

# New York Heart Association (NYHA) Functional Classification 9th Edition (Cardiac patients)

Functional capacity by class		Objective assessment*
I	No limitation in physical activity. Ordinary physical activity does not cause undue fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or anginal pain.	No evidence of cardiovascular disease
II	Slight limitation of physical activity, but comfortable at rest. Ordinary physical activity results in fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or anginal pain.	Objective evidence of minimal cardiovascular disease
III	Comfortable at rest. Less than ordinary physical activity results in fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or anginal pain.	Objective evidence of moderately severe cardiovascular disease
IV	Unable to carry on physical activity without discomfort. S/S of heart failure or anginal syndrome may be present even at rest. If any physical activity is undertaken, discomfort is increased.	Objective evidence of severe cardiovascular disease

\*Measures such as EKG, stress test, x-ray, echocardiogram and/or radiologic images.

Source: Adapted from Dolgin M, Association NYH, Fox AC, Gorlin R, Levin RI, New York Heart Association. Criteria Committee. Nomenclature and criteria for diagnosis of diseases of the heart and great vessels. 9th ed. Boston, MA: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins; 1994:253-256.

Prognostication & scoring tool excerpt from the *Compassus Hospice Eligibility Guide* 199EG1121