1. Know the **NYHA classification system** and how to classify patient symptoms  
   a. Resource: HFSA 2010 Comprehensive Heart Failure Practice Guidelines  
      i. See table 4.7  
      ii. Look at section 4.10  
   b. Resource: online abouthf.org (HFSA)  
   c. Know the limitations of this classification system and ability to predict prognosis or not!  
2. Know the **stages of Heart failure** and how to classify based on history and echo  
   a. Resource: ACC/AHA Guidelines  
   b. Resource: online heartfailurecenter.com  
3. Know the **symptoms of Heart failure** and how to interpret  
   a. Prepare to list the symptoms associated with the failing heart: recognize the possible differences between acute and chronic; Right and left sided failure symptoms.  
      i. Resource: HFSA 2010 Guidelines—table 4.3, section 4.4  
      ii. Resource: online AHA/ACC  
   b. Prepare to state the pathophysiology behind the symptoms  
      i. Resource: online news-medical.net/health/Heart-Failure-Pathophysiology.aspx  
      ii. Resource: online emedicine.medscape.com type “heart failure” in the search bar. The article was updated 9-24-10.  
   c. Be able to state what measures can be taken to relieve symptoms  
      i. Pharmacologically (see study guide for this section)  
      ii. Dietary (see study guide for this section)  
      iii. Physically ie propping on pillows or using a wedge, compression stockings, exercise, energy conservation (see study guide for this section)  
4. Know the **Differential Diagnosis for HF Symptoms and Signs**  
      i. See table 4.5  
      ii. Look at section 4.7  
   b. Resource: Text book: Barbara Bates, “A Guide to Physical Exam and History Taking” It depends on which version you have as to where you’ll find the resource, but she has wonderful tables throughout the book that list symptoms and their differential diagnosis  
5. Be prepared to **identify the sensitivity, specificity and predictive value of symptoms for chronic heart failure**  
   a. Resource: Text Heart Failure: A Comprehensive Guide to Diagnosis and Treatment G. William Dec; 2005 See book Chapter 10, page 90 Table 7  
   b. [http://archive.student.bmj.com/issues/00/03/education/58.php](http://archive.student.bmj.com/issues/00/03/education/58.php) scroll down to table
6. Know the **symptoms of angina**
   a. [Angina, chest pain in women](http://www.emedicinehealth.com/chest_pain/page3_em.htm)

7. Know **the symptoms of sleep disordered breathing**
   a. [http://sleepapnea.org/info/practitioner/family.html](http://sleepapnea.org/info/practitioner/family.html)

8. Know **the symptoms of cerebral hypoperfusion**

9. Know **the symptoms suggestive of arrhythmia**
   b. [http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/Arrhythmia/Arrhythmia_UCM_002013_SubHomePage.jsp](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/Arrhythmia/Arrhythmia_UCM_002013_SubHomePage.jsp)

10. Know **the symptoms of possible thrombo-embolic event**
    review and go to physical presentation