



Heart Failure Society of America

An Official Publication of the Heart Failure Society of America • Volume 4, Number 1 • May 2002

In This Edition

- HFSA's 6th Annual Scientific Meeting
- Heart Failure Awareness Week 2002
- Scientific Meeting Research Award Competition
- Committee Developing Guidelines
- Program Focuses on Promising Therapies
- Cleveland Hosts Patient Education Program
- Institute Celebrates Heart Failure Awareness
- Center Sponsors Third Annual Conference
- Medical Center Offers Free Program
- Website Gets "Facelift"
- WakeMed Celebrates Heart Failure Awareness Events
- Clinic Sponsors Events for Health Professionals
- Hospital Holds Wellness Fair

Heart Failure Society

Editors

Milton Packer, MD
New York, New York

Arthur M. Feldman, MD, PhD
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Gary S. Francis, MD
Cleveland, Ohio

Barry Greenberg, MD
San Diego, California

Marvin A. Konstam, MD
Boston, Massachusetts

HFSA Sets 6th Annual Scientific Meeting for September 22-25, 2002

A record number of physicians, nurses, researchers, and allied health professionals are expected to attend the HFSA's 6th annual scientific meeting September 22-25, 2002, at the Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton, Florida.

Plenary and symposia topics will provide up-to-date discussions of developments in cardiovascular physiology, pharmacologic therapy, epidemiology and prevention, outcomes and health service research, clinical trials, cardiovascular structure, neurohormones and tissue factors, molecular bi-

ology genetics, surgery and transplantation devices, and electrophysiology and arrhythmias. Popular features such as the Hyde Park Hypotheses, debates, practical how-to sessions, clinical case discussions, and poster presentations will offer interactive forums for the exchange of ideas and information.

Twenty-one satellite programs are in the planning stages and will focus on advances in pharmacological treatments or

(continued on page 2)

National Heart Failure Awareness Week 2002 Educates Healthcare Providers and Patients

National Heart Failure Awareness Week, held this year from February 10-17, 2002, featured events at national and local levels to promote improved understanding of heart failure. This week, established in 2000 by proclamation of the United States Senate, is one important means by which the HFSA fulfills its mission. This year's awareness program is focusing on increasing the understanding of heart failure, targeting audiences including patients, families, and individuals at risk; and primary care physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers.

The annual initiative is coordinated by the Heart Failure Awareness Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Barry H. Greenberg, San Diego, California, who succeeded founding chair and Immediate Past President Arthur Feldman in 2001. In planning the 2002 activities, Dr. Greenberg and committee members expanded the foundation of previous successful events to develop a long-term awareness program. "An ongoing program will better enable us to contribute to efforts to identify patients, ensure adequate treatment, and orient necessary healthcare resources effectively," he said.

On the national level, the HFSA developed and distributed an array of materials for both audiences, including a "turnkey" kit and supplemental materials to assist professionals in planning events; a brochure about heart failure; templates for radio and television public service announcements, flyers, and an order card; and a slide show and video.

The national campaign's kickoff event included a satellite tour February 8 and a continuing medical education (CME) program "Heart Failure 2002: Update for the Primary Care

(continued on page 3)

Practice Guidelines Committee Developing Comprehensive Heart Failure Guideline

Members of the HFSA Practice Guidelines Committee are in the final stages of preparing a draft guideline on heart failure for presentation and discussion at the Society's annual scientific meeting in September. As opposed to the initial guideline developed by the Society, the latest effort will provide a comprehensive guideline that will address all the major aspects of the diagnosis and treatment of heart failure. The latest guideline will include discussion of issues related to prevention, diagnostic evaluation, general measures and disease management, pharmacologic therapy, and surgical procedures and electro-physiologic approaches.

Committee chair Kirkwood Adams, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, reviewed the progress made to date. "We are completing our extensive review of the nonpharmacologic sections of the document. Once we do, we will revise the pharmacologic portion. We have scheduled an intensive meeting in Chicago in May to review the complete draft with both sections and hope to have a tight document by the end of that meeting," he said.

