

Galectin-3 cited as biomarker of myocardial fibrosis, 7/13:109

BG Medicine's galectin-3 testing has been recognized in the 2013 American College of Cardiology Foundation and American Heart Association (ACCF/AHA) Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure, which is designed to assist clinicians in selecting the best management strategy for patients and provides analysis of prevention, diagnosis, risk stratification, and treatment data.

Galectin-3 testing has been assigned a level of evidence of "A," multiple populations evaluated, and a class of recommendation corresponding to "May Be Considered" for the purpose of additive risk stratification of acute heart failure patients, and a level of evidence of "B," limited populations evaluated, and a class of recommendation of "May Be Considered" for risk stratification of ambulatory heart failure patients.

The guideline further notes that testing for galectin-3 predicts risk of adverse outcomes in heart failure, including hospitalization, and is additive to BNP and NT-proBNP testing for heart failure patient risk stratification.

The 2013 ACCF/AHA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure is available at <http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/06/03/CIR.0b013e31829e8807> and will be published in the August 27 print issue of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

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