI may be considered as an alternative to CABG, based on Heart Team discussion, considering coronary anatomy, comorbidities, and surgical risk.	IIb	C

CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention.

Recommendations for the management of valvular heart disease in patients with heart failure (2)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Secondary mitral regurgitation		
Patients with HF, severe secondary mitral regurgitation and CAD who need revascularization, CABG and mitral valve surgery should be considered.	IIa	C
Simultaneous edge-to-edge mitral valve repair should be considered in carefully selected patients with secondary mitral regurgitation, not eligible for surgery and needing coronary revascularization, who are symptomatic ^a despite OMT and do not fulfil criteria ^b for achieving a reduction in HF hospitalizations.	IIa	B
Simultaneous edge-to-edge mitral valve repair may be considered to improve symptoms in carefully selected patients with secondary mitral regurgitation, not eligible for surgery and not needing coronary revascularization, highly symptomatic despite OMT and who do not fulfil criteria for reducing HF hospitalization.	IIb	C

CABG= coronary artery bypass graft; CAD= coronary artery disease; OMT= optimal medical therapy; SAVR= surgical aortic valve replacement. ^aNYHA class III/IV. ^bAll of the following criteria fulfilled: LVEF 20–50%, LVEDD <70 mm, systolic pulmonary pressure <70 mmHg, absence of moderate or severe right ventricular dysfunction or severe TR, absence of haemodynamic

Recommendations for anaemia and iron deficiency in patients with heart failure



Recommendations	Class	Level
It is recommended that all patients with HF be periodically screened for anaemia and iron deficiency with a full blood count, serum ferritin concentration, and TSAT.	I	C
Parenteral iron supplementation with ferric carboxymaltose should be considered in symptomatic patients with LVEF <45% and iron deficiency, defined as serum ferritin <100 ng/mL or serum ferritin 100–299 ng/mL with TSAT <20%, to alleviate HF symptoms, improve exercise capacity and QOL.	IIa	A
Parenteral iron supplementation with ferric carboxymaltose should be considered in symptomatic HF patients recently hospitalized for HF and with LVEF <50% and iron deficiency, defined as serum ferritin <100 ng/mL or serum ferritin 100–299 ng/mL with TSAT <20%, to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization.	IIa	B

HF = heart failure; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; QOL = quality of life; TSAT = transferrin saturation.