According to Dr. Adams, the committee is on schedule for presentation of the draft

comprehensive guideline at the annual scientific meeting in Boca Raton, Florida. "We have worked with scientific chair Barry Massie, San Francisco, California, and others to plan the presentation. We will have experts from around the world to discuss the document, and there will be opportunities for audience participation at the meeting," he said. "At the 1999 annual scientific meeting," he reported, "we received excellent comments from the HFSA attendees and incorporated some of these into the document." Following revisions made in response to the discussions at the annual scientific meeting, the draft comprehensive guideline will be reviewed by the HFSA Executive Council. Dr. Adams expects that the final guideline will be ready for publication in late 2002 or early 2003. The published guidelines will be available on the HFSA website at www.hfsa.org.

Dr. Adams explained that the new guideline will follow the successful format of the 1999 *Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Heart Failure Due to Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction*. Both the diagnostic and treatment sections

will have background information and recommendations. The guideline will be designed for internet posting, with an extensive bibliography linked to journals for easy access so that users will be able to check rapidly on recommendations for specific situations.

"Educating physicians and allied health professionals so that they provide optimal diagnosis and treatment of heart failure is one of our primary purposes as a society," he concluded, "and this comprehensive guideline constitutes a significant means of fulfilling our mission."

Annual Scientific Meeting Information

- Travel arrangements, including discounted airfares, may be arranged through Stratton Travel Management at (888) 387-5435, (201) 405-1999; fax (801) 729-2032.
- An exhibit prospectus may be obtained by contacting the conference organizer at (800) 642-2515 (US) or (201) 947-5545

(continued from page 1)

HFSA's 6th Annual Scientific Meeting

device use for patients with heart failure. The University of Minnesota has designated the annual scientific meeting for up to 17.5 hours in Category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award; pharmacy and nursing continuing education credits have been applied for.

The final program can be viewed on the website at www.hfsa.org and is updated on a regular basis.

6th Annual Scientific Meeting Research Award Competition

The much-anticipated annual research awards competition promises to be a highlight of the annual scientific meeting once again.

The Jay N. Cohn New Investigator Awards, one for clinical/integrative physiology and one for basic science, encourage the development and dissemination of information in these respective areas. Five finalists in each category will make their presentations on Monday, September 23. A panel of judges will choose the winners on the basis of scientific merit, presentation, use of appropriate graphics, and effectiveness of discussion.

The second annual Nursing Research Award competition, to recognize outstanding, innovative research in the field of heart failure by an independent nurse researcher, will feature presentations by finalists on Monday, September 23.

(continued from page 1)

Heart Failure Awareness Week 2002

Physician,” on February 9 in San Diego. The program featured a faculty of internationally recognized cardiologists offering information on the mechanisms of disease and therapeutic strategies and treatments. The format of scientific lectures and case study discussions provided an optimal opportunity for learning.

Speakers and topics included “The New Epidemiology of Heart Failure” (Barry M. Massie, MD); “Recognizing Patients at Risk and Strategies for Preventing Heart Failure” (Barry H. Greenberg); “Evaluation of the Heart Failure Patient” (Ileana L. Pina, MD); “Overview of Heart Failure Management” (Milton Packer, MD); “ACEIs, ARBs, and Spironolactone” (Marvin A. Konstam, MD); “Beta Blockers in Heart Failure: Why, When, and How” (Gary S. Francis, MD); “Non-Pharmacologic Therapy” (Marc A. Silver, MD); “Emerging Therapies” (William T. Abraham, MD); “How to Follow and Manage Heart Failure Patients in the Outpatient Setting” (Kathleen Dracup, RN, DNSc). Drs. Greenberg, Packer, and Abraham also moderated case presentation discussions.

Over 150 primary care physicians attended the symposium, which was audiotaped. The HFSA collaborated with Audio Digest to distribute the tapes to an initial 10,000 primary care providers. Audio Digest has produced a second audiotape to increase the dissemination of information on heart failure to Audio Digest subscribers. In addition to the audiotapes, the program was prepared for use as a webcast. The webcast can be viewed on the HFSA website at www.hfssa.org. CME credit is available for both activities.

HFSA Heart Failure Awareness Roundtable

Abbott Laboratories
AstraZeneca US
Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
GlaxoSmithKline
Medtronic, Inc.
Merck & Co., Inc.
Novartis
Scios, Inc.
Vasomedical, Inc.

Minneapolis VA Medical Center's Program Focuses on Promising Therapies

The Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Heart Failure Clinic selected the theme *Promising Therapies in the Management of Heart Failure* for this year's Heart Failure Awareness activities.

