

Heart Failure Zone Tool

Every Day	 Weigh yourself each morning before breakfast; write it on the weight and zone log. Compare your weight to yesterday's weight. Check which heart failure zone you are in (Green, Yellow or Red). Take your medication as prescribed. Eat low salt foods. Balance activity and rest times. Check for swelling in your feet, ankles, hands and stomach. Check for increased shortness of breath from the previous day.
Green Zone	 ALL CLEAR! This zone is your goal. Keep up the good work! No weight gain of more than 2 pounds in 1 day (it may change 1-2 pounds some days). No shortness of breath with usual everyday activities. No decrease in everyday activities because of shortness of breath. No swelling in your feet, ankles, hands or stomach. No chest discomfort or pain.
Yellow Zone	 CAUTION!! This zone is a warning and you should call your doctor if Weight gain of 3 pounds in one day or 5 pounds in one week. More swelling of your feet, ankles, hands or stomach. More shortness of breath, chest pain. Not able to do normal daily activities because of breathing problems Feeling more tired; no energy. Dry hacky cough. Have difficulty lying flat/ need to sleep in a chair (if a change). Feeling dizzy or lightheaded. Feeling uneasy, you know something is not right.
Red Zone	 EMERGENCY!!! Call 911 or have someone take you to the Emergency Room!! Struggling to breath; unrelieved shortness of breath while sitting still. Severe, recurrent chest pain. Confusion or can't think clearly; fainting. Wheezing or chest tightness at rest.

References: www.ihi.org

CareNotes® **CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE - General Information**,

Key Contacts- Fill in numbers for:	
Primary Physician:	_
Cardiologist:	_
VNA:	_
Other:	_
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