HEART FAILURE

Reduce Your Readmission Rates Protect Your Reimbursement Rates

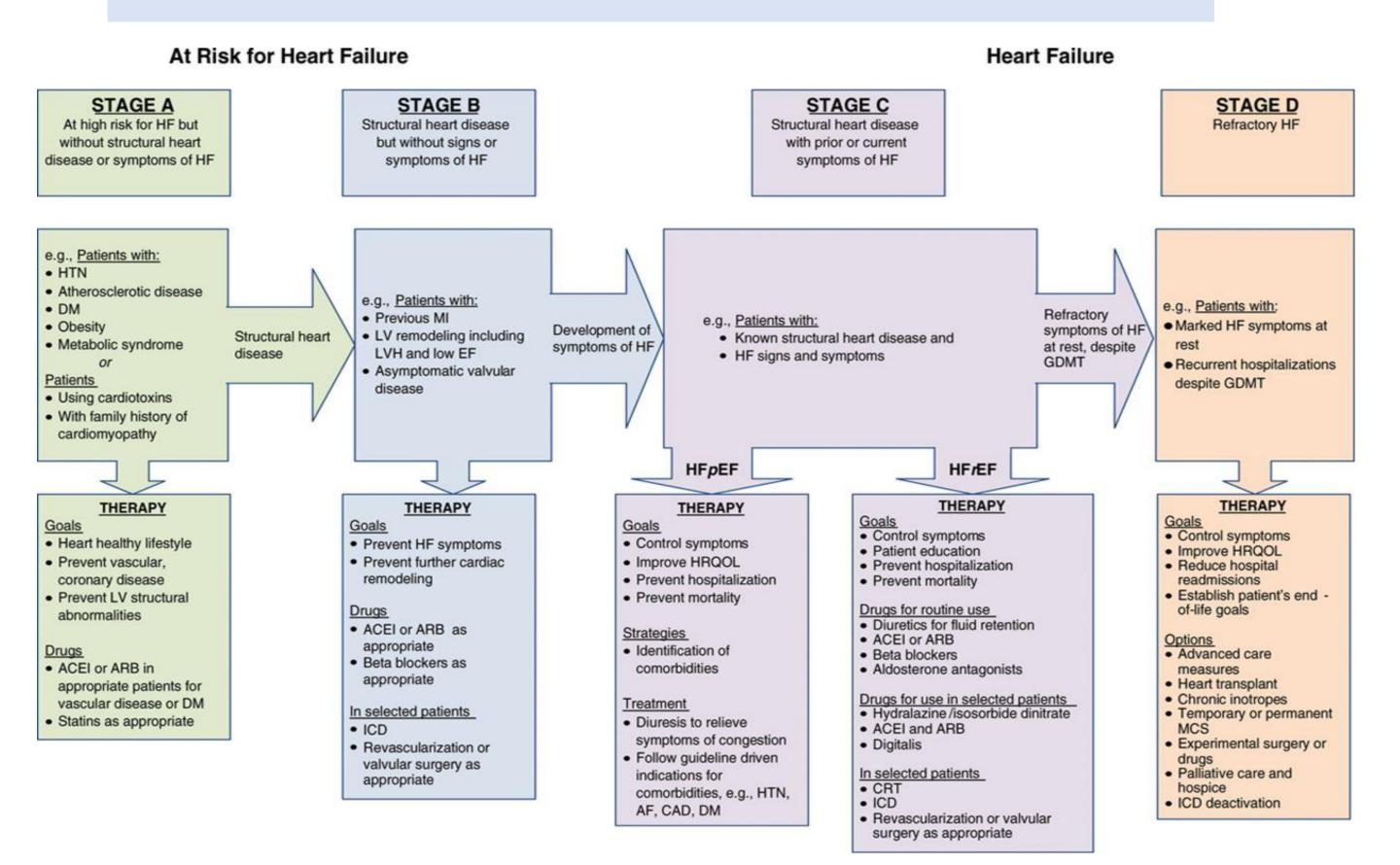
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Heart Failure (HF) has increased in prevalence, incidence, and mortality over the past 25 years, with an annual economic impact