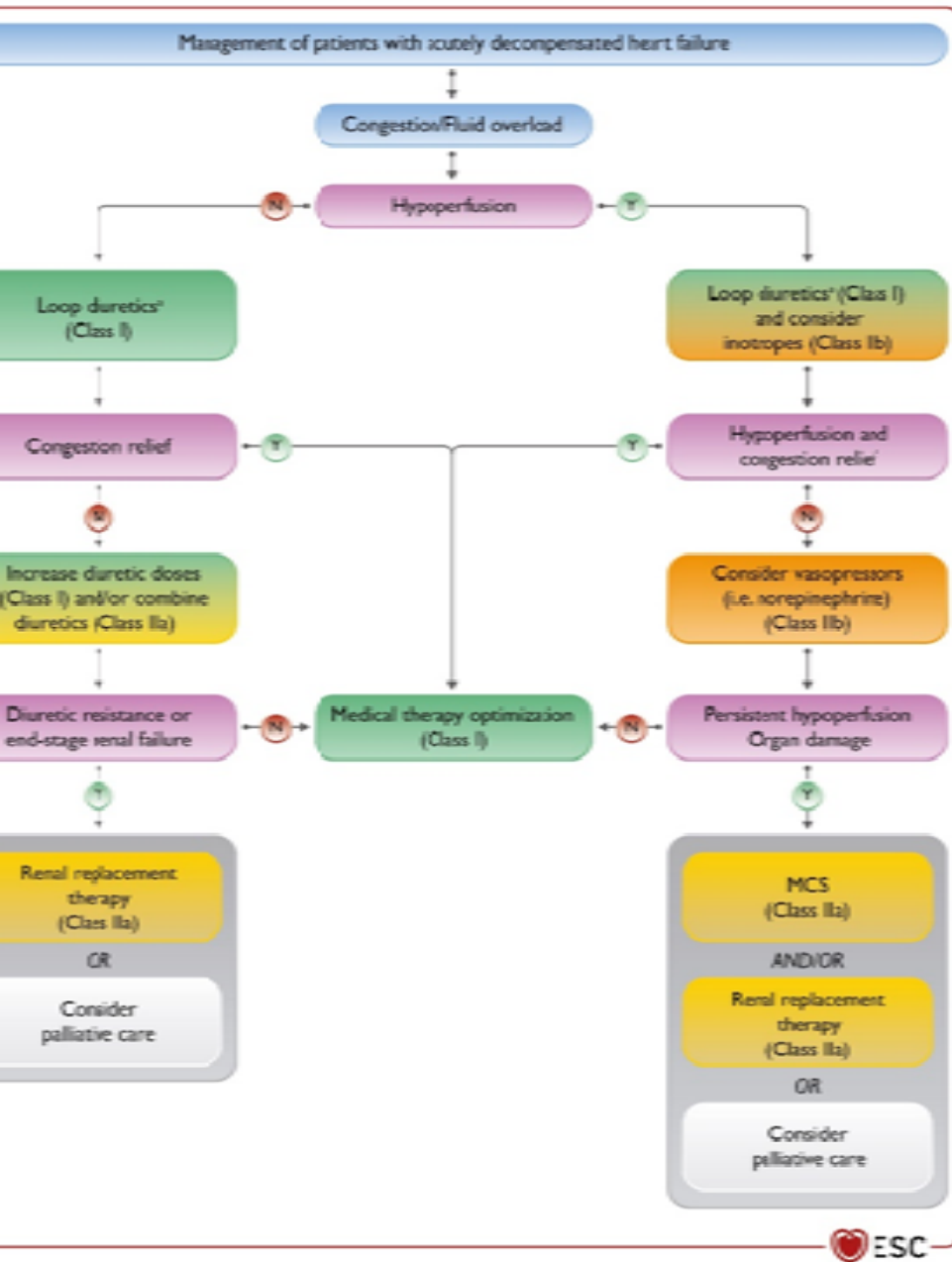
Algorithm for the treatment of patients with advanced heart failure

BTB = bridge to bridge; BTC=bridge to candidacy; BTD= bridge to decision; BTR = bridge to recovery; BTT = bridge to transplantation; CA = cardiac amyloidosis; DT = destination therapy; ESC = European Society of Cardiology; HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; HF = heart failure; HFA = Heart Failure Association; HT = heart transplantation; INTERMACS = Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support; LVAD = left ventricular assist device; LVAD-BTC = left ventricular assist device bridge to candidacy; LVAD-DT = left ventricular assist device destination therapy; MCS = mechanical circulatory support.

^aThis algorithm can be applied to all patients with advanced HF defined according to the ESC/HFA criteria, with exception of HCM, CA, arrhythmic storm, adult congenital heart disease, refractory angina.

^bRecurrent hospitalization, progressive end-organ failure, refractory congestion, inability to perform cardiopulmonary exercise test or peak oxygen consumption <12 ml/min/kg or <50% of expected value. Colour code for classes of recommendation: Green for Class of recommendation I and Yellow for Class of recommendation IIa (see Table 1 for further details on classes of recommendation)

