



## iCARDIO Alliance Newsletter #01 Q4 2024

Welcome to the first edition of the quarterly newsletter of the iCARDIO Alliance!

### IN THIS EDITION:

**What are the Global Implementation Guidelines?**

**Heart Failure Public Review**

**An overview of our progress so far**

**Surveys**

**New iCARDIO Website**

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### What are the Global Implementation Guidelines?

While clinical practice guidelines are critical in ensuring that patients receive the best possible care, existing guidelines can be lengthy, confusing, difficult to implement, and often overlook economic disparities. To address these gaps, the iCARDIO Alliance, established by the Translational Medicine Academy, is developing Global Implementation Guidelines on specific topics, designed to be practical and adaptable for any resource setting around the world.

The Global Implementation Guidelines will provide concise and practical evidence-based, patient-centric recommendations that can be implemented even where resources are limited. They will be published as easy-to-understand, consensus-driven documents and made freely available through open access channels and apps, ensuring that all healthcare professionals are able to use them.

The authors of the Global Implementation Guidelines review existing international, national and regional Guidelines and summarize them using a three-tiered approach that will provide tailored recommendations according to resources settings: 1) Where there are no economic constraints, 2) Where resources are somewhat limited, and 3) Where resources are severely limited.

The development of these Guidelines is grounded in a human rights-based approach to public health, aiming to ensure access to the highest-quality cardiovascular care possible for everyone, everywhere. By involving a diverse group of international experts from different regions and backgrounds as well as balanced gender representation, the Guidelines will be designed to be inclusive and relevant in all healthcare systems.

The Global Implementation Guidelines will cover key areas in cardiovascular care, including Heart Failure, Obesity Management in Cardiovascular Disease, Ischemic Heart Disease and Atrial Fibrillation.

The first Global Implementation Guidelines, on Heart Failure, are due to be opened for public review at the end of December.





## Heart Failure Public Review

Our Heart Failure Global Implementation Guidelines will be open for public review on the [iCARDIO](#) and Global Cardiology websites from **30 December to 19 January**. The public review process is open to all interested parties – the wider participation the better. Members of the public will be able to make comments on the draft Guidelines document and will be asked to cite the specific page and line or table/ figures to which their comments relate. Public reviewers will be asked to provide their name and contact information, but will not be named in the final publication. All comments will be reviewed by the Heart Failure Task Force, who will have the final say on incorporation of the comments received. Thank you in advance for taking part!

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## An overview of our progress so far

This has been a momentous year for the iCARDIO Alliance, as we approach the public review phase of our first Global Implementation Guidelines, on Heart Failure. Under the guidance of the Guidelines Advisory Board (GAB), the iCARDIO Alliance has made major progress in the development of Global Implementation Guidelines on Heart Failure, Obesity Management in Cardiovascular Disease and Ischemic Heart Disease. They will also be tackling Atrial Fibrillation in 2025.

The process started with our **Heart Failure** Guidelines Task Force, which is developing the very first iCARDIO Alliance Global Implementation Guidelines. The initial drafting of the document has been completed and is presently undergoing peer review, before being opened for the public review phase, at the end of December. The Guidelines will be submitted for publication shortly thereafter.

Our next Guidelines Task Force, on **Obesity Therapy in Patients with Cardiovascular Disease**, is approaching the peer review stage of work on their draft document and they plan to submit the document for public review early in the new year.

Our Guidelines Task Force on **Ischemic Heart Disease** is also making good progress, having compiled existing guideline recommendations and distributed the work on preparing the iCARDIO Guidelines among the Task Force Members. They are planning to publish their Guidelines in the third quarter of 2025.

The Chairs of our latest Guidelines Task Force, on the **Diagnosis & Management of Atrial Fibrillation**, are just at the beginning of their work on this project and are in the early stages of building their Task Force, with a view to publishing Guidelines in late 2025.

