



## Session 2



# The INTEGRATED LIFESAVING ECG

Bravera Health Seven Rivers



Bravera Health Brooksville



Bravera Citrus Hills



Bravera Health Spring Hill



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**Bravera Market Regional Cardiovascular Coordinator**  
**Bravera Health Hospitals:**  
**Brooksville – Spring Hill – Seven Rivers**



***Sometimes,  
ECGs  
LIE to us !***

***ECGs and USED CAR SALESMEN  
often have MUCH in common !***



# The EKG in PERSPECTIVE

## PROBLEMS WITH EKGs . . .

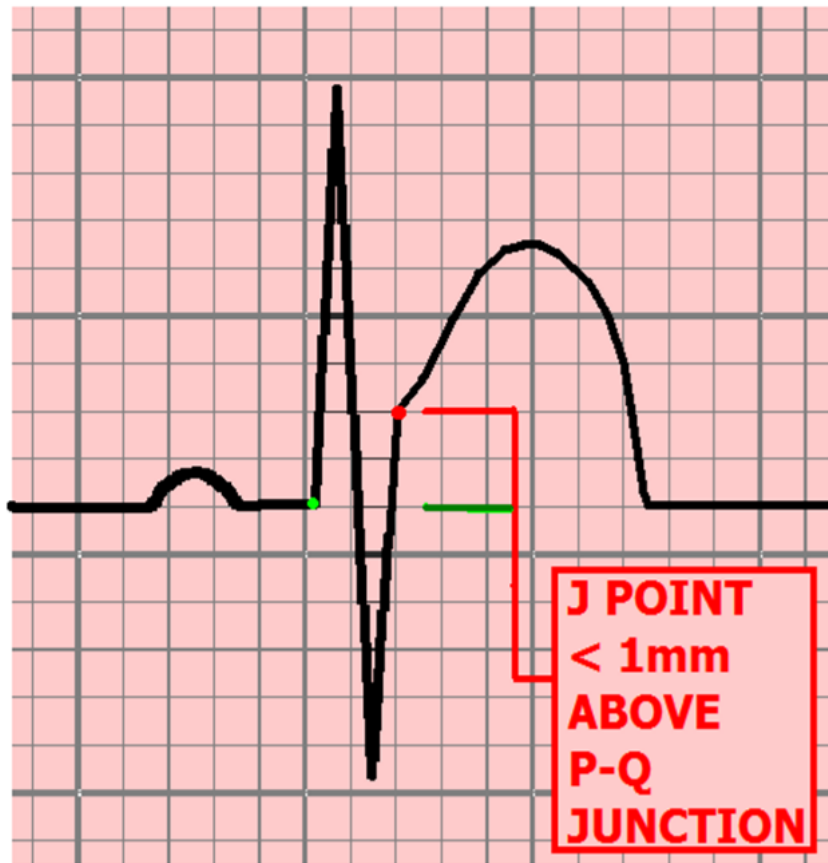
↓ **SENSITIVITY**  
( FALSE NEGATIVES )

↓ **SPECIFICITY**  
( FALSE POSITIVES )

***AND . . .***

# PROBLEMS WITH SPECIFICITY . . .

## S-T SEGMENT ELEVATION - COMMON ETIOLOGIES:



### CONDITION:

- **ACUTE INFARCTION**
- **HYPERKALEMIA**
- **BRUGADA SYNDROME**
- **PULMONARY EMBOLUS**
- **INTRACRANIAL BLEED**
- **MYOCARDITIS / PERICARDITIS**
- **L. VENT. HYPERTROPHY**
- **PRINZMETAL'S ANGINA**
- **L. BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK**
- **PACED RHYTHM**
- **EARLY REPOLARIZATION & "MALE PATTERN" S-T ELEV.**

# ST-Segment Elevation in Normal Circumstances and in Various Conditions

**Table 1.** ST-Segment Elevation in Normal Circumstances and in Various Conditions.

Condition	Features
Normal (so-called male pattern)	Seen in approximately 90 percent of healthy young men; therefore, normal Elevation of 1–3 mm Most marked in V <sub>2</sub> Concave
Early repolarization	Most marked in V <sub>4</sub> , with notching at J point Tall, upright T waves Reciprocal ST depression in aVR, not in aVL, when limb leads are involved
ST elevation of normal variant	Seen in V <sub>3</sub> through V <sub>5</sub> with inverted T waves Short QT, high QRS voltage
Left ventricular hypertrophy	Concave Other features of left ventricular hypertrophy
Left bundle-branch block	Concave ST-segment deviation discordant from the QRS
Acute pericarditis	Diffuse ST-segment elevation Reciprocal ST-segment depression in aVR, not in aVL Elevation seldom >5 mm PR-segment depression
Hyperkalemia	Other features of hyperkalemia present: Widened QRS and tall, peaked, tented T waves Low-amplitude or absent P waves ST segment usually downsloping
Brugada syndrome	rSR' in V <sub>1</sub> and V <sub>2</sub> ST-segment elevation in V <sub>1</sub> and V <sub>2</sub> , typically downsloping
Pulmonary embolism	Changes simulating myocardial infarction seen often in both inferior and antero-septal leads
Cardioversion	Striking ST-segment elevation, often >10 mm, but lasting only a minute or two immediately after direct-current shock
Prinzmetal's angina	Same as ST-segment elevation in infarction, but transient
Acute myocardial infarction	ST segment with a plateau or shoulder or upsloping Reciprocal behavior between aVL and III

1North (06)

Rate 83 . SINUS RHYTHM.....normal P axis, V-rate 50- 99  
PR 152 . RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK.....QRSd>120, terminal axis(90,270)  
QRSD 122 . ANTEROLATERAL INFARCT, ACUTE.....Q >35ms, ST >0.20mV, V2-V6  
QT 412  
QTc 485

## --AXIS--

P 59  
QRS 14  
T 33

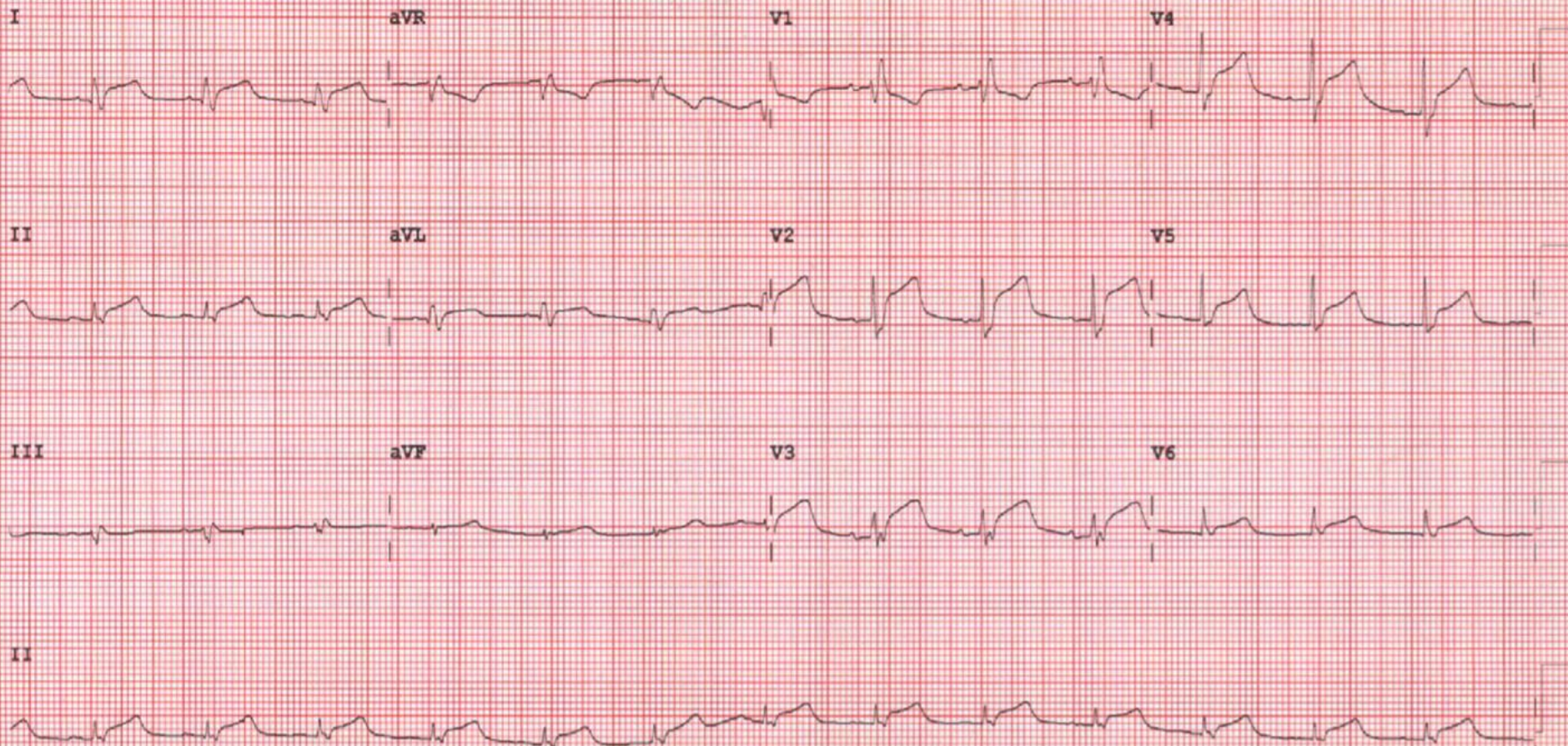
- ABNORMAL ECG -

&gt;&gt;&gt; Acute MI &lt;&lt;&lt;

Requested by:

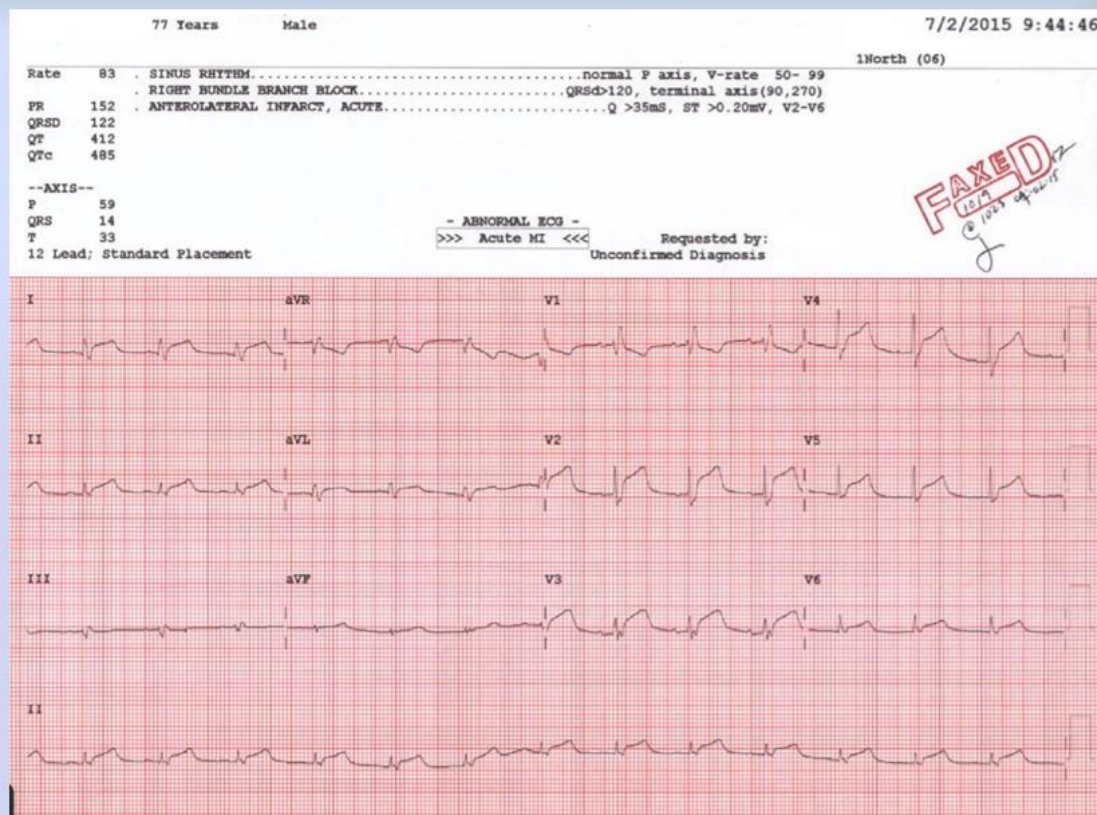
Unconfirmed Diagnosis

**FAXED**  
10/19  
@ 1023 4/02/15  
J



## Patient:

- Asymptomatic
- Troponin normal
- Cardiac Cath angiography = "no obstructive CAD."
- Discharge diagnosis:



**EARLY REPOLARIZATION.** This degree of ST Elevation in early repolarization is VERY RARE: The only such ECG I have seen in approximately 13,000 cardiac catheterizations.



# EKGs in PERSPECTIVE, con't:



One of the MOST MISLEADING  
scenarios of all is when the EKG  
APPEARS PERFECTLY NORMAL . . . .



. . . but MASKS serious, LIFE -  
THREATENING CONDITIONS.



*that is why YOU must do a THOROUGH  
PATIENT EVALUATION . . . and have a  
HIGH INDEX OF SUSPICION ! ! !*



PRE-TEST EKG.  
PATIENT STANDING,  
- ASYMPTOMATIC.

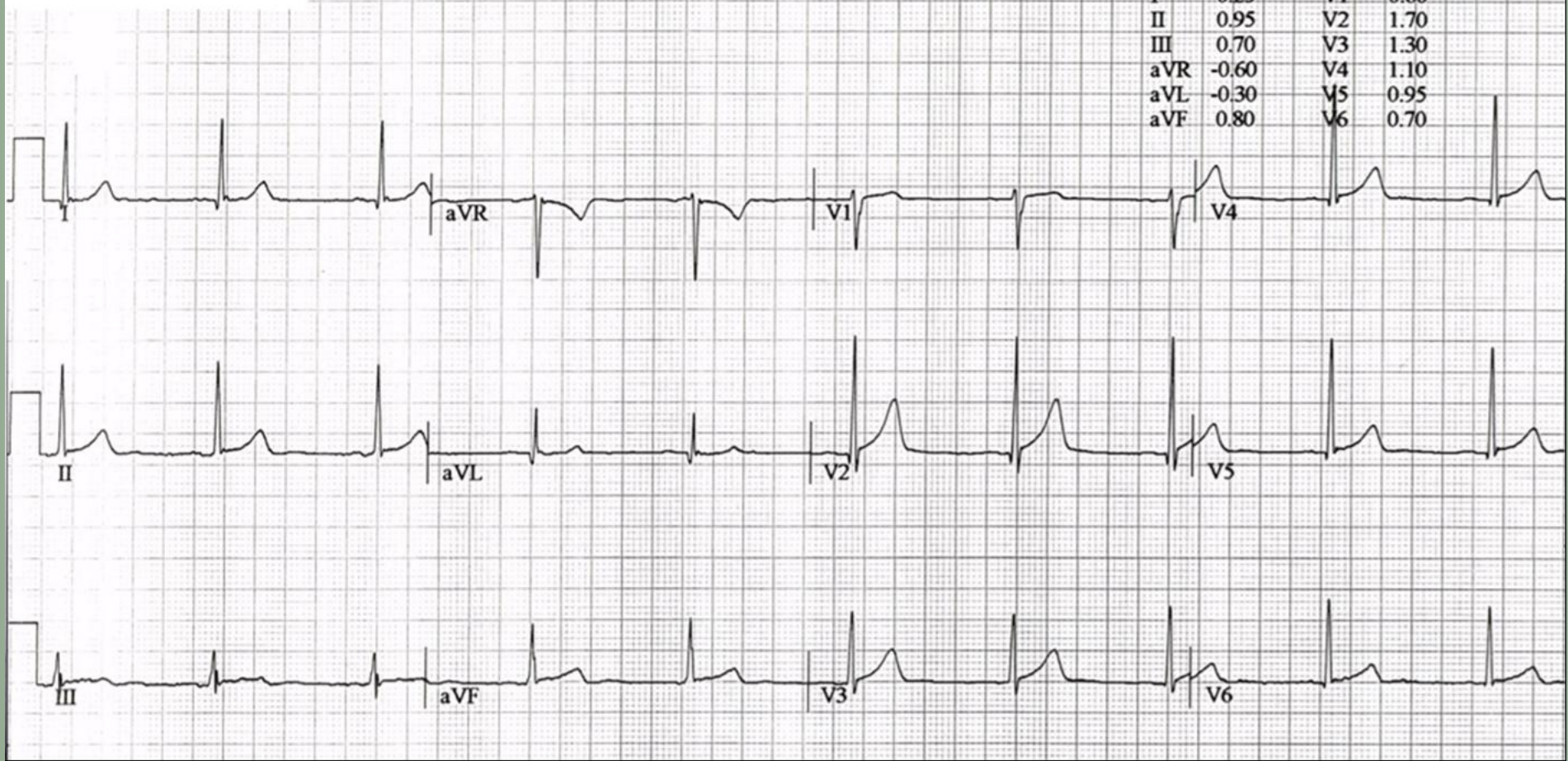
58 bpm  
00:56 118/68 mmHg

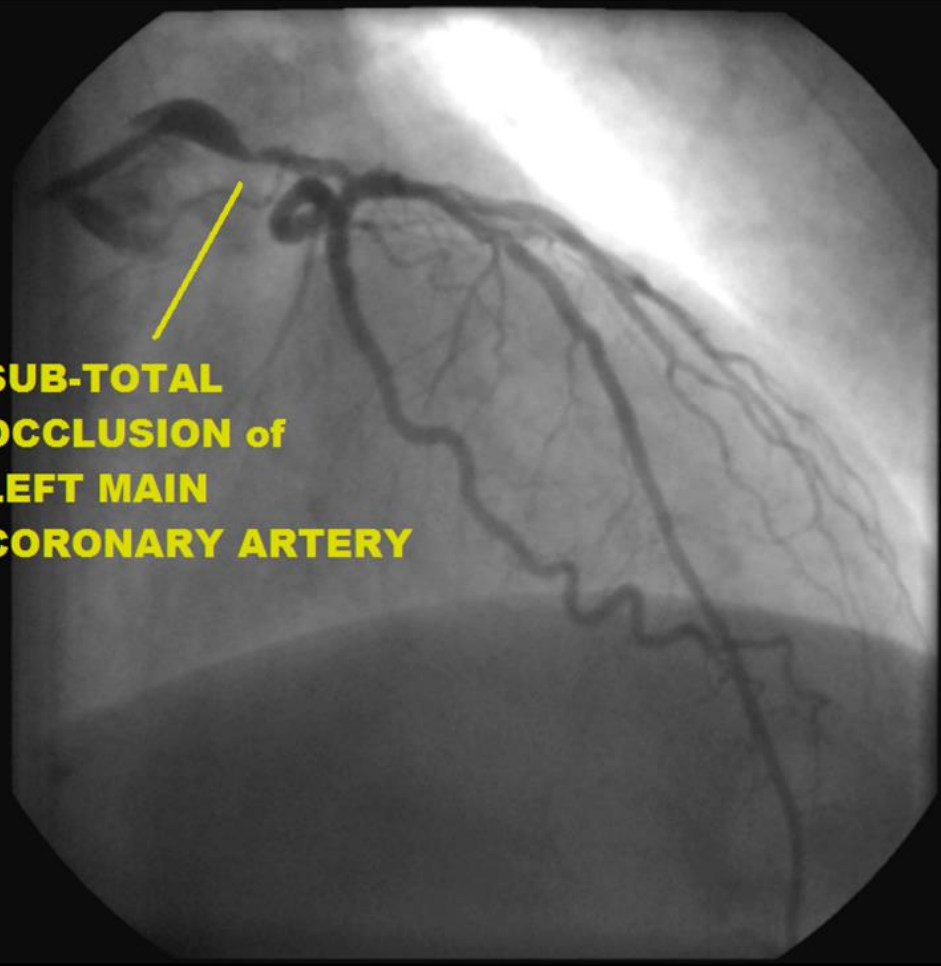
PRETEST  
STANDING  
00:58

BRUCE  
0.0 mph  
0.0 %

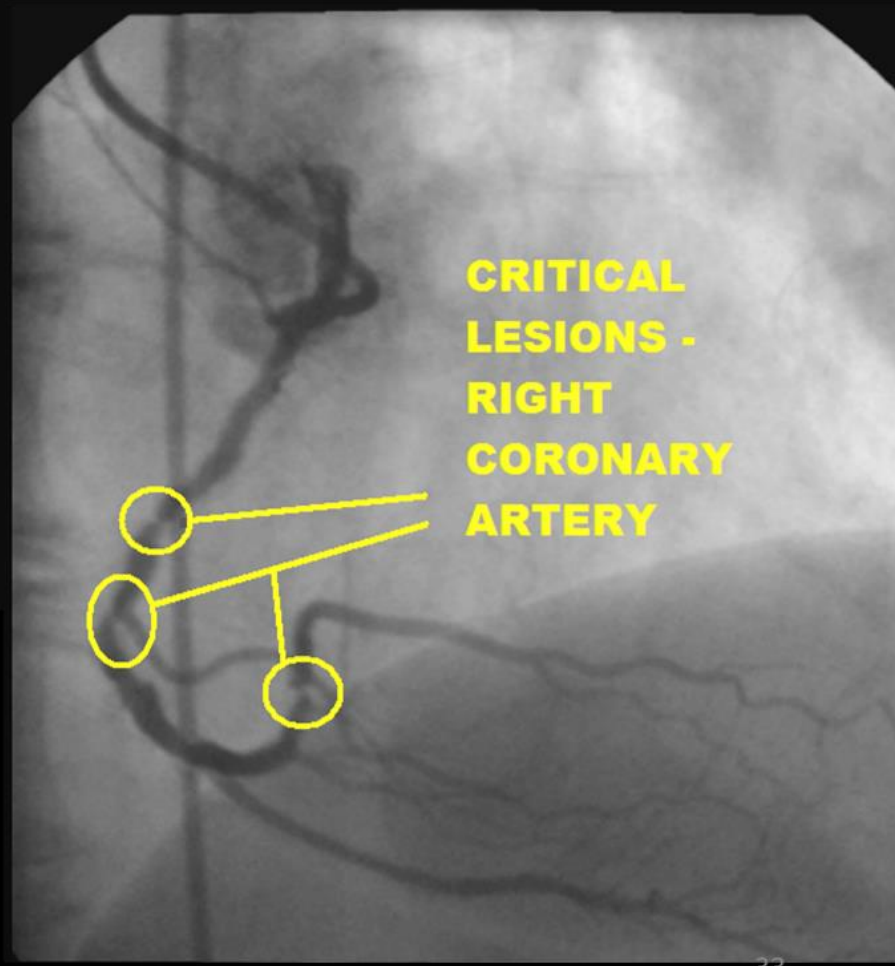
Measured at 60ms Post J (10mm/mV)  
Auto Points

Lead	ST(mm)	Lead	ST(mm)
I	0.25	V1	0.60
II	0.95	V2	1.70
III	0.70	V3	1.30
aVR	-0.60	V4	1.10
aVL	-0.30	V5	0.95
aVF	0.80	V6	0.70





**SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSION of  
LEFT MAIN  
CORONARY ARTERY**



**CRITICAL  
LESIONS -  
RIGHT  
CORONARY  
ARTERY**

*“From time to time,  
the EKG – derived  
diagnosis will be  
**TOTALLY INCORRECT.**”*

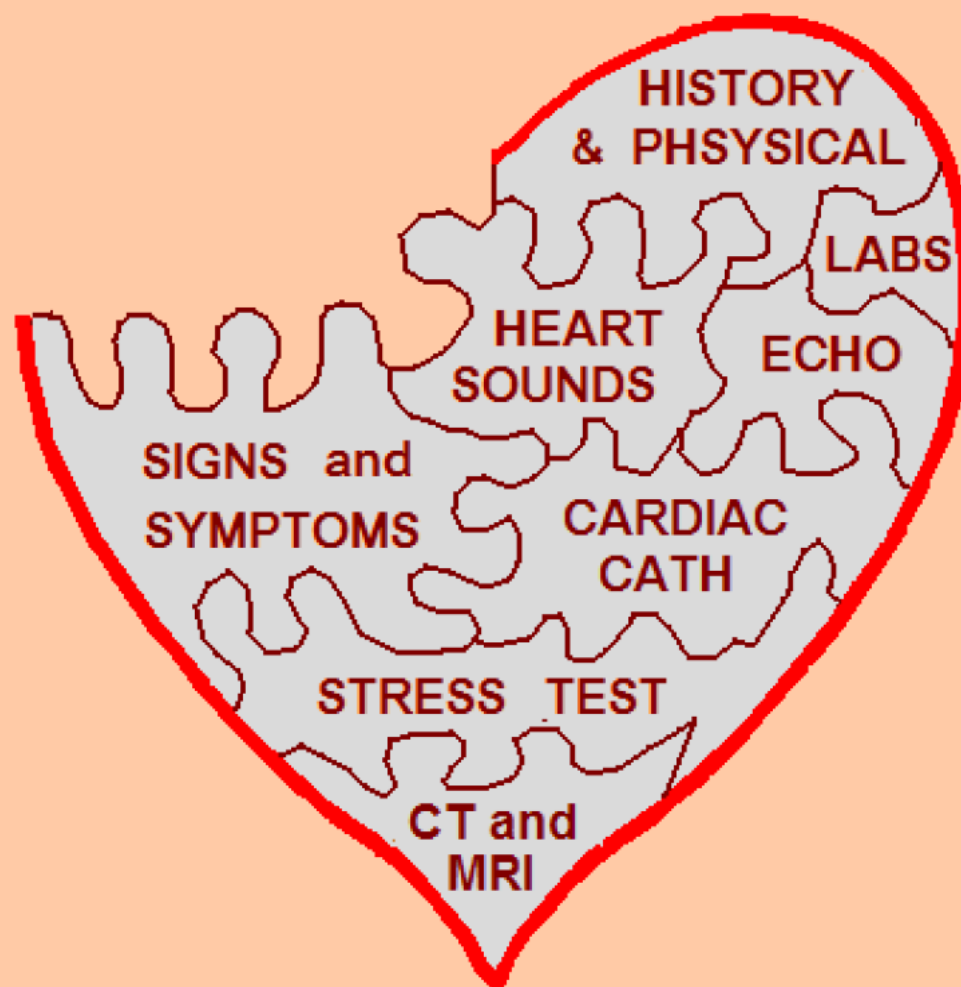
**Despite the ECG's problematic  
issues with**

**Lack of Sensitivity  
&**

**Lack of Specificity,**

***The 12 Lead ECG remains  
one of our QUICKEST, most cost-  
efficient front-line Triage Tools  
that we have today.***

**REMEMBER . . . . Keep the ECG Results in  
PROPER PERSPECTIVE . . . .**



**REMEMBER . . .  
it's only  
ONE PIECE  
of the  
DIAGNOSTIC  
PUZZLE !**



***So how do we know when the ECG is telling us the truth ???***

- ***We utilize ACS Risk Stratification to compensate for the ECG's lack of sensitivity and specificity, to aid us in clinical decision-making and to improve our diagnostic accuracy.***

## The ECG . . .



# HEART

HEART score for chest pain patients			
History	Highly suspicious	2	
	Moderately suspicious	1	
	Slightly suspicious	0	
ECG	Significant ST-deviation	2	
	Non specific repolarisation disturbance / LBTB / PM	1	
	Normal	0	
Age	≥ 65 years	2	
	> 45 and < 65 years	1	
	≤ 45 years	0	
Risk factors	≥ 3 risk factors or history of atherosclerotic disease*	2	
	1 or 2 risk factors	1	
	No risk factors known	0	
Troponin	≥ 3x normal limit	2	
	> 1 and < 3x normal limit	1	
	≤ 1x normal limit	0	
Total			

**\*Risk factors for atherosclerotic disease:**

Hypercholesterolemia	Cigarette smoking
Hypertension	Positive family history
Diabetes Mellitus	Obesity

## C-Statistic scores achieved in this study:

HEART: 0.83


TIMI: 0.75

GRACE: 0.70

## C-Statistic interpretation:

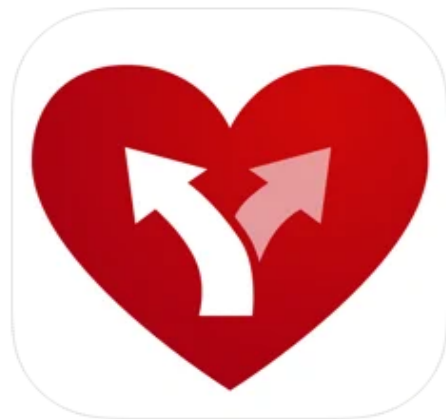
A score of “1.00” would mean the score predicts outcome with 100% perfection. A score of 0.50 is the same as a “50/50 coin toss.” A score of LESS THAN 0.50 means that the score predicts the opposite outcome.

# US HEART Score Validation

- 1,070 observation unit patients at Wake Forest
-  *Out performed clinician gestalt !*

Mahler et. al, Crit Path Cardiol, 2011

Mahler et. al, Int J Cardiol, 2013



## HEART Pathway 12+

Chest pain. Risk-stratified.

Impathiq

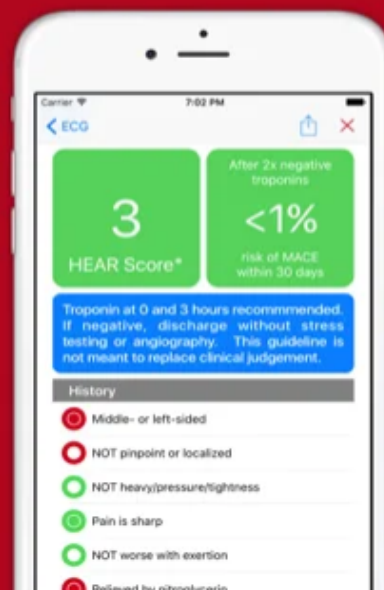
Designed for iPhone

★★★★★ 4.5 • 13 Ratings

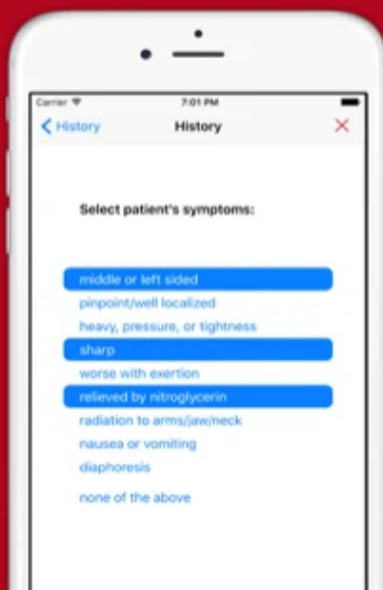
Free

### iPhone Screenshots

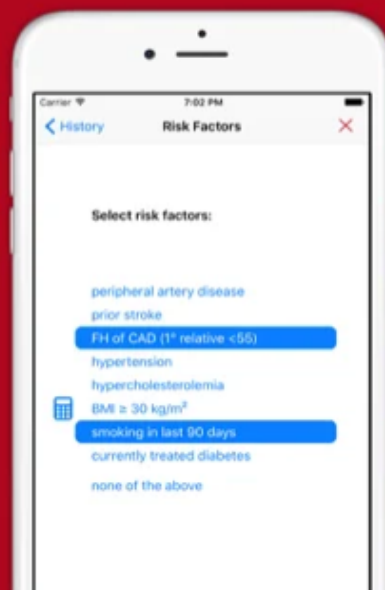
Use a validated cardiac risk score to avoid unnecessary testing



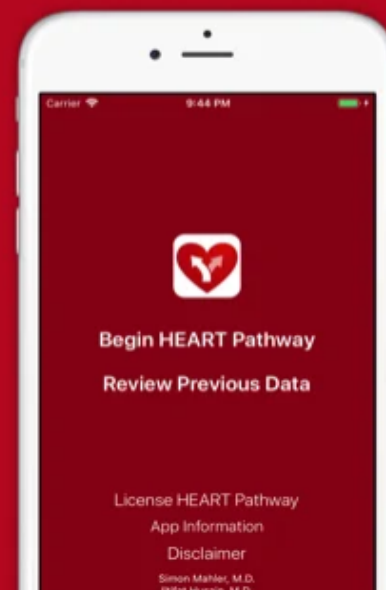
The HEART Pathway uses history, ECG, and other key risk factors



The HEART Pathway can be done in less than 30 seconds at bedside



The HEART Pathway has been shown to save \$200 per chest pain patient

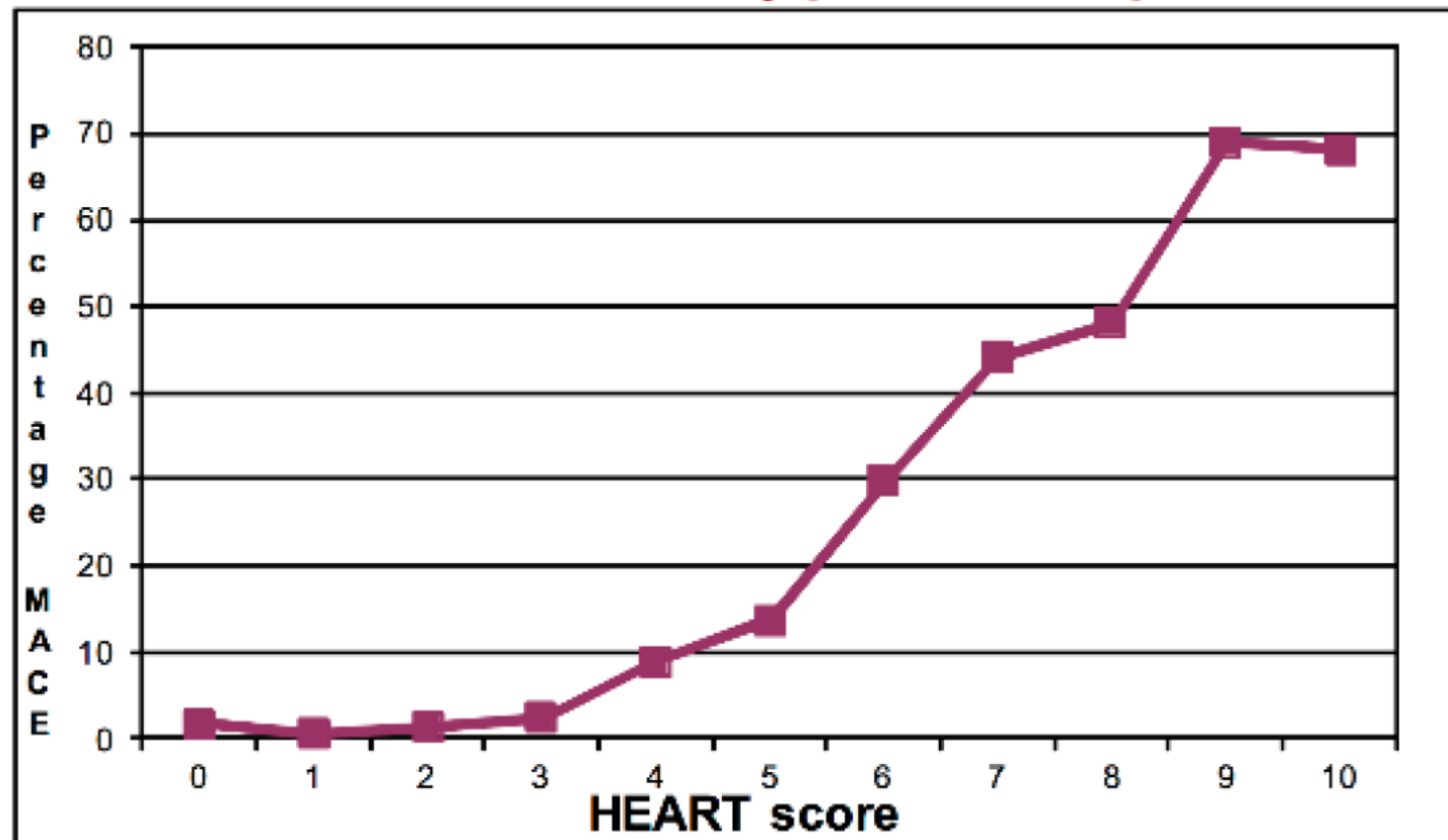


# The HEART Score

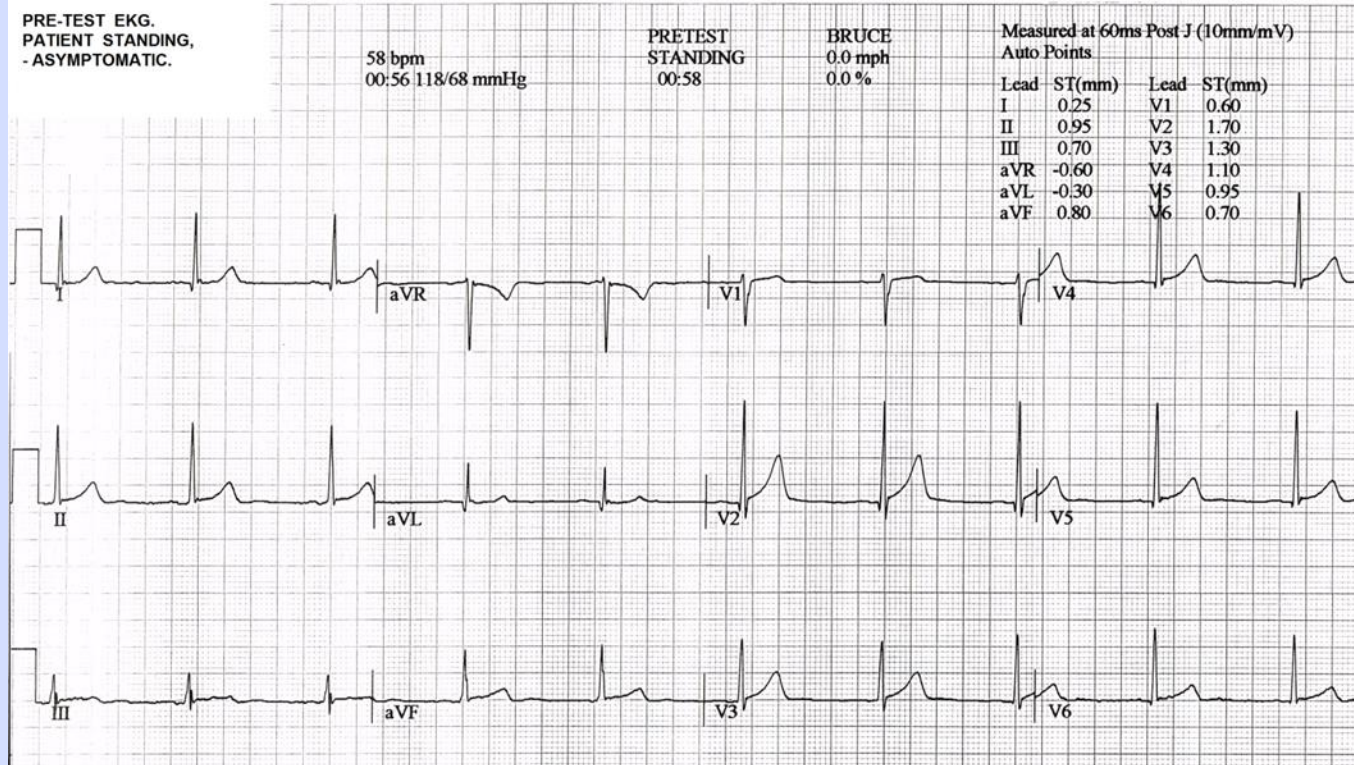
<b>Score</b>	<b>Common Diagnosis:</b>	<b>Disposition:</b>
0-3	<b>Low Risk Chest Pain</b>	<b>Early Discharge with referral</b>
4-6	<b>Low Risk Chest Pain Unstable Angina</b>	<b>Observation Unit or Admission Tele</b>
7-10	<b>Unstable Angina NSTEMI STEMI</b>	<b>Tele Admission ICU Admission STAT Cath Lab</b>

# Heart Score Reliability

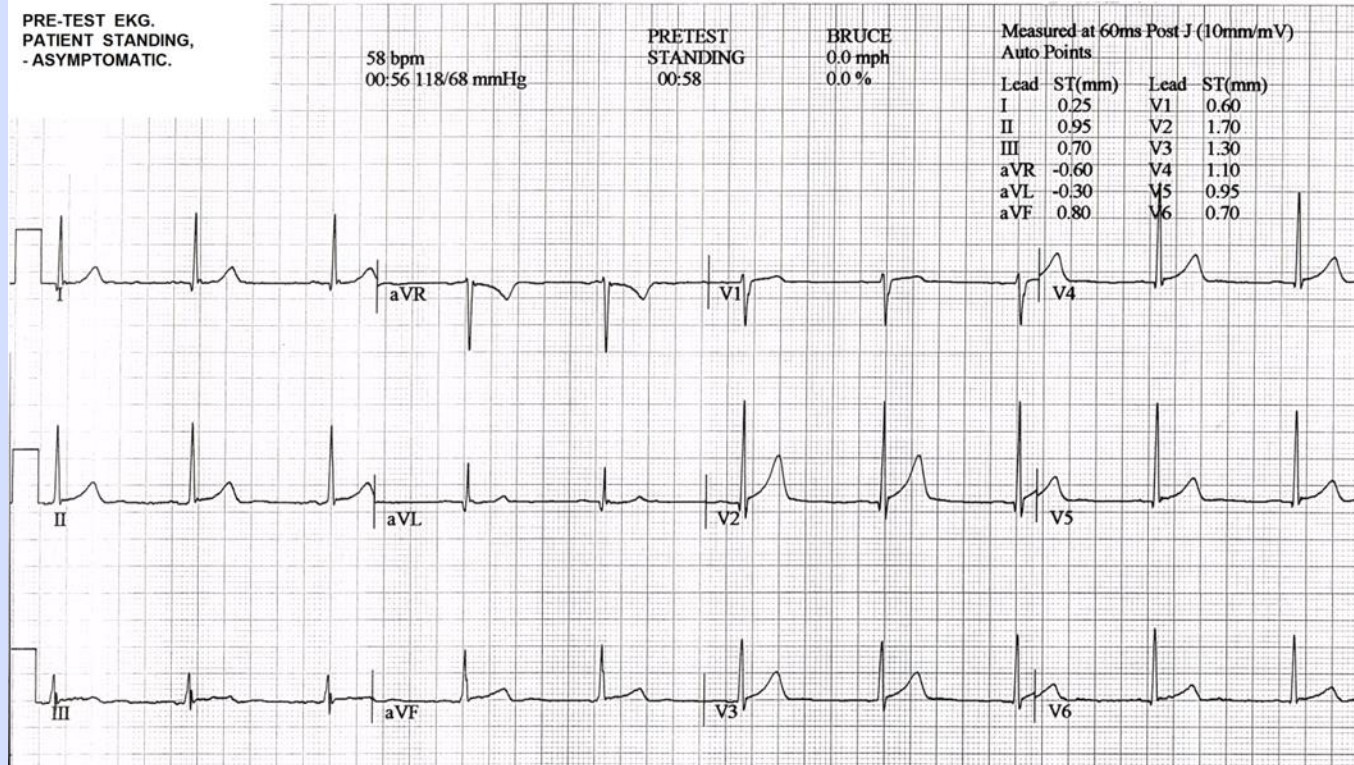
**HEART score reliably predicts endpoints**



**63 year old male complains of upper abdominal and chest pressure described as “indigestion”**



**63 year old male complains of upper abdominal and chest pressure described as “indigestion”**



**Send him home with a referral to see a cardiologist??**

# HEART

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	1 or 2 risk factors	1	
	No risk factors known	0	
Troponin	≥ 3x normal limit	2	
	> 1 and < 3x normal limit	1	
	≤ 1x normal limit	0	
Total			

**\*Risk factors for atherosclerotic disease:**

Hypercholesterolemia	Cigarette smoking
Hypertension	Positive family history
Diabetes Mellitus	Obesity

# H = HISTORY

- **2 Points**: “Suspicious” = Typical ACS Symptoms
- **1 Point**: “Moderately Suspicious” = Atypical ACS Symptoms
- **0 Points**: No Typical or Atypical Symptoms of ACS

# E = ECG

- **2 Points:** ST Deviation (elevation or depression at the J point of 0.5mv or more)
- **1 Point:** Non-specific ST-T wave abnormalities / Non
- **0 Points:** Normal ECG

$$A = \text{Age}$$

- **2 Points:** Age 65 or more
- **1 Point:** Age 46 – 64
- **0 Points:** Age 45 or less

# R = Risk Factors for CAD

- **2 Points:** 3 or more risk factors
- **1 Point:** 1 or 2 risk factors
- **0 Points:** No Risk Factors

# **RISK FACTORS**

for the development of

## **CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE:**

- 💣 **HEREDITY**
- 💣 **↑ LDL and ↓ HDL CHOLESTEROL PROFILES**
- 💣 **SMOKING**
- 💣 **DIABETES MELLITUS**
- **OBESITY**
- **PHYSICAL INACTIVITY**
- **HYPERTENSION**
- **AGE - OVER 65**
- **MALE**
- **HIGH STRESS**

per the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

**RISK FACTORS: Family history of CAD,  
elevated cholesterol, hypertension (3 Risk  
factors)**

# T = Troponin

- **2 Points:** 3 X Normal ( $> 0.056$ )
- **1 Point:**  $>1$  -  $<3$  ( $0.017 - 0.056$ )
- **0 Points:** up to normal limit ( $< 0.017$ )

# HEART

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Total			

**\*Risk factors for atherosclerotic disease:**

Hypercholesterolemia	Cigarette smoking
Hypertension	Positive family history
Diabetes Mellitus	Obesity

**H** = chest pain = 2

**E** = ECG normal = 0

**A** = 63 = 1

**R** = 3 risk fctors = 2

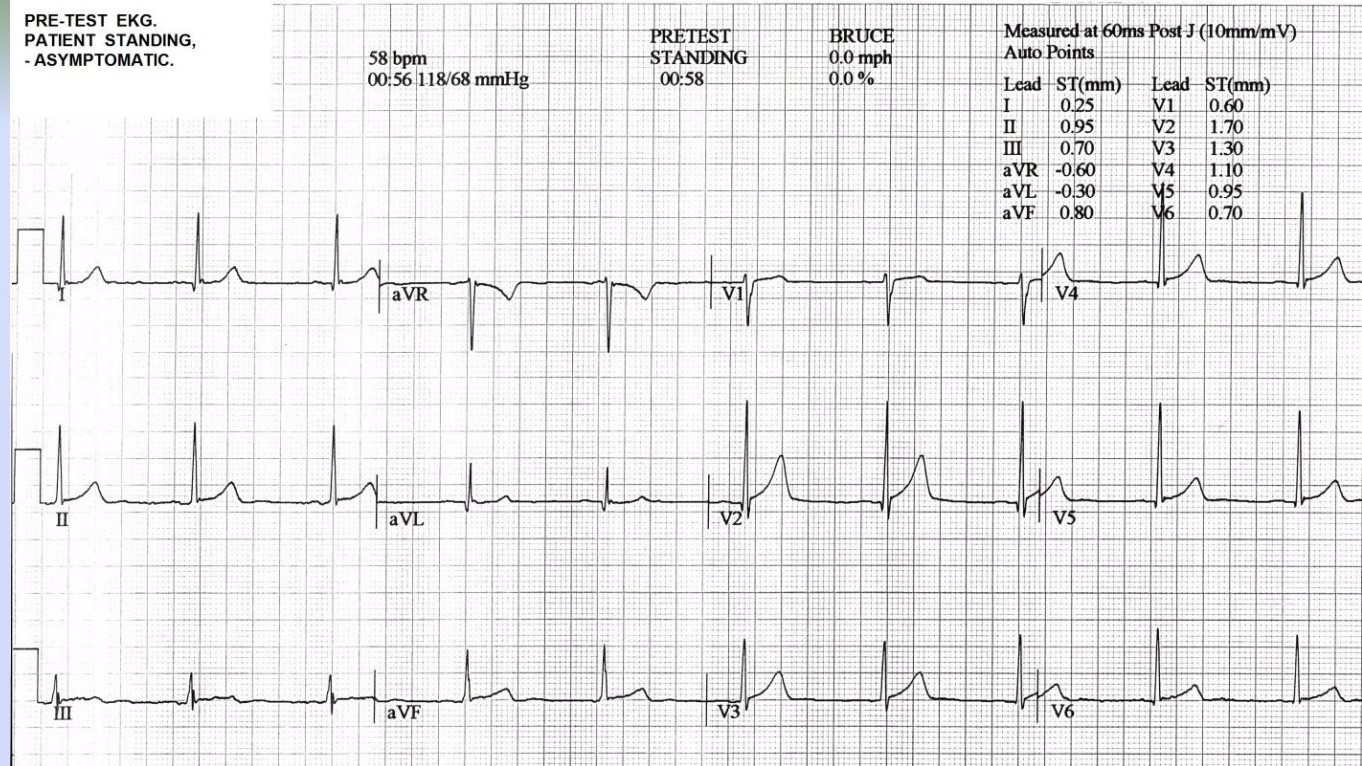
**T** = Trop. NL = 0

**HEART Score: = 5**

## PROBLEMS WITH SENSITIVITY . . .

# NORMAL ECG.

But . . . . .



His HEART Score = 5

What could that possibly mean?

<b>HEART Score</b>	<b>RISK</b>	<b>ACS Dx?</b>	<b>Proposed Management</b>
<b>0 - 3</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>Non-ACS</b>	Discharge with follow-up / out- patient stress
<b>4 - 6</b>	<b>Intermed.</b>	<b>Suspect: ACS, Obstructive CAD, Unstable Angina NSTEMI</b>	<b>Admit to hospital, Serial ECGs /Troponins aggressive diagnostic work-up (e.g. Cardiac Cath, CT coronary angio</b>
<b>7 - 10</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>NSTEMI STEMI</b>	<b>STEMI= STAT PCI or thrombolytics. NSTEMI = "urgent" Cardiac Cath</b>

<http://www.heartscore.nl/>

## Based on HEART SCORE:

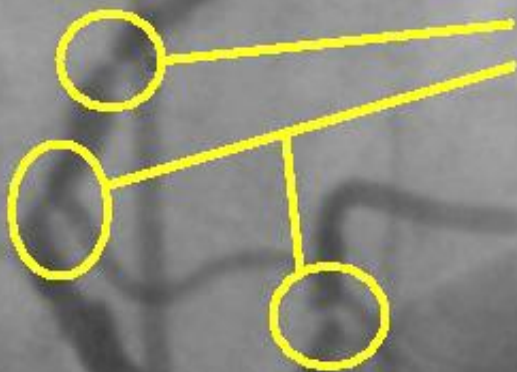
- Patient hospitalized as “Observation” status patient.
- Serial EKGs and Troponins were NEGATIVE.
- PATIENT FAILED STRESS TEST the next morning.
- Sent for a STAT Cardiac Cath.....



**SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSION of  
LEFT MAIN  
CORONARY ARTERY**

This is a grayscale angiogram of the left coronary artery system. The image shows the main coronary artery branching into several smaller vessels. A yellow line points to a specific area on the left main coronary artery, indicating a sub-total occlusion. The text 'SUB-TOTAL OCCLUSION of LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY' is overlaid in yellow on the left side of the image.

**CRITICAL  
LESIONS -  
RIGHT  
CORONARY  
ARTERY**



**Heart Score 5.**

**Lethal  
Triple  
Vessel  
Disease =**

PRE-TEST EKG.  
PATIENT STANDING,  
- ASYMPTOMATIC.

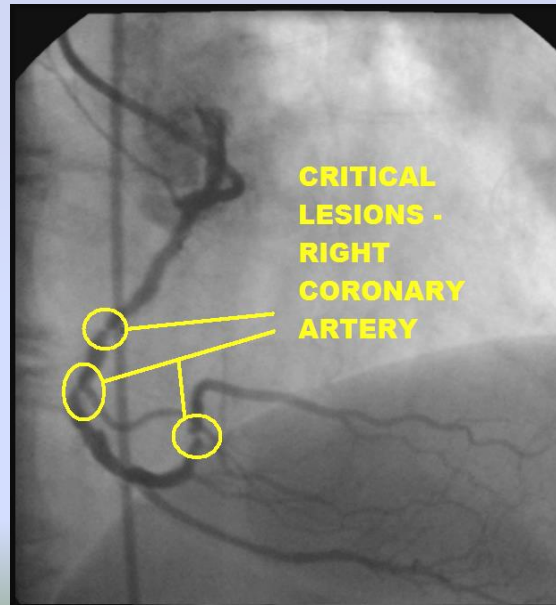
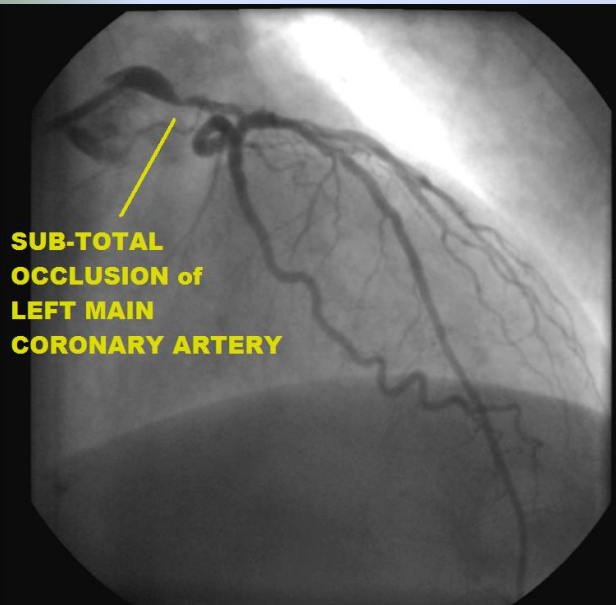
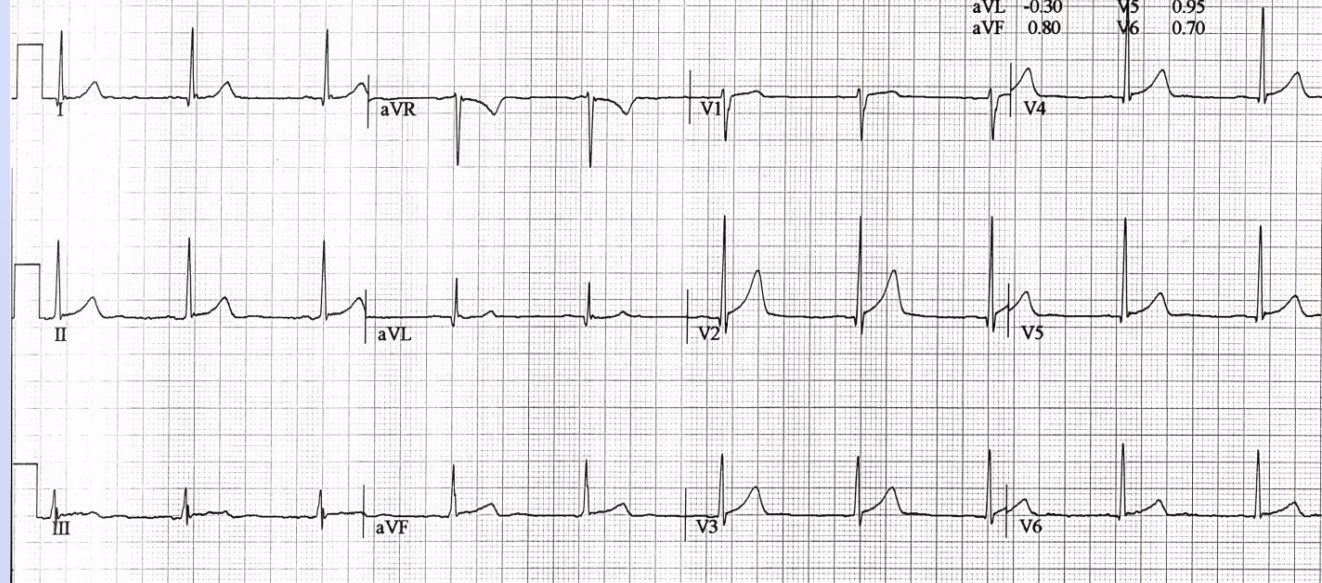
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STANDING  
00:58

BRUCE  
0.0 mph  
0.0 %

Measured at 60ms Post J (10mm/mV)  
Auto Points

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I	0.25	V1	0.60
II	0.95	V2	1.70
III	0.70	V3	1.30
aVR	-0.60	V4	1.10
aVL	-0.30	V5	0.95
aVF	0.80	V6	0.70



**Emergency  
Triple Vessel  
Coronary  
Artery  
Bypass  
Surgery**

## 63 y/o male patient:

- The HEART Score guided physicians to admit the patient to Observation and do a cardiac work-up.
- Stress Test in the AM indicated “significant global ischemia.”
- Patient taken to Cath Lab where critical Triple-Vessel Disease was discovered
- Patient taken to STAT Open Heart Surgery.

## **stable angina**

1. SYMPTOMS START DURING PHYSICAL EXERTION.
2. SYMPTOMS ARE "PREDICTABLE"

**VS.**

## **unstable angina**

1. SYMPTOMS MAY START AT ANY TIME, EVEN DURING REST
2. SYMPTOMS ARE NEW, DIFFERENT, or WORSE THAN PREVIOUS EPISODES

***BEWARE of the patient with  
"INTERMITTENT CHEST PAIN" . . . .***



# Modified HEART Score for EMS

- Most EMS units don't have access to "Troponin blood testing."
- The "HEAR" Score ("HEART" – minus the Troponin) has been validated by recent a recent study conducted by Cambridge University.
- [View Cambridge University Journal article about HEAR Score](#)

# Integrated ECG:

- HEMODYNAMIC STATUS
  - ABCs
  - Shock
- SYMPTOMS
  - Chest Pain / Pressure
  - Other ACS Symptoms
- ECG
  - **12 Lead**
  - Single Lead “rhythm strip”

**Evaluating the ECG for ACS:**

**A TWO-STEP process:**

# Evaluating the ECG for ACS:

## A TWO-STEP process:

**STEP 1: Evaluate QRS Width**

# Evaluating the ECG for ACS:

## A TWO-STEP process:

**STEP 1: Evaluate QRS Width**

**STEP 2: Evaluate J Points, ST-Segment and T waves  
in EVERY Lead**





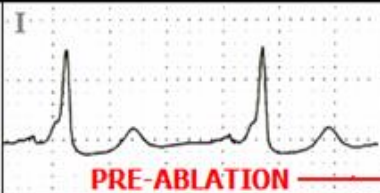
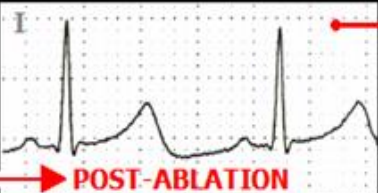

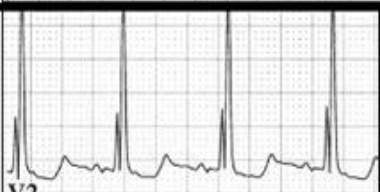
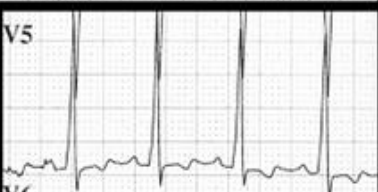
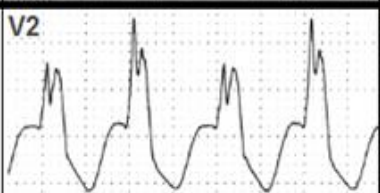

## STEP 1 – evaluate QRS width:

- **QRS is ABNORMALLY WIDE (>120 ms),**
  - **indicates DEPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITY**  
(e.g. “bundle branch block, Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome, etc).

## STEP 1 – evaluate QRS width:

- QRS is **ABNORMALLY WIDE** ( $>120$  ms),
  - indicates **DEPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITY** (e.g. “bundle branch block, Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome, etc).
  - **DEPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITIES** in turn cause **REPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITIES**, which alters the: *J Points, ST-Segments and/or T Waves.*

## CONDITIONS THAT INCREASE QRS DURATION RESULT IN SECONDARY REPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITIES:

RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK			LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK
W-P-W BYPASS TRACT, LEFT LATERAL WALL 49 y/o MALE			SAME PATIENT AS ON LEFT - IMMEDIATELY AFTER RF ABLATION OF BYPASS TRACT
W-P-W BYPASS TRACT, RIGHT ANTERIOR/ LATERAL WALL 14 y/o MALE			SAME PATIENT AS ON LEFT - IMMEDIATELY AFTER RF ABLATION OF BYPASS TRACT
PACEMAKER - RIGHT VENTRICULAR APEX			PACEMAKER TURNED OFF HERE
RIGHT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY ( Strain Pattern )			LEFT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY ( Strain Pattern )
VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA FOCUS: LEFT FASCICULAR, 17 y/o FEMALE			VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA- FOCUS: RIGHT VENTRICULAR APEX

**Wide QRS present:  
QRSd > 120ms**

- **Determine RIGHT vs. LEFT Bundle Branch Block Pattern**

# Simple “Turn Signal Method” . . .

## THE “TURN SIGNAL METHOD” for identifying BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

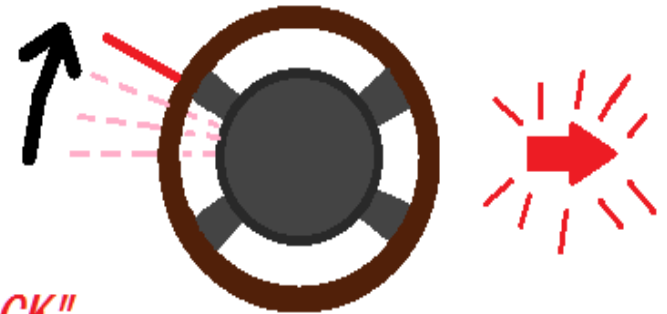
V1

USE LEAD V1 for this technique

To make a **RIGHT TURN**  
you push the turn signal lever **UP** . . . .

THINK:

*“QRS points UP = RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK”*

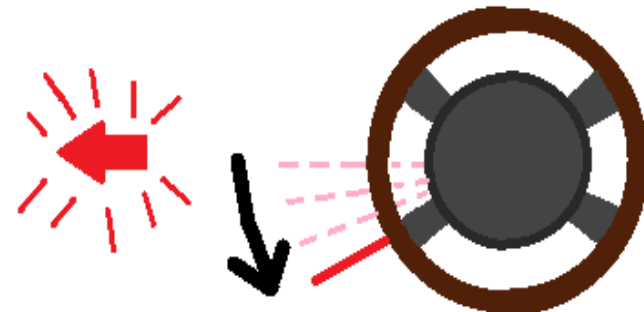


V1

To make a **LEFT TURN**  
you push the turn signal lever **DOWN** . . . .

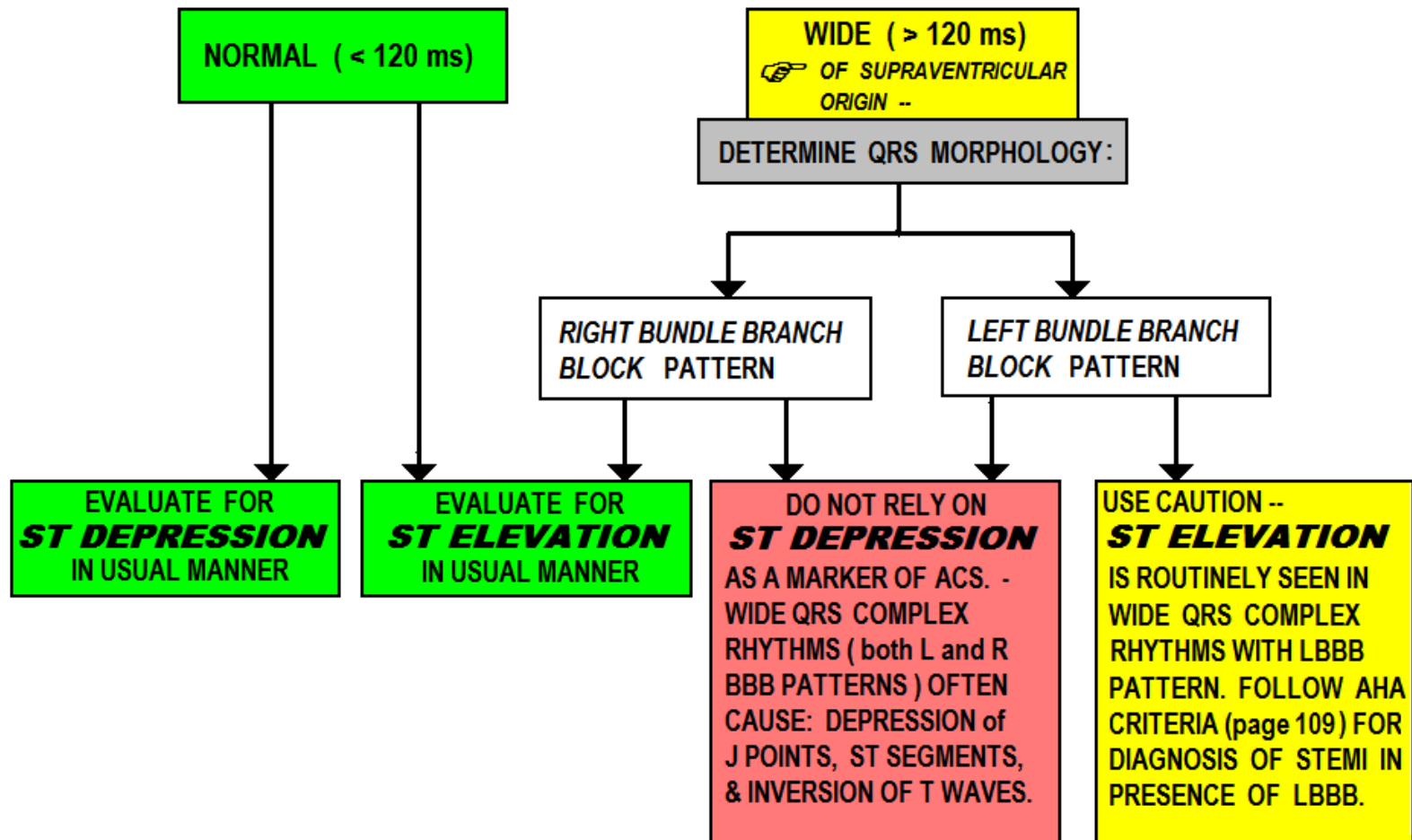
THINK:

*“QRS points DOWN = LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK”*



# Evaluating the ECG for ACS:

## STEP 1 - EVALUATE WIDTH OF QRS:



## **Wide QRS present: (QRSd > 120ms)**

- **When RIGHT Bundle Branch Block pattern is present:**
  - **Precordial Leads typically demonstrate ST Depression and T wave Inversion**

74years		Vent. rate	72 bpm	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Caucasian	PR interval	186 ms	Left axis deviation
		QRS duration	166 ms	Right bundle branch block
Room:		QT/QTc	436/477 ms	Inferior infarct, age undetermined
Loc: 0	Opt:	P-R-T axes	57 -32 32	Abnormal ECG

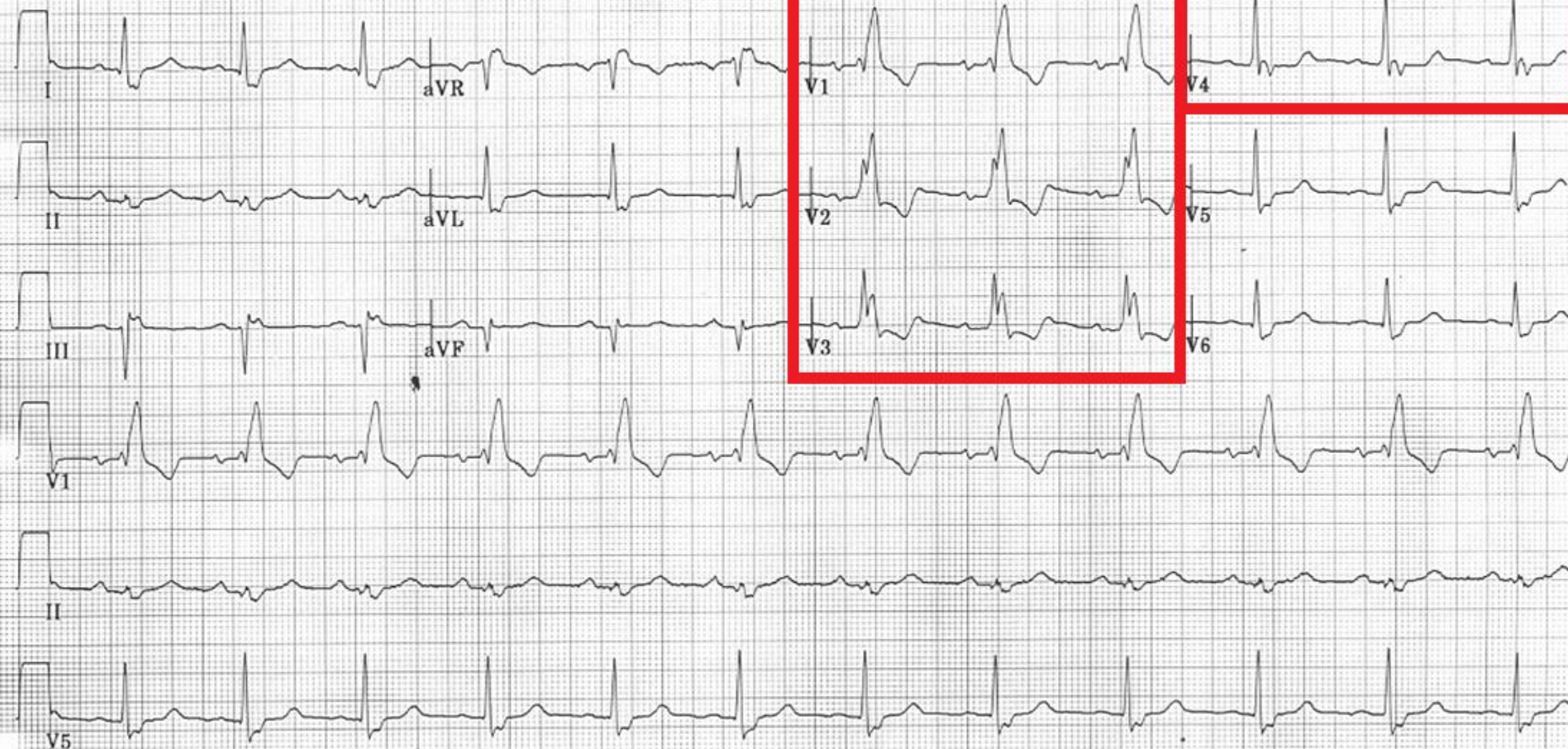
Technician: WR

***RBBB causes ST Depression,  
T Wave Inversion, ANTERIOR  
Leads ( V1 - V4 ).***

D.O.S.:

Referred by:

Unconfirmed



## Wide QRS present: (QRSd > 120ms)

- **When RIGHT Bundle Branch Block pattern is present:**
  - Precordial Leads typically demonstrate ST Depression and T wave Inversion
  - **DOES NOT MASK STEMI; *when ST Elevation is noted, CONSIDER STEMI !!***

RBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 1: ST ELEVATION IN LEADS V1 - V4

48 yr  
Male Caucasian  
Room:ATL  
Loc:3 Option:23

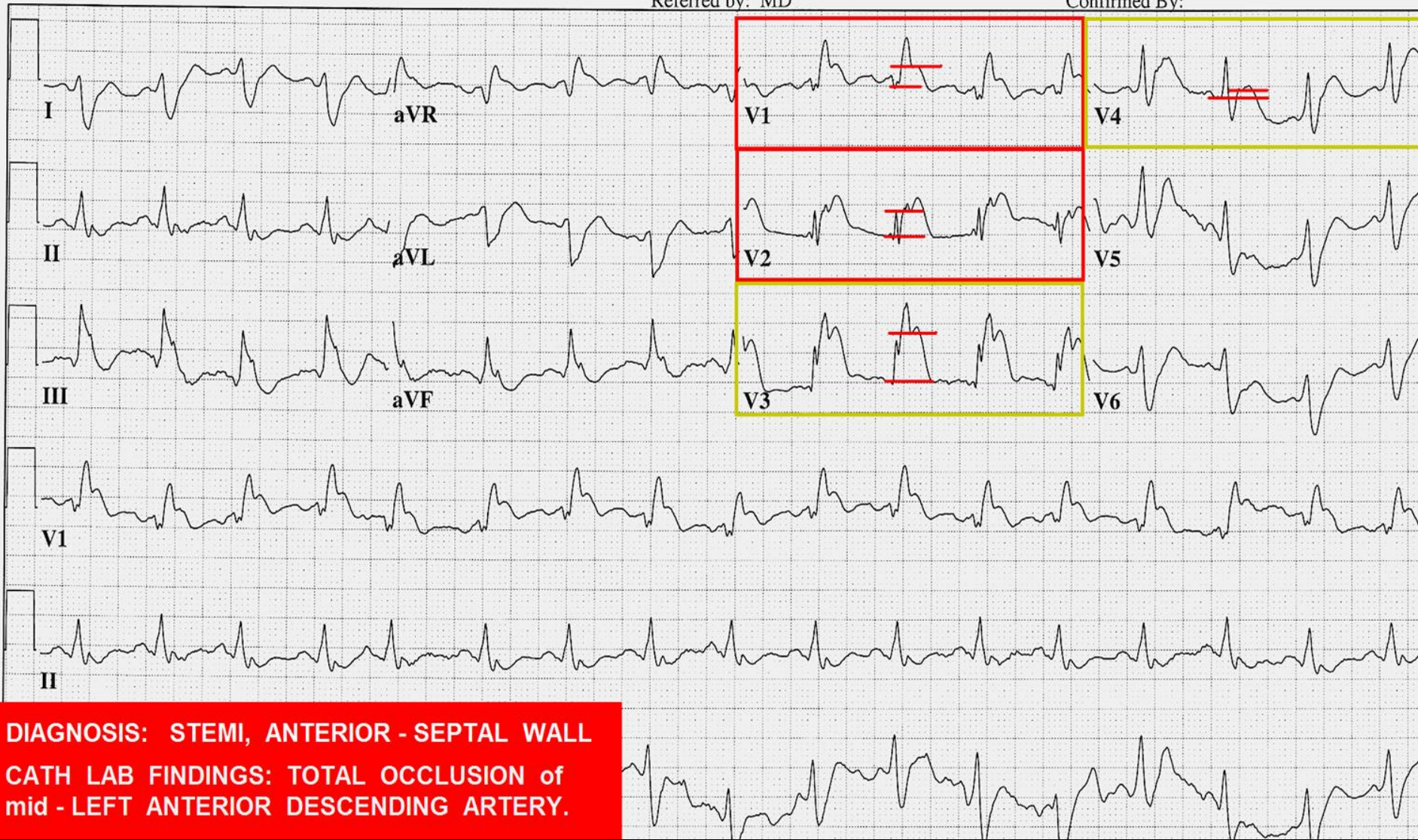
Vent. rate 102 BPM  
PR interval 130 ms  
QRS duration 168 ms  
QT/QTc 400/521 ms  
P-R-T axes 60 114 -19

Sinus tachycardia with Premature supraventricular complexes and Fusion complexes  
**Right bundle branch block**  
ST elevation consider anterior injury or acute infarct  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG ...

Technician: W Ruppert

Referred by: MD

Confirmed By:



**DIAGNOSIS: STEMI, ANTERIOR - SEPTAL WALL**  
**CATH LAB FINDINGS: TOTAL OCCLUSION of mid - LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY.**

**RBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 2: ST ELEVATION LEADS II, III, aVF - WITH RECIPROCAL ST DEPRESSION in LEADS V1 - V6**

25 yr  
Male      Caucasian  
  
Loc:3      Option:23

Vent. rate      67 BPM  
PR interval      258 ms  
QRS duration      136 ms  
QT/QTc      398/420 ms  
P-R-T axes      44 94 82

Sinus rhythm with 1st degree A-V block

**Right bundle branch block**

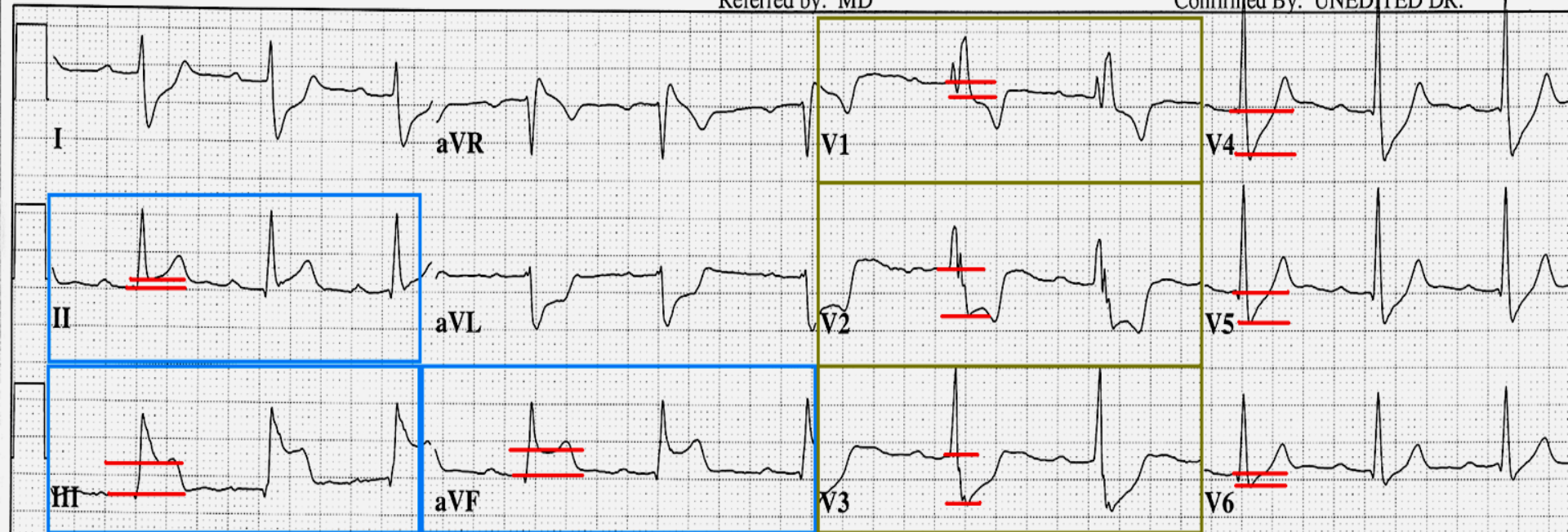
ST elevation consider inferior injury or acute infarct

\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*

Abnormal ECG

Referred by: MD

Confirmed By: UNEDITED DR.



