Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure®: Information To Get Started

1. What is Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?
   Reaching over one million patients, Get With The Guidelines®-Heart Failure is an in-hospital quality improvement program for enhancing heart failure care by promoting consistent adherence to the latest scientific treatment guidelines.

   Active participation in the program can lead to improved outcomes and lower readmission rates – benefiting patients and hospitals alike.

2. Why should my hospital participate in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?
   Providing evidence-based care is key to improving outcomes for patients with heart failure. Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure plays a key role in helping hospitals benchmark and track critical aspects of Heart Failure care.

   There are a lot of reasons your hospital should participate in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure. Here are a few:

   • Heart Failure is the leading cause of 30-day readmissions. Readmissions penalties are a serious financial burden for hospitals. Active participation in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure can help your hospital understand strengths and areas to improve, which could lead to reduced 30-day readmissions.\(^3\)
   • Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure can help your hospital with tools to track and benchmark critical aspects of care. Published studies indicate that participating in our program can improve processes of care.\(^4\)
   • Hospitals that participate actively in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure may be eligible for public recognition by the American Heart Association. It's an opportunity to hone a competitive edge in the marketplace by providing tangible evidence of commitment to quality care.

   Learn about more reasons your hospital should participate in our program here.

3. What does my hospital gain by participating in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?
   By participating in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure, hospitals gain access to:

   • Real-time performance feedback reporting for continuous quality improvement
   • Clinical tools and resources
   • National and local recognition for hospital achievement
   • Professional education opportunities, including workshops and webinars
   • Patient education resources
   • Support from American Heart Association field staff

1. http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2014/12/18/CIR.00000000000000152.full.pdf
2. http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2014/12/18/CIR.00000000000000152.full.pdf
• Site-specific Data Quality Reports
• Quarterly Mortality Reports
• Up-to-date research and scientific publications

4. **What is unique about Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?**
Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure provides hospitals insights that can be used to improve care and outcomes. It is much more than a database for regulatory reporting. Unlike other programs, Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure collects a variety of measures, including achievement and quality measures, by integrating:

- American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Guidelines
- Evidence-based medicine
- Updated heart failure performance measures published by the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology and Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement

5. **How can I get everyone at my hospital interested in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?**
When key team members understand how Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure benefits their work, they often become involved. Use the sample talking points below to compel your stakeholders.

- Physicians: Physicians are often interested in science-based discussions about quality improvement. Additionally, physicians value the professional development and research opportunities available through our program.
- Chief Operating Officers: This hospital leader wants to distinguish your hospital in the marketplace. National recognition opportunities through the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association can help.
- Chief Financial Officers: This hospital leader is interested in efficiently managing costs by reducing the average length of stay, lowering readmission rates and protecting the bottom line. He or she will be interested in Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure as a tool to improve operations.
- Legal Department: Legal team members will want to know that the program is HIPAA-compliant.

6. **What does it take to implement Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure?**
Use these 7 steps to get started:

1. Contact your local Get With The Guidelines representative
2. Contract to join Get With The Guidelines
3. Sign up to use the Get With The Guidelines Patient Management Tool
4. Assemble your multidisciplinary team
5. As a team, review your hospital’s standing orders and processes
6. Determine roles and processes for entering patient data.
7. Enter 30 records into the Patient Management Tool to assess your treatment rates. This will become your baseline.

Learn more at Heart.org/QualityHF.