ΟΞΕΙΑ ΚΑΡΔΙΑΚΗ ΑΝΕΠΑΡΚΕΙΑ



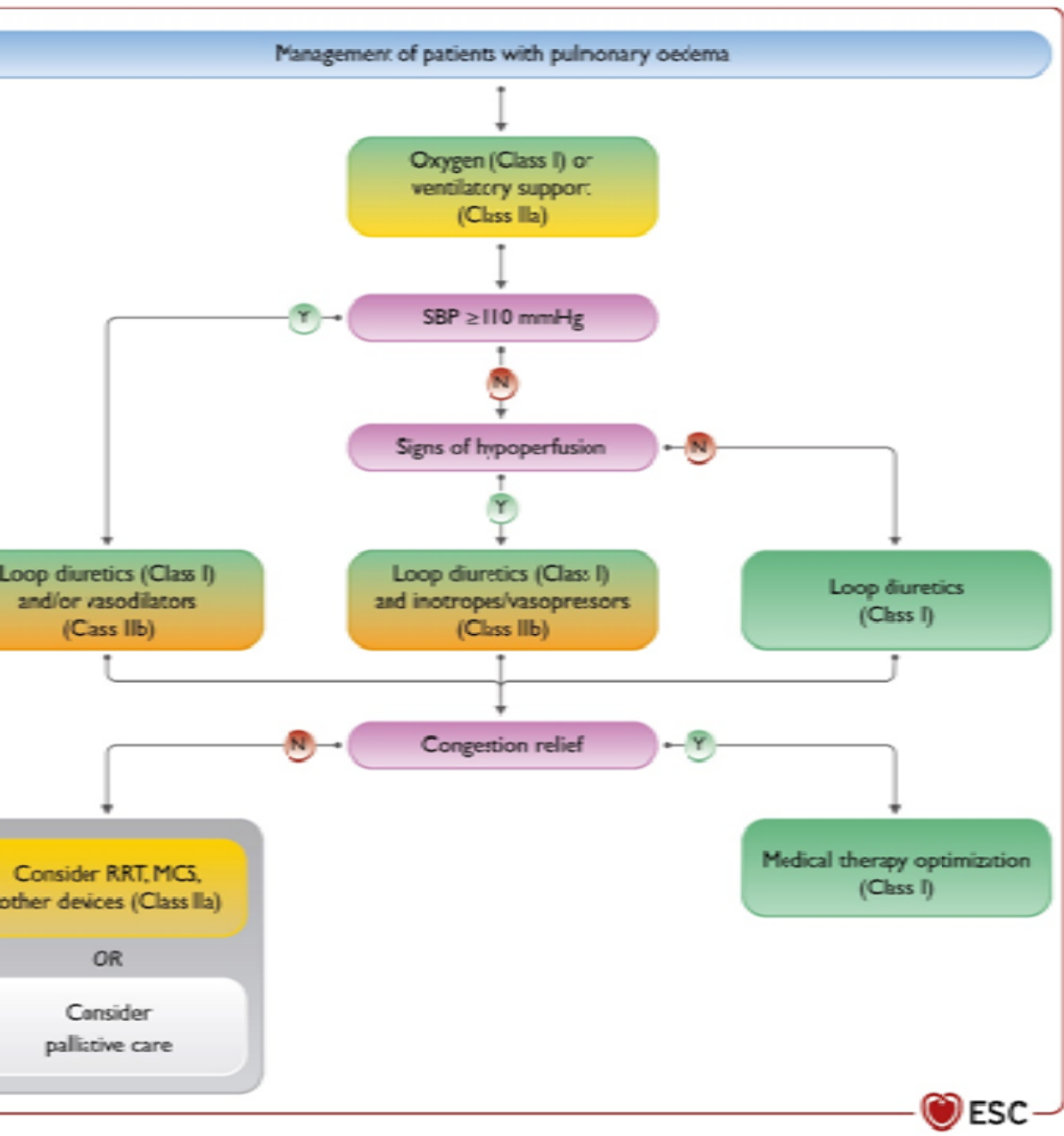
Management of acute decompensated heart failure

MCS=mechanical circulatory support.

*Adequate diuretic doses to relieve congestion and close monitoring of diuresis is recommended (see Figure 13) regardless of perfusion status.



