

ABSTRACT

RESEARCH SUBJECT: Quality of Life in Women with Heart Failure
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Women may develop heart failure (HF) after experiencing a myocardial infarction (MI), and after age 75 at a higher rate than men. Impaired quality of life (QOL), frequent hospitalizations, and high mortality rates are associated with HF (Bennett, Baker & Huster, 1998). The purpose of this study is to describe the impact of symptoms of HF on QOL for women. The sample will include 50 women with New York Heart Association Class 2 or Class 3 HF recently discharged from a Midwest urban hospital. The women will have been newly diagnosed with HF. The Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire (MLHF) will be used to measure the impact of symptoms of HF on quality of life. Findings will provide information about quality of life of women with HF that may help nurses to design interventions to improve QOL for women diagnosed with HF.