**DIAGNOSIS: STEMI - INFERIOR-POSTERIOR WALL**

**CATH LAB FINDINGS: TOTAL OCCLUSION of  
DOMINANT RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY**

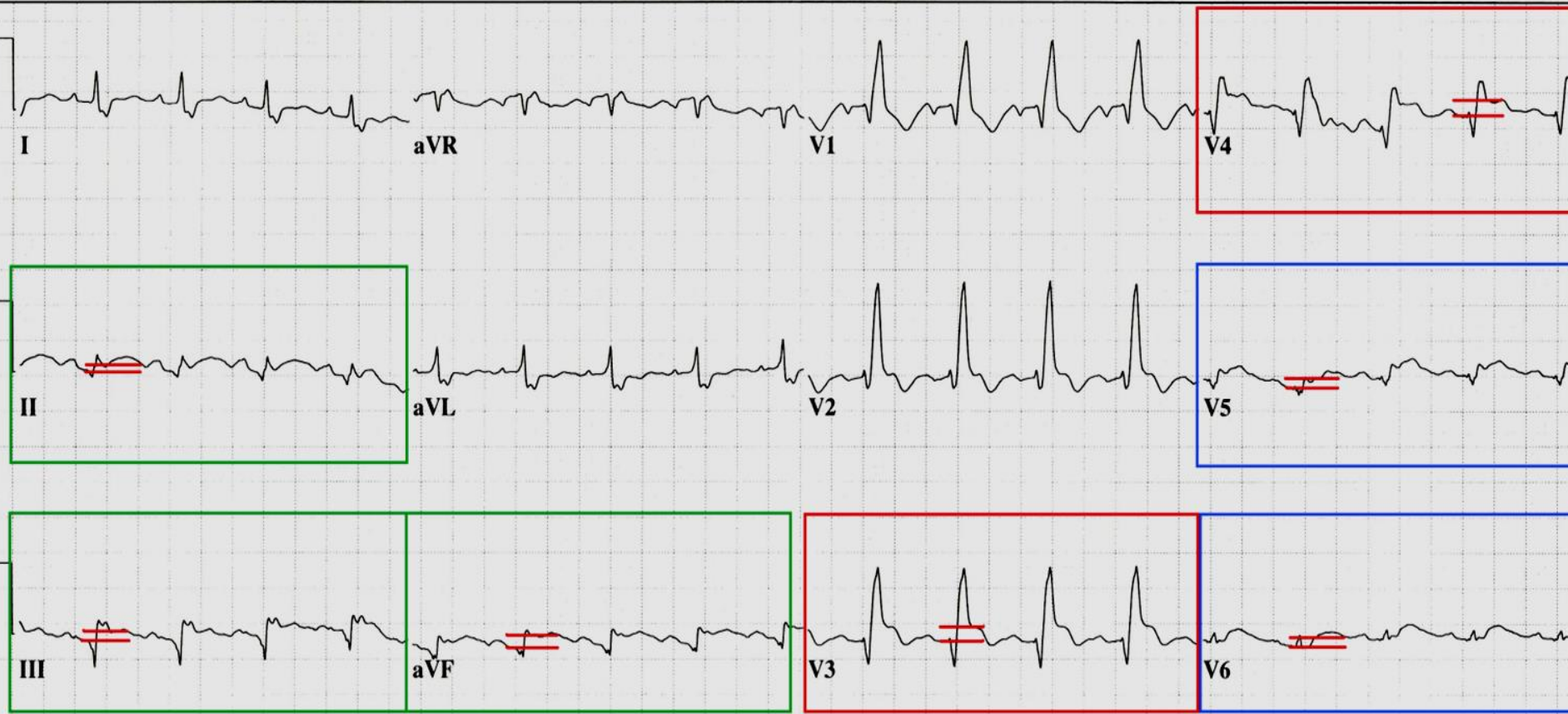
RBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 3: ST ELEVATION V3 - V6, II, III, aVF

75 yr  
Male      Caucasian  
  
Room:CS-19  
Loc:6      Option:4I

Vent. rate      110    BPM  
PR interval      170    ms  
QRS duration      148    ms  
QT/QTc      366/495    ms  
P-R-T axes      57 19    69

Sinus tachycardia  
Right bundle branch block  
Lateral infarct , possibly acute  
Inferior infarct , possibly acute  
Anterior injury pattern  
Abnormal ECG

ACUTE LATERAL - INFERIOR - ANTERIOR AMI  
CATH LAB FINDINGS: OCCLUDED VEIN GRAFT  
TO THE CIRCUMFLEX DISTRIBUTION  
(DOMINANT CIRCUMFLEX)



# **Wide QRS present:**

**(QRSd > 120ms)**

- **When LBBB QRS pattern is present:**

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**(QRSd > 120ms)**

- **When LBBB QRS pattern is present:**
  - **ST-Segment Elevation is typically noted in Preordial Leads**

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(QRSd > 120ms)

- **When LBBB QRS pattern is present:**
  - ST-Segment Elevation is typically noted in Preordial Leads
  - *Can cause up to 5mm of J Point Elevation in normally calibrated ECG (1mm=10mv)*

# Wide QRS present:

(QRSd > 120ms)

- **When LBBB QRS pattern is present:**
  - ST-Segment Elevation is typically noted in Precordial Leads
  - *Can cause up to 5mm of J Point Elevation in normally calibrated ECG (1mm=10mv)*
  - *Does NOT typically cause ST elevation in INFERIOR Leads (II, III and AVF).*

# Diagnosis of STEMI with LBBB pattern:

## 2013 ACC/AHA Guideline for Management of STEMI

- *ST Elevation of 0.1mv (1mm) or more in leads with Positive Deflection QRS complexes*

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- *ST Elevation of 0.1mv (1mm) or more in leads with Positive Deflection QRS complexes*
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- *ST Segment Changes as compared with those of older ECGs with LBBB*

# Diagnosis of STEMI with LBBB pattern:

## 2013 ACC/AHA Guideline for Management of STEMI

- *ST Elevation of 0.1mv (1mm) or more in leads with Positive Deflection QRS complexes*
- *ST Elevation of 0.5mv (5mm) or more in leads with Negative Deflection QRS complexes*
- *ST Segment Changes as compared with those of older ECGs with LBBB*
- ***Convex ST Segment***

78 yr  
Female Black  
Room: ICU5  
Loc: 6 Option: 19

Vent. rate 94 BPM  
PR interval 202 ms  
QRS duration 160 ms  
QT/QTc 388/485 ms  
P-R-T axes 91 -23 87

Normal sinus rhythm with occasional Premature ventricular complexes  
Left bundle branch block  
Abnormal ECG

- Normal arteries
- Normal LV Function
- No hypertrophy

Technician: EKG CLASS #WR03602718

Referred by:



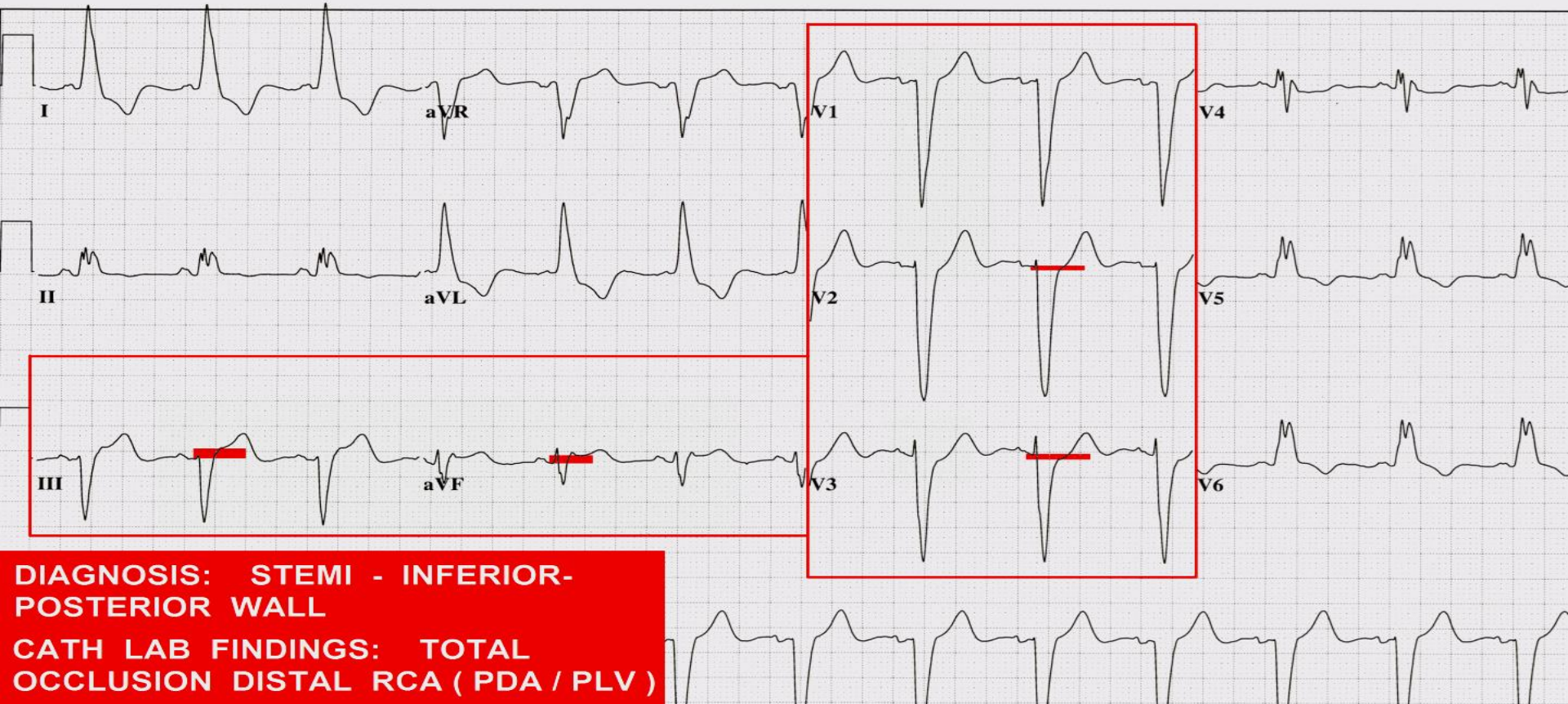
“Electrocardiographic Diagnosis of Evolving Acute Myocardial Infarction in the Presence of Left Bundle-Branch Block” Birnbaum et al, N Engl J Med 1996; 334:481-487

# LBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 1 : PRESENTING EKG

58 yr  
Female Hispanic  
Room: ER  
Loc:3 Option:23

Vent. rate	77	BPM
PR interval	128	ms
QRS duration	158	ms
QT/QTc	454/513	ms
P-R-T axes	43 -11	150

Normal sinus rhythm  
Left bundle branch block  
Abnormal ECG



**DIAGNOSIS: STEMI - INFERIOR-POSTERIOR WALL**

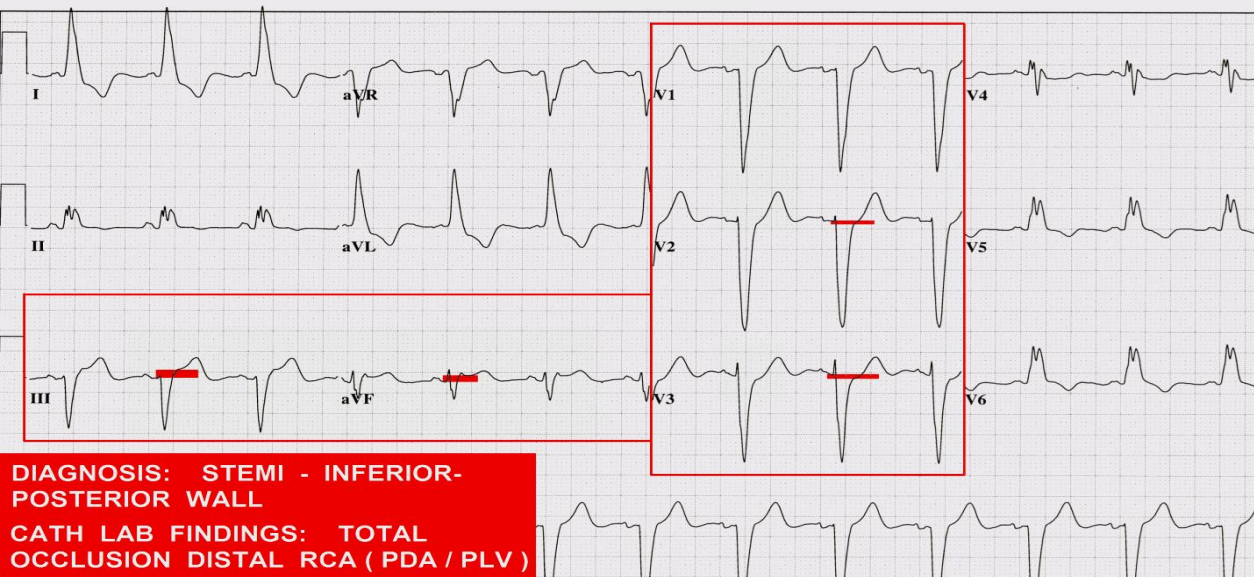
**CATH LAB FINDINGS: TOTAL OCCLUSION DISTAL RCA ( PDA / PLV )**

# LBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 1 : PRESENTING EKG

58 yr  
Female Hispanic  
Room: ER  
Loc:3 Option:23

Vent. rate 77 BPM  
PR interval 128 ms  
QRS duration 158 ms  
QT/QTc 454/513 ms  
P-R-T axes 43 -11 150

Normal sinus rhythm  
Left bundle branch block  
Abnormal ECG

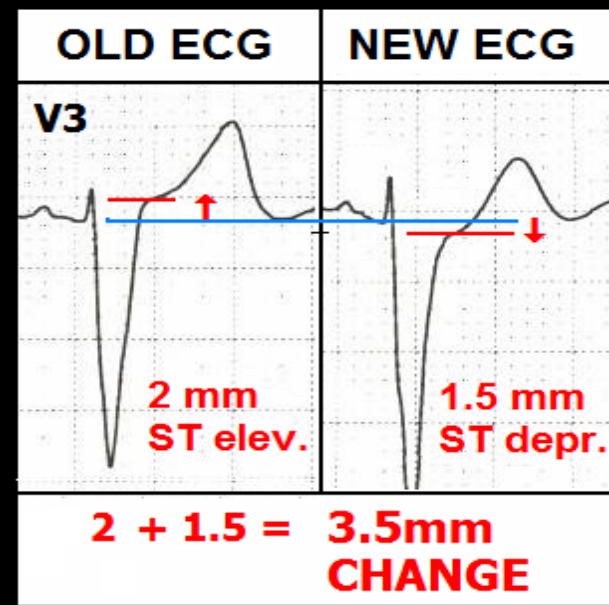
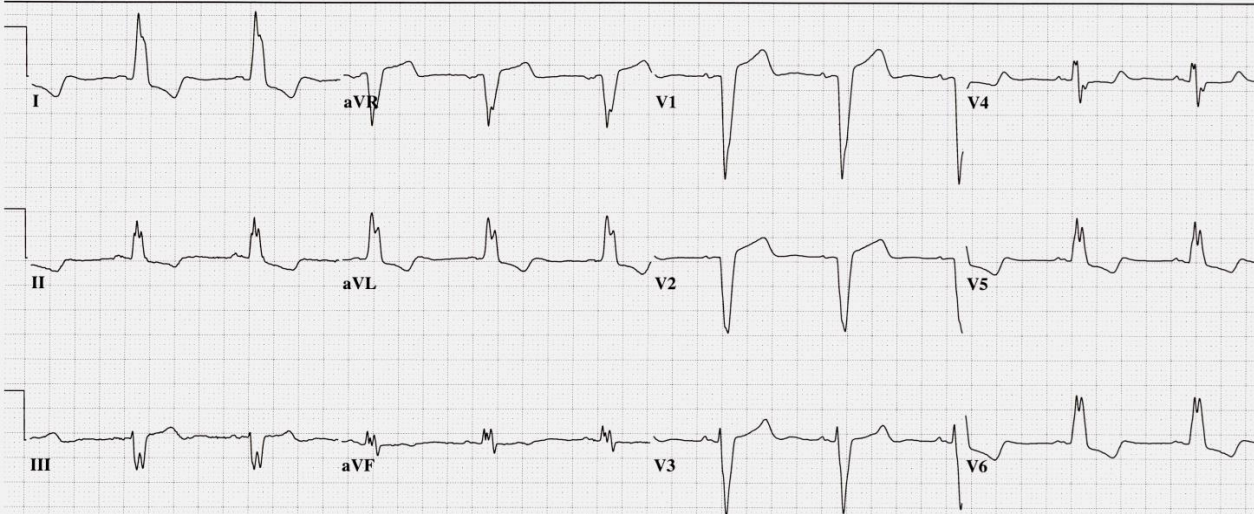


## LBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 1 : EKG RECORDED 7 MONTHS AGO

57 yr  
Female Hispanic  
Room:416B  
Loc:6 Option:39

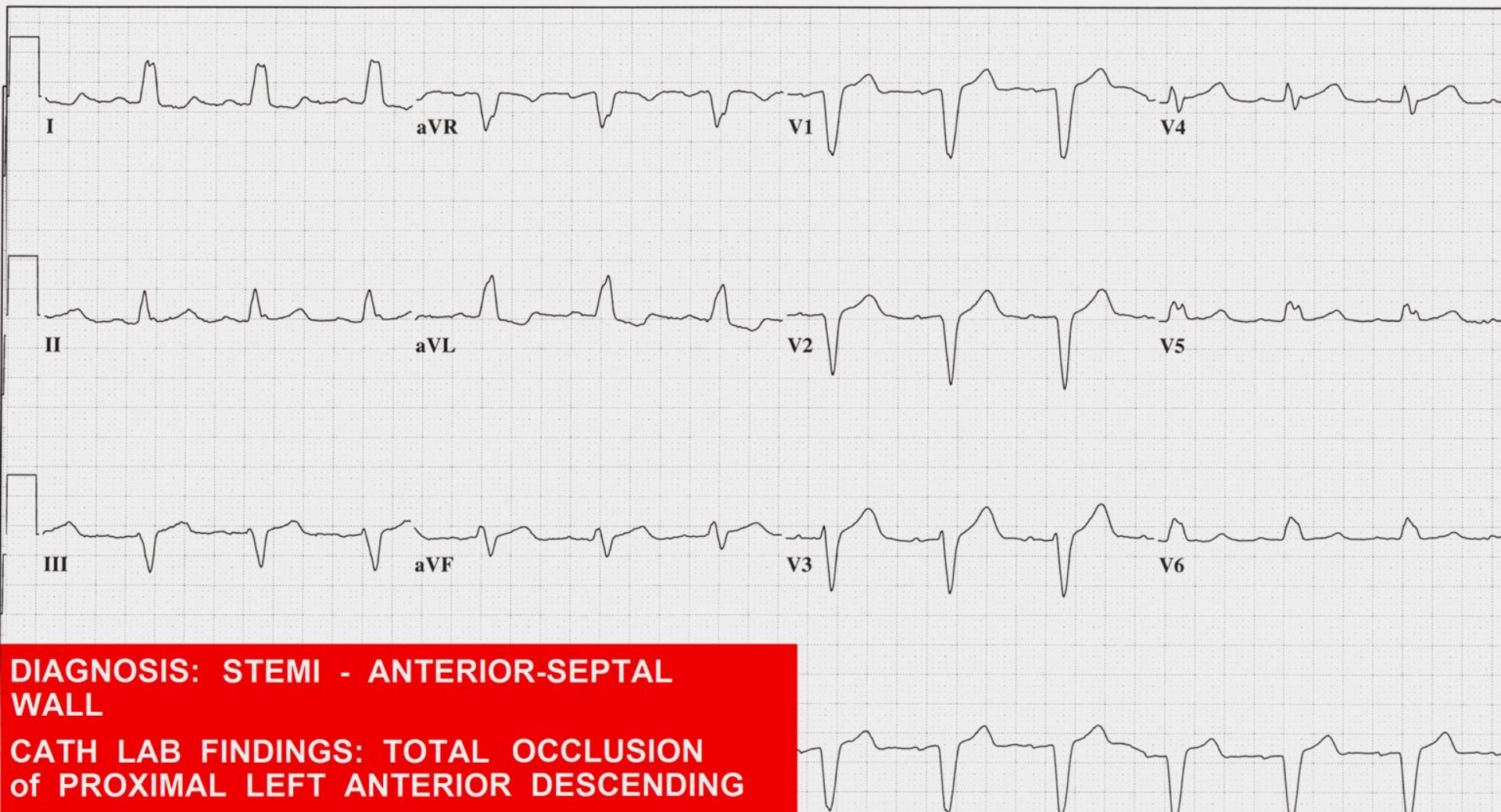
Vent. rate 63 BPM  
PR interval 140 ms  
QRS duration 142 ms  
QT/QTc 462/472 ms  
P-R-T axes 48 10 191

\*\*\* AGE AND GENDER SPECIFIC ECG ANALYSIS \*\*\*  
Normal sinus rhythm  
Left bundle branch block  
Abnormal ECG  
When compared with ECG of 22-JAN-2005 11:15.



# LBBB with CHEST PAIN - CASE 2 : NEW ONSET of LBBB

46 yr		Vent. rate	77	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Caucasian	PR interval	172	ms	Left bundle branch block
		QRS duration	142	ms	Abnormal ECG
Room:ER		QT/QTc	446/504	ms	
Loc:3	Option:23	P-R-T axes	38 0	92	

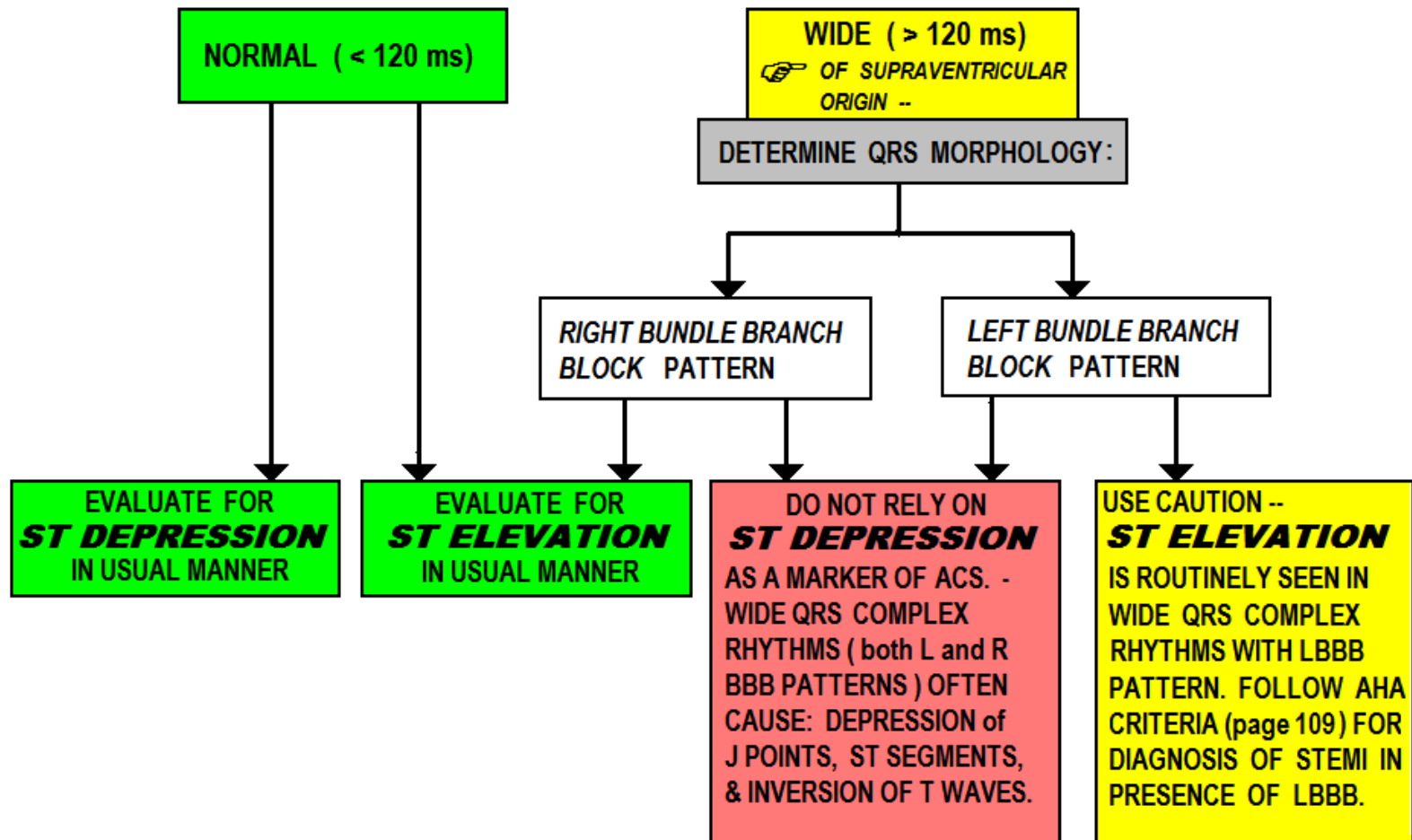


**DIAGNOSIS: STEMI - ANTERIOR-SEPTAL WALL**

**CATH LAB FINDINGS: TOTAL OCCLUSION of PROXIMAL LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING**

# Evaluating the ECG for ACS:

## STEP 1 - EVALUATE WIDTH OF QRS:



# Evaluating the ECG for ACS:

## *Patients with Normal Width QRS (QRSd < 120ms)*

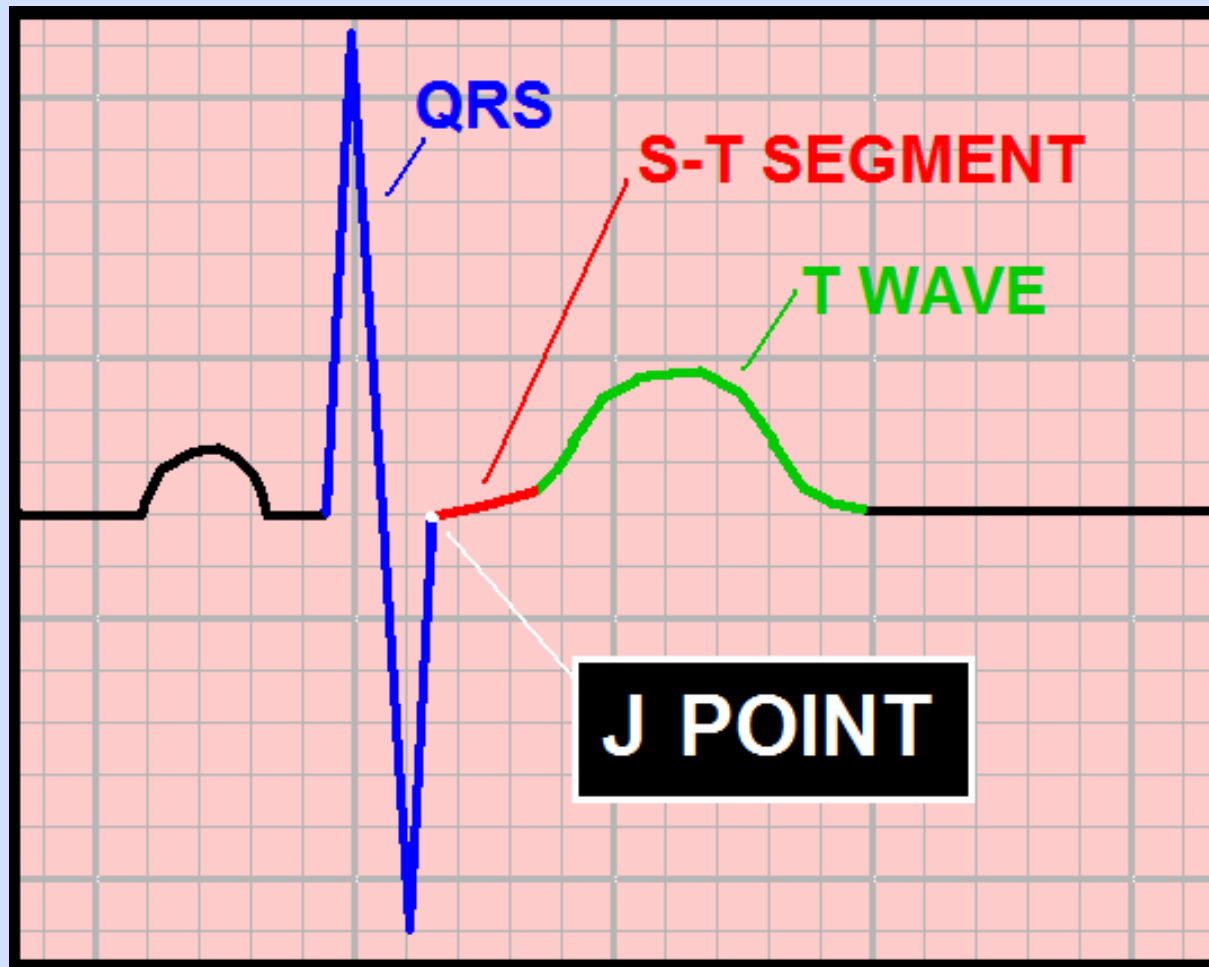
### STEP 2 - EVALUATE the EKG for ACS

THE EKG MARKERS USED FOR DETERMINING THE PRESENCE OF ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME INCLUDE:

- J POINTS
- ST SEGMENTS
- T WAVES

CAREFULLY SCRUTINIZE THESE MARKERS IN EVERY LEAD OF THE 12 LEAD EKG, TO DETERMINE IF THEY ARE *NORMAL* or *ABNORMAL*.

# Defining NORMAL – QRS <120ms:

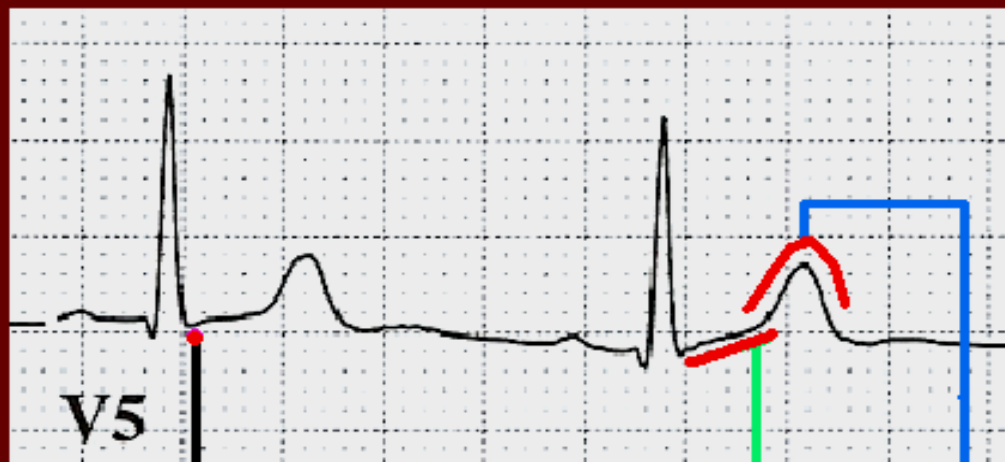


When QRS duration is NORMAL (  $< 120$  ms ):

# NORMAL ST - T WAVES

- WHEN QRS WIDTH IS NORMAL (  $< 120$  ms )

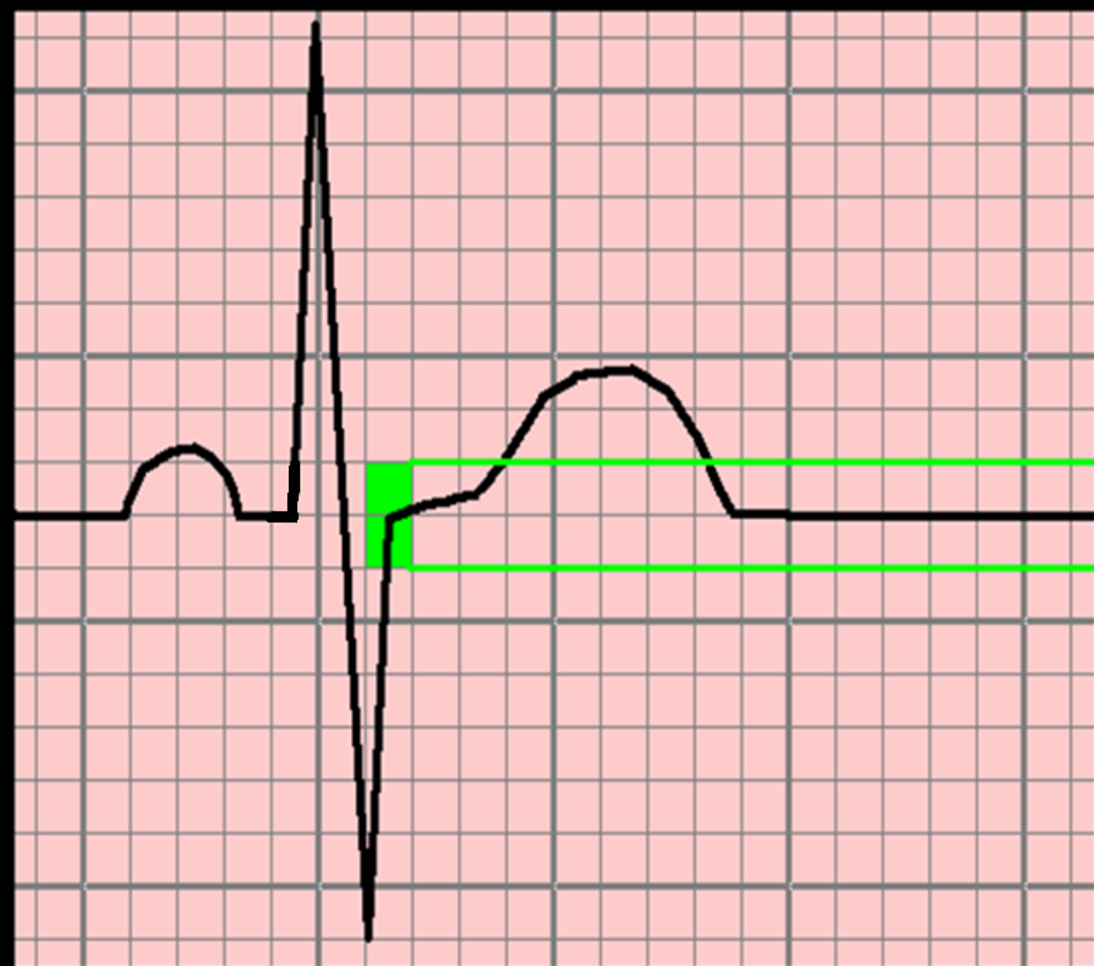
## ASSESS:



- J POINT: ISOELECTRIC ( or  $< 1$  mm dev. )
- ST SEG: SLIGHT, POSITIVE INCLINATION
- T WAVE: UPRIGHT, POSITIVE

👉 *in EVERY LEAD EXCEPT aVR !!*

# THE J POINT SHOULD BE ..

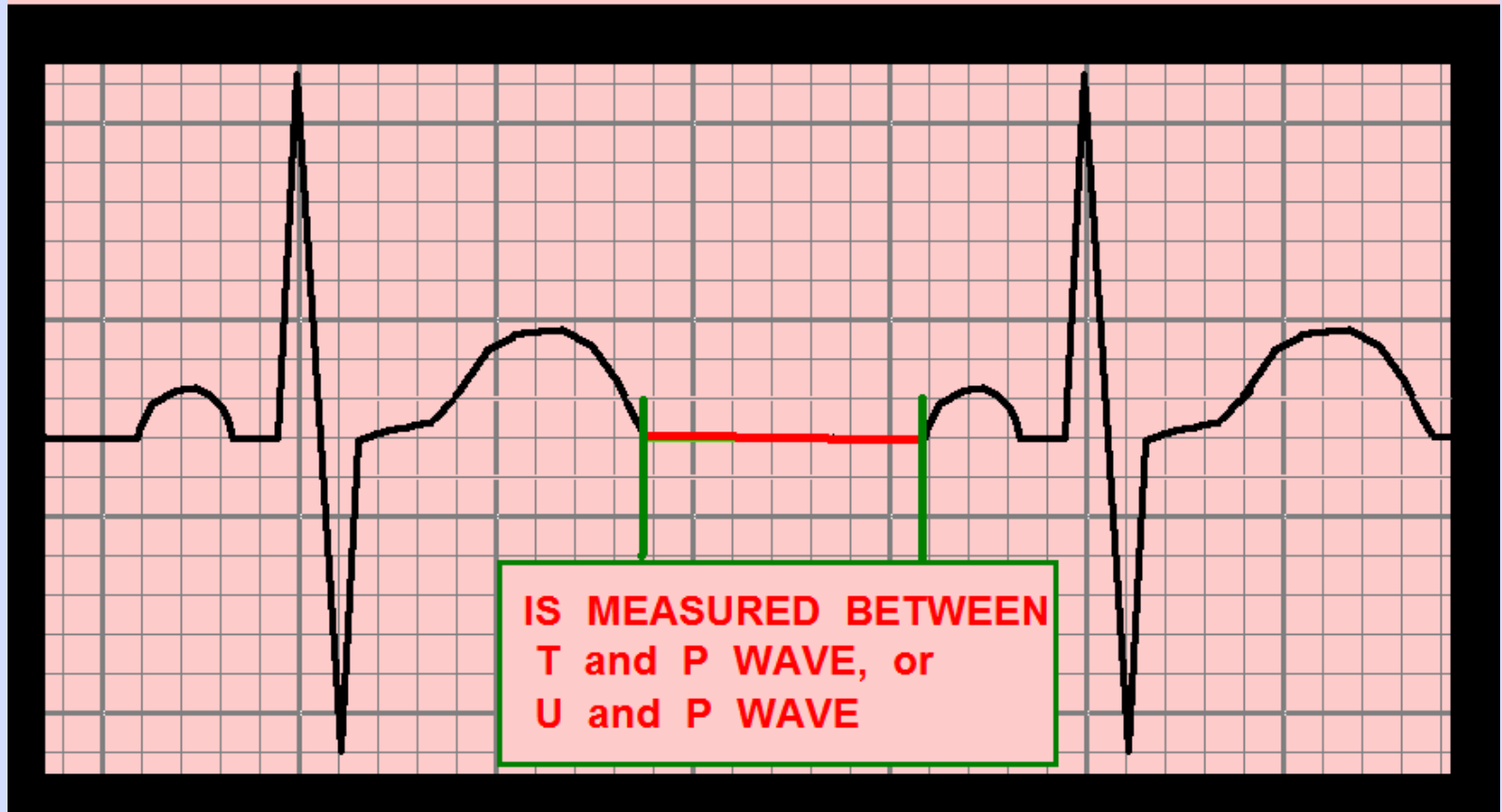


WITHIN  
1 mm  
ABOVE

OR

BELOW  
the  
ISOELECTRIC  
LINE

# THE ISOELECTRIC LINE

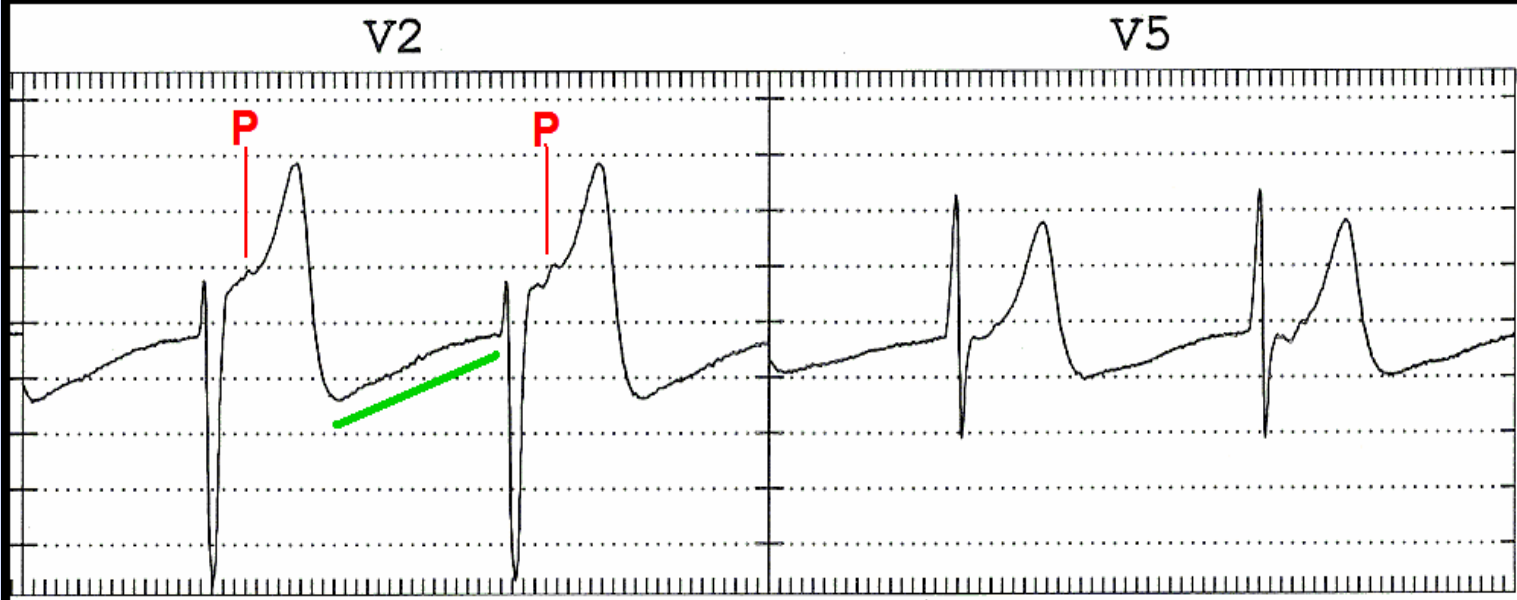


...the “flat line” between ECG complexes,  
when there is no detectable electrical  
activity . . .

# The Isoelectric Line - *it's not always isoelectric !*

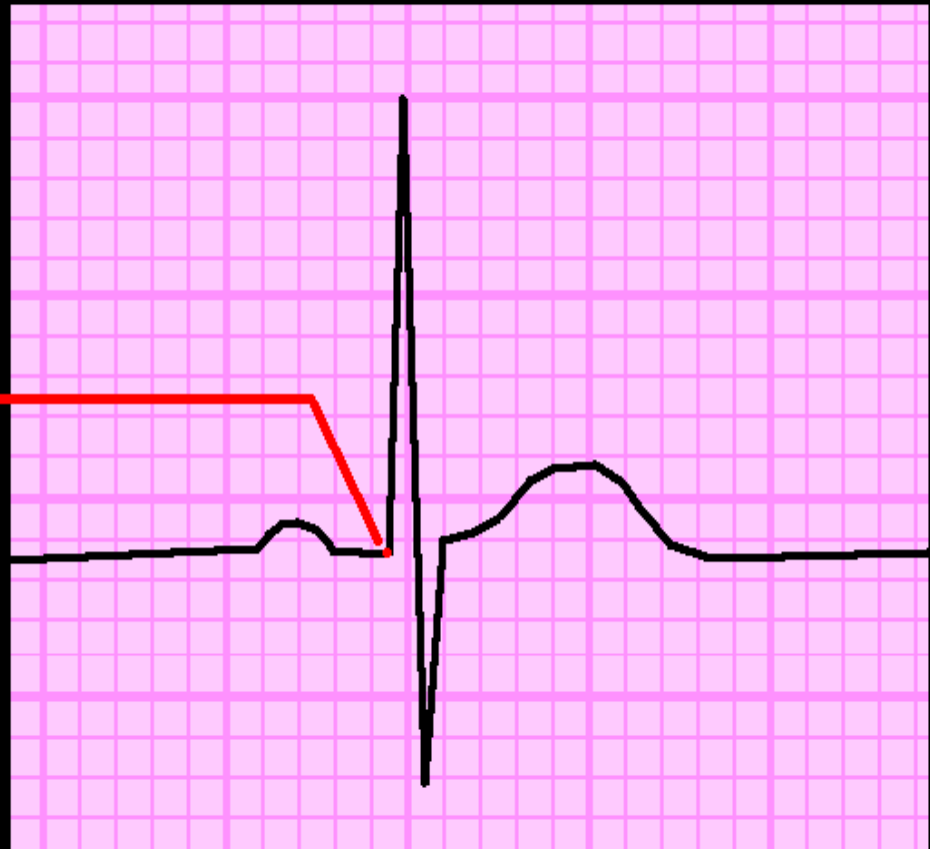
## THE ISOELECTRIC LINE

EKG from 13 y/o girl in ACCELERATED JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM.  
note: upsloping T-P interval, and P buried in T waves.



# THE P-Q JUNCTION

. . . is the POINT  
where the P-R  
SEGMENT ends  
and the QRS  
COMPLEX BEGINS.  
Used for POINT  
OF REFERENCE  
for measurement of  
the J-POINT and  
the S-T SEGMENT –



— as per the A.H.A., A.C.C., and WANG, ASINGER, and  
MARRIOTT, N.E.J.M. vol. 349:2128-2135 Nov. 27, 2003

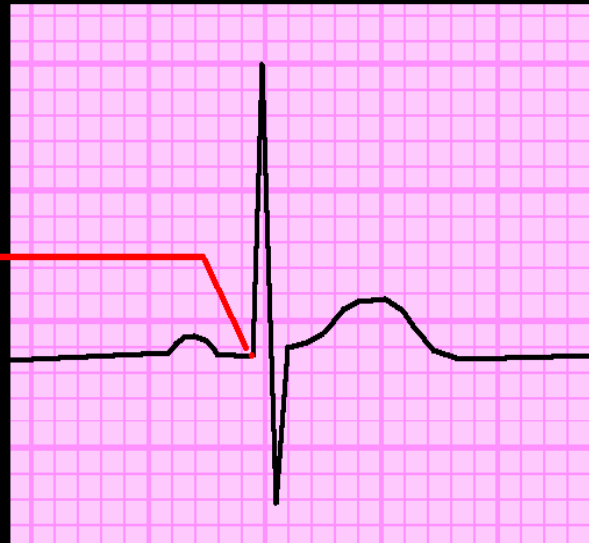
Use the P-Q junction as a reference point for measuring the J Point and ST-Segment when “iso-electric line is

not  
iso-electric !

### THE P-Q JUNCTION

... is the POINT where the P-R SEGMENT ends and the QRS COMPLEX BEGINS.

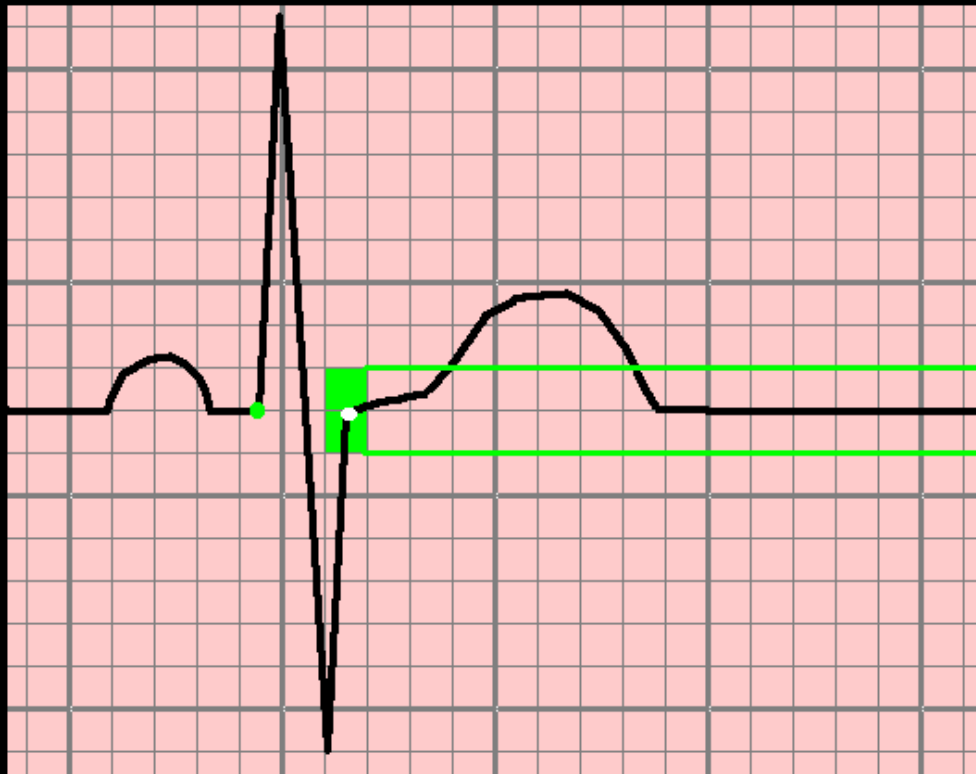
Used for POINT OF REFERENCE for measurement of the J-POINT and the S-T SEGMENT -



— as per the A.H.A., A.C.C., and WANG, ASINGER, and MARRIOTT, N.E.J.M. vol. 349:2128-2135 Nov. 27, 2003

# Defining NORMAL:

**THE J POINT SHOULD BE ..**

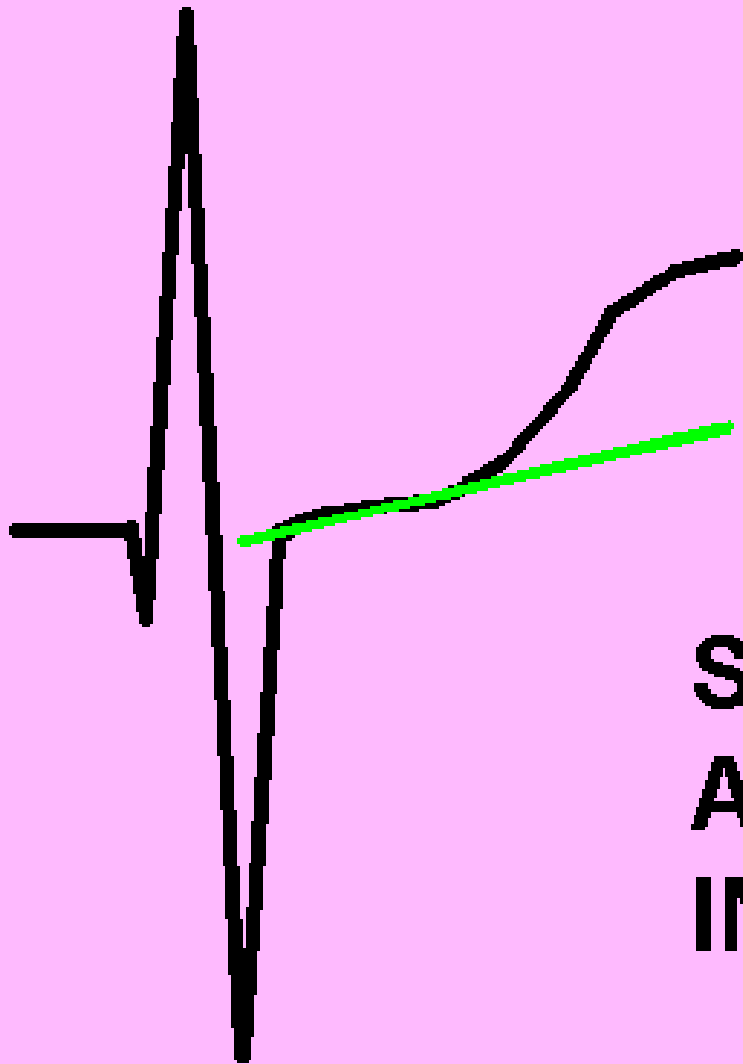


**WITHIN  
1 mm  
ABOVE**

**OR**

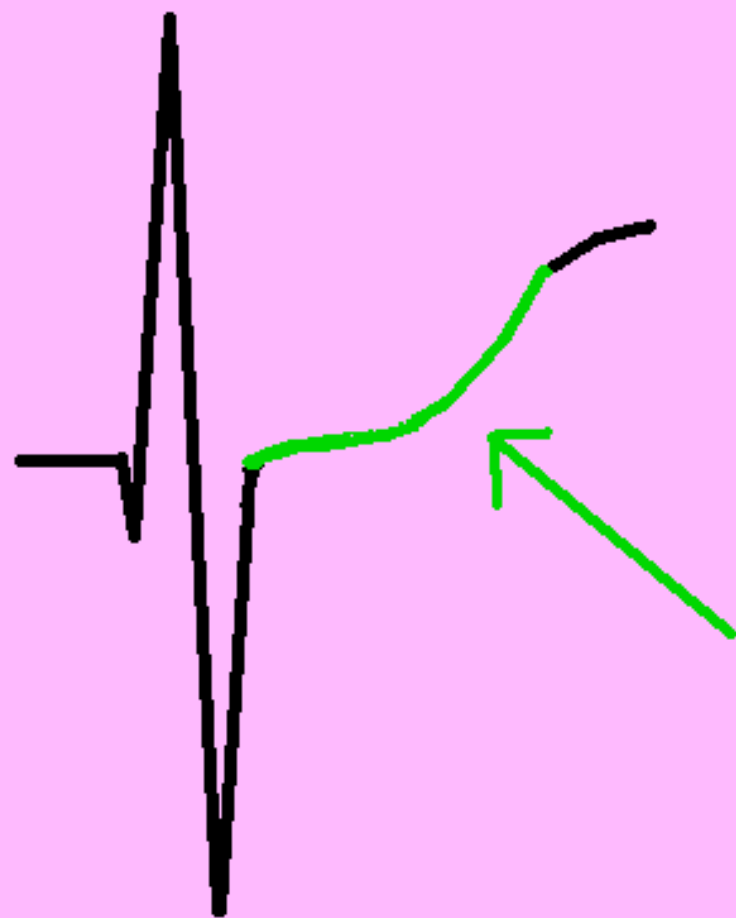
**BELOW  
THE  
P-Q  
JUNCTION**

# THE S-T SEGMENT



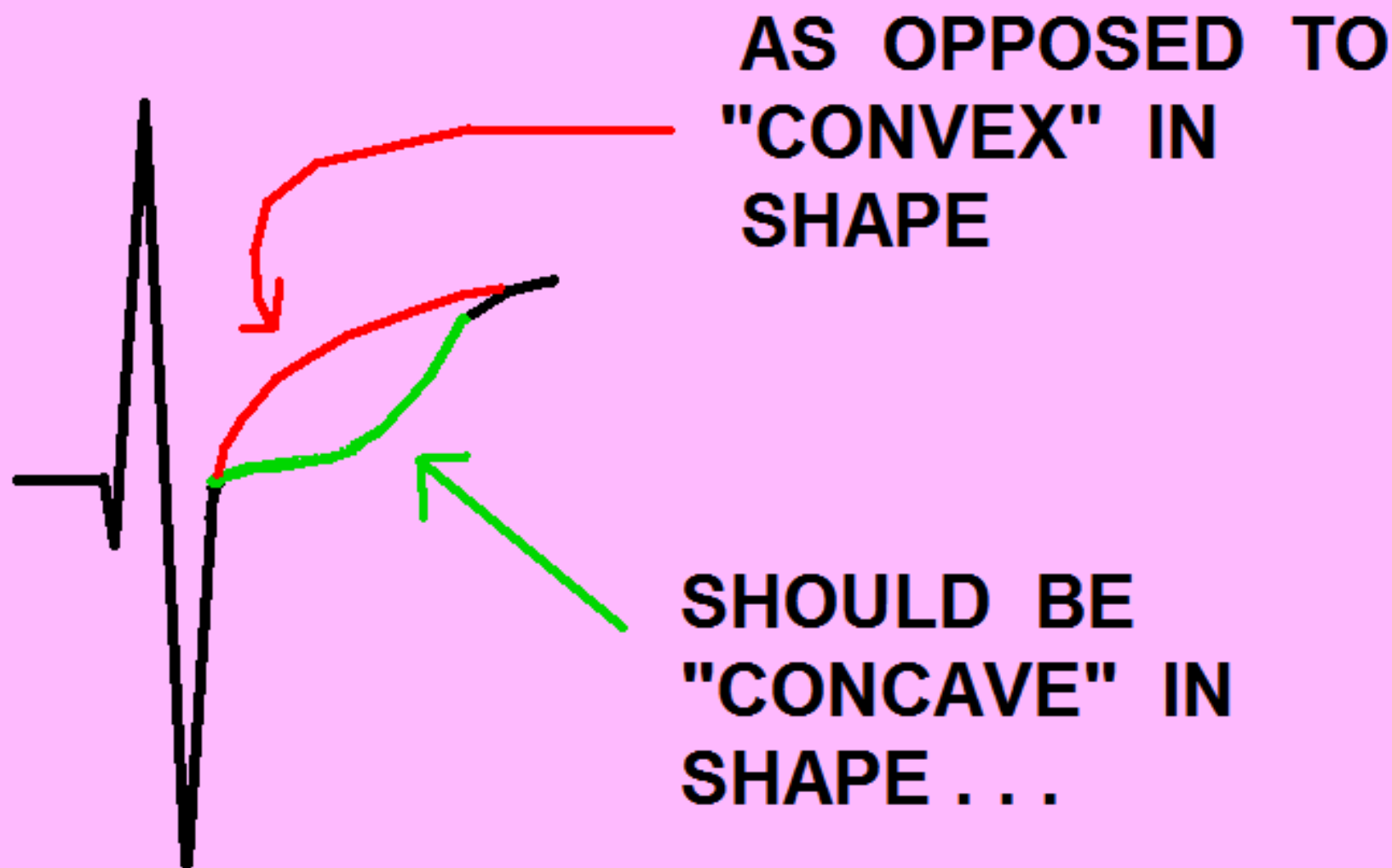
**SHOULD HAVE  
A "SLIGHT POSITIVE"  
INCLINATION**

# THE S-T SEGMENT

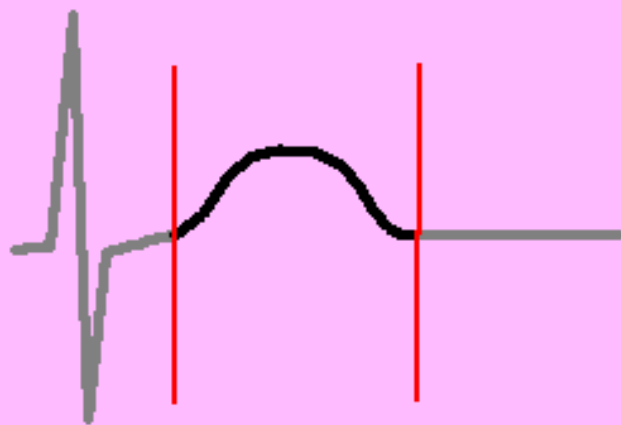


SHOULD BE  
"CONCAVE" IN  
SHAPE . . .

# THE S-T SEGMENT

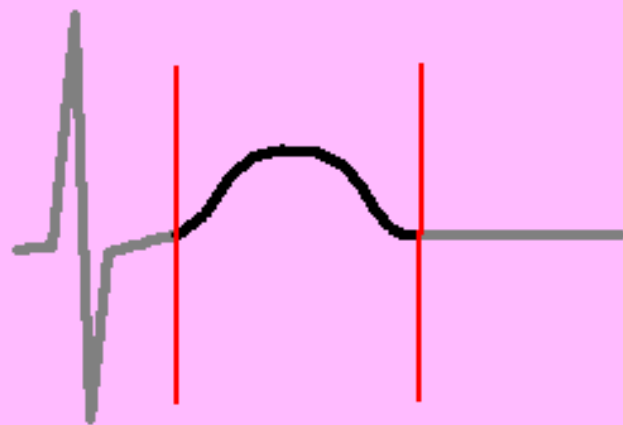


# THE T WAVE



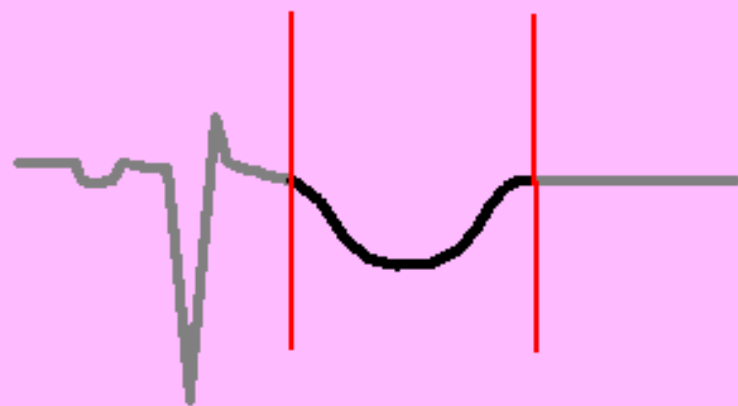
- SHOULD BE A "NICE," ROUNDED, CONVEX SHAPE
- SHOULD BE SYMMETRICAL

# THE T WAVE



- SHOULD BE A "NICE," ROUNDED, CONVEX SHAPE
- SHOULD BE SYMMETRICAL
- SHOULD BE UPRIGHT IN ALL LEADS, EXCEPT AVR

# THE T WAVE

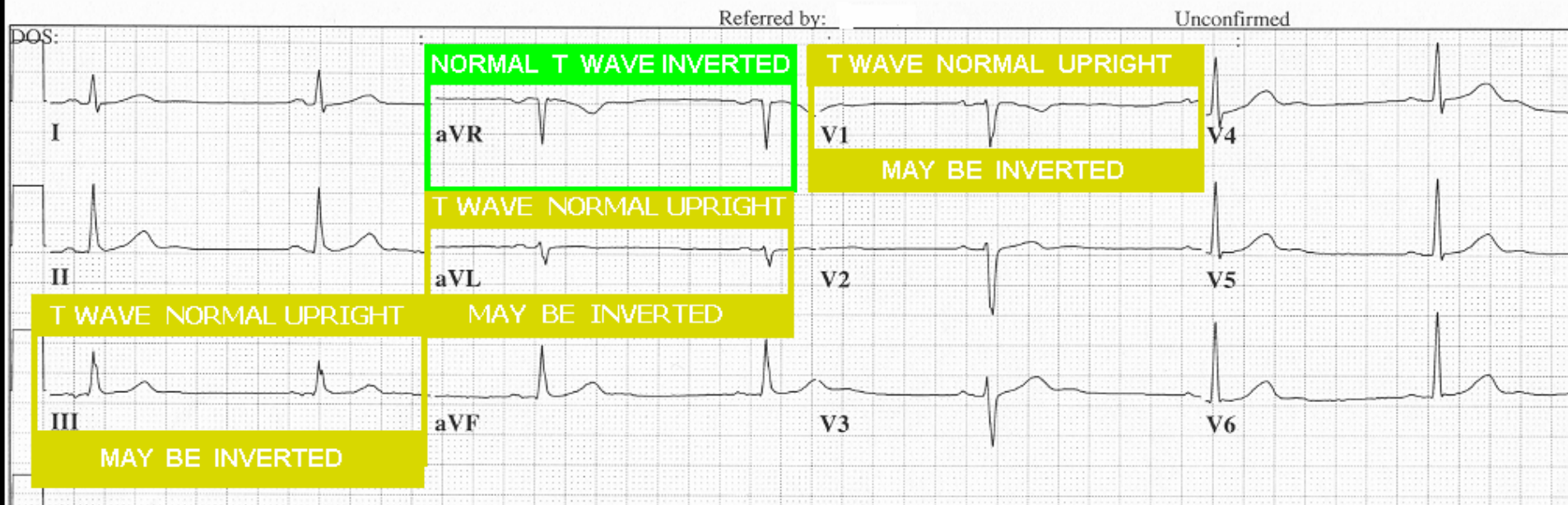


**LEAD  
AVR**

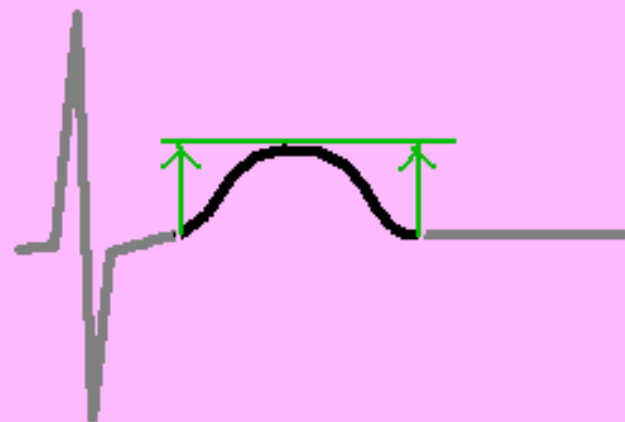
- REMEMBER, IN LEAD AVR  
*EVERYTHING*  
IS  
"UPSIDE-DOWN"

# Normal Variants: *T Wave Inversion*

**Leads where the T WAVE may be  
INVERTED:**



# THE T WAVE



## AMPLITUDE GUIDELINES:

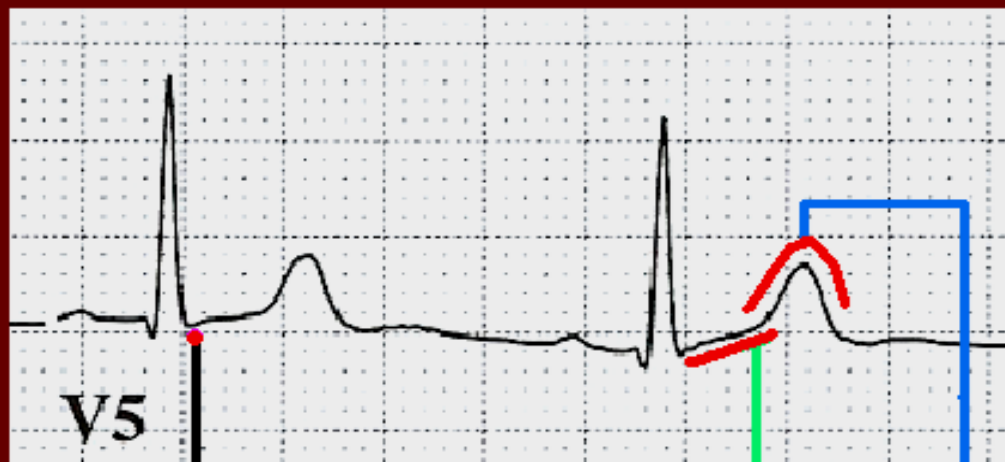
- IN THE LIMB LEADS, SHOULD BE LESS THAN 1.0 mv ( 10 mm )
- IN THE PRECORDIAL LEADS, SHOULD BE LESS THAN 0.5 mv ( 5 mm )
- SHOULD NOT BE TALLER THAN R WAVE IN 2 OR MORE LEADS.

When QRS duration is NORMAL (  $< 120$  ms ):

# NORMAL ST - T WAVES

- WHEN QRS WIDTH IS NORMAL (  $< 120$  ms )

## ASSESS:



- J POINT: ISOELECTRIC ( or  $< 1$  mm dev. )
- ST SEG: SLIGHT, POSITIVE INCLINATION
- T WAVE: UPRIGHT, POSITIVE

👉 **in EVERY LEAD EXCEPT aVR !!**

**ECG Indicators  
of ACS  
in Patients with  
*Normal Width* QRS Complexes  
(QRS duration < 120 ms)**

## Multiple patterns of ABNORMAL:

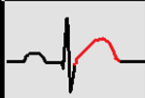
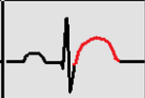
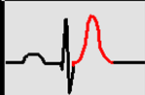

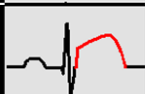



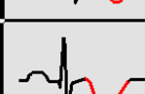

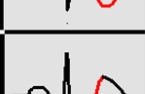

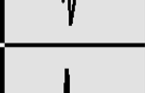
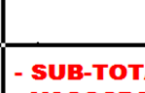
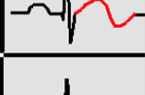
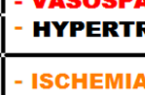
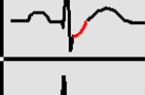

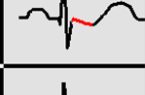

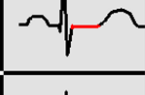

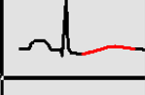

- J Point
- ST-Segment
- T Wave

configurations may indicate  
ACS.

Remember, “IF IT’S NOT  
NORMAL, it’s  
**ABNORMAL !**”


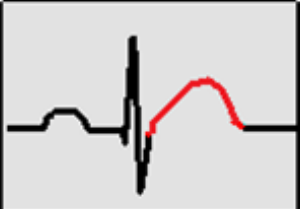
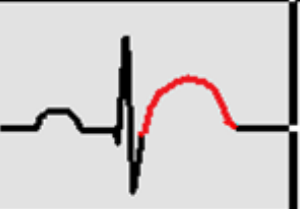
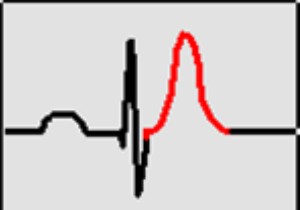
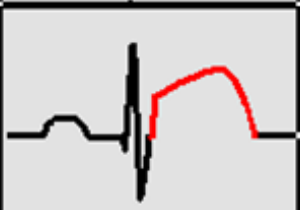
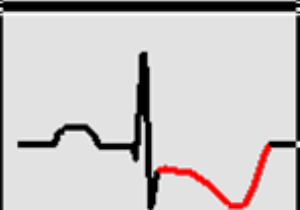
## **EKG PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA**

-- J POINT, ST SEGMENT, and T WAVE ABNORMALITIES --

! FLAT or CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENT			- Typical Cath Lab Finding: Coronary Artery Thrombus (TIMI Grade 1-2 blood flow)
! HYPER-ACUTE T WAVE			- <b>HYPERKALEMIA</b> - <b>TRANSMURAL ISCHEMIA</b> - <b>ACUTE MI</b> - <b>HYPERTROPHY</b>
! S-T SEGMENT ELEVATION at J POINT			- <b>ACUTE MI</b> - <b>ACUTE PERICARDITIS / MYOCARDITIS</b> - <b>EARLY REPOLARIZATION</b>
! DEPRESSED J pt. DOWNSLOPING ST and INVERTED T			- <b>ACUTE (NON-Q WAVE) MI</b> - <b>ACUTE MI - (RECIPROCAL CHANGES)</b> - <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
INVERTED T WAVE			- <b>MYOCARDITIS</b> - <b>ELECTROLYTE IMBAL.</b> - <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
SHARP S-T T ANGLE			- <b>ACUTE MI (NOT COMMON)</b> - <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
BI-PHASIC T WAVE (WELLEN'S)			- <b>SUB-TOTAL LAD LESION</b> - <b>VASOSPASM</b> - <b>HYPERTROPHY</b>
DEPRESSED J POINT with UPSLOPING ST			- <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
DOWNSLOPING S-T SEGMENT			- <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
? FLAT S-T SEGMENT > 120 ms			- <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
? LOW VOLTAGE T WAVE WITH NORMAL QRS			- <b>ISCHEMIA</b>
? U WAVE POLARITY OPPOSITE THAT OF T WAVE			- <b>ISCHEMIA</b>

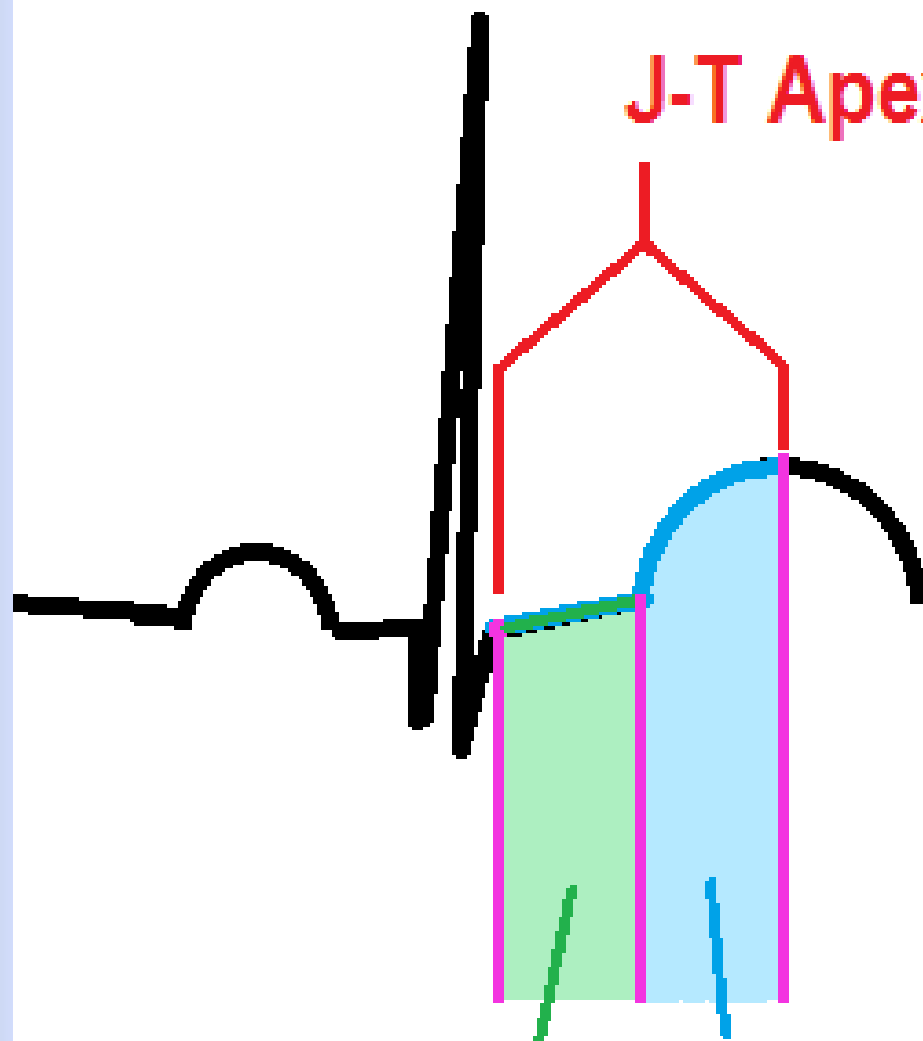
# ***EKG PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA***

-- J POINT, ST SEGMENT, and T WAVE ABNORMALITIES --

! 	FLAT or CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENT			- Typical Cath Lab Finding: Coronary Artery Thrombus (TIMI Grade 1-2 blood flow)
!	HYPER-ACUTE T WAVE			- <b>HYPERKALEMIA</b> - <b>TRANSMURAL ISCHEMIA</b> - <b>ACUTE MI</b> - <b>HYPERTROPHY</b>
!	S-T SEGMENT ELEVATION at J POINT			- <b>ACUTE MI</b> - <b>ACUTE PERICARDITIS / MYOCARDITIS</b> - <b>EARLY REPOLARIZATION</b>
!	DEPRESSED J pt. DOWNSLOPING ST and INVERTED T			- <b>ACUTE (NON-Q WAVE) MI</b> - <b>ACUTE MI - (RECIPROCAL CHANGES)</b> - <b>ISCHEMIA</b>

# ***ECG Patterns associated with “EARLY PHASE MI:”***

- ***J-T Apex abnormalities***
- ***Hyper-Acute T Waves***
- ***ST-T Wave Changes***

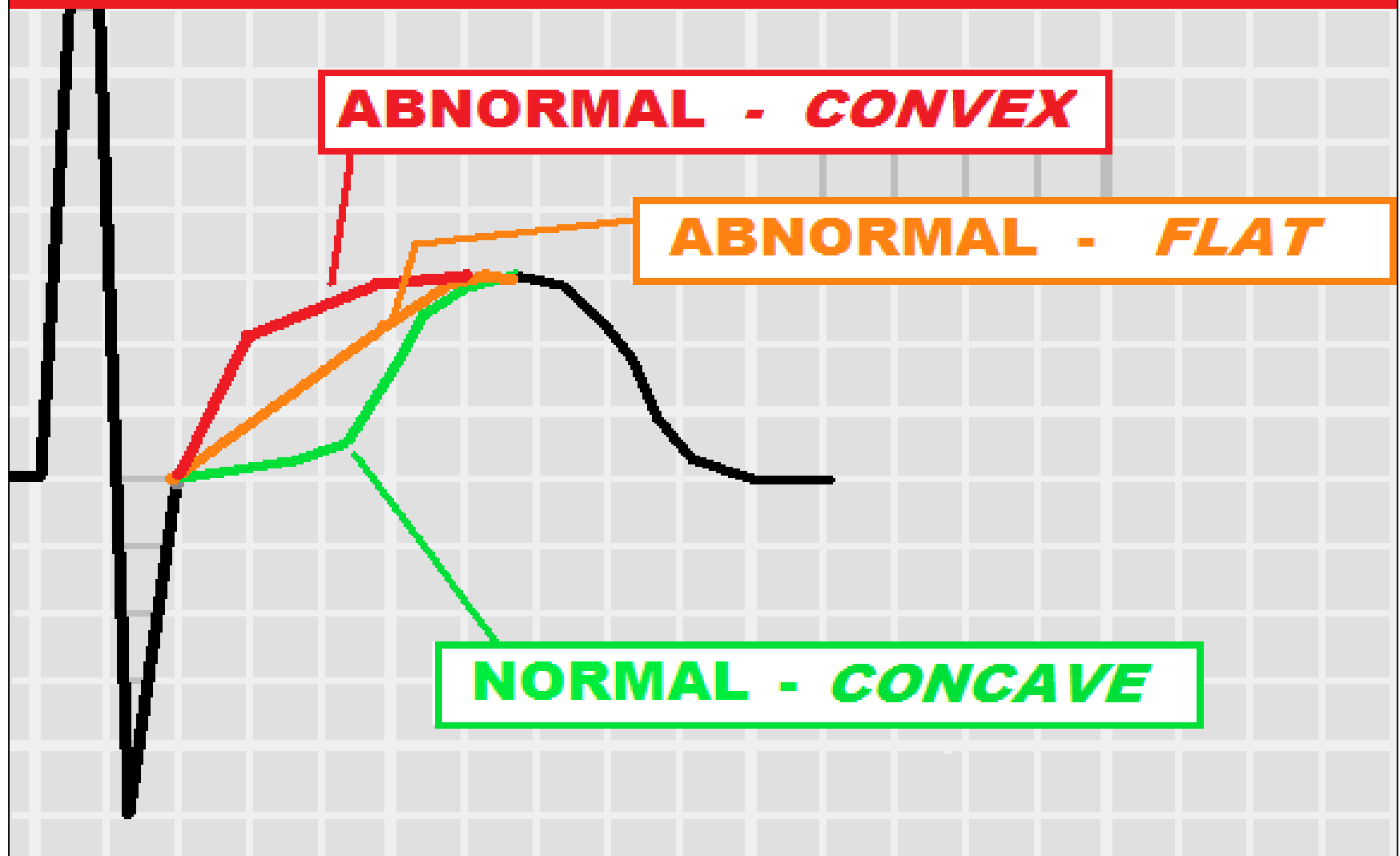


J-T Apex Segment

ST-Segment

T wave: origin to apex

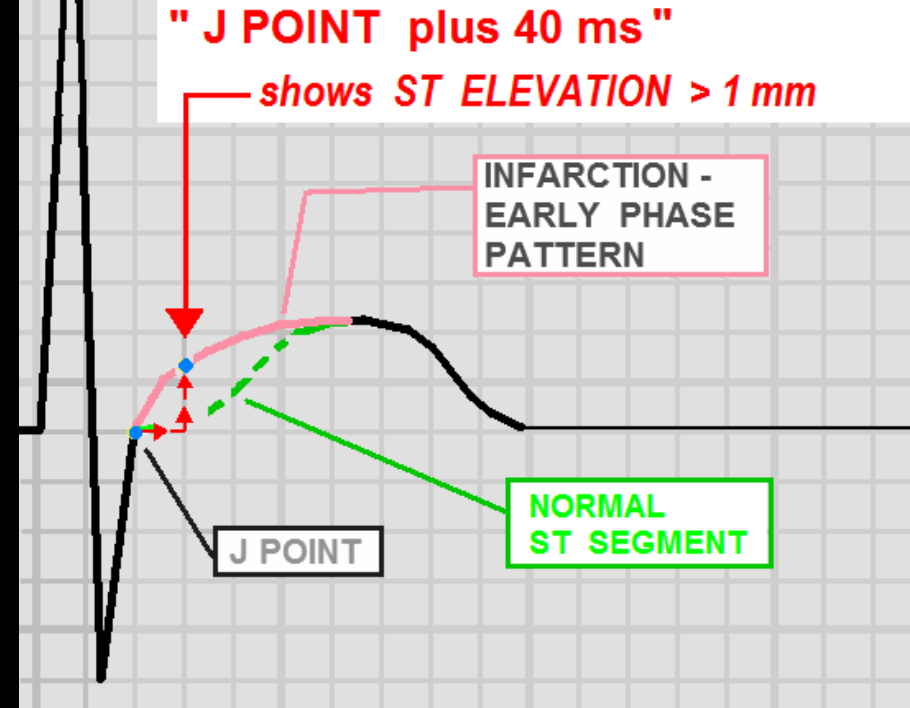
# J - T APEX SEGMENT VARIATIONS



***PATTERNS of EARLY INFARCTION***  
**-- FLAT and CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENTS**

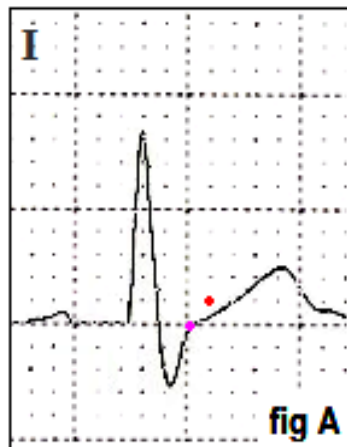
# WHEN EVALUATING for ST SEGMENT ELEVATION .....

