Dear XX,

As your center consistently adheres to best practices and strives for excellence in heart failure care, we are pleased to invite you to get accredited as an HFA Quality of Care Centre through the **I**mproving **C**are through **A**ccreditation and **R**ecognition in **H**eart **F**ailure (ICARe-HF) programme.

Developed by the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), the ICARe-HF accreditation program aims to enhance heart failure patient outcomes not only across Europe but also globally. By participating in this program, your center will benefit from the following key advantages:

* **Elevated Standards**: ICARe-HF contributes to the elevation of standards in care facilities, fostering a culture of excellence in heart failure care.
* **Recognition of Best Practices**: The accreditation process acknowledges and highlights centers that consistently apply best practices, showcasing their commitment to superior patient care.
* **Promotion of Research and Education**: ICARe-HF actively promotes research and education, encouraging participating centers to stay at the forefront of advancements in heart failure care.

To align with the diverse needs of healthcare providers, there are three distinct categories of HFA Quality of Care Centre available for accreditation:

* **Community** Quality of Care Centres
* **Specialised** Quality of Care Centres
* **Advanced** Quality of Care Centres

The accreditation process involves two essential phases:

* **Pre-Accreditation**: This phase involves the validation of the center's category based on structural criteria. The application process is live and currently open for submissions.
* **Validation of Performance**: Beginning in Q2 2024, this phase will focuse on data collection to assess the center's adherence to ESC Guidelines and performance standards.

By becoming an accredited HFA Quality of Care Centre, your institution will enjoy the following benefits:

* **Recognition of their quality of care** at a European level
* **Improved information** for referral sources and patients on the categorisation of the centre
* **Access to a network** of HFA Accredited Centres in Europe

To initiate the accreditation process, kindly complete your application directly on the ESC dedicated webpage: [**escardio.org/ICARe-HF**](http://www.escardio.org/ICARe-HF).

We believe that your commitment to excellence makes your center an ideal candidate for the ICARe-HF accreditation, and we look forward to the positive impact your participation will have on heart failure patient care.

Best regards,