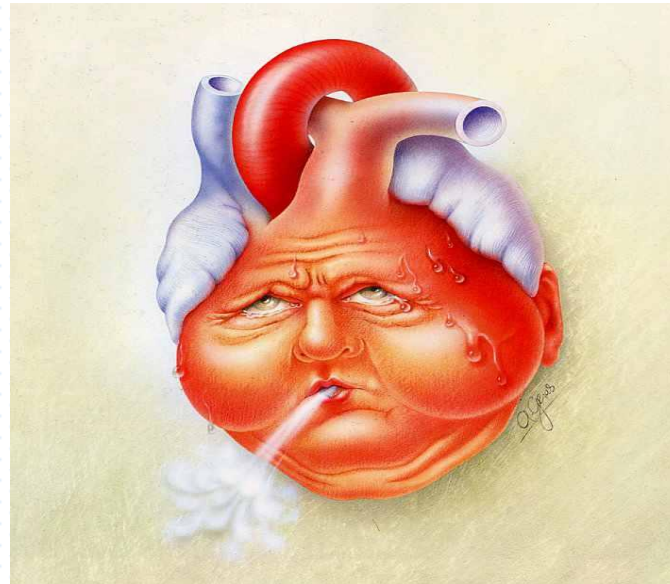


HEART FAILURE



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DEFINITION & EPIDEMIOLOGY

• Def.:

- Inability of the heart to pump sufficient blood to meet the metabolic needs of the body.
- HF can result from any disorder that reduces
 1. Ventricular filling (**diastolic**) and/or
 2. Myocardial contractility (**systolic**).



• Epidemiology:

- 0.3- 2% of general population & increase with age:
 - 3–5% in > 65 years old,
 - 8 - 16% in > 75 years.
- More in men, elderly, and black
- Mortality is high (8-year survival rate 15%)

Pathogenesis & Compensatory mechanisms in HF

- **Structural changes:**

- Remodeling (Dilatation, Hypertrophy)

- **Neurohumoral changes:**

1. **↑ Sympathetic nervous system.** Leading to:

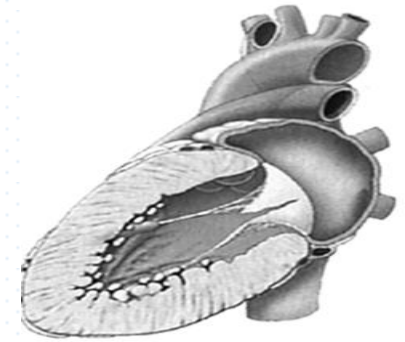
- ↑ H.R & Contractility
- VC:
 - Arterio- constriction → maintains arterial BI Pr
 - Veno- constriction → maintain venous return
- remodeling

2. **↑ RAAS** leading to:

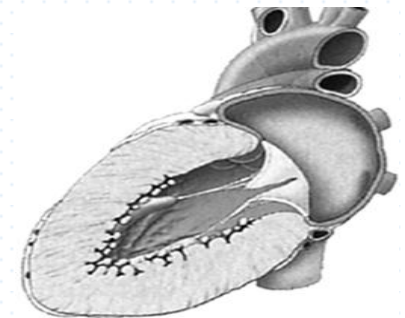
- VC
- ↑ Aldosterone → salt & H₂O retention → ↑ blood volume
- Remodeling
- ↑ Endothelin secretion → VC

3. **↑ Natriuretic peptides** (esp. BNP)

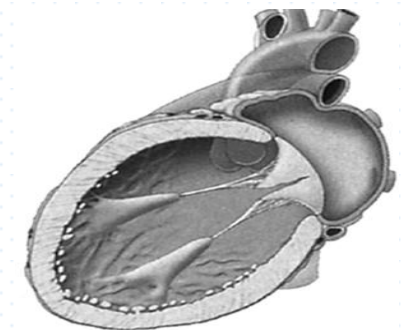
- VD, natriuretic & diuretic effect
- antagonize sympathetic outflow, RAAS & endothelin
- Metabolized by Neprilysin