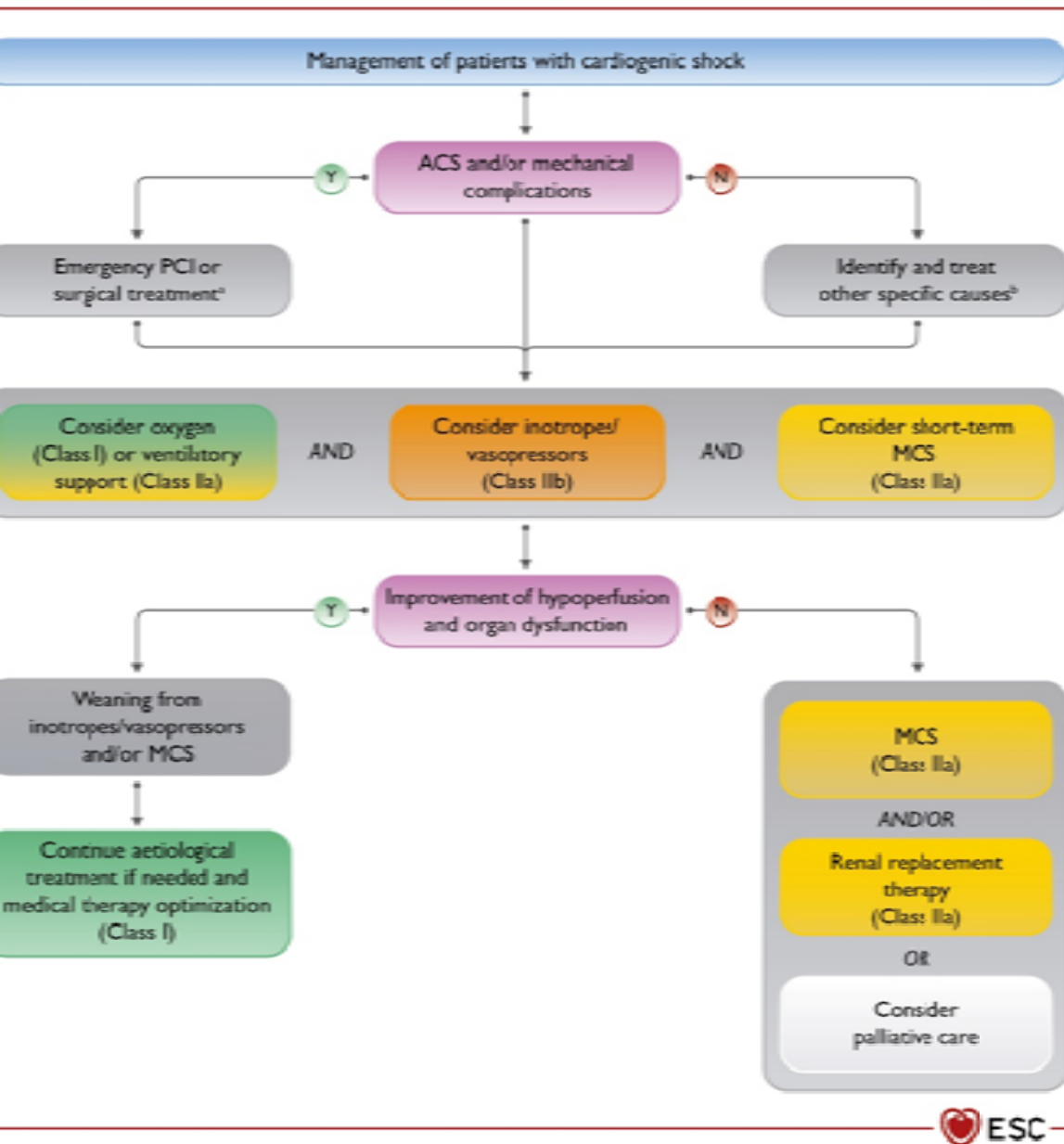
Management of pulmonary oedema



MCS=mechanical circulatory support; RRT= renal replacement therapy; SBP=systolic blood pressure.