On February 12, the clinic sponsored an educational program attended by 100 patients, family members, and ancillary hospital staff. Medical Director Inder Anand, MD,



(Rear) Inder Anand, MD; Karen Doerfler, RN; Shelly Berg, RN; Erin Emerson; Susan Ziesche, RN; (front) Janelle Whitlock, ANP; and Sue Catchings, RN.

provided an overview of the pathophysiology of heart failure and of available treatments. Susan Ziesche, RN, national coordinator of the African-American heart failure trial (A-HeFT), reviewed the

Val-HeFT trial and other current clinical studies. Janelle Whitlock, ACNP, explained the promising results shown by a cardiac support device in patients with dilated cardiomyopathy. Karen Doerfler, RN, clinical research nurse, discussed biventricular pacing, and Michelle Berg, RN, reported on the status of left-ventricular support devices. A lively question-and-answer session allowed participants to gain additional information. The program was followed by a luncheon, with more discussion and patient-to-patient exchanges of experiences. The clinic publicized the program and luncheon through the hospital newsletter and a storyboard display near the hospital cafeteria. Invitations were sent to the 300 patients in the heart failure program, and transportation was provided to those who needed it. The clinic invited pharmaceutical and medical device companies as guests.

On Friday, February 15, 100 people participated in grand rounds with Michael McGoan, MD, a consultant for the division of cardiovascular diseases at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He discussed cardiac pacing and biventricular pacing in the management of heart failure.

Future Heart Failure Awareness Weeks

2003: February 9-15 2005: February 13-19
2004: February 8-14 2006: February 12-18

University Hospitals of Cleveland Hosts Patient Education Program

The Heart Failure Clinic at the University Hospitals of Cleveland hosted an educational program for the public on February 14 that provided information from a multidisciplinary team. According to Julie Gee, RN, MSN, CNP, over 500 patients attended the event, which featured nutritional options, diagnostic information, and medication counseling. More than 160 patients received blood pressure screening.

“We counseled them on reducing risk factors for heart failure,” she explained, “and we distributed brochures on heart failure symptoms and management. We had cards with clinic information and a log for blood pressure readings. We diag-

nosed a lot of hypertension.” Information on ways to manage risk factors, including diet and cholesterol levels, was provided. A hospital pharmacist and students were available for medication counseling.



Kathleen Iliff (seated) received a heart transplant in 1989 and a kidney transplant in January 2001. Kathleen was the recipient of a kidney donated by her husband Walt (seated).

Participants included Parag Kale, MD; Marriane Vest, RN; Kim Huck, RN, ND; Mark Deibel, RN; Sherri LaForest, PharmD; and Julie Gee. The clinic promoted the event through the distribution of brochures and announcements in the hospital newsletter. Patients who had received heart transplants participated by passing out informational flyers. Dr. Kale was featured on a local television station discussing heart failure.

Prairie Heart Institute Celebrates Heart Failure Awareness

The Prairie Heart Institute, St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Illinois, participated in Heart Failure Awareness activities by hosting a variety of events.

Claire Call, RN, Heart Failure Coordinator, reports that approximately 600 people attended the Heart Fair on February 9, with exhibits on low-sodium cooking and a home monitoring system. Medical education programs were held in January and March and continue on an ongoing basis; 300 nurses attended a recent program.

At the public awareness night on Tuesday, February 12, attended by 100 people, speakers presented information on the multiple issues involved in heart failure management.

Stephen Jennison, MD, reviewed new developments in heart failure treatment. An exercise physiologist explained the benefits of exercise; a dietician discussed low-sodium cooking, provided recipes, and showed a low-sodium game. An occupational therapist demonstrated ways to work smarter not harder, and a pharmacist suggested ways to reduce the costs of medications, such as purchasing through the internet. Three patients shared real-life experiences; there were presentations on a home monitoring system, a pacemaker, and heart transplantation. The Prairie Heart Institute publicized the public awareness night through local radio, television, and newspaper public service announcements.



Steven Jennison, MD (left) discusses topics with a participant at the Heart Fair in Springfield, Illinois.

chasing through the internet. Three patients shared real-life experiences; there were presentations on a home monitoring system, a pacemaker, and heart transplantation. The Prairie Heart Institute publicized the public awareness night through local radio, television, and newspaper public service announcements.

HFSA Offers Educational Modules

The HFSA is developing a series of heart failure modules. The modules help to educate patients, family members, and individuals at risk. Module 1 has been completed and can be viewed on the website; ordering information is provided as well.