Normal heart



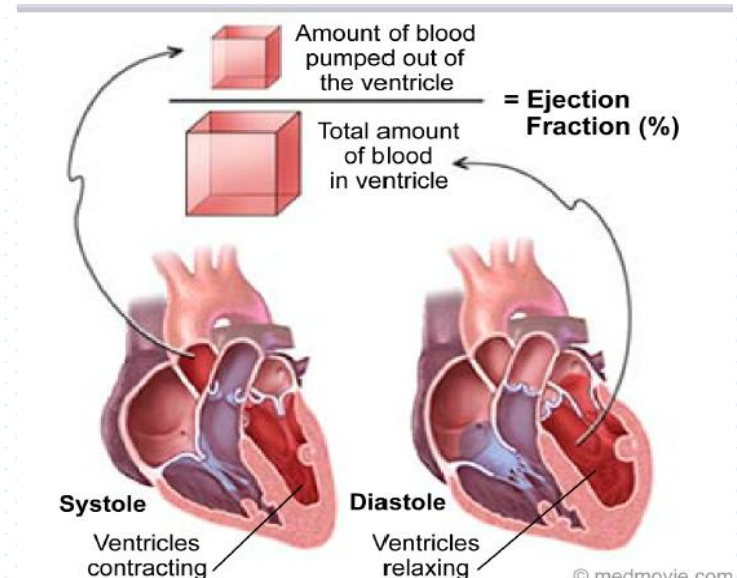
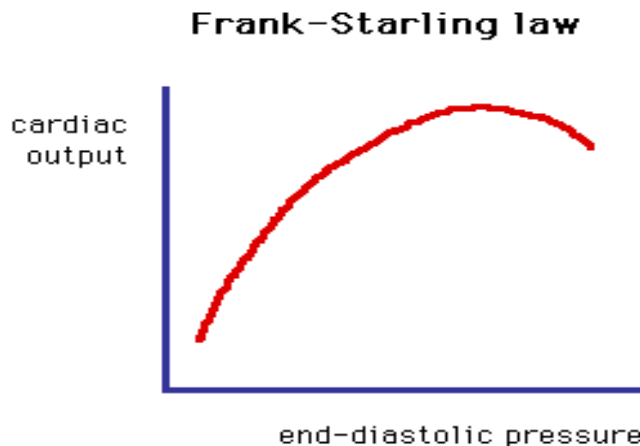
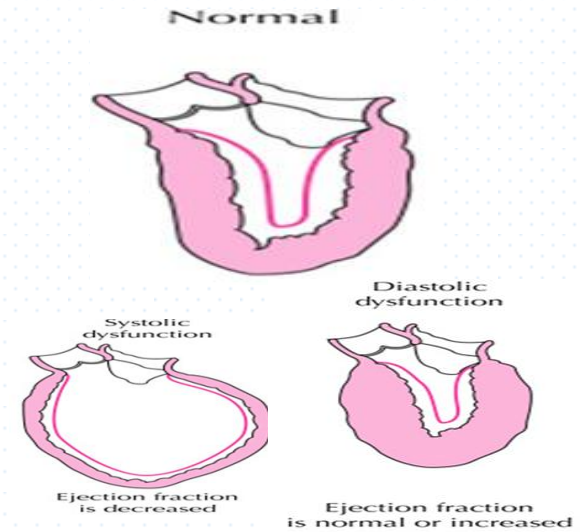
Hypertrophied heart
(diastolic heart failure)



Dilated heart
(systolic heart failure)

Classification of HF

- Which side of heart is affected
 - Left (more common)
 - Right (right-sided MI, pulmonary HTN)
- Which heart function is affected
 - Systolic (HF with reduced LVEF): ↓ contraction & EF (below 40%), dilated LV
 - Diastolic (HFPEF): ↓ relaxation → Failure of LV filling (but contractile function & EF usually normal 50-70%)



Classification of Heart Failure

ACC/AHA Staging v/s NYHA Functional Class

ACC/AHA HF Stage

A At high risk for HF but without structural heart disease or symptoms of HF (eg, patients with HTN, CAD, obesity, diabetes, dyslipidemia)

