

Classifications of heart failure

Heart failure phenotypes

Heart failure (HF) is generally categorised as HF associated with a reduced left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) below 50% (HFrEF) or HF associated with a preserved LVEF of 50% or higher (HFpEF).

The diagnostic algorithm for heart failure

- Echocardiography is the single most useful investigation in patients with suspected HF.
- If echocardiography is not available in a timely fashion, measurement of plasma B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) or N-terminal pro-BNP levels improves diagnostic accuracy.
- Please refer to the guidelines for information regarding treatment optimisation.

