

### Pathophysiology

- The left ventricle in the heart is weakened, so it can't pump as much blood to the body as it should be.
- This causes blood to back up into the lungs instead of going forward to the body.

### Signs and Symptoms

- Crackles in the lungs
- Productive cough
- Shortness of breath
- Increased respiratory rate
- Weak peripheral pulses
- Fatigue and weakness
- Mental status changes
- Decreased urine output

### Topic/Disorder

## **CARDIAC** **LEFT SIDED HEART FAILURE**

### Nursing Assessment

- Mental status
- Apical pulse
- Respiratory rate and rhythm
- Adventitious breath sounds
- Work of breathing
- Oxygen saturation
- Peripheral pulses
- Labs:
  - BNP, Proteinuria, ABGs
- Diagnostic tests:
  - Chest X-ray, Echocardiogram, EKG

### Nursing Interventions

- Supplemental oxygen
- Give meds as prescribed:
  - Diuretics
  - ACE inhibitors
  - ARBs
  - Beta blockers
  - Digoxin

**LEGAL DISCLAIMER:** This concept map is intended for educational purposes only. This is not medical advice and errors may occur. Never treat a patient or make a nursing or medical decision based solely on the information provided in this concept map. You should always assess the individual person and provide care based on your own assessment, the assessments and recommendations of that individual's medical team. Never practice nursing or medicine unless you have a proper license to do so.

**4 CORE METHOD**  **CONCEPT MAP**

Build Your Study Plan  **NursingSOS**