

THE VENTRICLES AND PULMONARY PRESSURES

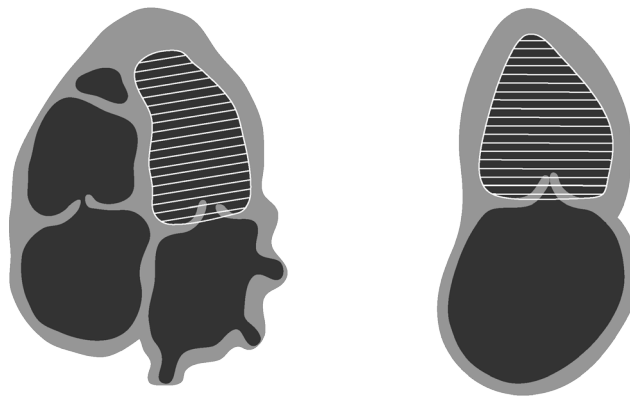
Assessing left ventricular global systolic function

Not all echo labs use ejection fraction (EF), and the severity criteria vary in different guideline documents. It's best to use the same values as your colleagues and audit that you are all reporting EF similarly.

Grading left ventricle systolic function using ejection fraction (EF)

Normal	Borderline	Mildly abnormal	Moderately abnormal	Severely abnormal
>50	50–54	41–49	31–40	<30

Measure using Simpson's biplane (or 3D).



References and further reading:

1. Lang RM, Badano LP, Mor-Avi V, et al. 2015. Recommendations for cardiac chamber quantification by echocardiography in adults: An update from the American Society of Echocardiography and the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr.* **28**:1–39.
2. Poppe KK, Doughty RN, Gardin JM, et al. 2015. Ethnic-specific normative reference values for echocardiographic LA and LV size, LV mass, and systolic function. *JACC Cardiovascular Imaging.* **8**:656–665.
3. Dalen H, Thorstensen A, Vatten LJ. 2010. Reference values and distribution of conventional echocardiographic Doppler measures and longitudinal tissue Doppler velocities in a population free from cardiovascular disease. *Circ Cardiovasc Imaging.* **3**:614–22.