

From Congestion to Control: Vasodilator-Based Approaches in Acute Heart Failure

12/18/2025 at 12:00pm CT, 1:00pm ET | VC-IL St Lukes Family Practice LL and Virtual via Teams

Overview: Acute decompensated heart failure can present as a medical emergency requiring medications for quick stabilization of the patient. This presentation will review special situations within acute decompensated heart failure including flash pulmonary edema and sympathetic crashing acute pulmonary edema (SCAPE), with a focus on the mechanism, evidence, and application of vasodilating medications.

Speaker: Dylan Sarocco, PharmD, PGY2 Cardiology Resident – Aurora Health Care Metro, Inc.

Preceptors: Jon Godden, PharmD, BCCP and Hannah Farley, PharmD

Objectives:

- Identify the clinical presentation, pathophysiology, and hemodynamics of acute decompensated heart failure including flash pulmonary edema and sympathetic crashing acute pulmonary edema (SCAPE).
- Evaluate pharmacologic treatment options for acute decompensated heart failure and SCAPE, including vasodilators and loop diuretics.
- Compare the role of high-dose nitroglycerin versus stand therapy and other vasodilators.
- Analyze treatment strategies for acute decompensated heart failure using guideline-based recommendations and literature.

Target Audience: Advocate Health Pharmacists, Physicians, Nurses, and other interested healthcare professionals

Link to Pharmacy Grand Rounds Live Sessions: [Pharmacy Grand Rounds 2025 | Advocate Health](#)

Disclosure: The planner(s) and speaker(s) have indicated that there are no relevant financial relationships with any ineligible companies to disclose.

Commercial Support: There is no financial support for this activity.

Accreditation Statement:



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