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## Heart Failure Society News

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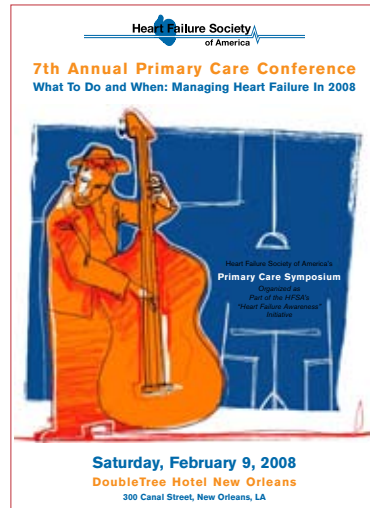
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## 2008 HFSA Primary Care Conference Draws Crowd in New Orleans

For the past seven years the HFSA has held a conference for primary care physicians and allied health care professionals to kick off Heart Failure Awareness Week. This year the conference was held at the Double Tree Hotel in New Orleans. The topic was "What To Do and When: Managing Heart Failure in 2008."

Co-chaired by Clyde W. Yancy and Hector O. Ventura, this year's conference featured case-based presentations focusing on prevention, heart failure with preserved ejection fraction, decompensated heart failure referral timing, devices therapy, and hospice care. Participating in the cases and leading the panel discussions were faculty members Nancy M. Albert (Cleveland, OH), Roberta C. Bogaev (Houston, TX), Thomas D. Giles (New Orleans, LA), Barry H. Greenberg (San Diego, CA), Paul J. Hauptman (St. Louis, MO), Mandeep R. Mehra (Baltimore, MD), Alan B. Miller



(Jacksonville, FL), J. Herbert Patterson (Chapel Hill, NC), Ileana L. Piña (Cleveland, OH), W.H. Wilson Tang (Cleveland, OH), and Jeffrey G. Wiese (New Orleans, LA). This format generated a great deal of audience discussion.

Following last year's precedent, audience members were asked to complete pre- and post-tests. Results showed significant gains in knowledge about key points in heart failure.

Conference evaluations were extremely positive across all areas. Follow up will be done at six months to assess self-reported changes in practice.

Support for the symposium was provided by funds from the Heart Failure Awareness Roundtable, which supports activities that raise public and professional awareness about heart failure. Current members of the Roundtable are Medtronic, Otsuka America Pharmaceuticals, and St. Jude Medical.

## HFSA Speakers Featured at 2007 and 2008 American Academy of Family Practice Annual Scientific Assembly

One of the educational goals of the HFSA is to provide practical education opportunities for primary care physicians, who care for eighty percent of heart failure patients. A new initiative in this arena is the inclusion of speakers representing HFSA in the scientific programs of national primary care meetings.

Following a rigorous application process, an HFSA proposal for a 90-minute symposium, "Treatment of Heart Failure: Answering the Important Questions," was accepted by the American Academy of Family Practice (AAFP) as part of their 2007 Scientific Assembly, October 3-7 in Chicago. The symposium was case-based and was awarded the status of Evidence-Based CME, a special category of CME within the AAFP system.

The symposium was presented three times with a total attendance of over 1,000 (out

of 6,000 attendees at the meeting). It was chaired by Clyde W. Yancy (Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, TX). Other speakers included Barry H. Greenberg (UCSD, San Diego, CA), JoAnn Lindenfeld (UCHSC, Denver, CO), and Lynne Warner Stevenson (Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA). The symposium focused on prevention, drug and device therapy, and disease management. Evaluations were extremely positive.

As a result of the enthusiastic response at the 2007 meeting, a proposal was submitted and accepted for the 2008 AAFP Scientific Assembly in San Diego, September 17-21. Topics will be heart failure with preserved systolic function and acute heart failure. The symposium will be chaired by Dr. Yancy. Drs. Barry Greenberg and Mark A. Winchester will serve as faculty.

## 12th Annual HFSA Meeting Returns to Toronto



The HFSA's 12th Annual Scientific Meeting returns to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre September 21-24, 2008.

Program Co-chairs (Mandeep R. Mehra and Howard Rockman) and the Program Committee have once again put together

an excellent program, combining basic science, translational, and clinical science topics. The members of the Program Committee, listed on the HFSA website under Annual Scientific Meeting, represent the diverse constituencies within the field of heart failure.

### Excellence in Basic Science:

2008 will see the continuation of the Distinguished Lecture in Basic Science, which will lead off the Symposium on Excellence in Basic Science, on Sunday afternoon (3:15 - 6:00 PM). This year's distinguished lecturer is Louis J. Ignarro, winner of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for demonstrating the signaling properties of nitric oxide. He is a Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology at the UCLA School of Medicine's Department of



Molecular and Medical Pharmacology. Other faculty participants include Drs. Jonathan G. Seidman, Jr., Donald M. Bers, and Joan Heller Brown. See HFSA website for symposium details: [hfsa.org](http://hfsa.org) (annual scientific meeting).

