

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Reply to the letter regarding the article ‘Head-to-head comparison between recommendations by the ESC and ACC/AHA/HFSA heart failure guidelines’

We express our gratitude to Dr. Amini and colleagues for their valuable commentary on our comparative analysis of European and American heart failure guidelines.¹ Their insights on the pressing issues surrounding heart failure care in Pakistan provide a significant perspective.

Examining the guidelines through the lens of Pakistani cardiologists proves to be a beneficial exercise. Notably, we observe that the entire writing committee of the American guidelines hails from the United States,² while several panel members and reviewers of the European guidelines originate from regions

beyond Europe, including the United States, Russia, and Asian countries.³ The inclusion of members from diverse geographical backgrounds can introduce fresh perspectives on heart failure care, potentially expanding the influence of the guidelines. The robust connections between the Heart Failure Association of the ESC and international heart failure societies offer a unique opportunity to enhance the understanding of heart failure care in varied settings. This collaboration may pave the way for future guideline panels to address specific sections dedicated to heart failure management focused on identifying cost-effective approaches to diagnose and manage heart failure. Indeed, subsequent guidelines should factor in the challenges associated with uneven access to heart failure care and promoting equitable access to care through strategic planning in political, economic, and healthcare systems.

Our common goal should be to guarantee universal access to heart failure care, including economically challenged countries, disadvantaged areas of industrialized nations, and minority groups.

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