From:  
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION  
ACLS 2005 REVISIONS

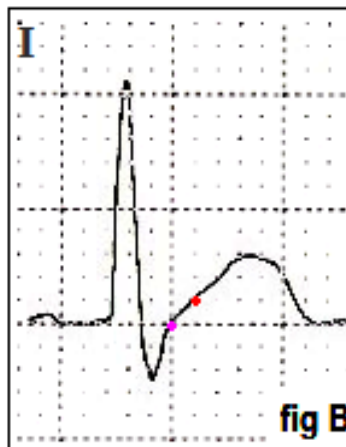


During **NORMAL STATES** of **PERFUSION**, the **J POINT** is **ISOELECTRIC** and the **ST SEGMENT** has a **CONCAVE** appearance. When measured 40 ms beyond the **J POINT** (noted by the **RED DOT**), the **ST SEGMENT** elevation is less than 1mm.

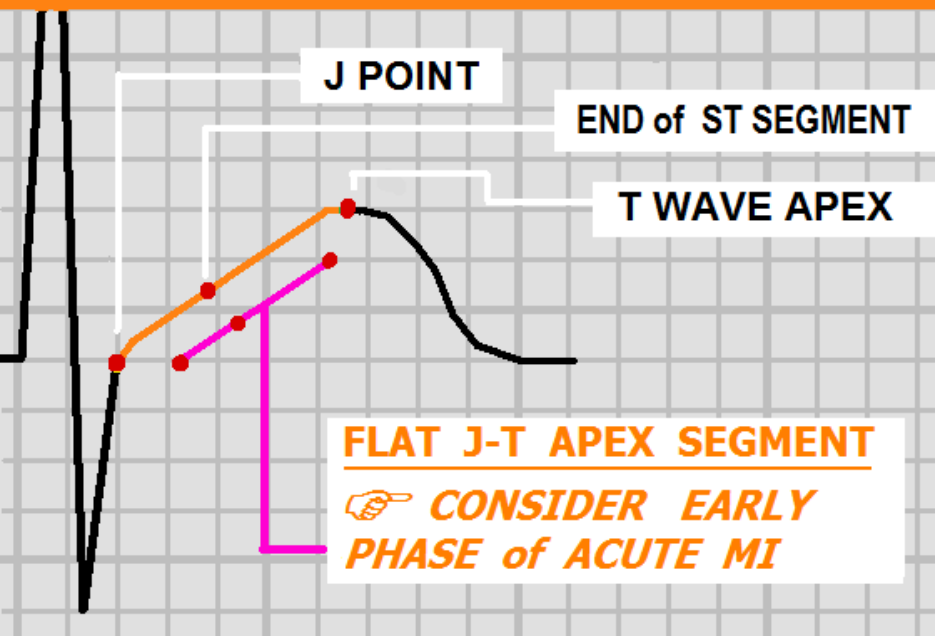
Both figures were recorded from a 54 year old male while resting (figure A), and during PTCA of the Left Anterior Descending artery (figure B).



During a 20 second **BALLOON OCCLUSION** of the patient's **LAD** during routine **PTCA**, the **ST segment** assumes a **CONVEX** shape. When measured 40 ms beyond the **J POINT**, the **ST segment** is elevated **> 1 mm**. This phenomenon is seen routinely in the cath lab prior to the occurrence of **ST ELEVATION** at the **J POINT** during **PTCA** and **STENTING**.



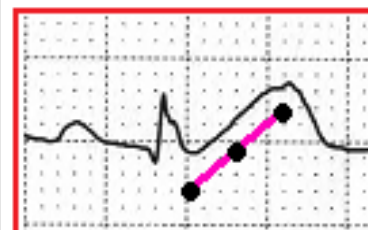
## ABNORMAL J-T APEX SEGMENT



LEAD II

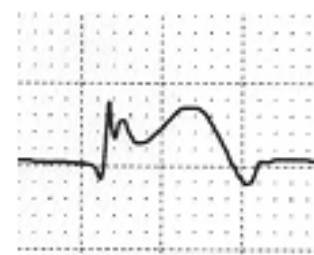
41 y/o FEMALE

In ER C/O CHEST PAIN  
x 30 minutes.



- **FLAT J-T APEX SEGMENT**
- **NO ST ELEVATION at J POINT!**

1839 hrs



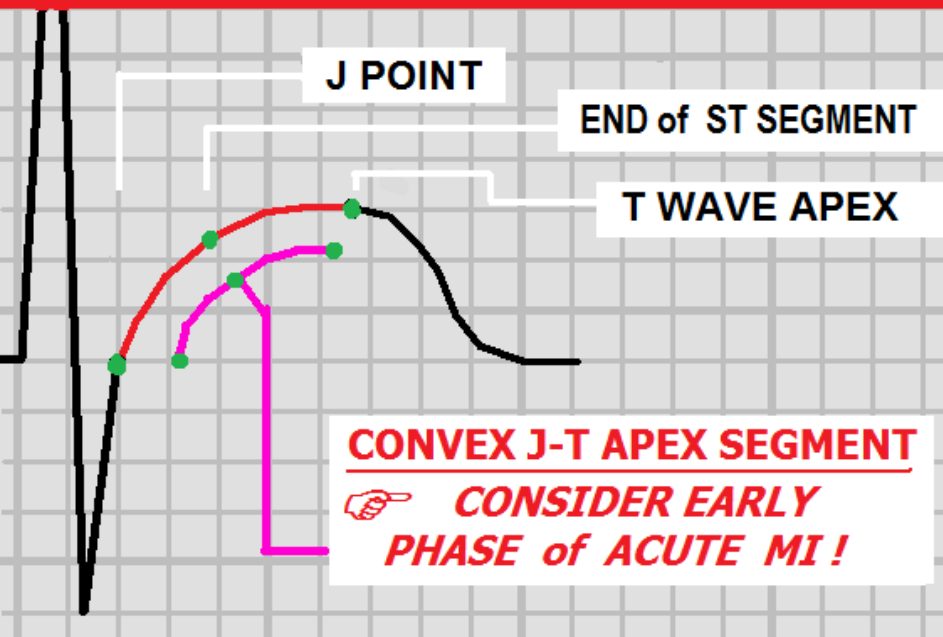
1850 hrs

**STEMI - INFERIOR WALL**

11 MINUTES LATER, S-T  
ELEVATION at the J POINT  
IS NOTED.

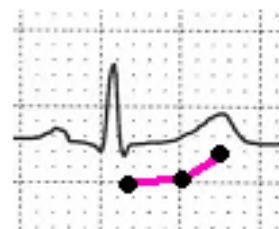
- **CATH LAB FINDINGS:**  
**TOTAL OCCLUSION of the**  
**RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY**

# ABNORMAL J-T APEX SEGMENT



LEAD I

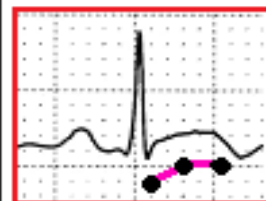
53 y/o MALE



1 yr. PRIOR TO MI

NORMAL EKG

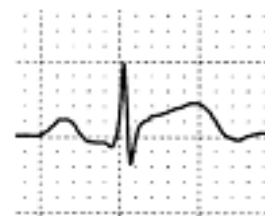
CONCAVE J - T APEX SEGMENT



0732 hrs

**STEMI LATERAL WALL**

- **CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENT**
- **MINIMAL ST ELEVATION at J POINT**



0747 hrs

15 MINUTES LATER, S-T ELEVATION at the J POINT IS NOTED.


- **CATH LAB FINDINGS: TOTAL OCCLUSION OF CIRCUMFLEX ARTERY**

## CASE STUDY: ABNORMAL J-T APEX SEGMENTS

### CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:

56 y/o MALE presents to ED with complaint of "INTERMITTENT SUBSTERNAL & SUB-EPIGASTRIC PRESSURE" x 3 HOURS. PMHx of ESOPHAGEAL REFLUX. NO other significant past medical history.

### RISK FACTOR PROFILE:

-  FAMILY HISTORY - father died of MI at age 62
- ☒ PREVIOUS CIGARETTE SMOKER - quit 15 years ago.
- ☒ CHOLESTEROL - DOES NOT KNOW; "never had it checked."
- ☒ OBESITY

**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Patient supine on exam table, mildly anxious, currently complaining of "mild indigestion," skin is warm, pale, dry; REST OF EXAM is UNREMARKABLE.

**VITAL SIGNS:** BP 142/94, P 80, R 20, SAO2 98%

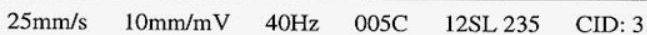
**LABS:** JUST OBTAINED, RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE YET.

\*\*UNEDITED COPY – REPORT IS COMPUTER GENERATED ONLY, WITHOUT

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



EID:10 EDT:

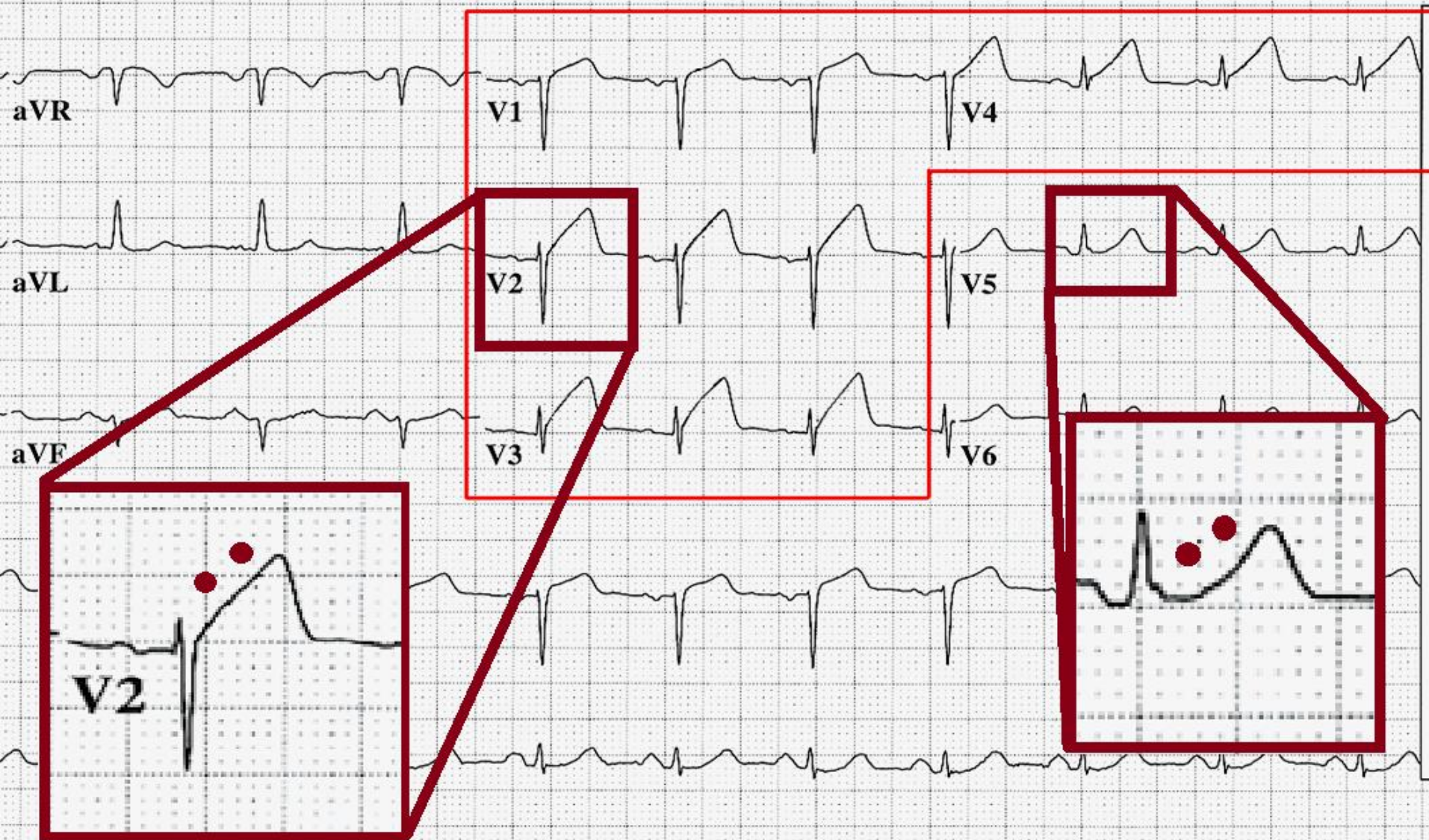
## ECG COMPUTER DOES NOT NOTICE THE CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENTS !

380/438 ms  
51 -24 38

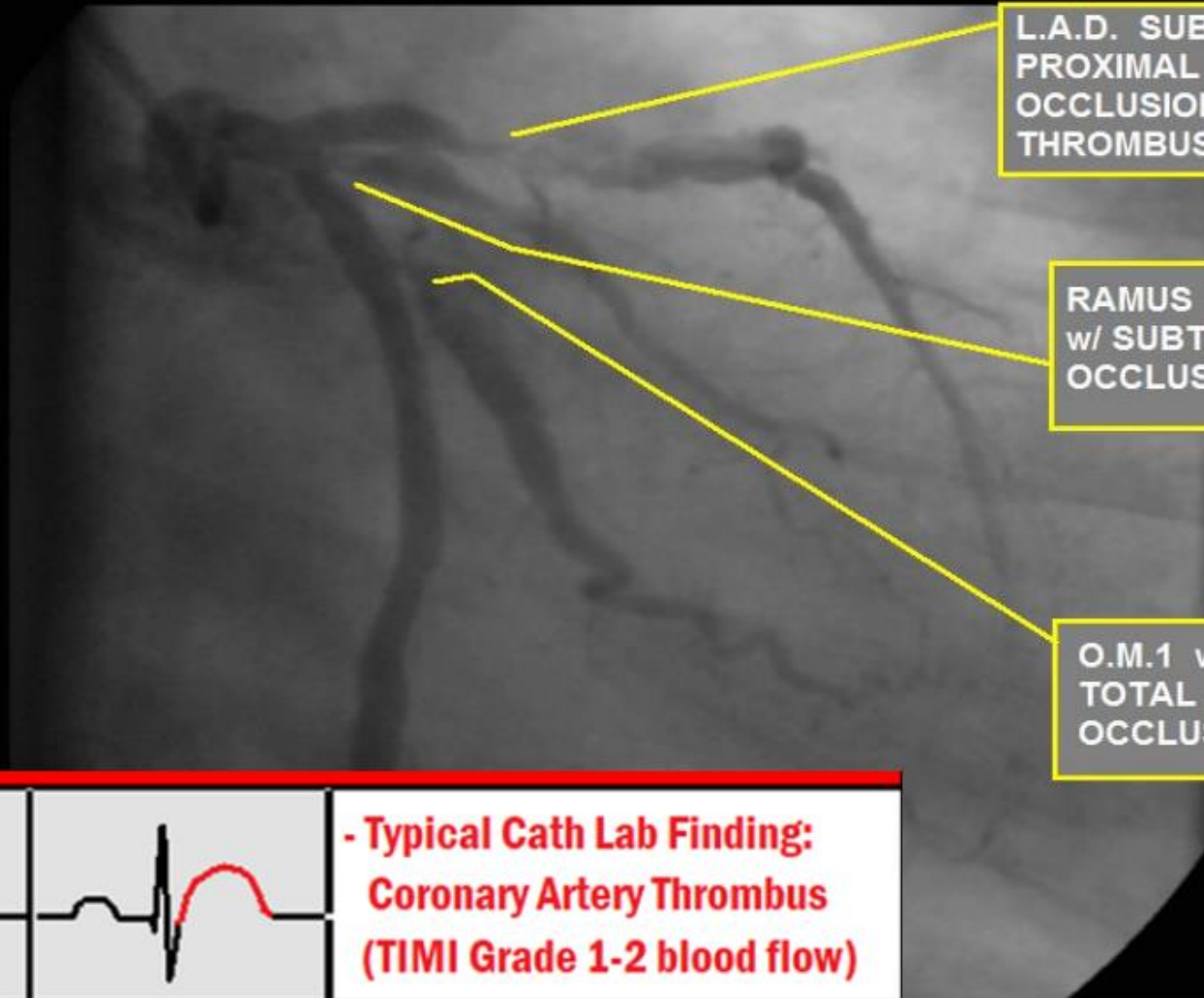
Normal sinus rhythm  
No previous ECGs available

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



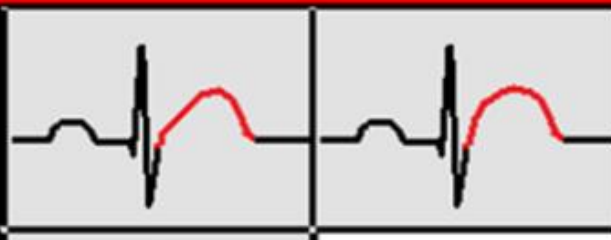
# CASE STUDY: 56 y/o male with INTERMITTENT "CHEST HEAVINESS" . . . .



L.A.D. SUBTOTAL  
PROXIMAL  
OCCLUSION WITH  
THROMBUS

RAMUS ARTERY  
w/ SUBTOTAL  
OCCLUSION

O.M.1 w/ SUB-  
TOTAL  
OCCLUSION

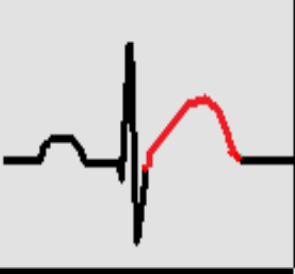
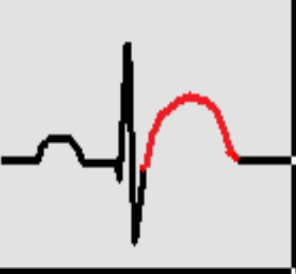
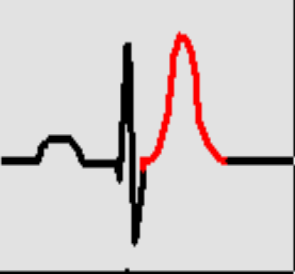
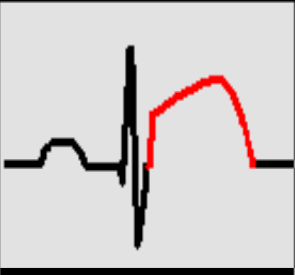
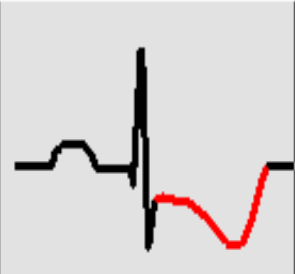


- Typical Cath Lab Finding:  
Coronary Artery Thrombus  
(TIMI Grade 1-2 blood flow)

**TREATMENT PLAN : EMERGENCY CORONARY ARTERY  
BYPASS SURGERY ( 4 VESSEL )**

# ***PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA***

-- J POINT, ST SEGMENT, and T WAVE ABNORMALITIES --

!	FLAT or CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENT			<b><i>ACUTE MI</i></b> <b><i>EARLY PHASE</i></b>
!	HYPER-ACUTE T WAVE			<b><i>ACUTE MI</i></b> <b><i>EARLY PHASE</i></b>
!	S-T SEGMENT ELEVATION at J POINT			<b><i>ACUTE MI</i></b>
!	DEPRESSED J pt. DOWNSLOPING ST and INVERTED T			<b>- ACUTE (NON-Q WAVE) MI</b> <b>- ACUTE MI - ( RECIPROCAL CHANGES )</b> <b>- ISCHEMIA</b>





# HYPER-ACUTE T WAVES - COMMON ETIOLOGIES:



CONDITION:

SEE PAGE(S):

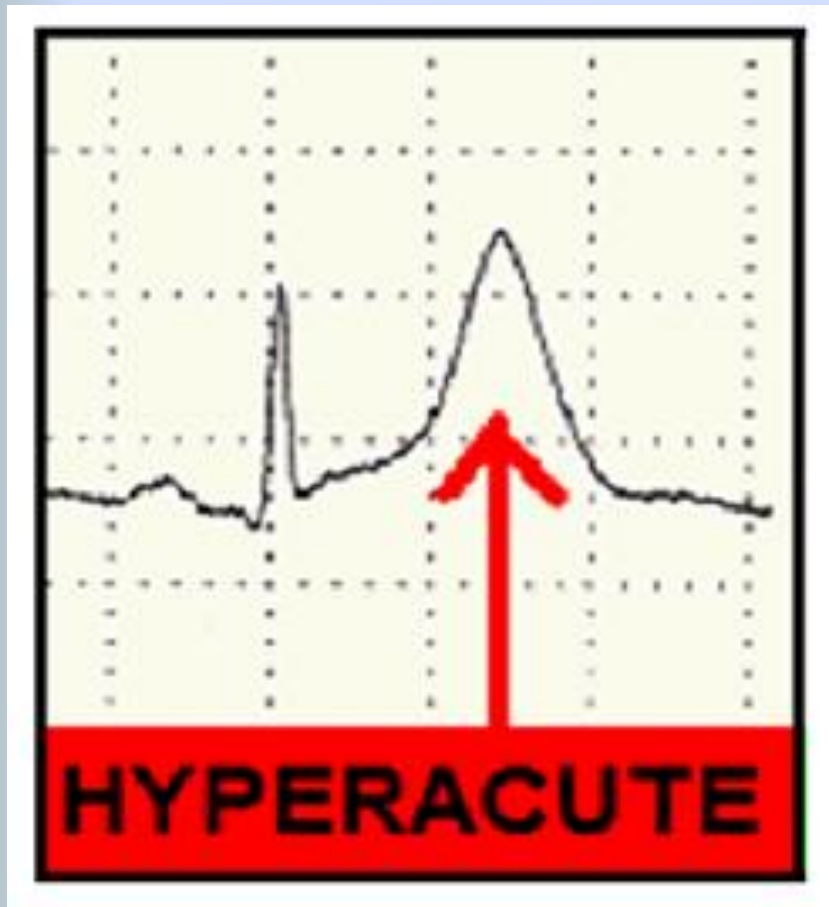
 **HYPERKALEMIA** — XX - XX

 **ACUTE MI** — XX - XX

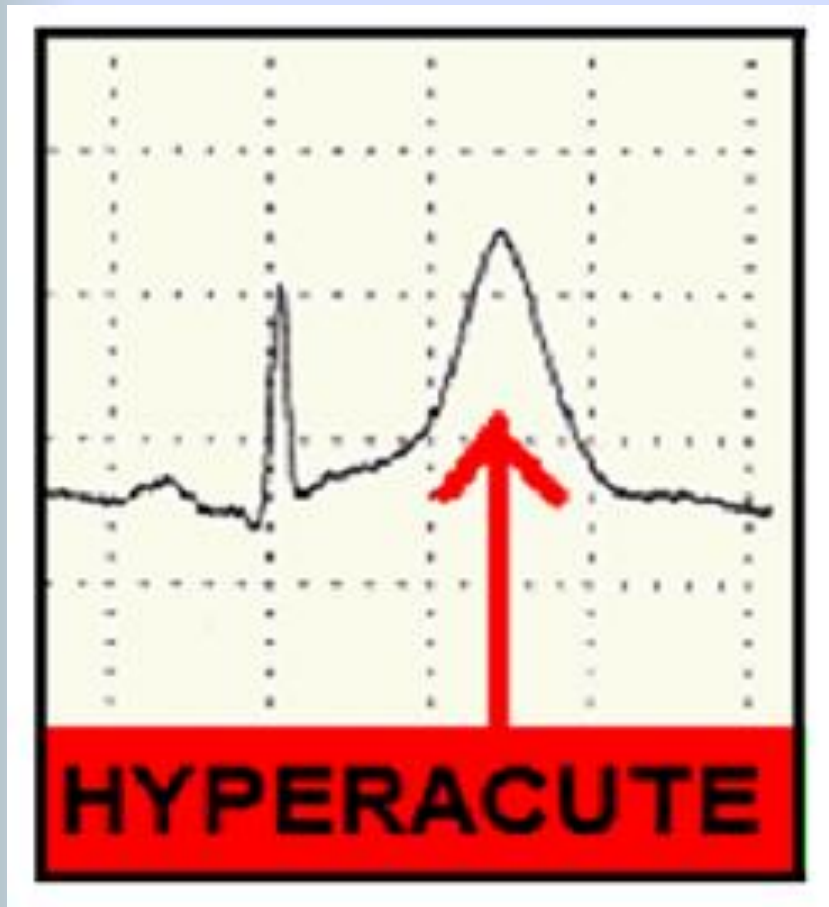
 **TRANS-MURAL  
ISCHEMIA** — XX - XX

 **HYPERTROPHY** — XX - XX

# T waves should not be HYPERACUTE



# HYPERACUTE T Waves may indicate:



- **Early phase Acute MI**
- **Transmural ischemia** (usually seen in one region of the ECG)
- **Hyperkalemia** (seen globally across ECG)
- **Hypertrophy**

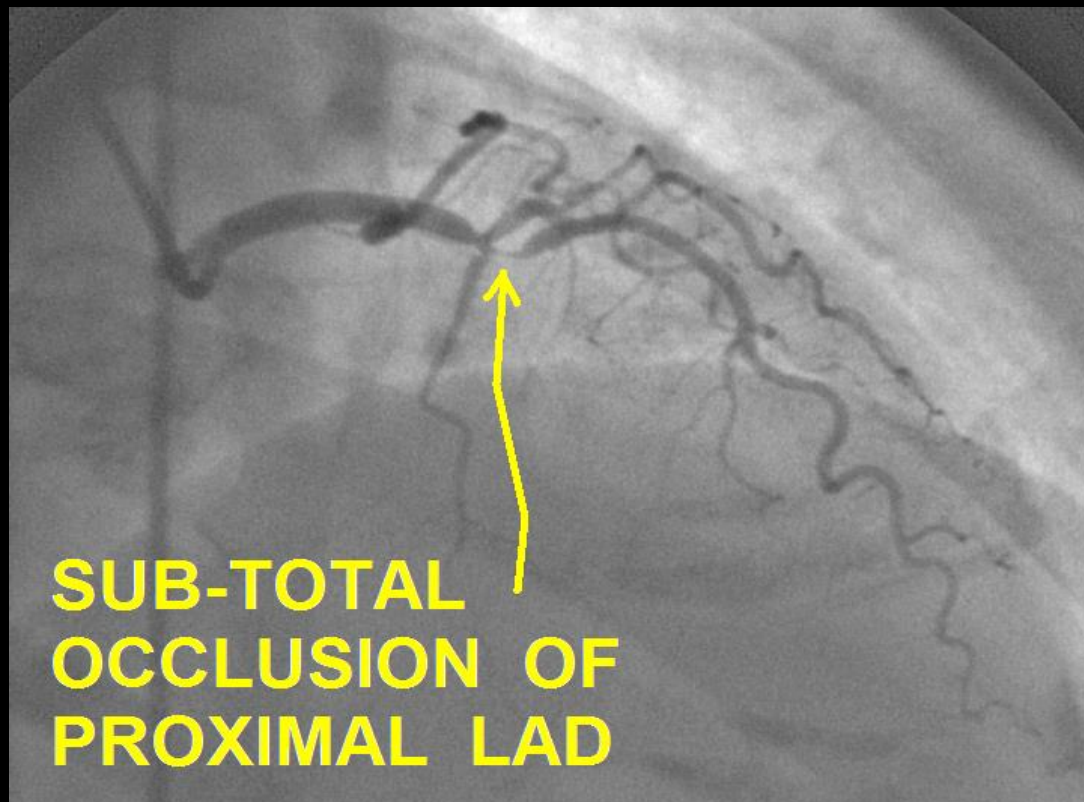
# HYPERACUTE T WAVES



**HYPERACUTE**



**NORMAL**



**SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSION OF  
PROXIMAL LAD**

# Helpful Clue: Hyper-Acute T Waves

- **GLOBAL Hyper-acute T Waves** (in leads viewing multiple myocardial regions / arterial distributions) **favours HYPERKALEMIA**

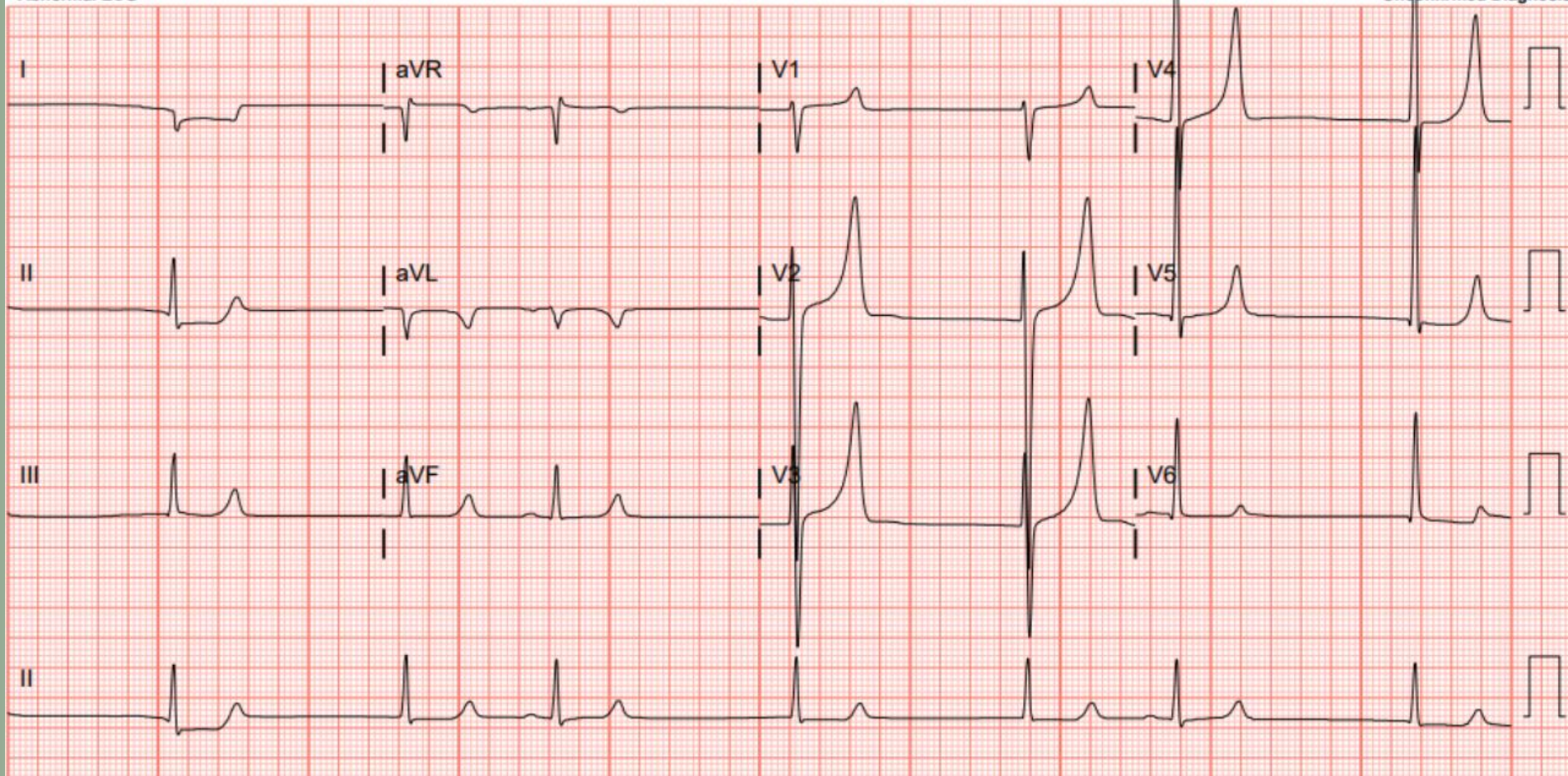
Rate	39	Right and left arm electrode reversal, interpretation assumes no reversal
PR	500	Sinus bradycardia
QRSd	117	Atrial premature complexes
QT	549	LVH with IVCD and secondary repol abnrm
QTc	443	Anterior ST elevation, probably due to LVH
--Axis--		COMPARED TO ECG 02/24/2020 21:46:48
P	0	SINUS BRADYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
QRS	96	INTRAVENTRICULAR CONDUCTION DELAY NOW PRESENT
T	117	ST (T WAVE) DEVIATION NOW PRESENT
		PROLONGED QT INTERVAL NO LONGER PRESENT

Req Provider: ONIER VILLARREA

**K+ = 7.9**

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis



55years  
Female Caucasian

Room:

Vent. rate 57 bpm  
PR interval 150 ms  
QRS duration 102 ms  
QT/QTc 472/459 ms  
P-R-T axes 76 70 58

ID:

23-Nov-

REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Sinus bradyc a  
Possible Left atrial enlargement  
Borderline ECG

ER ATTENDING REVIEW  
NO STEMI  
TIME 1:51

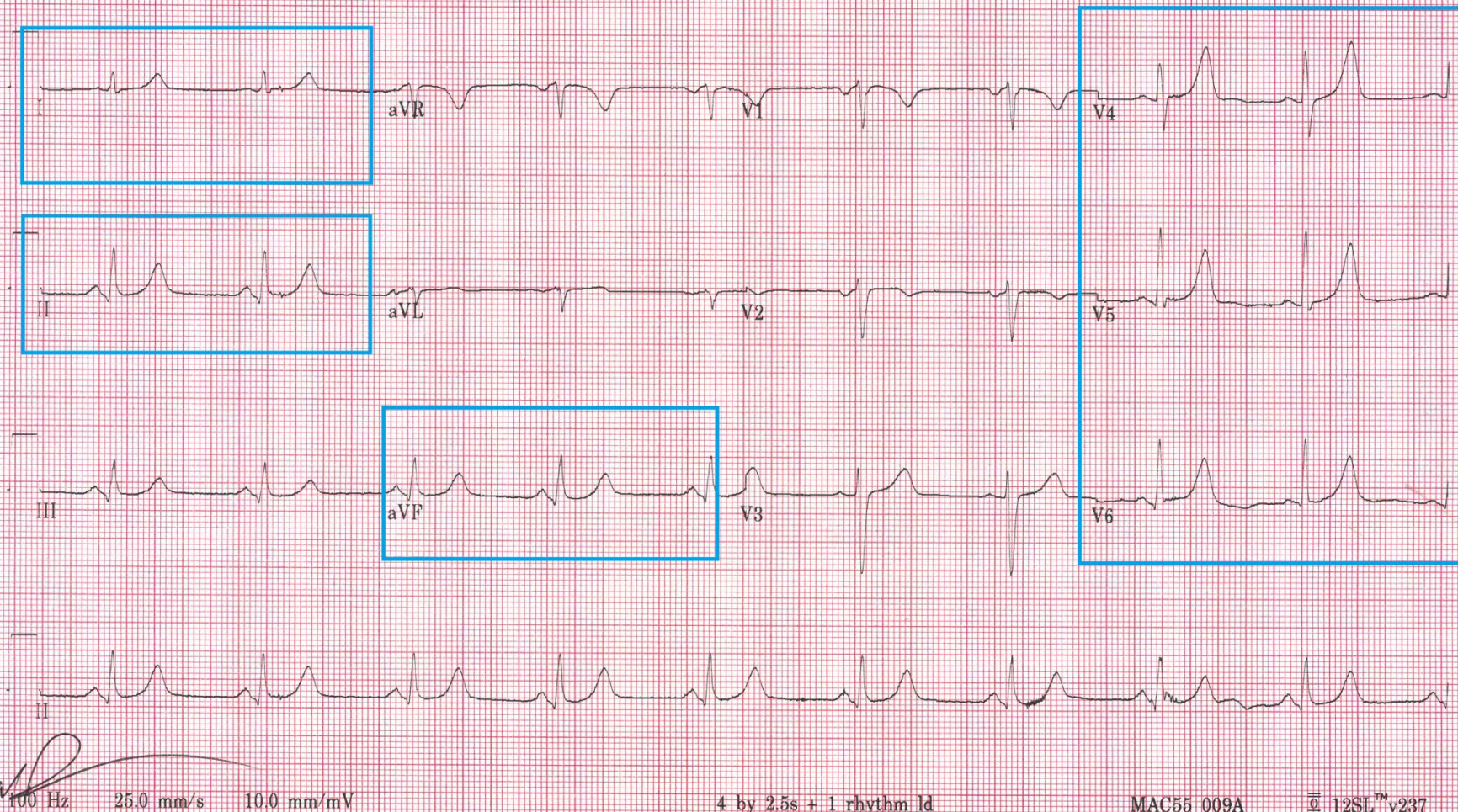
**K+ = 6.7**

Technician:  
Test ind:

Referred by:

Unconfirmed

LOCATION:



# Helpful Clue: Hyper-Acute T Waves

- **GLOBAL Hyper-acute T Waves** (in leads viewing multiple myocardial regions / arterial distributions) **favors HYPERKALEMIA**
- **Hyper-acute T Wave noted in ONE ARTERIAL DISTRIBUTION ( Anterior / Lateral / Inferior ) favors TRANSMURAL ISCHEMIA / Early Phase Acute MI**

## CASE STUDY: HYPERACUTE T WAVES

### CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:

30 y/o male presents to ER via EMS, c/o sudden onset of dull chest pain x 40 min. Pain level varies, not effected by position, movement or deep inspiration. No associated symptoms.

**RISK FACTOR PROFILE:** NONE. CHOLESTEROL UNKNOWN.

**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Patient is supine on exam table, CAO x 4, anxious, restless, skin pale, cool, dry. Patient c/o chest pressure, "7" on 1 - 10 scale, uneffected by position, movement, deep inspiration. Lungs clear. HS: NL S1, S2, no rubs, murmurs, gallops

**VITAL SIGNS:** BP 136/88 P 90 R 20 SAO2 98%

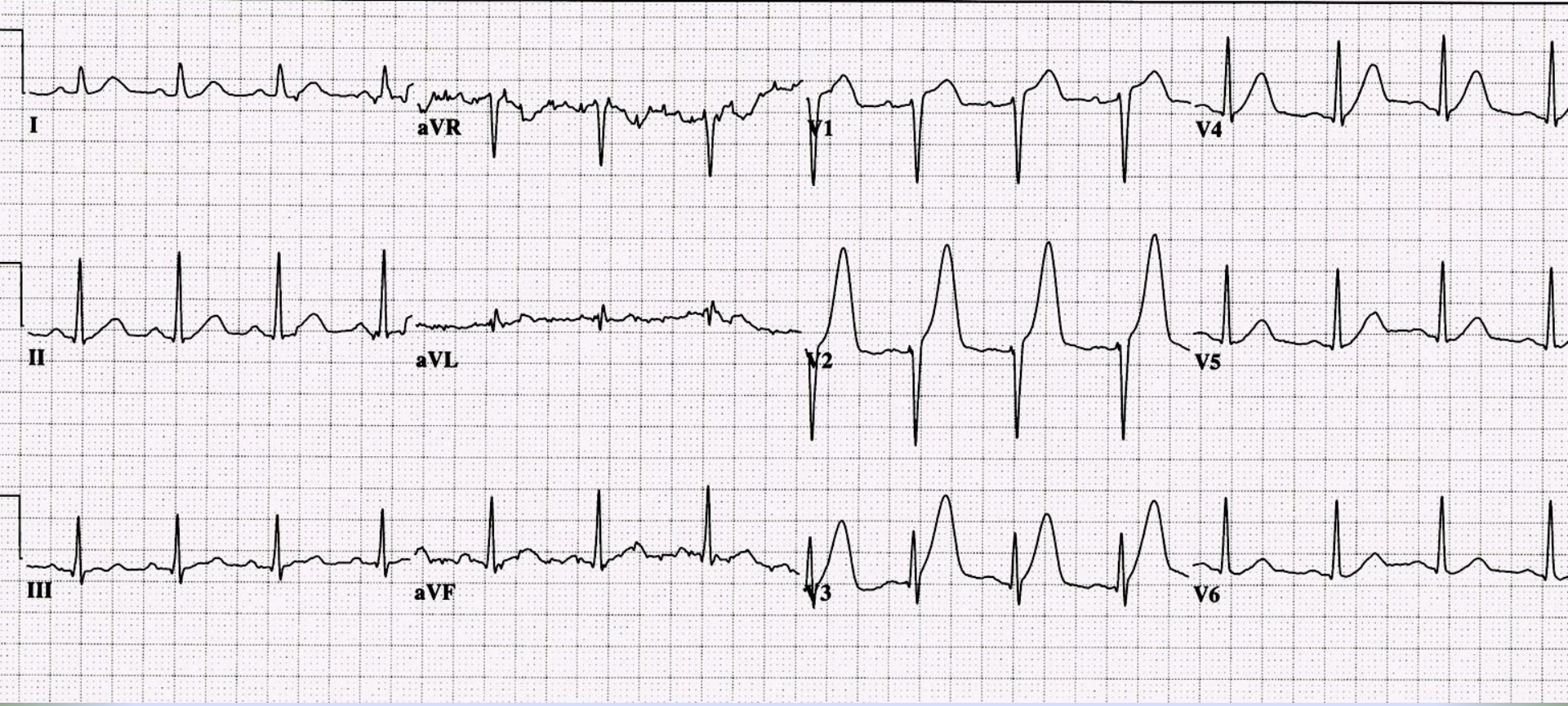
**DIAGNOSTIC TESTING:** 1st TROPONIN I - ultra: <0.07

30 yr  
Male      Black  
  
Room: ER  
Loc:      Option:

Vent. rate	88	BPM
PR interval	164	ms
QRS duration	90	ms
QT/QTc	370/447	ms
P-R-T axes	61 62	53

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available

← NOTE COMPUTER INTERPRETATION

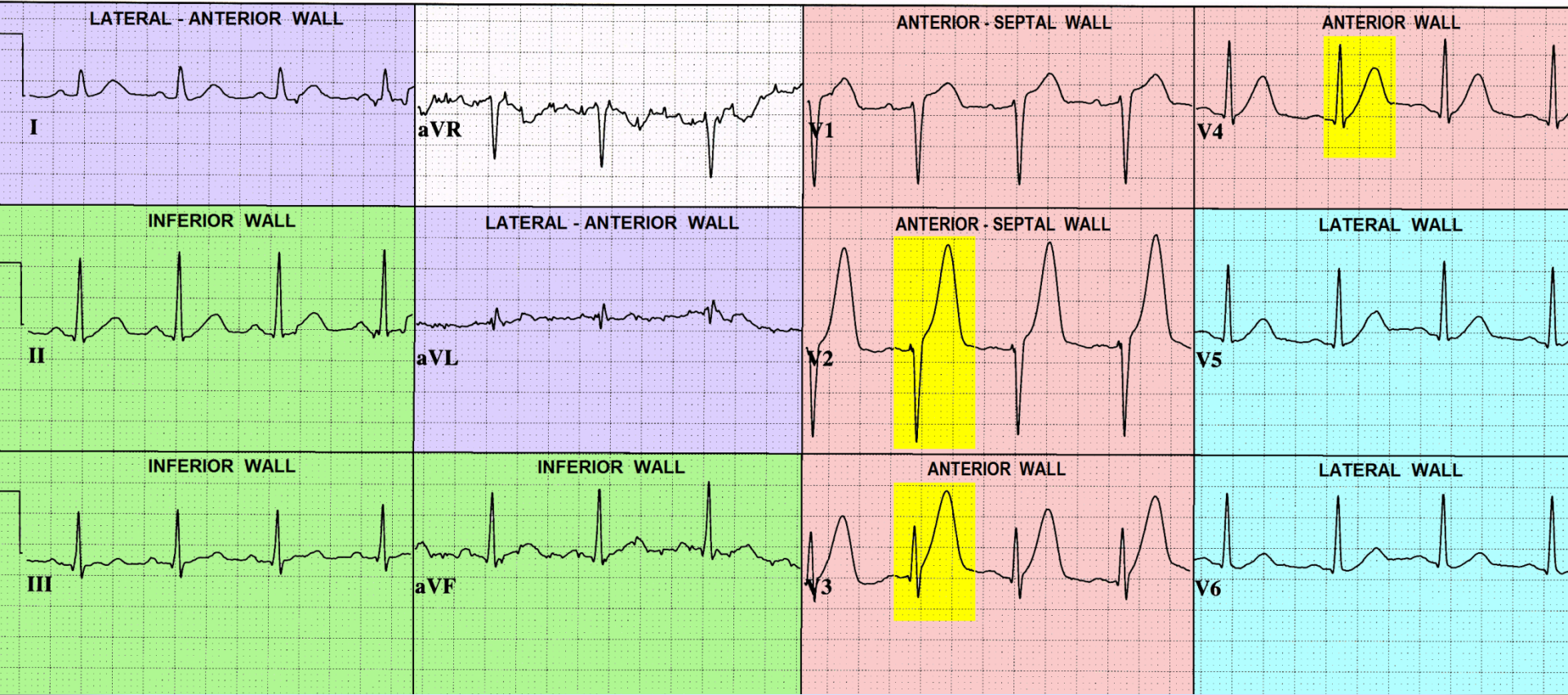


30 yr  
Male      Black  
  
Room: ER  
Loc:      Option:

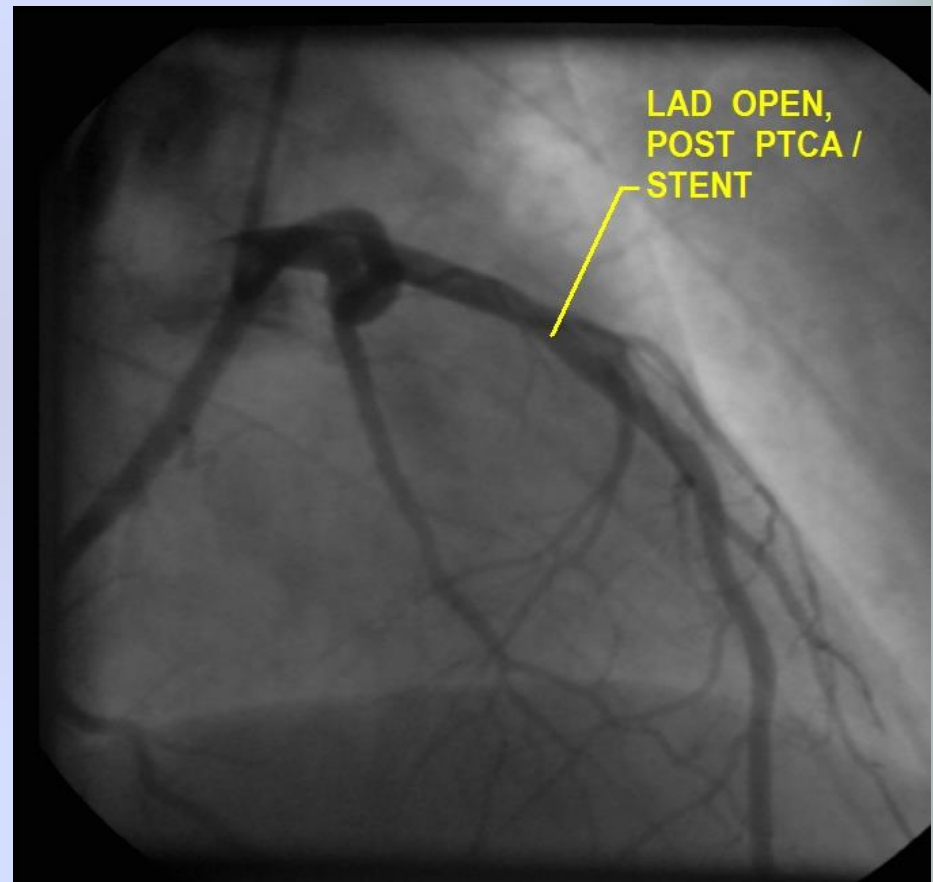
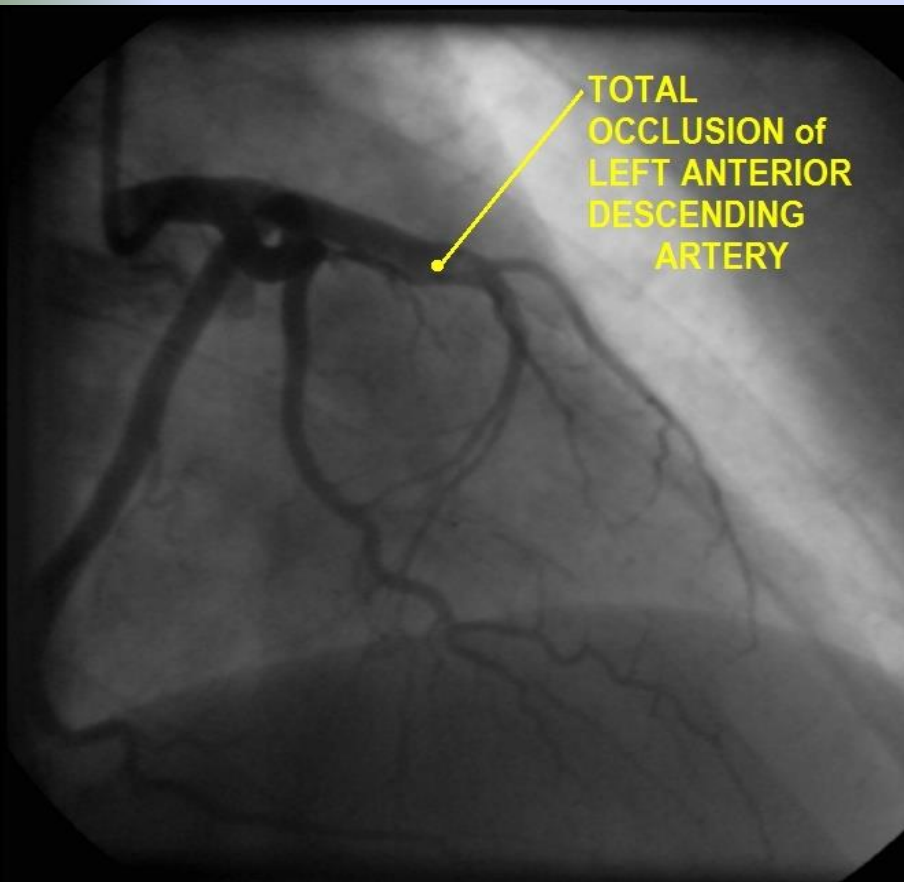
Vent. rate                      88    BPM  
PR interval                    164    ms  
QRS duration                 90    ms  
QT/QTc                        370/447    ms  
P-R-T axes                    61   62   53

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available  
**HIGHLIGHTED AREAS =  
HYPERACUTE T WAVES**

**CORONARY ARTERIAL DISTRIBUTIONS:**  
V1 - V4 = LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ( LAD )  
I, AVL = DIAGONAL (DIAG) off the LAD or  
OBTUSE MARGINAL (OM) off CIRCUMFLEX (CX)  
V5, V6 = CIRCUMFLEX  
II, III, AVF = RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY or CX



## Cath Lab findings:



# Dynamic ST-T Wave Changes:

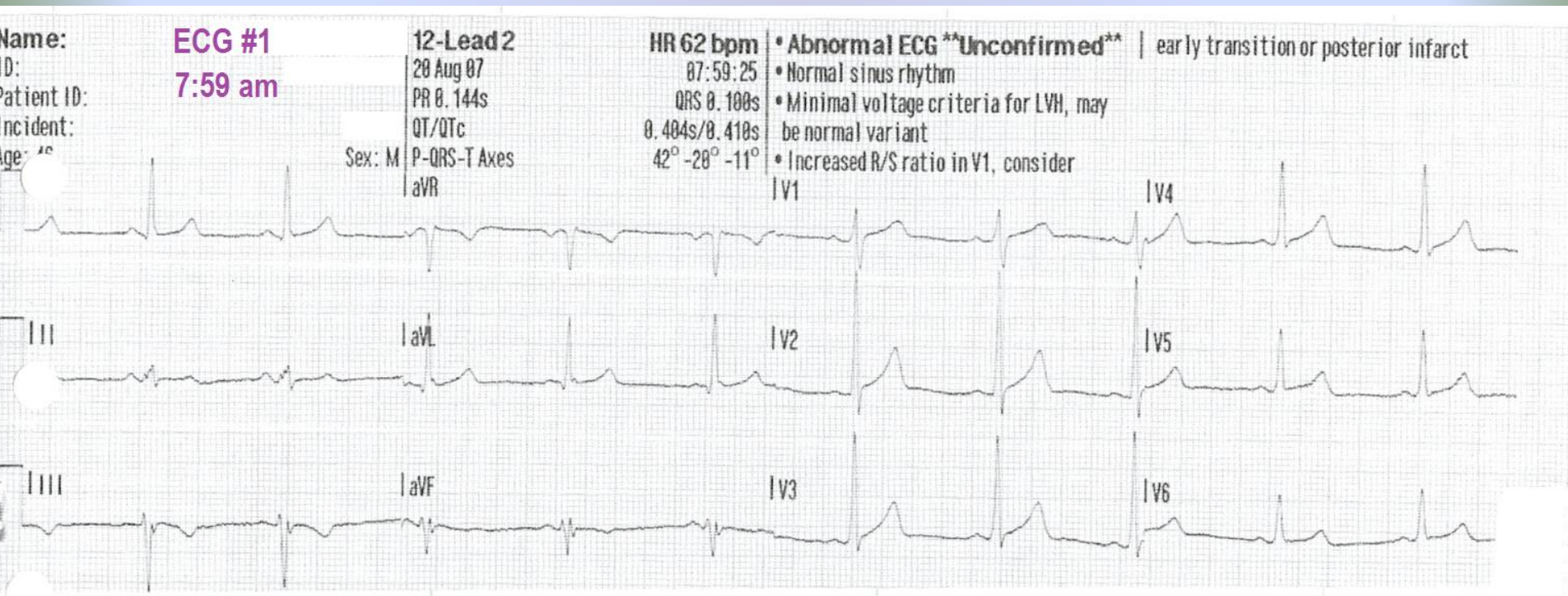
- Other than HEART RATE related variations (which affect intervals), ***J Points, ST-Segments and T Waves SHOULD NOT CHANGE.***

# Dynamic ST-T Wave Changes:

- Other than HEART RATE related variations (which affect intervals), ***J Points, ST-Segments and T Waves SHOULD NOT CHANGE.***
- **When changes to J Points, ST-Segments and/or T waves are NOTED, consider EVOLVING MYOCARDIAL ISCHEMIA and/or EARLY PHASE MI, until proven otherwise.**

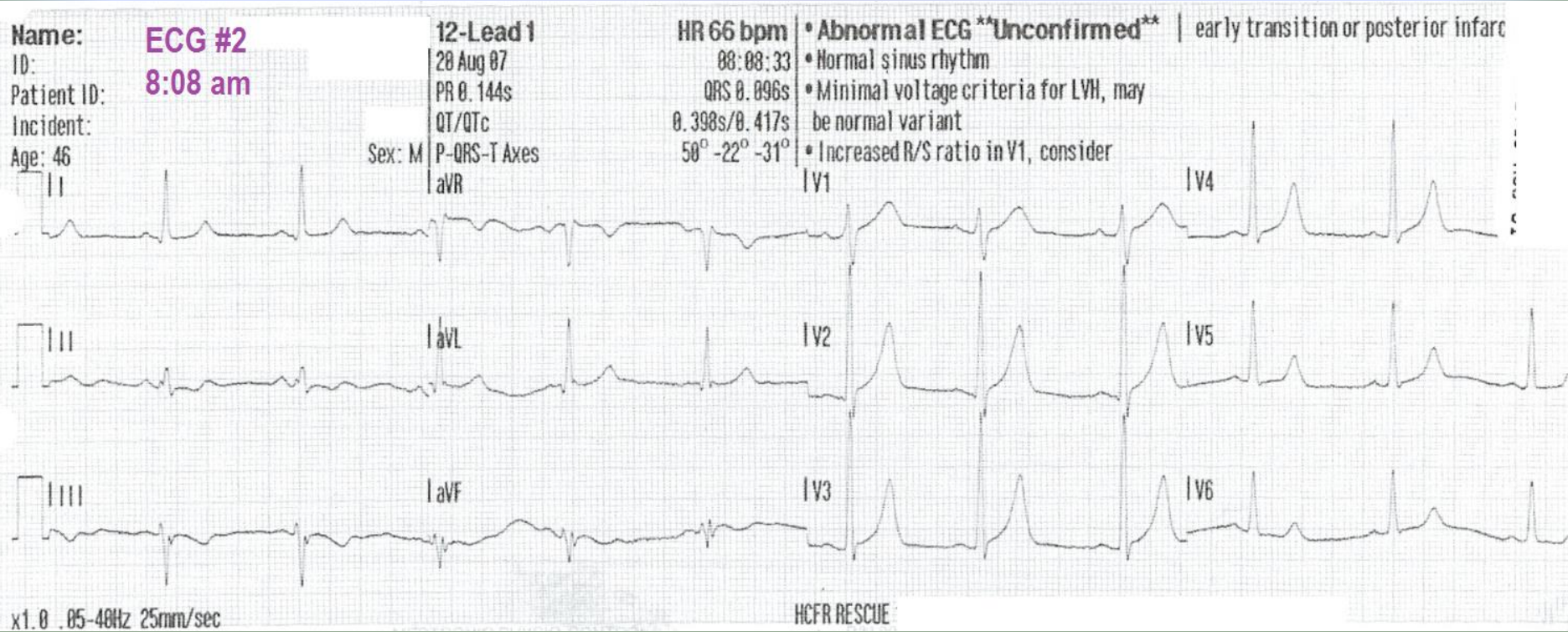
# 46 year old male

- Exertional dyspnea X “several weeks”
- Intermittent chest pressure X last 3 hours.  
Currently pain free.



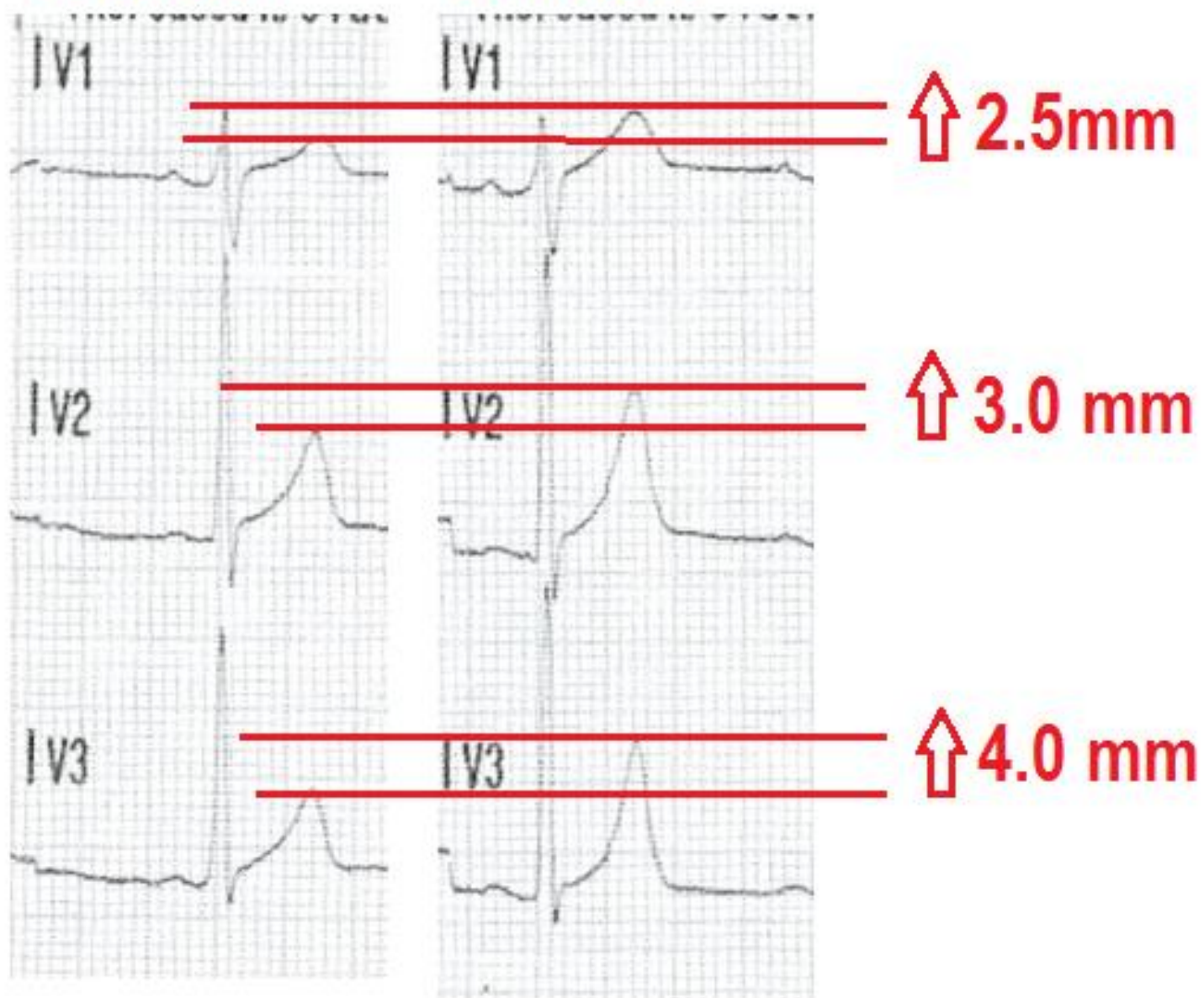
# 46 year old male: ECG 1

- Chest pressure has returned, “5” on 1-10 scale. 2<sup>nd</sup> ECG obtained due to “change in symptoms”:



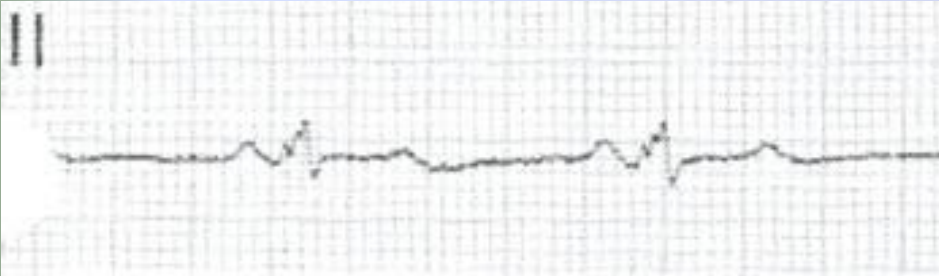
**7:59 am**

**8:08 am**

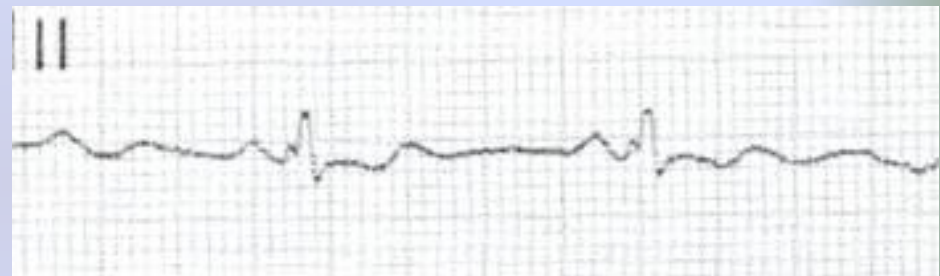


# ST-Segment Depression

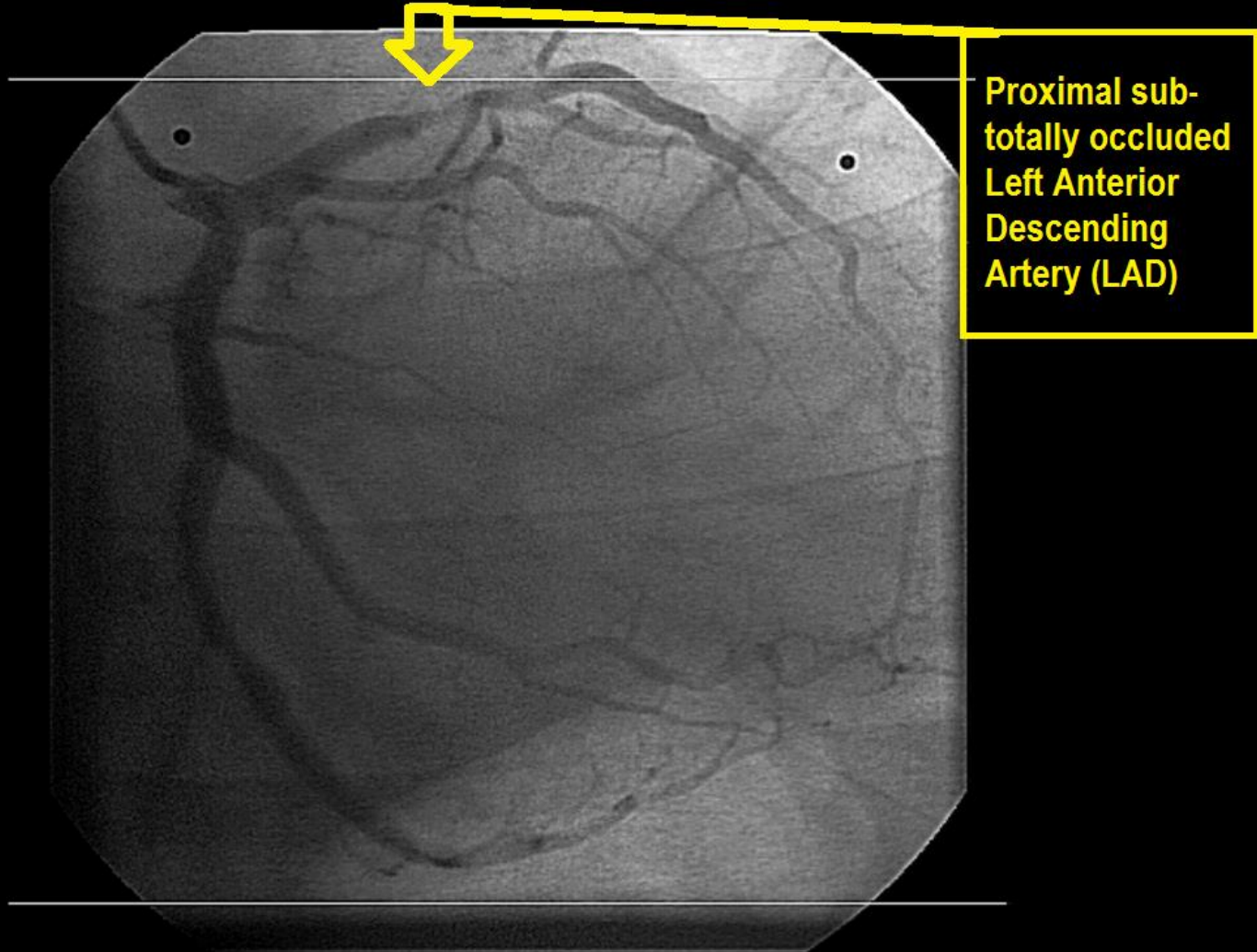
**7:59 am**



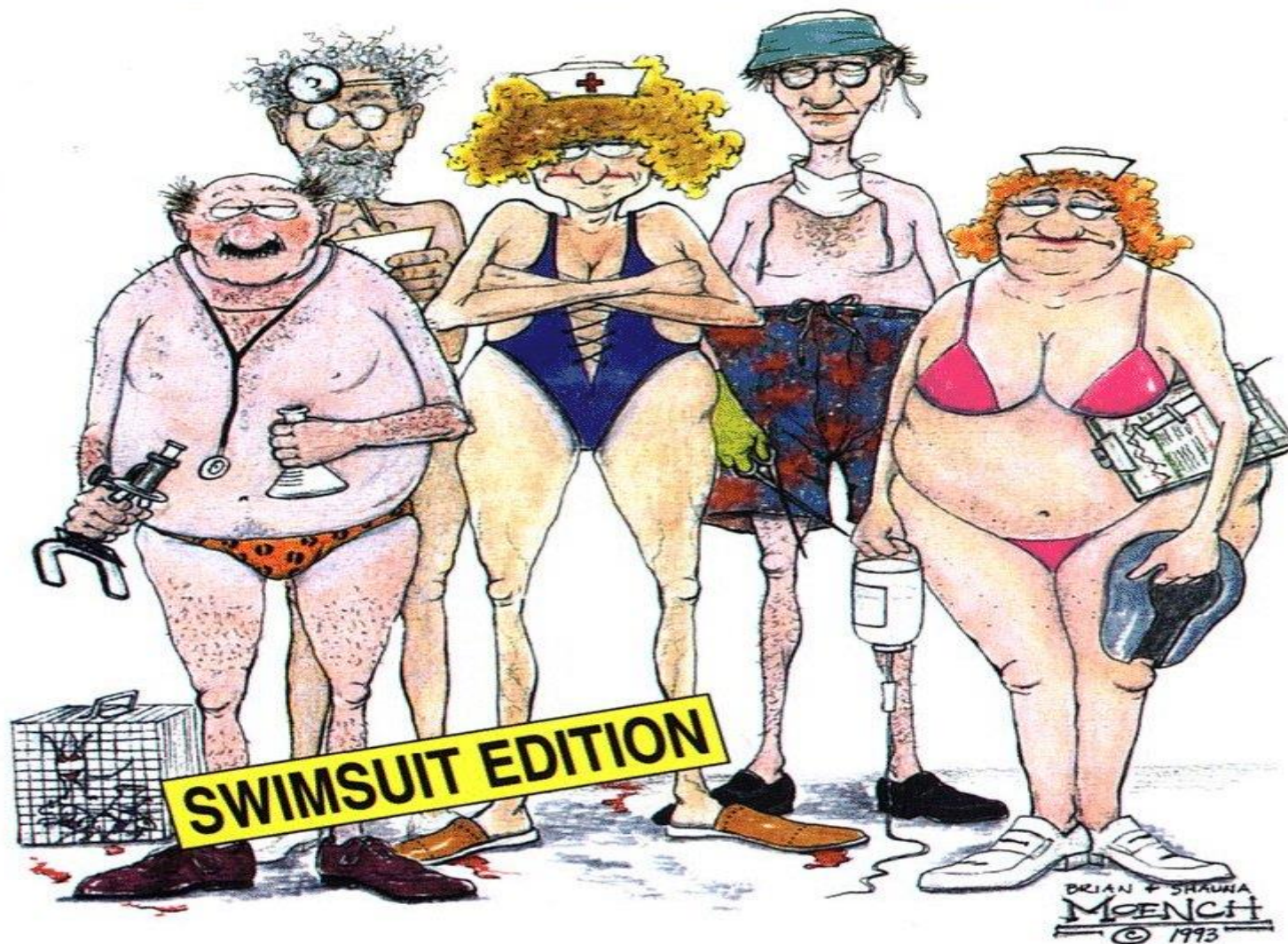
**8:08 am**



# Cath Lab Angiography:



# The New England Medical Journal

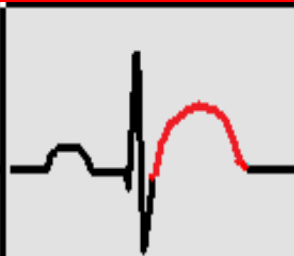
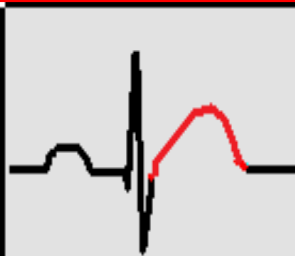


# ***PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA***

-- J POINT, ST SEGMENT, and T WAVE ABNORMALITIES --



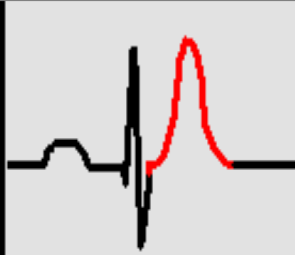
FLAT or CONVEX  
J-T APEX  
SEGMENT



***ACUTE MI***  
***EARLY PHASE***



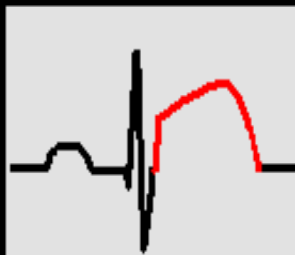
HYPER-ACUTE  
T WAVE



***ACUTE MI***  
***EARLY PHASE***



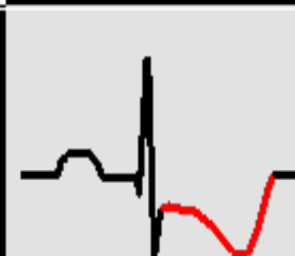
S-T SEGMENT  
ELEVATION at  
J POINT



***ACUTE MI***



DEPRESSED J pt.  
DOWNSLOPING ST  
and INVERTED T



- ***ACUTE (NON-Q WAVE) MI***  
- ***ACUTE MI - (RECIPROCAL CHANGES)***  
- ***ISCHEMIA***



# **ECG CRITERIA for DIAGNOSIS of STEMI:**

## **(ST ELEVATION @ J POINT)**

### **\*LEADS V2 and V3:**

MALES AGE 40 and up ----- 2.0 mm

(MALES LESS THAN 40----- 2.5 mm)

FEMALES ----- 1.5 mm

**ALL OTHER LEADS:**      1.0 mm or more,  
in TWO or more  
CONTIGUOUS LEADS

\* P. Rautaharju et al, “Standardization and Interpretation of the ECG,” JACC 2009;(53)No.11:982-991

# STEMI Criteria for 18 Lead ECGs:

*Right-Sided Chest Leads*

*(V3R – V6R): 0.5 mm*

*Posterior Chest Leads*

*(V7 – V9): 0.5 mm*

\* P. Rautaharju et al, “Standardization and Interpretation of the ECG,” JACC 2009;(53)No.11:982-991

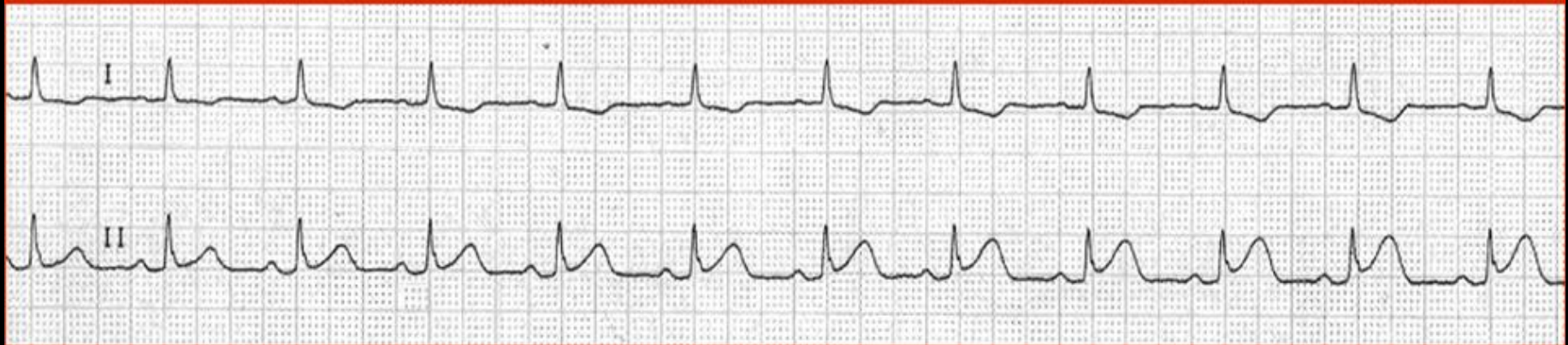
# Abnormal ST Elevation Criteria: ACC/AHA 2009 “Standardization and Interpretation of the ECG, Part VI Acute Ischemia and Infarction,” Galen Wagner, et al

## **Recommendations**

1. For men 40 years of age and older, the threshold value for abnormal J-point elevation should be 0.2 mV (2 mm) in leads  $V_2$  and  $V_3$  and 0.1 mV (1 mm) in all other leads.
2. For men less than 40 years of age, the threshold values for abnormal J-point elevation in leads  $V_2$  and  $V_3$  should be 0.25 mV (2.5 mm).
3. For women, the threshold value for abnormal J-point elevation should be 0.15 mV (1.5 mm) in leads  $V_2$  and  $V_3$  and greater than 0.1 mV (1 mm) in all other leads.
4. For men and women, the threshold for abnormal J-point elevation in  $V_3R$  and  $V_4R$  should be 0.05 mV (0.5 mm), except for males less than 30 years of age, for whom 0.1 mV (1 mm) is more appropriate.
5. For men and women, the threshold value for abnormal J-point elevation in  $V_7$  through  $V_9$  should be 0.05 mV (0.5 mm).
6. For men and women of all ages, the threshold value for abnormal J-point depression should be  $-0.05$  mV ( $-0.5$  mm) in leads  $V_2$  and  $V_3$  and  $-0.1$  mV ( $-1$  mm) in all other leads.