B Structural heart disease but without symptoms of HF

C Structural heart disease with prior or current symptoms of HF

D Refractory HF requiring specialized interventions

NYHA Functional Class

None

I Asymptomatic

II Symptomatic with moderate exertion

III Symptomatic with minimal exertion

IV Symptomatic at rest

Causes of heart failure

↑ Preload

- 1- Volume overload
 - rapid infusion
 - Drugs: eg cortisone, licorice ..
- 2- Aortic or mitral valve defects

Disease affecting heart

- 1- Cardiomyopathy
- 2- IHD
- 3- Arrhythmia
- 3- Infection
- 4- Drugs (cardiotoxic & -ve inotropic drugs)

↑ Afterload

- 1- Hypertension
- 2- Aortic stenosis

- **Hypertension & IHD are the major causes**
- **Anemia & hyperthyroidism may cause high-output HF (uncommon)**

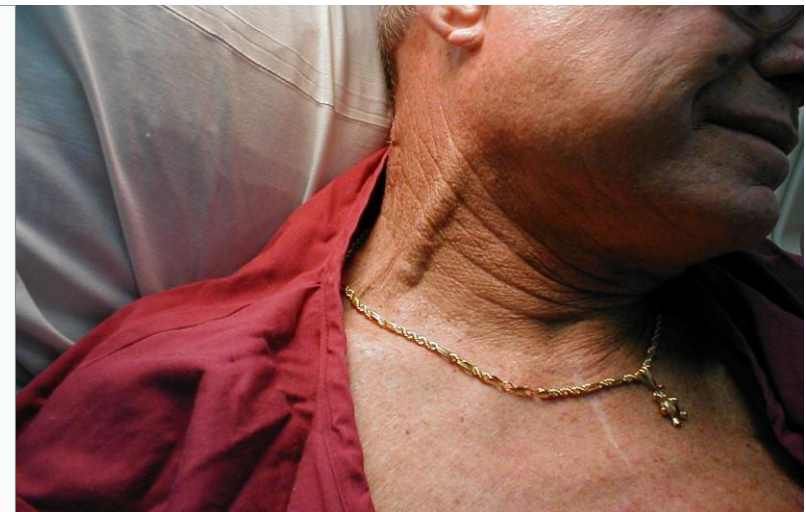
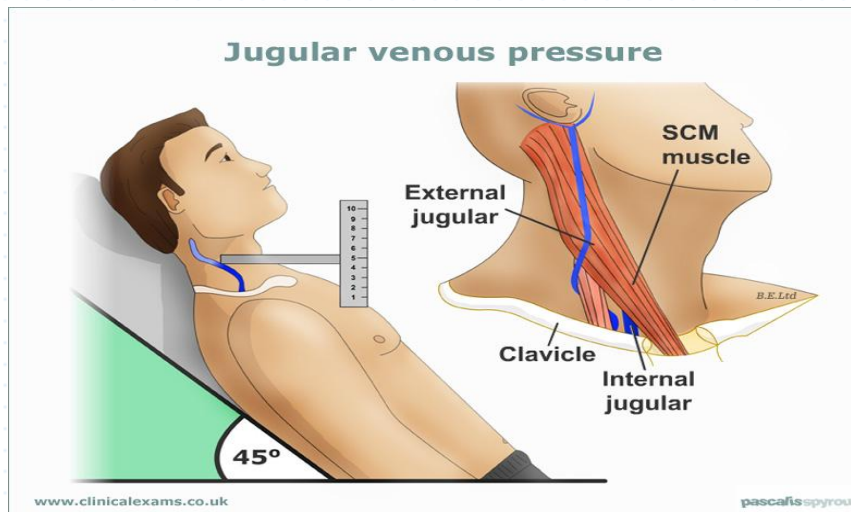
Manifestations of HF

Symptoms

- **Related to ↓ CO**
 1. Fatigue
 2. Confusion
 3. Angina
- **Related to fluid overload (congestion)**
 1. DOE (shortness of breath)
 2. Orthopnea
 3. Cough
 4. peripheral edema
 5. weight gain

