The Heart of the Matter

Heart failure is a major health and economic burden for the country.¹ That’s why Novartis is working hard to develop solutions to this growing public health problem.

Most recently, in partnership with the advocacy community, Novartis took a leading role at a Congressional briefing on Heart Health / Heart Failure.

The Capitol Hill effort helped raise awareness in particular regarding the health and economic burdens of heart failure, drawing attention to the unmet medical needs in the community.

Something needs to be done to address the impact of this growing problem.

Novartis is building on a 50-year heritage in cardiovascular disease and is investigating new ways that could help ease the burden of heart failure.

Novartis believes more can be done to improve the lives of heart failure patients, their families and society as a whole. Real and lasting change can come through medical innovations, disease education, and supportive policy initiatives.

We must all play a part.

About Heart Failure

Over 5 million Americans suffer from heart failure.¹

Heart failure is a condition where the heart becomes less able to pump enough blood around the body.²

Common symptoms include fatigue, breathlessness and fluid buildup. For some patients, these symptoms may appear slowly and gradually get worse.³ ⁴

Heart failure is associated with a lower survival rate following hospital discharge than some cancers (e.g., breast cancer in women and bowel cancer in men).⁴

Heart failure is the most common cause of hospitalization in patients over 65.⁵ ⁶

Many different conditions can lead to heart failure. It can occur after a heart attack or other illnesses affecting the heart, or through damage to blood vessels and organs, such as the heart and kidneys, sustained over time due to conditions such as high blood pressure and coronary artery disease.² ³

The economic impact of heart failure is enormous, costing more than $30 billion annually. The estimates include both direct costs such as hospital charges and indirect costs such as lost income.¹
References