Management of cardiogenic shock



Recommendations for the initial treatment of acute heart failure (1)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Oxygen and ventilatory support		
Oxygen is recommended in patients with $SpO_2 < 90\%$ or $PaO_2 < 60$ mmHg to correct hypoxaemia.	I	C
Non-invasive ventilation is recommended for progressive respiratory failure persisting in spite of oxygen administration or non-invasive ventilation.	I	C
Invasive positive pressure ventilation should be considered in patients with respiratory distress (respiratory rate > 25 breaths/min, $SpO_2 < 90\%$) and started as early as possible in order to decrease respiratory distress and reduce the rate of mechanical endotracheal intubation.	IIa	B

PaO_2 = partial pressure of oxygen; SpO_2 = transcutaneous oxygen saturation.

Recommendations for the initial treatment of acute heart failure (2)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Intravenous loop diuretics are recommended for all patients with AHF admitted with signs/symptoms of fluid overload to improve symptoms.	I	C
Combination of a loop diuretic with thiazidetype diuretic should be considered in patients with resistant oedema who do not respond to an increase in loop diuretic doses.	IIa	B
Intravenous vasodilators may be considered as adjunctive therapy to improve symptoms and reduce congestion in patients with AHF and SBP >110 mmHg.	IIb	B

AHF = acute heart failure; i.v. = intravenous; SBP = systolic blood pressure.

Recommendations for the initial treatment of acute heart failure (3)



Recommendations	Class	Level
Dopamine		
Dopamine may be considered in patients with SBP <90 mmHg and evidence of hypoperfusion who do not respond to standard treatment, including fluid challenge, to improve peripheral perfusion and maintain end-organ function.	IIb	C
Dopamine are not routinely recommended, due to safety concerns, unless patient has symptomatic hypotension and evidence of hypoperfusion.	IIa	B
Pressors		
Pressor, preferably norepinephrine, may be considered in patients with cardiogenic shock to increase blood pressure and vital organ perfusion.	IIb	B

Systolic blood pressure.

Recommendations for the initial treatment of acute heart failure (3)



Recommendations	Class	Level
For drugs		
Thromboembolism prophylaxis (e.g. with LMWH) is recommended in patients not already anticoagulated and with no contraindication to anticoagulation, to reduce the risk of deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism.	I	A
Continuous intravenous use of opiates is not recommended , unless in selected patients with severe/intractable pain or anxiety.	III	C

Low-molecular-weight heparin.



Recommendations for the use of short-term mechanical circulatory support in patients with cardiogenic shock

Recommendations	Class	Level
Short-term MCS should be considered in patients with cardiogenic shock as a BTR, BTD, or BTB. Further indications include treatment of the cause of cardiogenic shock, long-term MCS or transplantation.	IIa	C
MCS may be considered in patients with cardiogenic shock as a BTR, BTD, BTB, or BTA, pending treatment of the cause of cardiogenic shock (i.e. mechanical complication of acute MI) or long-term MCS or transplantation.	IIb	C
MCS is not routinely recommended in post-MI cardiogenic shock.	III	B

BTA = bridge to aortic surgery; BTD = bridge to decision; BTR = bridge to recovery; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MCS = mechanical circulatory support; MI = myocardial infarction.

Recommendations for pre-discharge and early post-discharge follow-up of patients hospitalized for acute heart failure



Recommendations	Class	Level
It is recommended that patients hospitalized for HF be carefully evaluated to ensure no persistent signs of congestion before discharge and to optimize oral medical treatment.	I	C
It is recommended that evidence-based oral medical treatment be administered before discharge.	I	C
An early follow-up visit is recommended at 1-2 weeks after discharge to assess for signs of congestion, drug tolerance and start and/or uptitrate evidence-based therapy.	I	C
Oral iron sucrose or ferric carboxymaltose should be considered for iron deficiency, defined as serum ferritin <100 ng/mL or serum ferritin 100–299 ng/mL with TSAT <20%, to improve symptoms and reduce rehospitalizations.	IIa	B

HF = heart failure; TSAT = transferrin saturation.