The modules to follow are:

- Module 2.** How to Follow a Low-Sodium Diet
- Module 3.** Heart Failure Medicines
- Module 4.** Self-Care: Following Your Treatment Plan and Dealing with Your Symptoms
- Module 5.** Exercise and Activity
- Module 6.** Managing Feelings about Heart Failure
- Module 7.** Tips for Family and Friends
- Module 8.** Lifestyle Changes
- Module 9.** Advanced Directives
- Module 10.** Heart Rhythm Problems
- Module 11.** How to Evaluate Claims of New Heart Failure Treatments and Cures

Quantities are available for purchase. For pricing information, please call the HFSA corporate office at (651) 642-1633.

PCMH Heart Center Sponsors Third Annual Conference on Heart Failure

The Heart Center of Pitt County Memorial Hospital, a constituent of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, sponsored its third annual conference for adults with congenital disease and adults with heart failure on Saturday, February 23, 2002, at the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center, Greenville, North Carolina.

The half-day conference, entitled "When Your Heart Needs a Helping Hand," provided educational sessions and materials for patients and families. Faculty members included Dorothea Handron, APRN, EdD, associate professor of nursing, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; Susan Ingram, RN, BSN, Heart Failure Program Coordinator, Heart Center, PCMH; Helene Reilly, RN, BSN, CCRN, Heart Failure Pro-

gram, Heart Center, PCMH; and Sharon Welsh, RN, BSN, pediatric cardiac clinician, Children's Hospital, PCMH, Greenville, NC. Approximately 50 patients and families participated in the event, which included a luncheon, presentations, an exhibit, and a raffle.

Representatives were on hand from the center's cardiopulmonary rehabilitation staff, the pacer clinic, and the wellness center. A pharmacist answered questions about medications, and a dietician provided suggestions for heart-healthy cooking after participants submitted a sodium quiz.

Susan Ingram said, "This is a popular event. The patients

and families look forward to it every year. We have a very diverse patient population. This program, offered in a relaxed off-campus setting, is one means of providing them information on ways to manage their disease." The event was promoted through local media and invitations.

One new service directly related to this annual event was the establishment of a support group, "You're a STAR!" This group will meet monthly to offer psycho-educational support for the heart failure patients and their families.

Winchester Medical Center Offers Free Educational Program on Heart Failure

"Are You or Someone You Know at Risk for Heart Failure?," an educational program for the general public, was sponsored by The Heart Center, Winchester Medical Center (WMC), Winchester, Virginia, on Monday, February 11, 2002.

The three-hour program included presentations on heart failure and cardiomyopathy, disease management, exercise, and diet. Speakers were Lynne Bouffard, CFNP, Selma Medical Associates, Winchester; Kathy Zirkle, RN, CCRN, WMC case manager; Jim Gavin, exercise physiologist and manager, WMC cardiopulmonary rehabilitation program; and Dana Porter, registered dietician, WMC nutrition services. Topics included recognizing the symptoms of and understanding the treatments for heart failure and cardiomyopathy; managing the diseases; participating in exercise for strengthening and flexibility; and controlling sodium intake. Sponsors GlaxoSmithKline and Scios provided heart-healthy refreshments.

Ms. Zirkle said, "We had a great turnout, with about 70 people attending." The event was promoted via the local cable television channel, public service announcements in newspapers, and posters in the center's lobby and in local doctors' offices. Local newspapers provided coverage. Ms. Zirkle also reported on the success the center has experienced using a home monitoring system.

Heart Failure Education Website Receives a "Facelift"

An integral part of the HFSA's initiative to enhance the understanding of heart failure is the Society's website, www.abouthf.org. This site was given a "facelift" in February 2002 to improve access and, in particular, to add information on the educational modules being developed. Approximately 3,500 to 5,000 people visit the site each week.

As a primary vehicle of the Society's long-term educational program, www.abouthf.org has an improved search feature that allows visitors to locate specific information. The new design will assist the Society in determining the kinds of information being sought, developing new materials to meet the expressed interest, and refining more precise search terms. The redesign of the site will also enhance the ability of visitors to navigate through the educational modules. There are two additions to the site. The first is an opt-in email notification option for receiving updates when new modules or materials are released. This proactive approach prevents visitors from having to check back without reason and communicates the commitment to getting educational information out to medical professionals and consumers. The second addition is the ability of visitors to the site to forward a link to someone they feel may benefit from information on heart failure.

hfsa.org

The Society's professional site, www.hfsa.org, also has an improved search function and navigation system, both the result of the HFSA's growth and interests. The redesigned site, built for quick navigation and ease of access, has six primary categories with information on membership, publications, the annual scientific meeting, and latest developments. In addition are news kiosks, which are snapshots of press releases or time-sensitive information viewable from any area on the site. Hfsa.org has from 2,700 to 3,500 visitors per week.

