

Improving Care for Heart Failure Patients: An Update for Healthcare Providers

Friday, November 14, 2025
 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
 Waltham Woods Conference Center
 860 Winter Street
 Waltham, MA 02451



Jointly provided by Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Education (TUSM OCE) and the Division of Cardiology, Tufts Medical Center



PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

David DeNofrio, MD
 Associate Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine
 Director, Cardiomyopathy Center, Tufts Medical Center

NURSE PLANNER:

Sarah Kendall, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CEN
 Accredited Provider Program Director,
 Office of Continuing Education
 Tufts University School of Medicine

7:30 – 8:00AM	Registration, Exhibits & Breakfast
8:00 – 8:10AM	Course Introduction & Review of Learner Objectives - David DeNofrio, MD
Keynote Lectures – Moderators: Christopher Link, MD and Jeffrey Shih, MD	
8:10 – 8:40AM	Improving Outcomes in Cardiogenic Shock - Rachna Kataria, MD
8:40 – 9:10AM	Impact of a Heart Failure Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy Clinic - Aferdita Spahillari, MD, MPH
9:10 – 9:40AM	Understanding Health Care Disparities in Heart Failure - Shabatun Islam, MD
9:40 – 10:10AM	Before the LVAD: Expanding Device Options for NYHA Class III Patients - Michael S. Kiernan, MD, MS, MBA
10:10 – 10:40AM	Breaks & Exhibits
Focus Session: Cardiac Sarcoidosis - Moderators: Daniel Levine, MD and Peter VanBuren, MD	
10:40 – 11:05AM	Update in Diagnostic Criteria, Imaging, and Management Strategies in Cardiac Sarcoidosis - Mili Mehta, MD
11:05 – 11:30AM	Treatment Strategies for Cardiac Sarcoidosis: Evidence, Gaps, Recommendations - Steven Vlad, MD, PhD
Focus Session: Transplant and Left Ventricular Assist Devices – Moderator – Rachel Clarke, MSN	
11:30 – 12:30PM	A Patient’s Story of Survival – James M. Lang, PhD
	LVAD and Transplant Patient Panel
12:30 – 1:30PM	Lunch & Exhibits
1:30 – 2:45PM	Interesting Cases in Advanced Heart Failure - Moderator: Hannah Bensimhon, MD Faculty Panel: Tapan Mehta, MD, Richard Patten, MD, Jessica Guidi, MD and Christopher Lawson, MD
2:45 – 3:00PM	Closing Remarks & Adjourn – David DeNofrio, MD

Sign in to Record Attendance on eeds

Please record your attendance by using the activity sign-in code or QR code below to sign in to the eeds system on the day of the activity (**you cannot sign in to eeds prior to the activity date**). NOTE: Learners who do not already have an account with the eeds system will be prompted to enter their information (name, mobile #, email, etc.) to create a free account. After signing in, learners can complete the evaluation for feedback; required if interested in a certificate.

Sign-in Code: 65PELE

The Activity Code Will Expire on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 7:30 AM

Text the Code to 828-295-1144

- OR – Go to www.eeds.com > Click the 'Sign-In' Button > Enter the Code

OR Scan the QR Code on the right:



REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION: To receive credit/contact hours/attendance certificate, learners must sign in using the eeds activity code provided above, attend the activity, and complete the online evaluation via eeds. Partial credit/contact hours will be awarded for attending one or more presentations. Learners should claim only the credit/contact hours commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Certificates will be available to access/print at any time in learners' eeds account after completion of the online evaluation.

ACTIVITY GOAL: The goal of this activity is to review recent updates and the most current data on drug and device treatments for patients with advanced heart failure.

TARGET AUDIENCE: This activity is intended for cardiologists, primary care physicians, nurses, hospitalists, internists, surgeons, residents, and other medical professionals involved in the treatment of heart failure patients.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES - At the conclusion of this activity, learners will be able to:

- Discuss the impact of health care disparities on patients with heart failure.
- Explain the clinical benefits of a heart failure guideline-directed medical therapy clinic.
- Assess and manage cardiogenic shock using evolving strategies.
- Explain expanding device options for heart failure.
- Apply contemporary imaging, evaluation, and treatment strategies to management of patients with cardiac sarcoidosis.

COMPETENCIES – THIS ACTIVITY IS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING: Patient Care and Procedural Skills, Medical/Clinical Knowledge, Practice-based Learning/Improvement, Provide Patient-Centered Care, Work in Interdisciplinary Teams, Employ Evidence-Based Practice, Roles/Responsibilities, and Teams and Teamwork.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS:

Physicians: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation policies and requirements of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Education (TUSM OCE) and the Division of Cardiology, Tufts Medical Center. TUSM OCE is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

TUSM OCE designates this live activity for a maximum of **5.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

American Board of Surgery (ABS) Accredited CME: Successful completion of this CME activity enables the learner to earn credit toward the CME requirement(s) of the American Board of Surgery's Continuous Certification program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABS credit. **Sharing of Participant Information:** Learners must make sure to claim ABS credit directly on eeds (TUSM OCE's CE Tracking System). Learners' completion data and personal information will be submitted by TUSM OCE/eeds to the ABS via the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Program Activity Reporting System (PARS) shortly after completing this activity and claiming ABS credit on eeds. Learners may change their consent to share/report learner completion data and personal information at any time in their learner profile on eeds.

Risk Management: This activity meets the criteria of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for 5.5 hours of Risk Management Credit.

