

Table 2

Use this table to support the evaluation of patients for factors, both cardiac and non-cardiac, that may contribute to worsening heart failure.

Common Factors That Can Contribute to Worsening Heart Failure

- Acute myocardial ischemia
- Uncontrolled hypertension
- Atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias
- Medications with negative inotropic effect
- Medications that increase sodium retention (NSAIDs, thiazolidinediones, steroids)
- Non-adherence with medication regimen, sodium or fluid restriction
- Anemia
- Acute infections (upper respiratory infection, pneumonia, urinary tract infections)
- Additional acute cardiovascular diagnoses (aortic valve disease, endocarditis, myopericarditis)