34.4 BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY

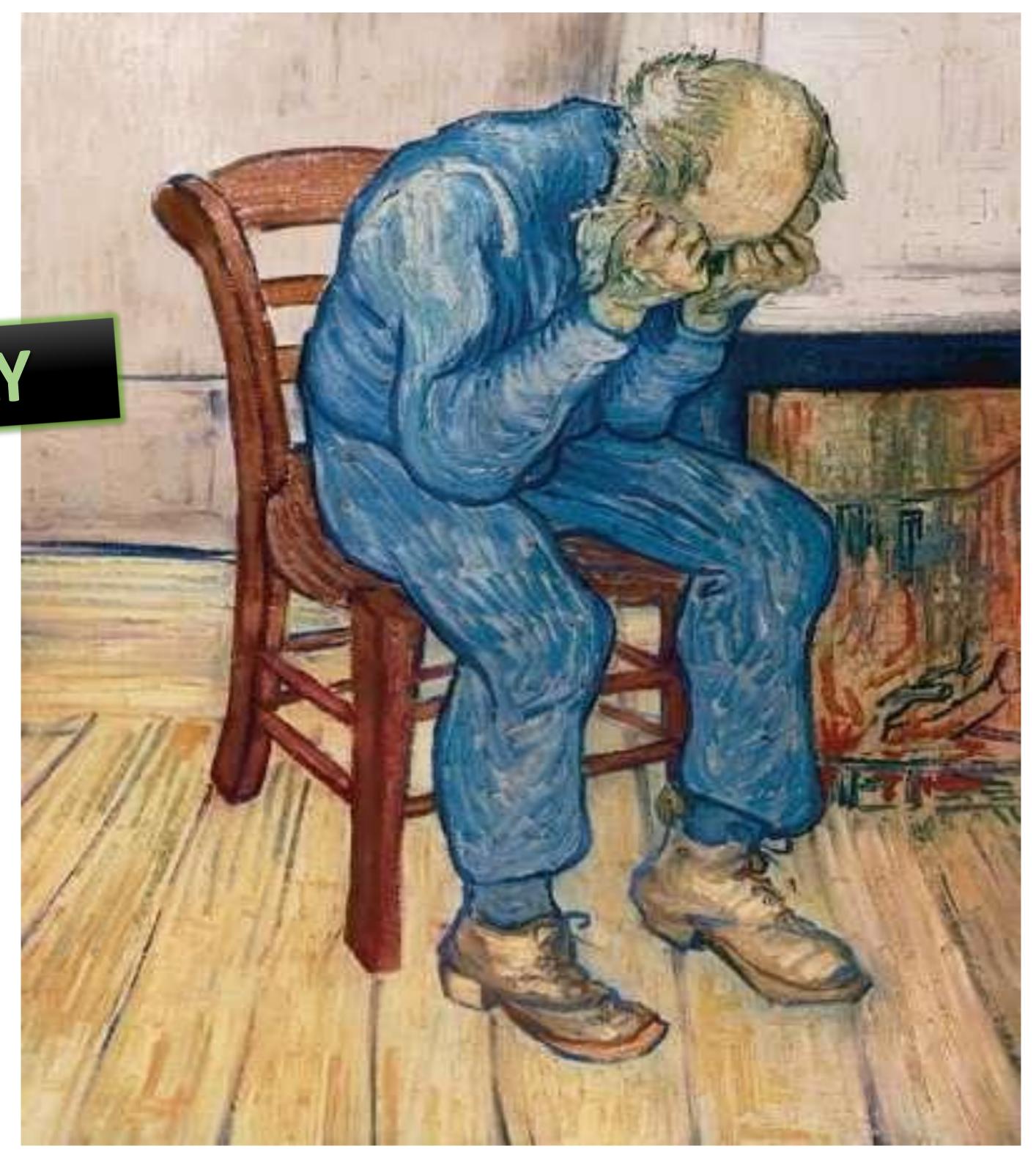
Patients discharged to a skilled nursing facility have higher readmission rates than those admitted home.

