Heart failure personally affects 1 in 10 people. That means the average person is only 4 degrees of separation away from it. Look around your family, friends and office. Heart failure is all around you.

Myth | Reality
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**Heart failure is another term for heart attack.** | 65% of people wish they knew more about heart failure. Heart failure does not mean that your heart has stopped or is about to stop working. It means that your heart is not able to pump blood the way it should.

**I would know if I had heart failure.** | Only 1 in 5 people say they would recognize if they were experiencing heart failure.

**My doctor can’t diagnose heart failure. I have to see a cardiologist for that.** | Only 1 in 5 people can correctly identify heart failure symptoms.

**Only 1 in 5 people are likely to talk with their doctor about heart failure.** | Only 1 in 5 people are likely to talk with their doctor about heart failure.

**While 45% of people think that only a cardiologist can identify heart failure, you should raise any concerns or questions with your primary care doctor.**

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Heart failure is a manageable condition, especially if it is detected early. Tune up your understanding of heart failure and learn the symptoms, risk factors and treatment options at cardiovascular.abbott/heartfailuremyths. If you believe you’ve experienced symptoms of heart failure, talk with your doctor immediately.

Source: Data collected in nationwide survey of 3,000 respondents ages 18+ and representative of national census demographics.