

Preface



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Elevated ventricular filling pressures, which typically begin rising weeks before hospitalization, play a major role in the underlying pathophysiology of acute decompensated heart failure. Thus, ambulatory hemodynamic monitoring may prove to be helpful in preventing and treating episodes of heart failure decompensation. An increased understanding of the tools available for monitoring the clinical status of heart failure should allow us to develop more effective therapy and prevention strategies for all patients who have chronic and acutely decompensated heart failure.

This special issue of *Heart Failure Clinics* is dedicated to the discussion of the role of hemodynamic monitoring of heart failure. The articles in the issue range from the clinical evaluation of hemodynamics, to a nursing perspective on hemodynamic monitoring, to future technologies that should play an important role in the

management of chronic and acutely decompensated heart failure.

We hope that these articles, which were authored by leading experts in the field, are not only informative but also will provide stimulus for further research that will improve the future management of heart failure.

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