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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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

JACC: Heart Failure Instructions for Authors

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. We request that all manuscripts be submitted online at https://www.jaccsubmit-heartfailure.org.

ARTICLE TYPES

ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPERS

Original research papers should present original research conducted by the investigators that resulted in reportable findings. Such papers should contribute new information that is important to the field of study. Original research papers should include an introduction, hypothesis and purpose, methods, results, discussion, and implications for clinical practice. Manuscripts should be ≤5,000 words (including text, references, and figure legends). Note that if you are asked to revise your paper, an alternate word limit may be specified by the Editors. Illustrations and tables should be limited to those necessary to highlight key data. Please provide sex-specific data, when appropriate, in describing outcomes of epidemiologic analyses or clinical trials, or specifically state that no sex-based differences were present. For original research dealing with genetic associations, authors should refer to the following article: Ginsburg GS, Shah SH, McCarthy JJ. Taking cardiovascular genetic association studies to the next level. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2007;50:930–2. Authors: No more than two corresponding authors; no more than two joint authors in any position. Abstract: Structured with the following headings and no more than 250 words: Background, Objectives, Methods, Results and Conclusions. The abstract should present essential data in 5 paragraphs. Use complete sentences. All data in the abstract also must appear in the manuscript texts or tables. Results: Please report all P-values to three digits after the decimal point. Study limitations (required): Please include the limitations of your investigation at the end of the discussion section of your manuscript. Figure/Table Limit: None Central Illustration: Required (See Manuscript Content section for more information about Central Illustrations) Clinical Perspectives: Required (See Manuscript Content section for more information about Clinical Perspectives) Ethical Approval (required): Please denote that your study received proper ethical oversight in both your cover letter and Methods section. For manuscripts reporting data on human subjects, note institutional review board/ethics committee approval (or formal review and exemption), including the specific name of the board or committee. For studies involving animal experiments, note that the study complied with all institutional and national requirements for the care and use of laboratory animals and, if applicable, received approval from an animal care and use committee approval. State the animal-handling protocol in your Methods. Diversity information: Authors are encouraged to submit this information, and it will be considered as a criterion for strength, especially in clinical trials and research papers. The authors are also encouraged to explain the diversity of the study’s leadership (principal investigators, steering and other committees) and author list in the Methods section of the manuscript. If there is a lack of diversity, an explanation of this must be stated in the Limitations section of the manuscript.

STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEWS

State-of-the-Art review papers should focus on a specific topic and review original research on that topic. Authors should summarize the state of current research on a topic, provide analysis and comparison, identify gaps and inconsistencies, and suggest future steps to solve identified problems. Manuscripts should be no more than 7,500 words (including text, references, and figure legends). Authors should detail in their cover letters how their submission differs from existing reviews on the subject. Authors: No more than two corresponding authors; no more than two joint authors in any position Abstract: Unstructured and no more than 150 words Figure Limit: None Table Limit: None Central Illustration: Required Highlights: Required (See Manuscript Content section for more information about Highlights) Clinical Perspectives: Not applicable
Please be sure you have obtained or will obtain permission for previously published tables, figures, or any material for which you cannot grant copyright. NOTE: JACC: Heart Failure State-of-the-Art Review submissions must be invited by the Editor-in-Chief or proposed to and approved by the Editor-in-Chief prior to submission. Please submit proposals to jacchf@acc.org.

REVIEW TOPIC OF THE MONTH
These submissions will provide a focused review of an important area that can adequately be covered in a relatively succinct format, as compared with State-of-the-Art reviews. Though there are focused reviews in JACC: Heart Failure, the Review Topic of the Month articles would create a streamline of "hot" topics as well as foundational topics that would be critical for readiness for the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) or other certifications. Submission should be ≤3,000 words [text from the introduction to the conclusion, including references (50 maximum) and figure legends]. Authors: No more than two corresponding authors; no more than two joint authors in any position Abstract: Unstructured and no more than 150 words Figure Limit: None Table Limit: None Central Illustration: Required Highlights: Required (See Manuscript Content section for more information about Highlights) Clinical Perspectives: Not applicable

Please be sure you have obtained or will obtain permission for previously published tables, figures, or any material for which you cannot grant copyright. NOTE: JACC: Heart Failure Review Topic of the Month submissions must be invited by the Editor-in-Chief or proposed to and approved by the Editor-in-Chief prior to submission. Please submit proposals to jacchf@acc.org.

METHODOLOGY AND MECHANISMS CORNER
These submissions will include methodology papers on clinical trial design, endpoints, subgroup analyses, comparative effectiveness, statistical analysis important in heart failure. Articles will also include mechanism papers on pathophysiological pathways and conceptual paradigms that provide insights in development of cardiomyopathy, heart failure and its complications, and mechanisms by which therapies confer benefits. Follow the requirements listed for State-of-the-Art Reviews (although they are not categorized as a State-of-the-Art Review when published). Please include "Methodology and Mechanisms Corner" at the end of the manuscript title.

Please be sure you have obtained or will obtain permission for previously published tables, figures, or any material for which you cannot grant copyright. NOTE: JACC: Heart Failure Methodology and Mechanisms Corner submissions must be invited by the Editor-in-Chief or proposed to and approved by the Editor-in-Chief prior to submission. Please submit proposals to jacchf@acc.org.

