



**Belgian Working Group on
Heart Failure**

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Pr. Walter Van Mieghem

Website:

www.BWGHF.be

Belgium Working Group on
Heart Failure vzw
Elyzeese Veldenstraat 63
1050 - Brussels

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Dear Colleagues,

As you know, the main objective of the Belgium Working Group of Heart Failure (BWGHF) is to promote quality for the management of Heart Failure (HF) in Belgium.

To this end, the BWGHF has sent a survey a couple of years ago to all the Belgian centers taking care of HF. As a result, and based on the answers, a classification of HF centers in Belgium was defined and made available on the BWGHF website.

Since then, the Heart Failure Association (HFA) has proposed to classify HF centers in 3 categories of quality of care (QC), according to several criteria (see escardio.org/ICARe-HF).

The BWGHF is willing to follow these recommendations and has decided to update the classification of HF centers in Belgium according to the HFA criteria.

In order to conduct this update, a new query will be sent to all centers taking care of HF in Belgium.

Of note, only centers who have at least 1 HF cardiologist and at least 1 HF nurse (having followed the HF course certificate in Dutch or in French) will be considered as a HF center.

Once the answers to the new query will be received, HF centers will be classified as **community**, **specialized** or **advanced** QC center according to their technical possibilities and human resources (escardio.org/ICARe-HF).

If your center cannot be defined as a HF center yet, patients can easily be referred to the closest HF centers near your facility, especially in case of specific treatment prescription. This will not only help patients in need but also help building a network of HF centers. In order to avoid unnecessary delays, we encourage you to rapidly identify such centers and already establish a patient pathway for HF management where needed.

The BWGHF is convinced that a better identification of HF centers will help increasing the standard of care of HF patients in our country. This is why we rely on you and the the quality of your answers to the survey!

Sincerely yours,

Pr A Roussoulières
President of the Belgian Working
Group on Heart Failure.

Dr P Timmermans
President-elect of the Belgian
Working Group on Heart Failure

Pr A-C Pouleur
Secretary of the Belgian Working Group on Heart Failure