American Heart Association Heart Failure Guidelines



Project Goal

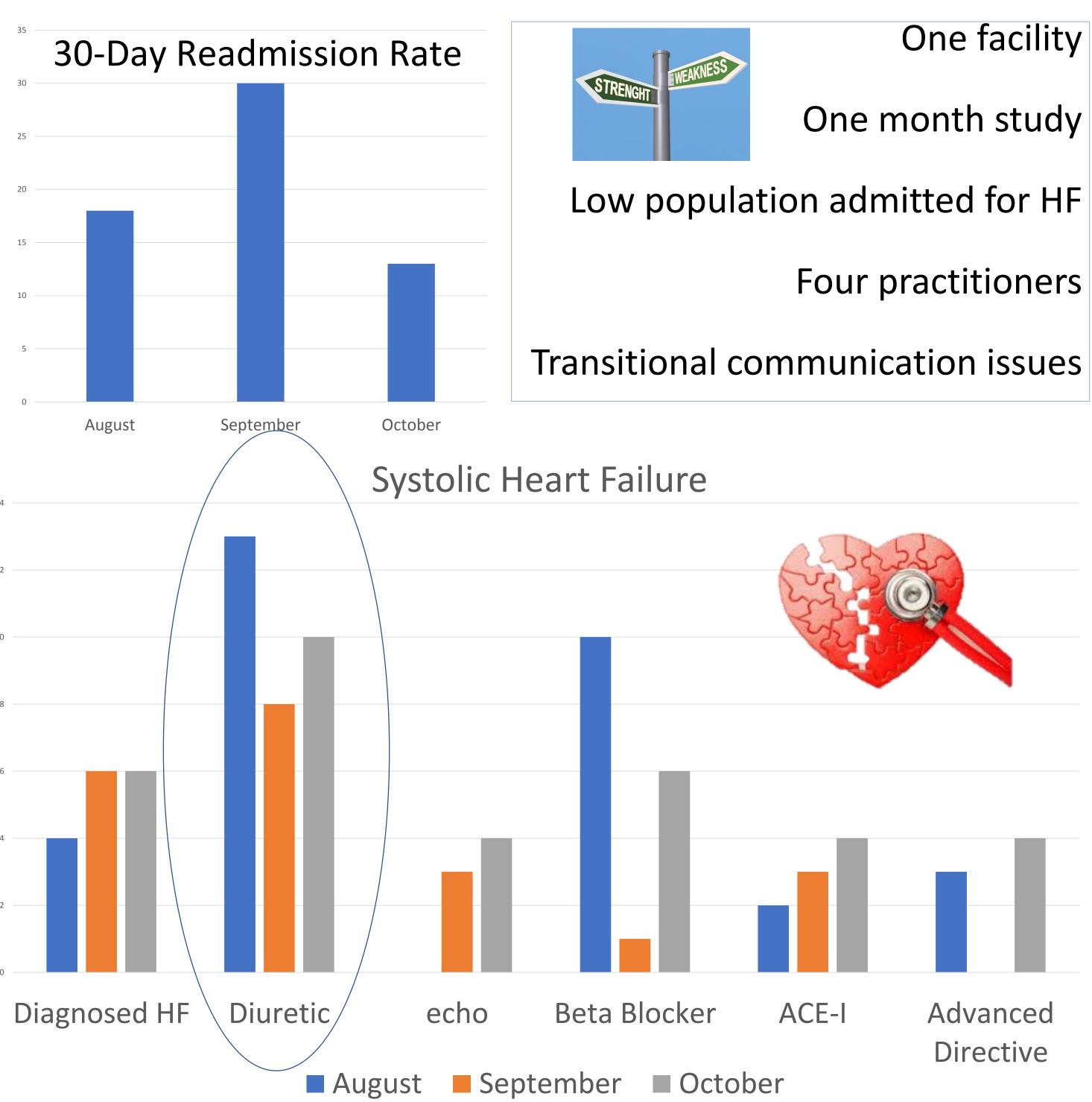
Implement evidence based practices for the treatment of patients with the diagnosis of chronic systolic heart failure in the post-acute setting to reduce hospital readmission rates



Change in Practice

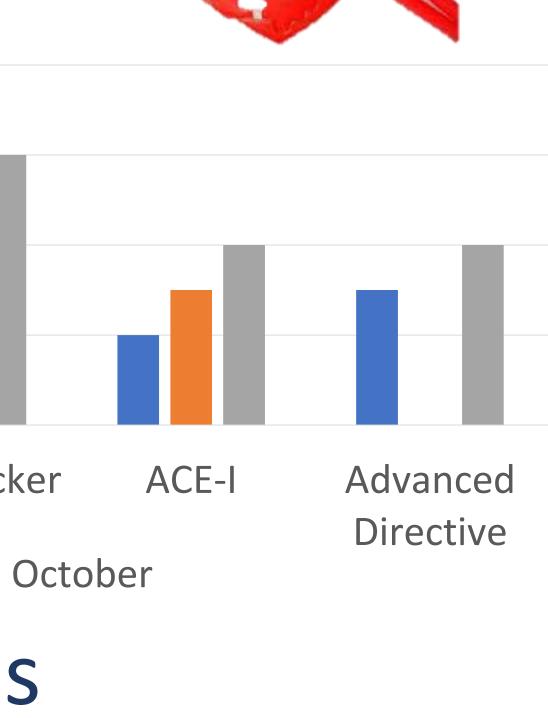
- Diagnosis of Systolic Heart Failure
- Echocardiogram results
- LV Ejection Fraction less than 40% should be on a beta-blocker and ACE-I or ARB as BP tolerates
- Individual patient education
- Address and document EOL discussion
- Improve discharge communication
- Nursing: Accurate daily weights

Results



Implications

- Diagnosis of HF is frequently missed
- EF to diagnose and follow treatment
- Reconciliation of diagnosis and medications
- Beta-blockers and ACE-I
- Individual patient education
- Patient-centered care
- Discuss end-of-life wishes in advance of refractory disease
- Improved communication during transitions
- Visit summary given to resident at d/c



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