

OUTPATIENT SYSTOLIC HF Algorithm

(May consider a Cardiology Consult at any point in the algorithm)

**Signs /Symptoms of Heart Failure:

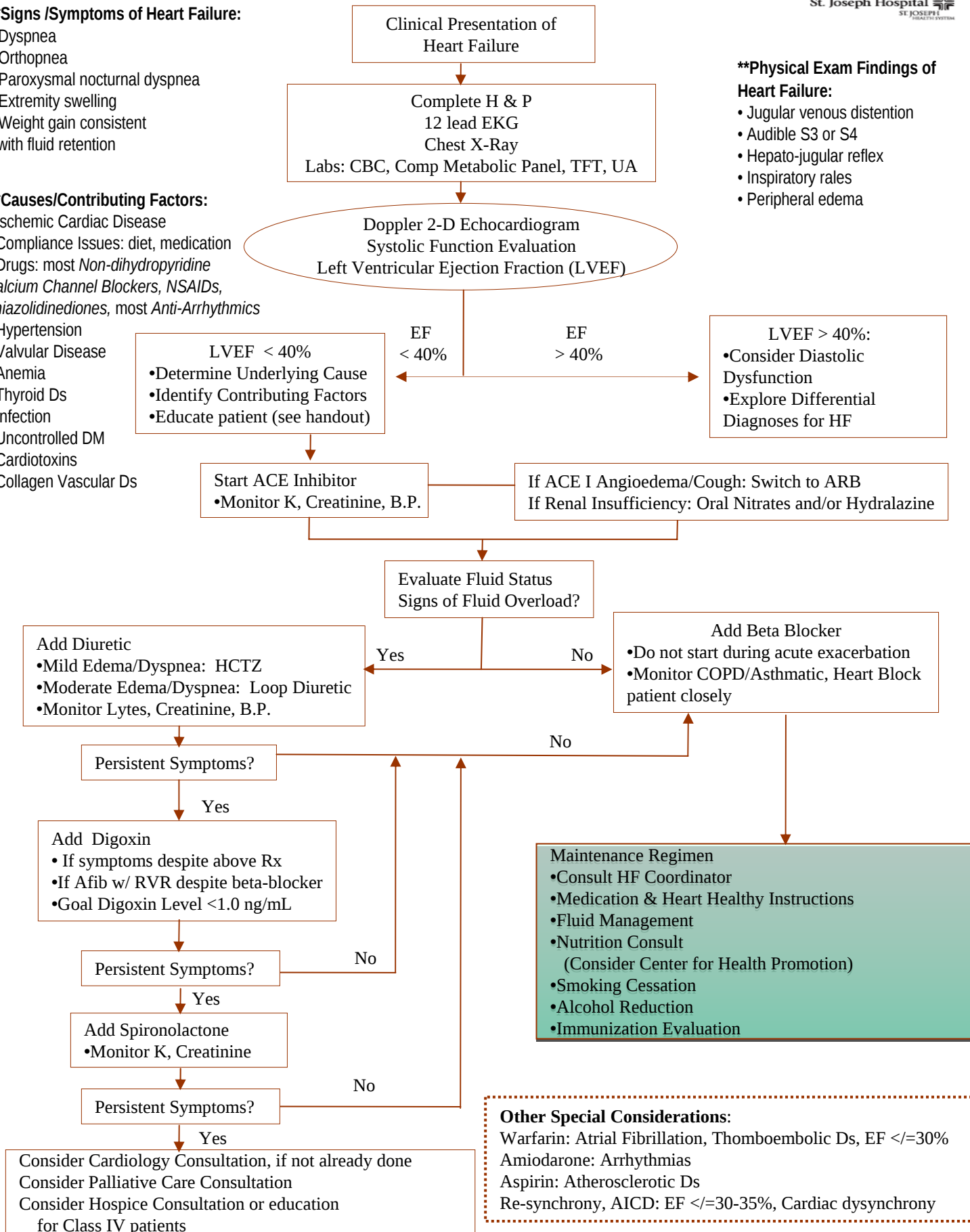
- Dyspnea
- Orthopnea
- Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea
- Extremity swelling
- Weight gain consistent with fluid retention

**Causes/Contributing Factors:

- Ischemic Cardiac Disease
- Compliance Issues: diet, medication
- Drugs: most *Non-dihydropyridine Calcium Channel Blockers, NSAIDs, Thiazolidinediones, most Anti-Arrhythmics*
- Hypertension
- Valvular Disease
- Anemia
- Thyroid Ds
- Infection
- Uncontrolled DM
- Cardiotoxins
- Collagen Vascular Ds

**Physical Exam Findings of Heart Failure:

- Jugular venous distention
- Audible S3 or S4
- Hepato-jugular reflex
- Inspiratory rales
- Peripheral edema



Other Special Considerations:

Warfarin: Atrial Fibrillation, Thromboembolic Ds, EF $\leq$ 30%
Amiodarone: Arrhythmias
Aspirin: Atherosclerotic Ds
Re-synchrony, AICD: EF $\leq$ 30-35%, Cardiac dysynchrony