

HEART DISEASE

1 and 2 must be present. Factors from 3 will add supporting documentation.

1. Is the patient optimally treated with diuretics and vasodilators, usually angiotensin-converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors? _____ (Optimally treated means that patients who are not on vasodilators have a medical reason for refusing these drugs, e.g., hypotension or renal disease.)

2. Does the patient have significant or recurrent congestive heart failure (CHF) at rest, and is classified as New York Heart Association (NYHA) Class IV? _____

(Class IV is defined as: patients with heart disease who have an inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort. Symptoms of heart failure or of the anginal syndrome may be present even at rest. If any physical activity is undertaken, discomfort is increased.)

3. Documentation of the following factors will support eligibility for hospice care:

_____ Ejection fraction < 20% (normal is 65%)

_____ Treatment resistant to symptomatic supraventricular or ventricular arrhythmias

_____ History of cardiac arrest or resuscitation

_____ History of unexplained syncope

_____ Brain embolism of cardiac origin

_____ Concomitant HIV disease

WORKSHEET FOR DETERMINING PROGNOSIS – Heart Disease

This worksheet is designed as a fact-finding tool and is not intended to be used to formulate diagnoses