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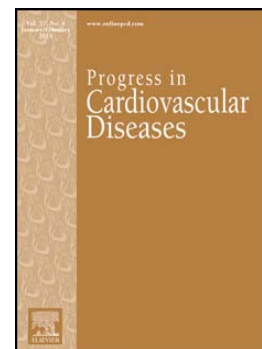
Is an Admission for Decompensated Heart Failure Inevitable?

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PII: S0033-0620(17)30102-0
DOI: doi: [10.1016/j.pcad.2017.07.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pcad.2017.07.003)
Reference: YPCAD 824

To appear in: *Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases*

Received date: 16 July 2017
Accepted date: 16 July 2017



Please cite this article as: Blood Alexander J., Fraiche Ariane M., Eapen Zubin J., Is an Admission for Decompensated Heart Failure Inevitable?, *Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases* (2017), doi: [10.1016/j.pcad.2017.07.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pcad.2017.07.003)

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Is an Admission for Decompensated Heart Failure Inevitable?

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Keywords: Heart failure; Hospitalizations

Short Title : Heart Failure Admissions Inevitable?

Disclosures:

Alexander J Blood, MD - none
Ariane M Fraiche, MD – none
Zubin J Eapen, MD, MHS - none

Abstract: Given the high prevalence of heart failure (HF) and the profound impact on morbid, mortality, and health care costs, strategies to improve outcomes and reduce cost have become progressively more attractive. Reducing HF hospitalizations as a study outcome has gained traction in recent years. The basic hypothesis of these investigations is that HF hospitalizations are preventable and harmful. This article examines advancements in pharmacotherapy, medical devices, and health care delivery techniques targeting reductions in HF hospitalizations and evaluates the role and implications of hospitalization in the natural history of HF.

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