

CAREGIVER CONTRIBUTION TO SELF-CARE OF HEART FAILURE INDEX

All answers are confidential.

We kindly ask you to think about the care you have given to the person with Heart Failure in the past month. There are no right or wrong answers.

How often do you recommend to the person you care for the following things?
(Or, how often do you do these activities because the person you care for is not able to do them).

SECTION A:

| | Never or rarely | Sometimes | Frequently | Always or daily |
|--|-----------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. To check the weight ? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2. To check the ankles for swelling? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3. To try to avoid getting sick (e.g., flu shot, avoid ill people)? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 4. To do some physical activity? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. To keep doctor or nurse appointments? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6. To eat a low salt diet? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7. To exercise for 30 minutes? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. To not forget to take medicines? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 9. To ask for low salt items when eating out or visiting others? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10. To use a system (pill box, reminders) to help you remember your medicines? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

SECTION B:

Many patients have symptoms due to their heart failure. Trouble breathing and ankle swelling are common symptoms of heart failure.

In the past month, did **the person you care for** have trouble breathing or ankle swelling? Circle one.

- 0) No
- 1) Yes

11. If **the person you care for** had trouble breathing or ankle swelling in the past month... (circle **one** number)

| | Has not had these | I did not recognize it | Not Quickly | Somewhat Quickly | Quickly | Very Quickly |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|--------------|
| How quickly did you recognize it as a symptom of heart failure? | N/A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

If the **person you care for** has trouble breathing or ankle swelling, how likely are **you** to recommend (or do) one of these remedies?

(circle **one** number for each remedy)

| | Not Likely | Somewhat Likely | Likely | Very Likely |
|--|------------|-----------------|--------|-------------|
| 12. To reduce the salt in the diet | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 13. To reduce fluid intake | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. To take an extra water pill | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 15. To call the doctor or nurse for guidance | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

16. Think of a remedy **you** tried the last time **the person you care for** had trouble breathing or ankle swelling,

(circle **one** number)

| | I did not try anything | Not Sure | Somewhat Sure | Sure | Very Sure |
|--|------------------------|----------|---------------|------|-----------|
| How <u>sure</u> were you that the remedy helped or did not help? | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

SECTION C:

In reference to the person you care for, in general, how confident are you that you can:

| | Not Confident | Somewhat Confident | Very Confident | Extremely Confident |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 17. Keep him/her <u>free of heart failure symptoms</u> ? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 18. <u>Follow the given treatment advice</u> ? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19. <u>Evaluate the importance of symptoms</u> ? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. <u>Recognize changes</u> in him/her health when they occur? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 21. <u>Do something</u> that will relieve him/her symptoms? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 22. <u>Evaluate</u> how well a remedy works? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |