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Heart-Failure Deaths Rise, Contributing to Worsening Life Expectancy

Rate surges as population ages and health of younger generations worsens

Hypertension, obesity and diabetes helped drive a 51% increase in the number of heart-failure deaths in adults under age 65 between 2011 and 2017, the study showed.



Jamal Rana, senior author of the study PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

Those risk factors are particularly worrisome because they are leading to more cases of a type of heart failure which lacks effective treatments, said Jamal Rana, senior author of the study and chief of cardiology at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Oakland. That condition, called heart failure with preserved ejection fraction, occurs when the heart muscle becomes stiff and can't properly fill.