WakeMed Celebrates Heart Failure Awareness Week Events

WakeMed, Raleigh, North Carolina, celebrated National Heart Failure Awareness Week with a series of events for patient education, general public awareness, and staff development. Activities included exhibits in the WakeMed Heart Center lobby and the hospital cafeteria with focuses on heart failure issues.

“Lunch-bunch presentations” have been a successful vehicle for WakeMed’s educational programs. A lunch-bunch presentation on “The Role of Electrophysiologic Approaches in Heart Failure Management” was given on February 11 by Randolph Cooper, MD, and sponsored by the WakeMed Heart Failure Program. A lunch-bunch presentation on “Advances in the Management of Heart Failure” was presented to the WakeMed nursing staff on February 13 as part of an ongoing nursing education series. Wilson Medical Center, Wilson, North Carolina, and WakeMed cosponsored Heart Day on February 14 in Wilson. Medtronic and Sanofi-Synthelabo pharmaceuticals provided support for the events.

To educate the general public, WakeMed hosted a free seminar series. On February 19, the topic was “Living with Heart Failure.” Marian Uy, RN, BSN, CCRN, coordinator of the heart failure program, said, “We provided a lecture on heart failure, focusing on etiology, signs, and symptoms. A pharmacist explained current therapies, and a dietitian discussed the importance of nutrition and compliance with dietary restrictions.” Forty patients and families attended the event, which had been advertised in local newspapers and through direct mail. At a February 21 evening seminar, “The Spiritual Side of Cardiac Care” was presented and the Heart Failure

Program’s volunteer chaplain spoke about her experiences working with patients with heart failure.

The headlining event of Heart Month was the Heart Smart Saturday on February 23. Open to the general public, the event featured heart health exhibits, lectures by physicians, health screenings, tours of the WakeMed Heart Center, heart-healthy snacks, and fun fitness activities. More than 350 people participated.



Cardiovascular Surgery Educator Megan Swink answers questions about medications at Heart Smart Saturday.

The first in a series of Heart Smart Cooking classes, held on February 27, brought Raleigh’s local chefs to demonstrate how to prepare heart-healthy meals that are “good for you and taste good, too.” Suggestions for tasty meals low in saturated fat and salt were provided. The series was developed in collaboration with a nutritionist and was open to the public.



Healthworks dietitian Diana Koenning shows heart-healthy “protective foods” to a Heart Smart Saturday participant.

Marian Uy emphasized the ongoing nature of the WakeMed programs. On April 18, a representative addressed local mall walkers on “What You Should Know About Heart Failure.” The Second Annual Heart Failure Symposium 2002 will be held on October 5. This medical education event is sponsored by the WakeMed Heart Failure Program and designed for physicians, physicians’ assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, and dietitians. Featured speakers at the 2001 event included nationally known speakers as Thierry LeJemtel, MD; Clyde Yancy, MD; Tarik Ramahi, MD; and Michael Higginbotham, MD. Ms. Uy commented, “We are committed to education, to the public, to our own patients, and to staff so we can make a difference in the management of heart failure. With close monitoring, they are living a good quality of life, and we owe it to them.”

Heart Failure Society News is an official quarterly publication of the Heart Failure Society of America, Court International, Suite 238N, 2550 University Avenue West, St. Paul, MN 55114; (651) 642-1633; www.hfsa.org. It is published by BioScience Communications, 1875 Eye Street NW, Washington, DC 20006.

© 2002 Heart Failure Society of America

Ochsner Clinic Sponsors Events for Health Professionals and Public

Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, Louisiana, participated in the Heart Failure Awareness activities by sponsoring educational events for both health professionals and the general public.



Mandeep Mehra, MD

Mandeep Mehra, MD, kicked off an accredited educational program, *Heart Failure Symposium 2002: Genomics, Proteonomics, and Mechanics of Heart Failure*, with a reception for faculty and attendees on February 15. The symposium, held on February 16, was an all-day event that featured presentations by national leaders in the field of heart failure, including

William Abraham, MD; Gary Francis, MD; James B. Young, MD; Robert Scott, MD, PhD; Myung Park, MD; and Dr. Mehra. More than 310 health professionals attended; approximately 50 percent were physicians from all across the country, as well as RNs, physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, licensed nurse practitioners, technicians, and administrative staff members.

