

**Supplementary Table S1.** Baseline clinical and biochemical characteristics of hospitalized patients with acute HF stratified by the hospital ward.

|                                                       | Geriatric ward<br>( <i>n</i> =87) | Medicine ward<br>( <i>n</i> =125) | <i>p</i> value |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Male sex (%)                                          | 41.4                              | 48.0                              | 0.34           |
| Age (years)                                           | 85 ± 6                            | 80 ± 10                           | <0.001         |
| Body weight (kg)                                      | 73 ± 17                           | 79 ± 23                           | <0.05          |
| Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )                  | 26.6 ± 5                          | 27.9 ± 7                          | 0.12           |
| Heart rate (bpm)                                      | 88 ± 24                           | 81 ± 19                           | <0.01          |
| Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)                        | 133 ± 21                          | 131 ± 22                          | 0.48           |
| Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)                       | 76 ± 12                           | 75 ± 13                           | 0.81           |
| Pulse pressure (mmHg)                                 | 58 ± 18                           | 56 ± 18                           | 0.49           |
| Sodium (mmol/l)                                       | 136 ± 5                           | 137 ± 6                           | 0.44           |
| Potassium (mmol/l)                                    | 4.2 ± 0.5                         | 4.2 ± 0.6                         | 0.73           |
| Hemoglobin (g/dl)                                     | 12.1 ± 2                          | 12.0 ± 2                          | 0.54           |
| White blood cell count (x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l)         | 8.28 ± 4                          | 7.96 ± 3                          | 0.48           |
| Platelet count (x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l)                 | 223 ± 81                          | 225 ± 76                          | 0.89           |
| eGFR <sub>CKD-EPI</sub> (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ) | 50.1 ± 20                         | 54.0 ± 24                         | 0.18           |
| GGT (U/l)                                             | 42 (19 – 89)                      | 50 (27 – 87)                      | 0.86           |
| AST (U/l)                                             | 23 (19 – 28)                      | 24 (18 – 33)                      | 0.25           |
| ALT (U/l)                                             | 18 (13 – 26)                      | 19 (13 – 33)                      | 0.27           |
| NT-proBNP (pg/ml)                                     | 595 (370 – 1107)                  | 708 (318 – 1344)                  | 0.15           |
| Total cholesterol (mmol/l)                            | 3.79 ± 0.9                        | 3.63 ± 0.9                        | 0.23           |
| Triglycerides (mmol/l)                                | 1.0 (0.8 – 1.3)                   | 0.98 (0.8 – 1.2)                  | 0.21           |
| LV-ejection fraction (%)                              | 48.3 ± 14                         | 47.8 ± 14                         | 0.92           |
| LV-ejection fraction ≤40% (%)                         | 16.1                              | 21.1                              | 0.37           |
| Diabetes (%)                                          | 29.9                              | 48.2                              | <0.05          |
| Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (%)             | 18.4                              | 17.6                              | 0.88           |
| CHD (%)                                               | 32.2                              | 34.4                              | 0.74           |
| Stroke (%)                                            | 5.7                               | 5.6                               | 0.98           |
| Pacemaker or ICD (%)                                  | 25.3                              | 17.7                              | 0.12           |

|                              |          |          |        |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Atrial fibrillation (%)      | 64.4     | 55.2     | 0.18   |
| Chronic kidney disease (%)   | 29.9     | 39.5     | 0.15   |
| ACE-inhibitors/ARB users (%) | 50.6     | 59.7     | 0.20   |
| Furosemide users (%)         | 96.6     | 97.6     | 0.41   |
| Spironolactone users (%)     | 25.3     | 43.2     | <0.01  |
| Beta-blocker users (%)       | 64.4     | 66.1     | 0.79   |
| Digoxin users (%)            | 13.8     | 9.7      | 0.35   |
| Amiodarone users (%)         | 3.5      | 2.4      | 0.66   |
| Antiplatelet drug users (%)  | 32.2     | 50.0     | <0.05  |
| Oral anticoagulant users (%) | 37.9     | 40.3     | 0.73   |
| Statin users (%)             | 29.1     | 21.8     | 0.43   |
| Hospital stay (days)         | 15.6 ± 6 | 11.8 ± 6 | <0.001 |
| NAFLD (%)                    | 42.5     | 57.5     | <0.05  |

Sample size,  $n=212$ . Data are expressed as means ± SD, medians (IQR) or relative proportions.

Note: Measurements of NT-proBNP and LV-ejection fraction were available only in 206 and 196 patients, respectively.

Abbreviations: ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; CHD, coronary heart disease; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate (as estimated by the CKD-EPI equation); GGT, gamma-glutamyltransferase; LV, left ventricular; NAFLD, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; NT-proBNP, NT pro-brain natriuretic peptide.