

Every February, the American Heart Association encourages everyone to wear red on the first Friday of the month to raise awareness about the importance of heart health in women. **Heart disease is the leading cause of death of women in the United States.**

Every 80 seconds a woman dies from heart disease, but about 80 percent of these deaths are preventable through education and action.

How to tell if you're at risk for heart disease

High blood pressure, high LDL (low-density lipoprotein) cholesterol, and smoking are key risk factors. Other medical conditions and lifestyle choices can also put people at higher risk for heart disease, including:

- Diabetes
- Being overweight
- · Eating an unhealthy diet
- · Physical inactivity
- · Drinking too much alcohol
- Tobacco use

Steps you can take to reduce your risk

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Increase activity
- Develop an exercise routine
- Follow a healthy diet
- Quit tobacco
- · Limit alcohol



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Email: answers@HealthAdvocate.com Web: HealthAdvocate.com/members Take action

Talk to your primary care doctor about heart health. A critical part of heart health is teaming up with your doctor to understand how any of your personal risk factors, conditions, medications and/or lifestyle factors influence your heart health.



Source: American Heart Association (2022). About Heart Disease in Women. https://www.goredforwomen.org/en/about-heart-disease-in-women

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2020). Women and Heart Disease. https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/women.htm