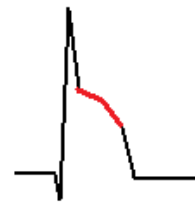
# ***ST SEGMENT ELEVATION:***

**S-T SEGMENTS ELEVATE WITHIN SECONDS OF CORONARY ARTERY OCCLUSION:**



**IN THIS CASE, a normal response to balloon occlusion of the RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY during PTCA in the CARDIAC CATH LAB**

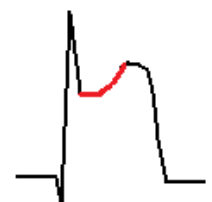
**3 COMMON PATTERNS of  
ST SEGMENT ELEVATION  
From ACUTE MI:**



**DOWNSLOPING  
S-T SEGMENT**



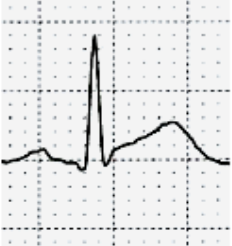
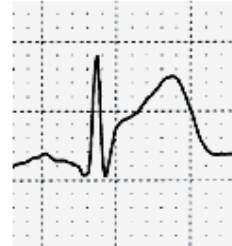
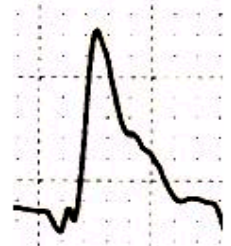
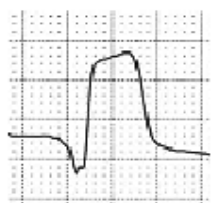
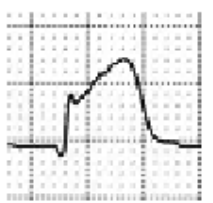
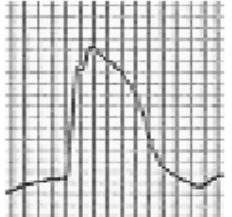
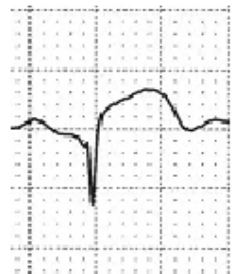

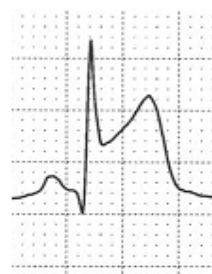
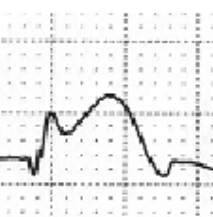
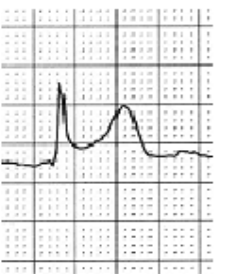
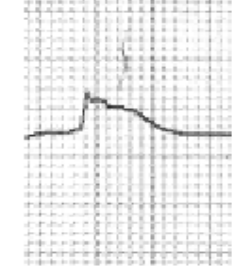
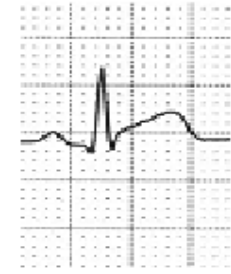
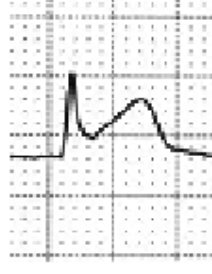
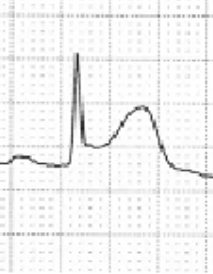
**FLAT  
S-T SEGMENT**



**UPSLOPING  
S-T SEGMENT**

## ***ST SEGMENT ELEVATION in ACUTE MI:***

The following samples are from patients with ACUTE MI, as confirmed by discovery of total arterial occlusion in the Cardiac Cath Lab:

 <p>V5 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	 <p>V4 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	 <p>aVL - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	<p><b>"TOOMBSTONE" PATTERN</b></p>  <p>V2 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	<p><b>"FIREMAN'S HAT" PATTERN</b></p>  <p>V3 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>
<p><b>"TOOMBSTONE" PATTERN</b></p>  <p>V4 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	 <p>V5 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	 <p>V5 - ANTERIOR LATERAL MI</p>	 <p>II - INFERIOR POSTERIOR MI</p>	<p><b>"FIREMAN'S HAT" PATTERN</b></p>  <p>aVF - INFERIOR POSTERIOR MI</p>
 <p>III - INFERIOR MI</p>	 <p>III - INFERIOR POSTERIOR MI</p>	 <p>III - INFERIOR MI</p>	 <p>III - INFERIOR MI</p>	 <p>II - INFERIOR POSTERIOR MI</p>

**Reciprocal S-T Segment Depression *may* or *may not* be present during STEMI.**

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**The presence of S-T Depression on an EKG which exhibits significant S-T elevation is a fairly reliable indicator that STEMI is the diagnosis.**

**Reciprocal S-T Segment Depression *may* or *may not* be present during STEMI.**

**The presence of S-T Depression on an EKG which exhibits significant S-T elevation is a fairly reliable indicator that STEMI is the diagnosis.**

**However the *lack of Reciprocal S-T Depression* DOES NOT rule out STEMI.**

# ACUTE MI

## COMPLICATIONS TO ANTICIPATE FOR ALL MI PATIENTS :

---



**LETHAL DYSRHYTHMIAS**



**CARDIAC ARREST**








**FAILURE OF STRUCTURE(S)  
SERVED BY THE BLOCKED ARTERY**

## CASE STUDY 1 - STEMI

### CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:

72 y/o male, c/o CHEST "HEAVINESS," started 20 minutes before calling 911. Pain is "8" on 1-10 scale, also c/o mild shortness of breath. Has had same pain "intermittently" x 2 weeks.

### RISK FACTOR PROFILE:

-  FAMILY HISTORY - father died of MI at age 77
-  FORMER CIGARETTE SMOKER - smoked for 30 year - quit 27 years ago
-  DIABETES - oral meds and diet controlled
-  HIGH CHOLESTEROL - controlled with STATIN meds
-  AGE: OVER 65

**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Patient calm, alert, oriented X 4, skin cool, dry, pale.  
No JVD, Lungs clear bilaterally. Heart sounds normal S1, S2. No peripheral edema.

**VITAL SIGNS:** BP: 100/64, P: 75, R: 20, SAO2: 94%

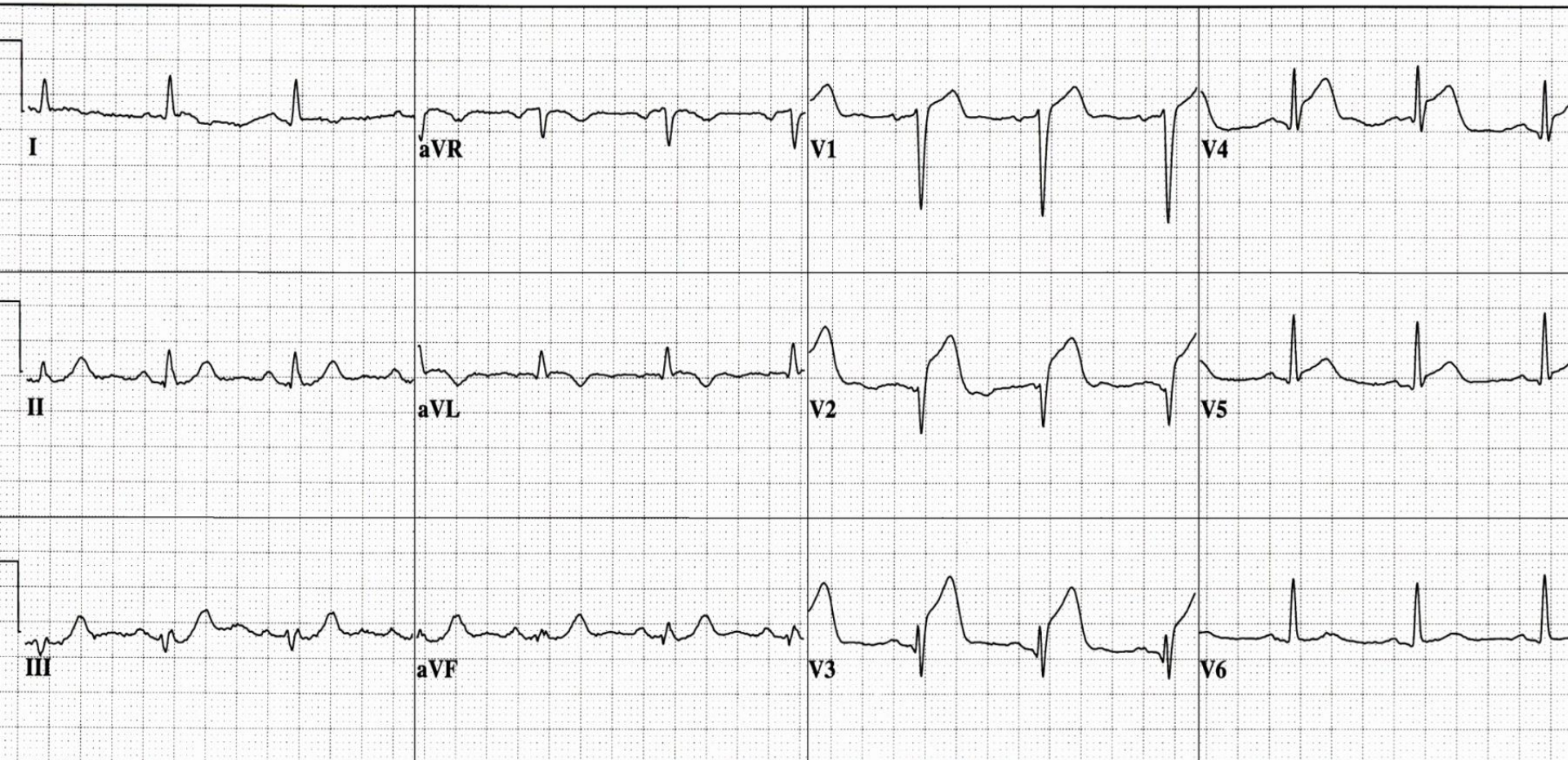
**LABS:** FIRST TROPONIN: 6.4

72 yr  
Male      Caucasian  
  
Loc:3      Option:23  
  
Vent. rate      75    BPM  
PR interval      162    ms  
QRS duration      98    ms  
QT/QTc      382/426    ms  
P-R-T axes      72 13    83



**EVALUATE EKG for indicators of ACS:**

- ST SEGMENT ELEVATION / DEPRESSION
- HYPERACUTE T WAVES
- CONVEX ST SEGMENTS
- OTHER ST SEGMENT / T WAVE ABNORMALITIES



72 yr  
Male  
Caucasian  
Vent. rate 75 BPM  
PR interval 162 ms  
QRS duration 98 ms  
QT/QTc 382/426 ms  
P-R-T axes 72 13 83  
Loc: Option:2

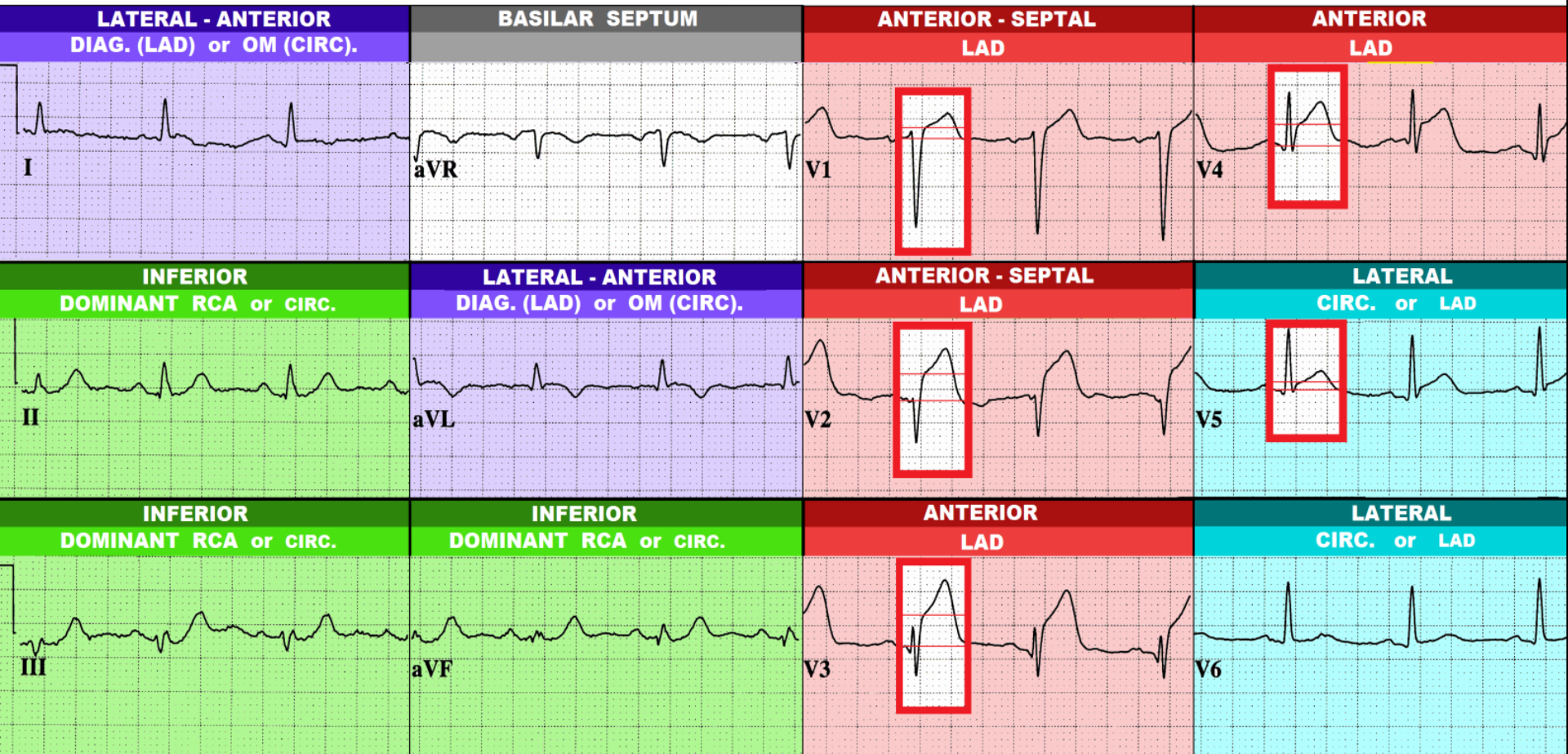
Normal sinus rhythm

Anteroseptal infarct, possibly acute

\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*

Abnormal ECG

ST SEGMENT ELEVATION

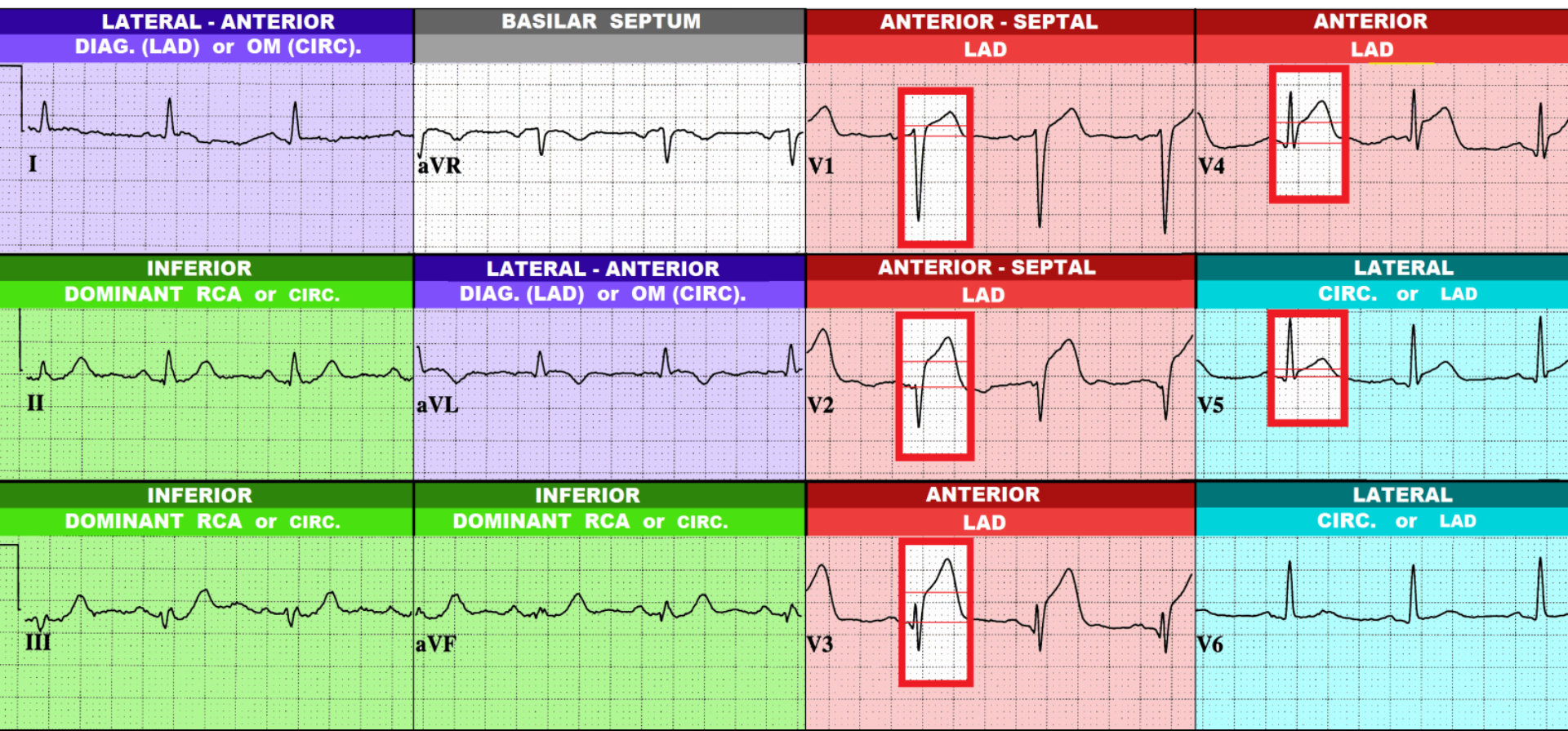


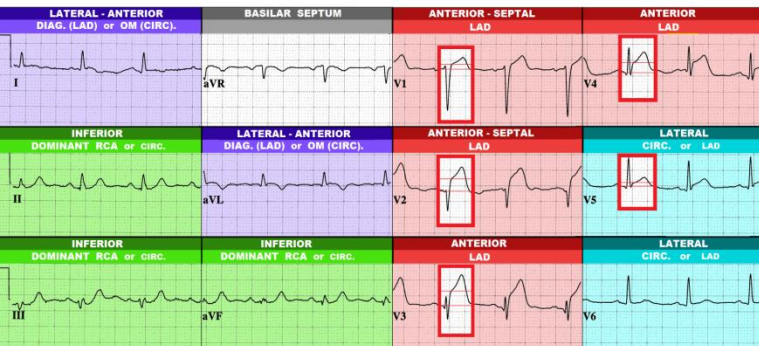
**Note: There is NO Reciprocal ST Depression on this STEMI ECG !**

72 yr  
Male  
Caucasian  
Vent. rate 75 BPM  
PR interval 162 ms  
QRS duration 98 ms  
QT/QTc 382/426 ms  
P-R-T axes 72 13 83  
Loc: Option:2

Normal sinus rhythm  
Anteroseptal infarct, possibly acute  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG

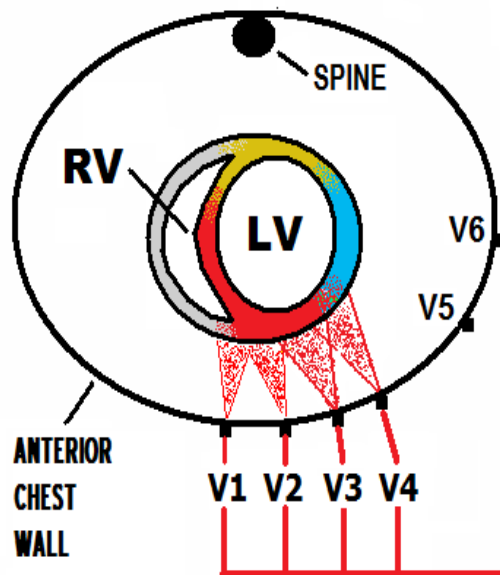
ST SEGMENT ELEVATION





## V1 - V4 VIEW THE ANTERIOR-SEPTAL WALL of the LEFT VENTRICLE

V1, V2 - ANTERIOR / SEPTAL  
V3, V4 - ANTERIOR



RUPPERT, WAYNE		ID: 7445683659	05-OCT-2006	JOHNS-HOPKINS UNIV.
38 Yrs	MALE	Vent. Rate: 68	P-R Int.: 160 ms	QRS: 100 ms
		NORMAL SINUS RHYTHM		
		Normal EKG		
		Very Healthy Athletic EKG !		
I	AVR	V1	V4	
II	AVL	V2	V5	
III	AVF	V3	V6	

# OCCLUSION of MID - LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

AV NODE

LBB

LV

CIRUMFLEX ARTERY

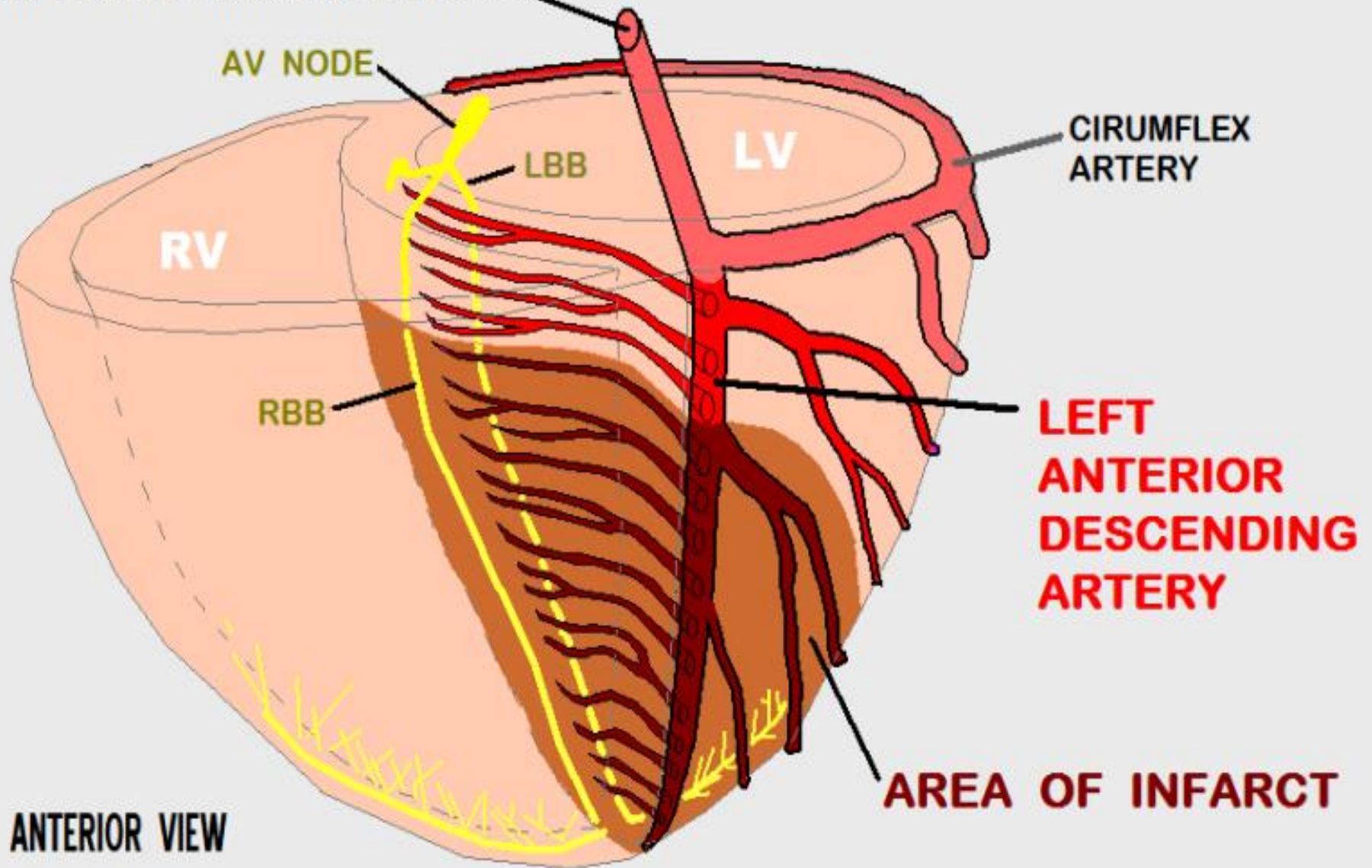
RV

RBB

LEFT  
ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING  
ARTERY

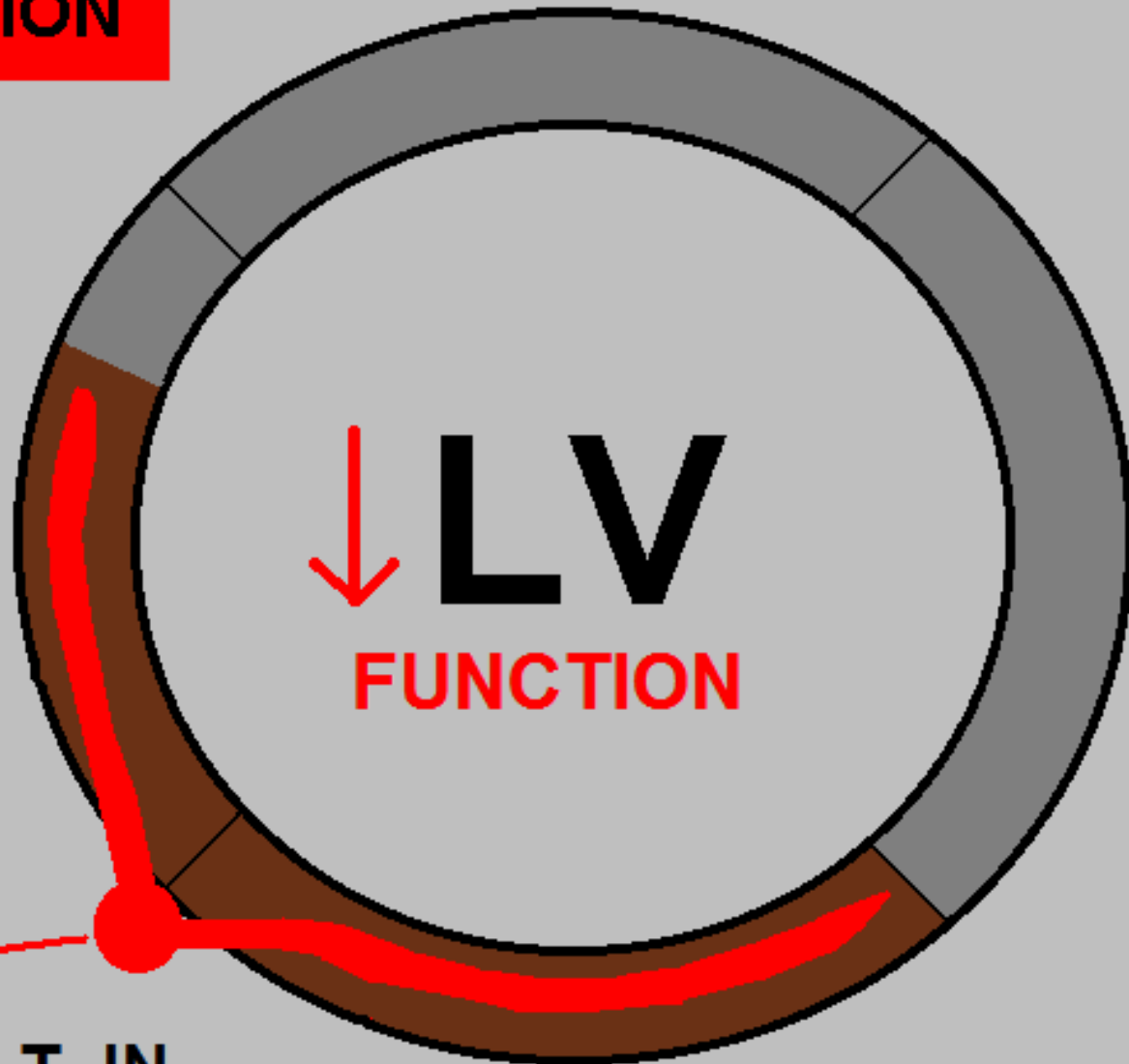
AREA OF INFARCT

ANTERIOR VIEW



# LAD DISTRIBUTION

35 - 45 % of LV MUSCLE MASS



A  
BLOCKAGE  
OF THE  
LAD

CAN RESULT IN  
LV PUMP FAILURE --



CARDIOGENIC SHOCK  
PULMONARY EDEMA



Do not remove unit from overwrap until ready to use.  
Do not use if overwrap has been previously opened or  
damaged. This overwrap is a moisture and oxygen barrier.  
The inner bag maintains the sterility of the product.

# 400 mg Dopamine

(1600 mcg/mL)  
Dopamine Hydrochloride  
and 5% Dextrose Injection USP

250 mL  
NDC 0208-102-02

**250 mL**  
Each 100 mL contains 160 mg Dopamine Hydrochloride  
USP, 5 g Dextrose Hydrated, USP, 5 mEq/L, sodium chloride  
added as a stabilizer. pH adjusted with hydrochloric acid.  
pH 3.5 (2.5 to 4.5). Osmolality 269 mOsm/L. Contains  
Sterile, nonpyrogenic, single dose container. Drug substance  
should not be made to this solution. Dosage: Intravenously  
as directed by a physician. See directions. Caution: Check  
for minute leaks by squeezing the inner bag firmly. If leaks  
are found, discard solution. If minute leaks are found, use  
may be impaired. Do not  
in series connections. Do not  
administer simultaneously with blood.  
Do not use unless solution is clear  
and is not darker than slightly yellow.  
Rx Only. Recommended storage:  
Room temperature (25°C). Avoid  
excessive heat. Protect from  
freezing. See insert.



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7-7-4-102  
95%

Do not remove unit from overwrap until ready to use.  
Do not use if overwrap has been previously opened or  
damaged. This overwrap is a moisture and oxygen barrier.  
The inner bag maintains the sterility of the product.

# 500 mg Total DOBUtamine

Hydrochloride in  
5% Dextrose Injection  
(2000 mcg/mL)



**250 mL**

Each 100 mL contains 200 mg Dobutamine Hydrochloride USP, 5 g Dextrose Hydrated, USP, 5 mEq/L, sodium chloride added as a stabilizer. pH adjusted with hydrochloric acid. pH 3.5 (2.5 to 4.5). Osmolality 269 mOsm/L. Contains Sterile, nonpyrogenic, single dose container. Drug substance should not be made to this solution. Dosage: Intravenously as directed by a physician. See directions. Caution: Check for minute leaks by squeezing the inner bag firmly. If leaks are found, discard solution. If minute leaks are found, use may be impaired. Do not in series connections. Do not administer simultaneously with blood. Do not use unless solution is clear and is not darker than slightly yellow. Rx Only. Recommended storage: Room temperature (25°C). Avoid excessive heat. Protect from freezing. See insert.

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EXP 09/23

# LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY ( LAD )

---

- ANTERIOR WALL OF LEFT VENTRICLE

 **35 - 45 % OF LEFT VENTRICLE MUSCLE MASS**

- SEPTUM, ANTERIOR 2/3

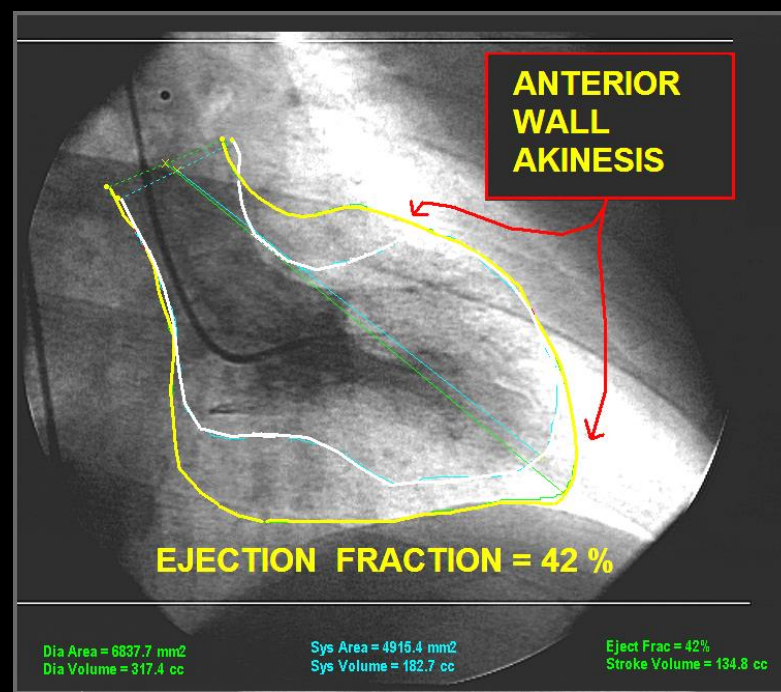
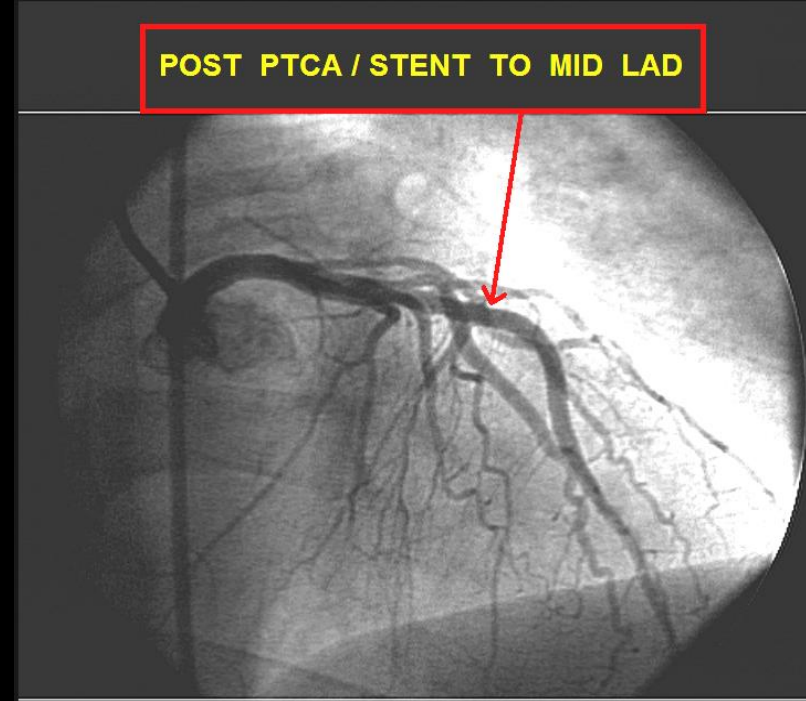
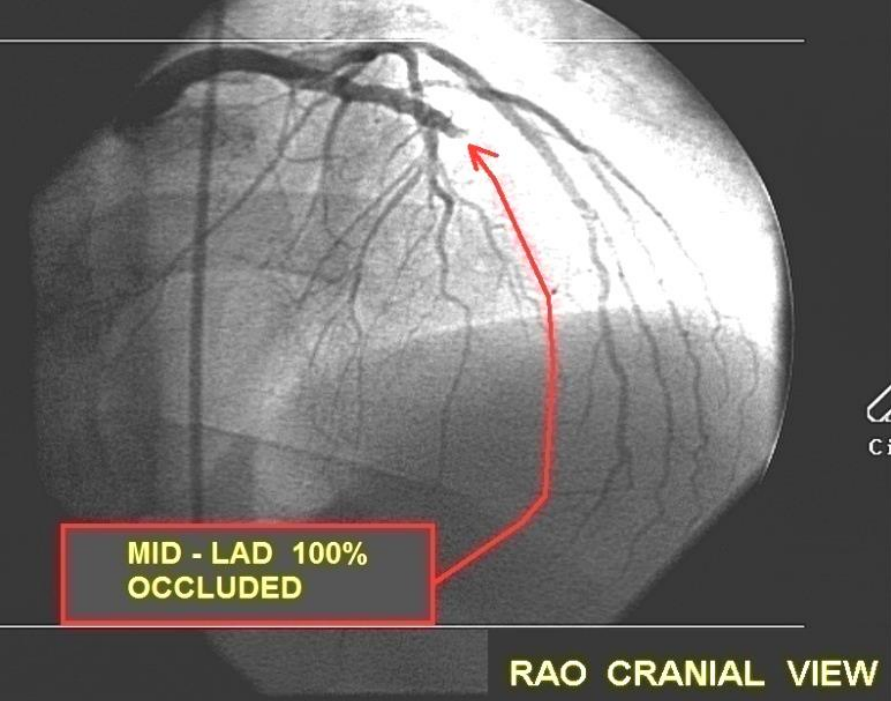
 **BUNDLE BRANCHES**

- ANTERIOR-MEDIAL PAPILLARY MUSCLE

ANTICIPATED COMPLICATIONS of ANTERIOR-  
SEPTAL WALL STEMI  
& POSSIBLE INDICATED INTERVENTIONS:

- CARDIAC ARREST	BCLS / ACLS
- CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS (VT / VF)	ACLS (antiarrhythmics)
- PUMP FAILURE with CARDIOGENIC SHOCK	INOTROPE THERAPY: -DOPAMINE / DOBUTAMINE / LEVOPHED - INTRA-AORTIC BALLOON PUMP (use caution with fluid challenges due to PULMONARY EDEMA)

<p>- PULMONARY EDEMA</p>	<p>- CPAP - ET INTUBATION (use caution with diuretics due to pump failure and hypotension)</p>
<p>- 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK - NOT RESPONSIVE TO ATROPINE</p>	<p>TRANSCUTANEOUS or TRANSVENOUS PACING</p>



## CASE STUDY 2: STEMI

### CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:

46 y/o Female walks into ED TRIAGE, with chief complaint of EPIGASTRIC PAIN, NAUSEA and WEAKNESS. Symptoms have been intermittent for last two days. She was awakened early this morning with the above symptoms, which are now PERSISTENT.

### RISK FACTOR PROFILE:


-  FAMILY HISTORY - father died of CAD, older brother had CABG, age 39
-  DIABETES - diet controlled
-  HYPERTENSION

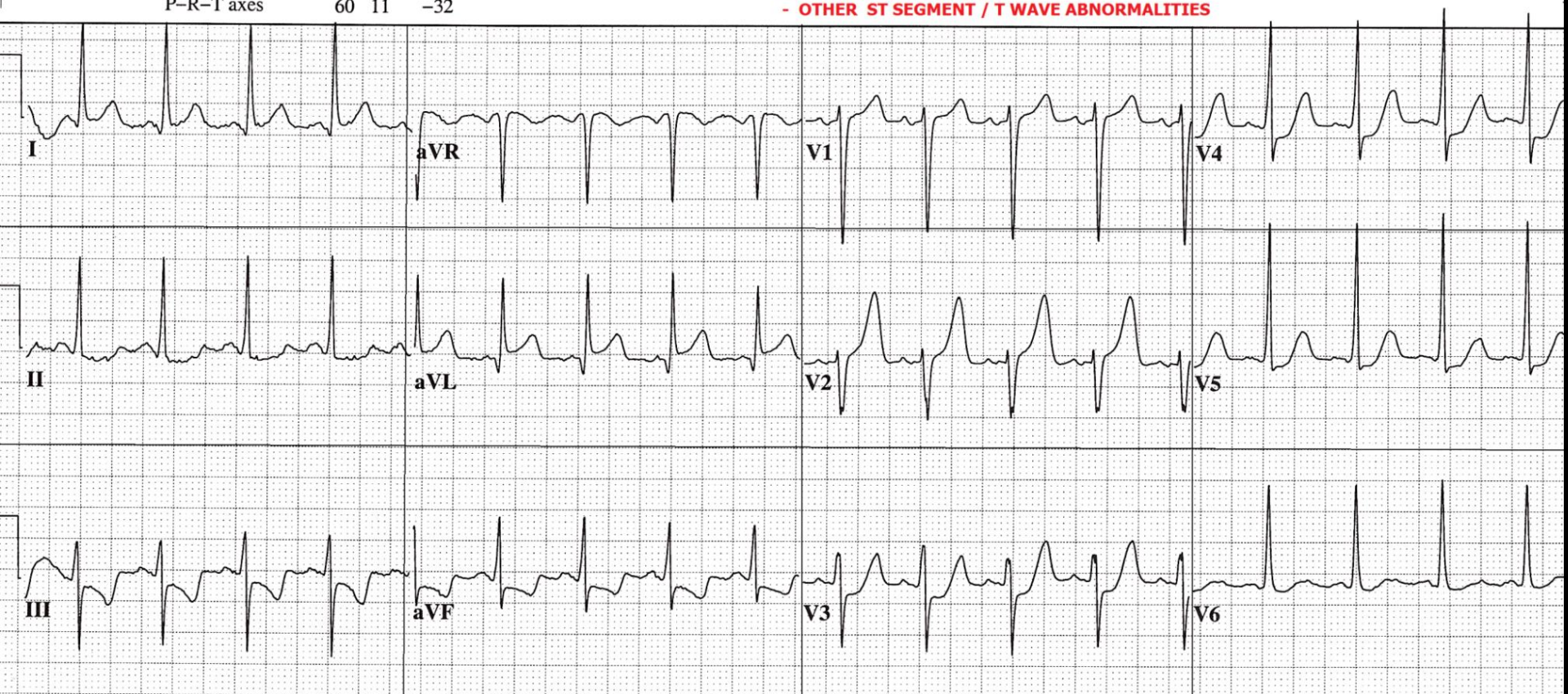
**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Pt. CAOx4, anxious, SKIN cold, clammy, diaphoretic. No JVD.  
Lungs: clear, bilaterally. Heart Sounds: Normal S1, S2.

**VITAL SIGNS:** BP: 168/98, P: 110, R: 24, SAO2: 97% on O2 4 LPM via nasal canula

**LABS:** TROPONIN ultra = 2.8

46 yr      Vent. rate      109    BPM  
Female      PR interval      132    ms  
Room:ER      QRS duration      82    ms  
                 QT/QTc      346/465    ms  
                 P-R-T axes      60 11    -32

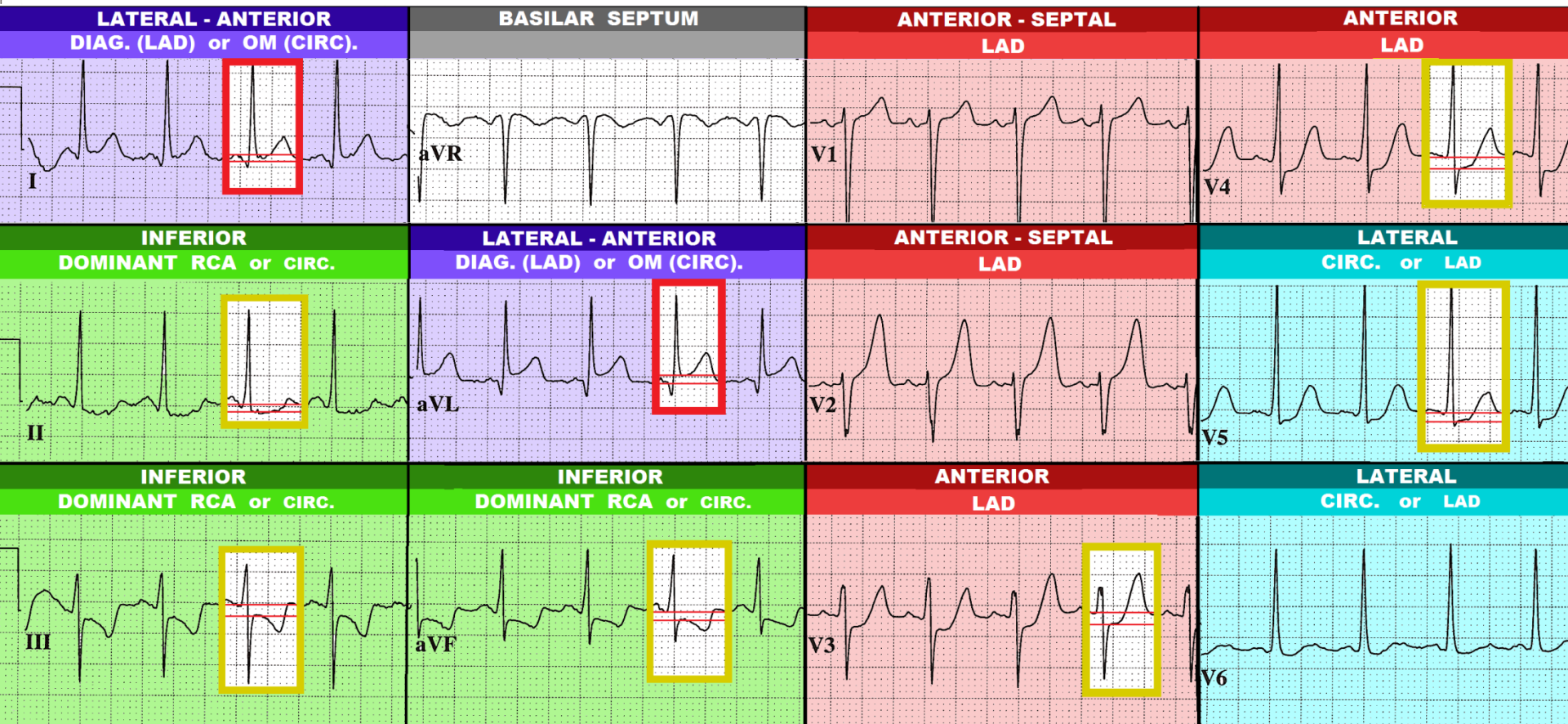
 **EVALUATE EKG for indicators of ACS:**  
- ST SEGMENT ELEVATION / DEPRESSION  
- HYPERACUTE T WAVES  
- CONVEX ST SEGMENTS  
- OTHER ST SEGMENT / T WAVE ABNORMALITIES

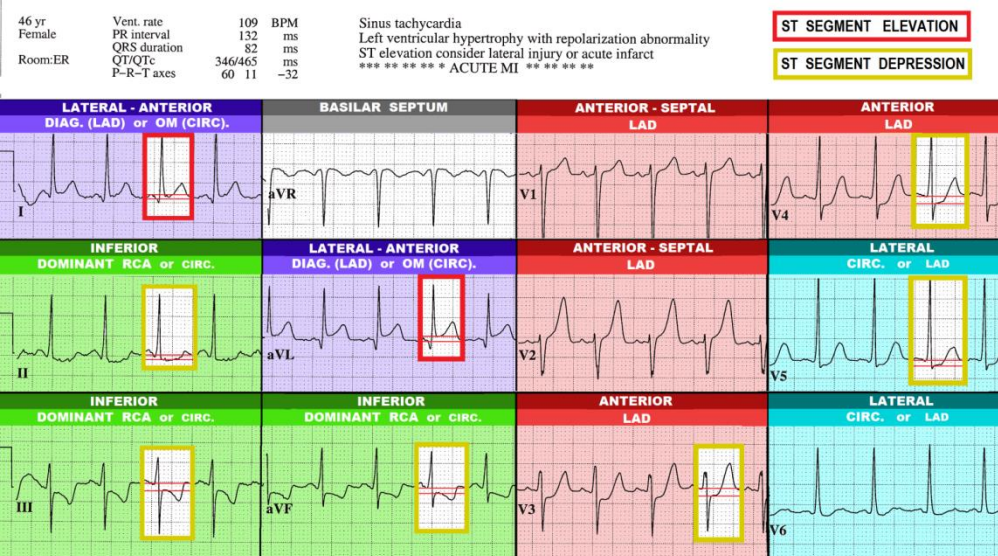


46 yr	Vent. rate	109	BPM	Sinus tachycardia
Female	PR interval	132	ms	Left ventricular hypertrophy with repolarization abnormality
	QRS duration	82	ms	ST elevation consider lateral injury or acute infarct
Room:ER	QT/QTc	346/465	ms	*** ** * ACUTE MI ** * ** *
	P-R-T axes	60 11	-32	

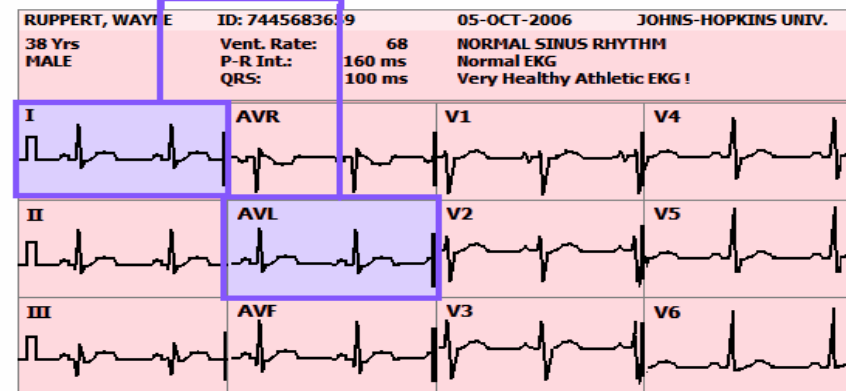
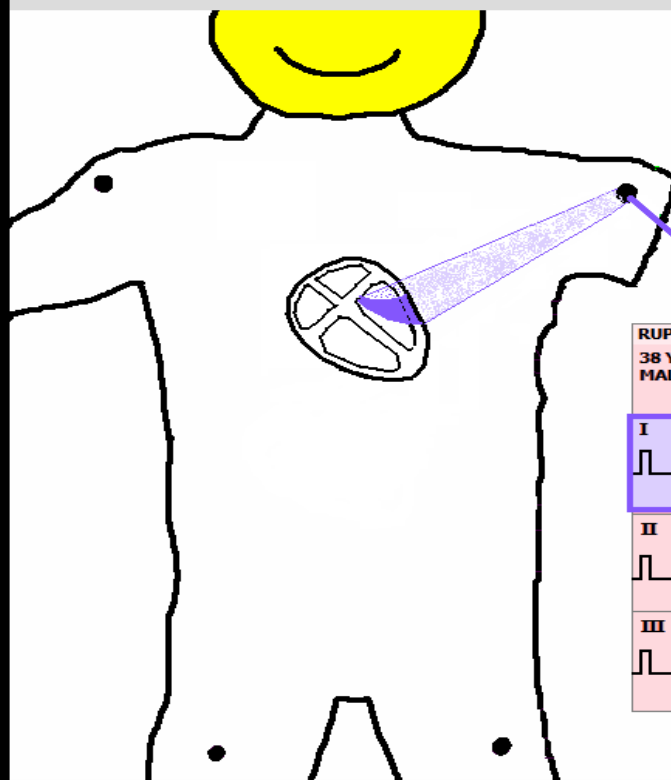
**ST SEGMENT ELEVATION**

**ST SEGMENT DEPRESSION**

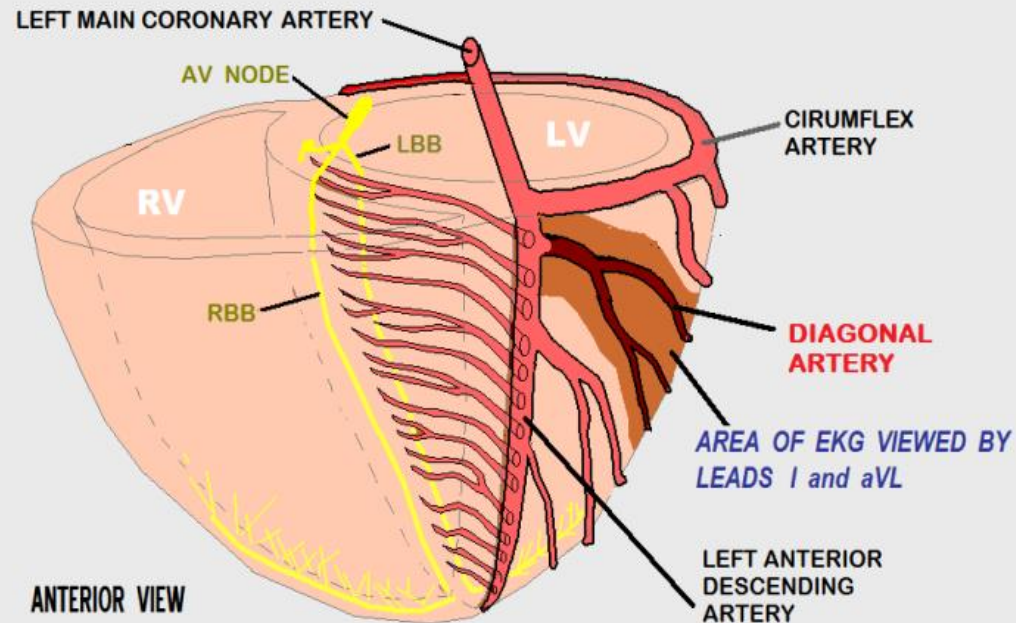




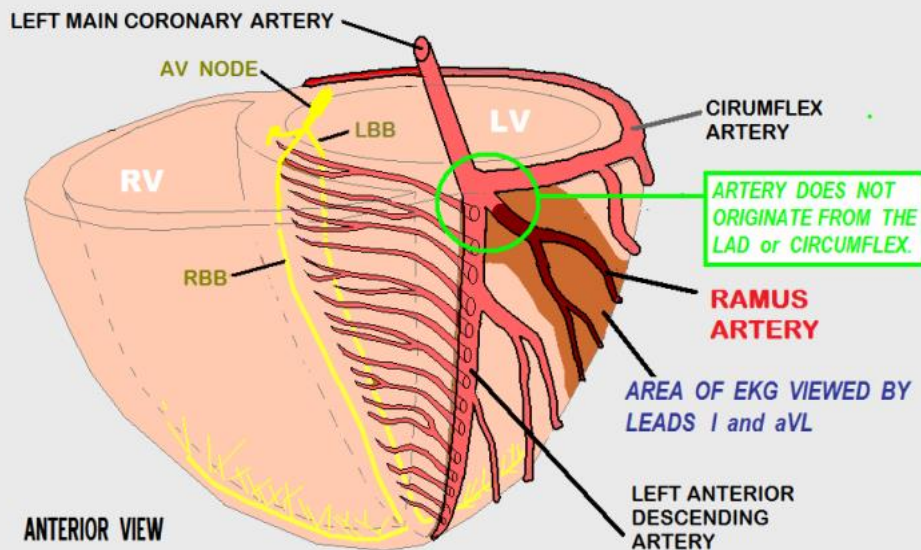
## LEADS I and aVL view the ANTERIOR-LATERAL JUNCTION



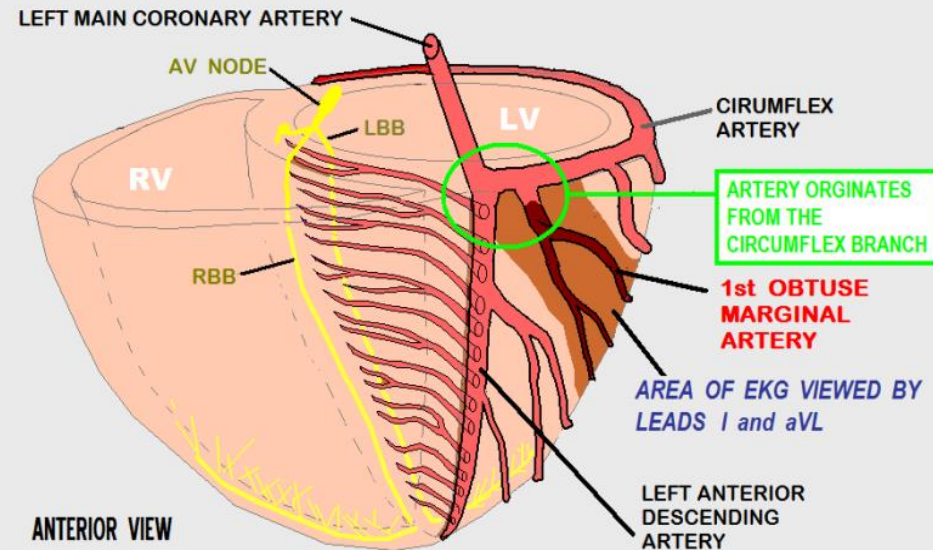
## OCCLUSION of DIAGONAL ARTERY



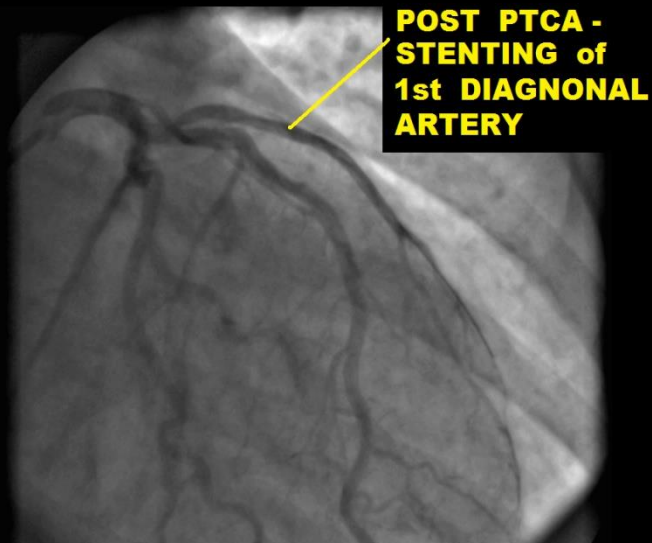
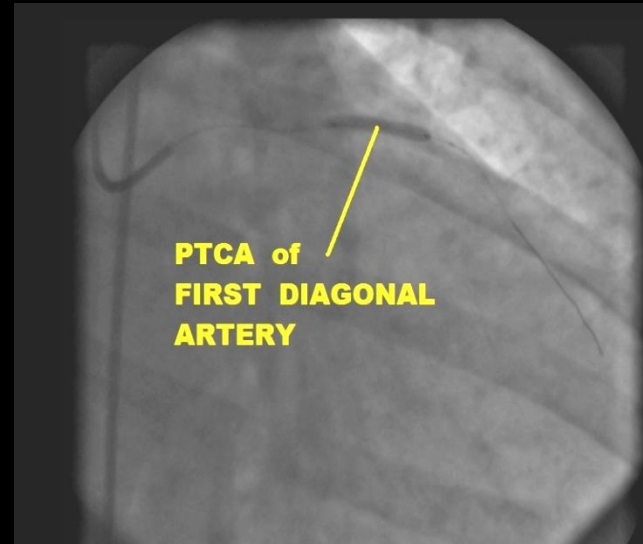
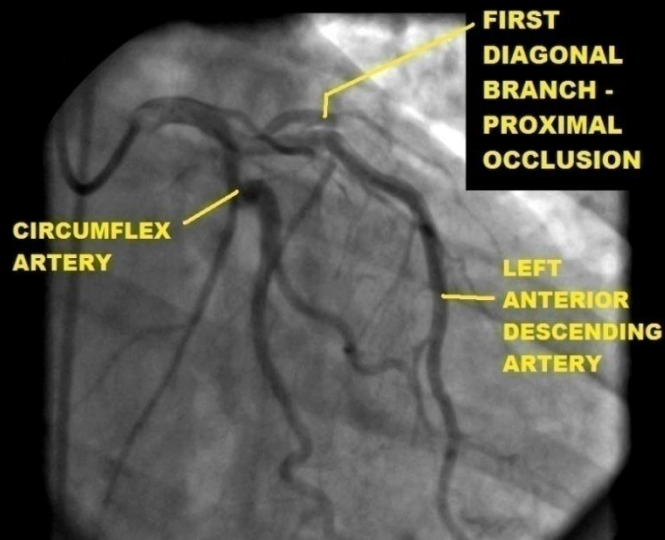
## OCCLUSION of RAMUS ARTERY



## OCCLUSION of OBTUSE MARGINAL ARTERY



**CASE PROGRESSION:** As the patient was being prepared for transport to the Cardiac Cath Lab, she experienced an episode of Ventricular Fibrillation.



11111111  
Born 1/ 1941 77 Years

Acct# [REDACTED] MR# [REDACTED]  
ONIER VILLARREAL  
Adm: [REDACTED] 2018 DOB: [REDACTED]  
SEVEN RIVERS RMC

3/16/2018 1:31:57 PM

Seven Rivers Reg al

Rate 69 . SINUS RHYTHM .....normal P axis, V-rate 50- 99 Room: er11  
PR 180 . LEFT ATRIAL ABNORMALITY.....P,P'>60mS, <-0.15mV V1  
QRSD 94 . LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK.....axis(240,-40), init forces inf  
QT 436  
QTc 467

--AXIS--

P 56

QRS -51

T -7

12 Lead; Standard Placement

- ABNORMAL ECG -

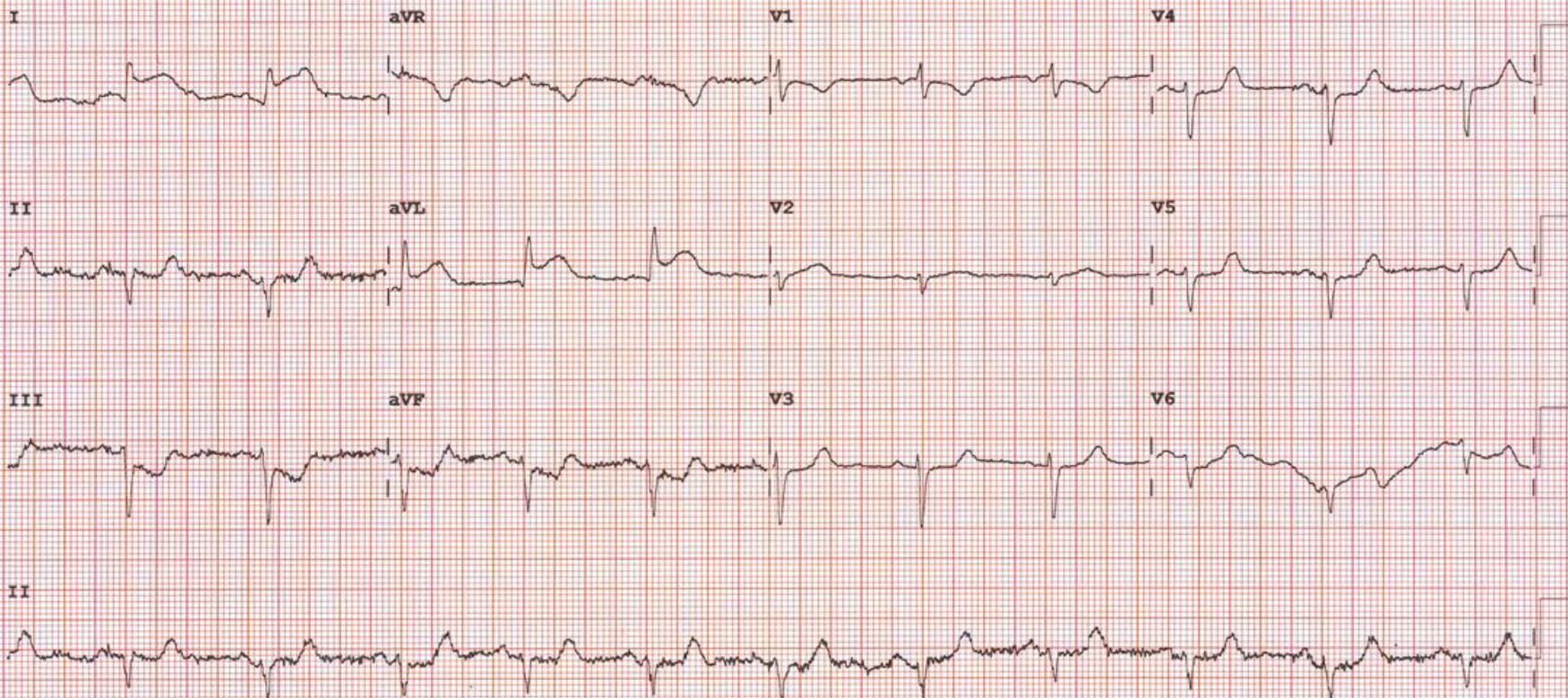
Unconfirmed Diagnosis

Physician  
Date  
Time  
STEMI

1331

YES

NO



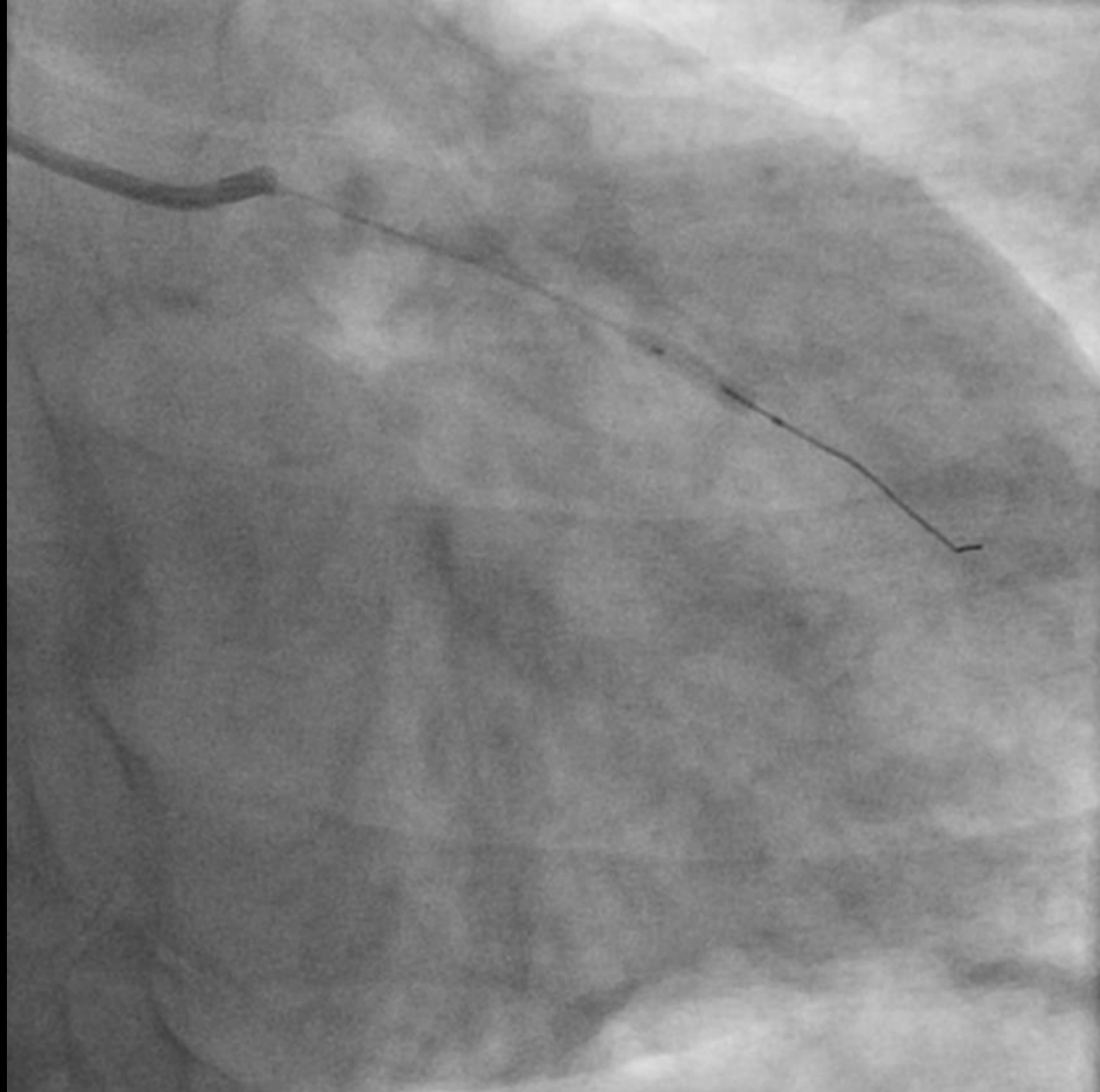
Device: Speed: 25 mm/sec Limb: 10 mm/mV Chest: 10.0 mm/mV

F 60~ 0.15-100 Hz

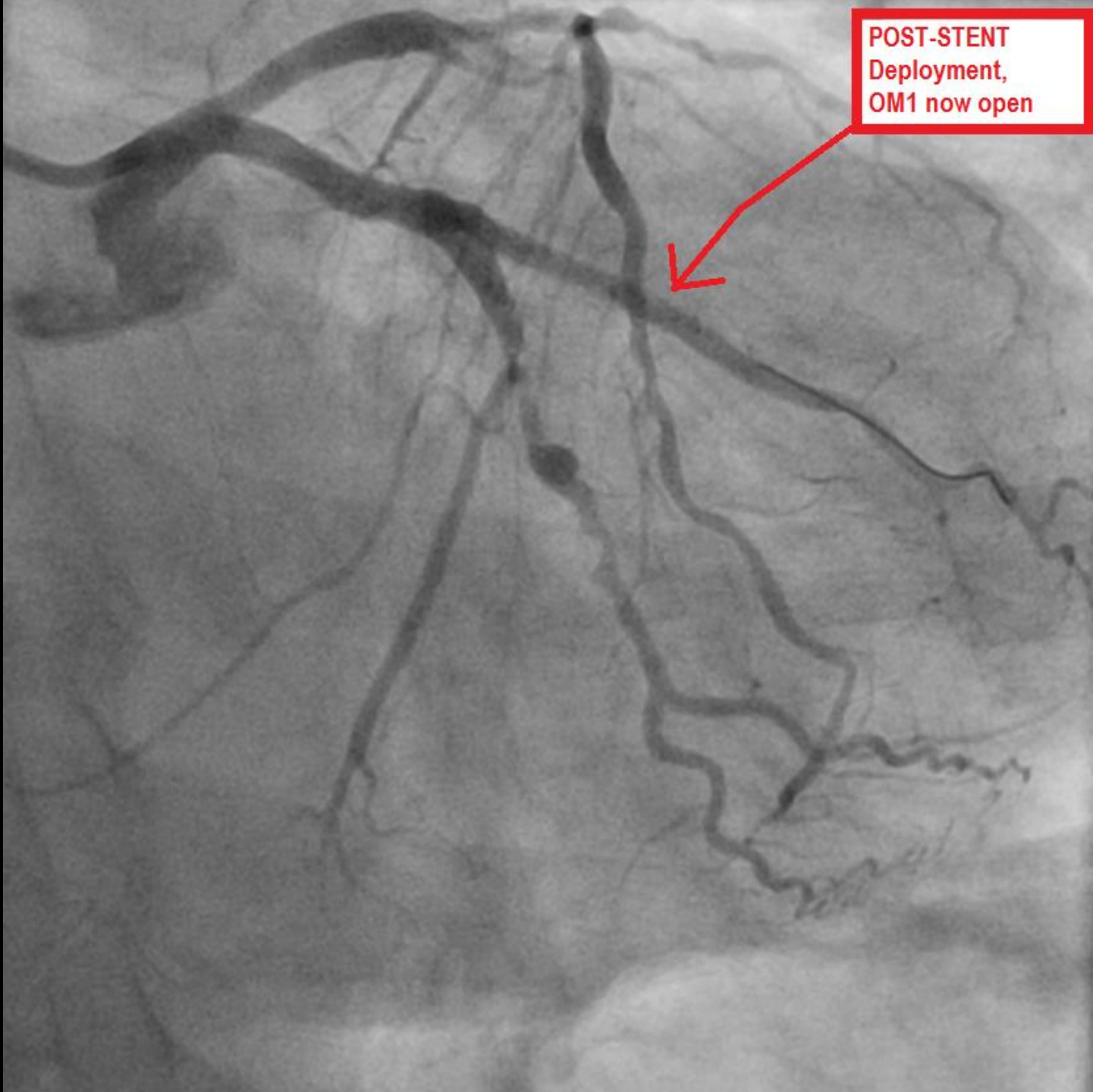
PH090A L P?

OM 1 100%  
occluded proximally





POST-STENT  
Deployment,  
OM1 now open






## CASE STUDY 3: **STEMI**

### **CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:**

29 y/o male presents to the ER c/o "HEAVY CHEST PRESSURE" x 30 minutes. The patient states he was playing football with friends after eating a large meal. Pt. also c/o nausea. Denies DIB.

### **RISK FACTOR PROFILE:**


-  **FAMILY HISTORY** - father died of MI age 46
-  **CURRENT CIGARETTE SMOKER**
-  **"MILD" HYPERTENSION** - untreated
- ☒ **CHOLESTEROL** - unknown - "never had it checked."

**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Patient alert, oriented X 4, skin cool, dry, pale. Patient restless. No JVD, Lungs clear bilaterally. Heart sounds normal S1, S2. No peripheral edema.

