

Table 9.2: Percent Prevalence of Cardiovascular Symptoms^{1,2}

Symptom	Total (N=1002)	Age Group			Disability Level		
		65-74 (N=388)	75-84 (N=311)	85+ (N=303)	Moderate ³ (N=343)	ADL Difficulty	
						Receives No Help (N=478)	Receives Help (N=181)
Chest pain ⁴							
Nonexertional ⁵							
Pain reported but does not walk ⁶	1.5	1.2	1.6	2.2	0.0	0.7	7.0
Not precipitated by walking ⁷	24.6	27.8	24.2	16.5	25.0	26.3	19.1
Exertional							
Walking uphill or hurrying only	8.5	10.0	9.2	2.6	11.5	8.4	3.0
Walking on level ⁸	7.8	8.7	7.9	5.0	7.0	7.9	9.1
Orthopnea or paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea ⁹	24.7	26.5	25.1	18.2	19.1	25.4	34.1
Intermittent claudication ¹⁰							
Yes	13.6	14.3	14.8	8.6	13.1	13.1	16.2
Does not walk ¹¹	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.9	0.8	1.8	19.0
Ankle swelling ¹²	48.5	52.8	46.3	41.6	42.6	52.3	50.1

(Women's Health and Aging Study, baseline interview, 1992-1995)

¹ All variables have less than 3% missing data. Results are based on non-missing data.
² Descriptive statistics are based on weighted data.
³ No ADL difficulty; disabled in two or more domains (see Chapter 1).
⁴ "Yes" response to "Have you ever had any pain or discomfort in your chest?"
⁵ Whether chest pain was classified as exertional or nonexertional was determined by two questions: (1) Do you get this pain or discomfort when you walk uphill or hurry? (2) Do you get it when you walk at an ordinary pace on the level?
⁶ "Cannot walk" response to "When you walk, do you use a cane?" OR "Doesn't walk" response to question about pain when walking uphill or hurrying.
⁷ Pain not precipitated when walking uphill or hurrying or by walking on the level.
⁸ Pain reported when walking on the level AND "Yes" or "Doesn't walk uphill or hurry" response to question about pain when walking uphill or hurrying.
⁹ "Yes" response to either of the following: (1) Do you get short of breath at night if you sleep flat or on only one pillow? (2) Do you wake up at night gasping for breath?
¹⁰ "Yes" responses to all of the following questions: (1) Do you get pain in either leg when you walk? (2) Do you get this pain in your calf or calves? (3) If you stand still is the pain relieved?
¹¹ "Doesn't walk" response to "Do you get pain in either leg when you walk?"
¹² "Yes" responses to both: (1) Have you ever had swelling of your feet or ankles? (2) Did the swelling tend to come on during the day and go down at night?