Signs

- **Related to ↓ CO**
 1. Confusion
 2. Sinus tachycardia
 3. Peripheral VC (cool, pale)
- **Related to fluid overload**
 1. Pulmonary edema
 2. Ascites
 3. Peripheral edema
 4. **Elevated JVP**



Diagnosis of HF



- 1. Clinically: symptoms & signs**
- 2. Imaging:**
 1. Chest X-ray &
 2. Echocardiogram (THE MOST USEFUL)
- 3. ECG**
- 4. Laboratory: BNP (more than 200 pcg/L)**
- 5. Invasive: Cardiac catheterization**

Treatment of HF

• Goal of therapy:

1. Ameliorate symptoms,
2. Avoid complications such as arrhythmias,
3. Improve the quality of life
4. Prolong survival.

• Treatment lines:

1. Life style changes:

- ↓ 1- Fluid intake, 2- ↓ Dietary sodium, 3- ↓ weight
- Moderate exercise

2. Pharmacological:

- ACEi, Diuretics, BB, digitalis & spironolactone

3. Devices:

- CRT (Cardiac resynchronization therapy)

4. Surgical:

- cardiac transplant

Drug treatment in heart failure



Drug treatment in heart failure

- **Drugs that decrease the load on heart:**

1. **Vasodilators**

1. mainly ACE inhibitors
2. Others: Nitrates, Hydralazine & Nitroprusside

3. **Nesiritide (Natrecor):**

- it is a recombinant form of BNP
- used IV in acute HF with dyspnea

4. **Sacubitril:**

- Nebrilysin inhibitor used with Valsartan (*Entresto*) in ttt of CHF

5. **Bosentan:** endothelin receptor antagonist

2. **Diuretics** (Loop - Thiazide)

3. **Aldosterone antagonist:** Spironolactone

4. **BB**

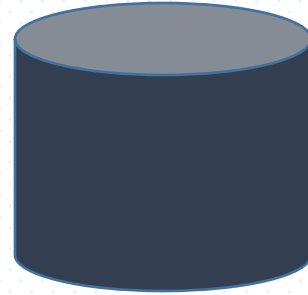
- **Inotropic drugs:**

1. **Aminophylline**

2. **Bipyridine** [Inamrinone & Milrinone]

3. **B -agonist** [Dopamine & Dobutamine]

4. **Cardiac glycosides** (digitalis)



	Stage A	Stage B	Stage C	Stage D
Manifestation	High risk pt. with no structural disease or symptoms	Structural heart disease with no symptoms	Structural heart disease with symptoms	Refractory heart failure
Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat predisposing factors • Use ACE.I in appropriate pt. (DM, atherosclerosis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE.I + • BB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE.I + • BB + • Diuretics ± • Digitalis • Aldosterone antagonist • CRT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All previous measures + • Continuous IV inotropics + • Heart transplantation

ACE Inhibitors

- **Indication:** Should be used in all stages of HF
- **benefits:**
 1. Improve symptoms & decrease mortality (25%)
 2. Slow disease progression
 3. Reduce remodeling

- **ACE-i Dosing Guidelines**

	Initial	Target
Captopril	6.25 / 8h	50 / 8h
Enalapril	2.5 / 12 h	10 / 12h
Fosinopril	5 to 10 / day	40 / day
Lisinopril	2.5 to 5.0 / day	20 - 40 / day
Quinapril	10 / 12 h	20 - 40 / 12 h
Ramipril	1.25 to 2.5 / day	5 / 12 h

ARBs

• Indications:

- In patients who are intolerant of ACE inhibitors
- ✓ **Candesartan**, 4- 8 mg once daily initially; target dose, 32 mg once daily.
- ✓ **Valsartan**, 20- 40 mg twice daily initially; target dose, 160 mg twice daily.
- ✓ **Losartan**: 25-50 mg once daily; target 100 mg once daily



β -Blockers

- **Beneficial effects may result from:**

1. Improve symptoms & ↓ mortality (35%)
2. ↓ arrhythmic,
3. ↓ heart rate → ↓ myocardial O₂ demand,
4. ↓ ventricular remodeling,
5. ↓ renin release.
6. ↓ myocyte death from catecholamine-induced necrosis

- **Indication:**

- **All stable patients** with HF (at least 2 w.) & ↓ LVEF in the absence of C.I.
 - **NB.:** stable: - Not receiving **IV** inotropic or **IV** diuretic therapy,
- without significant peripheral & pulmonary cong.