COMMENTARY
There will be two types of submissions for Commentary articles: 1) Leading Edge Commentary and 2) Early Career Corner: Leading Edge Commentary. These articles will be brief opinion essays covering a wide range of timely, "hot" and cutting-edge topics in heart failure with an intent to stimulate discussion. Most of these articles will be written by maximum of three authors. Worldview with international collaboration, multidisciplinary viewpoints, or point/counter point approaches will be encouraged. These articles will be ≤3,000 words in length and have no more than 10 references. Early Career Corner. This section will include original submissions, editorial perspectives by trainees and early career faculty with a focus on career development, education, practice readiness, and changes in heart failure training and care. Submissions will have a maximum of three authors. This corner will also entail content that will be helpful in board certification and maintenance of certification in advanced heart failure and cardiac transplantation. These articles will be ≤1,000 words in length and have no more than 5 references.

IMPLEMENTATION PERSPECTIVES ("HOW TO" CORNER)
These articles are envisioned for clinicians to share successful strategies for patient care, implementations, and practice management. These submissions will also disseminate advances and new approaches for personalized medicine and original, high-quality submissions reflecting new models of care. Submission should be ≤3,000 words [text from the introduction to the conclusion, including references and figure legends]; please refrain from using subheadings within the text. Authors: No more than 10; no joint authorship permitted Abstract: Not applicable References: No more than 10 Figures/Tables: Two single-paneled figures OR one simple table and one single-paneled figure Central Illustration: Not applicable Highlights: Required (See Manuscript Content section for more information about Highlights) Clinical Perspectives: Not applicable
RESEARCH LETTERS
You may submit original reports of preliminary data and findings or studies with small numbers demonstrating the need for further investigation as Research Letters, which are published as such in the Letters to the Editor section. These can include scientific studies with brief content and results such as phase II trial results, investigator-initiated studies funded by federal or society research grants (NIH K, R grant recipients), and/or emerging investigators. Research Letters should be ≤1,000 words (including text, references, and figure legend). Abstract: Not applicable Authors: No more than 10; no joint authorship permitted References: No more than 5 Figures/Tables: No more than 1 simple figure (in no more than 2 parts) or 1 simple table Central Illustration: Not applicable Clinical Perspectives: Not applicable Supplemental Material: Not permitted Address the manuscript's clinical question and findings with two bullets on the first page of your submission, totaling no more than 40 words: What is the clinical question being addressed? What is the main finding? Ethical Approval (required): Please denote that your study received the proper ethical oversight in both your cover letter and the body of the article. For manuscripts reporting data on human subjects, note approval from institutional review board/ethics committee (or formal review and exemption), including the specific name of the board or committee. For studies involving animal experiments, note that the study complied with all institutional and national requirements for the care and use of laboratory animals and, if applicable, received animal care and use committee approval. State the animal-handling protocol in the body of your article.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND REPLIES
We welcome readers to submit formal comments on the content of articles published in JACC: Heart Failure. Such comments should provide constructive scientific remarks. Readers may submit these comments as a Letter to the Editor within 3 months of the article's online publication date. Letters should be ≤400 words (including text and references). Replies will be solicited by the Editors and study authors will have 10 days to respond. The author's reply should be ≤400 words (including text and references) unless the author is responding to multiple letters in which case the reply should be ≤800 words (including text and references). Titles must be ≤15 words (not including the labels "To the Editor" and "Reply"). Replies to multiple letters need a title that is generic and encompasses all of the letters to which they are responding. Both letters and replies are limited to 5 authors, 5 references, and 1 table OR 1 figure in 1 or 2 panels. Please include the cited article as the first reference.

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All Editorial Comments published in JACC: Heart Failure are invited by the Editors. If you are invited to write an editorial, specific requirements will be sent to you. Papers should be ≤1,500 words (including text, references, and figure legends) and must include the cited article as a reference. In some cases, a table or figure may be helpful and appropriate. Please do not submit unsolicited editorials.

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a) Title Page with title (≤15 words), author names, author affiliations, author/funding disclosures, running title (≤7 words), corresponding author contact information (including mailing address, phone, fax, and email address), and word count (beginning with text and ending with the last figure legend; not including tables)

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c) Text
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e) Acknowledgments (if appropriate)
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g) Figure Titles and Legends
h) Tables (each on a separate page)

Figures/Central Illustration Supplemental Material (uploaded as one single Microsoft Word document containing all supplemental figures and tables)

**FORMATTING**

Please use Times New Roman 12-point font with 1-inch margins. The Title Page, Abstract(s), Key Words, and Abbreviations should be single-spaced. The remaining text should be double-spaced. Page numbering should begin with the Title Page.

**REPORTING SEX- AND GENDER-BASED ANALYSES**

**REPORTING GUIDANCE**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the *Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines* and the *SAGER guidelines checklist*. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation—however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

**DEFINITIONS**

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the *Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines* and the *SAGER guidelines checklist*. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

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Biykem Bozkurt, MD, PhD
Editor-in-Chief, JACC: Heart Failure
Heart House
2400 N Street NW
Washington, DC, 20037
Phone: (202) 375-6136
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