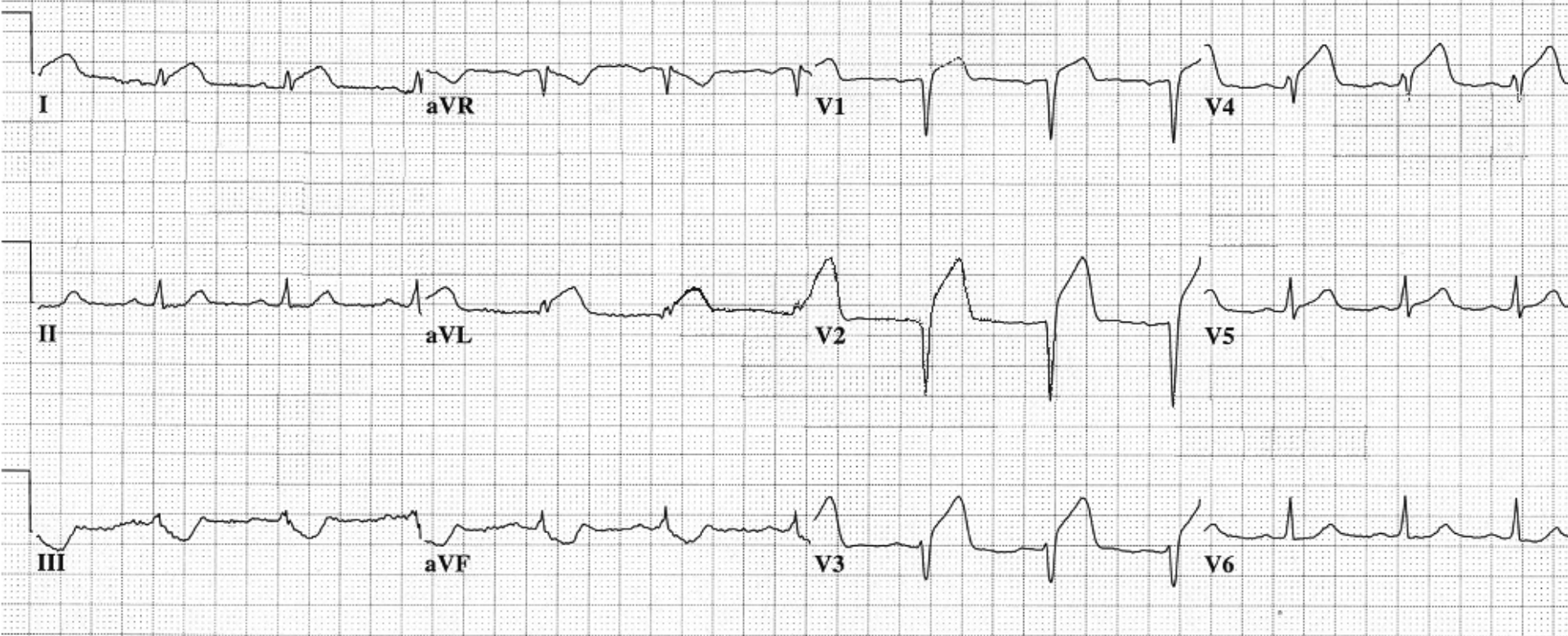
**VITAL SIGNS:** BP: 104/78, P: 76, R: 20, SAO2: 96%

**LABS:** INITIAL CARDIAC MARKERS - NEGATIVE

29 yr  
Male      Caucasian  
  
Loc:3      Option:20  
  
Vent. rate      75 BPM  
PR interval      176 ms  
QRS duration      90 ms  
QT/QTc      362/404 ms  
P-R-T axes      70 50 -11      14:07 Hours

 **EVALUATE the EKG for signs of ACS:**  
- ST SEGMENT ELEVATION / DEPRESSION  
- HYPERACUTE T WAVES  
- CONVEX / FLAT ST SEGMENTS  
- OTHER ST - T WAVE ABNORMALITIES

DOS::



29 yr  
Male

Caucasian

Vent. rate  
PR interval  
QRS duration  
QT/QTc  
P-R-T axes

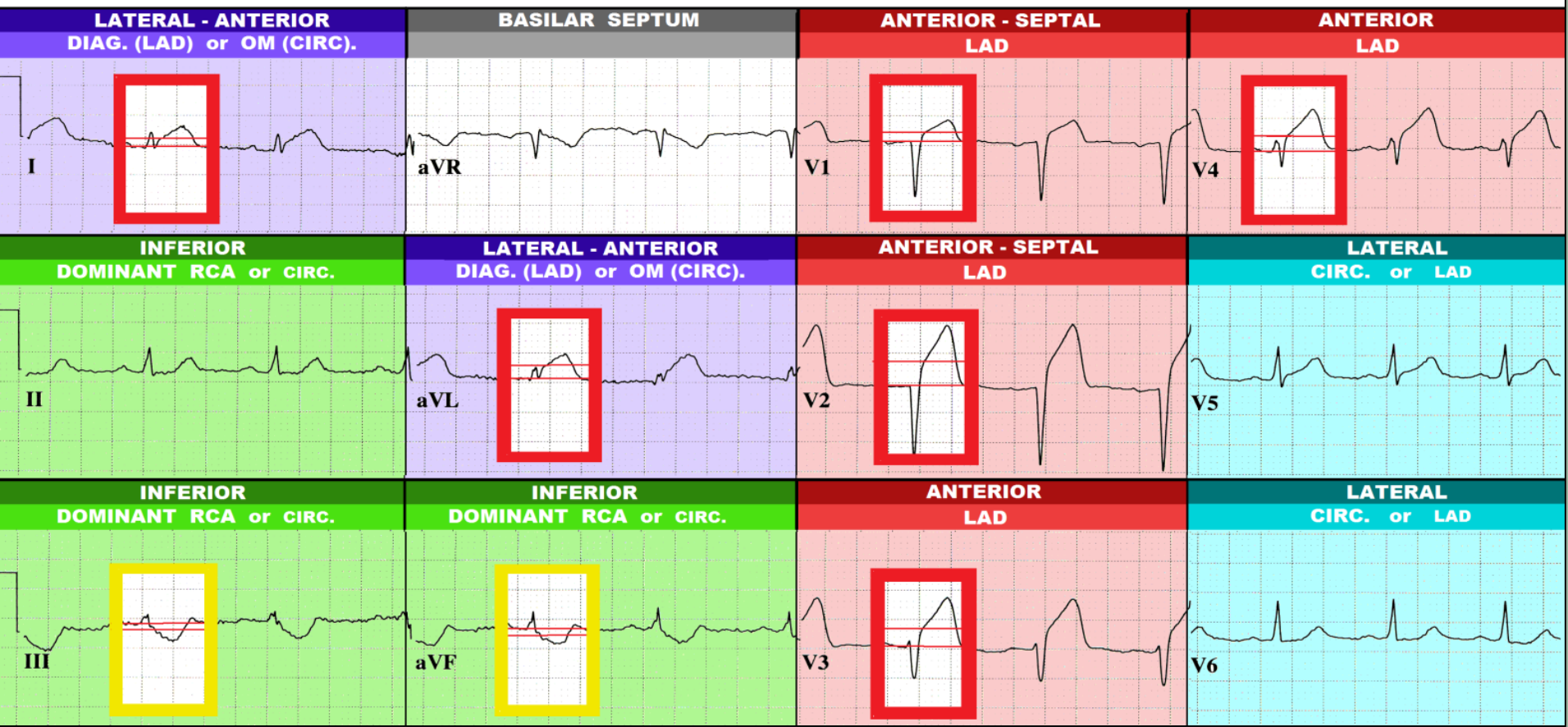
75  
176  
90  
362/404  
70 50

BPM  
ms  
ms  
ms  
-11

Normal sinus rhythm  
Septal infarct , possibly acute  
Anterolateral injury pattern  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG

ST SEGMENT ELEVATION

ST SEGMENT DEPRESSION



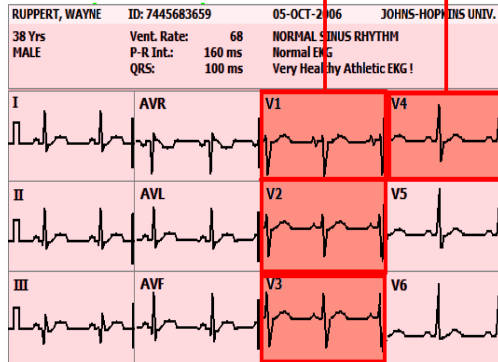
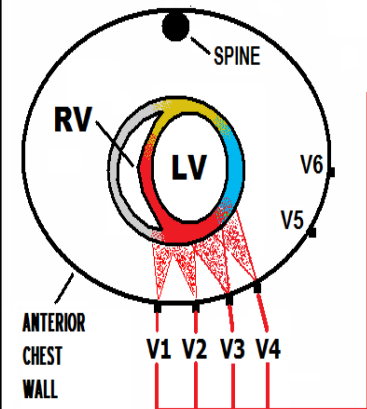
- **Reciprocal ST Depression is NOW PRESENT**
- **Additional ST Elevation is present in Leads I, AVL**

# V1 - V4 VIEW THE ANTERIOR-SEPTAL WALL

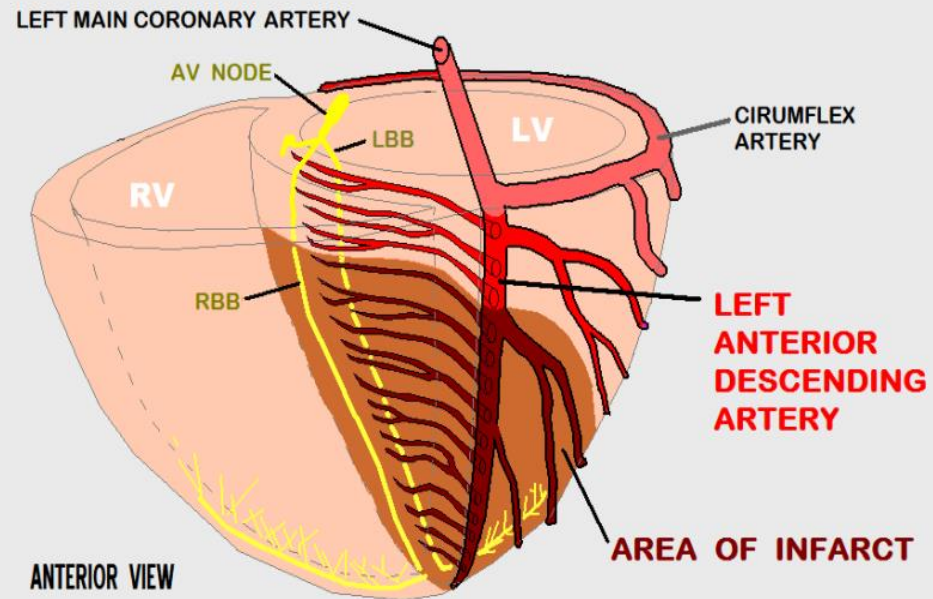
of the LEFT VENTRICLE

V1, V2 - ANTERIOR / SEPTAL

V3, V4 - ANTERIOR



## OCCCLUSION of MID - LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

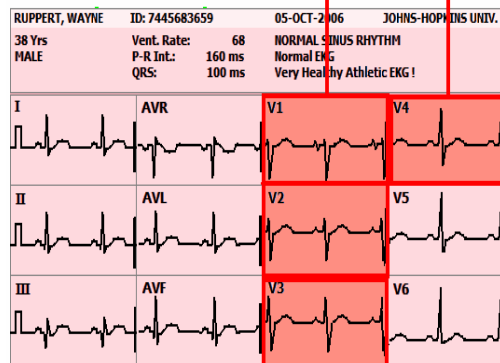
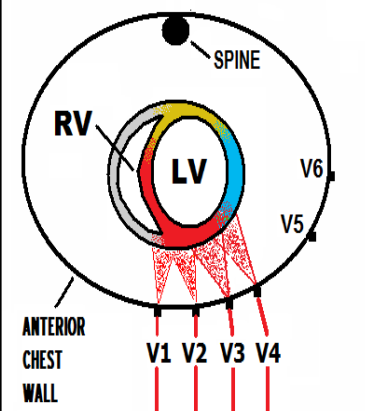


# V1 - V4 VIEW THE ANTERIOR-SEPTAL WALL

of the LEFT VENTRICLE

V1, V2 - ANTERIOR / SEPTAL

V3, V4 - ANTERIOR



## OCCCLUSION of MID - LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

AV NODE

LBB

RV

LV

CIRUMFLEX ARTERY

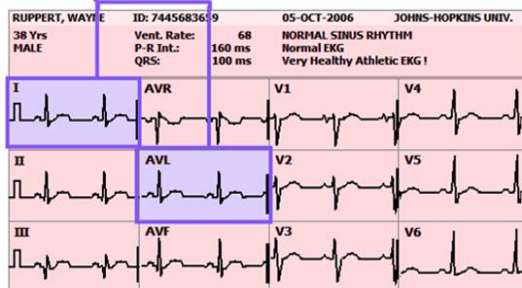
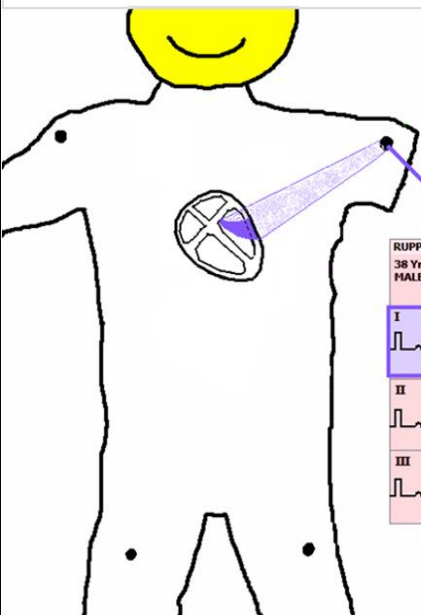
RBB

LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

AREA OF INFARCT

ANTERIOR VIEW

Leads I & AVL view the ANTERIOR-LATERAL JUNCTION



## OCCCLUSION of DIAGONAL ARTERY

LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

AV NODE

LBB

RV

LV

CIRUMFLEX ARTERY

RBB

1st DIAGONAL ARTERY SUPPLYING AREA VIEWED BY LEADS I and aVL ORIGINATES FROM LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

AREA OF EKG VIEWED BY LEADS I and aVL

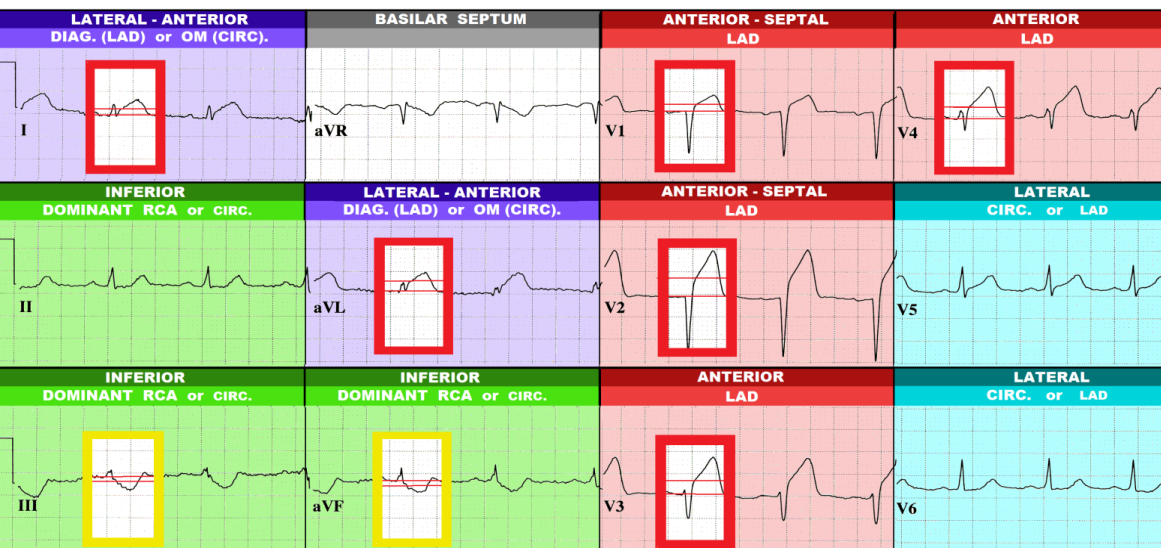
LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

ANTERIOR VIEW

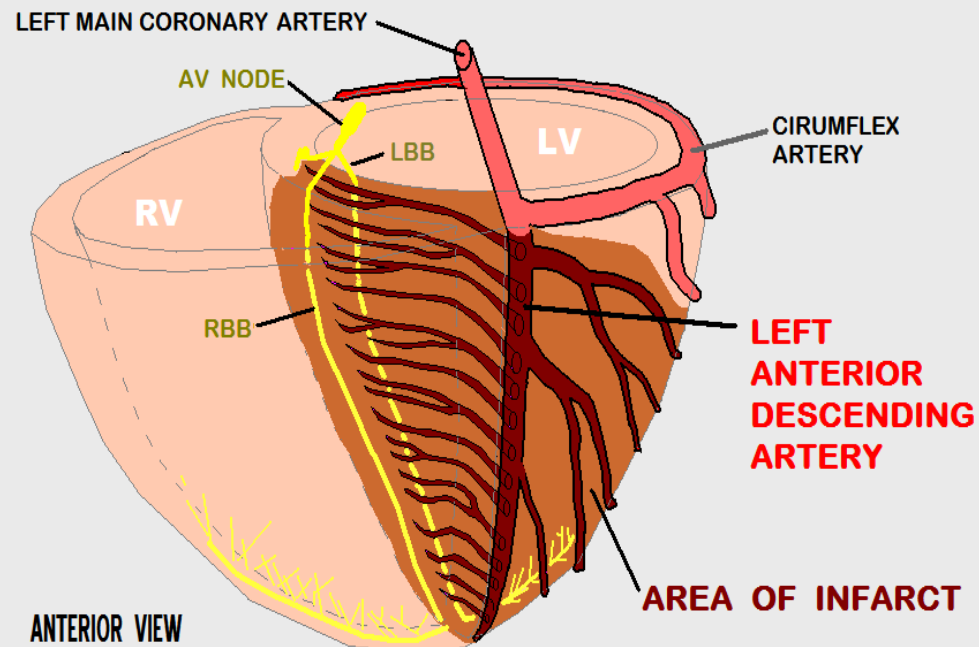
29 yr Male Caucasian  
 Vent. rate 75 BPM  
 PR interval 176 ms  
 QRS duration 90 ms  
 QT/QTc 362/404 ms  
 P-R-T axes 70 50 -11  
 Normal sinus rhythm  
 Septal infarct, possibly acute  
 Anterolateral injury pattern  
 \*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
 Abnormal ECG

ST SEGMENT ELEVATION

ST SEGMENT DEPRESSION



OCCCLUSION of PROXIMAL LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY



# OCCLUSION of PROXIMAL LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

AV NODE

LBB

LV

CIRUMFLEX ARTERY

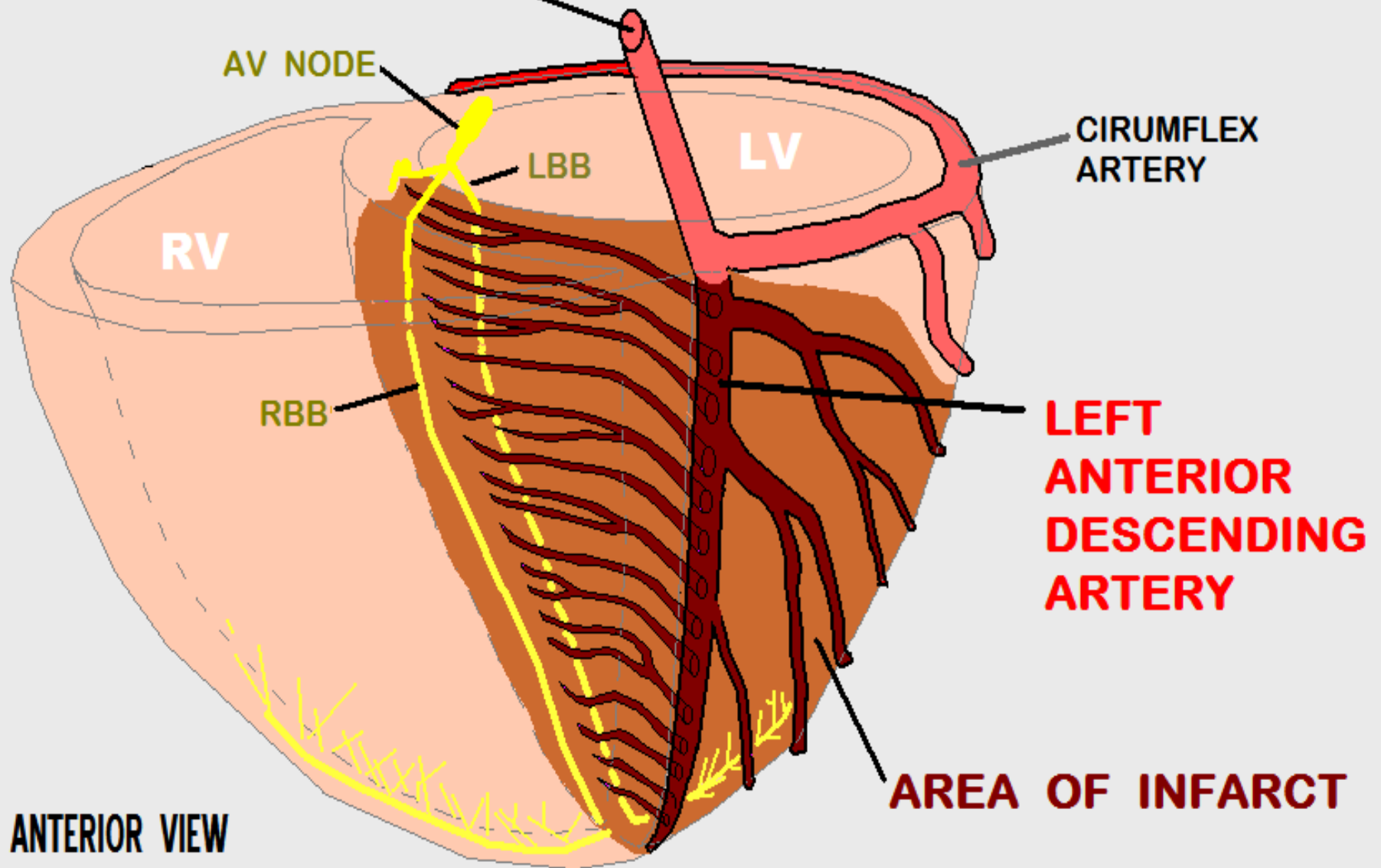
RV

RBB

LEFT  
ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING  
ARTERY

AREA OF INFARCT

ANTERIOR VIEW



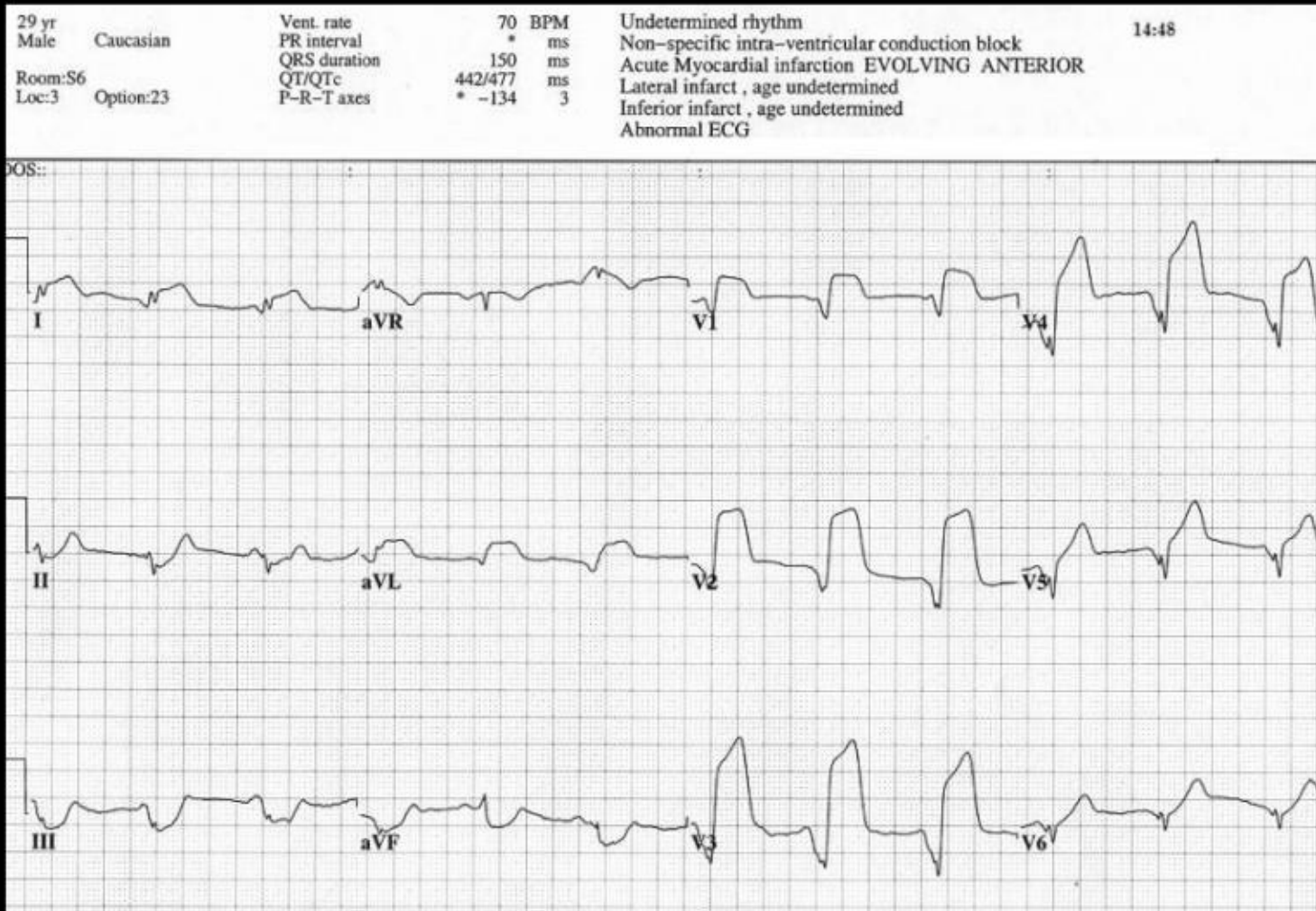
ANTICIPATED COMPLICATIONS of ANTERIOR-  
SEPTAL WALL STEMI  
& POSSIBLE INDICATED INTERVENTIONS:

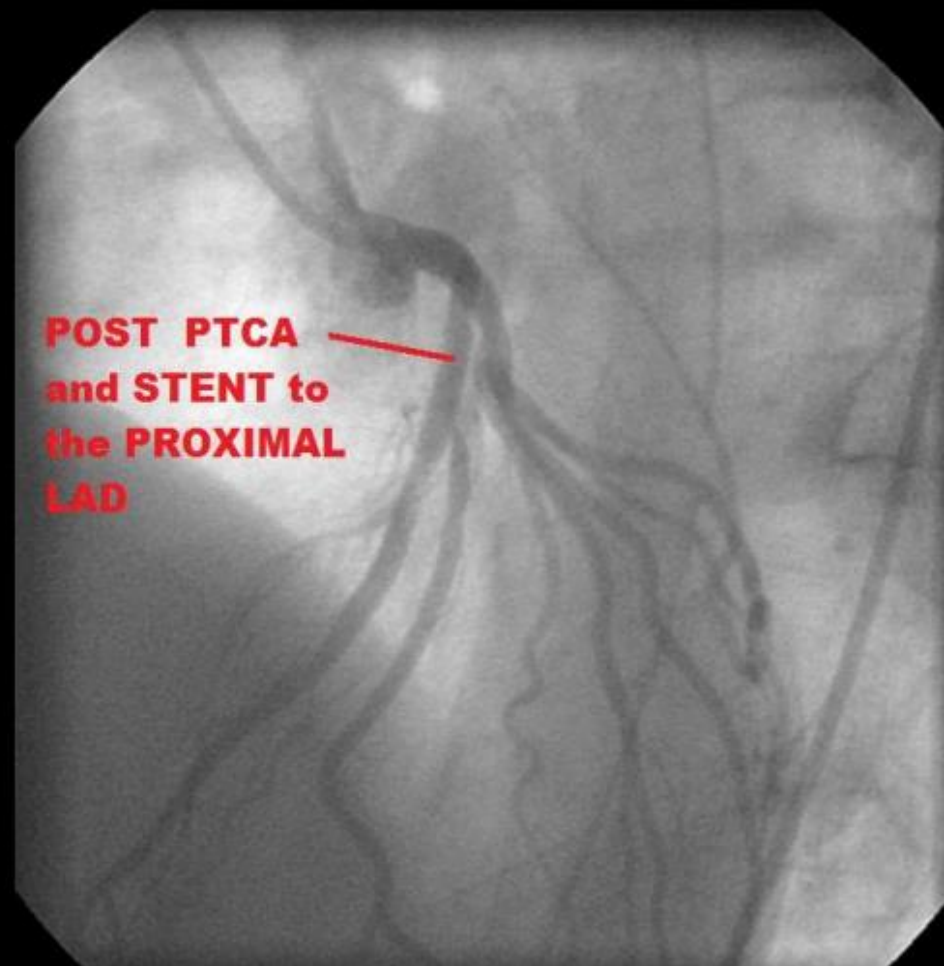
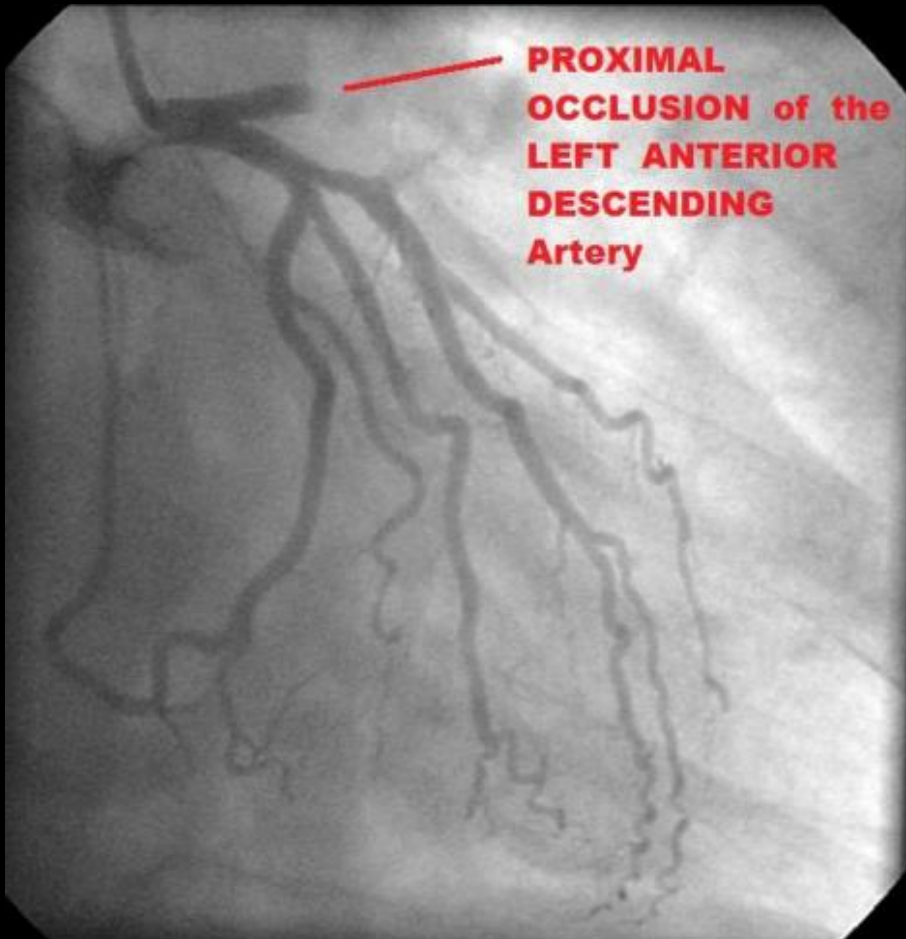
- CARDIAC ARREST	BCLS / ACLS
- CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS (VT / VF)	ACLS (antiarrhythmics)
- PUMP FAILURE with CARDIOGENIC SHOCK	INOTROPE THERAPY: -DOPAMINE / DOBUTAMINE / LEVOPHED - INTRA-AORTIC BALLOON PUMP (use caution with fluid challenges due to PULMONARY EDEMA)

<p>- PULMONARY EDEMA</p>	<p>- CPAP - ET INTUBATION (use caution with diuretics due to pump failure and hypotension)</p>
<p>- 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK - NOT RESPONSIVE TO ATROPINE</p>	<p>TRANSCUTANEOUS or TRANSVENOUS PACING</p>

**WHILE AWAITING THE CATH TEAM, THE PATIENT BEGAN VOMITING. SKIN BECAME ASHEN & DIAPHORETIC. REPEAT BP = 50/30.**

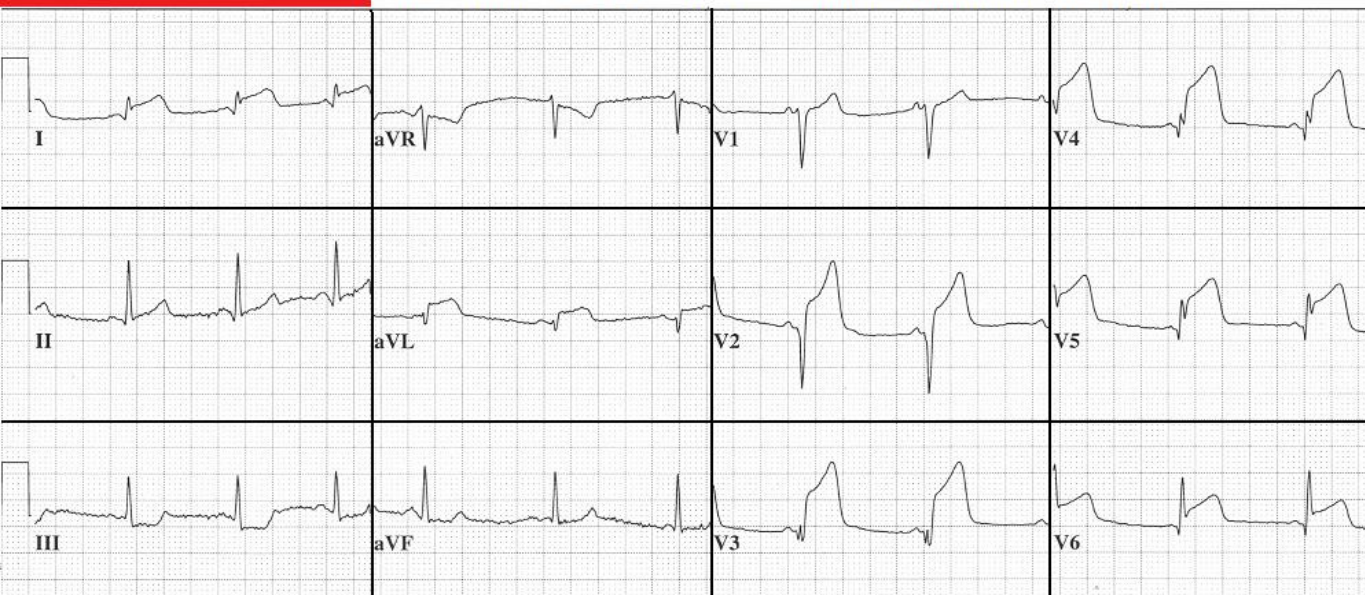
**-WHAT THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AT THIS POINT ?**





## PATIENT A:

44 y/o MALE, CHEST PAIN x 1 HOUR,  
BP: 78/46, P: 70, R: 28. CARDIAC MARKERS: NEGATIVE

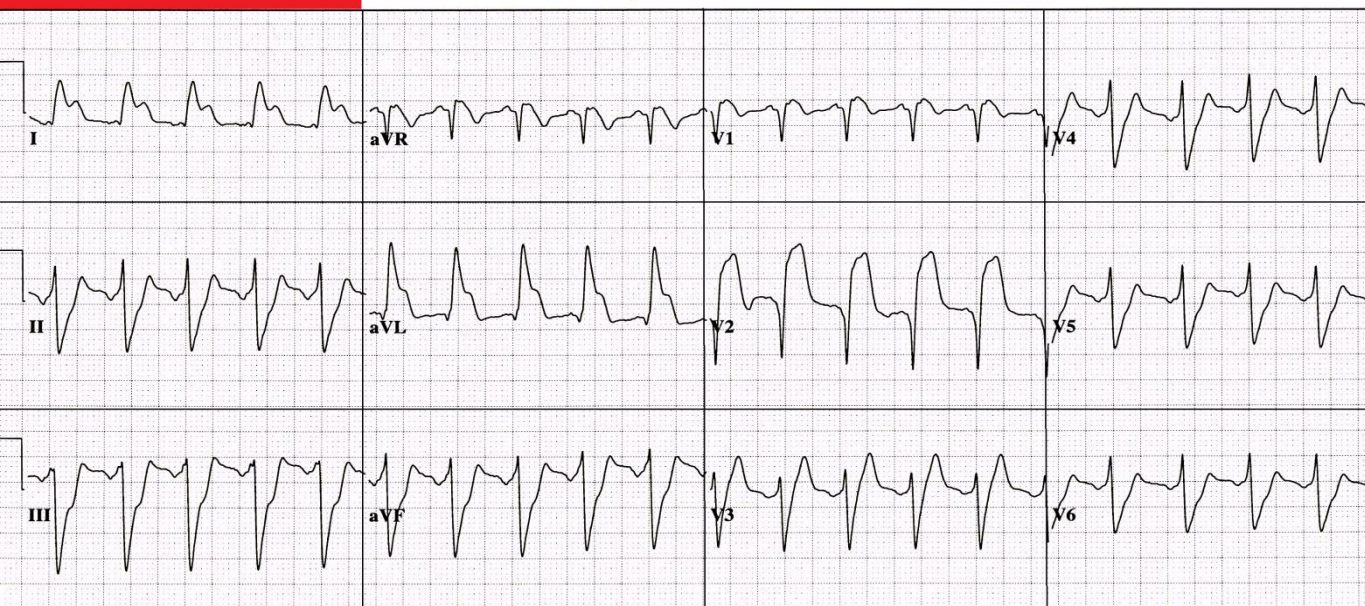


WHO SHOULD  
GO TO THE  
CATH LAB  
FIRST ?

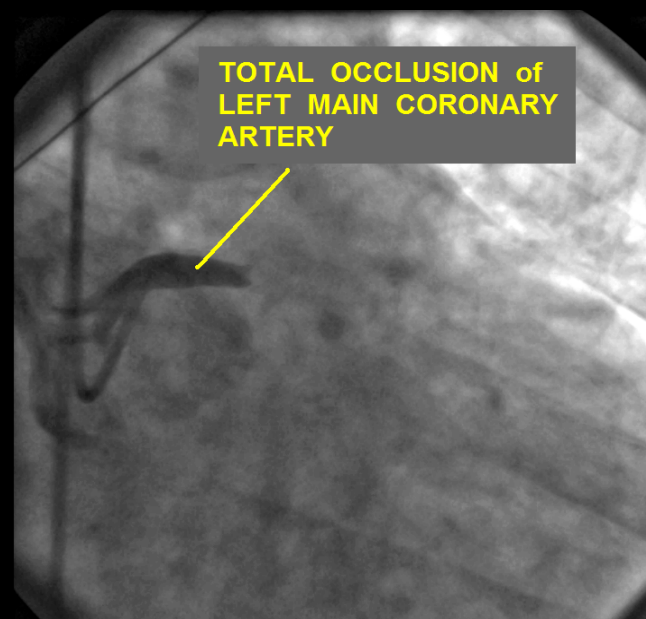
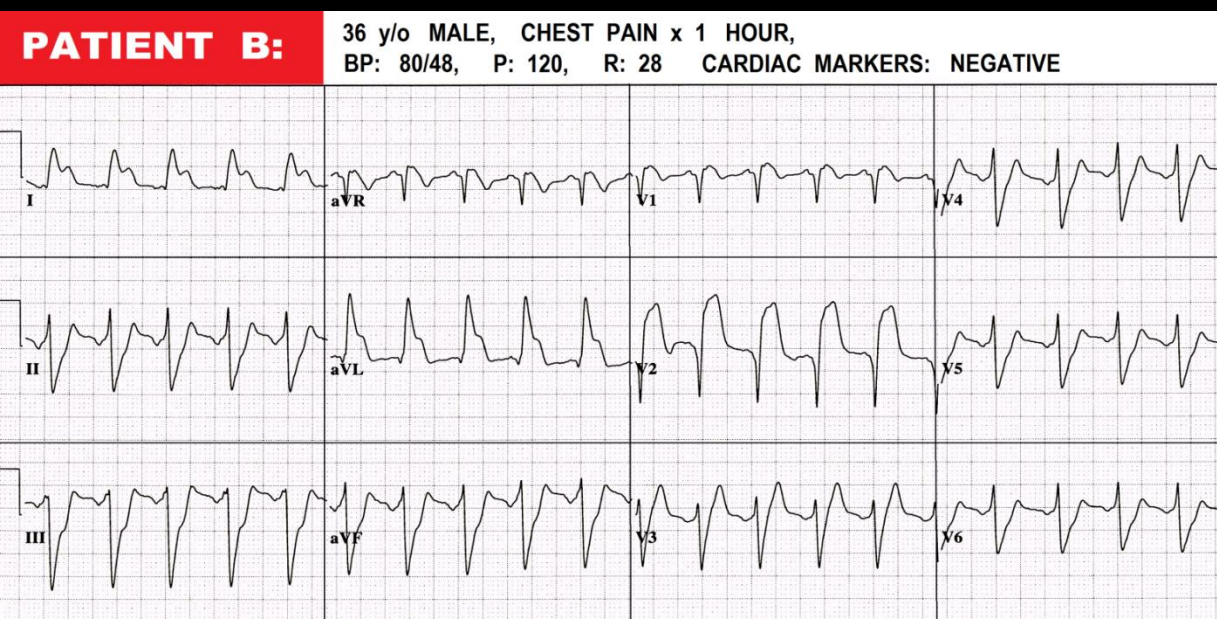
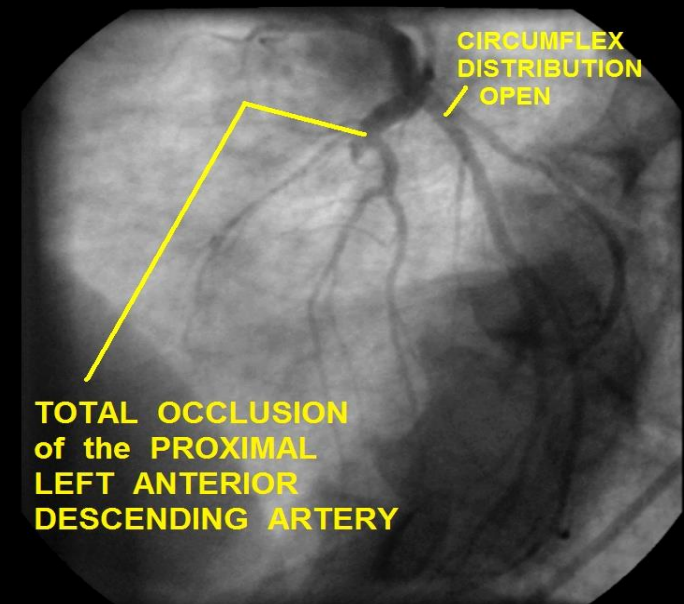
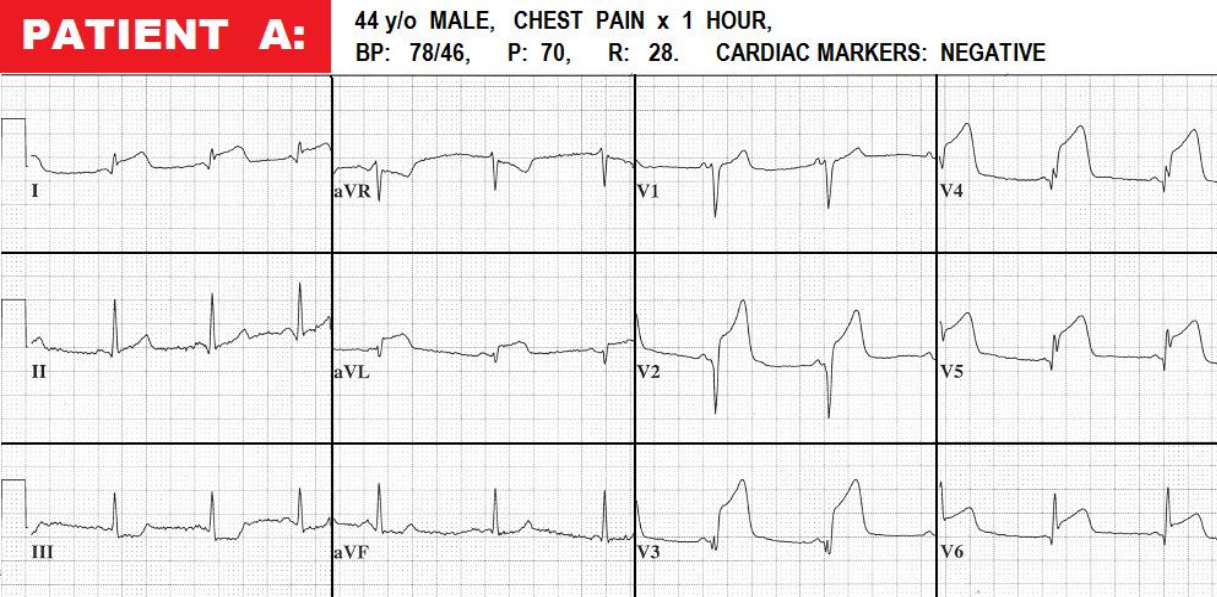
And . . . .

## PATIENT B:

36 y/o MALE, CHEST PAIN x 1 HOUR,  
BP: 80/48, P: 120, R: 28 CARDIAC MARKERS: NEGATIVE

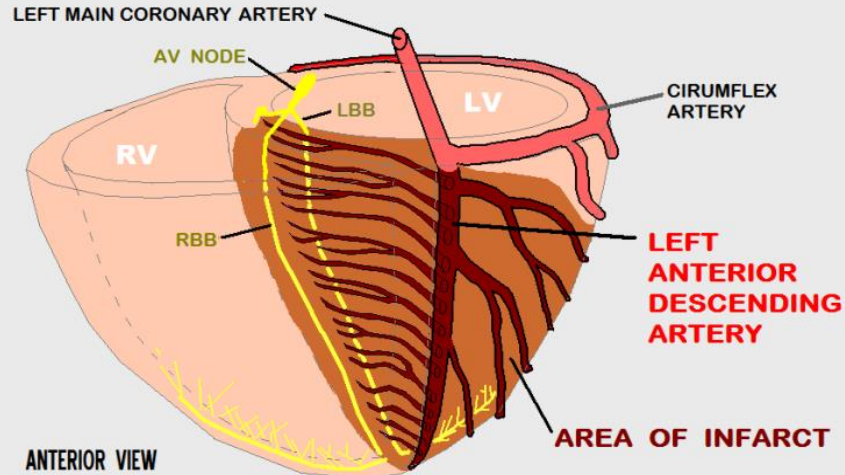


WHAT WOULD  
YOU DO WITH  
THE PATIENT  
WHO DID NOT  
GO TO THE  
CATH LAB ?



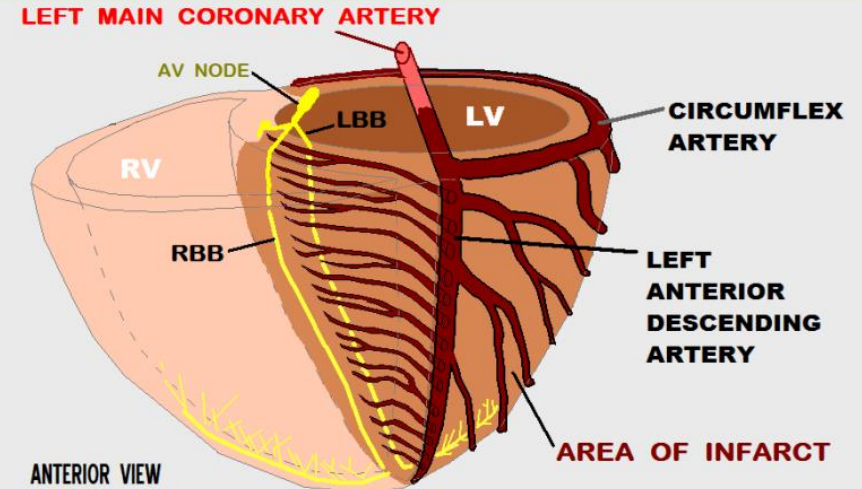
## PATIENT A:

### OCCCLUSION of PROXIMAL LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY



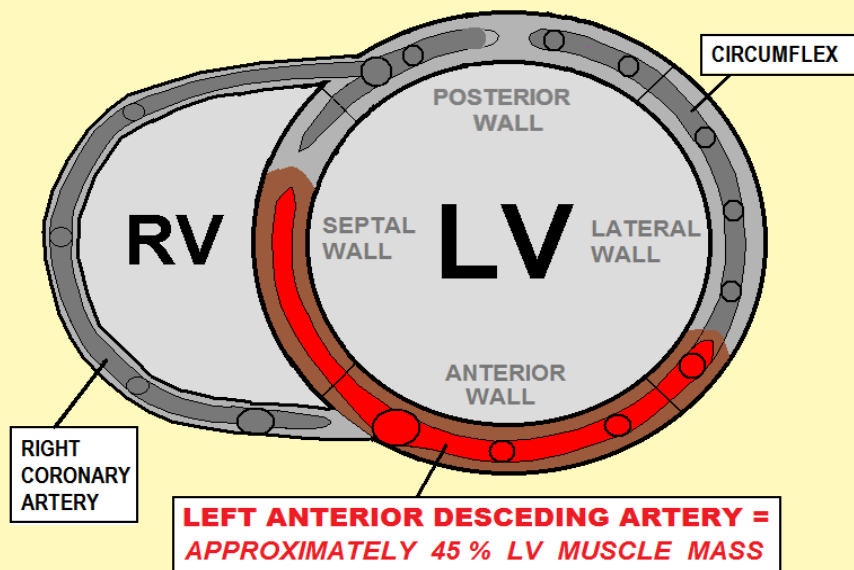
## PATIENT B:

### OCCCLUSION of the LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY



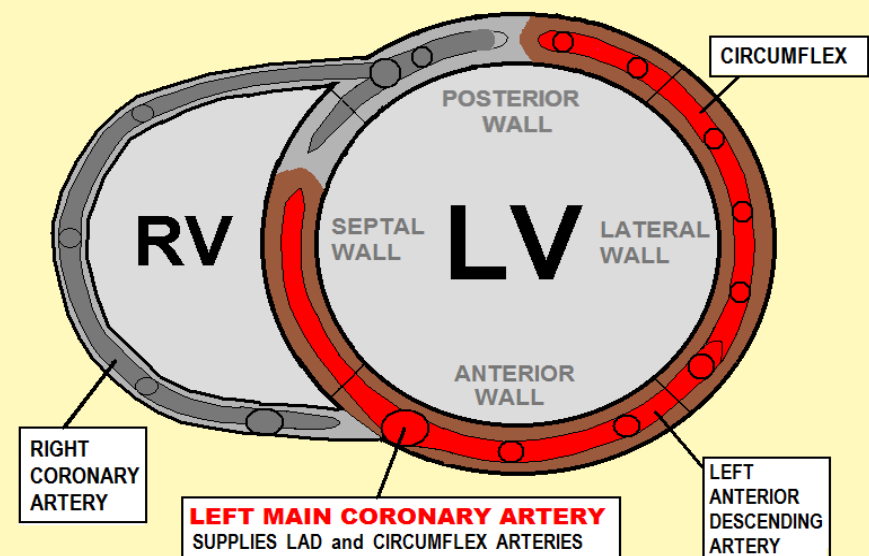
### The LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY

**SUPPLIES 40-50 % OF THE LEFT VENTRICULAR MUSCLE MASS**



### The LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

**SUPPLIES 75-100 % OF THE LEFT VENTRICULAR MUSCLE MASS**

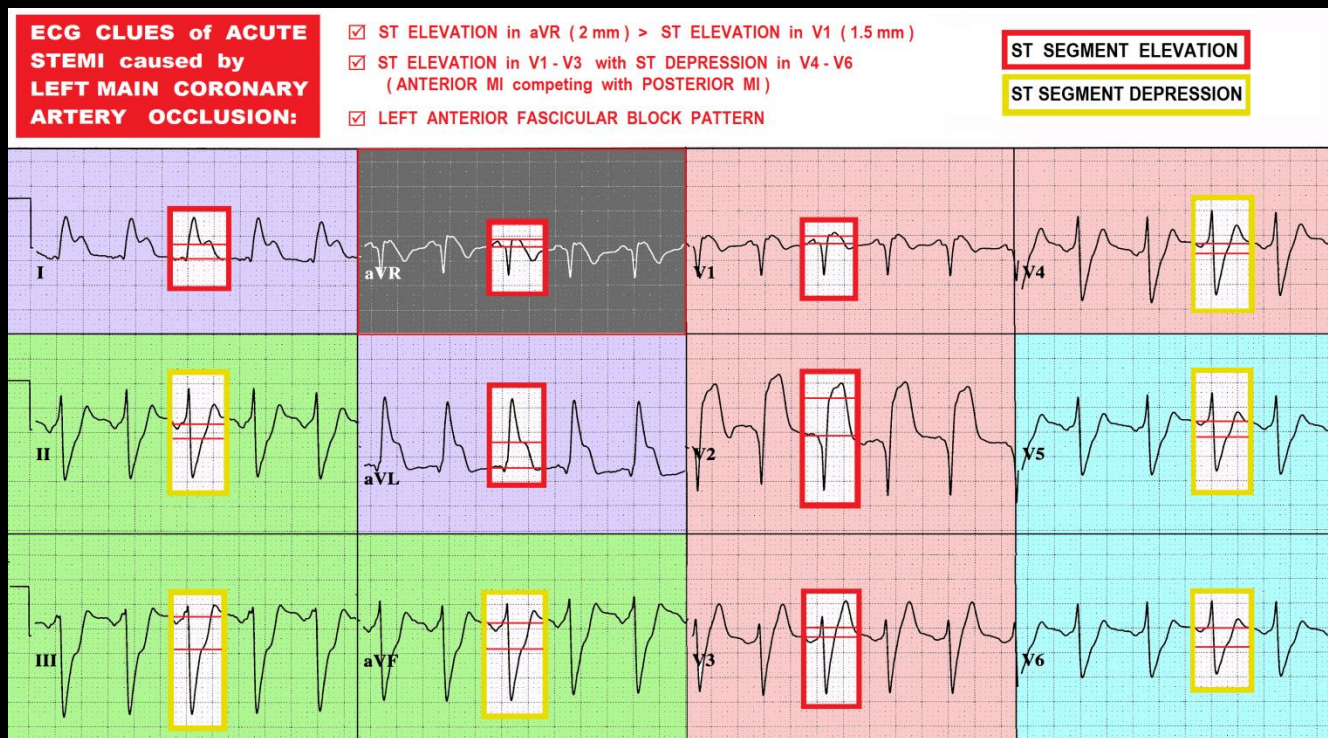


# ECG Clues... for IDENTIFYING STEMI CAUSED BY LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY occlusion:

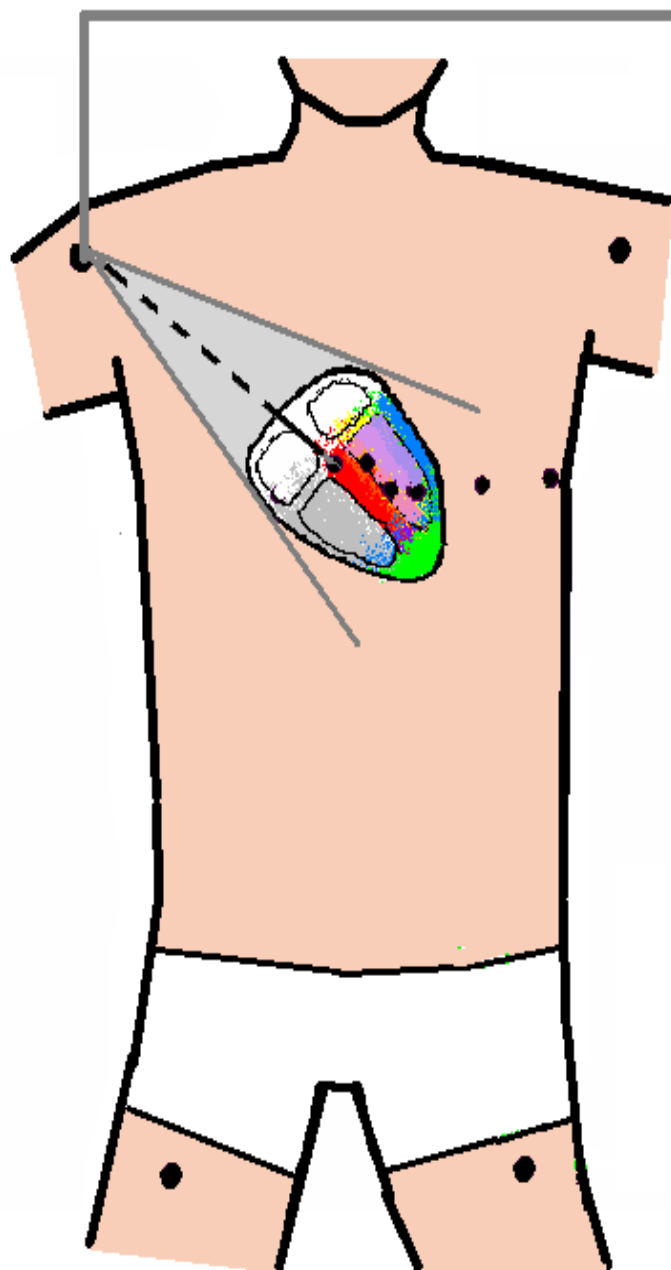
- ☑ ST ELEVATION in ANTERIOR LEADS (V1 - V4) and LATERAL LEADS (V5 & V6)
- ☑ ST DEPRESSION or ISOELECTRIC J POINTS may be seen in VLEADS.... mainly V2 and/or V3 caused by *COMPETING FORCES* of ANTERIOR vs. POSTERIOR WALL MI.\*<sup>+</sup>
  - NOTE: it is very unusual to see ST DEPRESSION in V LEADS with isolated ANTERIOR WALL MI when caused by occluded LAD.
- ☑ ST ELEVATION in AVR is GREATER THAN ST ELEVATION in V1\*<sup>+</sup>
- ☑ ST ELEVATION in AVR GREATER THAN 0.5 mm
- ☑ ST ELEVATION in LEAD I and AVL (caused by NO FLOW to DIAGONAL / OBTUSE MARGINAL BRANCHES)\*
- ☑ ST DEPRESSION in LEADS II, III, and AVF (in cases of LMCA occlusion of DOMINANT CIRCUMFLEX, leads II, III, and AVF may show ST ELEVATION or ISOELECTRIC J POINTS)\*<sup>+</sup>
- ☑ NEW / PRESUMABLY NEW RBBB, and/or LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK\*<sup>+</sup>

\* Kurisu et al, HEART 2004, SEPTEMBER: 90 (9): 1059-1060

+ Yamaji et al, JACC vol. 38, No. 5, 2001, November 1, 2001:1348-54



# Lead AVR Views the BASILAR SEPTUM (region of the Bundle of His):

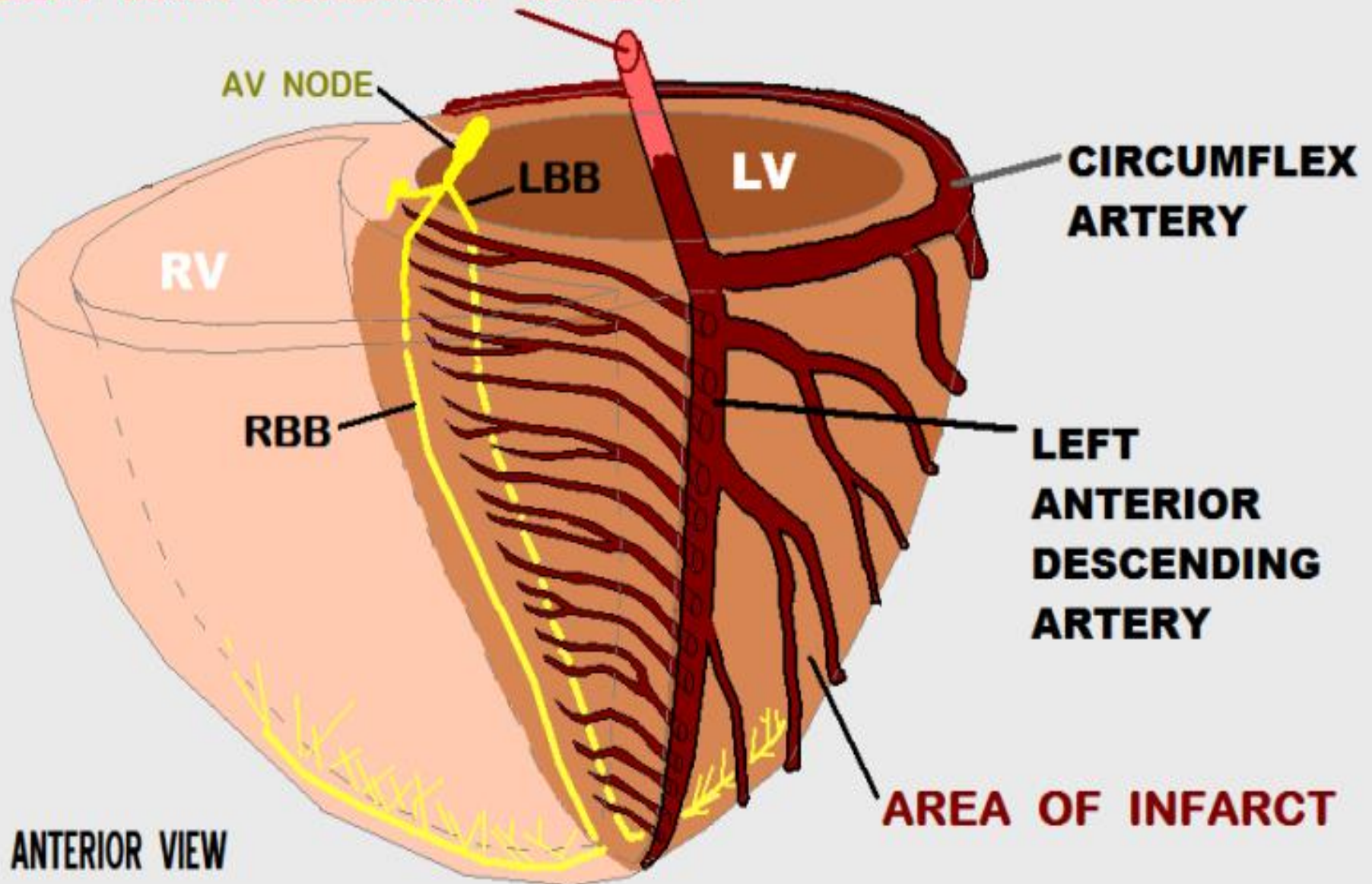


RUPPERT, WAYNE		ID: 7445683	59	05-OCT-2006	JOHNS-HOPKINS UNIV.
38 Yrs		Vent. Rate:	68	NORMAL SINUS RHYTHM	
MALE		P-R Int.:	160 ms	Normal EKG	
		QRS:	100 ms	Very Healthy Athletic EKG !	
I	AVR	V1	V4		
II	AVL	V2	V5		
III	AVF	V3	V6		

In STEMI with ST-Segment  
Elevation in Lead AVR,  
This is indicative of  
Left Main Coronary Artery  
Occlusion . . .

# OCCLUSION of the LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY

## LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY



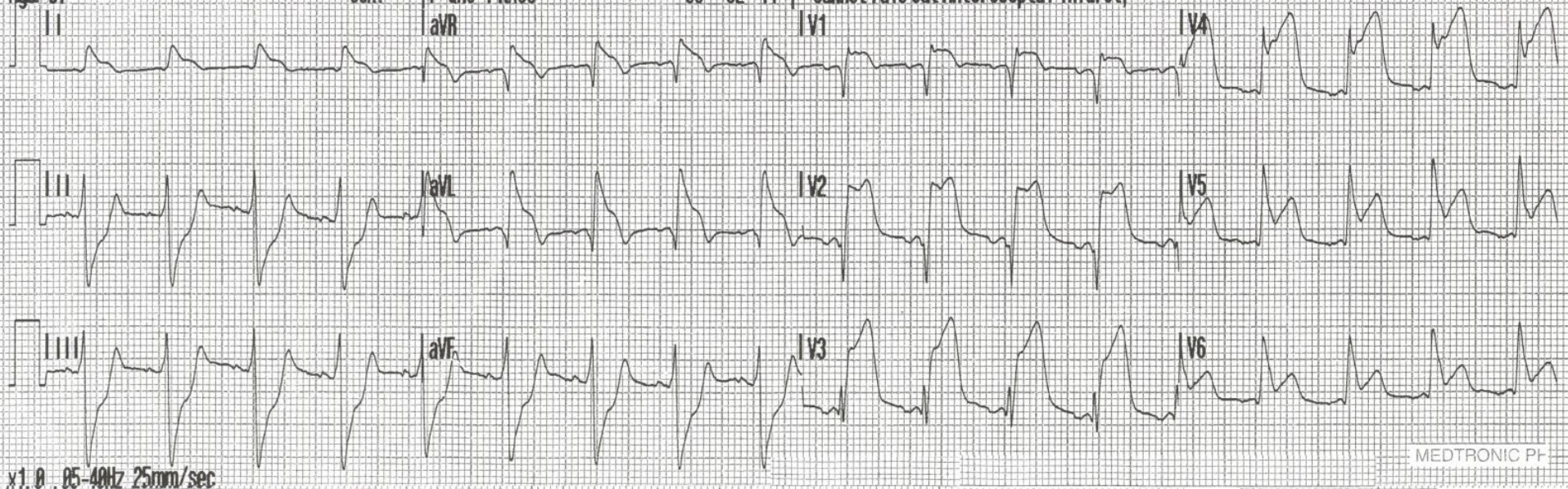
Name:  
ID:  
Patient ID:  
Incident:  
Age 37

Sex:  
12-Lead 4  
06 Oct 07  
PR 0.154s  
QT/QTc  
P-QRS-T Axes  
aVR

HR 107 bpm  
12:44:13  
QRS 0.102s  
0.332s/0.443s  
89° -62° 44°  
V1

• \*\*\* ACUTE MI SUSPECTED \*\*\*  
• Abnormal ECG \*\*Unconfirmed\*\*  
• Sinus tachycardia  
• Left anterior fascicular block  
• Cannot rule out Anteroseptal infarct,

**ACUTE STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION**



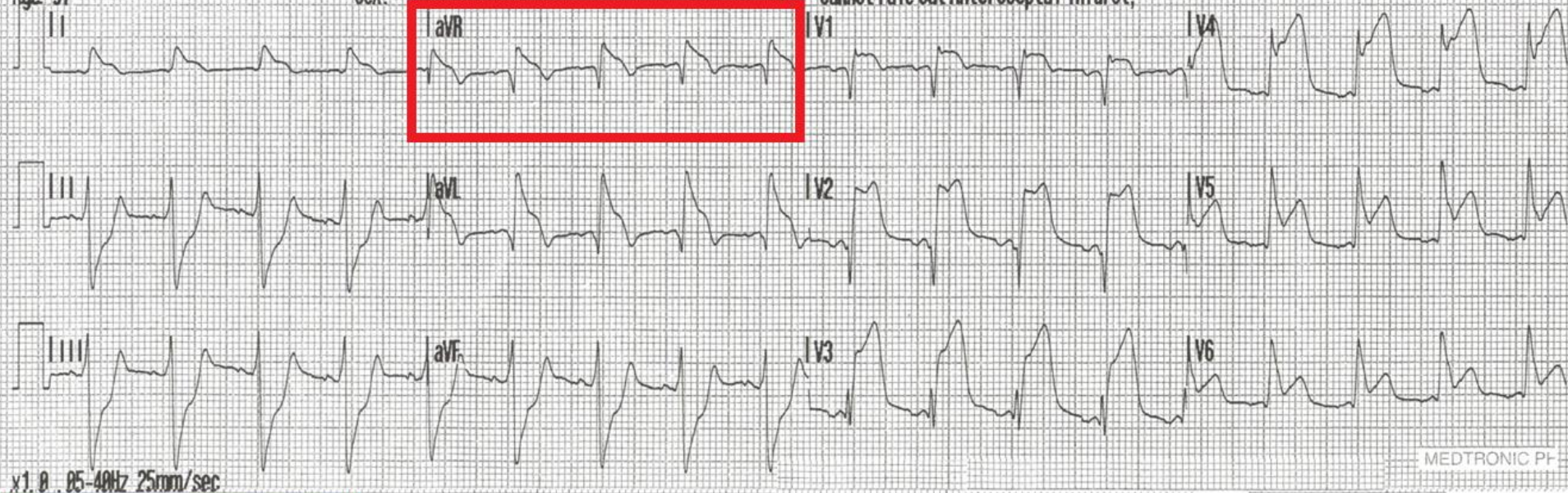
**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

- ☒ ST ELEVATION in LEADS I, aVL, V1 - V6
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN 0.5 mm
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN LEAD V1
- ☒ LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK PATTERN

Name: 12-Lead 4 HR 107 bpm  
 ID: 06 Oct 07 12:44:13  
 Patient ID: PR 0.154s  
 Incident: QT/QTc 0.332s/0.443s  
 Age 37 Sex: P-QRS-T Axes 80° -62° 44°

- \*\*\* ACUTE MI SUSPECTED \*\*\*
- Abnormal ECG \*\*Unconfirmed\*\*
- Sinus tachycardia
- Left anterior fascicular block
- Cannot rule out Anteroseptal infarct,

**ACUTE STEMI caused by  
 LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
 ARTERY OCCLUSION**

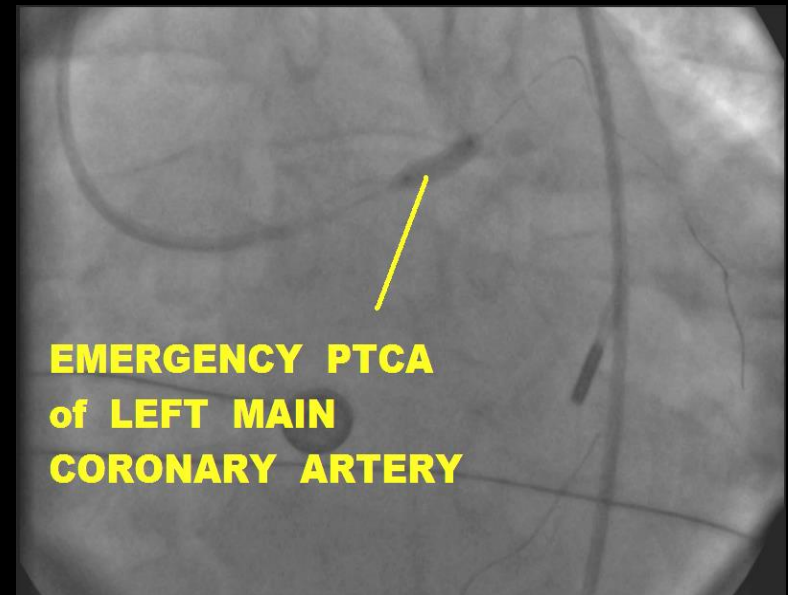
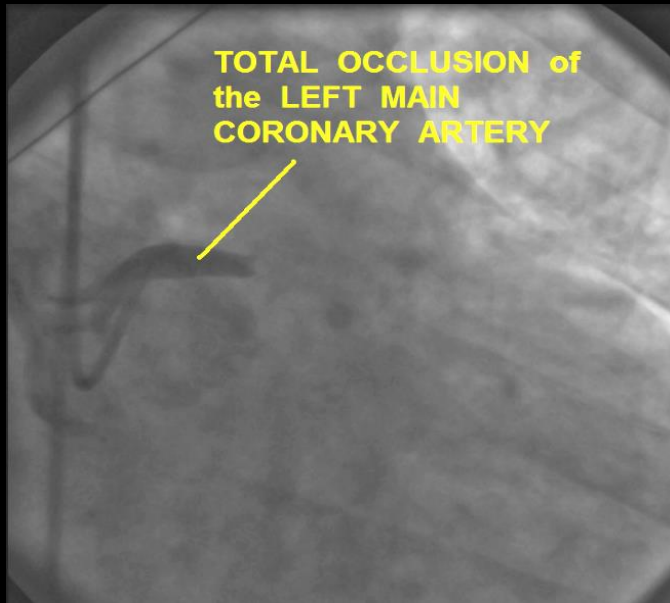


**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
 STEMI caused by  
 LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
 ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

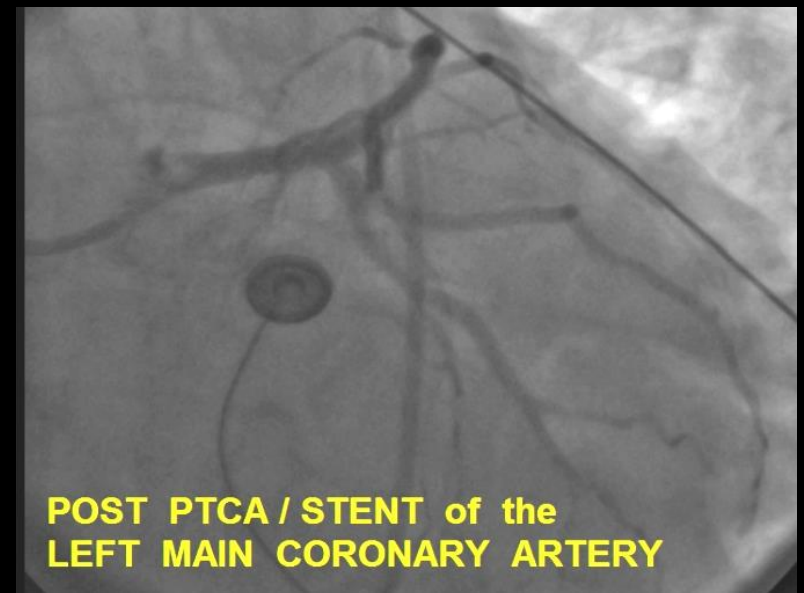
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in LEADS I, aVL, V1 - V6
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN 0.5 mm
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN LEAD V1
- ☒ LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK PATTERN

**TOTAL OCCLUSION of  
the LEFT MAIN  
CORONARY ARTERY**



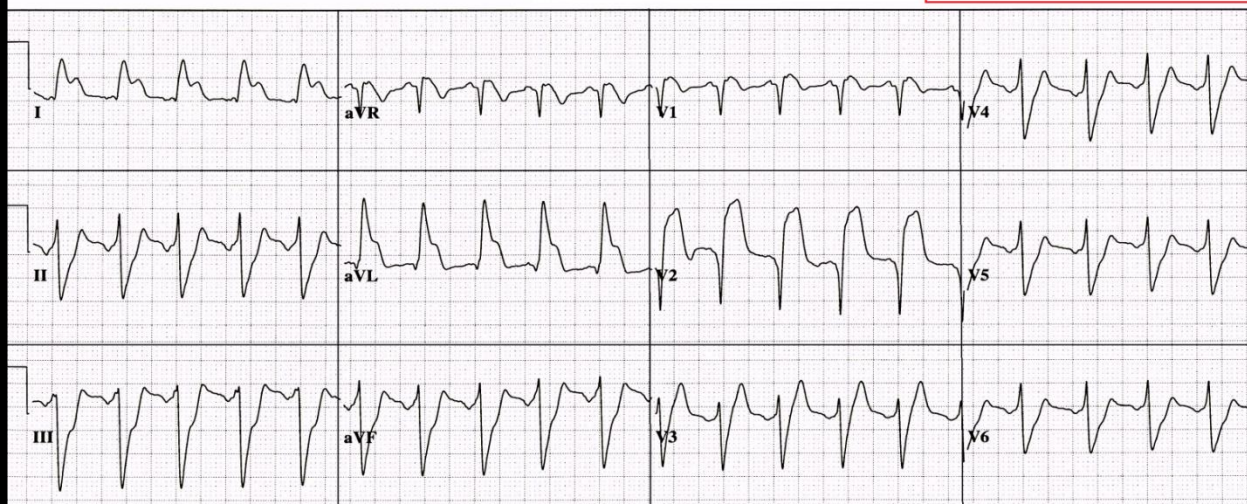


Despite the dismal mortality rate associated with STEMI from total LMCA occlusion, this patient survived and was later discharged. His EF is estimated at approximately 30%. He received an ICD, and is currently stable.



36 yr	Vent. rate	123	BPM	Sinus tachycardia with short PR
Male	PR interval	96	ms	Left ventricular hypertrophy with QRS widening
Caucasian	QRS duration	130	ms	Cannot rule out Septal infarct, age undetermined
Room: C-	QT/QTc	310/443	ms	Lateral injury pattern
Loc: 3	P-R-T axes	* -53	43	***** ACUTE MI *****

**ACUTE STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION**

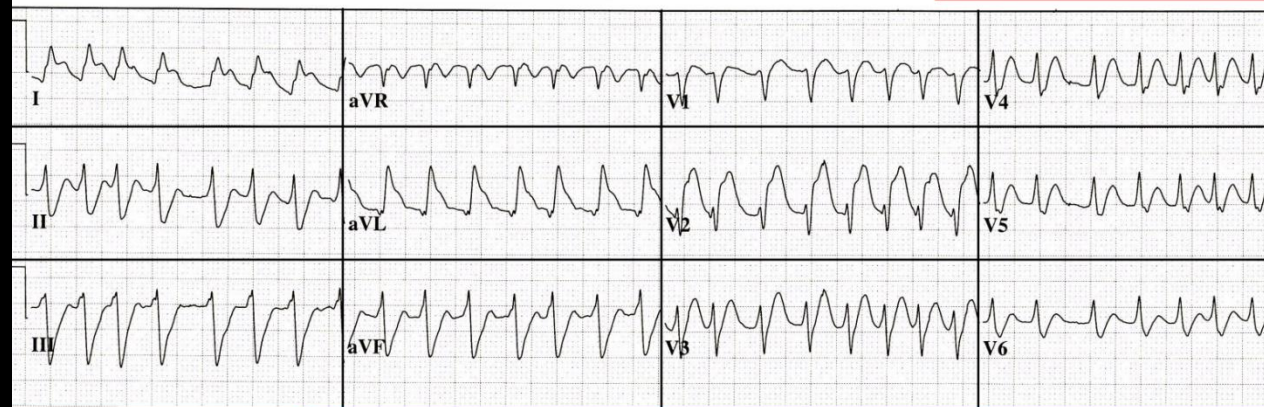


**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

- ☒ ST ELEVATION in leads I and aVL
- ☒ INCONSISTENCY of ST SEGMENT in leads V1-V6: V1-V3 ST ELEVATION, V4-V6 ST DEPRESSION (COMPETING FORCES of ANTERIOR vs. POSTERIOR M.I.)
- ☒ PATTERN of LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK (POS. QRS lead I; NEG rS leads II, III)
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in lead aVR > 0.5 mm

43 yr	Vent. rate	183	BPM	Atrial fibrillation with rapid ventricular response
Male	PR interval	*	ms	with premature ventricular or aberrantly conducted complexes
	QRS duration	106	ms	Left axis deviation
	QT/QTc	240/418	ms	ST elevation consider anterolateral injury or acute infarct
	P-R-T axes	* -34	-18	***** ACUTE MI *****

**ACUTE STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION**

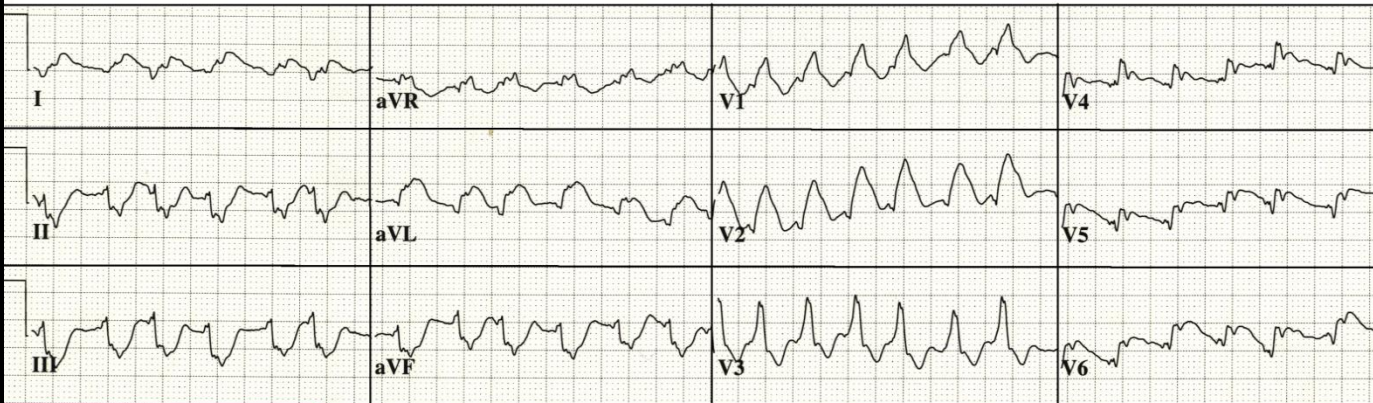


**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

- ☒ ST ELEVATION in leads I and aVL
- ☒ INCONSISTENCY of ST SEGMENT in leads V1-V6: V1-V2 ST ELEVATION, V3-V6 ST DEPRESSION (COMPETING FORCES of ANTERIOR vs. POSTERIOR M.I.)
- ☒ PATTERN of LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK (POS. QRS lead I; NEG rS leads II, III)

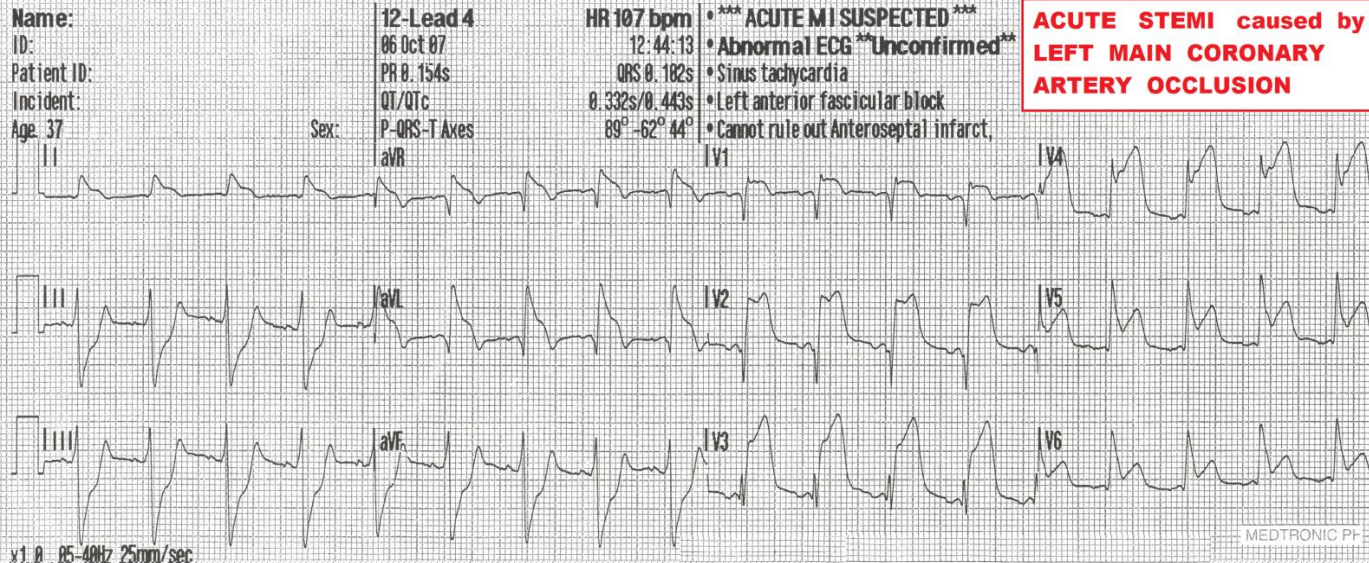
48 yr Male Caucasian Vent. rate 155 BPM  
PR interval \* ms  
QRS duration 110 ms  
QT/QTc 300/482 ms  
Loc: Option: P-R-T axes \* -83 -34

**ACUTE STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION**



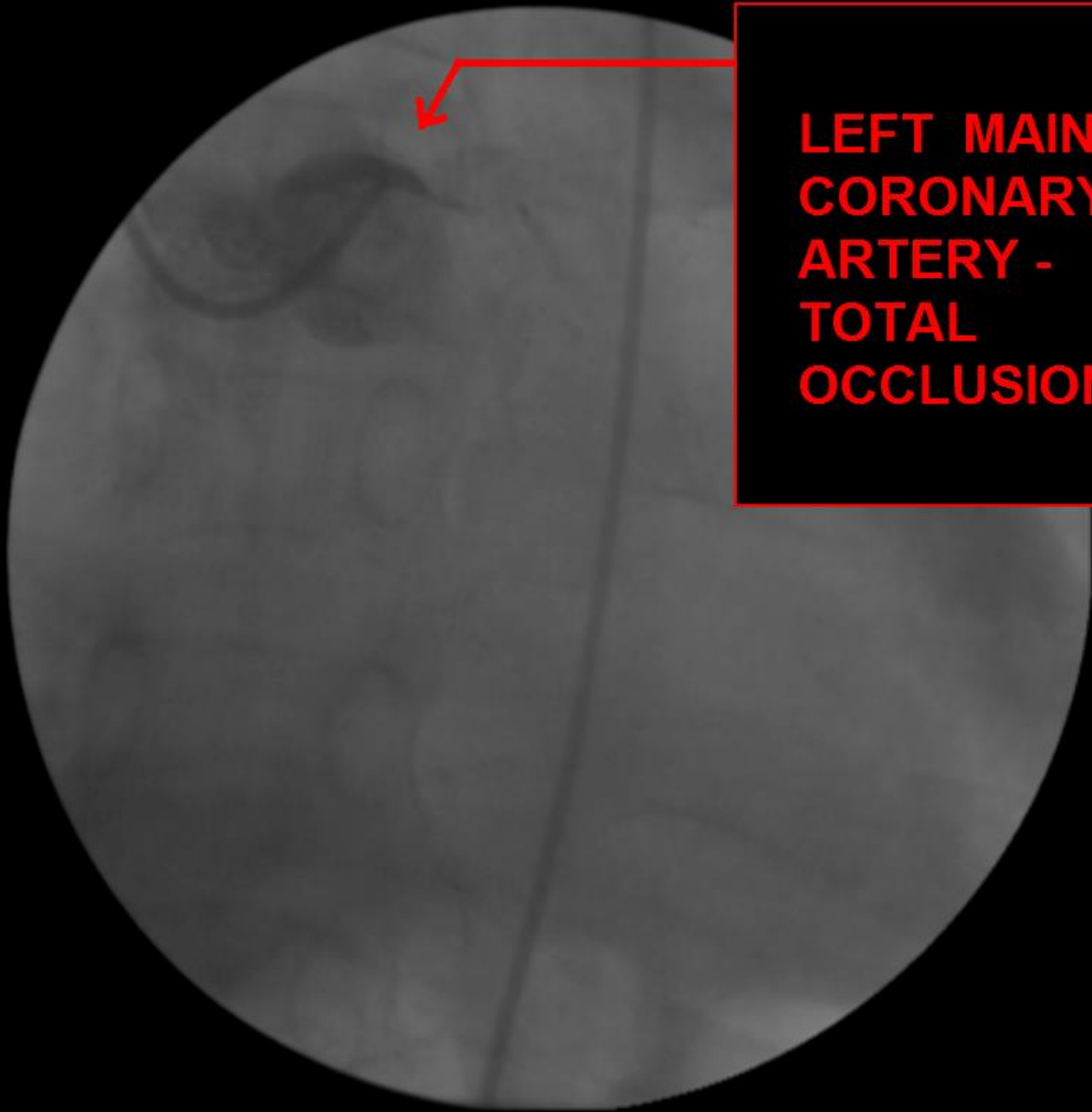
**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

- ☒ ST ELEVATION in LEADS I, aVL, V1 - V2, V4 - V6 with ST DEPRESSION in V3:  
(COMPETING FORCES of ANTERIOR vs. POSTERIOR M.I.)
- ☒ RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK PATTERN, with
- ☒ LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK PATTERN



**ECG CLUES of ACUTE  
STEMI caused by  
LEFT MAIN CORONARY  
ARTERY OCCLUSION:**

- ☒ ST ELEVATION in LEADS I, aVL, V1 - V6
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN 0.5 mm
- ☒ ST ELEVATION in aVR GREATER THAN LEAD V1
- ☒ LEFT ANTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK PATTERN



**LEFT MAIN  
CORONARY  
ARTERY -  
TOTAL  
OCCLUSION**

## CASE STUDY 4: CRITICAL DECISIONS SCENARIO

### CONCLUSIONS:

QUESTION 1: WHICH PATIENT SHOULD BE TAKEN FIRST FOR IMMEDIATE CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION for EMERGENCY PCI ?