- **NB.:** addition of β B is likely to be of greater benefit than ↑ ACEI dose
- β B may cause acute ↓ in LVEF & short-term worsening of HF symptoms on initiation & at each dosage titration.

β B Dosing

- β B should be started in very low doses with slow titration
- Doses is doubled every 2-4 weeks

	Starting Dosage	Target Dosage
Carvedilol	3.125 mg BID	25 mg BID
Bisoprolol	1.25 mg/day	10 mg/day
Metoprolol succinate XL	12.5–25 mg/day	200 mg/day

• NB.:

- higher β B doses are associated with \uparrow reduction in mortality. Therefore, if hypotension alone is the problem, try reducing the dose of the ACEI first.
- Carvedilol may be preferred esp if associated with hypertension??, but not preferred if EF less than 20

Diuretics in HF

• Indications:

- Symptomatic HF with evidence of fluid retention (edema)

• Benefits:

- Improve symptoms (No benefit on mortality)
- **NB.:** *Never use as the only therapy for HF (no effect on progression or mortality)*

	Furosemide (Lasix)	Bumetanide	Torsemide
Usual daily dose (oral)	20–160 mg/day	0.5–4 mg/day	10–80 mg/day
Maximum daily dose	600	10	200
Ceiling dose*:			
Normal renal function	80–160 mg	1–2 mg	20–40 mg
CL _{cr} : 20–50 mL/min	160 mg	2 mg	40 mg
CL _{cr} : <20 mL/min	400 mg	8–10 mg	100 mg

- *Ceiling dose:** single dose above which additional response is unlikely to be observed.
- Thus, once reached, more frequent dosing should be used for additional effect, rather than giving higher doses.



- **Choosing diuretic:**

- **Loop diuretic is usually preferred over THZ (why???)**
- **THZ is indicated in:**
 - Combination with loop to enhance the effect of loop
 - Mild fluid retention with HTN (THZ is preferred)
 - NB.: **Metolazone** is often used in
 - Compromised renal function ($Cl_{cr} < 30$ mL/min) instead of Hydrochlorothiazide
 - Combination with loop diuretics when patients exhibit *diuretic resistance* (edema unresponsive to loop diuretics alone).

Aldosterone Antagonists

- **Include: Spironolactone & eplerenone**
- **Benefit: comes from aldosterone antagonist rather than diuretic effect**
 - Improve symptoms & decrease mortality (30%)
- **Indications:**
 - patients with moderate to severe HF (**class III and IV**) who are receiving standard therapy
- **Dosing:**
 - Initial doses should be low (spironolactone 12.5 mg/day; eplerenone 25 mg/day), especially:
 - Elderly
 - Diabetes
 - Creatinine clearance <50 mL/min.
- **Side effects:**
 - Hyperkalemia & Gynecomastia (see HT)