In addition, Dr. Mehra was an invited speaker at Providence Hospital in Mobile, Alabama, on February 13. He discussed issues on heart failure detection, treatment, and future/alternative treatment options. Dr. Mehra was interviewed on

the morning program of a local NBC affiliate (WDSU New Orleans), where he discussed heart failure and Heart Failure Awareness Week. Throughout the week, Dr. Mehra met with the staff in the Ochsner Clinic's intensive care and heart transplant units to raise awareness of new developments.

Arizona Heart Hospital Hosts Educational Program

The Heart Failure Clinic at Arizona Heart Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, celebrated Heart Failure Awareness Week with an educational program open to the public. Over 100 people attended the event, which featured information on the symptoms of heart failure, as well as specific medications and treatments. The medical director of the clinic, K. Vijay, MD, discussed the latest developments in heart failure research, and Susan Crum, RN, coordinator of the hospital's clinic, explained medications and treatments.

"The response was very good," Ms. Crum said. "We offered free screening of blood pressure, heart rate, and oxygen saturation. Attendees enjoyed a brunch with low-sodium foods, and a shopping cart of low-sodium products was displayed. Dietitians shared recipes and recommended healthy cook-

(continued on page 8)

Concord Hospital Holds Wellness Fair

Concord Hospital, Concord, New Hampshire, held a wellness fair on February 7 for patients and families in its heart failure program. Over 50 participants attended the informal five-hour event, which featured booths with dietitians, pharmacists, nurses, social workers, and the heart failure program nurses.

Demonstrations of heart-healthy cooking were held at the cooking booth, and participants enjoyed

samples and other low-salt snacks. The first 50 patients received a free, new low-sodium cookbook. Brenda



Participants sampled heart-healthy recipes at the Wellness Fair.

Travis, dietitian at Concord Hospital, reviewed patients' food logs and helped them to determine actual sodium consumption. Social worker Susan Interlandi provided information on advanced directives, and notaries and witnesses were available to execute documents at no charge. Physical therapist Bill Dooley answered questions about

exercise routines and suggested ways to safely increase activities. Pharmacist Elise Kendall staffed the medication booth, helping patients to understand how their medications work. Wendy Burke, RN, and Mary Macklin, ARNP, heart failure coordinator and nurse practitioner, provided any additional education that patients needed.

The program was publicized in local newspapers, through flyers sent to patients, and through the public affairs office of the hospital. In addition, Ms. Macklin was featured on a local one-hour radio call-in show, discussing prevention and treatment of heart failure.

(continued from page 7)

Arizona Heart Hospital Holds Educational Program



K. Vijay, MD, medical director of the Heart Failure Clinic, discussed the latest developments in heart failure research.

books. Low-sodium cookbooks were given away as door prizes. One patient who attends the clinic shared his story and stressed the importance of compliance.” A physician’s assistant staffed a booth where people could obtain more personal advice. Patients enjoyed the program and asked to be placed on the mailing list. The clinic promoted the event by contacting senior and assisted living centers and by placing public service announcements in the *Arizona Republic* and smaller newspapers. A similar program is scheduled for May 16.

Mission Statement

The Heart Failure Society of America, Inc. (HFSA) represents the first organized effort by heart failure experts from the Americas to provide a forum for all those interested in heart function, heart failure, and congestive heart failure (CHF) research and patient care.

The mission of HFSA is to:

- **Promote research** related to all aspects of heart failure and to provide a forum for presentation of basic, clinical, and population-based research.
- **Educate** physicians and other members of the profession through programs, publications, and other media to enable them to diagnose and treat heart failure and concomitant medical conditions more effectively.
- **Encourage** primary and secondary preventive measures to reduce the incidence of heart failure; to serve as a resource for government, private industry, and health care providers to facilitate the establishment of programs and policies that will better serve the patient.
- **Enhance** quality and duration of life in those with heart failure.
- **Promote and facilitate** the formal training of physicians, scientists, and allied health care providers in the field of heart failure.

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bowie, MD
Permit No. 434

Heart Failure Society
of America

Court International
Suite 238N
2550 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55114