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## Surveys

As part of its research to prepare practical and effective Global Implementation Guidelines, the iCARDIO Alliance is preparing wide-ranging surveys of healthcare professionals' perception of practice guidelines in cardiovascular fields.

Our first survey, on the **Applicability of heart failure clinical practice guidelines in low- and middle-income countries**, was published in October in the European Journal of Heart Failure. The survey, in which more than



Research Article | [Open Access](#) | 

### Applicability of heart failure clinical practice guidelines in low- and middle-income countries

Shelley Zieroth, Clara Inés Saldarriaga Giraldo, Fausto Pinto, Stefan D. Anker, William T. Abraham, John J. Atherton, Javed Butler, Vijay Chopra, Andrew J.S. Coats, Veronica Dean ... [See all authors](#) ▾

First published: 25 October 2024 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/ehf.3485>

2,600 clinicians from 138 countries participated, concluded that the widely held belief that Heart Failure guidelines are broadly applicable to all regions of the world is incorrect. Clinicians from low- and middle-income countries view the absence of consideration of local resource limitations as the greatest obstacle for guideline implementation. [Read the article.](#)

The second iCARDIO survey, which has just closed and the results of which will soon be developed into an article, focuses on personalized cardiovascular care for patients living with overweight or obesity. This global assessment of gaps in obesity guidelines was designed to evaluate the perceptions of healthcare professionals around the world regarding obesity-related guidelines.

### Personalized cardiovascular care of patients living with overweight or obesity

– International survey on healthcare professionals' perception of practice guidelines  
Global assessment of gaps in obesity guidelines and their implementation

Questions marked with a \* are required

\* Please enter the proportion of consultations in your practice per week where the primary focus was evaluating or managing **obesity**

- ☐ 0-19%
- ☐ 20-39%
- ☐ 40-59%
- ☐ 60-79%
- ☐ 79-100%

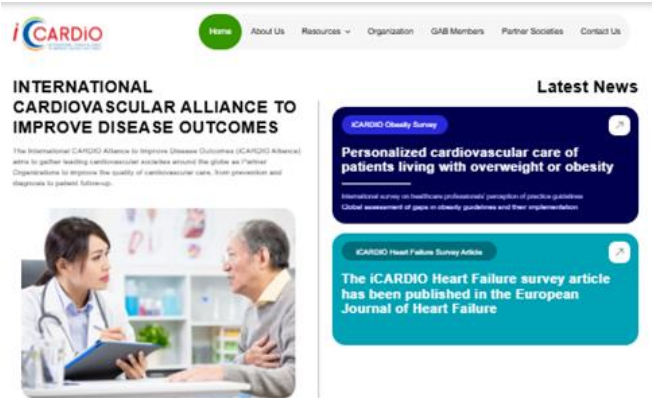


Next

Our next survey, on **Ischemic Heart Disease**, is currently being drafted. Keep an eye on our [website](#) for updates and we will send you more information in our next newsletter.

## New iCARDIO Website

The new stand-alone website for the iCARDIO Alliance is now live. The website gives an overview of our work, as well as updated news and events. Our **“Resources”** page will include Guidelines, Publications, Surveys, Meetings and Public Reviews.



The **“Organization”** page describes our structure and funding; visitors can view the profiles of all the Members of the Guidelines Advisory Board on our **“GAB Members”** page and we have a page dedicated to our valued **“Partner Societies.”**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gulf Heart Association</li> <li>Inter-American Society of Cardiology</li> <li>National Heart Failure Committee (China)</li> <li>Chinese Heart Failure Association</li> <li>Association of Physicians of India</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heart Failure Association of India</li> <li>Hypertension Society of India</li> <li>Italian Federation of Cardiology</li> <li>Pan-African Society of Cardiology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Honduran Association of Cardiology</li> <li>The American Society for Preventive Cardiology</li> <li>Canadian Cardiovascular Society</li> <li>Global Heart Hub</li> <li>The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand</li> </ul>
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