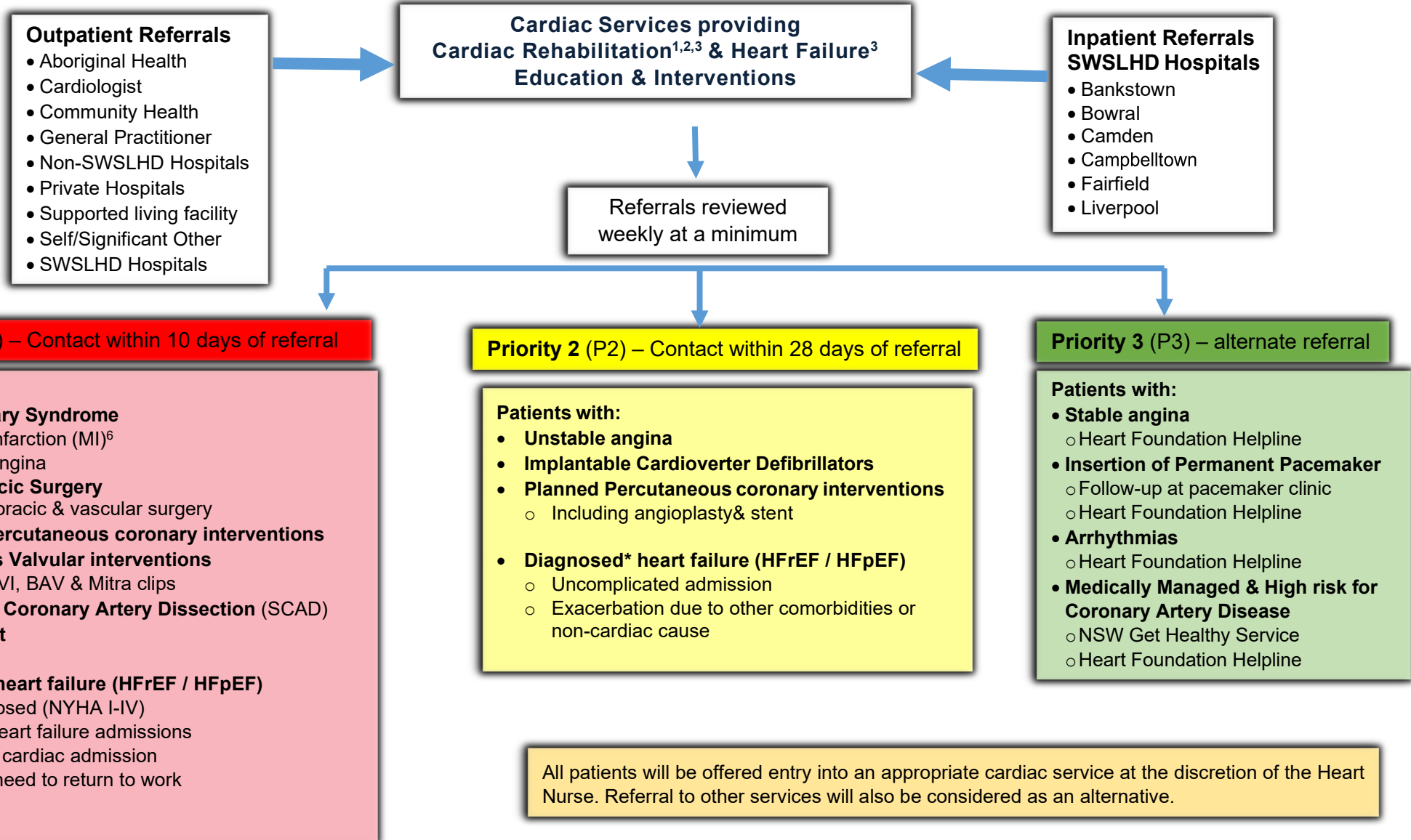


**South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD)
Cardiac Services Nursing Referral and Priority Pathway**

This Referral and Priority Pathway enables Cardiac Services Heart Nurses to prioritise entry into a program. The pathway is a guide only and may be modified according to clinical need, at the clinician's discretion.

Core Component: All eligible patients must be offered referral to a Cardiac Service which best suits the patient's individual needs, as soon as possible after diagnosis or before discharge from hospital¹. Exclusion criteria include patients whom Heart Nurses deem inappropriate including those <16 years old and residents of an aged care facility.



**South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD)
Cardiac Services Nursing Referral and Priority Pathway**

Definitions:

Cardiac Services describes the cardiology secondary prevention programs within SWSLHD which include the cardiac chronic care, cardiac rehabilitation and heart failure services. Some of these services have a multidisciplinary team.

Priority 1 (P1) – Phone/text/email or mail contact within 10 days of referral

Priority 2 (P2) – Phone/text/email or mail contact within 28 days of referral

Priority 3 (P3) – Alternate referral at either pacemaker clinic, Heart Foundation Helpline or the NSW Get Healthy Service

***Heart failure diagnostic criteria⁵**

HF_rEF - Symptoms ± signs of heart failure and LVEF <50%

HF_pEF - Symptoms ± signs of heart failure and LVEF ≥50%

And objective evidence of: Relevant structural heart disease (LV hypertrophy, left atrial enlargement) and or (diastolic dysfunction, with high filling pressure)

****Frequent admissions**

Defined as 8 or more presentations to hospital in 12 months

Reference List

1. Woodruffe S, Neubeck L, Clark RA, Gray K, Ferry K, Finan J, Sanderson S, Briffa T.G. Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association (ACRA) Core Components of Cardiovascular Disease Secondary Prevention and Cardiac Rehabilitation 2014. Heart, Lung and Circulation (2015), [http://www.heartlungcirc.org/article/S1443-9506\(14\)00822-1/abstract](http://www.heartlungcirc.org/article/S1443-9506(14)00822-1/abstract)
2. South Western Sydney Local Health District Strategic & Healthcare Services Plan Strategic Priorities in Health Care Delivery to 2021, https://www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/pdfs/SWSLHD_Strategic_Priorities_to_2021.pdf
3. National Heart Foundation of Australia and Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand: Guidelines for the Prevention, Detection, and Management of Heart Failure in Australia 2018, Heart, Lung and Circulation, 2018-10-01, Volume 27, Issue 10, Pages 1123-1208
4. National Heart Foundation of Australia and the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand: Australian Clinical Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Atrial Fibrillation 2018, Heart, Lung and Circulation, 2018-10-01, Volume 27, Issue 10, Pages 1209-1266
5. National Heart Foundation: A Pathway to Cardiac Recovery, Standardised program content for Phase II Cardiac Rehabilitation.2019
6. Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2018). European Society of Cardiology. European Heart Journal (2019) 40, pages 237-269