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# Chronic Heart Failure

M. Böhm E. Erdmann

With Contributions by W. von Scheidt and M. Wankerl

With 131 Figures and 37 Tables



Springer

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With Collaboration of  
W. von Scheidt and M. Wankerl

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# Preface

Throughout the past decades, the understanding of the pathophysiology of chronic heart failure and the therapeutic approach to this condition have undergone considerable change. New developments are reported every year. Perhaps it is because of this continuing interest of researchers and physicians that the chapter on chronic heart failure of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of **Klinische Kardiologie** has been so positively received. Several colleagues asked the authors to publish the chapter on chronic heart failure separately, because it would be more practical to use in daily work. When the request for an English version of this chapter reached the authors and Springer-Verlag, we were happy, on the one hand, because of the interest, but did wonder whether it would be wise to translate a typically German textbook into English. We invite you to send us your critical comments.

Although Guidelines for the Treatment of Heart Failure have been published recently by the WHO, by the European Society of Cardiology, and by the American Heart Association Task Force clinicians, practitioners, and students still seem to need , a comprehensive view with emphasis on pathophysiology, epidemiology and therapy. The authors are grateful to Springer-Verlag for the good co-operation and tremendous personal commitment in making the English edition of **Chronic Heart Failure** possible. We hope to give our readers a good overview on this important clinical syndrome, one which requires intelligent clinical research and sound clinical practice as well.

Cologne and Munich  
September 1997

E. ERDMANN  
G. RIECKER  
M. BÖHM  
*Editors and authors*

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