

Firelands Regional Medical Center School of Nursing
AMSN 2025
Unit 6: Heart Failure online assignment (1.5H)

Directions:

- Read Lewis Chapter 38, review ATI Pharmacology Made Easy 5.0: Cardiovascular Module: Drug Therapy for Heart Failure, and review the Unit 6 Pharmacology List.
- Utilizing the resources above, complete the case study. There will be many items for each question.
- Utilizing the Pharmacology List and ATI/Skyscape, complete three ATI Medication Templates from the Pharmacology List (see below for further details).
- This assignment is due in the Unit 6: HF assignment drop box by March 10, 2025 at 0800.
- Be prepared to discuss this assignment in class.
- You must complete the assignment in full to receive the 1.5H theory credit.

Assignment Objectives:

- Determine overall goals in the treatment of heart failure.

CASE STUDY:

Frannie Failure, a patient on 4P, calls the nurse and states, "I feel really puffy. My rings feel so tight on my fingers and I am having trouble catching my breath." The patient is lying flat in the bed and is alert and oriented x 3. Normal saline 0.9% @ 125mL/HR is running.

Assessment:

- Vital Signs: T 97.9 oral, HR 120, RR 24, SpO2 86% RA, BP 152/94, pain 0/10.
- Respiratory: Lung sounds- crackles throughout bilaterally, non-productive cough.
- Cardiac: Heart sounds- S3, pedal pulses not palpable, 3+ pitting edema bilateral feet and ankles.
- Skin intact, pale and cool.
- Gastrointestinal: Bowel sounds x4 WNL, BM yesterday morning.
- Intake/Output: Patient has had 900ml in and 200ml out over the last 8 hours.

1. What additional information would you want/need to know?

There are a few other assessment pieces I would like to know if caring for this patient. First, I would want to know the patients past medical history such as if the patient has a history of heart failure or renal disease etc. I would want to know the list of medications and the dosages that the patient takes. I would also want to know if the patient keeps track of her weight and to see what the weight trend has been.

2. What assessment/ interventions would be appropriate for this patient?

Assessments that would be appropriate would be do to another assessment of the patients swelling, check the capillary refill to assess the circulation, I would also stop the IV pump so

there isn't fluid overload. I would administer any medications by the doctor's order, put SCD's on the patient and raise the feet of the bed. I would continue to monitor i/o's and possibly do a bladder scan since there was 900m mL in and only 200 mL out.

3. What would you anticipate the healthcare provider to order?

I would anticipate the provider to order a loop diuretic to increase the patients urine output and help reduce the swelling, digoxin to help slow the heartrate and increase excretion of water, and dobutamine to increase the strength of the heart beat which helps reduce swelling and in turn reduce workload on the heart.

4. What medications would be appropriate for this patient (include all pertinent from the Pharmacology List) ? Doses? Nursing Interventions? You will pick three of these medications to complete the ATI Medication Templates.

Medications that are appropriate are as listed with what I would expect the doctor to order such as a loop diuretic furosemide, cardiac glycoside digoxin, and a sympathomimetic dobutamine. The dosages will be included on the medication administration on the templates and the nursing interventions will also be listed on the medication templates.

5. What patient education would you include?

Patient education that I would give to this patient would include being compliant with any medications that treat heart failure or the swelling, I would educate on physical activity to help circulation and reduce swelling, to apply compression socks and be compliant with the SCD's, diet education to reduce sodium intake and swelling, and I would educate the need for the patient to be taking daily weights if not already to monitor the weight trend.