Digitalis



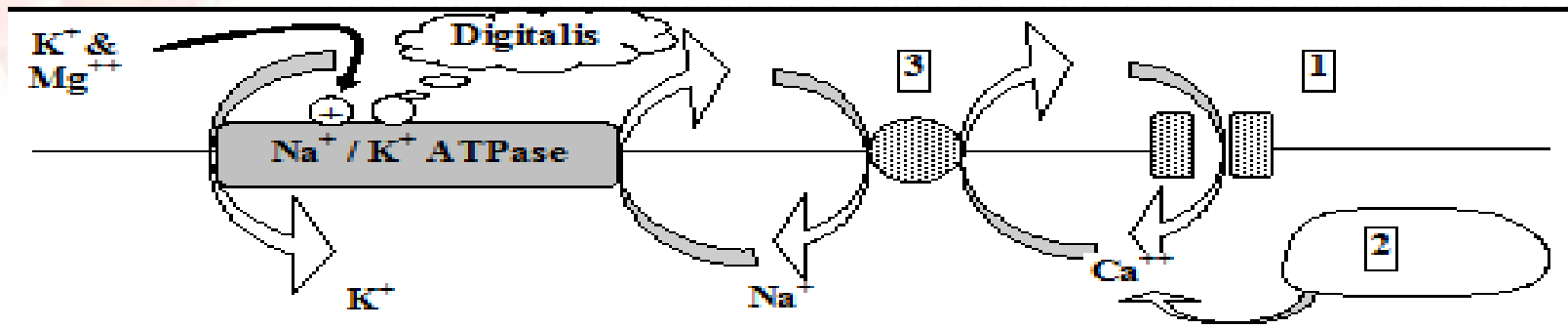
- **Indications**

1. When no adequate response to ACE-i + BB + diuretics
2. Supraventricular arrhythmia, to slow AV conduction

- **Benefits: Improve symptoms (No benefit on mortality)**

- **Dose 0.125 to 0.250 mg / day**

- **Mechanism:**



SE of digitalis

1. Narrow safety margin (Low therapeutic index):

1. Therapeutic level for digoxin: 0.5-2 ng/ml
2. Toxic level: more than 2 ng/ml

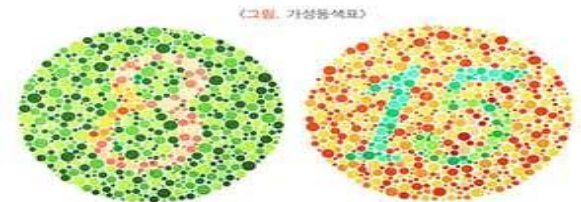
2. Early manifestation of toxicity:

1. Anorexia – nausea – vomiting
2. Bradycardia < 60 beat /min.



3. Late manifestation of toxicity:

1. C.V.S: Bradycardia – HB – Ventricular arrhythmia
2. G.I.T: Anorexia – Nausea – Vomiting – Colic – Diarrhea
3. C.N.S: - Headache - Hallucination – Delirium - Confusion
- Convulsions
4. Eye: visual disturbance & colored vision [yellow or green]
(*Chromatopsia*)
5. Skin: Allergy
6. Hormonal: Gynecomastia (rare)



4) Treatment of digitalis toxicity

1. **Stop digitalis & K⁺- depleting diuretics**

2. **KCl → Oral or I.V infusion with ECG monitoring, IF plasma K⁺ is low or normal & provided no HB or RF**

- **NB.:** In severe digitalis toxicity, serum K⁺ will be already elevated (due its loss from tissues)

3. ***Digitalis antibodies (digoxin immune fab IV) (digibind, digifab)***


4. ***Treatment of arrhythmia:***

1. - O₂ [as ischemia favors arrhythmia]
2. - *If bradycardia or H.B only → Atropine*
3. - *If arrhythmia ± H.B → Phenytoin [Drug of choice] or Lidocain*

N.B.: No need for stomach wash

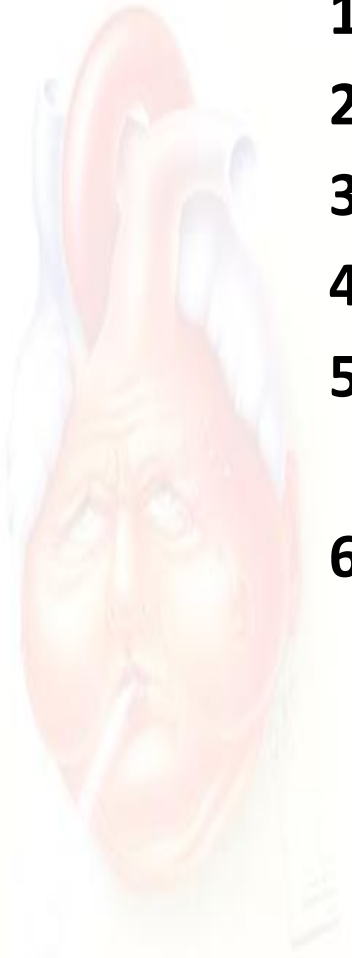


Drugs that may increase Digitalis toxicity

- 
1. Sympathomimetic B₁ agonist: [Adr. – Isoprenaline-Ephedrine] → Arrhythmia
 2. Sympatholytic BB: [Propranolol] → severe H.B
 3. Parasympatholytic [Atropine] → ↓ gastric emptying → ↑ absorp. & toxicity
 4. Calcium I.V
 5. Calcium channel blockers: [Verapamil] → severe H.B
 6. Quinidine → displaces Digitalis & ↓ Excretion
 7. Thyroxin → arrhythmia
 8. Hypokalemia induced by some drugs as: K⁺ depleting diuretic [Thiazide & Loop] – Cortisone – Carbenoxolone

