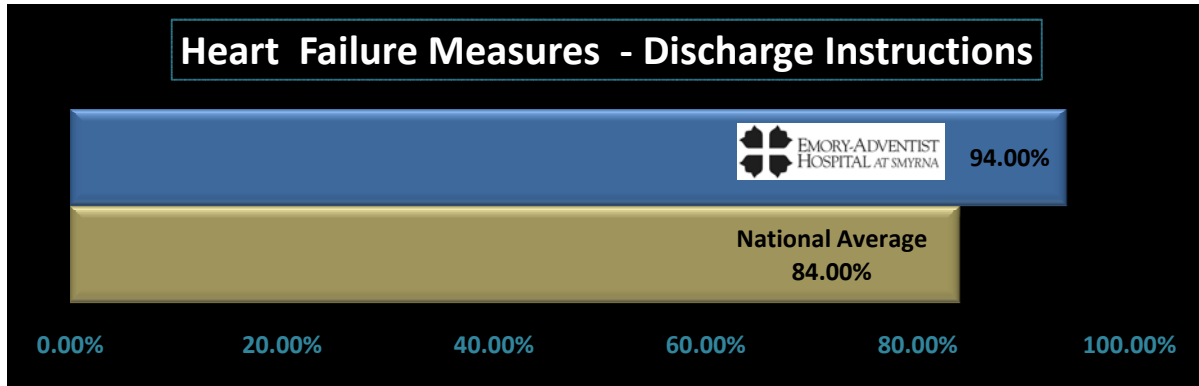


Heart Failure Measures

The rates displayed in this graph are from data reported for discharges January 2009 - December 2009.



Percentage of heart failure patients who were counseled and received complete discharge instructions.

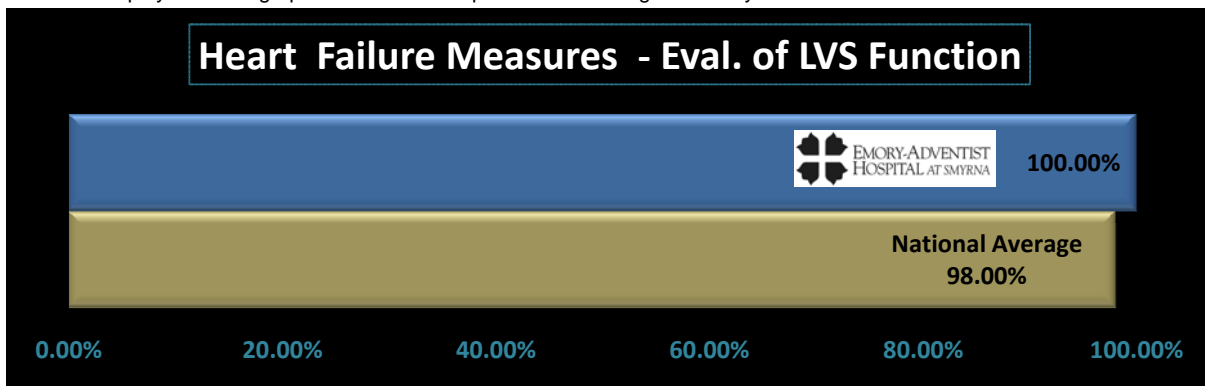
Why is this important?

Heart failure is a chronic condition. It results in symptoms such as shortness of breath, dizziness, and fatigue. Before you leave the hospital, the staff at the hospital should provide you with information to help you manage the symptoms after you get home.

The information should include:

- Activity Level
- Diet
- Medications
- Follow-up Appointments
- Watching your daily weight
- What to do if your symptoms get worse

The rates displayed in this graph are from data reported for discharges January 2009 - December 2009.