ANSWER: PATIENT B was taken emergently to the Cardiac Cath Lab - both the ED physician and the Interventional Cardiologist correctly identified the EKG patterns of LMCA occlusion.

QUESTION 2: WHAT COURSE OF ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH THE PATIENT NOT CHOSEN TO BE SENT TO THE CATH LAB FIRST?

ANSWER: PATIENT A received thrombolytic therapy in the ED. It was determined that THROMBOLYTIC THERAPY would achieve the FASTEST ROUTE to REPERFUSION -- *by at least 60 minutes.*

**CHIEF COMPLAINT and SIGNIFICANT HISTORY:**

46 yr. old MALE arrives in ER, C/O SUDDEN ONSET OF CHEST PRESSURE 45 MINUTES AGO. PAIN IS CONSTANT, PRESSURE-LIKE, AND NOT EFFECTED BY POSITION, MOVEMENT or DEEP INSPIRATION. ALSO C/O D.I.B.

**RISK FACTOR PROFILE:**


-  **CURRENT CIGARTE SMOKER x 18 YEARS**
-  **HYPERTENSION**
-  **HIGH LDL CHOLESTEROL**

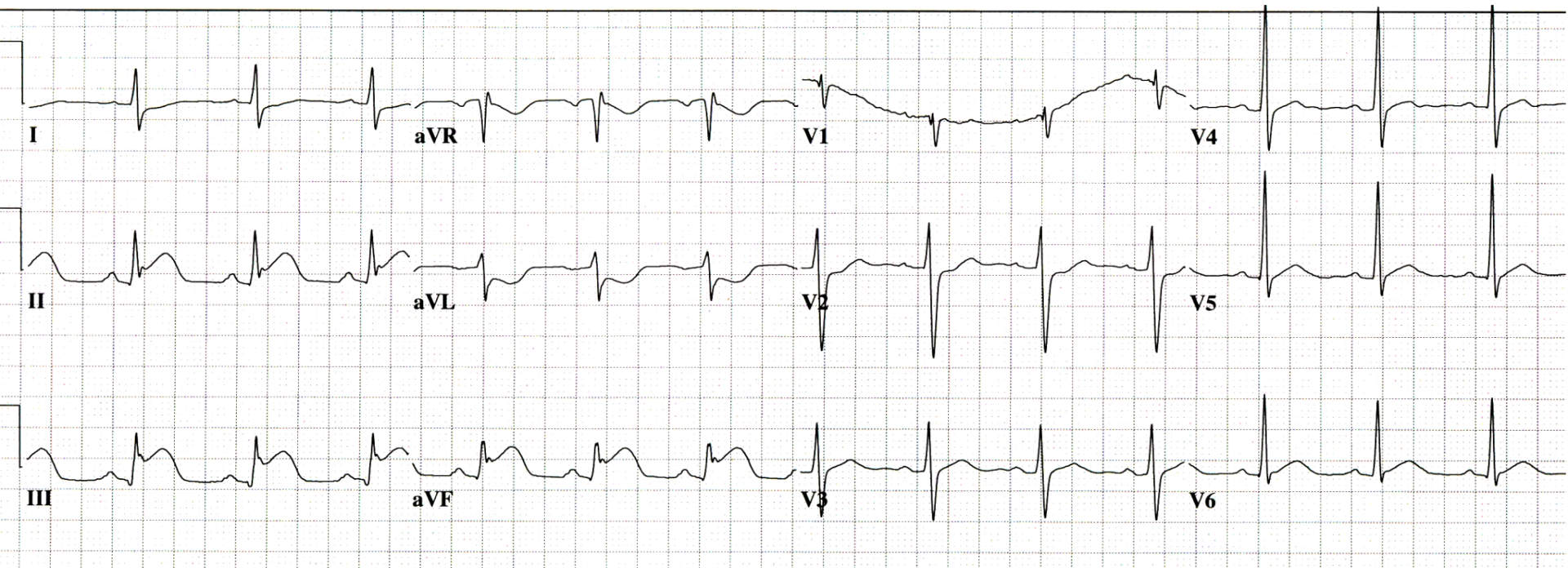
**PHYSICAL EXAM:** Patient is alert & oriented x 4, skin warm, dry, color normal. Non-anxious  
Lungs clear, normal S1, S2. No JVD, No ankle edema.

**VITAL SIGNS:** BP: 136/88 P: 88 R: 20 SAO2: 100% on 4 LPM O2

**LABS:** TROPONIN: < .04

46 yr  
Male      Caucasian      Vent. rate      82      BPM  
PR interval      168      ms  
QRS duration      96      ms  
QT/QTc      384/448      ms  
Loc:3      Option:23      P-R-T axes      76    81      88

-  **EVALUATE EKG for indicators of ACS:**
- ST SEGMENT ELEVATION / DEPRESSION
  - HYPERACUTE T WAVES
  - CONVEX ST SEGMENTS
  - OTHER ST SEGMENT / T WAVE ABNORMALITIES



46 yr  
Male

Caucasian

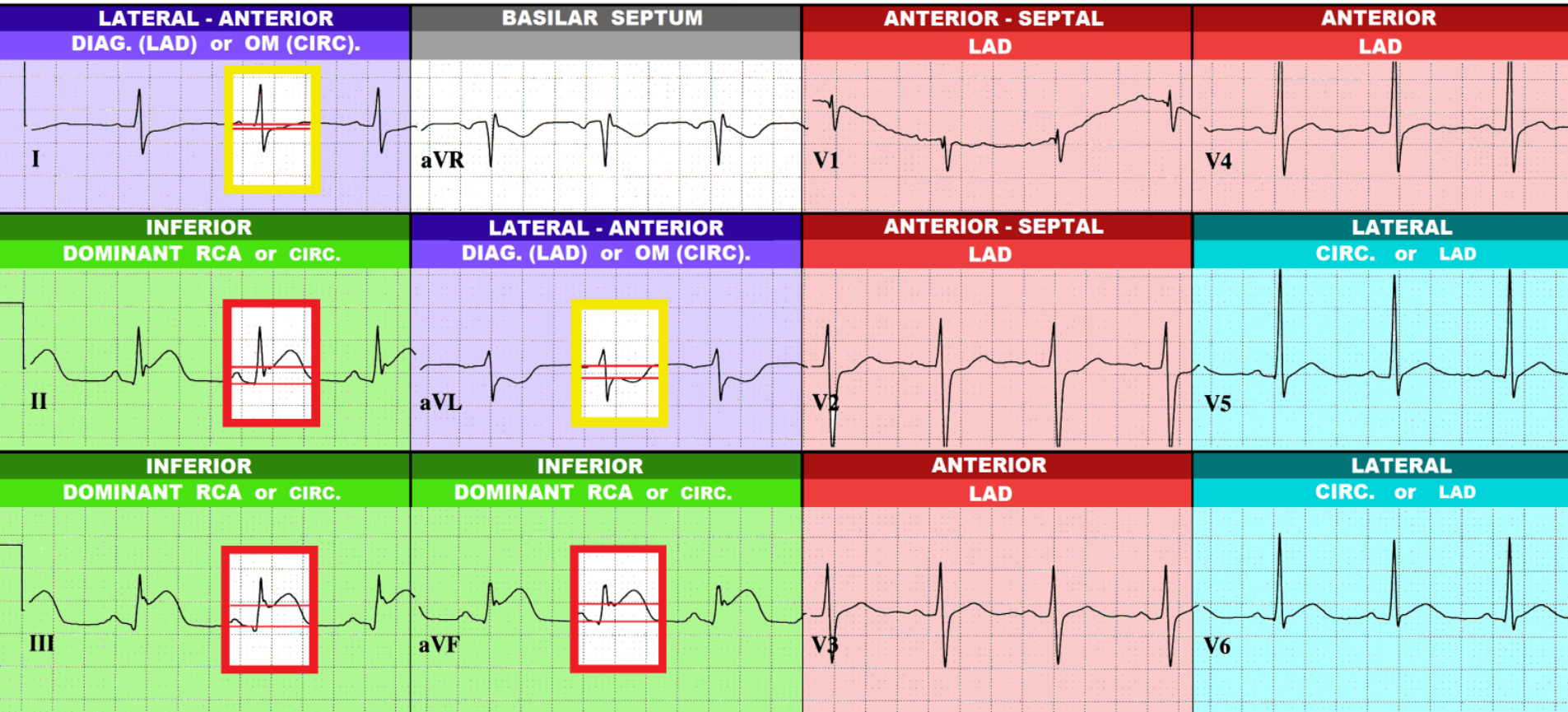
Vent. rate  
PR interval  
QRS duration  
QT/QTc  
P-R-T axes

82 BPM  
168 ms  
96 ms  
384/448 ms  
76 81 88

Normal sinus rhythm  
ST elevation consider inferior injury or acute infarct  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG

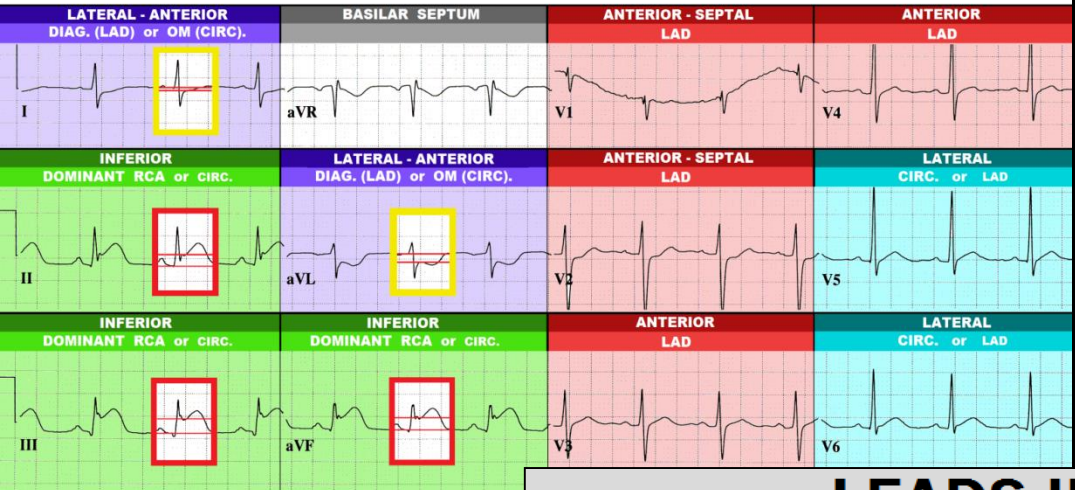
ST SEGMENT ELEVATION

ST SEGMENT DEPRESSION

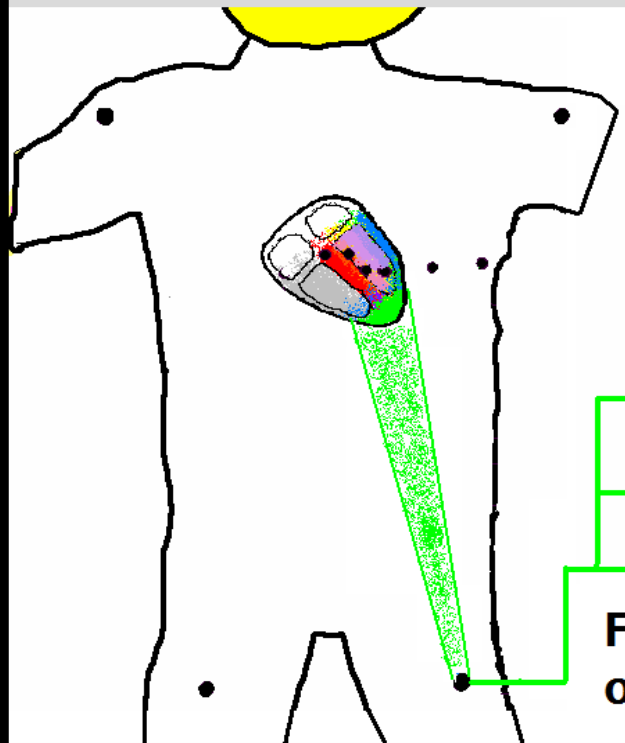


46 yr Male      Caucasian      Vent. rate 82 BPM      Normal sinus rhythm  
PR interval 168 ms      ST elevation consider inferior injury or acute infarct  
QRS duration 96 ms      \*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
QT/QTc 384/448 ms      Abnormal ECG  
P-R-T axes 76 81 88

ST SEGMENT ELEVATION  
ST SEGMENT DEPRESSION



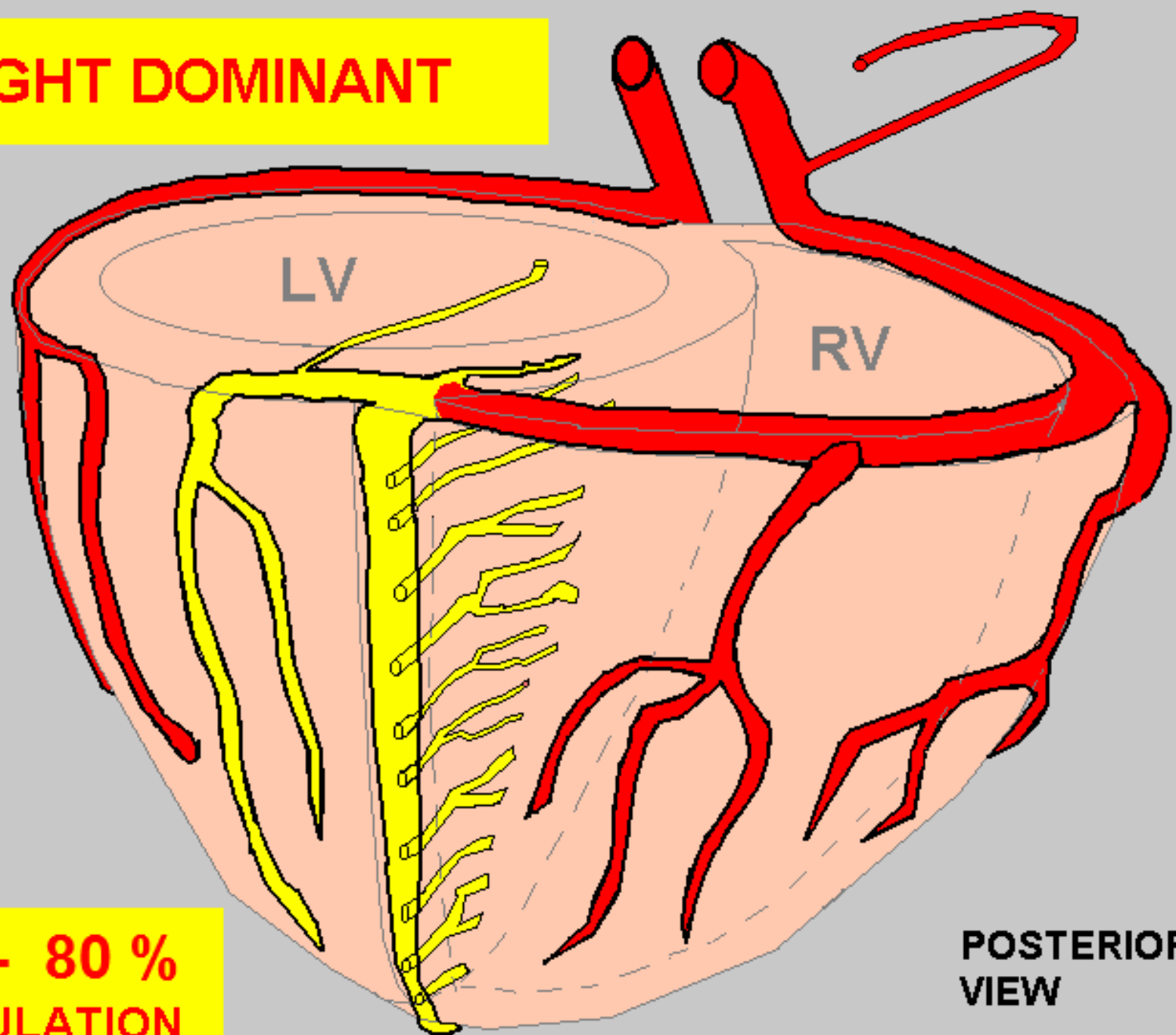
# LEADS II, III, and aVF VIEW INFERIOR WALL of the LEFT VENTRICLE



RUPPERT, WAYNE		ID: 7445683659	05-OCT-2006	JOHNS-HOPKINS UNIV.
38 Yrs	MALE	Vent. Rate: 68	NORMAL SINUS RHYTHM	
		P-R Int.: 160 ms	Normal EKG	
		QRS: 100 ms	Very Healthy Athletic EKG !	
I	AVR	V1	V4	
II	AVL	V2	V5	
III	AVF	V3	V6	

FED by the RCA ( 75 - 80 % pop )  
or the CIRCUMFLEX ( 10 - 15 % )

**RIGHT DOMINANT**



**75 - 80 %  
POPULATION**

**POSTERIOR  
VIEW**



HELPFUL HINT... *MEMORIZE THIS !*

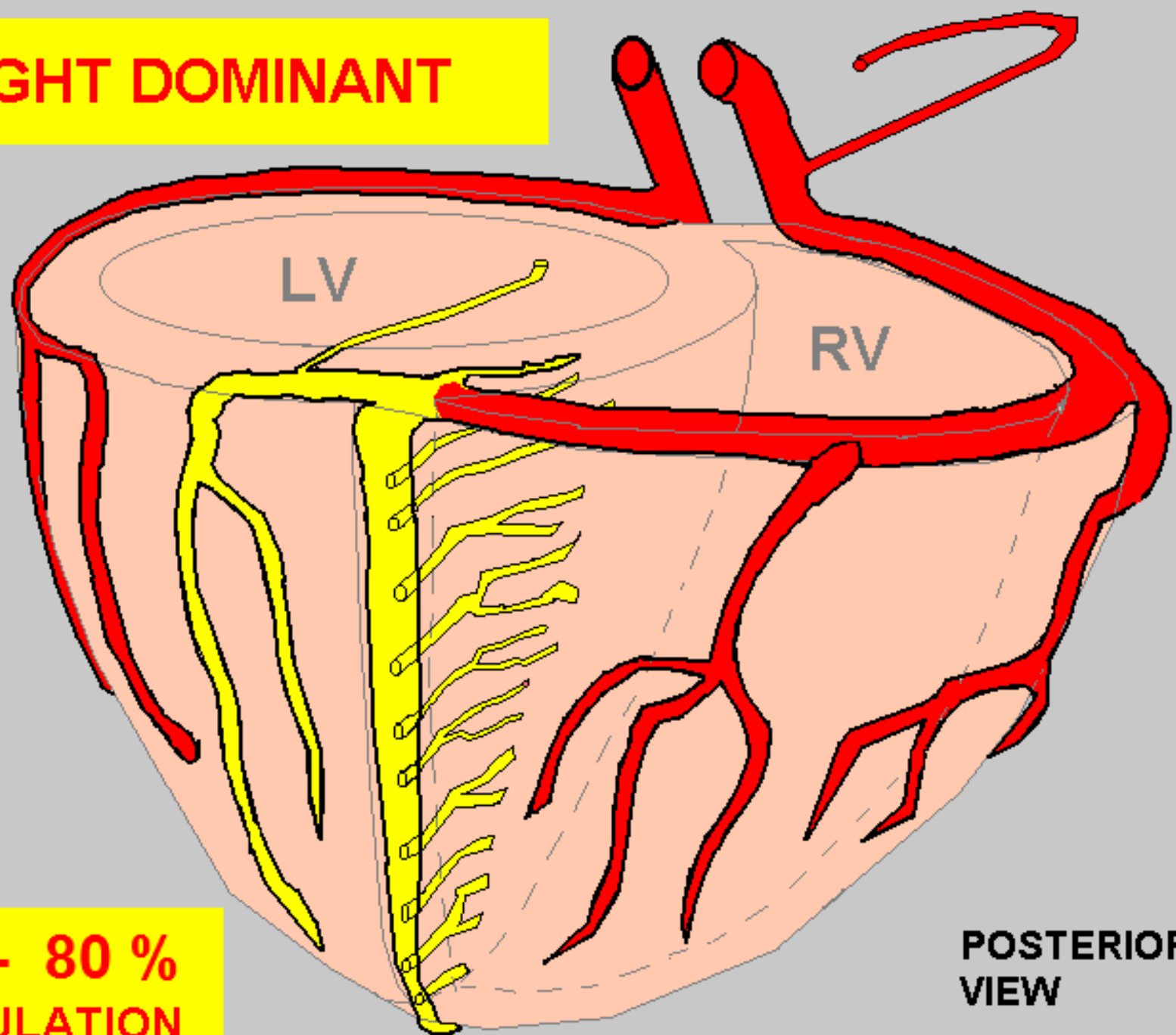


## RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY ( RCA )

RIGHT DOMINANT  
SYSTEMS

- ▶ RIGHT ATRIUM
- ▶ SINUS NODE ( 55% of the population )
- ▶ RIGHT VENTRICLE - 100 % of muscle mass
- ▶ LEFT VENTRICLE: 15 - 25 % of muscle mass
  - INFERIOR WALL
  - approx. 1/2 of POSTERIOR WALL
- ▶ AV NODE

**RIGHT DOMINANT**



**75 - 80 %  
POPULATION**

**POSTERIOR  
VIEW**

A standard

**12 LEAD EKG**

Does NOT show the

**RIGHT VENTRICLE**

To see the  
**RIGHT VENTRICLE . . .**

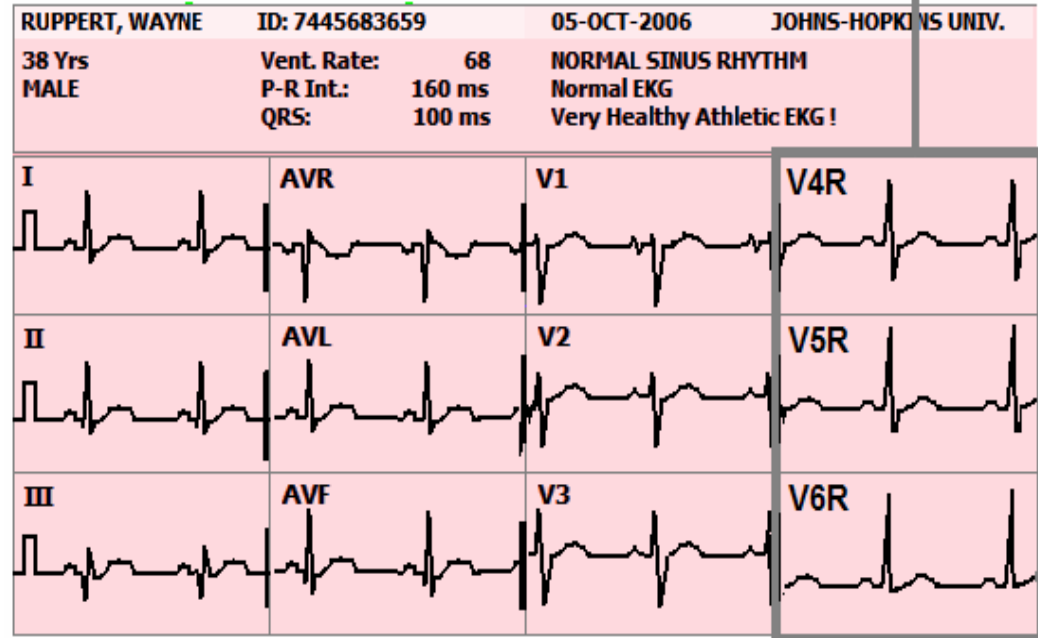
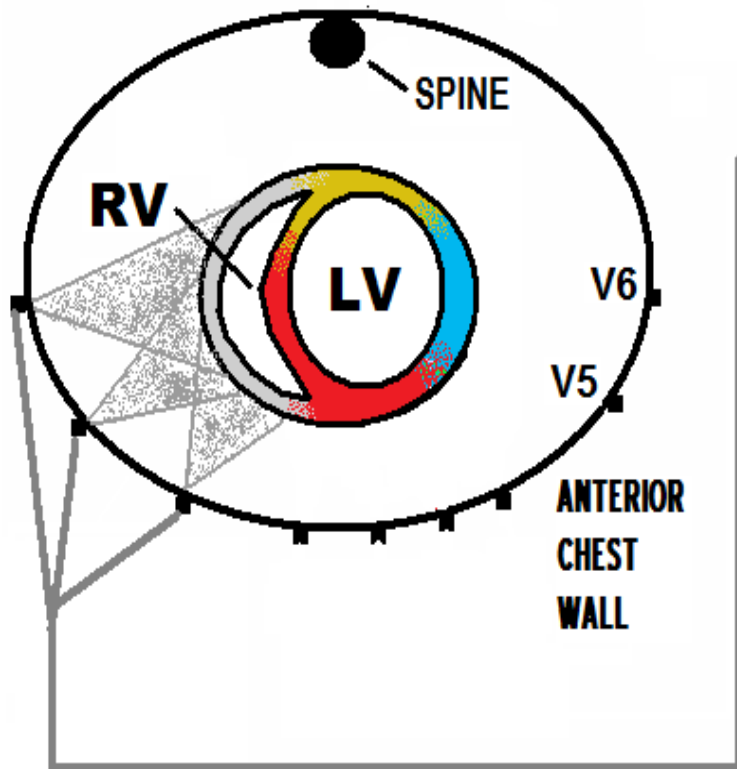
. . . such as in cases of  
**INFERIOR WALL M.I.**



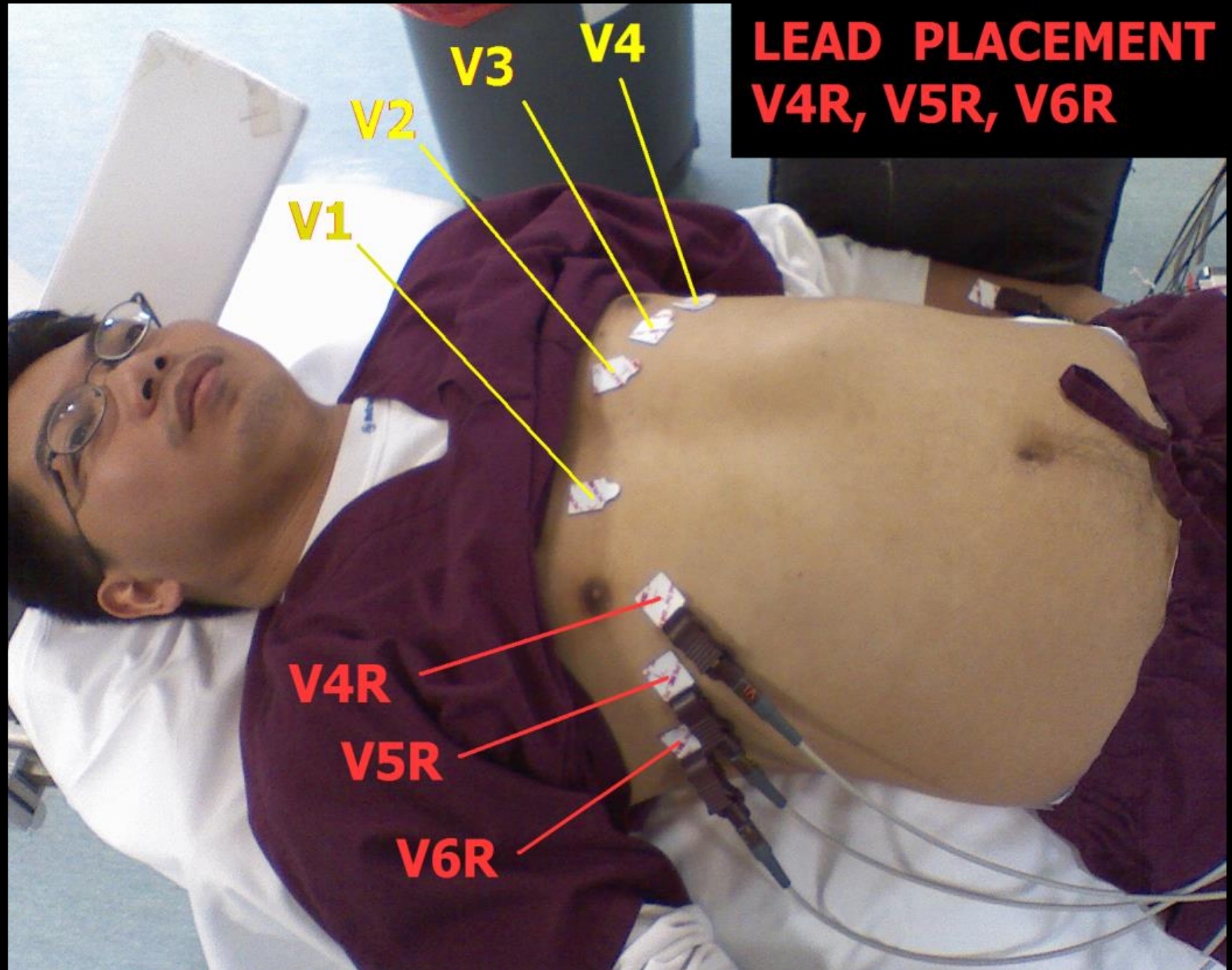
You must do a

**RIGHT - SIDED EKG !!**

# V4R - V6R VIEW THE RIGHT VENTRICLE



# LEAD PLACEMENT V4R, V5R, V6R



ID:

46 yo

Male Caucasian

Room:

Opt:

Technician:

Vent. rate 87 bpm  
PR interval 176 ms  
QRS duration 94 ms  
QT/QTc 330/397 ms  
P-R-T axes 79 81 102

Normal sinus rhythm

~~Anterolateral infarct, possibly acute~~

Inferior injury pattern

\*\*\*\*\* Acute MI \*\*\*\*\*

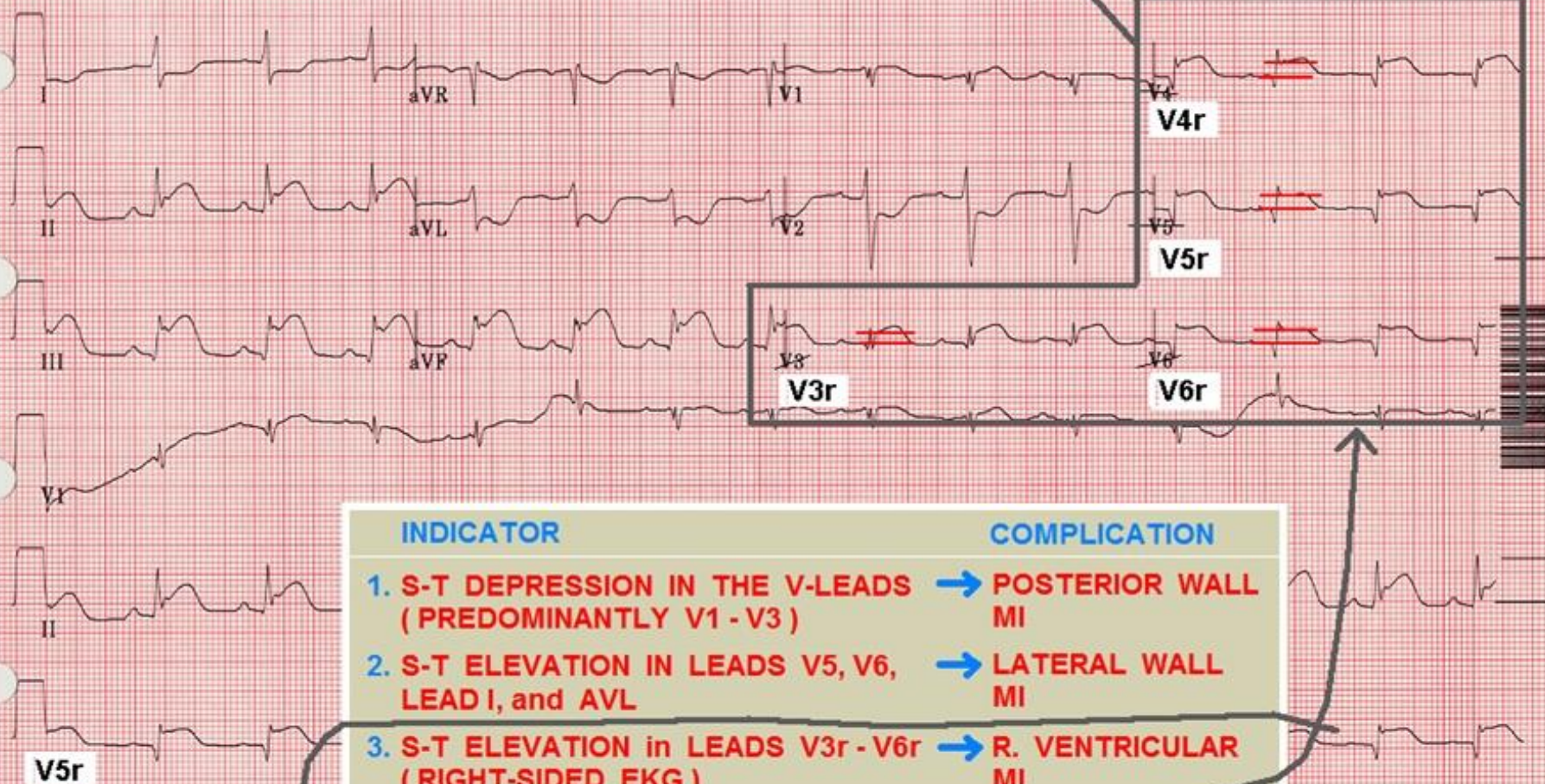
Abnormal ECG

**Right Ventricular Infarct**

V LEADS  
R SIDE

Referred by:

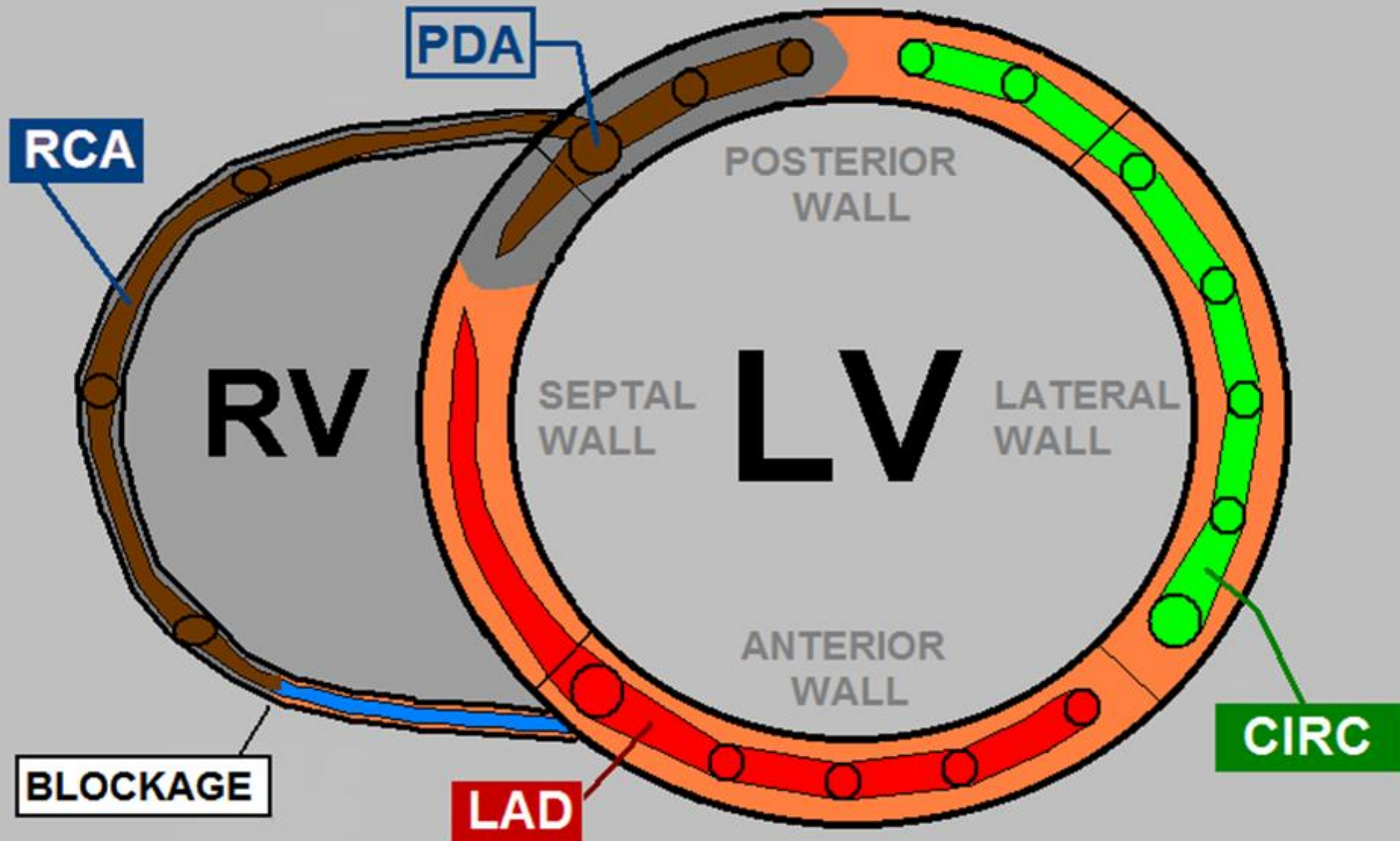
Unconfirmed



# INFERIOR - RIGHT VENTRICULAR MI

**DOMINANT RCA**

**75-80 % of POPULATION**



# ANTICIPATED COMPLICATIONS of INFERIOR WALL STEMI secondary to RCA Occlusion & POSSIBLE INDICATED INTERVENTIONS:

- CARDIAC ARREST	BCLS / ACLS
- CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS (VT / VF)	ACLS (antiarrhythmics)
- SINUS BRADYCARDIA	ATROPINE 0.5mg, REPEAT as needed UP TO 3mg. (follow ACLS and/or UNIT protocols)
- HEART BLOCKS (1st, 2nd & 3rd Degree HB)	ATROPINE 0.5mg, REPEAT as needed UP TO 3mg, Transcutaneous Pacing, (follow ACLS and/or UNIT protocols)
- RIGHT VENTRICULAR MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The standard 12 Lead ECG does NOT view the Right Ventricle.</li> <li>- You must do a RIGHT-SIDED ECG to see if RV MI is present.</li> <li>- Do NOT give any Inferior Wall STEMI patient NITRATES or DIURETICS until RV MI has been RULED OUT.</li> </ul>

If this patient becomes  
**HYPOTENSIVE . . . . .**

**MI with HYPOTENSION ??**

**WET LUNG  
SOUNDS ??**

**NO**

**YES**

**RIGHT VENTRICULAR MI ?**

**YES**

**NO**

**POSTERIOR / LATERAL  
INVOLVEMENT ?**

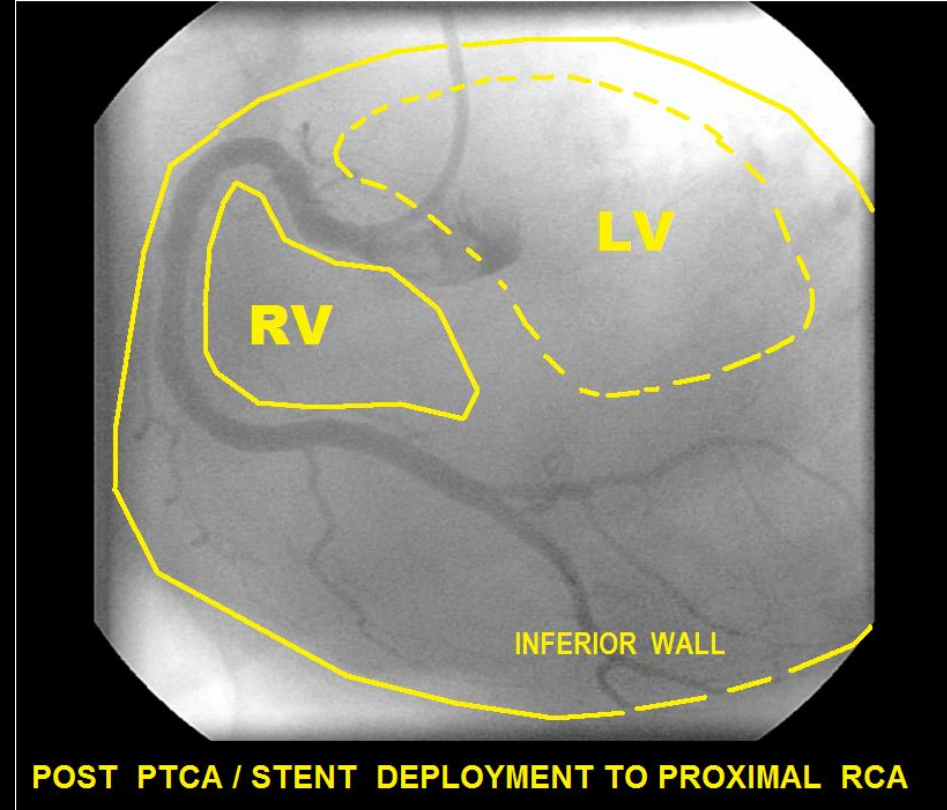
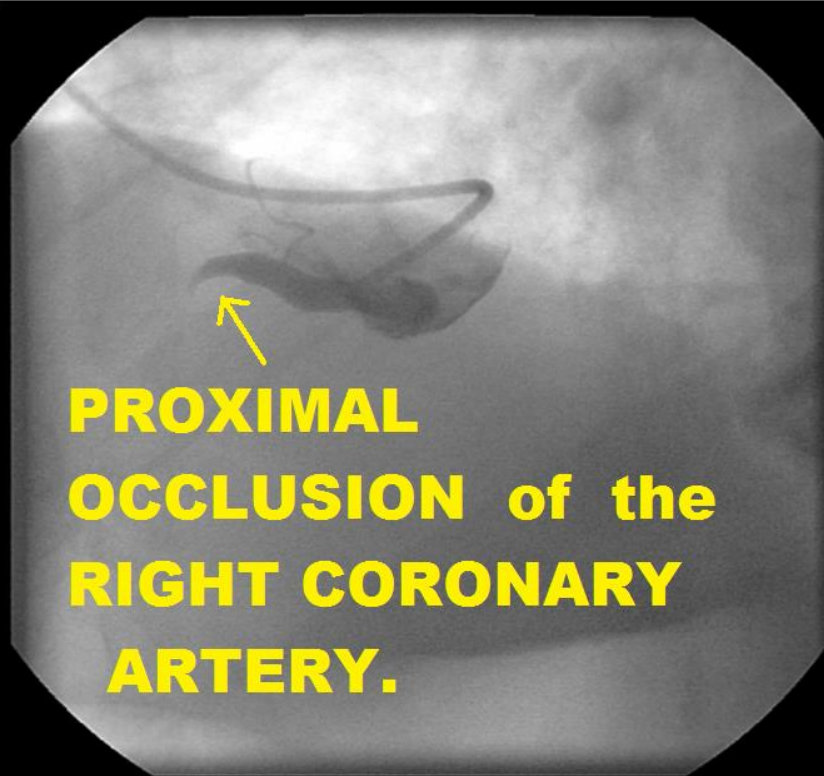
**NO**

**YES**

**IV  
FLUIDS !**

- FLUID CHALLENGE
- INOTROPES
- CONSIDER I.A.B.P

- INOTROPES
- CONSIDER ET INTUBATION
- CONSIDER I.A.B.P.



IN *EVERY* CASE of

# INFERIOR WALL STEMI

You must first *RULE OUT*

## RIGHT VENTRICULAR MI

*BEFORE* giving any:

- NITROGLYCERIN
- Diuretics

**Nitroglycerin & Diuretics  
are  
CLASS III CONTRINDICATED  
in  
RIGHT VENTRICULAR MI ! !\***

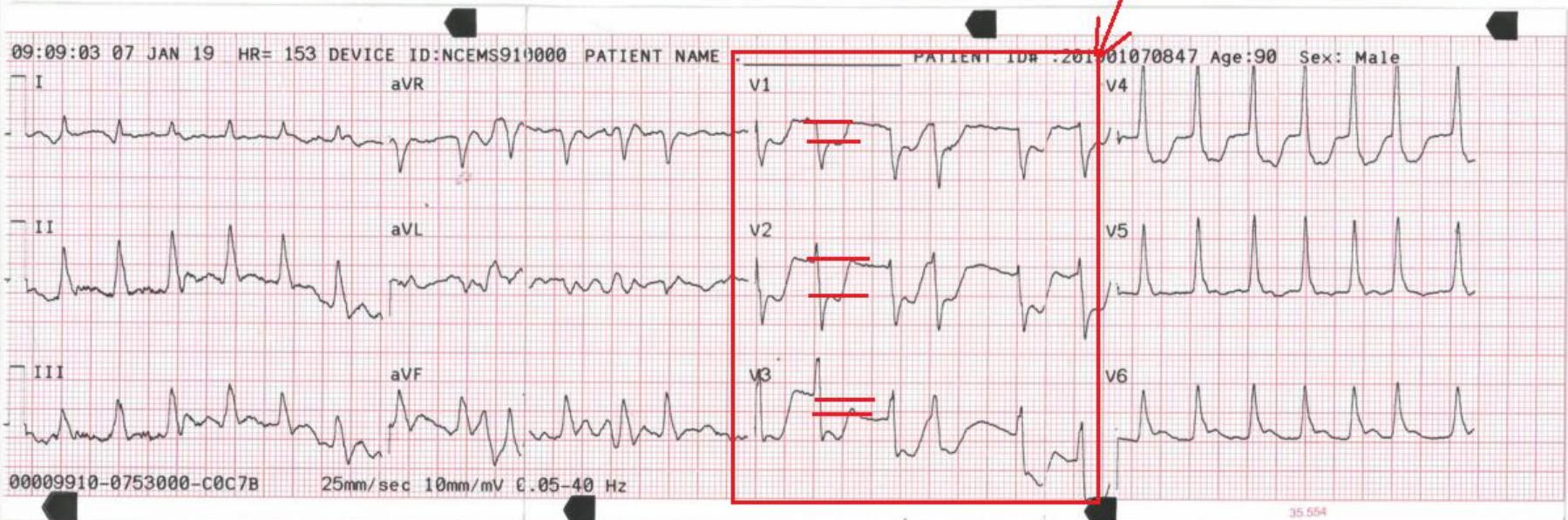
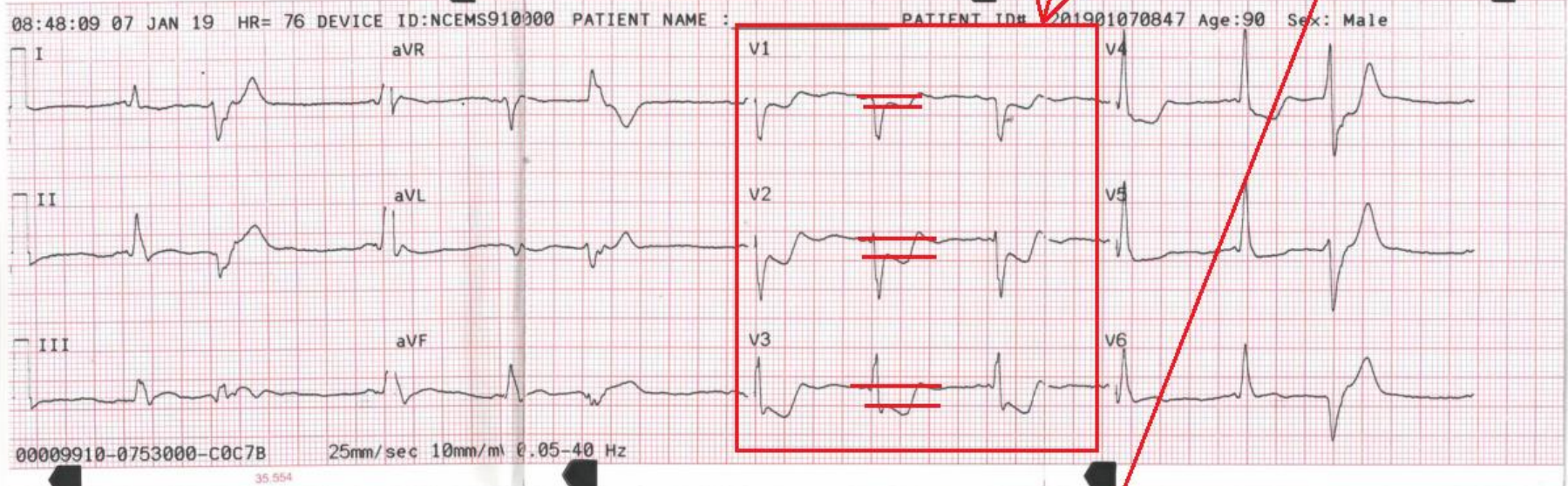
**They precipitate SEVERE  
HYPOTENSION**

**\* A.H.A. ACLS 2010 / 2015**

# Case Study- January 2019

- 79 y/o female complaining of “L arm pain, and minimal chest pain”
- EMS 12 Lead ECGs show ST Depression in Anterior Leads V1-V4. There is NO ST Elevation.....

**Two EMS 12 Lead ECGs: none show ST Elevation, but both show significant ST depression in Anterior Leads V1-V3.**



# Initial Exam in ED

- Upon arrival in ED, 12 Lead ECG confirmed EMS findings: ST Depression in Leads V1-V4.

Pat ID [REDACTED]

01/07/2019 09:19:35

Caucasian Female

Bayfront Health Seven Rivers ED

RX  
DX

Account # [REDACTED]

Dept ED  
Room ED01  
Tech gp

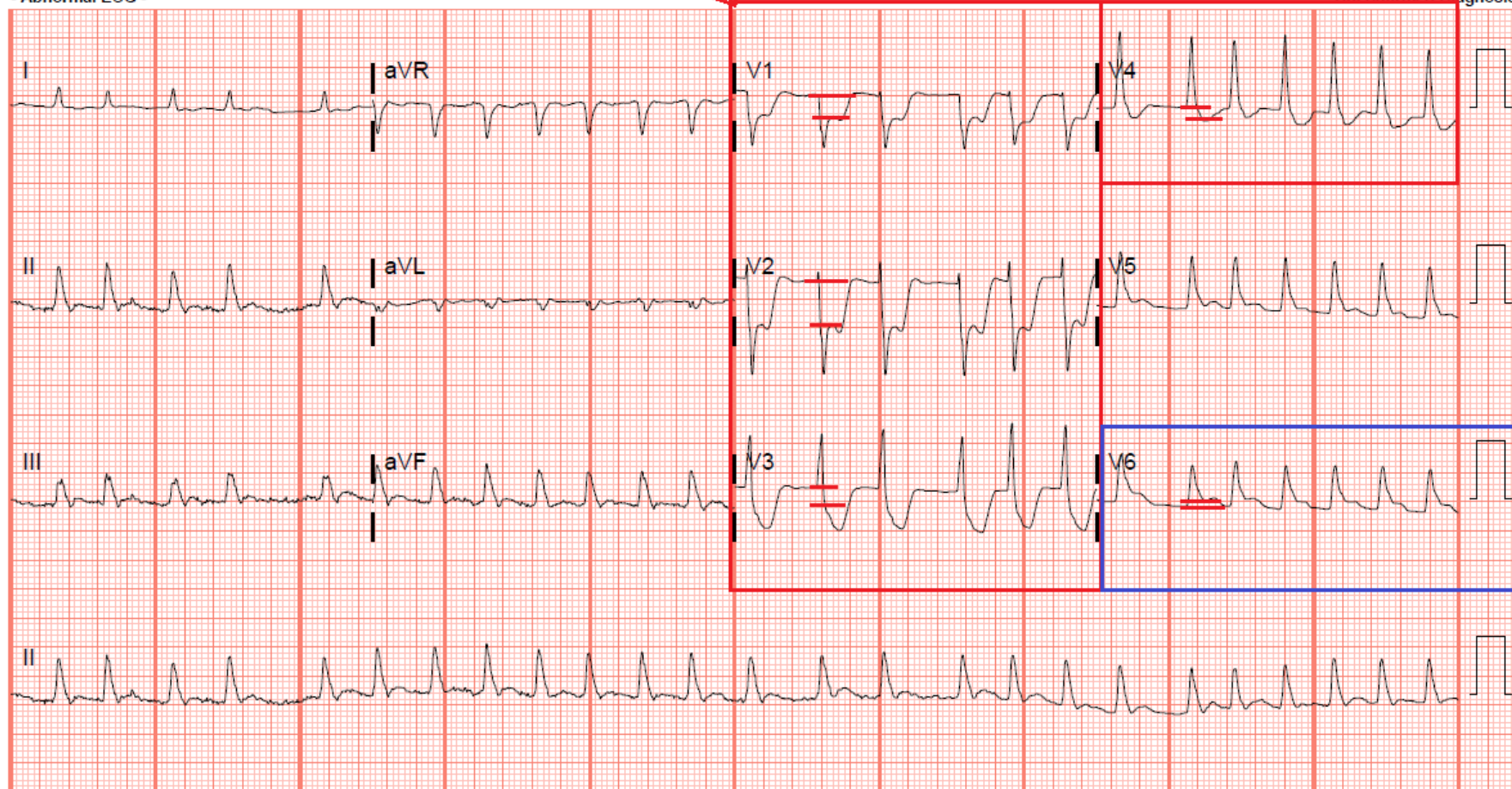
Rate 153 Atrial fibrillation with rapid V-rate  
PR Nonspecific intraventricular conduction delay  
QRSd 117  
QT 260  
QTc 415 NO PREVIOUS ECG AVAILABLE FOR COMPARISON

Req Provider:

--Axis--  
P  
QRS 73  
T 78

**ST Depression Leads V1 - V4****Minimal ST Elevation in Lead V6.  
(Does not meet STEMI Criteria)**

- Abnormal ECG -

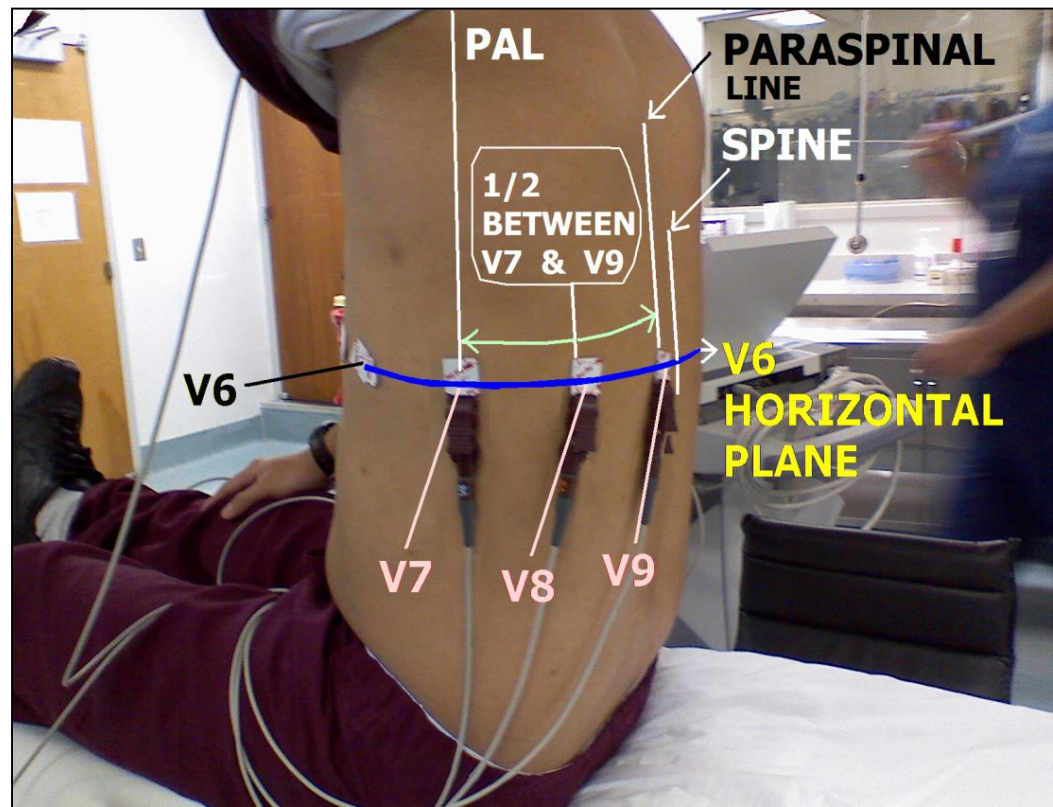


# Causes of ST Depression V1-V4

- Anterior Wall ischemia
- Anterior Wall NSTEMI (partial wall thickness myocardial infarction)
- Posterior Wall STEMI

# Continued Exam in the ED....

- Upon noting ST Depression in Anterior Leads, 3 leads were placed on the patient's back. The lead wires for V4, V5 and V6, were repositioned, as shown here:
- The "Posterior Lead ECG" is seen on the next slide.....



Pat ID [REDACTED]

01/07/2019 09:23:29

[REDACTED] 79 yrs

Caucasian Female

Account [REDACTED]

Bayfront Health Seven Rivers ED

Dept EDHD

Room EDH

Tech gp

RX  
DX

Req Provider: ONIER VILLARREAL

Rate 133 Atrial fibrillation  
PR ~~Anterolateral infarct, acute~~  
QRSd 114 Prolonged QT interval  
QT 337 COMPARED TO ECG 01/07/2019 09:21:04  
QTc 502 PROLONGED QT INTERVAL NOW PRESENT

--Axis--

**\*\* Posterior Infarct - Acute \*\***

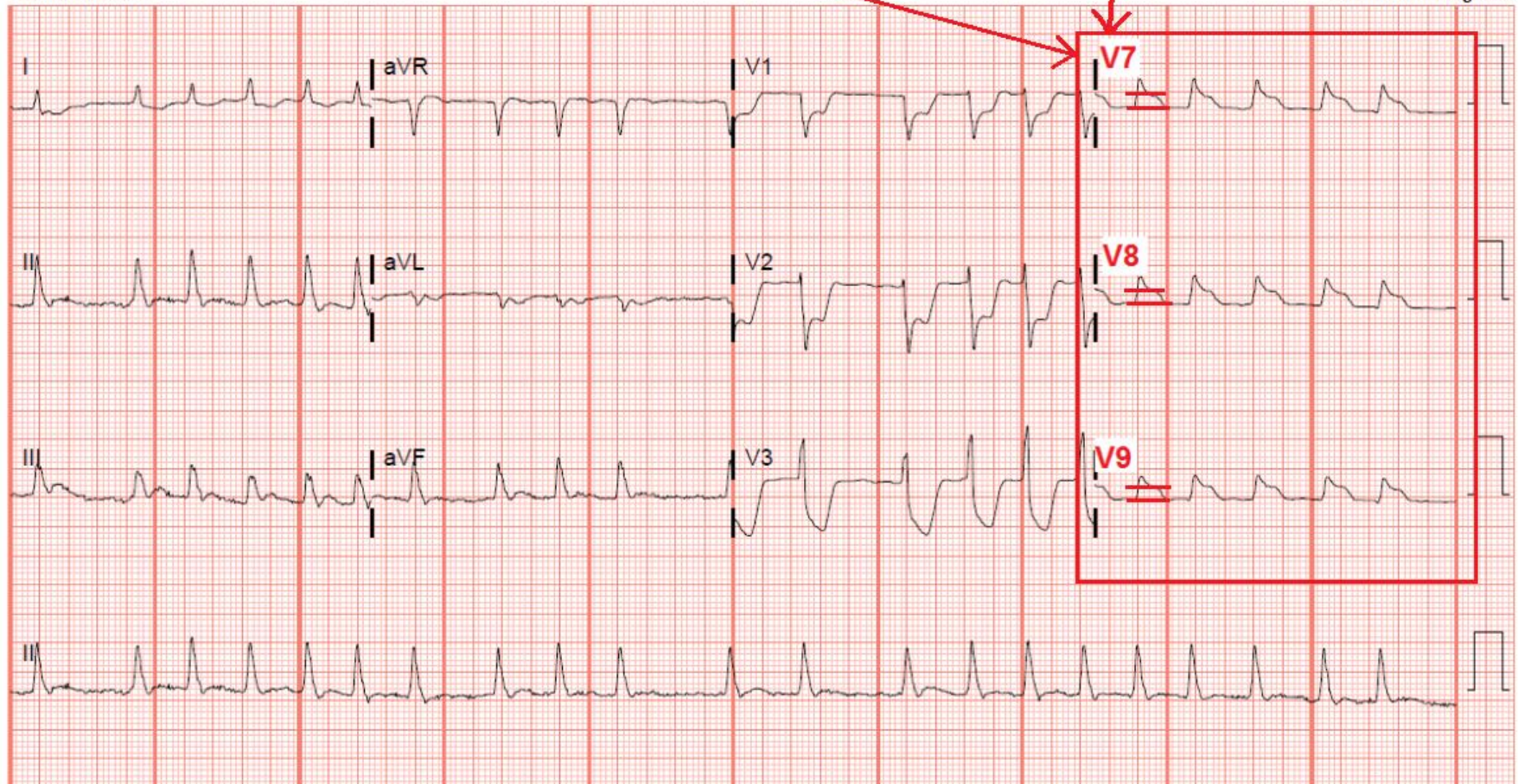
P 77  
QRS 121  
T

**ACUTE POSTERIOR WALL STEMI**

**Chest leads V4-V6 repositioned to patient's back  
( Posterior Leads V7, V8 and V9 ) reveal ST  
Segment Elevation. Patient diagnosis changes  
from "possible NSTEMI" to "Acute STEMI."**

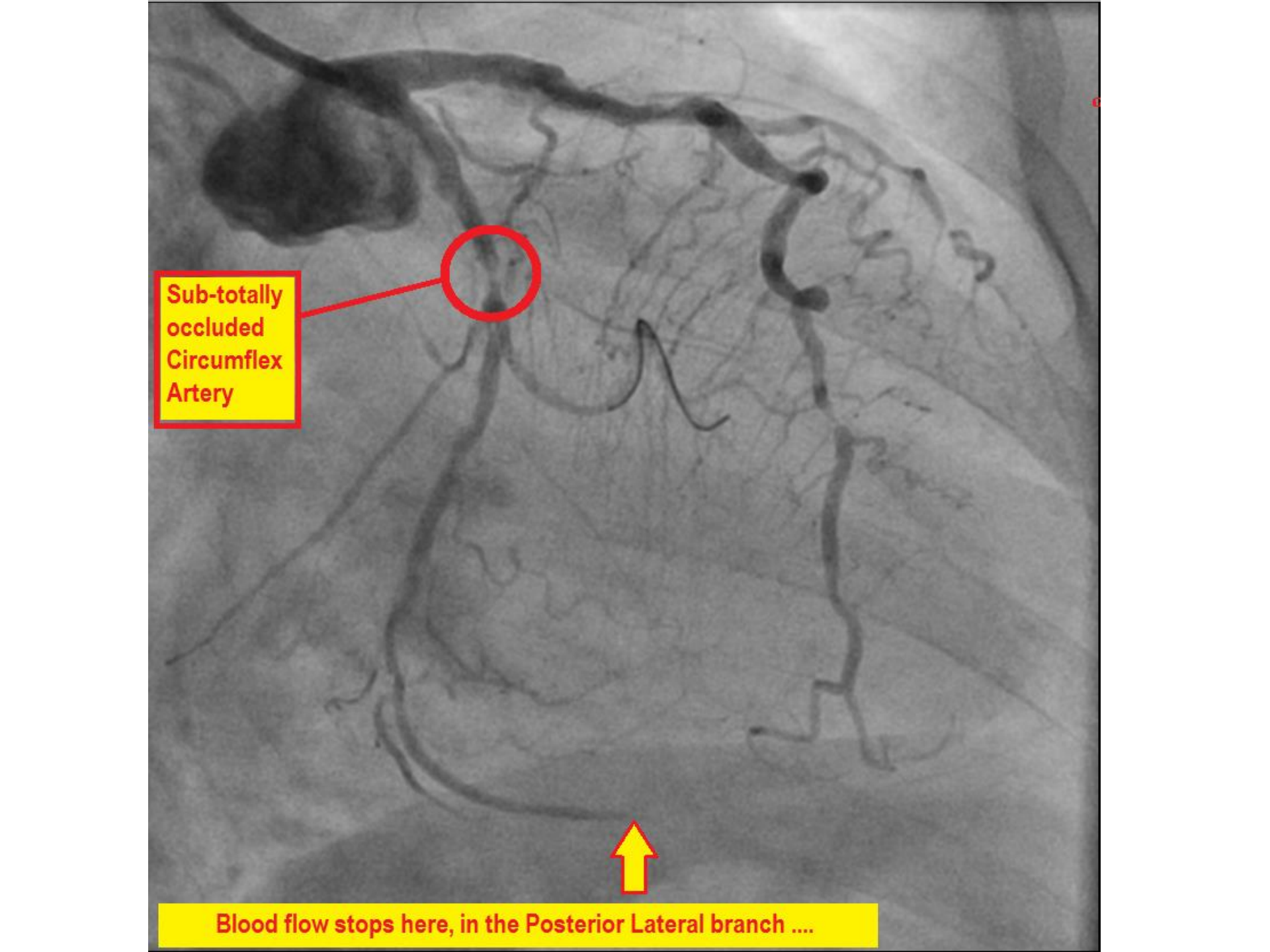
- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis



# STEMI Alert !

Upon seeing “Significant ST Elevation in TWO or more CONTIGUOUS LEADS, the ED physician diagnosed “Posterior Wall STEMI,” a STEMI Alert was issued, and the patient was taken immediately to the cardiac cath lab, where the following images were obtained.....



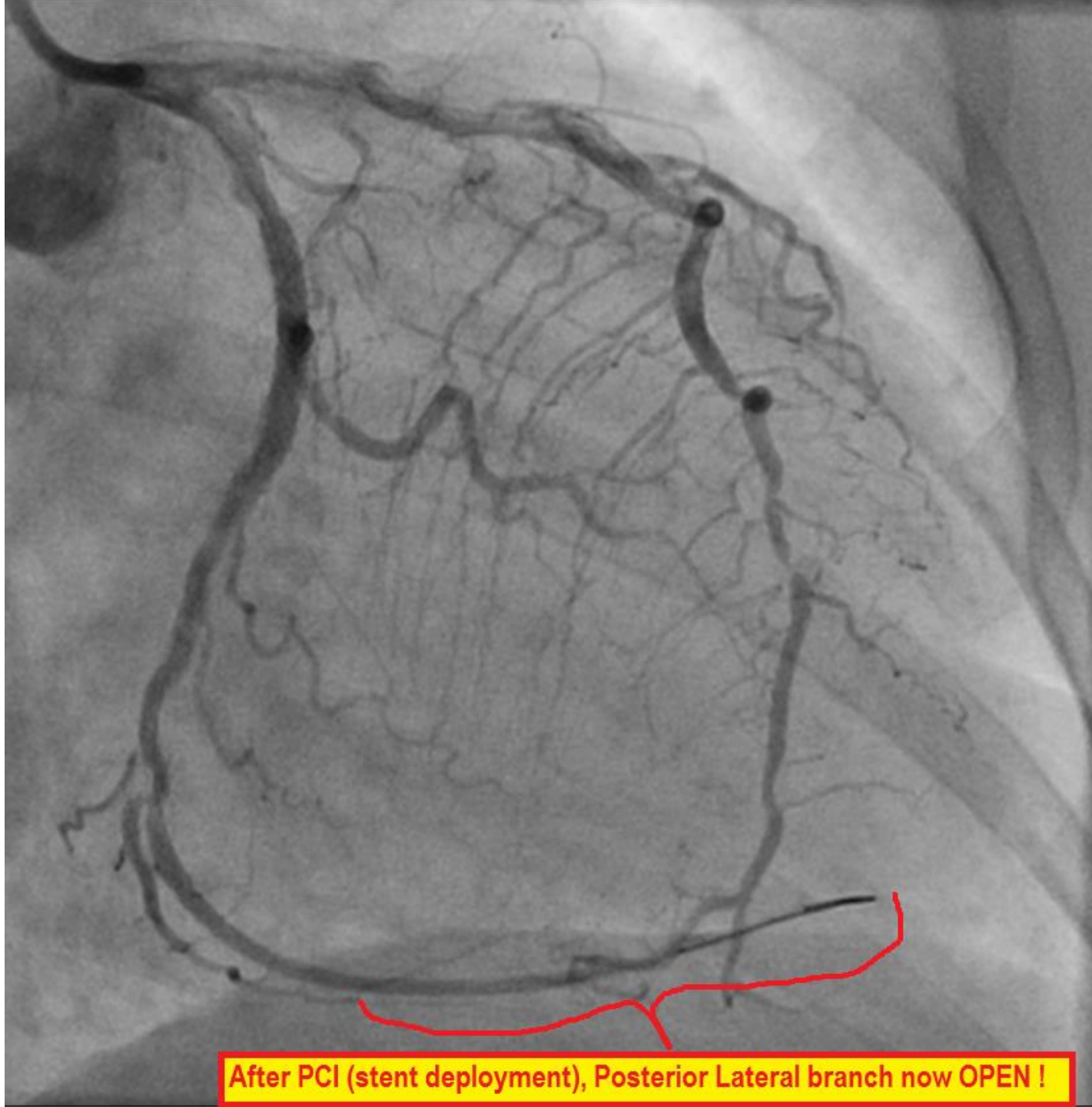
Sub-totally  
occluded  
Circumflex  
Artery

This is a grayscale coronary angiogram showing the left coronary artery system. The main trunk of the artery is visible at the top, branching into several vessels. A red circle highlights a specific area on the circumflex artery where there is a sub-totally occluded segment. A yellow arrow points to a branch at the bottom of the image, identified as the posterior lateral branch, where blood flow is noted to stop. The background shows the faint outlines of the heart and surrounding structures.

Blood flow stops here, in the Posterior Lateral branch ....

PCI balloon inflated  
here.....





After PCI (stent deployment), Posterior Lateral branch now OPEN !

# SUMMARY

- Whenever ST Depression is noted in Anterior Leads (V1-V4), it could indicate that Acute Posterior Wall STEMI is present.

# SUMMARY

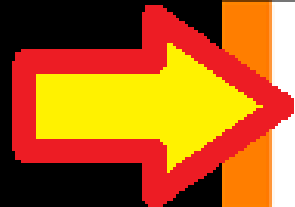
- Whenever ST Depression is noted in Anterior Leads (V1-V4), it could indicate that Acute Posterior Wall STEMI is present.
- To rule-out Posterior Wall STEMI, a “posterior lead ECG” (V7 – V9) must be obtained.

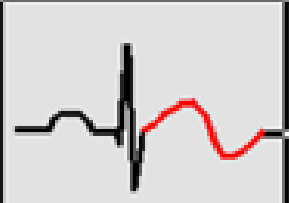
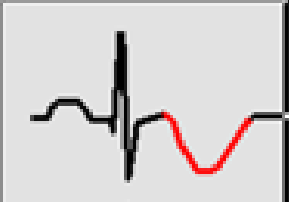
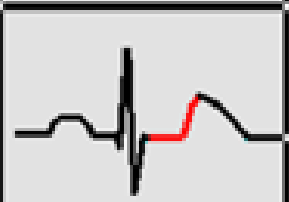
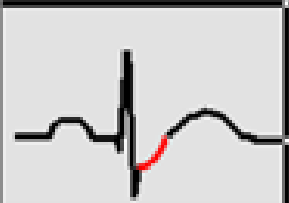
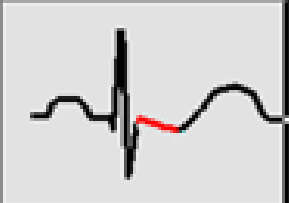
# SUMMARY

- Whenever ST Depression is noted in Anterior Leads (V1-V4), it could indicate that Acute Posterior Wall STEMI is present.
- To rule-out Posterior Wall STEMI, a “posterior lead ECG” (V7 – V9) must be obtained.
- In THIS CASE, Posterior Wall STEMI was diagnosed via Posterior Lead ECG.

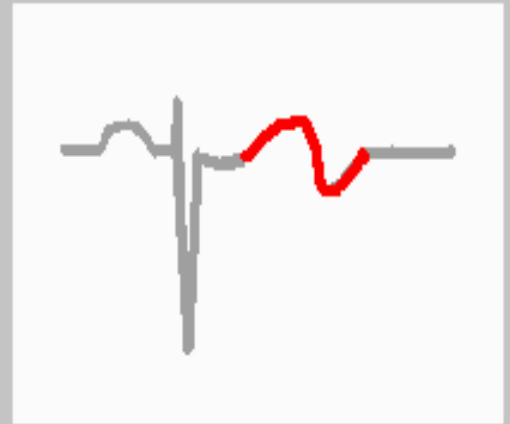
# SUMMARY

- Whenever ST Depression is noted in Anterior Leads (V1-V4), it could indicate that Acute Posterior Wall STEMI is present.
- To rule-out Posterior Wall STEMI, a “posterior lead ECG” (V7 – V9) must be obtained.
- In THIS CASE, **Posterior Wall STEMI** was diagnosed via Posterior Lead ECG.
- **STEMI Alert was issued, with a Door-to-PCI time of 53 minutes.**



BI-PHASIC T WAVE (WELLEN'S)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>SUB-TOTAL LAD LESION</b></li><li>- <b>VASOSPASM</b></li><li>- <b>HYPERTROPHY</b></li></ul>
INVERTED T WAVE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>MYOCARDITIS</b></li><li>- <b>ELECTROLYTE IMBAL.</b></li><li>- <b>ISCHEMIA</b></li></ul>
SHARP S-T T ANGLE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>ACUTE MI (NOT COMMON)</b></li><li>- <b>ISCHEMIA</b></li></ul>
DEPRESSED J POINT with UPSLOPING ST		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>ISCHEMIA</b></li></ul>
DOWNSLOPING S-T SEGMENT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>ISCHEMIA</b></li></ul>

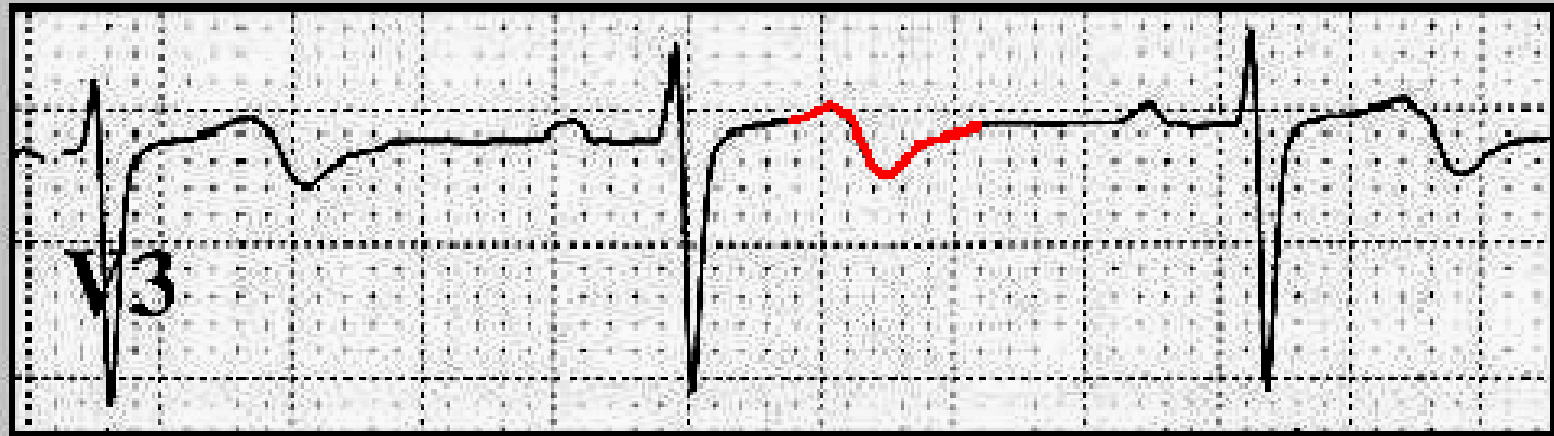
# ISCHEMIA



## *BI-PHASIC T WAVE*

- SUB-TOTAL OCCLUSION of LEFT ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY ( when noted in V1-V4 )
- LEFT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY
- COCAINE INDUCED VASOSPASM

# BI-PHASIC T WAVES



**58 y/o MALE WITH SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSIONS OF THE LEFT  
ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY**



**58 y/o MALE WITH "WELLEN'S  
WARNING." PT HAS SUB-TOTALLY  
OCCLUDED LAD X2**

# **Classic “Wellen’s Syndrome:”**

- **Characteristic T wave changes**
  - Biphasic T waves
  - Inverted T waves
- **History of anginal chest pain**
- **Normal or minimally elevated cardiac markers**
- **ECG without Q waves, without significant ST-segment elevation, and with normal precordial R-wave progression**

# **Wellen's Syndrome ETIOLOGY:**

- **Critical Lesion, Proximal LAD**
- **Coronary Artery Vasospasm**
- **Cocaine use (vasospasm)**
- **Increased myocardial oxygen demand**
- **Generalized Hypoxia / anemia / low H&H**

# Wellen's Syndrome EPIDEMIOLOGY & PROGNOSIS:

- Present in 14-18% of patients admitted with unstable angina
- 75% patients not treated developed extensive Anterior MI within 3 weeks.
- *Median Average time from presentation to Acute Myocardial Infarction – 8 days*

Sources: [H Wellens et. Al, Am Heart J 1982; v103\(4\) 730-736](#)

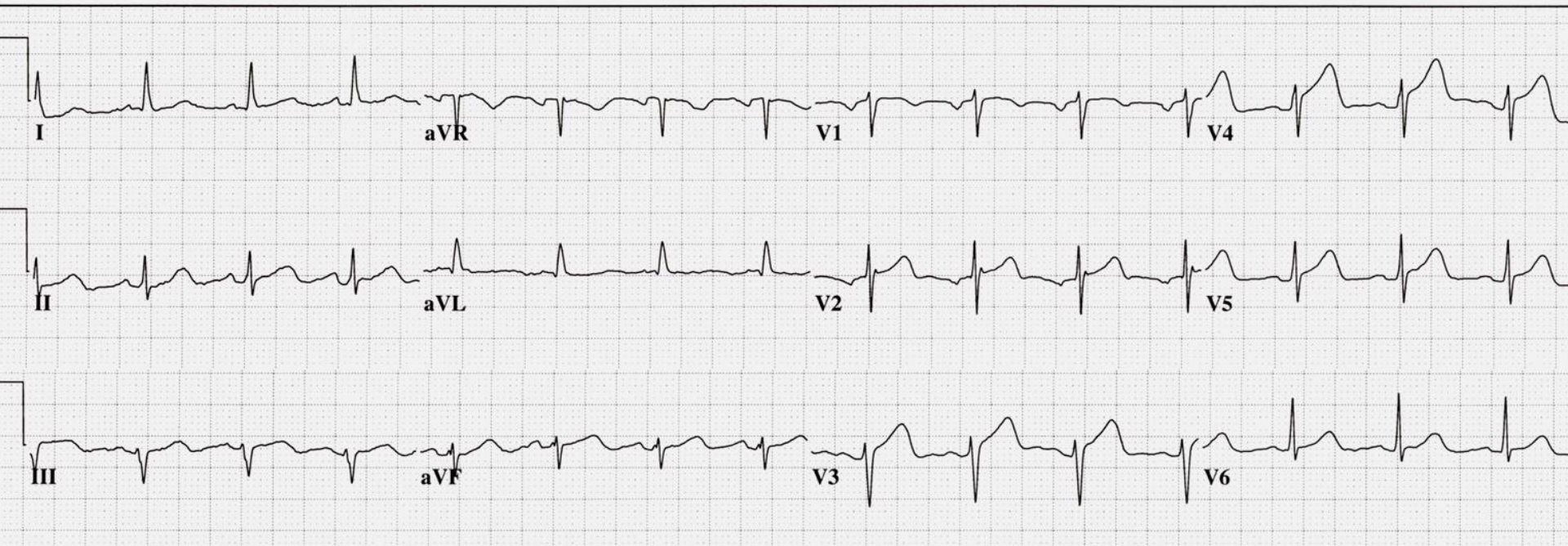
# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

- 33 y/o male
- Chief complaint “sharp, pleuritic quality chest pain, intermittent, recent history lower respiratory infection with productive cough.”
- ED physician attributed the ST elevation in precordial leads to “early repolarization,” due to patient age, gender, race (African American) and concave nature of ST-segments.

# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

## SERIAL EKG CASE STUDY 1 - EKG #1 @ 06:22 HOURS

33 yr		Vent. rate	89	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Black	PR interval	158	ms	Possible Left atrial enlargement
		QRS duration	80	ms	Borderline ECG
		QT/QTc	366/445	ms	No previous ECGs available
Loc:3	Option:23	P-R-T axes	60 -5	65	



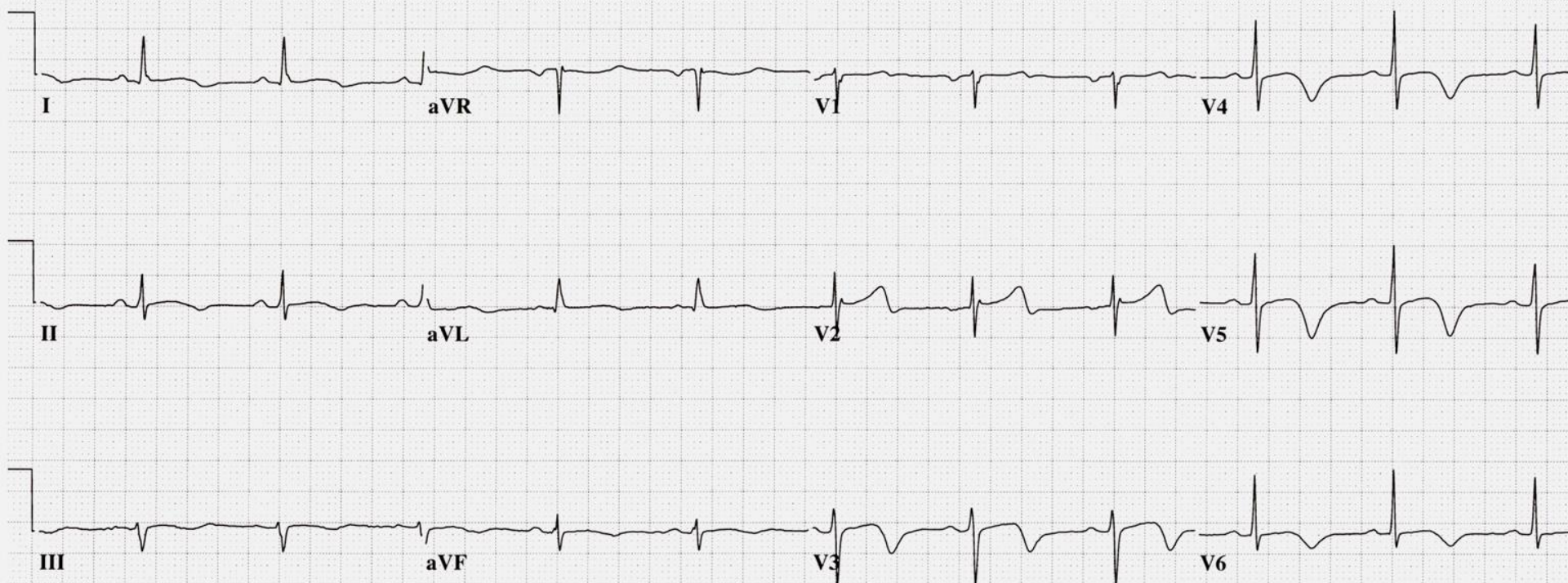
# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

## SERIAL EKG CASE STUDY 1 - EKG # 2 @ 09:42 HOURS

33 yr  
Male      Black  
Room:A13  
Loc:3      Option:23

Vent. rate      67      BPM  
PR interval      160      ms  
QRS duration      82      ms  
QT/QTc      512/541      ms  
P-R-T axes      44 0      54

\*\*\*UNEDITED COPY: REPORT IS COMPUTER GENERATED ONLY, WITHOUT PHYSICIAN INTERPRETATION".  
Normal sinus rhythm  
T wave abnormality, consider anterolateral ischemia  
Prolonged QT  
Abnormal ECG



***DYNAMIC ST-T Wave Changes  
ARE PRESENT !!***

**NOW**

***is the time for the***

***STAT CALL***

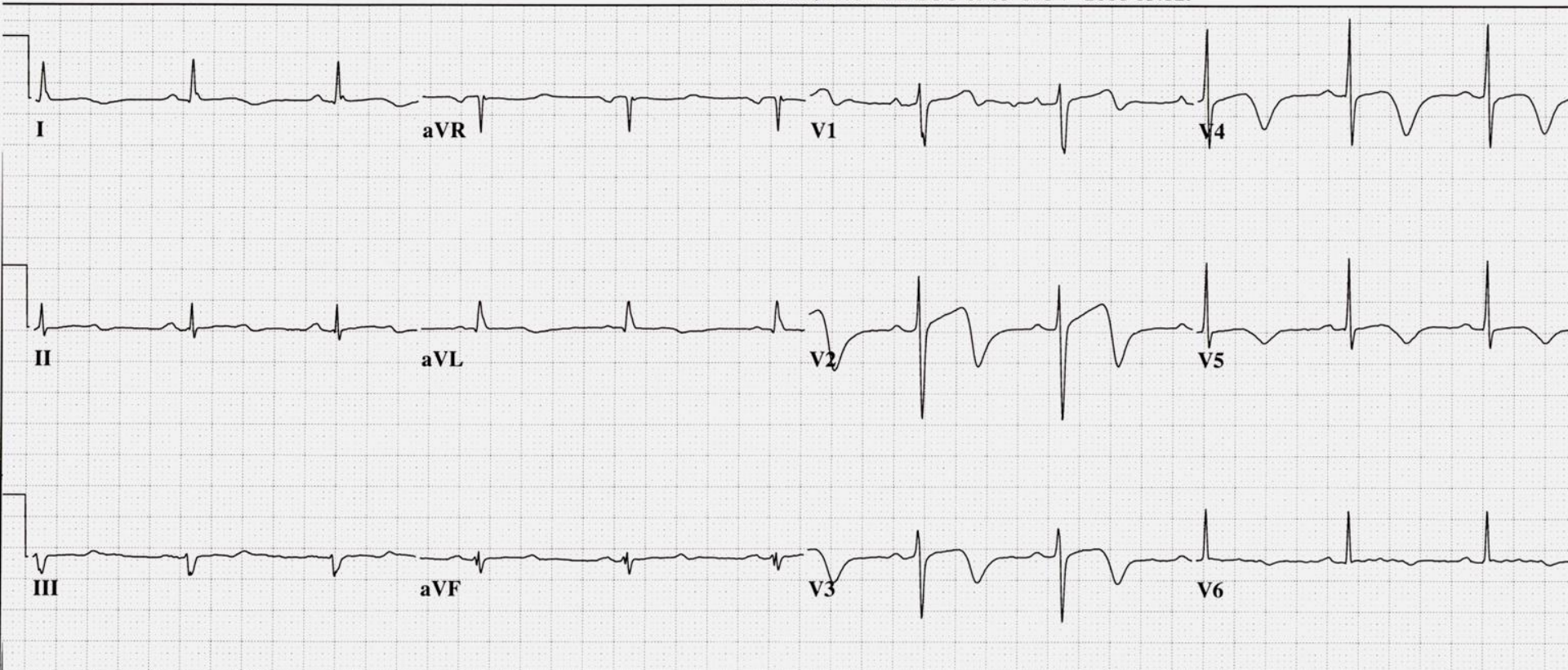
***to the***

***CARDIOLOGIST !!!!***

# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

## SERIAL EKG CASE STUDY 1 - EKG # 3 @ 12:12 HOURS

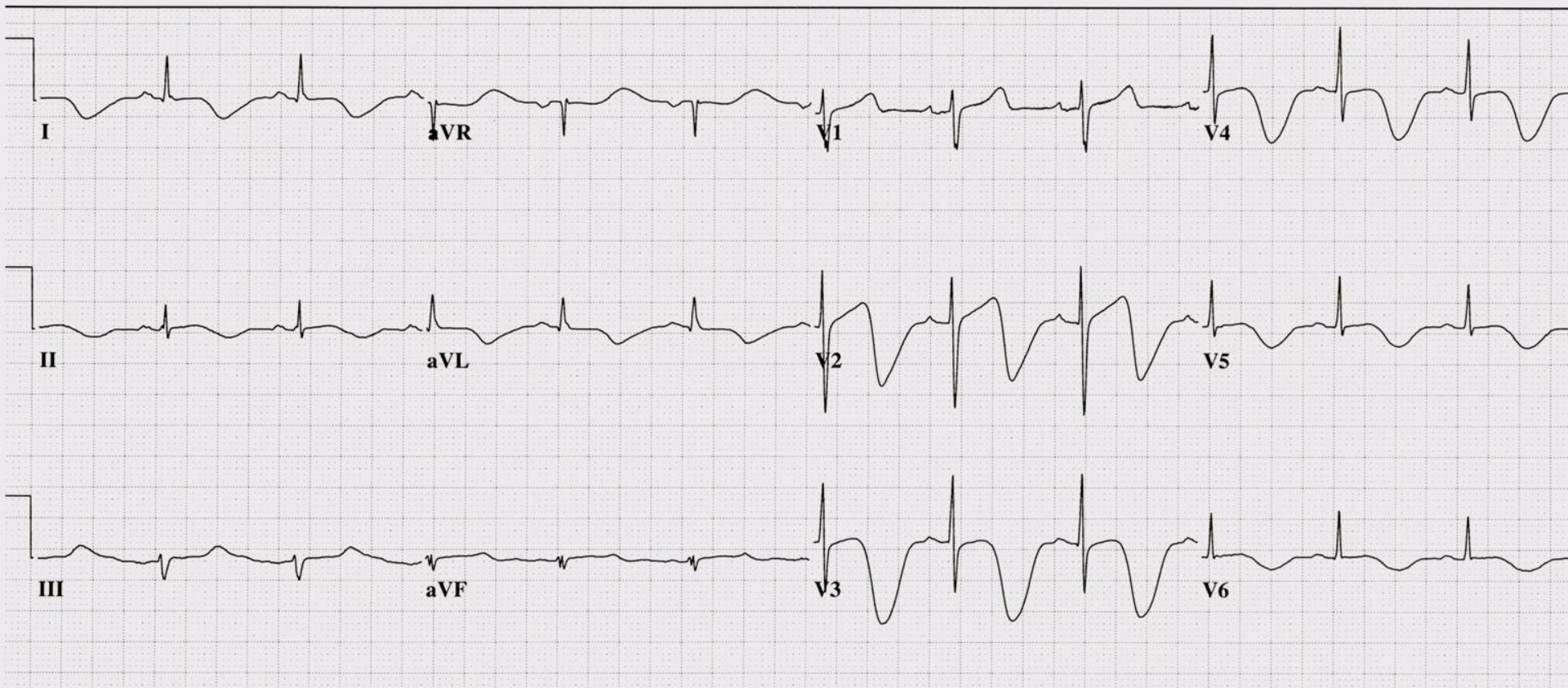
33 yr		Vent. rate	64	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Black	PR interval	160	ms	Marked T wave abnormality, consider anterolateral ischemia
		QRS duration	84	ms	Prolonged QT
		QT/QTc	514/530	ms	Abnormal ECG
Loc:7	Option:35	P-R-T axes	45 3	91	When compared with ECG of 05-NOV-2008 05:12.



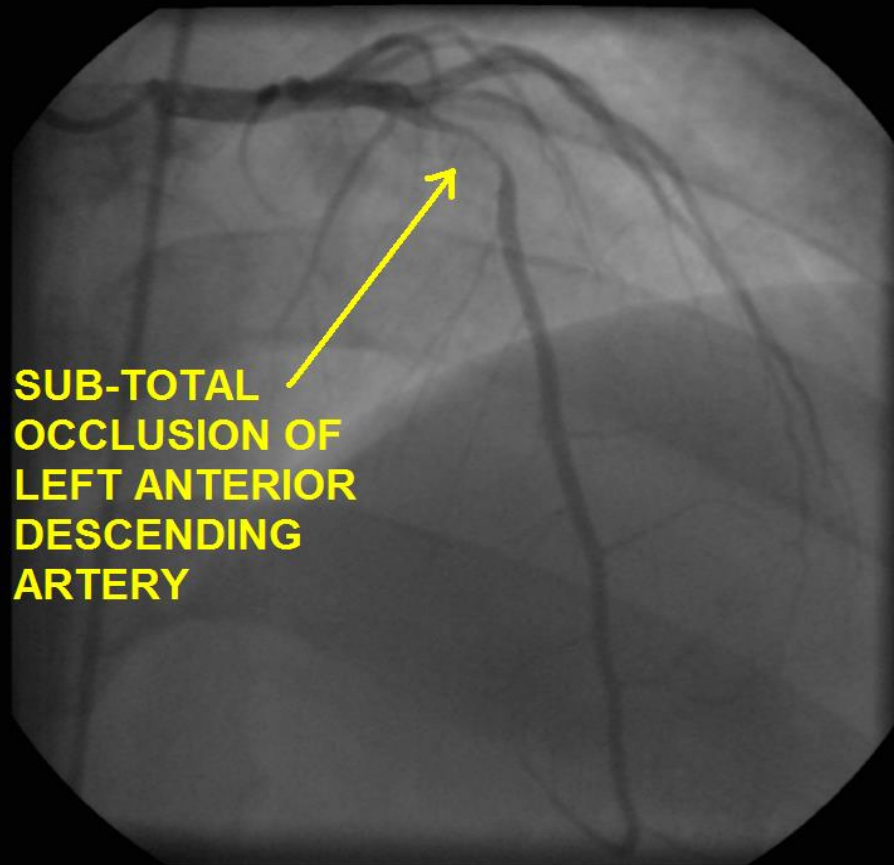
# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

## SERIAL EKG CASE STUDY 1 - EKG # 4 @ 15:37 HOURS

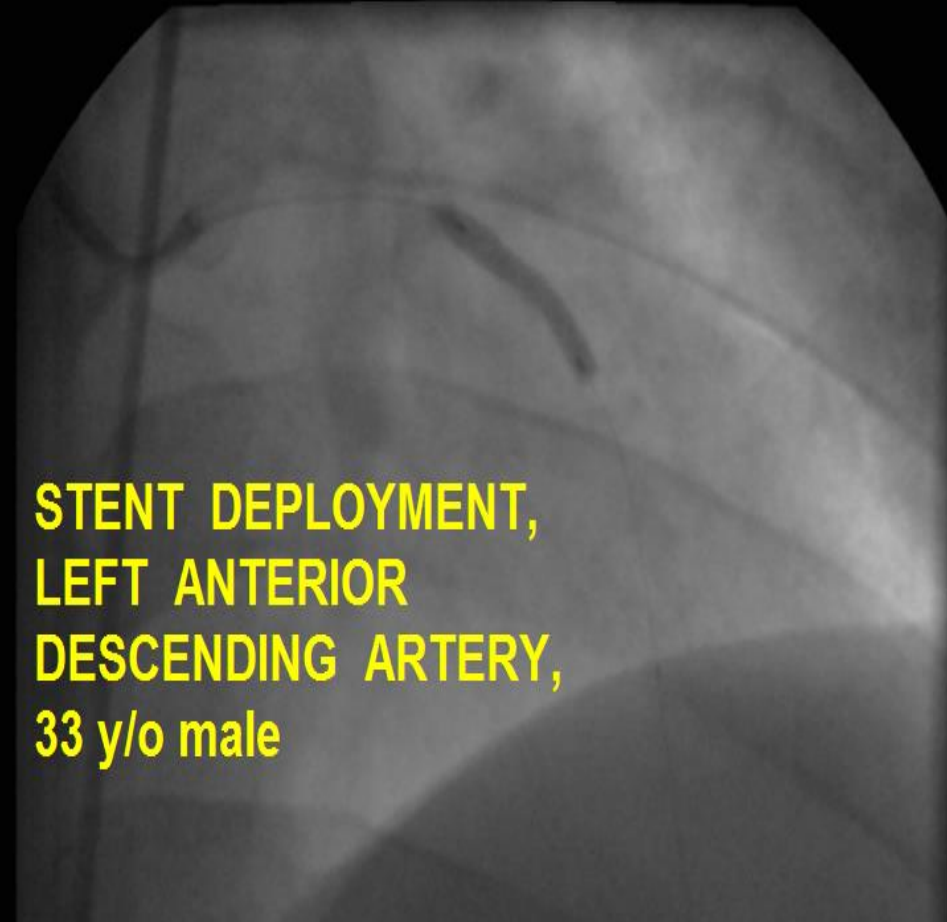
33 yr		Vent. rate	71	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Black	PR interval	144	ms	Marked T wave abnormality, consider anterolateral ischemia
		QRS duration	74	ms	Prolonged QT
Room:405A		QT/QTc	600/652	ms	Abnormal ECG
Loc:5	Option:39	P-R-T axes	20 1	160	



# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

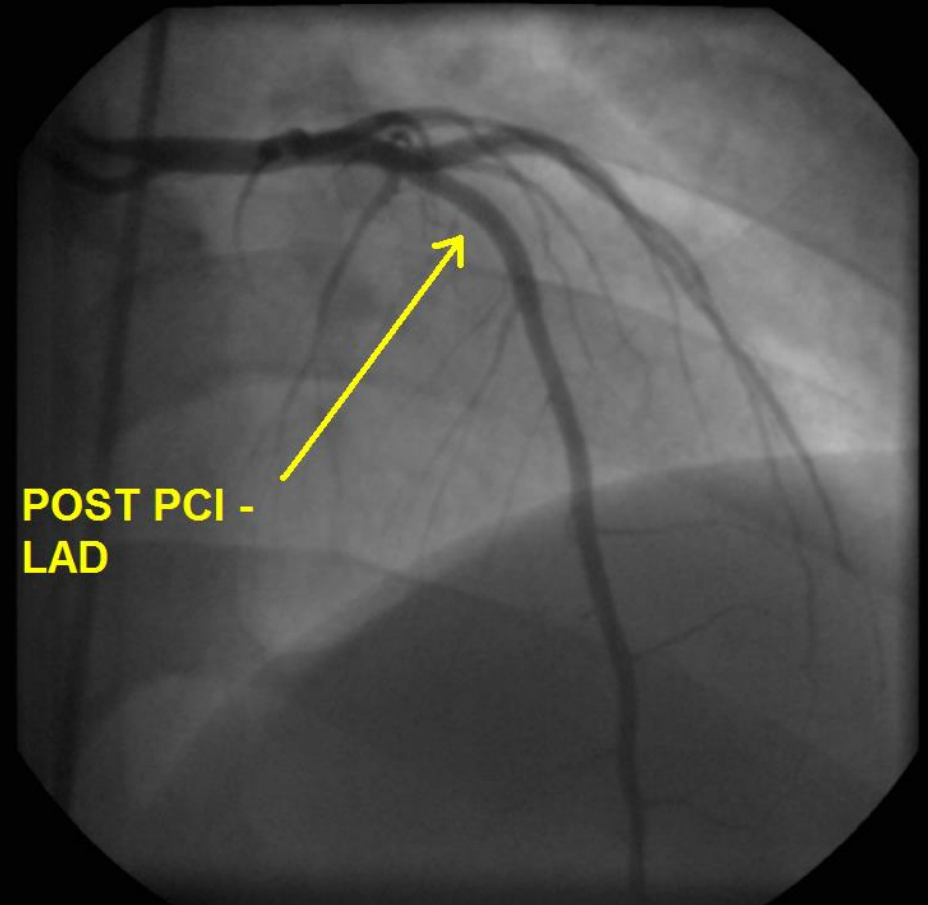
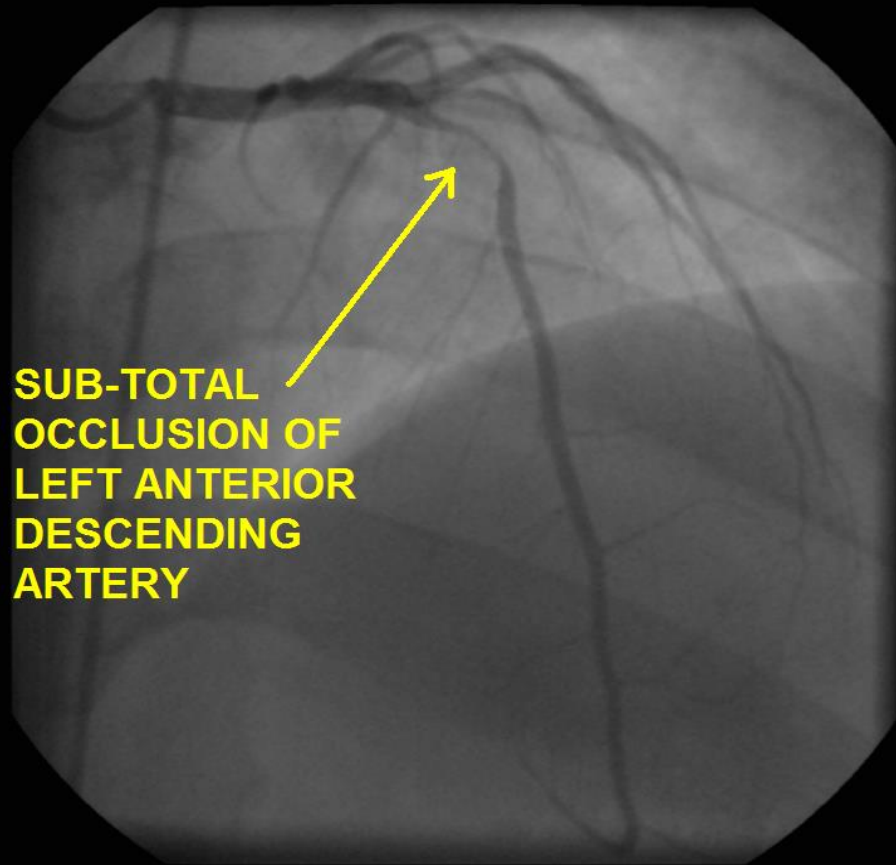


SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSION OF  
LEFT ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING  
ARTERY



STENT DEPLOYMENT,  
LEFT ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING ARTERY,  
33 y/o male

# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study



# Additional Resources:

- [Wellen's Syndrome, NEJM case study](#)

**Lancaster County, Pennsylvania**  
**Winter, 2002**





“NOWHERE”, NEW MEXICO, 1994

[CLICK HERE](#) to download “A SHORT Course in LONG QT Syndrome,” a focused excerpt from:



American College of Cardiology  
Accreditation Services  
(formerly The Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care)

May 25-27, 2016

[scpc.org/Congress](http://scpc.org/Congress)

# Elements of Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention Programs

The American College of Cardiology  
Accreditation Services  
19<sup>th</sup> Congress – Miami, FL – May 25, 2016

*Wayne Ruppert, CVT, CCCC, NREMT-P*

To download presentation in PDF: visit: [www.ECGtraining.org](http://www.ECGtraining.org) select: “[Downloads - PDF](#)”

Brief, focused ECG excerpts  
from the presentation given by  
Wayne Ruppert at the “19<sup>th</sup>  
Congress,” American College of  
Cardiology Accreditation  
Services” national conference,  
on

MAY 25, 2016

Miami, FL .....

# Prevalence

## SADS Foundation Stats:

- Each year in the United States, 350,000 Americans die suddenly and unexpectedly due to cardiac arrhythmias. Almost 4,000 of them are young people under age 35. (CDC 2002)
- In 30%–50% of sudden cardiac deaths, it is the first clinically identified expression of heart disease
- 10-12% of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) cases are due to Long QT Syndrome.
- LQTS is now known to be 3 times more common in the US than childhood leukemia.
- 1 in 200,000 high school athletes in the US will die suddenly, most without any prior symptoms—*JAMA 1996; 276*

# The SADS Conditions:

- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)
- Long QT Syndrome (LQTS)
- Short QT Syndrome (SQTS)
- Brugada Syndrome (BrS)
- Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia (ARVD)
- Catecholaminergic Polymorphic Ventricular Tachycardia (CPVT)
- Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) Syndrome
- Commotio Cordis
- Less-common conditions (e.g. Marfans, Ehlers-Danlos, Loeys-Dietz Syndromes)

# Estimated SADS Prevalence in US Population:

- HCM: 1/500 [J Am Coll Cardiol. 2014;64](#)
- BrS: 1/2,500 SADS Foundation
- LQTS: 1/2,500 [Lenhart,SE 2007 AHA Circ](#)
- ARVD: 1/10,000 SADS Foundation
- CPVT: 1/10,000 [US Nat'l Library of Medicine](#)
- WPW: 1/1,000 [Circulation.2011; 124: 746-757](#)

# Prevalence

## Sudden Deaths in Young Competitive Athletes

[B Maron et al; AHA Circulation.2009; 119: 1085-1092](#)

Analysis, causes of 1866 Deaths in the US, 1980 –2006:

- Cardiovascular: 56%
- Traumatic: 22%
- Commotio Cordis: 3%
- Heat Stroke: 2%
- Other: 17%

**Most ACS Cardiac Arrest  
Patients are over age 30.**

***Meet the typical Cardiac Arrest  
patients affected by SADS . . . .***

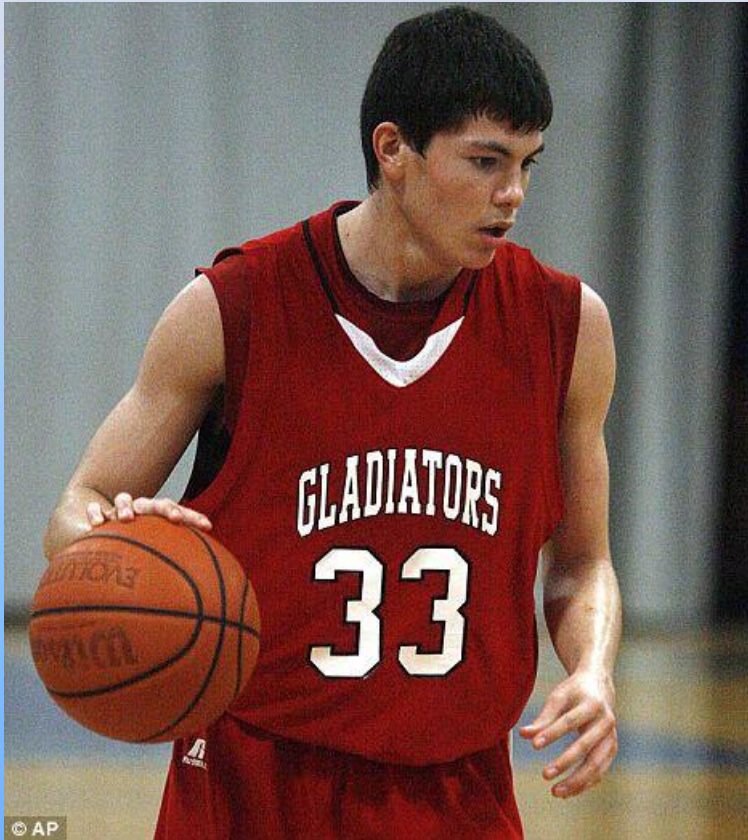
# High School Athlete Dies After Collapsing At Practice

August 15, 2011 11:28 PM

[Share on email](#)17



# Teen basketball player collapses and dies on court - third school boy sportsman to do so in less than a month



By [DAILY MAIL REPORTER](#)

UPDATED: 12:03 EST, 14 March 2011

A teenage basketball player has become the third school boy sportsman in less than a month to collapse and die while playing. Roma High School junior Robert Garza, 16, was playing in the AAU tournament on Saturday with the Hoopsters, a South Texas club team, when he collapsed without any warning.

His death follows that of Wes Leonard, **who died of cardiac arrest from an enlarged heart** on March 3 and

Matthew Hammerdorfer, 17, who collapsed after taking a tackle to the chest at a rugby match near Denver last week.

**Sudden:** The death of **Robert Garza** is the third such school boy death in the last month. The other two both had heart conditions



**Tragedy:** The death comes only weeks after that of **Wes Leonard** (right top) and **Matthew Hammerdorfer**, who collapsed after taking a school rugby match near Denver

# **Ray-Pec student collapses and dies during track practice**

**Posted, 2015-03-05**

[Kansas City Star](#)

***A senior at Raymore-Peculiar High School collapsed during track practice Wednesday and died at a hospital, according to school officials.  
... Click to Continue »***

# Family and friends mourn popular Boonsboro High School athlete

Michaela Grove 'was just a good kid that didn't follow the crowd, and people liked that'

July 24, 2013 | By DAVE McMILLION | [davem@herald-mail.com](mailto:davem@herald-mail.com)



Family members and friends of a popular Boonsboro High School athlete are mourning her death after she collapsed at a camp in Mercersburg, Pa., on Monday evening.

Michaela Grove's mother, Brenda Grove, said she believes her 16-year-old daughter was involved in a tug-of-war competition at Camp Tohiglo when she fell to the ground in cardiac arrest.

## Greg Moyer, 15



**Greg Moyer** collapsed and died of sudden cardiac arrest while playing in a high school basketball game in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. His school did not have an automated external defibrillator available and there were no nearby emergency medical services.

Afterwards, a nurse at the hospital emergency room suggested to Greg's parents that they start a fund to help local schools get AEDs. The Moyers are now involved in AED projects statewide, and Greg's mother, Rachel Moyer, has traveled as far as Hawaii to advocate for school AED legislation and donate AEDs.



**“Princess George” died at age 3 of sudden cardiac arrest brought on by an undiagnosed heart condition. At the suggestion of the doctor who saw “George” in the emergency room, her brother was subsequently tested for heart problems. He was diagnosed with a heart condition that is, fortunately, treatable.**

**Jennifer Lynn Balma, their mother, notes that “George” never showed any symptoms of cardiac problems — *until the day she suddenly stopped breathing.***



## Olivia Corinne Hoff, 14

Olivia died at age 14 from sudden cardiac arrest attributed to **Long QT Syndrome**.

The condition was undiagnosed. Olivia, a high school freshman involved in sports and cheerleading, suffered cardiac arrest during the night. Her mother found her unresponsive and called 911. Olivia was subsequently hospitalized, but did not survive.

Her mother, Corinne Ruiz, wrote: “**Today, 6 years later, I cry for my daughter every day. Not a day goes by that I don’t ask myself: *If only I had been told that there are screening tests or preventative treatments.*”**



High school quarterback **Reggie Garrett** threw his second touchdown pass of the night, walked off the field, and [collapsed from sudden cardiac arrest](#). He died in the ambulance on the way to the hospital in West Orange, Texas.

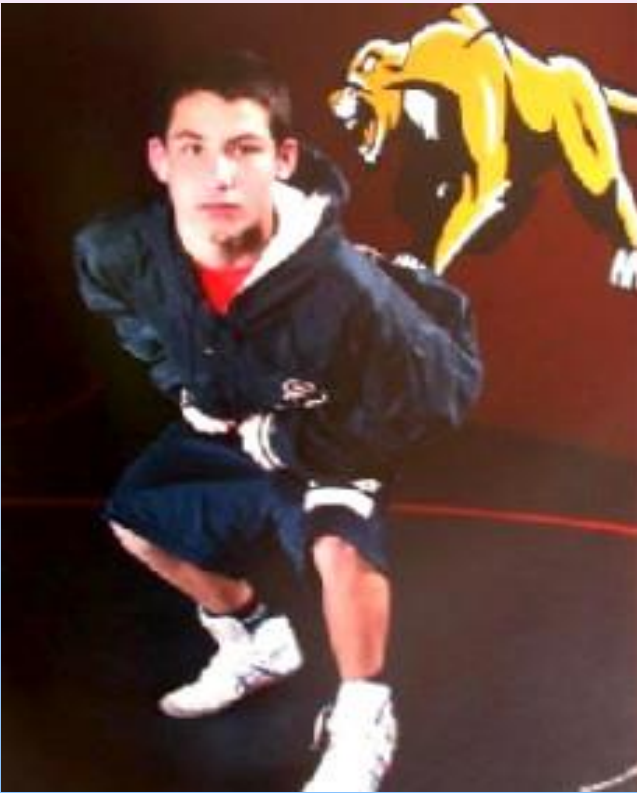
In the news coverage following Garrett's death, Dallas station WFAA.com urged cardiac screening for high school athletes.



### **Zachary Schrah, 16**

High school football player Zachary Schrah collapsed and [died of sudden cardiac arrest](#) during football practice in Plano, Texas. His mother, Karen Schrah, has become an advocate for legislation mandating heart screenings as a part of student physicals.

Zachary's death had an impact on the community at large. Heart Hospital Baylor Plano now offers low-cost [ECGs](#) and echocardiograms for the area's student athletes.



***Eric Paredes***, a two-sport high school athlete, had an enlarged heart. But no one knew about it until it was too late. His father, Hector Paredes, found Eric on the kitchen floor, unconscious and not breathing. He administered CPR, but was unable to revive him. Eric died of sudden cardiac arrest.

In Eric's memory, the family has organized electrocardiogram (EKG) screening for other students at Eric's San Diego area high school.



In 2005, Chicago conservationist and wildlife educator **Max Schewitz** died of sudden cardiac arrhythmia. Since then, the Max Schewitz Foundation, created by his parents, has provided free electrocardiograms (EKGs) for more than 10,000 Chicago-area students through a Screen for Teens program.

According to media reports, the screenings have identified 142 teens who are considered at-risk for sudden cardiac death because of cardiac conditions.

Nick Varrenti, 16



Nick Varrenti played in two high school football games — varsity and junior varsity — on Labor Day weekend. A day later, he suffered sudden cardiac arrest and died. His family learned later that **Nick had lived with an undiagnosed heart condition, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.**

Nick's parents created the Nick of Time Foundation, which is dedicated to education schools, athletes, and communities about sudden cardiac arrest, public access defibrillator (PAD) programs, and cardiac screenings.

## Jimmy Brackett, 22, and Crissy Brackett, 21



The hereditary cardiac disease [Long QT Syndrome](#) ran in Jackie Renfrow's family, *but she had no idea about it until two of her children died from sudden cardiac arrest.*

## Brandon athlete dies after collapsing at practice



**TAMPA — A Brandon High School senior Milo Meeks died Saturday, one day after conditioning with the basketball team**  
**“This is mind blowing,” said Ben Bromley, the junior varsity and assistant varsity basketball coach at Armwood.**

**Jeremy Twining,  
age 21  
Dade City, Florida  
February 1, 2015**

Your Hometown News Source • **Dade City News**

February 12, 2015 • 7B [dadecitynews.net](http://dadecitynews.net)

## Obituaries

### Jeremy Grant Twining



TWINING, Jeremy Grant, 21, of Dade City, joined his savior Jesus in Heaven on Feb. 1, 2015. He was born May 31, 1993. He graduated from Pasco High School and was studying Criminal Justice at Liberty University. He is survived by his parents, John and Julie Twining of Dade City; siblings,

Jonathan, Jessica and James Twining of Dade City; girlfriend, Lydia Tucker of Temple Terrace; paternal grandparents, Dave and Shirley Twining of Tampa; maternal grandparents, Edna Margaret Neatherly of Tampa and Earl and Ginger Hornsby of Cromwell, Conn.; and countless aunts, uncles, and cousins. Jeremy will always be remembered for his contagious laugh, his huge caring heart, and his love for his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A private graveside service was held Feb. 6 from the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. A memorial service was held at First Baptist Church of Dade City on Feb. 7. In lieu of flowers make send donations to the Sudden Arrhythmia Death Foundation at [SADS.org](http://SADS.org). Hodges Family Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**. . . . And on a more personal note:**

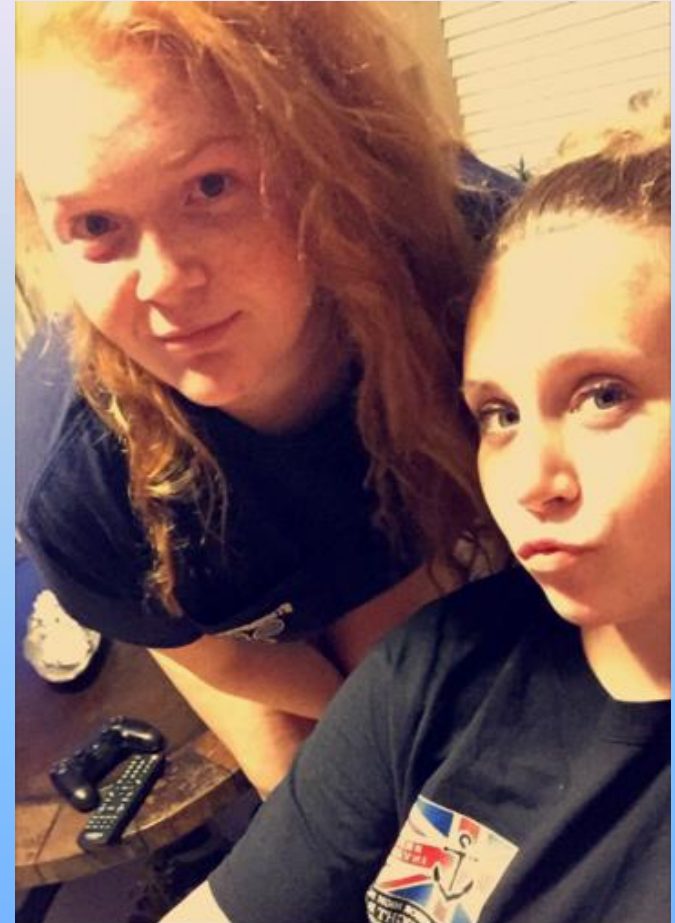
**This slide added April 27, 2016:**

**Yesterday, a good friend of my step-daughter collapsed during a tennis game in the Carrollwood community of Tampa, Florida. She was 16 years old.**

**A physician bystander started CPR, but since no AED was available, she did not survive.**

**Sudden death was the first indication that she suffered from a cardiac condition. At the current time, her specific diagnosis is unknown.**

**Entry 5/2/2016: I was advised that the cause of cardiac arrest was Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.**

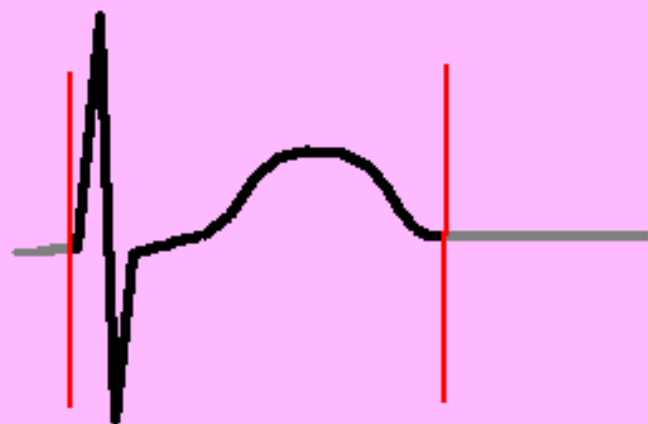


**My step-daughter, Caitlin Cameron (right) with her friend, also named Caitlin (left) who collapsed and died during a tennis match on 4/26/16**

***“Healthcare organizations have an obligation to implement programs, practices, protocols, policies and procedures designed to eliminate the needless mortality of SADS in our communities.”***

***“Healthcare professionals who evaluate young patients have an obligation to be aware of risk factors, signs and symptoms of patients with potential SADS conditions. Those who read ECGs should be aware of the subtle ECG identifiers of SADS conditions.”***

# THE Q - T INTERVAL



- BEGINNING OF QRS COMPLEX TO THE END OF THE T WAVE
- NORMAL VALUES VARY BASED ON HEART RATE
- SEVERAL WAYS TO DETERMINE NORMAL LIMITS

# THE \*QTc INTERVAL

\* QTc = Q-T interval,  
*corrected* for heart rate

HEART RATE	MALE	FEMALE
150	0.25	0.28
125	0.26	0.29
100	0.31	0.34
93	0.32	0.35
83	0.34	0.37
71	0.37	0.40
60	0.40	0.44
50	0.44	0.48
43	0.47	0.51

*Annals of Internal Medicine, 1988 109:905.*

# Determining the QTc

Manual calculation:

## QT CORRECTION FORMULAS:

Bazett's

$$QTc = QT / \sqrt{RR}$$

Fredericia

$$QTc = QT / (RR)^{1/3}$$

Framingham

$$QTc = QT + 0.154(1 - RR)$$

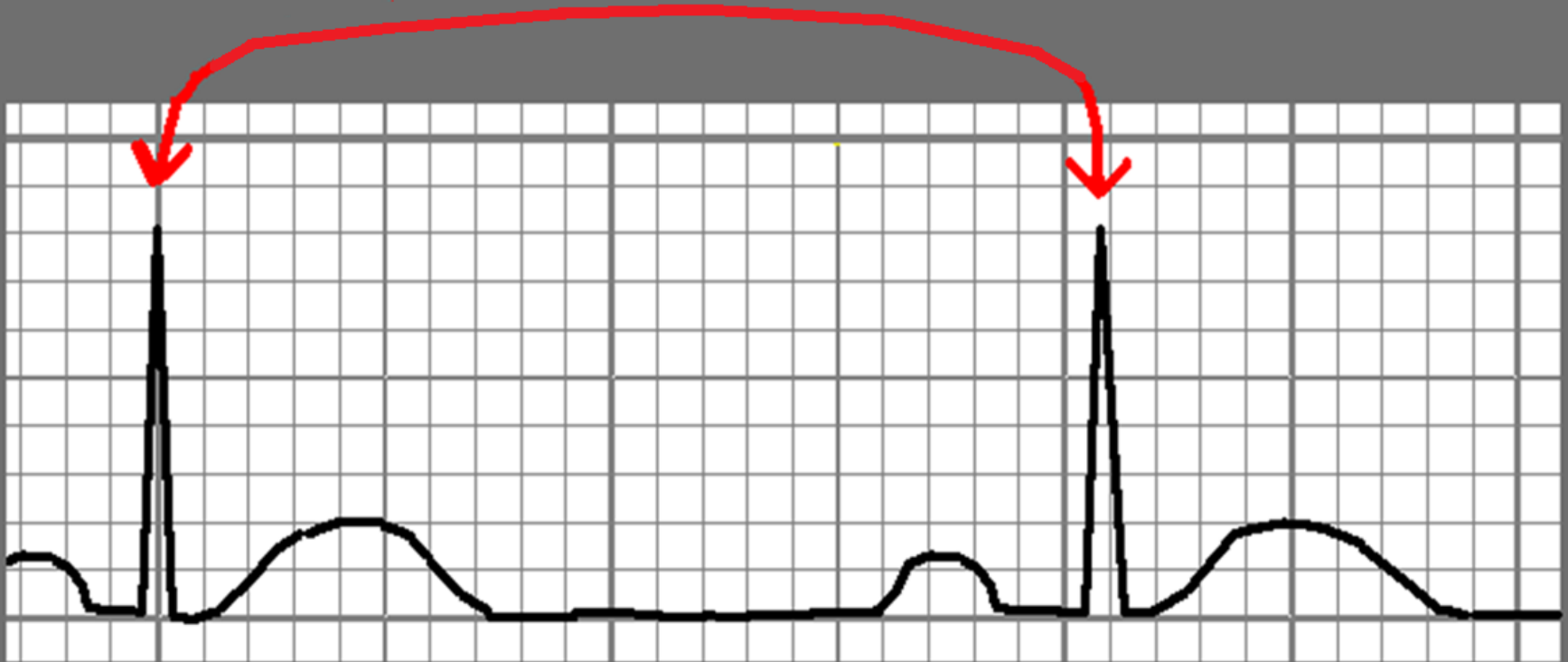
Rautaharju

$$QTp = 656 / (1 + HR/100)$$

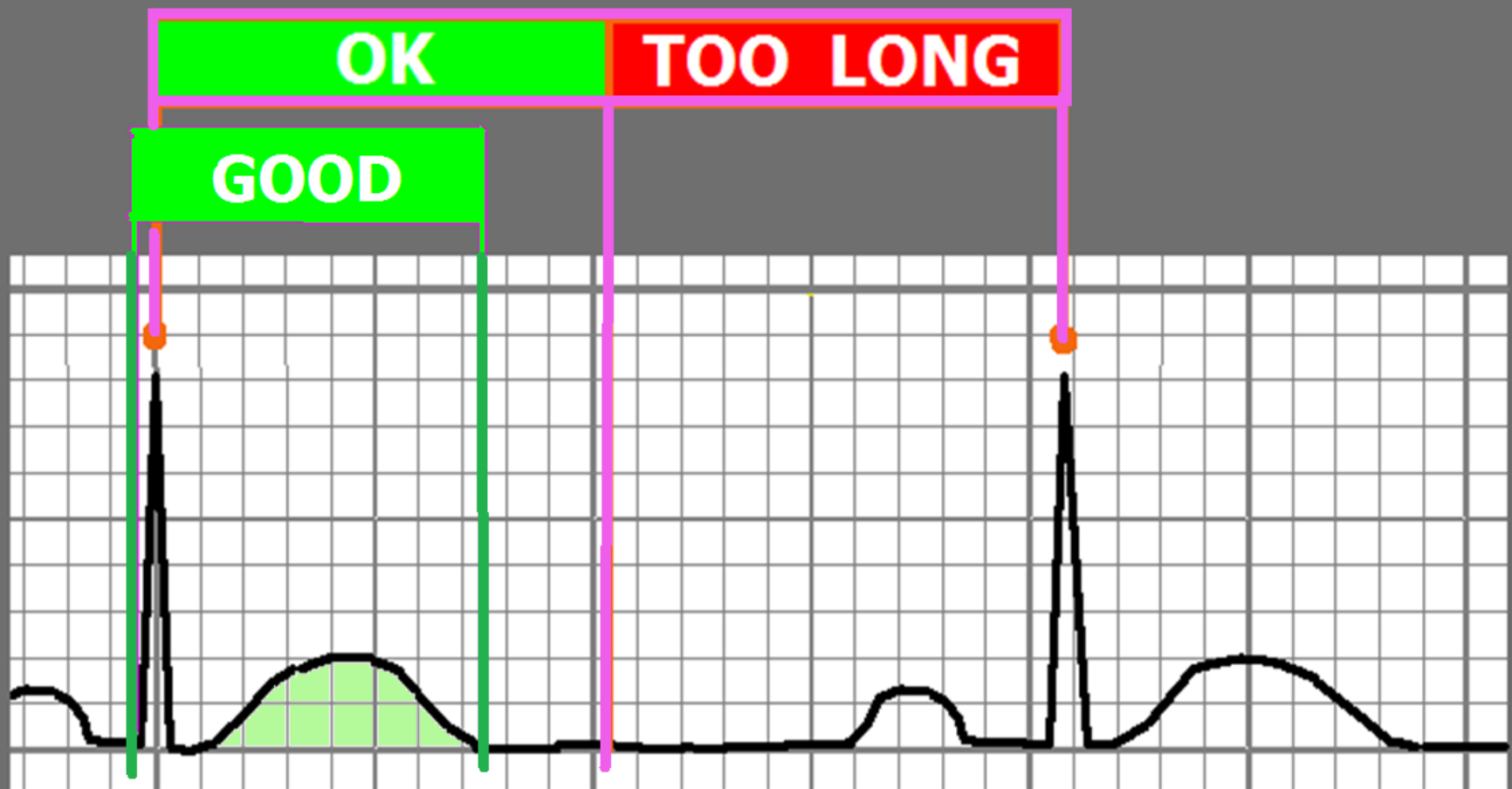
# DETERMINING Q-T INTERVAL LIMITS

## THE "QUICK PEEK" METHOD

- ➡ Relatively accurate method to quickly identify patients with abnormal QT Intervals.
- Applies to patients with normal heart rates (60-100) and narrow QRS (QRSd <120ms)



The Q - T Interval  
should be LESS THAN  $\frac{1}{2}$  the  
R - R Interval



The Q - T Interval  
should be LESS THAN  $\frac{1}{2}$  the  
R - R Interval



# Determining the QT / QTc

## Method 1 – 12 Lead ECG Report:

Standard 12 Lead ECG  
printout . . .

Heart Rate = 83

QT Interval = 357

QTc = 420

Rate 83 . Sinus rhy  
. Borderlin

PR 183

QRSD 88

QT 357

QTc 420

--AXIS--

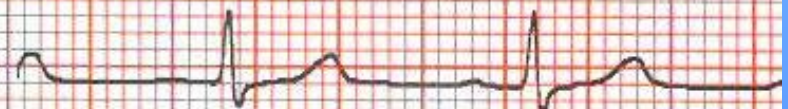
P 70

QRS 41

T -1

12 Lead; Standard Place

I



# Determining the QTc

## Method 4, Use a Smartphone App:

- **iPhone**

- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/corrected-qt-interval-qtc/id1146177765?mt=8>

- **Android**

- <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.medsam.qtccalculator&hl=en>

“There’s  
an APP  
for  
that!”

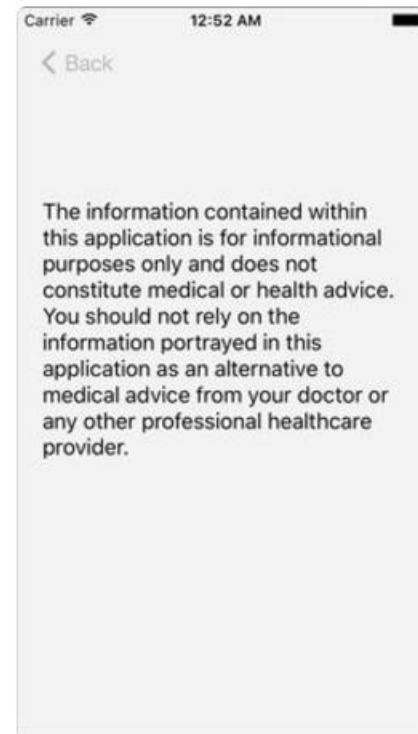
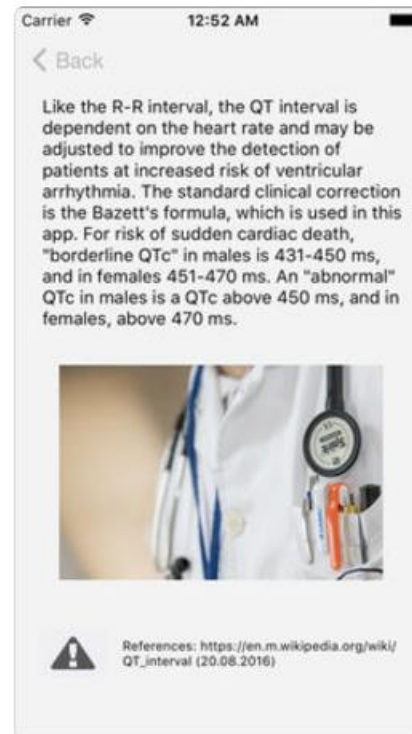
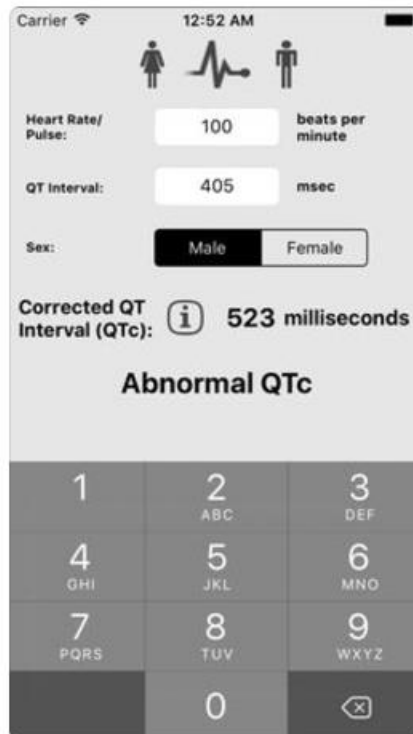


## Corrected QT Interval (QTc) 17+

Daniel Juergens

\$0.99

### iPhone Screenshots



# Determining the QTc

## Method 3, Use a Web-based App:



Calculators ▶ Heart and Chest, Critical Care

### QT Interval Correction (EKG)

Share

Input:

QT Interval	<input type="text" value="310"/>	<input type="text" value="msec"/>	▼
Heart Rate	<input type="text" value="88"/>	<input type="text" value="bpm"/>	▼

Results:

RR Interval	<input type="text" value="682"/>	<input type="text" value="msec"/>	▼
QTI Corrected	<input type="text" value="375"/>	<input type="text" value="msec"/>	▼

Our patient's QTc = 375 ms.



Decimal Precision:

# QTc Values:

**Too Short:** **< 390 ms**

## **Normal**

**-Males:** **390 - 450 ms**

**-Females:** **390 - 460 ms**

## **Borderline High**

**-Males:** **450 - 500 ms**

**-Females:** **460 - 500 ms**

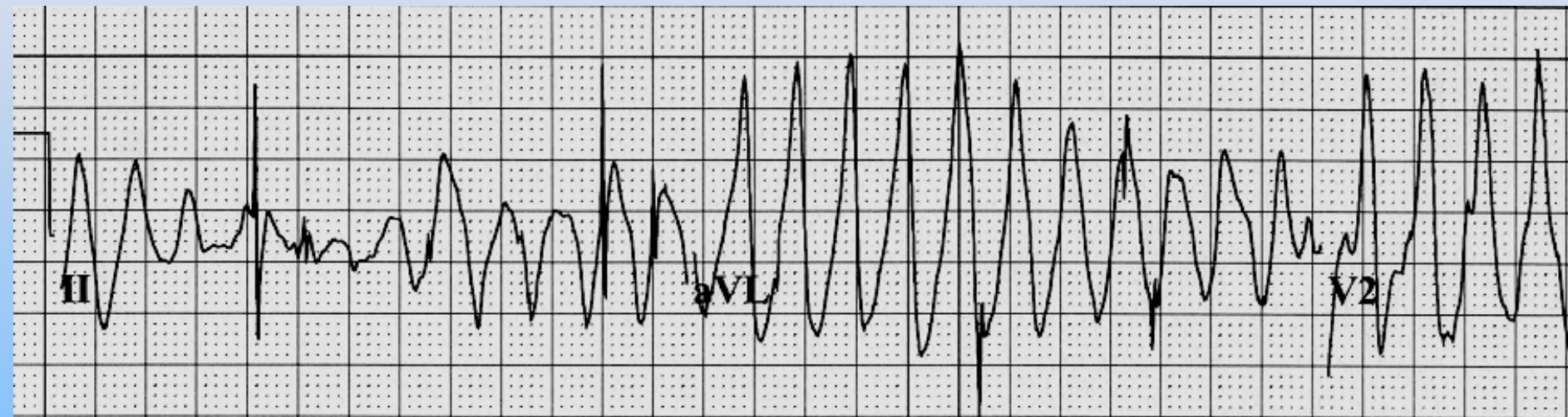
**High (All Genders):** **500 - 600 ms**

## **Critical High**

**(associated with TdP):** **600 + ms**

SOURCE: "ACC/AHA/HRS Recommendations for Standardization and Interpretation of the ECG, Part IV: The ST Segment, T and U Waves, and the QT Interval" Rautaharju et al 2009

# Dysrhythmia Associated with Mortality, Triggered by LQTS: *Torsades de Pointes*



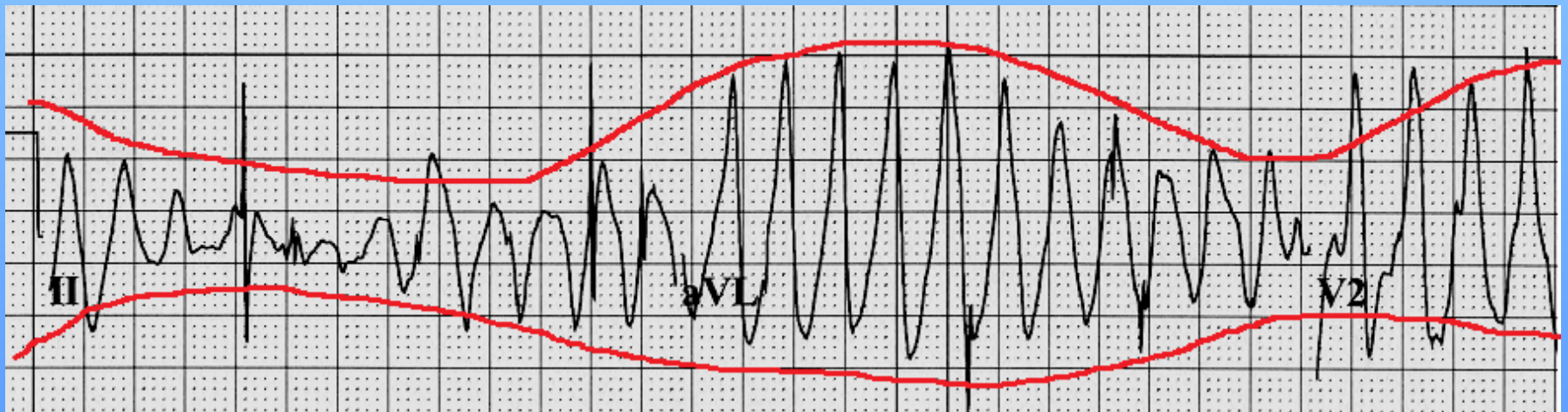
## Torsades de Pointes (TdP) – **HEMODYNAMICS:**

- **Decreased – to – NO Cardiac Output**
- **Often patient PULSELESS during episode**
- **Patients often report SYNCOPÉ when TdP self-terminates.**
- **May DETERIORATE into VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION and CARDIAC ARREST. (“Sudden Death”)**

# ECG Characteristics of TdP: The QRS Pattern of *Torsades de Pointes* resembles . . . . .



*a piece of Twisted Ribbon !*



**22 y/o FEMALE**

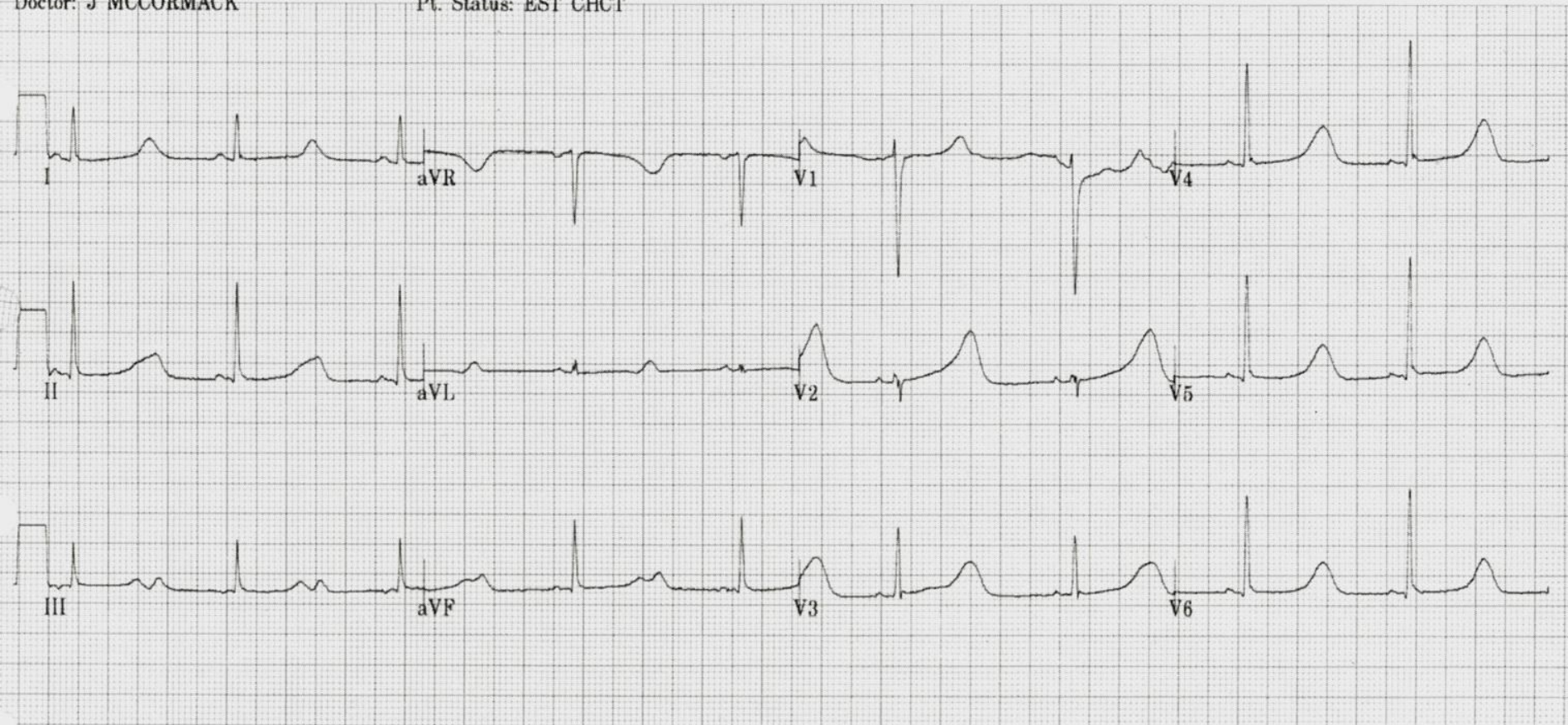
Vent. rate 53 bpm  
PR interval 110 ms  
QRS duration 84 ms  
QT/QTc 678/636 ms  
P-R-T axes 25 60 48

PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

**Chief Complaint: “Grand-Mal Seizures”  
.... With NO postictal phase!**

Doctor: J MCCORMACK

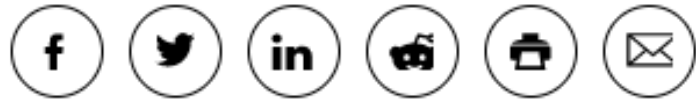
Pt. Status: EST CHCT



**WHEN THE “QUICK PEEK” METHOD for QT INTERVAL EVALUATION IS  
APPLIED TO THE ABOVE ECG, WHAT IS THE RESULT?**

# Long QT Syndromes and Torsade de Pointes

Gan-Xin Yan



## I. Long QT syndrome: What every physician needs to know.

Long QT syndrome (LQTS) is an inherited disorder of delayed ventricular repolarization characterized by a prolonged QT interval on electrocardiography (ECG) and a

propensity to torsades de pointes (TdP). TdP by definition is: (1) a polymorphic ventricular tachycardia that occurs specifically under conditions of QT prolongation; and (2) it is almost always initiated by R-on-T ectopic beats. Clinical manifestations of TdP include syncope (fainting), seizure (epilepsy), or sudden cardiac death. As shown in Figure 1, an episode of sustained TdP was recorded in a patient aged 13 years with LQTS type 2. The episode during which the boy had "seizures" was triggered by the alarm clock in the early morning.

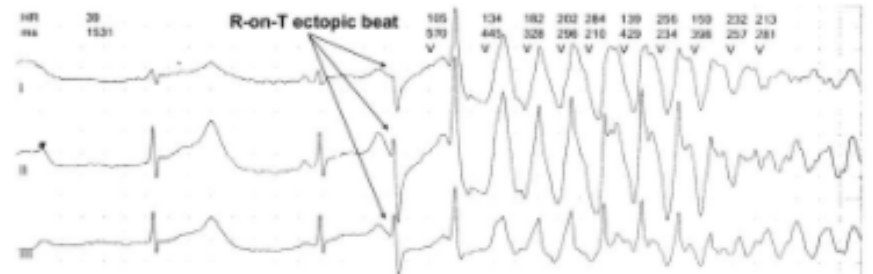
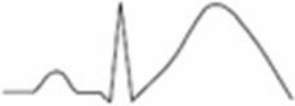
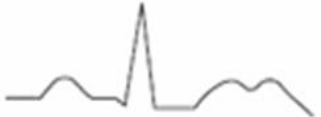
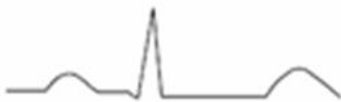


Figure 1:

Torsade de pointes in a long QT syndrome type 2 patient.

# GENETICALLY ACQUIRED LONG QT SYNDROMES:

## ECG PATTERNS of 3 MOST COMMON VARIATIONS:

Type	Current	Functional Effect	Frequency Among LQTS	ECG <sup>12,13</sup>	Triggers Lethal Cardiac Event <sup>10</sup>	Penetrance*
LQTS1	K	↓	30%-35%		Exercise (68%) Emotional Stress (14%) Sleep, Repose (9%) Others (19%)	62%
LQTS2	K	↓	25%-30%		Exercise (29%) Emotional Stress (49%) Sleep, Repose (22%)	75%
LQTS3	Na	↑	5%-10%		Exercise (4%) Emotional Stress (12%) Sleep, Repose (64%) Others (20%)	90%

## **Etiology of Long QT Syndromes:**

### **Congenital** (14 known subtypes)

Genetic mutation results in abnormalities of cellular ion channels

### **Acquired**

Drug Induced

Metabolic/electrolyte induced

Very low energy diets / anorexia

CNS & Autonomic nervous system disorders

### **Miscellaneous**

Coronary Artery Disease

Mitral Valve Prolapse

# PROLONGED Q - T INTERVAL

THINK:

- CHECK K<sup>+</sup> AND MAG LEVELS
- POSSIBILITY OF TORSADES

# PROLONGED Q - T INTERVAL

THINK:

- CHECK K<sup>+</sup> AND MAG LEVELS
- POSSIBILITY OF TORSADES

***- QUESTION MEDS THAT PROLONG Q-T***

# QT Prolongation -- *STAT Intervention:*

 *Avoidance of Meds that are known to prolong the QT Interval. Click here for current list from CREDIBLEMEDS.ORG*

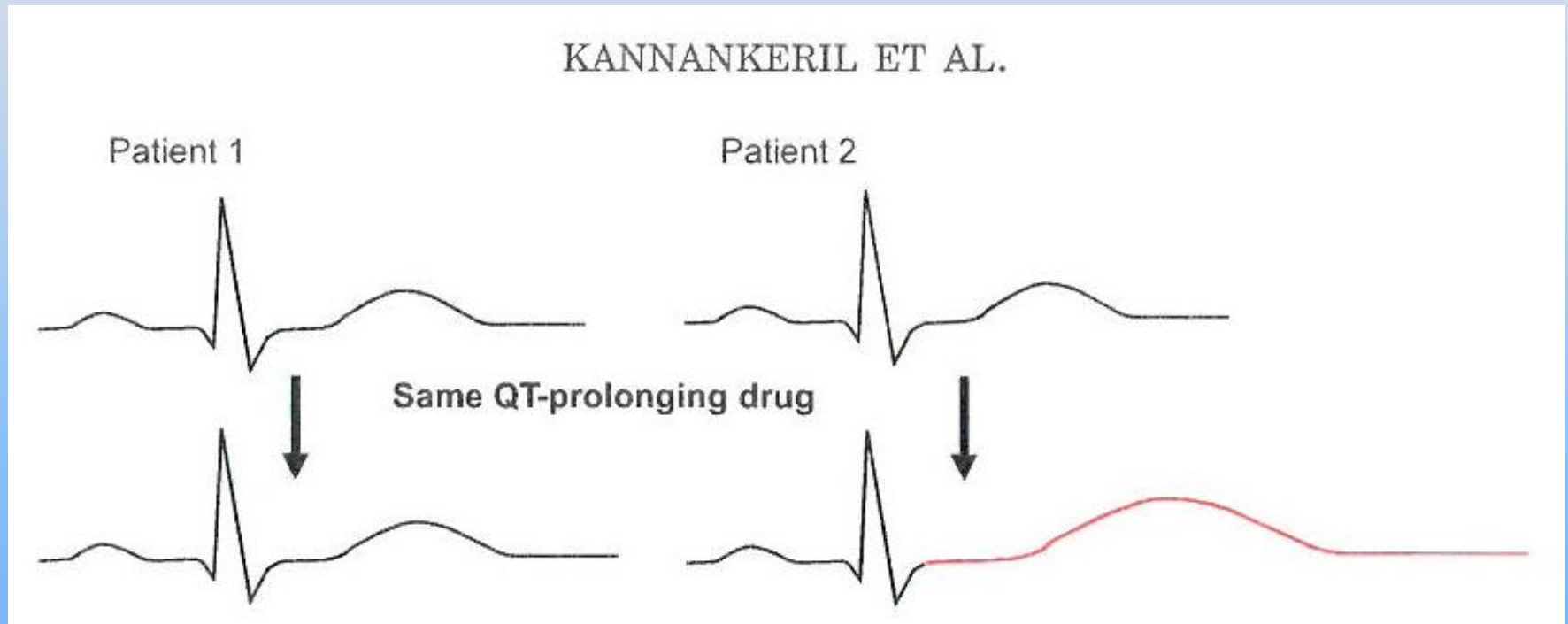
*Commonly used QT prolonging meds include:*

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>-Amiodarone</b>   | <b>-Ritalin</b>        |
| <b>-Procainamide</b> | <b>-Pseudophedrine</b> |
| <b>-Levaquin</b>     | <b>-Haloperidol</b>    |
| <b>-Erythromycin</b> | <b>-Thorazine</b>      |
| <b>-Norpace</b>      | <b>-Propulcid</b>      |
| <b>-Tequin</b>       | <b>-Zofran</b>         |
| <b>-Benadryl</b>     | <b>-Ilbutilide</b>     |

***and MANY more!***

PATIENT 1: NORMAL

PATIENT 2: Genetic susceptibility; sensitivity to QT prolonging drugs:



[Click here for link to paper by Kannankeril et al \(2010 Pharmacological Reviews\) that describes genetic susceptibility described above.](#)



**Bayfront Health**  
**Dade City**

Policy, Procedure and Protocol

<b>Policy Title: QTc Interval Monitoring</b>	<b>Function Team: Medication Management</b>
<b>Department: Pharmacy</b>	<b>Effective Date: 11/15</b>
<b>Prepared by: William Parker, PharmD, CGP, Derek Harmeson, RN, BSN; Wayne Ruppert, CVT, CCCC</b>	
<b>Date(s) Reviewed: 11/15</b>	<b>Date(s) Revised: N/A</b>
<b>Approvals: __X__P&amp;T __X__MEC</b>	

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1. To establish a protocol and process by which the Pharmacy and Nursing departments can monitor QTc intervals in patients at high risk for QTc prolongation and subsequently decrease the risk for sudden cardiac death

2. POLICY:

- 2.1. The Policy, Procedure and Protocol will be utilized selectively and appropriately by the Pharmacy and Nursing staff in order to evaluate and monitor patients at high risk for QTc prolongation and decrease their risk for arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death

[Click here to download QTc Interval Monitoring Policy](#)

## Results of QTc Monitoring Protocol - Trial - March 8 - March 22

In patients with QTc 500 or more (indicated by red arrow → ), QT prolonging drugs were discontinued and substituted with non-QT prolonging medications.

	3/8/2016	3/9/2016	3/10/2016	3/11/2016	3/14/2016	3/15/2016	3/16/2016	3/17/2016	3/18/2016	3/21/2016	3/22/2016
<b>PATIENT:</b>											
A	389	400									
B	425	437									
→ C	469	479	528	470	630	500	480				
D	465	426	400	370	470						
→ E	559	495	480								
F	418										
G			370	420	460	420	460				
H			390	420							
I			416	430							
J			400	400							
K			435								
L			410	400	430	410	440	420	478	430	
→ M					510						
N					480						
O	QTc	Men	Women		470						
→ P	Abnormal	>450	>460		500						
Q	Panic	500+	500+			400	420	400	413		
R						440					
S						430	440	460			
T							400	480			
U								430			
V									491		
W									441	440	440
→ X											530
Y											460
Z											390

### QTc Medications - Monitoring Protocol

developed by: William Parker, Director of Pharmacy, Bayfront Health Dade City  
Derek Harmeson, Director of ICU/CPCU  
Wayne Ruppert, Cardiovascular Coordinator, Bayfront Health Dade City

**Bayfront Health Dade City is a 120 bed community hospital with an accredited chest pain center and an interventional cardiac catheterization program in Dade City, Florida.**

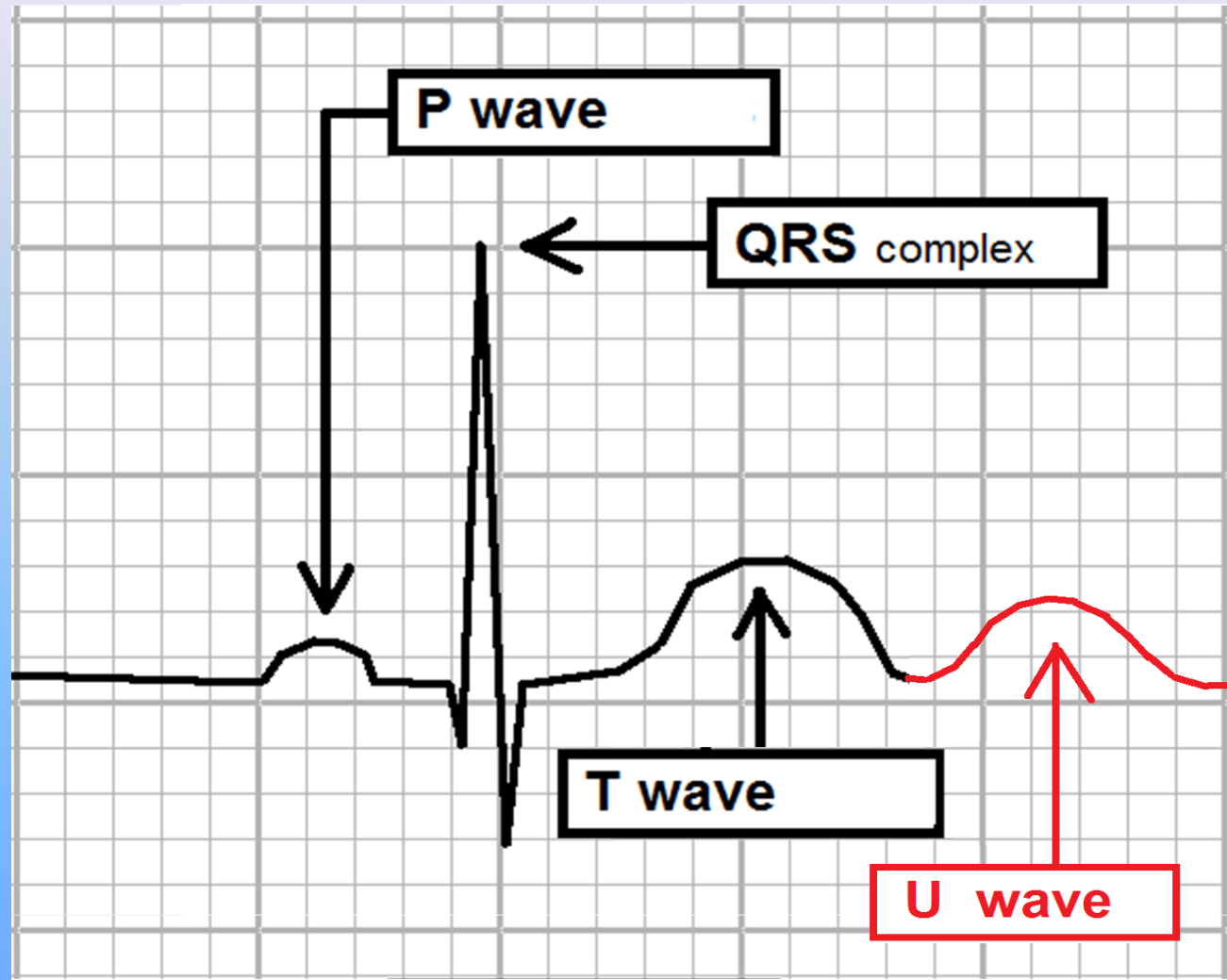
[Click for link to: “Predicting the Unpredictable;  
Drug-Induced QT Prolongation and Torsades de  
Pointes: \*J Am Coll Cardiol\*. 2016;67\(13\):1639-  
1650](#)

[Click for link to “AHA ACC Scientific Statement:  
Prevention of Torsades de Pointes in the Hospital  
Setting,” AHA Circulation 2010;](#)

[Click for link to hospital model policy & procedure  
for: “QT Prolonging Medications; QT interval  
monitoring”](#)

# U Waves

Occasionally an extra wave is noted after each T wave. It typically resembles *“a secondary T wave.”*



When present on the ECG, this “extra” waveform is referred to as a **“U Wave.”**

# U Waves . . .

- Common U wave Etiology:
  - **Hypomagnesemia\***
  - **Hypokalemia\***
  - **Hypercalcemia\***
  - **QT prolonging medications\***
  - **Increased intracranial pressure\***
  - **Hypothermia\***
  - **Digitalis** (usually *shortens* the QT Interval)

**\* *These are also causes of QT interval prolongation.***

# Abnormal U Waves

***INCLUDE the U Wave in the QT Interval measurement*** when any one or more criteria are present:

- U wave 100% (or more) the size of the T wave.
- U wave is INVERTED (opposite polarity of T wave)
- U wave merged with the T wave

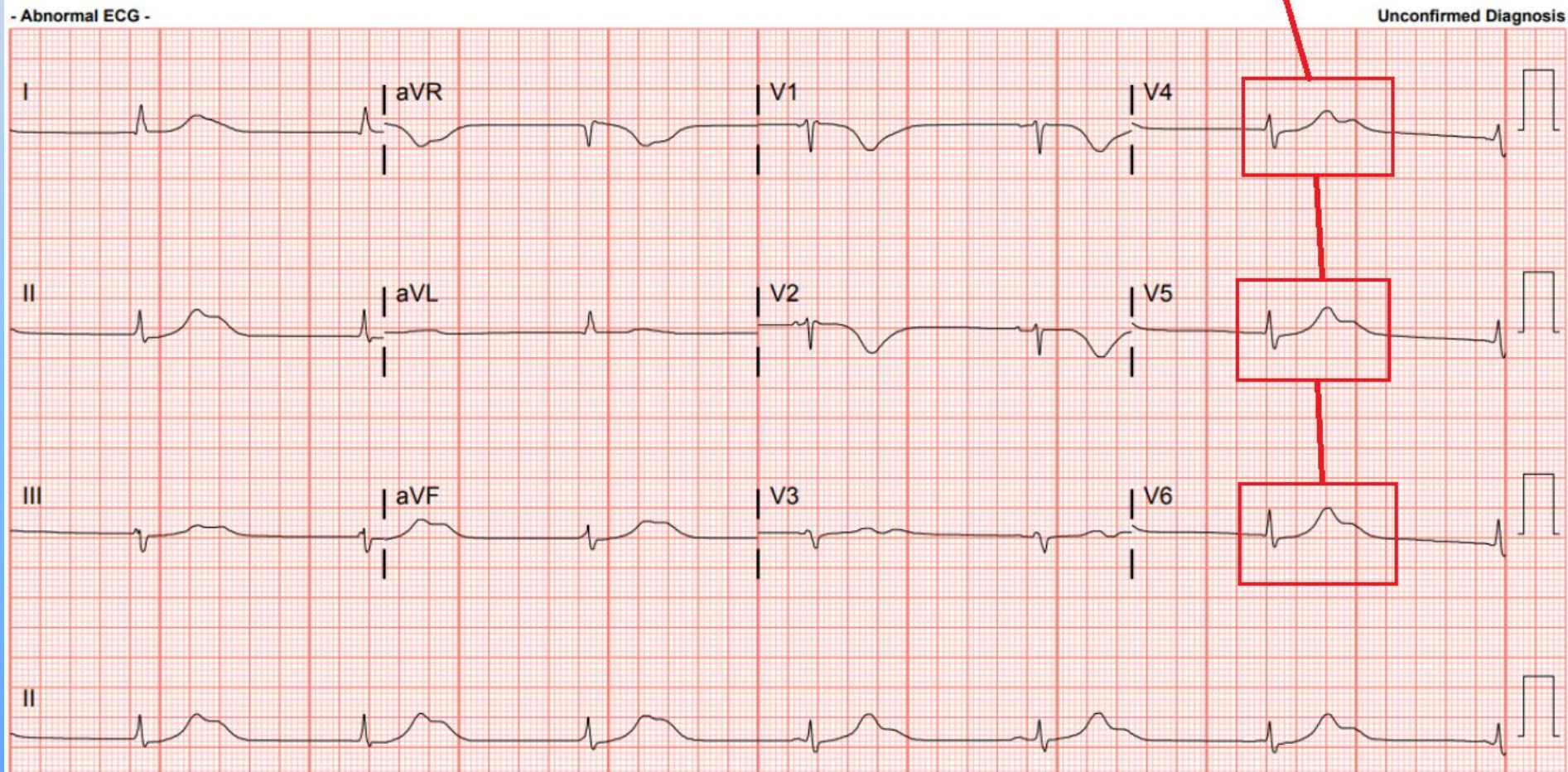
## EVIDENCE SOURCE:

ACC/AHA/HRS Recommendations for the Standardization and Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram Part IV: The ST Segment, T and U Waves, and the QT Interval.

