

## Information for healthcare professionals

### How to refer patients to our service

#### 1. New patients with suspected or confirmed diagnosis of heart failure

Please check NT-Pro BNP levels for patients with suspected heart failure as this helps with our triage process.

**1.1** NT-proBNP is >2000pg/ml in a patient without a history of previous heart failure – refer to **One Stop Clinic** where an echocardiogram and clinic consultation will take place on the same day.

**1.2** NT-pro BNP 400-2000pg/ml: please request an echocardiogram and refer to us if it shows abnormalities.

- **If you are a GP**, please make the referral on the Electronic Referral System (ERS).
- **If you are not a GP**, please email [buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net](mailto:buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net)

#### 2. Repeat referrals of patients with a history of heart failure

A) Patients with significant fluid overload despite up-titration of oral diuretics – please refer to IV Furosemide lounge by emailing please email [buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net](mailto:buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net) or calling 07816857077

B) Patients with other issues – If you are a GP, please make the referral on the Electronic Referral System (ERS). If you are not a GP, please email – [buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net](mailto:buc-tr.CommHF@nhs.net)

#### 3. Advice & Guidance on ERS

If you are a GP and unsure about a referral, please place your query for the attention of heart failure team in the advice and guidance (A&G) portal on ERS.

#### Heart failure with reduced and preserved ejection fraction

There are two broad categories of heart failure. They are heart failure with reduced (LVEF <50%) and preserved left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF >50%).

At present the heart failure nursing team are commissioned to see patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (LVEF <50%). Please refer all other heart failure patients with LVEF >50% to the consultant cardiologist via ERS or a letter.

Please also find information for patients in our [heart failure diary – a short guide to help you manage your heart condition](#).