# Implementing REACH-HF during COVID-19

An effective home-based cardiac rehabilitation programme for heart failure patients

## What is REACH-HF?

Home-based – A 12 week, effective rehabilitation programme for heart failure, delivered at home and facilitated by REACH-HF trained healthcare professionals

Regular exercise - Choice of 2 incremental exercise programmes – walking or chair-based

Stress management – Skills training for relaxation techniques and mindfulness

**Symptom monitoring** – Identifying key symptoms and taking appropriate actions to avoid hospitalisation



**Medication adherence** – Strategies to support taking medication as prescribed

**Caregiver involvement** – Active involvement for the benefit of patient and caregiver's own health and wellbeing

# How do I become a REACH-HF facilitator?

Participate in REACH-HF training - coordinated by the Heart Manual Department (NHS Lothian), Edinburgh. We are currently offering a free remote, web-based, 2-day REACH-HF training course jointly sponsored by NHS Lothian, Health and Care Innovations and the REACH-HF Study Group on the 13th and 14th May 2020, in light of the current pandemic.

# What resources are available?

## **Facilitator manual**

Comprehensive **REACH-HF** training manual for health professionals

#### Patient manual +

- Exercise DVD/videos on website
- Relaxation CD
- Progress tracker
- Family and Friends resource

# How much does it cost?

To enable heart failure patients to continue with rehabilitation at home during the COVID-19 outbreak, we are offering REACH-HF training free of charge for healthcare professionals during the COVID-19 crisis. Each trainee facilitator will be expected to order at least 10 REACH-HF intervention packs at a subsidised cost to their provider.



