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Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) Signs, Symptoms and Diagnostic Pathways



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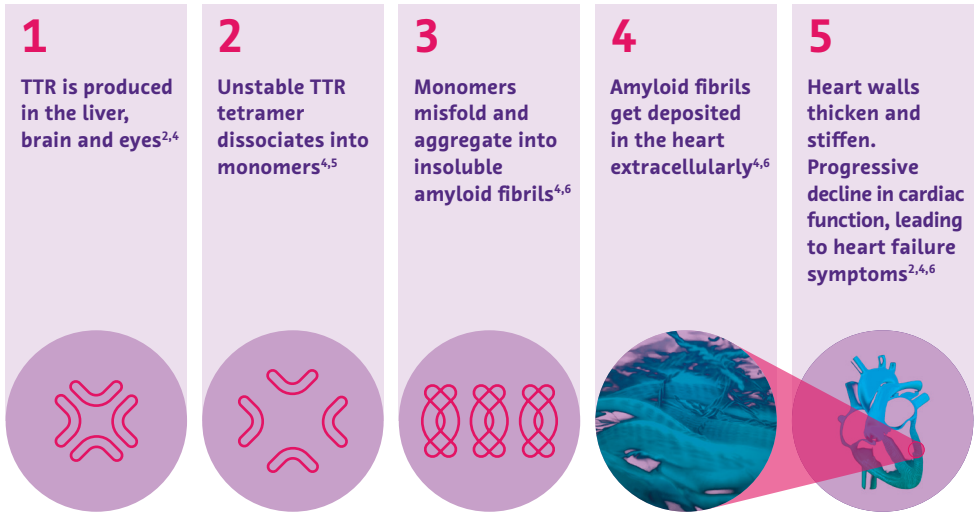
BEYONTRA is indicated for the treatment of wild-type or variant transthyretin amyloidosis in adult patients with cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM).

What is transthyretin (TTR)?

TTR is a highly conserved tetrameric protein, essential for transporting vitamin A and is involved in various physiological functions.¹⁻³

What is ATTR-CM?

Transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) is a progressive cardiac condition that begins with the destabilisation of the TTR tetramer.^{2,4-6}



There are two forms of ATTR-CM: **wild-type ATTR-CM (ATTRwt-CM)** and **variant ATTR-CM (ATTRv-CM)**.⁴

The average age of onset is 75 years (usually >60 years) for ATTRwt-CM and 30–80 years for ATTRv-CM, depending on the mutation.⁴

ATTR-CM is an underdiagnosed cause of heart failure which requires early diagnosis and treatment⁷⁻¹⁰

Without timely intervention, ATTR-CM could lead to impaired quality of life, recurrent hospitalisations and early death.⁸⁻¹⁰

The **median survival** from diagnosis in untreated patients is **~2.6 years** in ATTRv-CM V122I and **3.6 years** in ATTRwt-CM.^{10,11}

ATTR-CM affects
11 in 100
HFpEF patients⁷

When to suspect ATTR-CM

ATTR-CM can be suspected if the left ventricular (LV) wall thickness is ≥ 12 mm and one or more red flags are present.¹²

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{*LV wall thickness} \\ \geq 12 \text{ mm} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \geq 1 \\ \text{Red Flag} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{Suspect} \\ \text{cardiac amyloidosis} \end{array}$$

*Women have naturally thinner septal walls; the ≥ 12 mm ATTR-CM cutoff may delay diagnosis if applied without sex-specific consideration.¹³

Red flags¹²

Musculoskeletal



TTR amyloid deposition in ligaments starts several years before the first cardiac symptoms¹⁴

- Bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome **(38–49%)**^{15,16}
- Ruptured biceps tendon **(33%)**¹⁷
- Lumbar spinal stenosis **(20–48%)**^{16,18}

Bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome is the most common and early non-cardiac symptom (8–10 years before first cardiac symptoms)²⁰

Cardiac

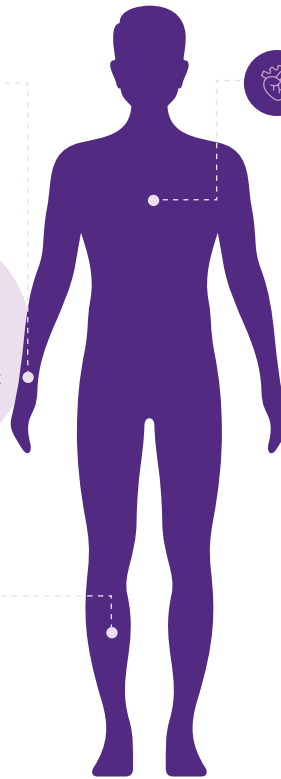


- Heart failure or aortic stenosis (≥ 65 years)
- Unresponsive/intolerant to standard heart failure therapies¹⁹
- Hypotensive or normotensive if previously hypertensive
- Possible family history of ATTR-CM

Nervous system



- Peripheral polyneuropathy
- Sensory involvement
- Autonomic dysfunction



Early detection of cardiac manifestations is key in ATTR-CM diagnosis¹²

- Heart failure is the most common symptom of ATTR-CM^{21,22}
- Presence of HFpEF (particularly in men) and intolerance to ACE inhibitors or beta blockers are also diagnostic clues for ATTR-CM²³