Digitalis Contraindications

1. Hypersensitive carotid sinus or bradycardia
2. Advanced A-V block
3. Ventricular arrhythmia
4. W-P-W with atrial fibrillation
5. Obstructive cardiomyopathy → ↓CO
6. Marked Hypokalemia



Acute pulmonary edema (acute HF)

- 1- Assess/treat arrhythmia or acute coronary syndrome
- 2- O₂
- 3- IV diuretic (furosemide 50 mg)
- 4- IV opiate + antiemetic (4-8 mg morphine + 10 mg metoclopramide)

If hypotension or shock

5- IV inotropics (milrinone, dobutamine, dopamine)

If inadequate response

6- IV vasodilators (NTG, Nitroprusside, Nesiritide)

Inamrinone & Milrinone

- **Mechanism of action:** ↓ PDE enzyme type 3 → ↑ c.AMP → inodilators:
 - +ve inotropic effect
 - Mixed V.D [artery & Vein] → ↓ preload & after load
- **Side effects:**
 1. Bone marrow toxicity → Thrombocytopenia
 2. Hepatotoxicity
 3. ↑ O₂ consumption → worsens angina
- **Uses:**
 - I.V as short term therapy in acute heart failure
- **N.B: Milrinone as Inamrinone but differs in:**
 1. Less side bone marrow depression & hepatotoxicity, but
 2. More liable to cause arrhythmia

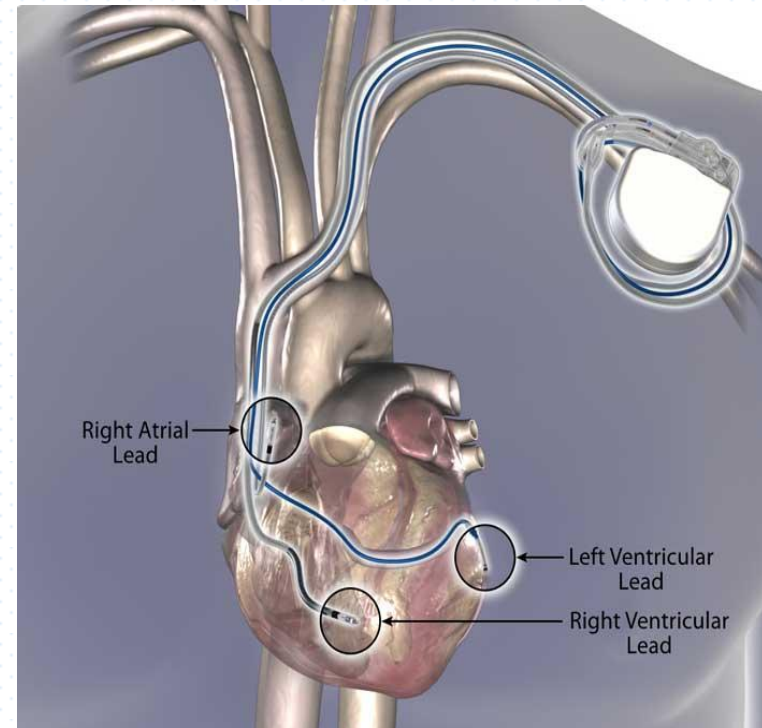
Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT)

- **CRT**

- is the use of cardiac pacing to coordinate the contraction of the left & right ventricles.

- **Indicated in patients:**

1. Receiving optimal HF standard medical therapy +
2. LVEF $\leq 35\%$ +
3. electric asynchrony shown by wide QRS (>120 milliseconds)





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