



Personal Decision Support System for Heart Failure Management

The HeartMan project and its European context

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www.heartman-project.eu

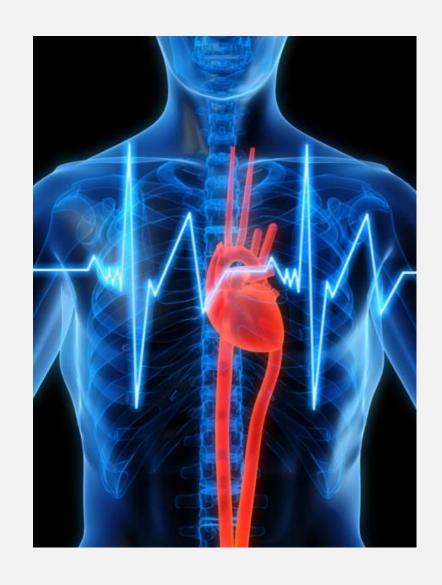
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## Cardiovascular disease in the EU

 Cardiovascular disease (CVD)is the leading cause of death in the European Union (EU) and a major cause of ill health

- 1.8 million people die from CVD every year
- Almost 49 million people live with CVD





 Within CVD heart failure is common – but not widely known

 Heart failure occurs when the heart can no longer pump enough blood around the body as it has become too weak or stiff. It is a clinical syndrome typical symptoms of which include shortness of breath, fatigue, fluid retention and ankle swelling. Heart failure can also impact on a patient's ability to sleep or impair his/her cognitive function



 Heart failure is a major health burden throughout Europe

 The burden is felt heavily on patients and their families/carers

 Heart failure is also a significant burden on healthcare systems and society as a whole



 We do not know exactly how many people in the EU live with heart failure – but it could be more than 10 million people according to estimates that prevalence in developed countries is 1-2% of the population

 Prevalence of heart failure in the EU is set to increase due to an ageing population and occurrence of comorbidity factors



 Total annual cost related to heart failure in 24 EU member states has been estimated to €29 billion/year

 Heart failure is a leading cause for hospital admissions and on average requires longer stays in hospital than heart attacks.



 In conclusion there is a great need to invest in research on heart failure, including how a system – like HeartMan – can help improve health status and quality of life for patients and, potentially, help contain healthcare and overall societal costs



# Thank you!



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