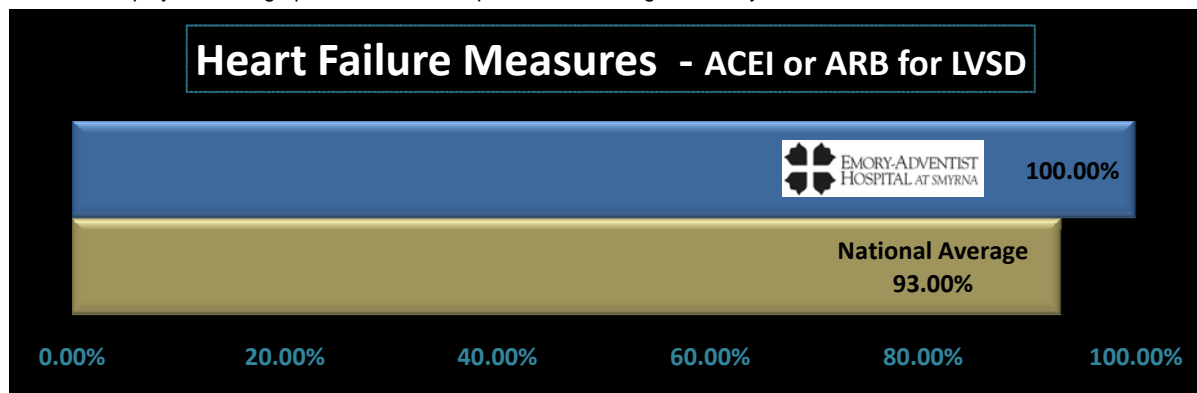
Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction (LVSD) Assessment

Why is this important?

The proper treatment for heart failure depends on what area of your heart is affected. An important test is to check how your heart is pumping, called "evaluation of the left ventricular systolic function". It can tell your health care provider whether the left side of your heart is pumping properly.

Heart Failure Measures

The rates displayed in this graph are from data reported for discharges January 2009 - December 2009.

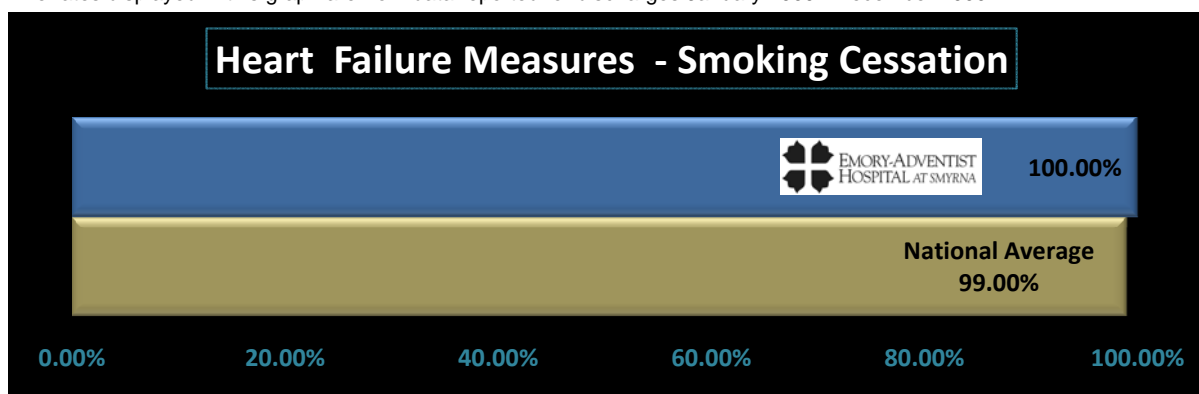


Percent of Heart Failure Patients Given ACE Inhibitor or ARB for Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction.

Why is this important?

ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors and ARBs (angiotensin receptor blockers) are medications used to treat patients with heart failure and are particularly beneficial in those patients with heart failure and decreased function of the left side of the heart. Early treatment with ACE inhibitors and ARBs in patients who have heart failure symptoms or decreased heart function after a heart attack can also reduce their risk of death from future heart attacks.

The rates displayed in this graph are from data reported for discharges January 2009 - December 2009.



Percentage of heart failure patients who were counseled to stop smoking before hospital discharge.

Why is this important?

Smoking increases your risk for developing blood clots and heart disease, which can result in a heart attack, heart failure or stroke. Smoking causes your blood vessels to thicken. Fat and plaque then stick to the wall of your blood vessels, which makes it harder for blood to flow. Reduced blood flow to your heart may result in chest pain, high blood pressure, and an increased heart rate. Smoking is linked to lung disease and cancer, and can cause premature death. It is important for your health that you get information to help you quit smoking before you leave the hospital.