Nurses: Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Education is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

This activity provides 5.5 contact hours for nurses.

CONTACT TUSM OCE for eeds or CME/CE QUESTIONS: Call 617-636-6579 or email - med-oce@tufts.edu.

ADA/OEO NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY & TUSM OCE's POLICY ON PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY:

<https://medicine.tufts.edu/about/school-medicine/administrative-offices/continuing-education/continuing-education-policies>

COMMERCIAL SUPPORTERS

This activity is supported by independent educational grants from:

Abbott Laboratories, Johnson & Johnson MedTech (ABIOMED, Inc.)

EXHIBITORS

Please visit the exhibit booths during the scheduled breaks.

GOLD LEVEL	Abbott, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals (Rare Disease), Bayer, BridgeBio, Edwards Lifesciences, Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Novartis, Paragonix Technologies, Pfizer (Rare Cardiac Disease), scPharmaceuticals, Ultromics
SILVER LEVEL	AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals (CVRM ATTR – Amyloidosis), Bristol Myers Squibb, CVRx, HeartBrothers Foundation, Janssen Pulmonary Hypertension, J&J MedTech Heart Recovery, Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals, Local Infusion, Pfizer (Internal Medicine Division), Sanofi Genzyme, Sensible Medical

FACULTY INFORMATION

Disclosures - Course Directors, Planners, Speakers, Reviewers and Others in a Position to Control Content: All faculty including course directors, planning committee members, and others in a position to control the content of an educational activity are required to disclose any financial relationships with an ACCME-defined ineligible company. The ACCME defines an ineligible company as any entity whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. Financial relationships are relevant if the following three conditions are met for the individual who will control content of the education: 1) A financial relationship, in any amount, exists between the person in control of content and an ineligible company, 2) The financial relationship existed during the past 24 months, and 3) The content of the education is related to the products of an ineligible company with whom the person has a financial relationship. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated by TUSM OCE prior to the activity (if applicable for faculty listed below).

The following individuals have relevant financial relationships to report in the last 24 months with an ACCME-defined ineligible company:

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|---|---|
| 1. David DeNofrio, MD – Consultant: BioCardia | 3. Daniel Levine, MD – Advisory Board/Committee: BridgeBio |
| 2. Michael S. Kiernan, MD, MS, MBA – Consultant: Medtronic | |

The following individuals have no relevant financial relationships to report in the past 24 months with an ACCME-defined ineligible company:

- Faculty:** Hannah Bensimhon, MD, Rachel Clarke, MSN, Jessica Guidi, MD, Shabatun Islam, MD, Rachna Kataria, MD, James M. Lang, PhD, Christopher Lawson, MD, Christopher Link, MD, Mili Mehta, MD, Tapan Mehta, MD, Richard Patten, MD, Jeffrey Shih, MD, Aferdita Spahillari, MD, MPH, Peter VanBuren, MD, Steven Vlad, MD, PhD
- Patient Panel:** Gary Whitney, Lisa Whitney, Richard Ethier, J. Leigh Ferracane, Mikayla Guenard, Jacob Fleming, Carmen Foster, Rick Foster
- TUSM OCE Staff:** Karin Pearson, CHCP, Miroslav Olivo, MS, Carolyn Langer, MD, JD, MPH (Reviewer), Sarah Kendall, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CEN

FACULTY TITLES

Hannah Bensimhon, MD Director, Advanced Heart Failure Cardiology, Dartmouth Health Assistant Professor, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth	Michael S. Kiernan, MD, MS, MBA Associate Chief, Division of Cardiology Section Head, Heart Failure Program, Tufts Medical Center Associate Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine	Richard Patten, MD Associate Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine Chief, Advanced Heart Failure, Boston Medical Center – Brighton
Rachel Clarke, MSN Nurse Practitioner, Tufts Medical Center	James M. Lang, PhD Professor of the Practice, Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence University of Notre Dame	Jeffrey Shih, MD Director, Advanced Heart Failure Program, Medical Director, Ventricular Assist Device Program, UMass Memorial Health Associate Professor of Medicine, UMass Chan Medical School
Jessica Guidi, MD Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Cardiologist Associate Program Director, Brown Cardiology Fellowship, Brown University Health Cardiovascular Institute Assistant Professor of Medicine, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University	Christopher Lawson, MD Cardiac Cath Lab Director, Portsmouth Regional Hospital	Aferdita Spahillari, MD, MPH Cardiologist, Duke University Hospital Associate Professor of Medicine, Duke University Medical School
Shabatun Islam, MD Cardiologist, Boston Medical Center Assistant Professor of Medicine, Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine	Daniel Levine, MD Director, Advanced Heart Failure, Rhode Island Hospital Clinical Professor of Medicine, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University	Peter VanBuren, MD Director, Cardiovascular Care Unit Director, Heart Failure Program University of Vermont Medical Center Associate Professor of Medicine, Associate Professor of Molecular Physiology & Biophysics, University of Vermont, College of Medicine
Rachna Kataria, MD Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Cardiologist Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute - The Rhode Island and Miriam Hospitals Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cardiology The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University	Christopher Link, MD Director of Cardiology, Maine Medical Center	Steven Vlad, MD, PhD Rheumatologist, Tufts Medical Center Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine
	Mili Mehta, MD Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Cardiology, Tufts Medical Center Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine	
	Tapan Mehta, MD Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology, Maine Medical Center Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine	