

Misdiagnosis of heart failure: a systematic review of the literature.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/misdiagnosis-heart-failure-systematic-review-literature>

Misdiagnosis of [cardiovascular](#) conditions can lead to serious [patient harm](#). This systematic review explored misdiagnosis of heart failure. Based on 10 included studies, the rate of heart failure misdiagnosis ranged from 16.1% (in an inpatient setting) to 68.5% (when general practitioners referred patients to specialists). Included studies found that heart failure is frequently misdiagnosed as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).