

## **Abstract**

**RESEARCH PAPER:** Impact of Heart Failure Patient Education on Quality of Life and Functional Capacity

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Heart failure (HF) is a major chronic disease that is escalating health care costs and decreasing the quality of life for millions. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the impact of a nurse-directed approach to patient education focusing on lifestyle modifications, daily weights, medication and diet compliance to improve the quality of life and functional capacity. This is a replication of Kutzleb and Reiner's (2006) study. The sample will include 40 patients who have been admitted to Community Hospital East for the primary diagnosis of HF two or more times in the previous three months. Quality of life will be measured using Ferrans and Powers (1992) QOL Index-Cardiac IV. Findings will provide information about the impact a nurse-directed patient education program to improve HF patients' quality of life and functional capacity.