

# DECLARATION



## REDUCING HEART FAILURE DEATHS BY 25% IN 25 YEARS

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death globally<sup>i</sup> and in the UK, accounting for around a third of lives lost through ill health each year<sup>iiiii</sup>. We are at a crucial point in time for those with cardiovascular diseases such as heart failure.

Over one million people in the UK have heart failure, with 200,000 new diagnoses every year. Estimates suggest there are a further 385,000 people with heart failure who are currently undetected and undiagnosed, and who are missing out on life-preserving treatments. Heart failure prevalence is set to increase dramatically due to the rapid aging of the population anticipated over the next 25 years. Heart failure is not only a primary endpoint for almost all cardiovascular diseases but also a significant cause of mortality across the wider cardiorenal-metabolic spectrum, and from epidemiology to pathophysiology, there are overlaps with many other organ systems and clinical specialties.

Currently, 80% of heart failure is diagnosed during an acute hospital admission, despite 40% of these having presented with symptoms in primary care<sup>iv</sup>. Mortality following an acute admission for heart failure is 1 in 3 in the year after discharge<sup>v</sup>. The human and economic costs are huge with heart failure consuming 2% of the entire NHS budget<sup>vi</sup>.

Identifying people at risk of developing heart failure is key to prevention, which is needed to slow the growing burden of heart failure on public health services. Early detection and intervention will reduce hospital admissions and free up valuable resource.

Despite growing success due to incredible scientific breakthroughs, increasing awareness and understanding, we must take the opportunity now to change the trajectory of heart failure, which will lead to sustainable wins across other diseases and specialties.

Working together, we can accelerate action towards reducing deaths due to heart failure in the next 25 years. As a collective, we will leverage our reach, infrastructure, and human capacity to build a more equitable, inclusive, prosperous, and sustainable future for all those in danger of dying from heart failure, regardless of circumstances.

**Together we can turn the tide on this life limiting condition. To achieve this we will:**

- 1. Take collective action for change**
- 2. Bring together our specialist knowledge and professional expertise**
- 3. Support implementation through localised communities**
- 4. Embed prevention and early detection programmes thereby improving population health**

**That is why we commit to unite as leaders towards a common goal to reduce heart failure deaths by 25% in 25 years. In witness thereof, the undersigned, being duly authorised to that effect, have signed this agreement...**

Signed .....

Organisation .....

\* References on request.