### 2008 Scientific Session Highlights:

On Monday, September 22nd, the opening plenary session will look at heart failure from an interesting new perspective—the environment. What are some of the societal and environmental factors that influence the development of cardiovascular disease, particularly heart failure, and what can be done to control them? Topics will include urban planning, air pollution, and the connection between societal evolution and metabolic syndrome.

Some features of previous scientific meetings will return slightly modified. The noon-hour presentations of oral abstracts will have a more clinical focus in 2008, based on audience response from last year.

Court is in Session will also return, but as Heart Failure Court of Appeals, which will address two cases, one on weight reduction, the other on the translation of mouse research to humans. Three judges will oversee the process.

On Wednesday, September 24th (8:30-10:00 AM), "Integrating Care for Decompensated Heart Failure: the ED, Hospitalist, and Cardiologist" will include presentations from an ED physician and a hospitalist, as well as a panel discussion to address some of the issues in providing integrated care when different medical specialties are involved.

For further details on the scientific program, speakers and topics, see HFSA web site, [www.hfsa.org](http://www.hfsa.org) (annual scientific meeting).

### Remember: Passport Needed for Canada

As of October 1, 2007, U.S. citizens traveling by air to Canada must present a valid passport or other WHTI-compliant (Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative) documentation to enter or depart from the United States.

If you need a passport or have other visa requirements it is highly recommended that you begin the process soon. Please make sure you have the necessary documents before registering or making a hotel reservation for the meeting.

To learn more visit the Department of State's web site at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html) or the U.S. Customs and Border Protection web site at <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/>.

Heart Failure Society  
of America

## 12th Annual Scientific Meeting

September 21-24, 2008  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

[www.hfsa.org](http://www.hfsa.org)

## Looking for the Next Generation of Heart Failure Specialists



John Burnett discussing research opportunities

The 5th Annual Conference for Fellows: Establishing a Career in Heart Failure, held January 25-26, Aventura, Florida quickly sold out this year. Eighty-one fellows from 59 accredited cardiology programs and 27 states were represented. All were first-time attendees.

The conference is designed for cardiology fellows who have an interest or are potentially interested in pursuing a career in heart failure. It provides an opportunity to learn more about the vast array of career options in heart failure and to interact with the national leaders in the field in small group settings. Attendees also spent one-on-one time

with faculty providing an opportunity to ask specific questions about what it was like to be a heart failure specialist.

In addition to presentations on the future of heart failure and new directions in the care of specific presentations, such as heart failure with preserved systolic function, there were talks about the academic clinician, the private sector cardiologist, and the basic scientist. Cases, panel discussions, workshops, and "dine around" sessions provided opportunities for interaction on many levels.

Faculty at the 2008 conference included John C. Burnett, Jr. (Mayo), John Chin



Mariell Jessup answers questions about career choices in an academic setting



John Chin discussing careers in private practice

(Sutter Memorial Hospital), Jay N. Cohn (Univ. of Minnesota), Thomas Force (Thomas Jefferson), Gary S. Francis (Cleveland Clinic), Barry H. Greenberg (UCSD), Sharon A. Hunt (Stanford), Mariell L. Jessup (Univ. of Pennsylvania), Marvin A. Konstam (NHLBI), JoAnn Lindenfeld (Univ. of Colorado), Barry M. Massie (UCSF), Mandeep R. Mehra (Univ. of Maryland), Ileana L. Piña (Case Western), Lynne Warner Stevenson (Brigham & Women's Hospital), William G. Stevenson (Brigham & Women's Hospital), W.H. Wilson Tang (Cleveland Clinic), and Clyde W. Yancy (Baylor - Dallas).

## Journal Completes First Year at Ten Issues

In 2007 the *Journal of Cardiac Failure* completed its 13th volume and now publishes 10 issues a year. Submissions were up 15% over 2006, and the acceptance rate was approximately 30%.

The source of submissions remains relatively steady, with 43% coming from North America, 35% from Europe, and 15% from Asia. Most articles continue to be clinical investigations or trials, but basic science articles and laboratory investigations are increasing.

Barry M. Massie (San Francisco, CA) continues his role as Editor-in-Chief. Two new associate editors were added in 2008: W.H. Wilson Tang (Cleveland, OH) and Suzanne J. Wingate (Gaithersburg, MD). They join Inder Anand, Kanu Chatterjee, Thomas Force, Stephen Gottlieb, Paul Heidenreich, Sharon Hunt, Joel Karliner, Leslie Saxon, Nelson Schiller, Paul Simpson and John Teerlink.

The journal continues to be a Society centerpiece, helping promote the HFSA mission to publish new and exciting research in the field of heart failure.

