Heart Failure Zones

Check Weight Daily

- Weigh yourself in the morning before breakfast. Write it down. Compare your weight today to your weight yesterday.
- Keep the total amount of fluids you drink to only 6 to 8 glasses each day. (6-8 glasses equals 1500-2000 mL or 48-64 oz)
- Take your medicine exactly how your doctor said.
- Check for swelling in your feet, ankles, legs, and stomach.
- Eat foods that are low in salt or salt-free.
- Balance activity and rest periods.

Which Heart Failure Zone Are You Today? Green, Yellow, or Red

Safe Zone

ALL CLEAR – This zone is your goal!
Your symptoms are under control.
You have:
- No shortness of breath.
- No chest discomfort, pressure, or pain.
- No swelling or increase in swelling of your feet, ankles, legs, or stomach.
- No weight gain of more than 4 lbs (2 kg) over 2 days in a row or 5 lbs (2.5 kg) in 1 week.

Caution Zone

CAUTION – This zone is a warning
Call your Health Care provider (eg. Doctor, nurse) if you have any of the following:
- You gain more than 4 lbs (2 kg) over 2 days in a row or 5 lbs (2.5 kg) in 1 week.
- You have vomiting and/or diarrhea that lasts more than two days.
- You feel more short of breath than usual.
- You have increased swelling in your feet, ankles, legs, or stomach.
- You feel a dry hacking cough.
- You feel more tired and don’t have the energy to do daily activities.
- You feel lightheaded or dizzy, and this is new for you.
- You feel uneasy, like something does not feel right.
- You find it harder for you to breathe when you are lying down.
- You find it easier to sleep by adding pillows or sitting up in a chair.

Health Care Provider ____________________ Office Phone Number ___________

Danger Zone

EMERGENCY – This zone means act fast
Go to emergency room or call 911 if you have any of the following:
- You are struggling to breathe.
- Your shortness of breath does not go away while sitting still.
- You have a fast heartbeat that does not slow down when you rest.
- You have chest pain that does not go away with rest or with medicine.
- You are having trouble thinking clearly or are feeling confused.
- You have fainted.

The information in this document is intended solely for the person to whom it was given by the healthcare team.
For more information refer to: www.bcheartfailure.ca

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