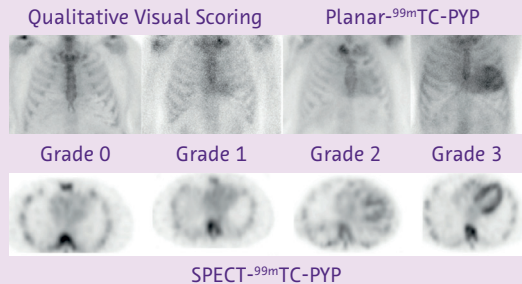
ECG observations ¹²	Changes in CMR ¹²	Echocardiogram abnormalities ¹²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AV block in presence of increased LV wall thickness • Pseudo Q waves • Reduced QRS voltage to mass ratio • Atrial fibrillation/ rhythm disorders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased extracellular volume • Diffuse late subendocardial/transmural LGE • Abnormal nulling time for the myocardium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in longitudinal strain with apical sparing • Hypertrophic phenotype with associated infiltrative features, e.g. increased thickness of AV valves, interatrial septum and RV free wall

Scintigraphy grading: Confirming diagnosis

Evaluation of ^{99m}Tc-PYP/DPD/HMDP images²⁴

Visual grading of scintigraphy findings in ATTR-CM

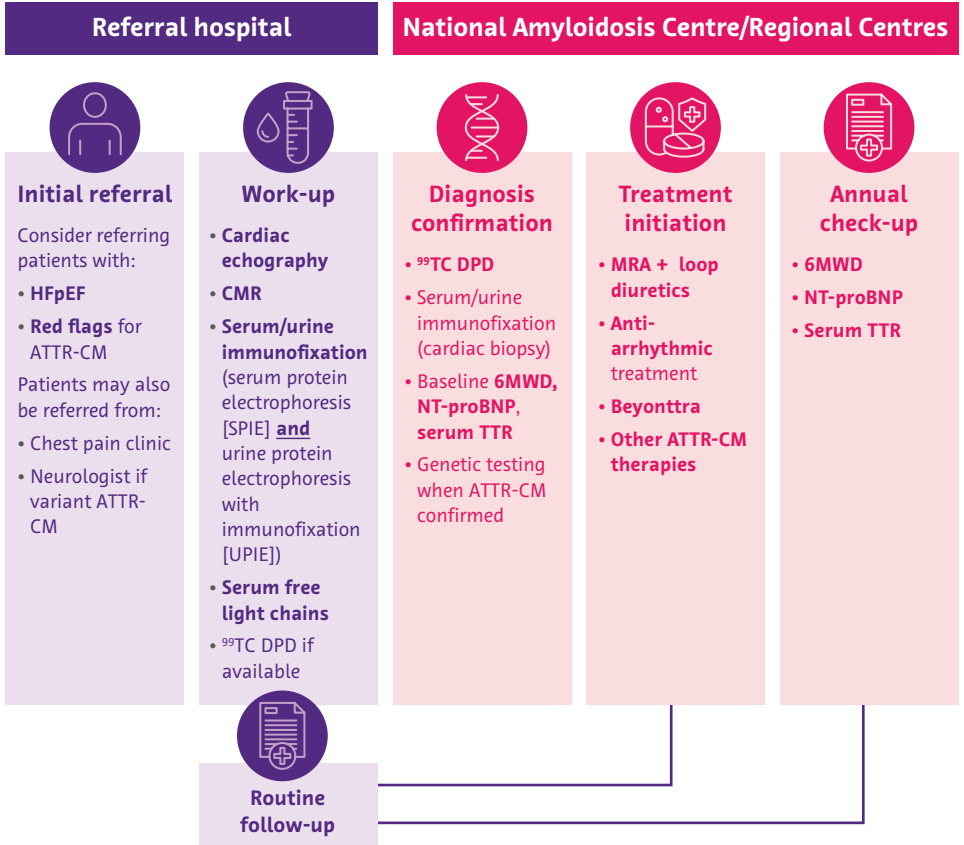
Grade 0 Absent cardiac uptake	
Grade 1 Cardiac uptake < rib [†]	
Grade 2 Cardiac uptake = rib	Diagnostic
Grade 3 Cardiac uptake > rib	Diagnostic



