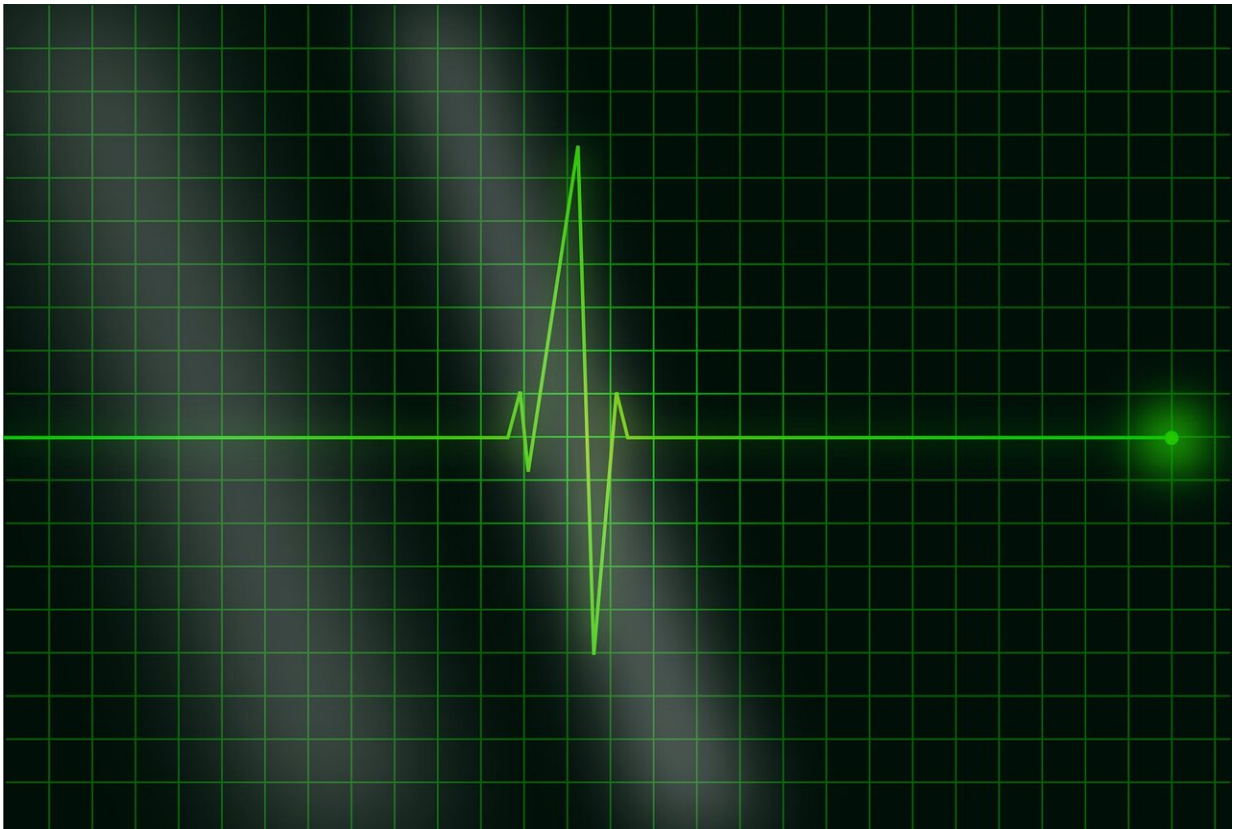


New analysis examines survival of older patients who undergo heart transplantation

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Advanced age is often considered a contraindication for heart transplantation, but a new study published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* (JAGS) found that post-heart transplant survival among

recipients aged >70 years is not inferior to that of younger recipients.

The study included 37,135 patients who underwent [heart transplantation](#), 806 (2.2%) of whom were >70 years old. Among patients >70 years old, the 1- and 5-year mortality rates after transplantation were 10.4% and 19.2%, respectively. After adjusting for kidney health, body mass index, and other factors, there was no significant difference in 5-year mortality between patients 70 years old.

"Rising prevalence of congestive heart failure with age and our aging population demand a relook into the management of advanced heart failure in elderly individuals," said lead author Abhishek Jaiswal, MD, of Hartford Hospital. "Our [data](#) suggest that advanced age by itself should not be considered an ineligibility criteria for heart transplantation; however, careful selection of such [patients](#) is warranted."

For public education summaries of topical JAGS articles like this, visit the American Geriatrics Society's [Health in Aging blog](#).

More information: *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* (2021). [DOI: 10.1111/jgs.17271](https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.17271)

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