JACC: HEART FAILURE
A Journal of the American College of Cardiology

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

JACC: Heart Failure is one of a family of specialist journals launched by the renowned Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC). It publishes the most important findings on the pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, and care of heart failure patients. The goal of the Journal is to improve our understanding of the disease, clinical trial, clinical outcomes, and advances in therapies through timely, insightful scientific communication. The Journal embraces interdisciplinary relationships with neuroscience, pulmonary medicine, nephrology, electrophysiology, and surgery as they relate to heart failure. In addition, the Journal includes articles concerning pharmacogenetics, biomarkers, and metabolomics.

The other specialist titles in this series are: JACC: Basic to Translational Science JACC: CardioOncology JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions JACC: Case Reports JACC: Clinical Electrophysiology

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INTRODUCTION

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JACC: Heart Failure publishes peer-reviewed articles on all aspects of heart failure, including original clinical studies, experimental investigations with clear clinical relevance, and state-of-the-art papers. Case reports will not be considered for publication. The journal will be predominantly focused on human heart failure, including heart failure clinical trials (Phases I to IV); heart failure registries (including methodology and design papers); and personalized medicine (including the areas of pharmacogenetics, biomarkers, and metabolomics). We also believe that interdisciplinary relationships with neuroscience, pulmonary medicine, nephrology, electrophysiology, and surgery as they relate to heart failure will be of particular interest.

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**ETHICS**

Studies should be in compliance with human studies committees and animal welfare regulations of the authors’ institutions and Food and Drug Administration guidelines.

Human studies must be performed with the subjects’ written informed consent. Authors must provide the details of this procedure and indicate that the institutional committee on human research has approved the study protocol. If radiation is used in a research procedure, the radiation exposure must be specified in the Methods.

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Animal investigation must conform to the “Position of the American Heart Association on Research Animal Use,” adopted by the AHA on November 11, 1984. If equivalent guidelines are used, they should be indicated. The AHA position includes: 1) animal care and use by qualified individuals, supervised by veterinarians, and all facilities and transportation must comply with current legal requirements and guidelines; 2) research involving animals should be done only when alternative methods to yield needed information are not possible; 3) anesthesia must be used in all surgical interventions, and all unnecessary suffering should be avoided and research must be terminated if unnecessary pain or fear results; and 4) animal facilities must meet the standards of the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC).

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Authors are asked to consider the clinical implications of their paper and identify areas of clinical relevance that could be used by clinician readers as professional caregivers.

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TRANSLATIONAL OUTLOOK
Translating biomedical research from the laboratory bench, clinical trials or global observations to the care of individual patients can expedite discovery of new diagnostic tools and treatments through multidisciplinary collaboration. Effective translational medicine facilitates implementation of evolving strategies for prevention and treatment of disease in the community. The Institute of Medicine identified 2 areas needing improvement: testing basic research findings in properly designed clinical trials and, once the safety and efficacy of an intervention has been confirmed, more efficiently promulgating its adoption into standard practice (Sung NS, Crowley WF, Genel M. The meaning of translational research and why it matters. JAMA 2008;299:3140-8).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recognized the importance of translational biomedical research, emphasizing multifunctional collaborations between researchers and clinicians to leverage new technology and accelerate the delivery of new therapies to patients (http://www.ncats.nih.gov/about/about.html).

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