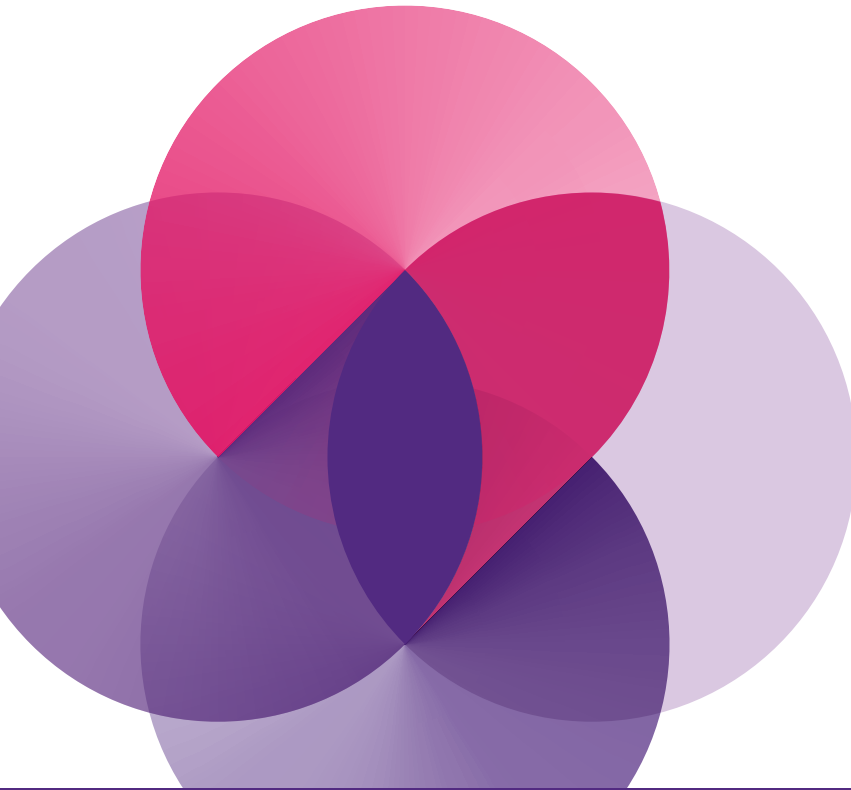
SPECT-^{99m}Tc-PYP

Must confirm myocardial uptake using SPECT imaging²⁵

The ATTR-CM patient pathway



This treatment pathway has been derived from the opinions of ATTR-CM Health care experts included in the United Kingdom ATTR-CM steering committee organised and funded by Bayer.



* Reprinted from Journal of the American College of Cardiology, volume 73 (issue 22), Ruberg FL, et al, Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy: JACC State-of-the-Art Review, pages 2872–2891, copyright 2019, with permission from the American College of Cardiology.

† Histological confirmation (cardiac/extracardiac) to diagnose.

6MWD, 6-minute walk distance; **^{99m}Tc**, Technetium-99m; **ACE**, angiotensin-converting enzyme; **AL**, light-chain amyloidosis; **ATTR-CM**, transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy; **ATTRv-CM**, variant transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy; **ATTRwt-CM**, wild-type transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy; **AV**, atrio-ventricular; **CMR**, cardiac magnetic resonance; **CoE**, centre of excellence; **DPD**, 3,3-diphosphono-1,2-propane-dicarboxylic acid; **EC**, extracellular; **ECG**, electrocardiogram; **HFpEF**, heart failure with preserved ejection fraction; **HMDP**, hydroxymethylene diphosphonate; **LGE**, late gadolinium enhancement; **LV**, left ventricular; **MRA**, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; **MRI**, magnetic resonance imaging; **NT-proBNP**, N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide; **PYP**, pyrophosphate; **RV**, right ventricular; **TTR**, transthyretin.

1. Liz MA, et al. *Neurol Ther.* 2020;9(2):395–402; 2. Vieira M, Saraiva MJ. *Biomol Concepts.* 2014;5(1):45–54; 3. Gertz MA, et al. *Ann Med.* 2025;57(1):2536755; 4. Ruberg FL, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2019;73(22):2872–2891; 5. Hammarstrom P, et al. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA.* 2002;99(Suppl 4):16427–16432; 6. Tschoepe C, et al. *J Clin Med.* 2025;14(13):4785; 7. Magdi M, et al. *Am J Cardiovasc Dis.* 2022;12(3):102–111; 8. Rintell D, et al. *Orphanet J Rare Dis.* 2021;16(1):70; 9. Nativi-Nicolau J, et al. *ESC Heart Fail.* 2021;8(5):3875–3884; 10. Lane T, et al. *Circulation.* 2019;140(1):16–26; 11. Grogan M, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2016;68(10):1014–1020; 12. Garcia-Pavia P, et al. *Eur J Heart Fail.* 2021;23(4):512–526; 13. Vogel J, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2025;46(Suppl 1):1006; 14. Westin O et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2022;80:967–977; 15. Elghouneimy MA, et al. *Cureus.* 2024;16(12):e75582; 16. Achten A, et al. *Heart Vessels.* 2024;39(10):857–866; 17. Geller HI, et al. *JAMA.* 2017;318(10):962–963; 18. Tamasauskas D, et al. *Front Neurol.* 2024;15:1425862; 19. Ioannou A, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2023;44(31):2893–2907; 20. Gertz MA et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2015;66:2451–2466; 21. Brito D et al. *Global Heart.* 2023;18(1):59; 22. Wittles RM et al. *JACC Heart Failure.* 2019;7(8):709–716; 23. Maurer MS, et al. *Circ Heart Fail.* 2019;12:e006075. 24. Dorbala S, et al. *JACC Cardiovasc Imaging.* 2020;13(6):1368–1383; 25. Benz DC et al. *J Nucl Cardiol.* 2025;51:102448.