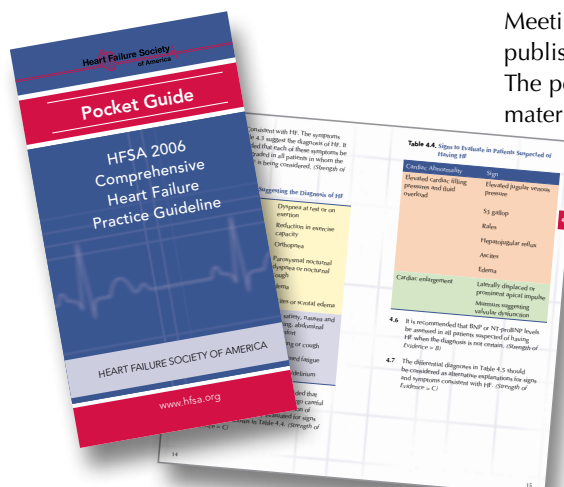
## Guideline Update: 2008

In keeping with the commitment to make the HFSA Comprehensive Heart Failure Practice Guideline a living document, the Guideline Committee has been reviewing each section to determine whether or not new scientific evidence warrants any changes in recommendations and has been working on new sections to be added in areas not previously addressed.

Some proposed updates were presented at the guideline symposium during the 2007 HFSA Annual Scientific Meeting in Washington, DC. Two proposals for sections were also presented, (1) genetic evaluation of inheritable cardiomyopathy; (2) chemotherapy-related cardiac toxicity.

All proposed changes are under review. The goal is to have all changes approved before the 2008 HFSA Annual Scientific Meeting in Toronto. Updates will be published in the *Journal of Cardiac Failure*. The pocket guide and other on-line materials will also be updated with the new information.

Interest in the guidelines continues. Over 36,000 copies of the Pocket Guide were sent out in 2007. There were over 10,000 visits to the guideline website during January-August, 2007, and 7,600 guideline slide set have been downloaded. The website is accessible through the HFSA site or directly at [www.heartfailureguideline.org](http://www.heartfailureguideline.org).



## Get Involved in Your Society

Members interested in supporting the HFSA have an opportunity to contribute through involvement in its committees:

- Advocacy Committee
- Care Standards Committee
- Corporate Affairs Committee
- Education Committee
- Endorsement Committee
- Guidelines/Clinical Positions Committee
- Nursing Committee
- Publications Committee
- Research Committee
- Training/Certification Committee

Application requires a brief paragraph outlining relevant experience and qualifications, a curriculum vitae and a letter of reference from an HFSA member. Applications are reviewed by the Nominating Committee.

Applicants must be HFSA members. Applications will be considered for future committee openings.

Send materials to:

**Heart Failure Society of America**  
Court International - Suite 240 South,  
2550 University Avenue West St. Paul,  
MN 55114

## HFSA Calendar: Events and Deadlines

### Wednesday, June 18, 2008:

Late Breaking Clinical Trials  
Submission Deadline for the  
12th Annual Scientific Meeting

### Friday, June 15, 2008

Deadline for renewing or becoming  
an HFSA member in order to take  
advantage of the reduced membership  
rate for the 12th Annual Scientific  
Meeting

### Friday, July 25, 2008

Early registration cut off for the  
12th Annual Scientific Meeting

### September 21 – 24, 2008:

12th Annual Scientific Meeting,  
Toronto, ON, Canada

## Heart Failure Awareness 2008

### Edmonton Uses Media in its Heart Failure Awareness Activities

Heart Failure Awareness activities reported by Dr. Michael Chan, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) at the University of Alberta in Edmonton made broad use of media opportunities. They included:

- City TV Breakfast Television Show entitled "What is Heart Failure and Why Does Salt Matter?"
- CTV Noon Show on the scope of heart failure in North America and what can be done about it
- A Body and Health feature in the *Edmonton Journal* on how to prevent heart failure and how to diagnose it early
- A Shaw Cable TV story that ran hourly for 24 hours on "What is heart failure and what I can do about it?"
- Stories on heart failure in the Leduc Representative newspaper and the Sherwood Park News
- Capital Health website story on "Spare the salt and save your heart"
- A lecture for the public at the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation on "How to self-manage heart failure"

### University of Florida Holds 6th Annual Heart Failure Meeting



Alan B. Miller, University of Florida

The University of Florida College of Medicine in Jacksonville conducted its 6th annual CME symposium for Heart Failure Awareness Week on February 12, 2008. Presentations were case-based and were given by a multi-disciplinary team led by HFSA member Alan B. Miller (Jacksonville, FL). Cases included a patient with Stage D heart failure and one with cardio-renal failure. An article on heart failure was developed for the health center newsletter.



Heart Failure Educational Modules continue to be an essential tool to help promote awareness and educate patients, individuals at risk as well as family members about heart failure.

### Future Heart Failure Awareness Weeks

2009: February 8-14

2010: February 14-20

2011: February 13-19

2012: February 12-18

**February 8 – 14, 2009**

[www.abouthf.org](http://www.abouthf.org)