

HEART FAILURE REFERRAL

Referral criteria:

Patients admitted with decompensated heart failure (new or existing diagnosis)

Patients admitted for another reason but whose heart failure has subsequently decompensated

Need an echo confirmed diagnosis – if you have requested the echo please refer

Please complete the demographics and the relevant sections of the heart failure referral form.

The referral form can be found on Panda/Bamboo (via the BSUH applications folder or at <http://bamboo.bsuh.nhs.uk>)

Suspected heart failure:

If the patient has not previously had an echocardiogram then please request a **single measurement of NTpro-BNP** NICE CG 106 (2018), NICE CG 187 (2014)

- If NT pro-BNP < 300ng/litre in an untreated person a diagnosis of heart failure is unlikely and an echo is not indicated
- If NT pro-BNP > 300ng/litre please request an inpatient echo and refer to the HF team

Please **do not** test NT pro-BNP more than once.

ED

Please refer patients with an echo confirmed diagnosis of heart failure or patients with a suspected new diagnosis of heart failure (need NTpro-BNP taking in ED). The heart failure team we will arrange appropriate follow up.

Please complete the demographics and Section 1 of the referral form.

Inpatient HF service:

In-patients will be reviewed on the consultant led heart failure ward round on Tuesdays and Thursdays at RSCH and Mondays and Thursdays at PRH. Additional heart failure nurse support will be provided during the week.

Heart failure management will be optimised; education and support provided to the patient, and onward referral to community teams where possible, or heart failure clinic follow up will be facilitated.