with ADHF. After analyzing local care processes, reviewing evidence of best care practices, and defining appropriate goals to satisfy the multidimensional needs of HF patient; the team developed a computerized pathway in a user-friendly format that is simple, yet comprehensive; and focuses on early stages of HF evaluation and treatment for patients presenting to the ED.

Diagnosing Heart Failure

When a patient presents with shortness of breath, and HF is suspected, the ED HF Clinical Decision Menu is selected from the main HF order set, and the following screen is displayed (figure 1).