Rate	40	Junctional rhythm
PR		Low voltage, extremity and precordial leads
QRSd	111	Prolonged QT interval
QT	693	NO PREVIOUS ECG AVAILABLE FOR COMPARISON
QTc	566	
--Axis--		
P		
QRS	-13	
T	48	

Req Provider:

"Merged T-U Waves"



I

aVR

V1

V4

II

aVL

V2

V5

III

aVF

V3

V6

**QT = 500ms****(QTc = 447ms)****QT = 760ms****(QTc = 672ms !)**

**This ECG illustrates the degree of variation that can be noted between different leads on the 12 Lead ECG. ALWAYS measure the QT Interval in the lead with the GREATEST value.**

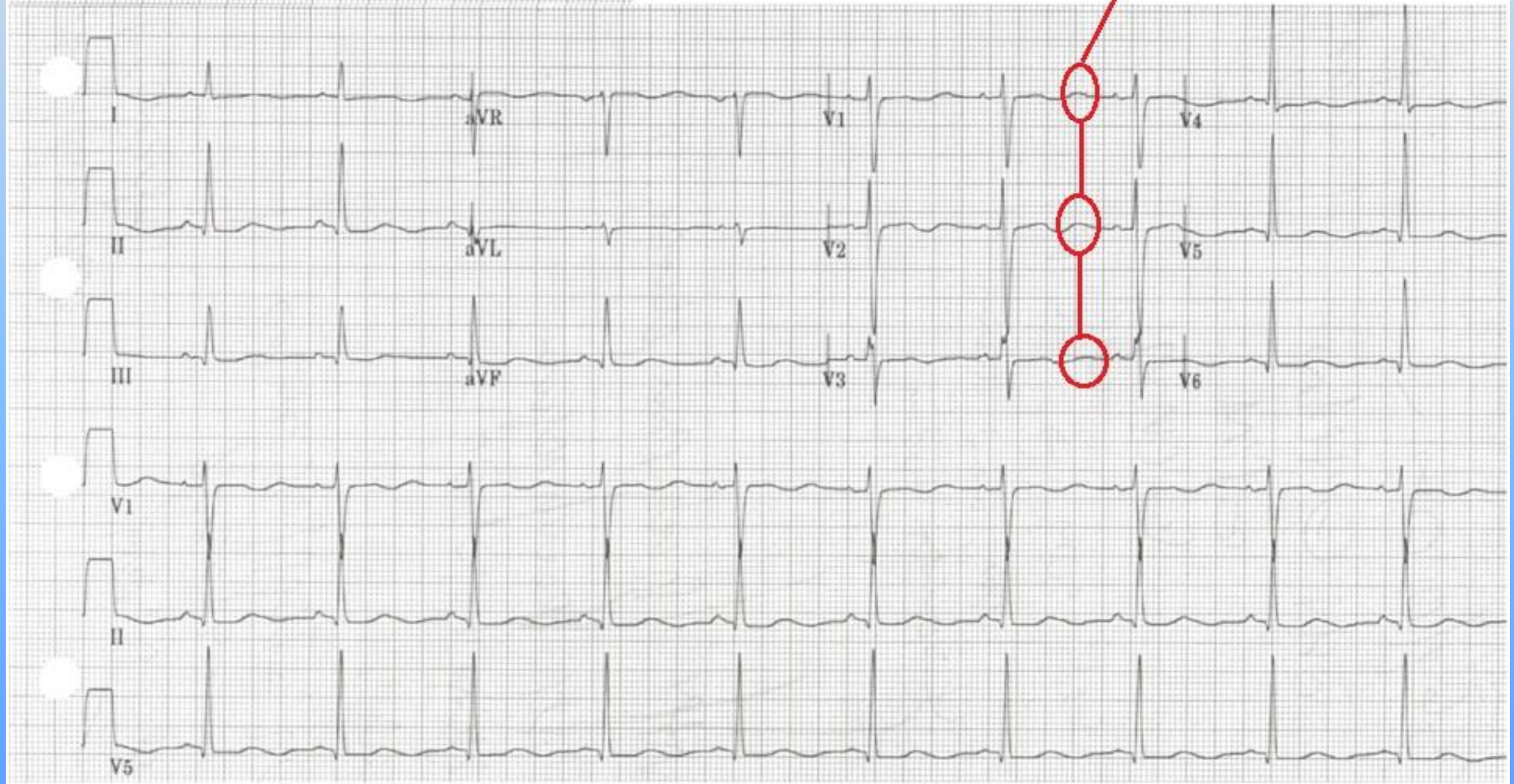
## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male

56years  
Male Caucasian  
Room: 3  
Loc: 3 Opt: 23  
Technician:

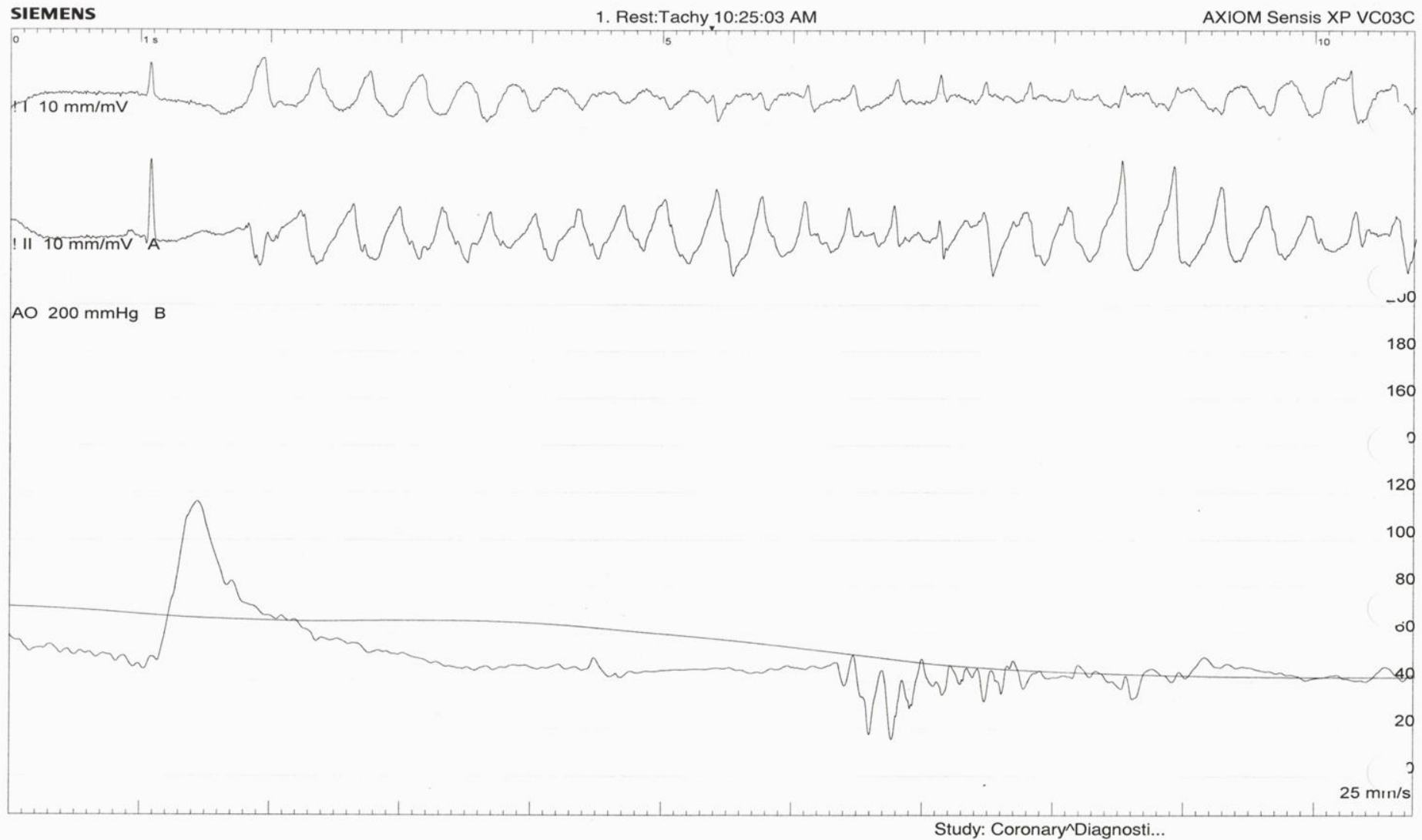
Vent. rate 64 bpm  
PR interval 152 ms  
QRS duration 104 ms  
QT/QTc 662/682 ms  
P-R-T axes 51 64 212

### "Syncope of Unknown Etiology"

30 days prior to this visit, patient started taking Ritalin. Since then he has reported multiple syncopal episodes. Notice the prominent U waves in Leads V1, V2 and V3.

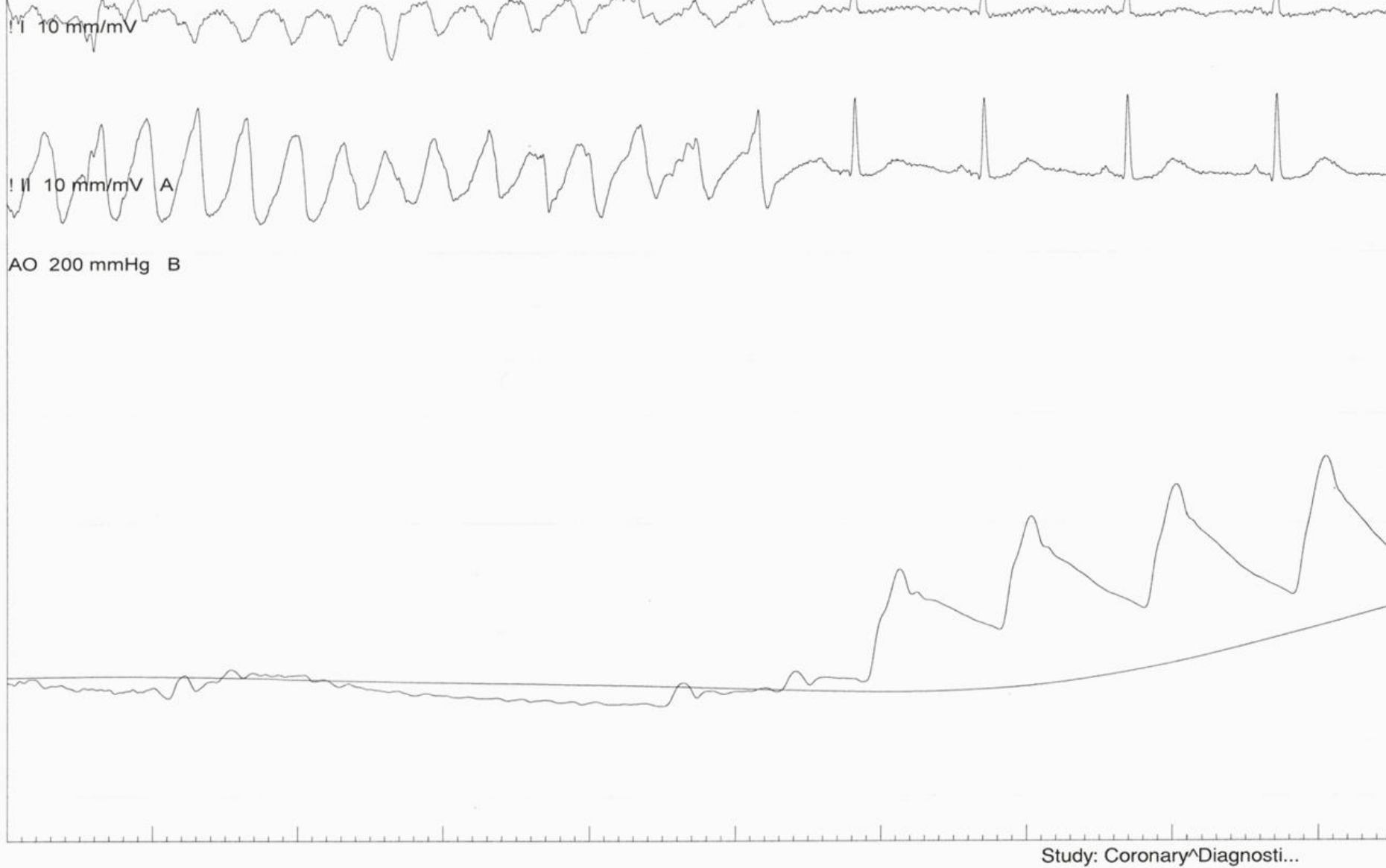


## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male



**Run of Torsades de Pointes occurred during Cardiac Catheterization . . .**

# Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male



**Torsades de Pointes self-terminates just before aborted Defibrillation**

## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male

56years  
Male Caucasian  
Room: Loc: 3 Opt: 23  
Vent. rate 64 bpm  
PR interval 152 ms  
QRS duration 104 ms  
QT/QTc 662/682 ms  
P-R-T axes 51 64 212

Technician:

*Ritalin was immediately discontinued.  
Within 48 hours, U waves were gone.  
No more incidents of syncope reported.*

**T U**



Rate	58	Sinus rhythm
PR	185	IVCD, consider atypical RBBB
QRSd	126	Baseline wander in lead(s) V2,V3,V4,V6
QT	668	COMPARED TO ECG 07/22/2020 16:56:59
QTc	657	SINUS RHYTHM NOW PRESENT

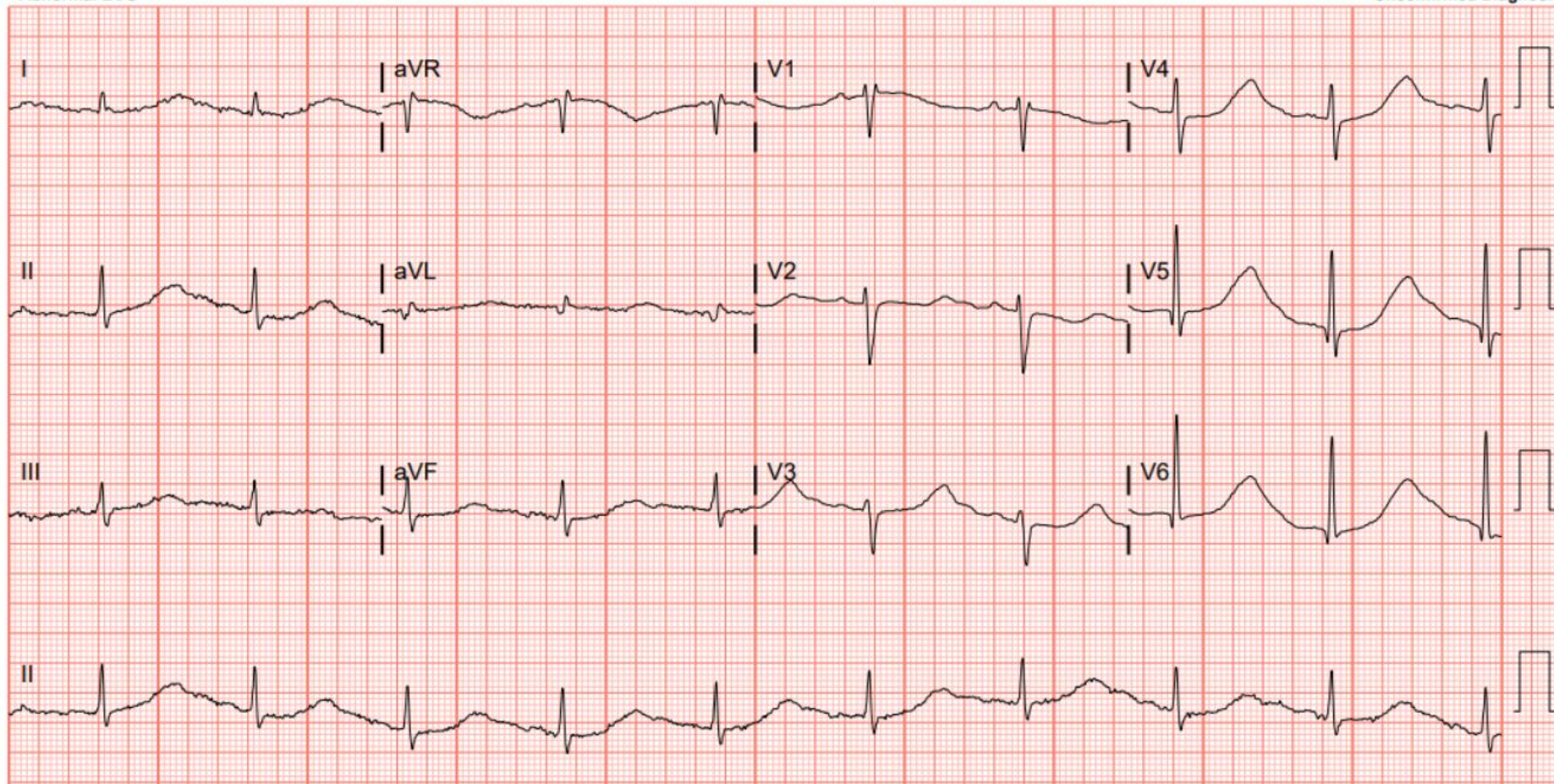
--Axis--

P	107
QRS	61
T	45

Req Provider: Rafael Santiago-Aponte

- Abnormal ECG -

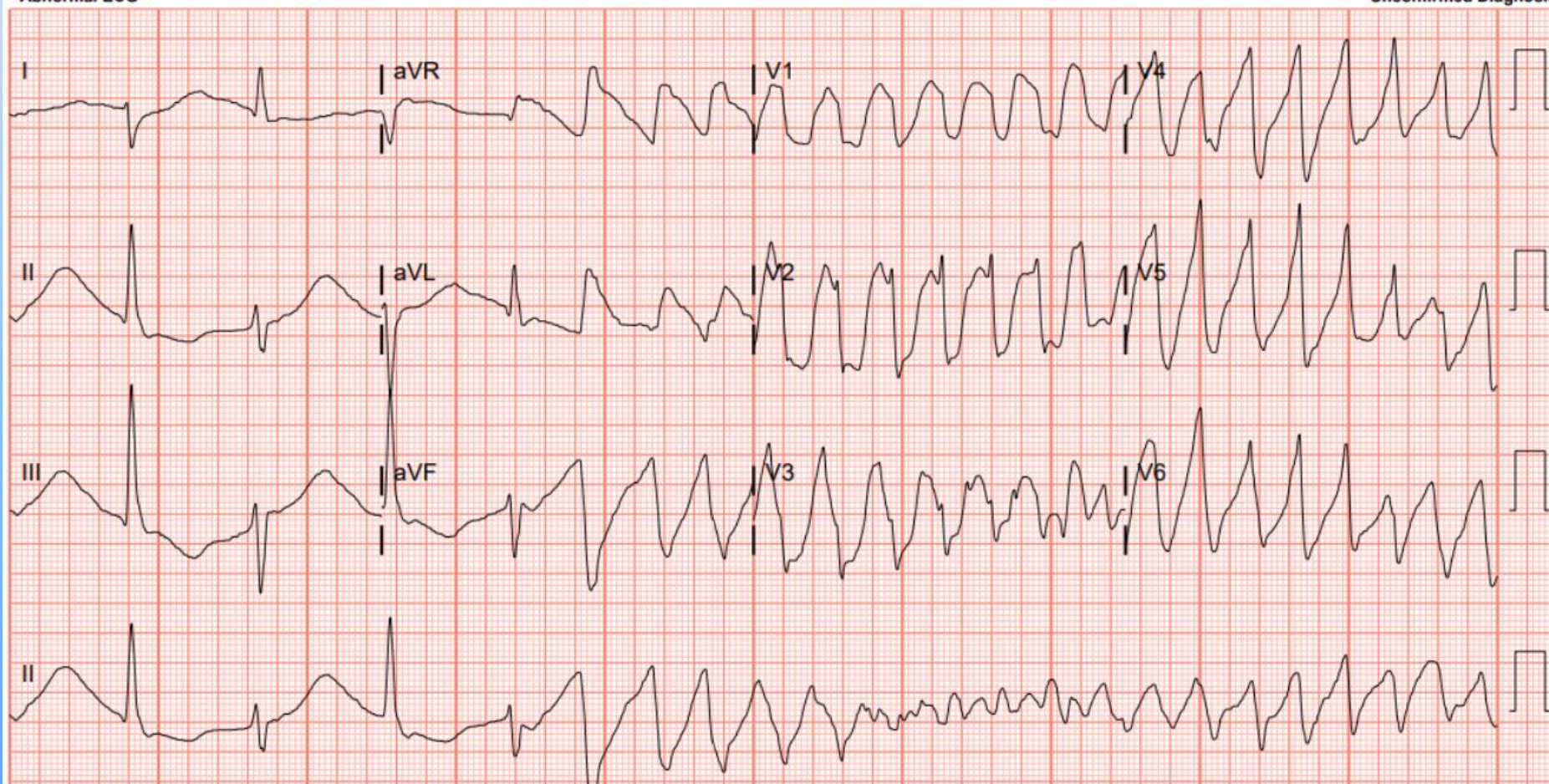
Unconfirmed Diagnosis



Rate	156	Atrial fibrillation
PR		Ventricular tachycardia, unsustained
QRSd	138	RBBB and LPFB
QT	456	Repol abnrm suggests ischemia, diffuse leads
QTc	735	Baseline wander in lead(s) II, III, aVR, aVF, V1, V2, V3, V4
--Axis--		
P		ATRIAL FIBRILLATION NOW PRESENT
QRS	102	VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
T	185	LEFT POSTERIOR FASCICULAR BLOCK NOW PRESENT
		RIGHT BUNDLE-BRANCH BLOCK NOW PRESENT
		POSSIBLE ISCHEMIA NOW PRESENT
		PROLONGED QT INTERVAL NO LONGER PRESENT

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis

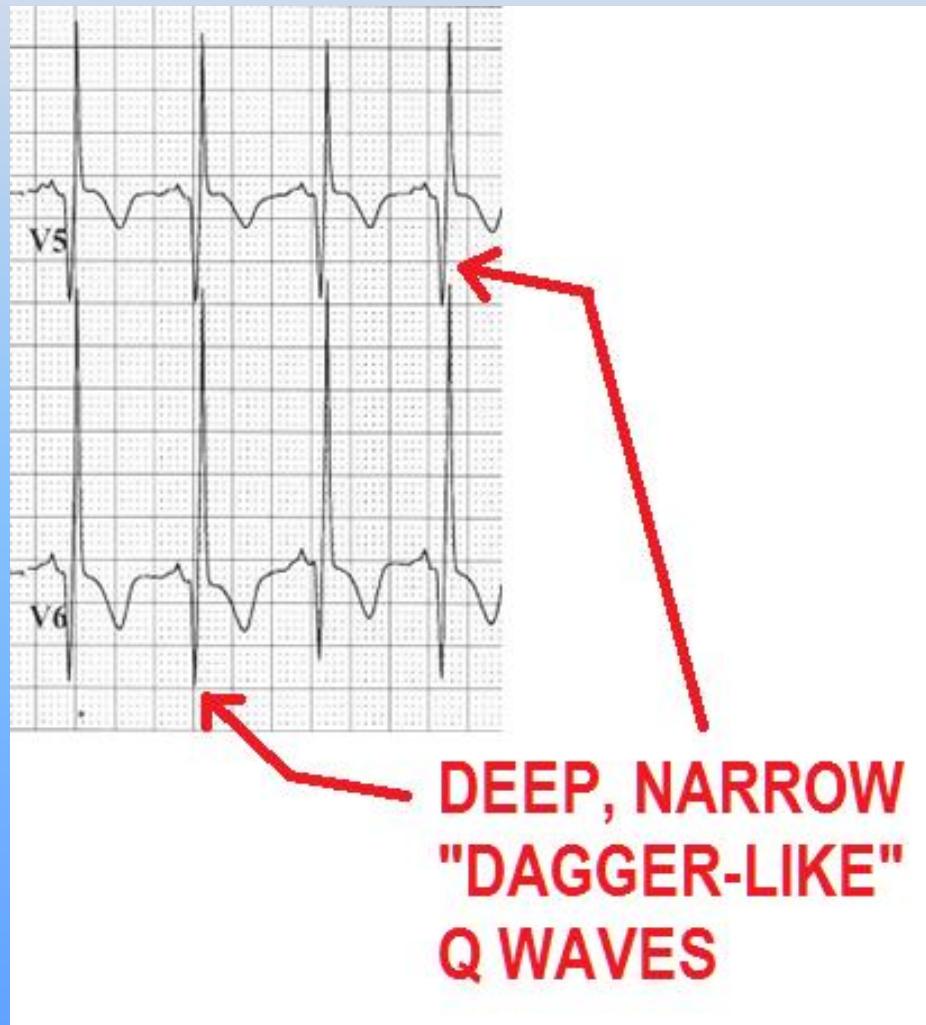


# **ECG Indicators:**

## **Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy**

- ECG may be normal
- Deep, narrow (dagger-like) Q waves

# ECG Indicators: Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

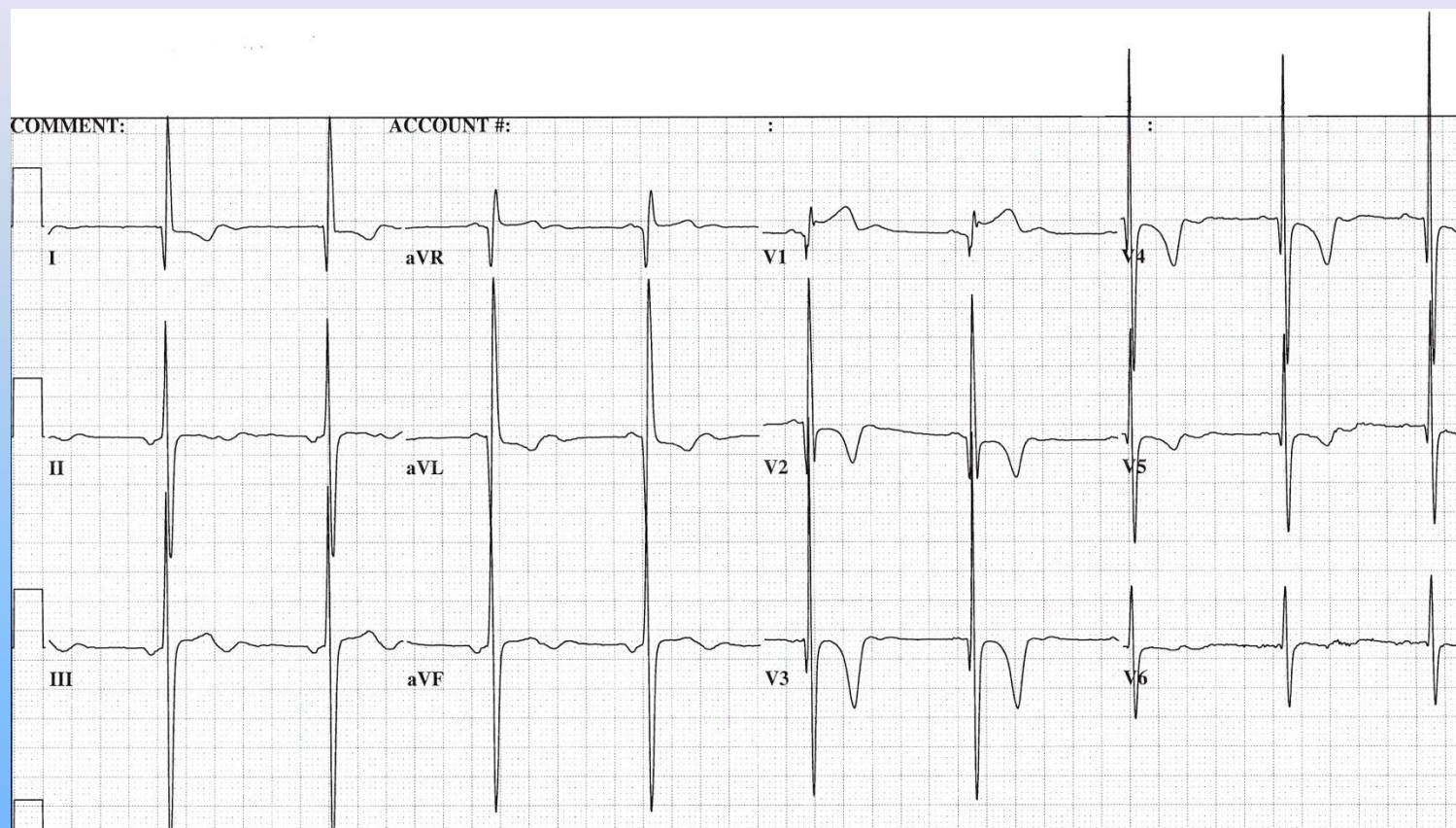


# ECG Indicators:

## Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

- ECG may be normal
- Deep, narrow (dagger-like) Q waves
- Inverted T waves in multiple regions
- Left Ventricular and possibly Left Atrial Hypertrophy

# Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)



## 12 Lead ECG Traits:

- QRS Height -- exceeds normal size, “spearing through QRS” in other leads
- Inverted T waves appear in multiple regions (ANTERIOR, LATERAL )
- BiPHASIC T waves in Inferior Leads.
- T WAVES are SYMMETRICAL .

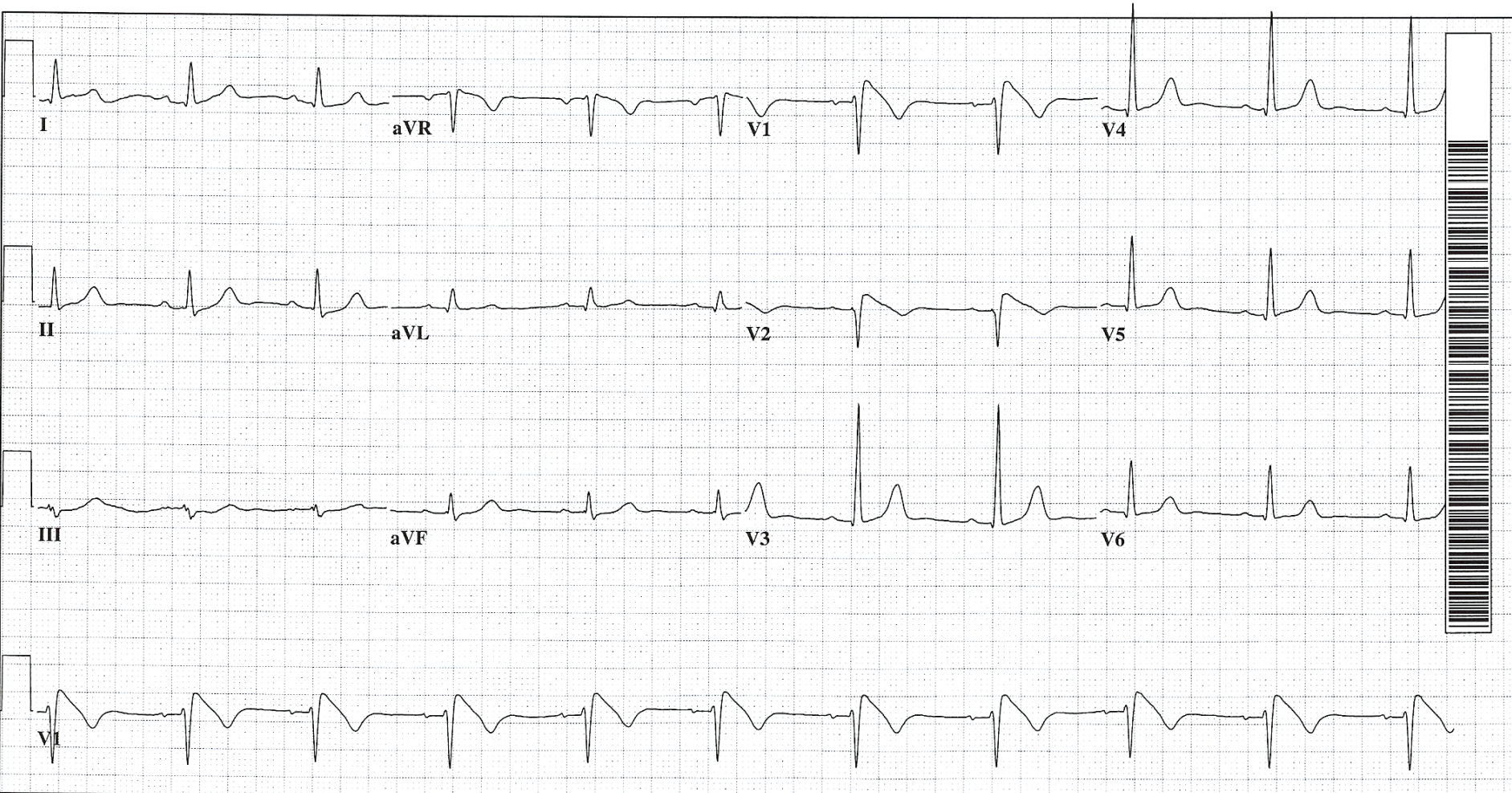
# **ECG Indicators: Brugada Syndrome**

**IS THERE ANYTHING  
ABNORMAL WITH THIS EKG ?**

37 yr	Vent. rate	62	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Female	PR interval	180	ms	Normal ECG
Caucasian	QRS duration	88	ms	No previous ECGs available
Room: C4A	QT/QTc	418/424	ms	
Loc: 3	P-R-T axes	37 22 47		
Option: 23				

Technician: .

Referred by:

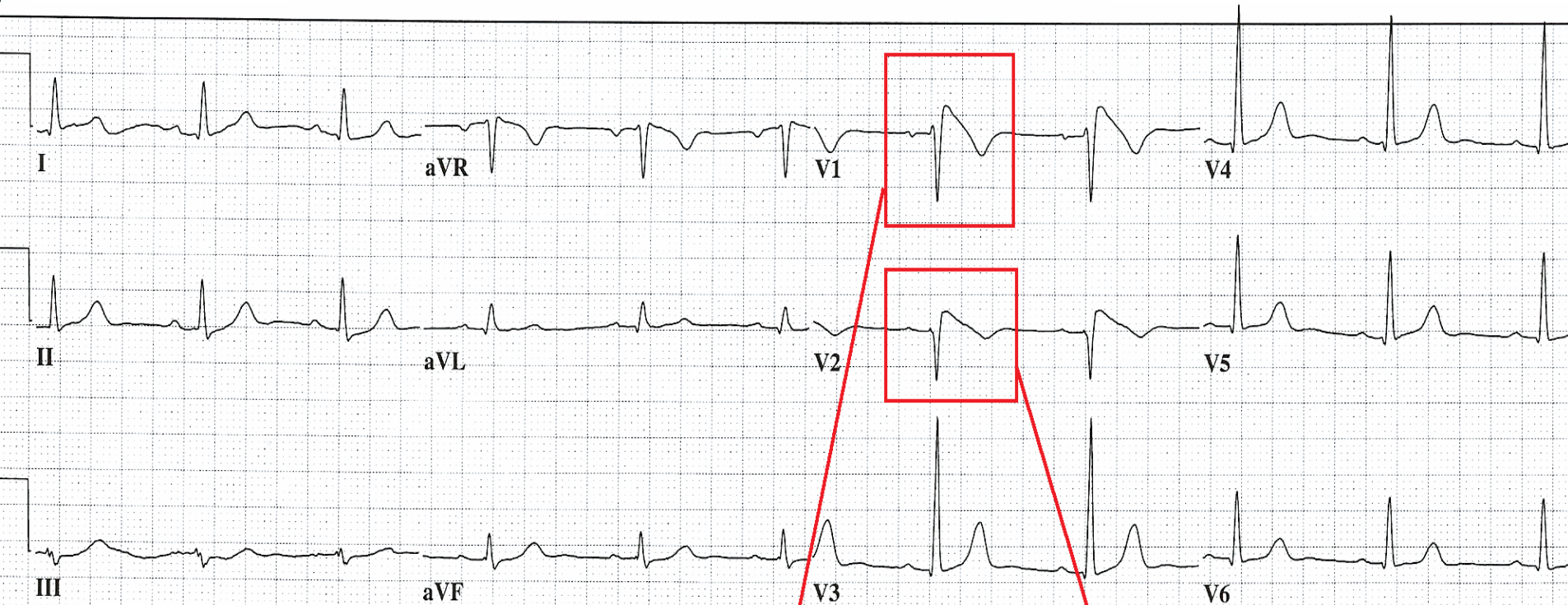


37 yr  
Female Caucasian

Vent. rate	62	BPM
PR interval	180	ms
QRS duration	88	ms
QT/QTc	418/424	ms
P-R-T axes	37 22 47	

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available

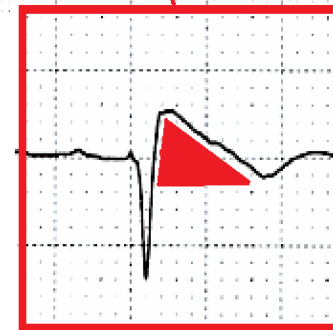
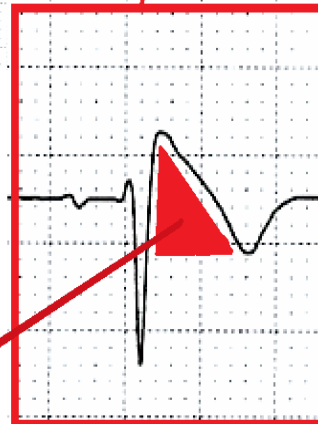
**NOTE COMPUTER  
INTERPRETATION !**



**THIS PATIENT EXHIBITS A "CLASSIC" TYPE I  
BRUGADA SYNDROME ECG PATTERN:**

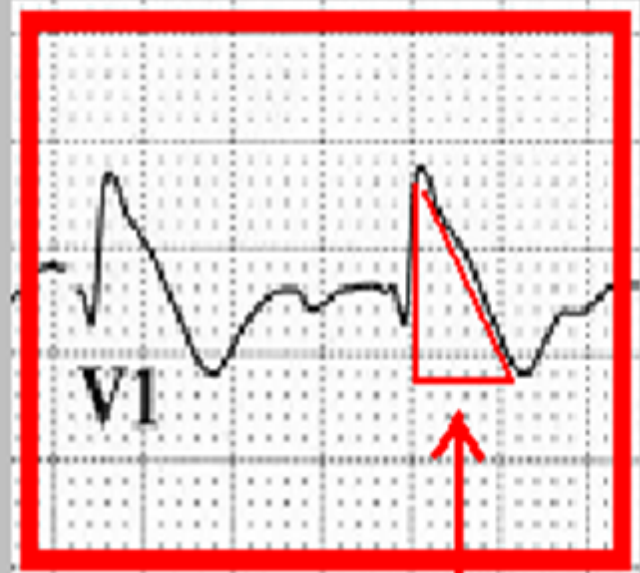
- ELEVATED J POINTS IN V1, V2
- DOWNSLOPING "COVED" ST SEGMENT
- INVERTED T WAVE.

**NEVER FORGET THE  
"TRIANGULAR" SHAPE !**



# BRUGADA SYNDROME

1. RBBB PATTERN
2. J POINT ELEVATION V1, V2 and possibly V3
3. DOWNWARD SLOPING S-T SEGMENT
4. INVERTED T WAVE
5. GIVES S-T SEGMENT A "TRIANGULAR" APPEARANCE



# PATTERNS of S-T ELEVATION :



***BEWARE of the***

**" TRIANGULAR "  
SHAPED S-T SEGMENT  
IN V1, V2, and some-  
times also in V3 . . .  
THINK - -**



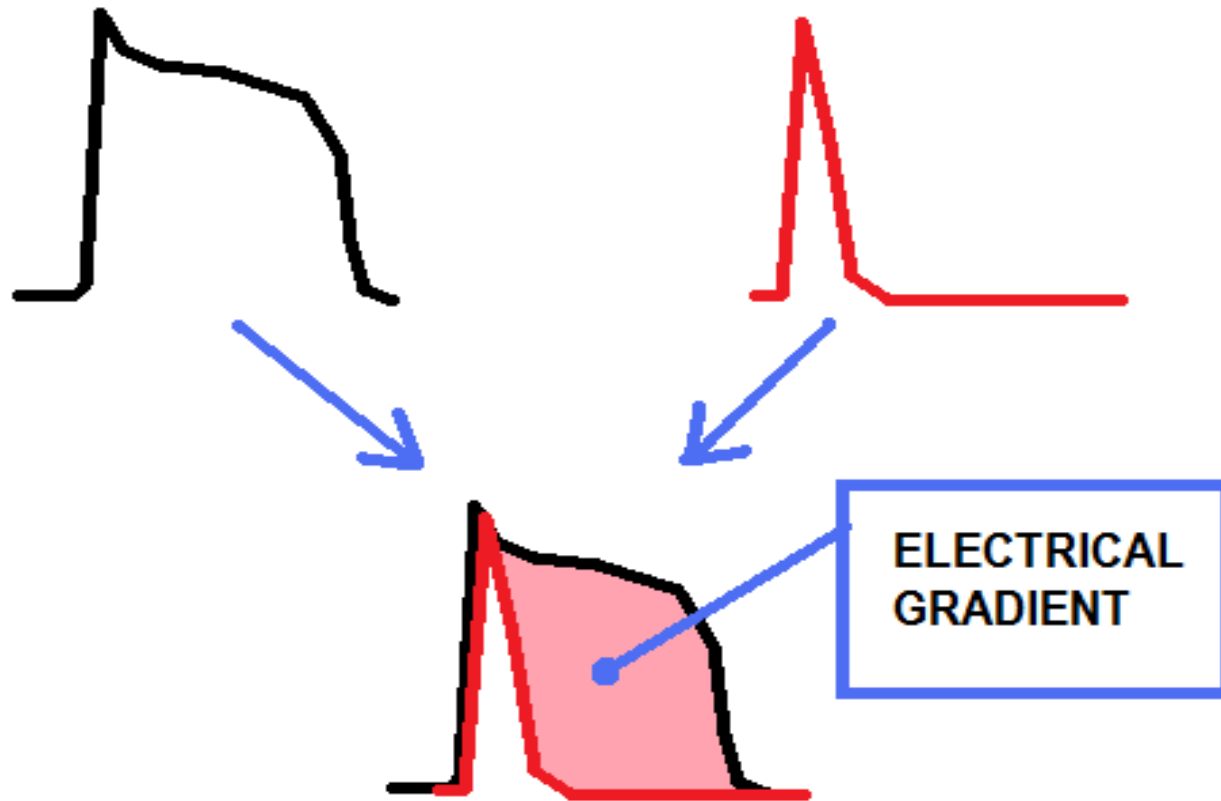
**BRUGADA SYNDROME**



## MECHANISM OF PHASE 2 RE-ENTRY IN BRUGADA SYNDROME

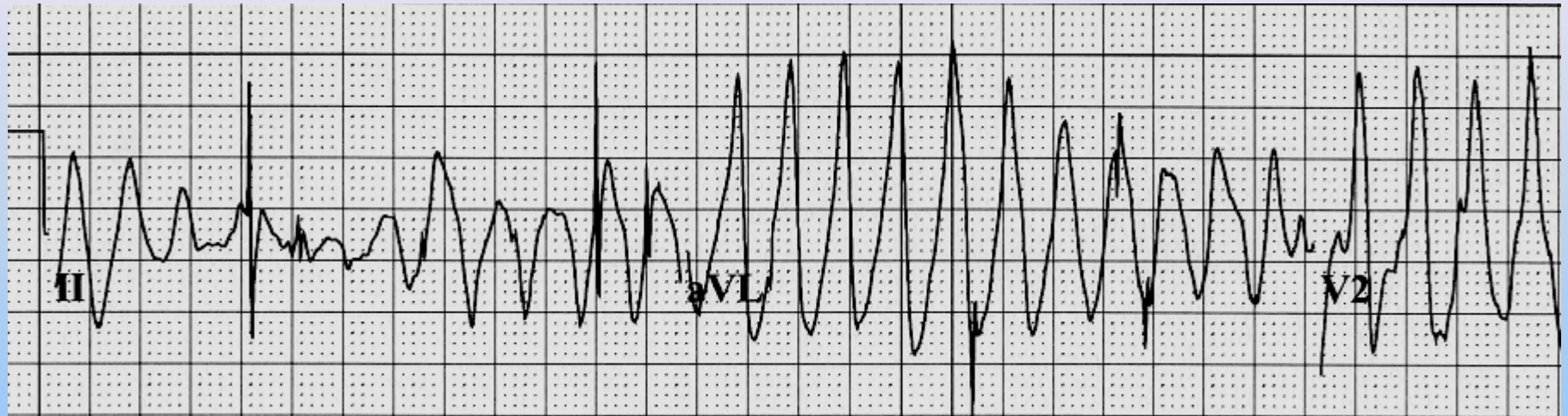
NORMAL ENDOCARDIAL  
ACTION POTENTIAL

ALTERED (SHORTENED) ACTION  
POTENTIAL OF EPICARDIAL CELLS



Trigger for Torsades de Pointes – ECTOPIC BEAT during  
The “ELECTRICAL GRADIENT” phase shown above.

## Brugada / Long QT Syndromes cause:



### Torsades de Pointes:

- Decreased – to – NO Cardiac Output
- Often patient PULSELESS during episode
- Causes SYNCOPÉ
- Often DETERIORATES into VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION and CARDIAC ARREST.

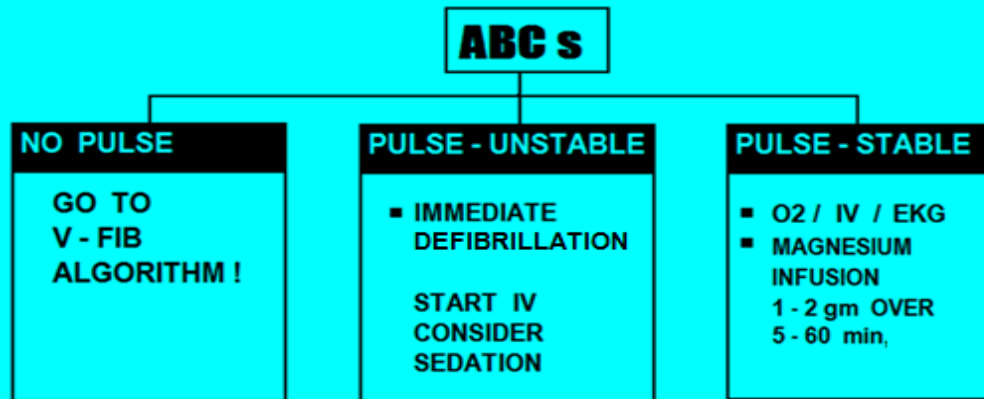
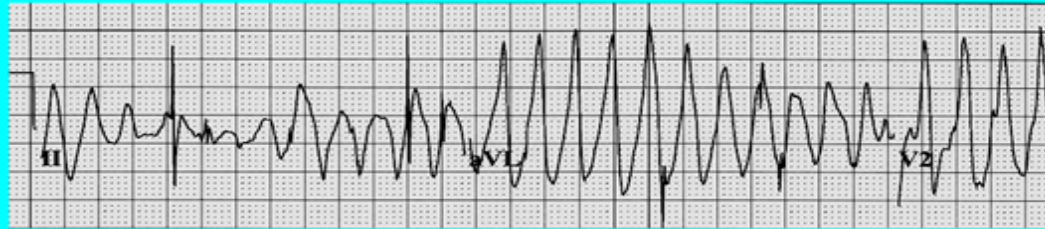
# **TREATMENT OF TORSADES de POINTES** **per AHA ACLS 2015:**

- TRANSIENT: MAGNESIUM SULFATE 1 – 2 gm IV infusion over 5 – 60 minutes.**
- PERSISTENT, PATIENT UNSTABLE:  
DEFIBRILLATION**
- CARDIAC ARREST: FOLLOW Ventricular Fibrillation Algorithm. Consider Mag Sulfate as your Antiarrhythmic of choice.**

# WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA

## TORSADES de POINTES

( QRS > 120 ms )



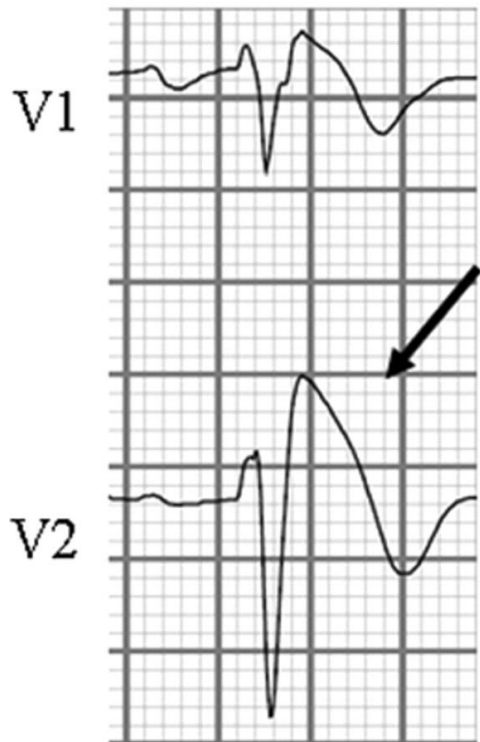
***DO NOT give PROCAINAMIDE, AMIODARONE, or SOTALOL  
to patients with TORSADES or POLYMORPHIC VT !!!***

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- EVALUATE BASELINE ECG RHYTHM FOR PRONGED Q-T INTERVAL.
- EVALUATE PATIENT'S MEDS FOR Q-T PROLONGING DRUGS
  - ... if PATIENT HAS BEEN RECEIVING ANY Q-T PROLONGING DRUGS, IMMEDIATELY DISCONTINUE AND CONTACT PHYSICIAN STAT.
- EVALUATE PATIENT HISTORY FOR PREVIOUS EVENTS OF "SYNCOPE OF UNKOWN ETIOLOGY"
- EVALUATE PATIENT FOR FAMILY HISTORY FOR SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

REPORT ANY ABNORMAL FINDINGS TO PHYSICIAN.

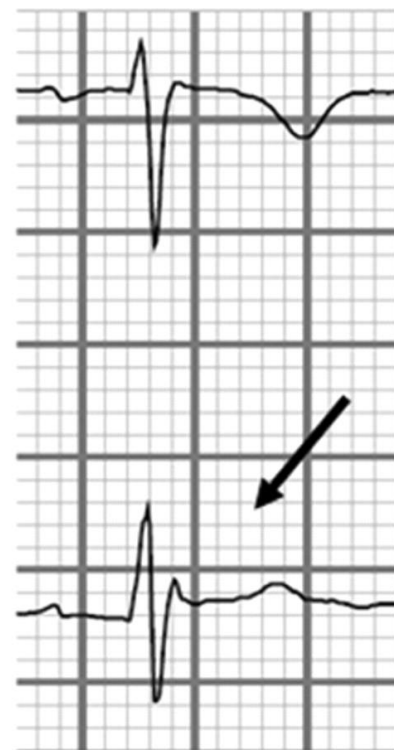
## ECG abnormality diagnostic or suspected of Brugada syndrome.



**Type 1:**  
**Coved type**  
**ST-segment**  
**elevation**



**Type 2:**  
**saddle-back type**  
**ST-segment**  
**elevation**



**Type 3:**  
**Saddle-back type**  
**“ST-segment**  
**elevation”**

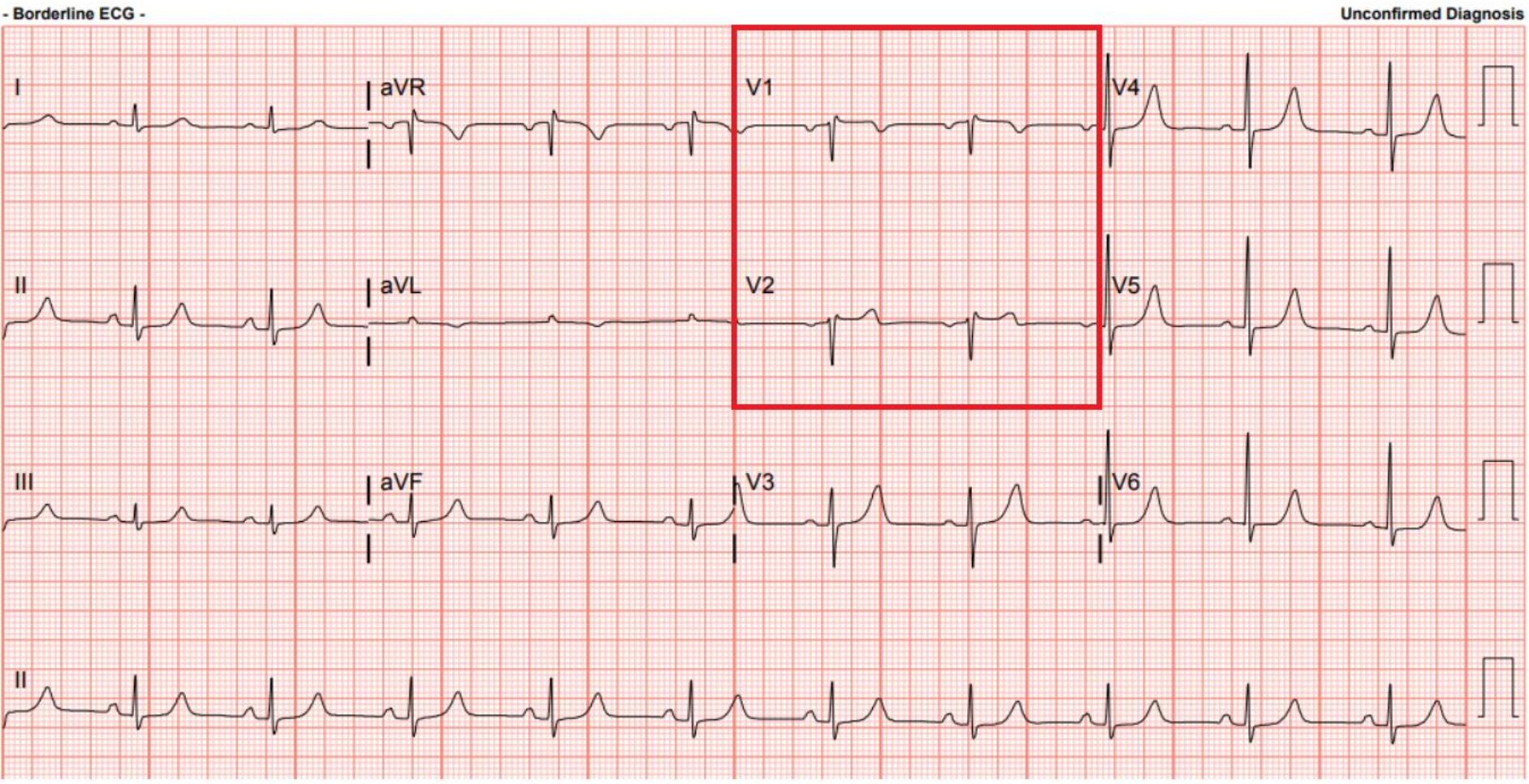
Yuka Mizusawa, and Arthur A.M. Wilde *Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol.* 2012;5:606-616

Rate 63 Sinus rhythm  
PR 168 Probable left atrial enlargement  
QRSd 85 RSR' in V1 or V2, right VCD or RVH  
QT 440 COMPARED TO ECG 09/27/2019 02:43:44  
QTc 451 RIGHT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY NOW PRESENT

--Axis--  
P 66  
QRS 27  
T 67

Req Provider: R POTU

Brugada Syndrome: Type 2 ECG  
Waveforms: "Saddleback" ST-T Waves  
V1 & V2

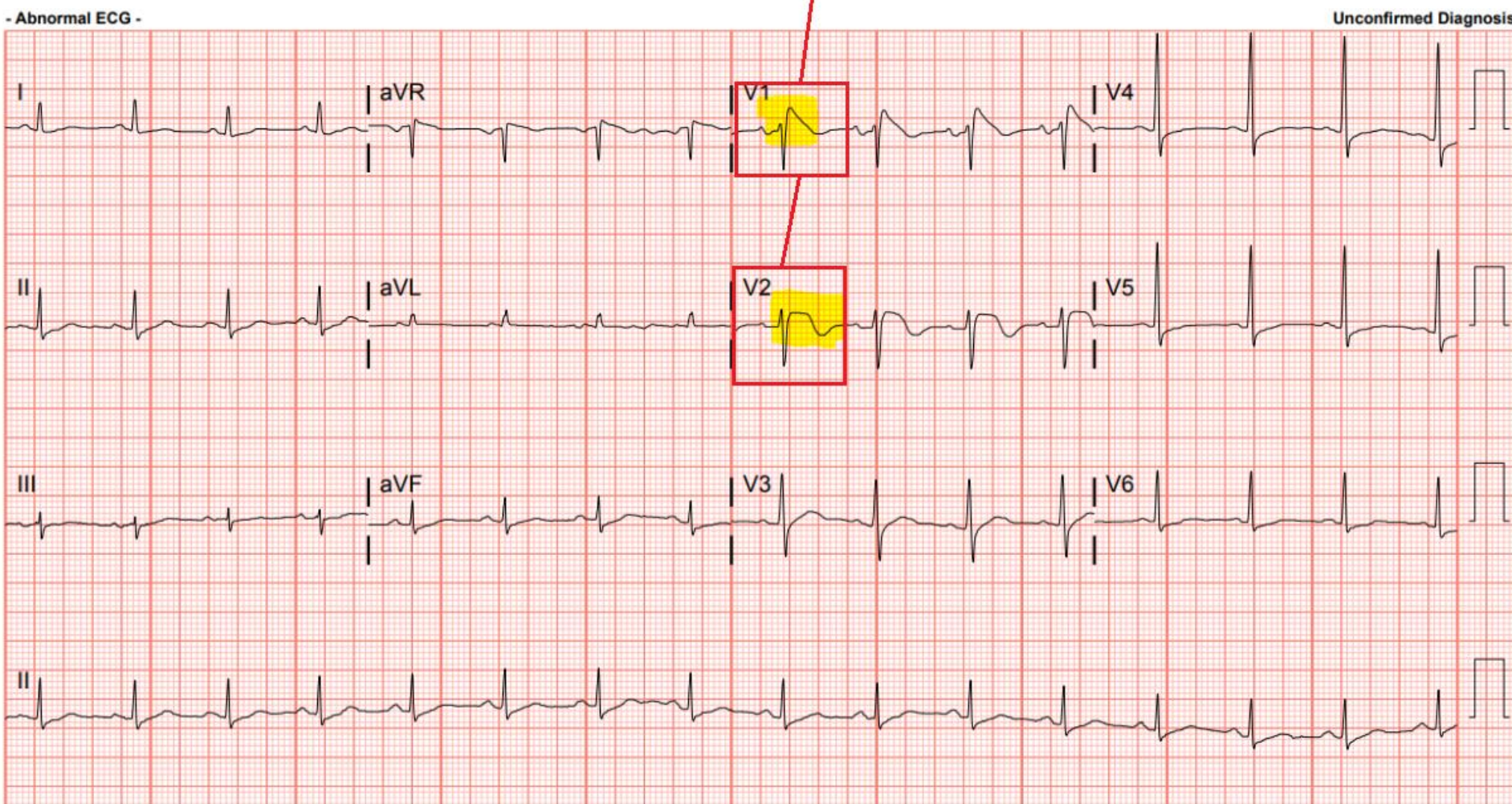


**For those who think  
*“Brugada  
Syndrome? – that  
kind of stuff doesn’t  
happen here”.....***

Rate	93	Sinus rhythm
PR	150	Probable left atrial enlargement
QRSd	66	Anteroseptal infarct, acute
QT	419	Prolonged QT interval
QTc	522	Baseline wander in lead(s) II, III, aVR, aVL, aVF
		COMPARED TO ECG 10/04/2019 10:50:56
P	42	PROLONGED QT INTERVAL NOW PRESENT
QRS	6	
T	47	

Req Provider:

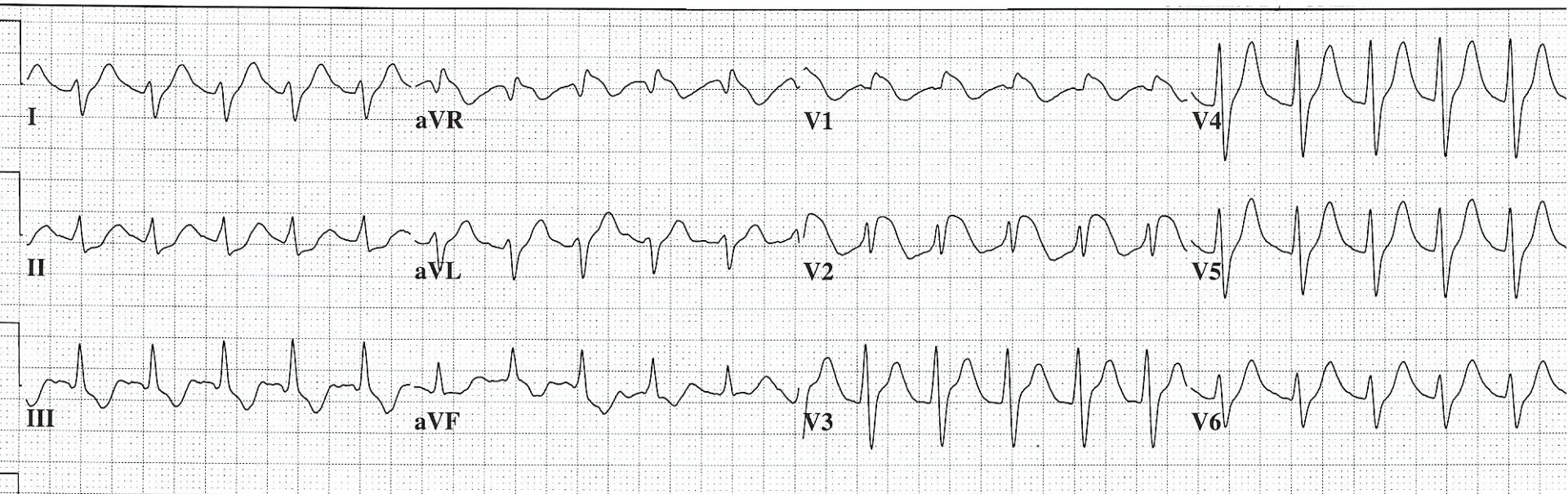
Notice the ECG computer has no idea what it's looking at . . .



**33 y/o FEMALE**

Vent. rate	129	BPM
PR interval	*	ms
QRS duration	112	ms
QT/QTc	398/583	ms
P-R-T axes	* 121	-2

Undetermined rhythm  
Incomplete right bundle branch block  
Right ventricular hypertrophy  
ST elevation consider anterior injury or acute infarct  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG  
No previous ECGs available



**PT. BROUGHT TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT BY EMS AFTER SUFFERING SPONTANEOUS CARDIAC ARREST. PATIENT DID NOT EXPERIENCE ANY SYMPTOMS PRIOR TO COLLAPSE. HAD SEVERAL EPISODES OF NEAR-SYNCOPE IN THE PAST 10 YEARS. CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION REVEALED NO EVIDENCE OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE. NORMAL LV FUNCTION.**

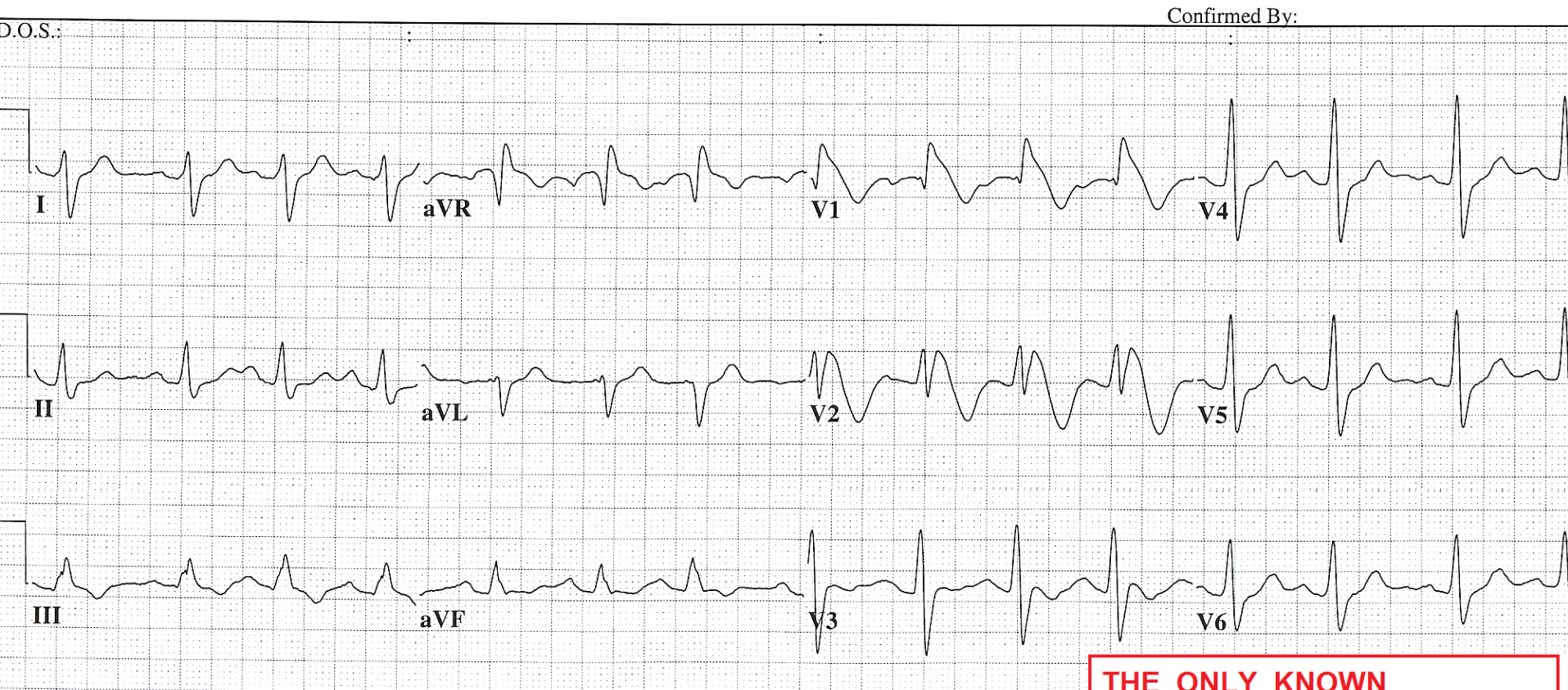
**DIAGNOSIS: BRUGADA SYNDROME. PT. RECEIVED ICD PRIOR TO HOSPITAL DISCHARGE.**

**VISIT: [www.BRUGADA.org](http://www.BRUGADA.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**42 y/o FEMALE**

Vent. rate	86	BPM
PR interval	200	ms
QRS duration	148	ms
QT/QTc	414/495	ms
P-R-T axes	64 114	17

Normal sinus rhythm with sinus arrhythmia  
Right bundle branch block  
ST elevation consider anterior injury or acute infarct  
\*\*\*\*\* ACUTE MI \*\*\*\*\*  
Abnormal ECG  
No previous ECGs available



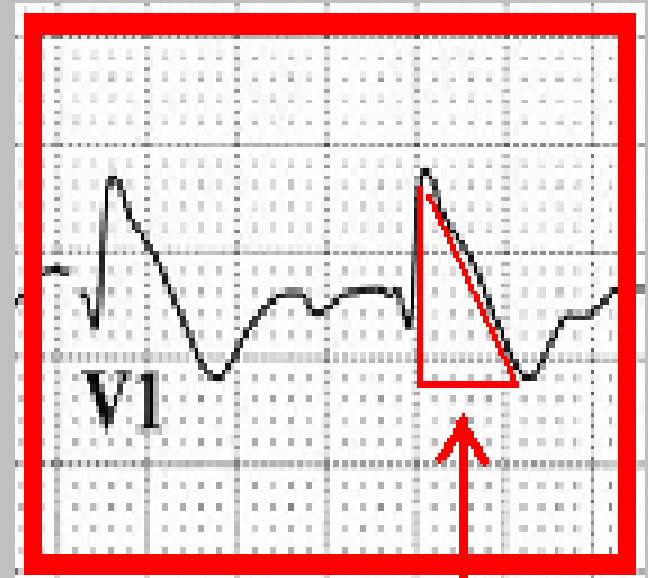
**BRUGADA SYNDROME.**

PATIENT HAD HISTORY of SYNCOPES of UNKNOWN ETIOLOGY.  
FAMILY HISTORY of SUDDEN DEATH of YOUNG, HEALTHY ADULTS.  
VISIT: [www.BRUGADA.org](http://www.BRUGADA.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION !

**THE ONLY KNOWN  
TREATMENT FOR BRUGADA  
SYNDROME is IMPLANTATION  
of an ICD. THIS PATIENT  
HAD ICD IMPLANTED PRIOR  
TO HOSPITAL DISCHARGE.**

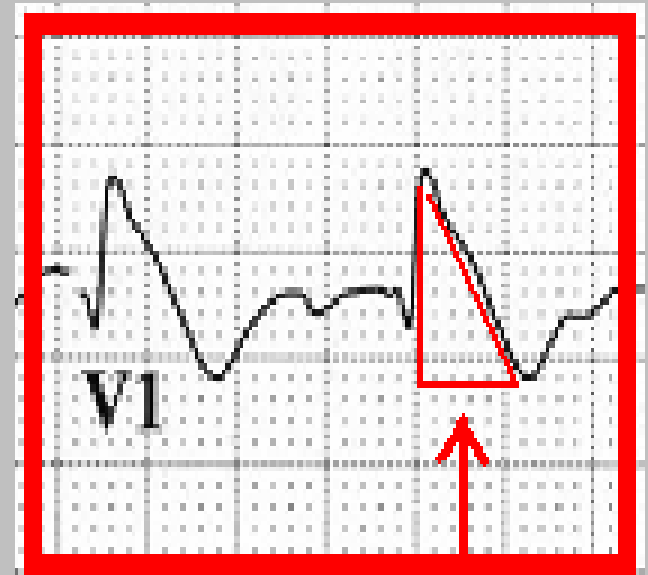
# BRUGADA SYNDROME

- GENETIC DISORDER - GENE SCN5A, which encodes CARDIAC SODIUM CHANNELS.
- CAUSES EARLY RIGHT VENTRICULAR SUB-EPICARDIAL REPOLARIZATION
- CAUSES RUNS OF TORSADES de POINTES, and SUDDEN DEATH from TORSADES and V-FIB.
- IS BELIEVED TO CAUSE 4 - 12 % of ALL SUDDEN DEATHS, and 50 % of ALL CARDIAC DEATHS where pt. has a STRUCTUALLY NORMAL HEART.



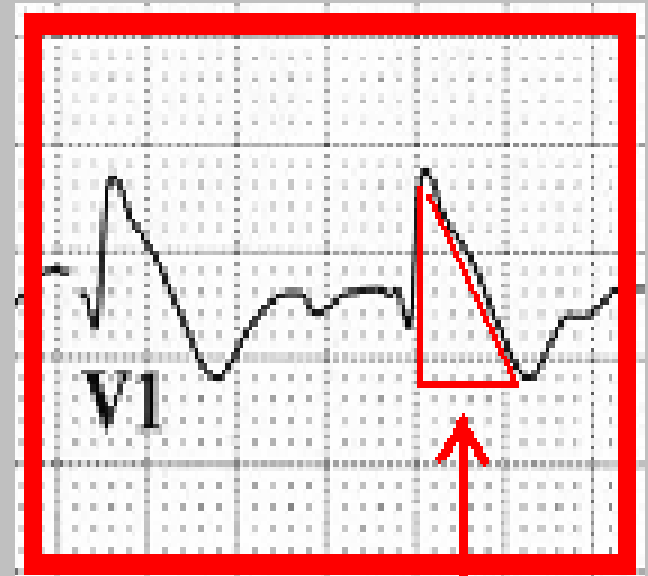
# BRUGADA SYNDROME

- SEVERAL VARIATIONS of this disorder are known to exist.
- CONCEALED and NON-CONCEALED.
- The NON-CONCEALED version HAS THE V1-V3 abnormality VISIBLE at all times.
- The CONCEALED version - pt. has a NORMAL EKG at most times - a DRUG STUDY, an EP STUDY, and / or GENETIC TESTING must be done to rule out or confirm diagnosis.



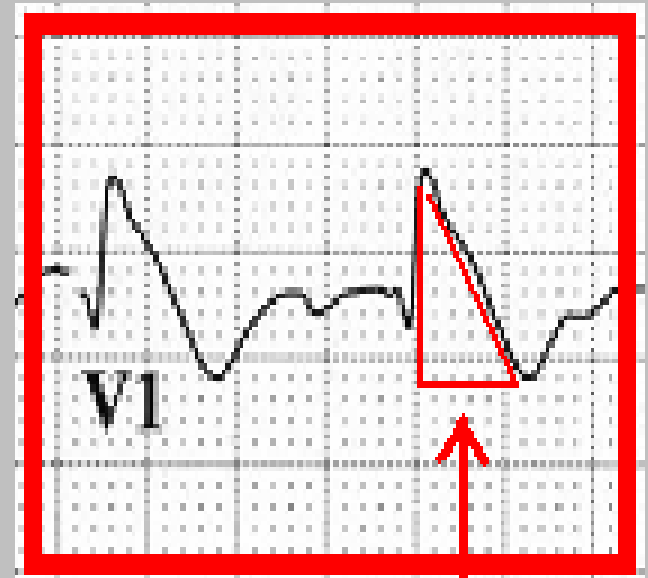
# BRUGADA SYNDROME

- YOUNG MALES of SOUTHEAST ASIAN DESCENT are in HIGH RISK GROUP, however this disorder affects ANY RACE or GENDER.
- BRUGADA SYNDROME is HEREDITARY.
- SUSPECT BRUGADA SYNDROME in patients with FAMILY HISTORY of BRUGADA / SUDDEN DEATH, and/or TORSADES.



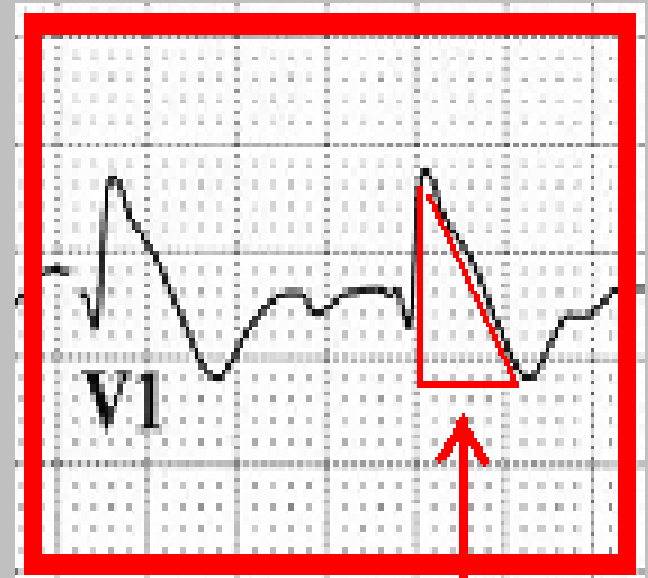
# BRUGADA SYNDROME - TESTING

- For CONCEALED cases, a drug study of AJMALINE, FLECAINIDE, or PROCAINAMIDE can UNMASK the "tell-tale" TRIANGULAR COMPLEXES of V1 and V2.
- IN EP STUDIES, a PROLONGED H-V INTERVAL may be observed.
- GENETIC TESTING is performed by THE RAMON A. BRUGADA FOUNDATION.



# BRUGADA SYNDROME - TREATMENT

ICD implantation is the only known effective treatment to date.



**[www.BRUGADA.org](http://www.BRUGADA.org)**

# Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia

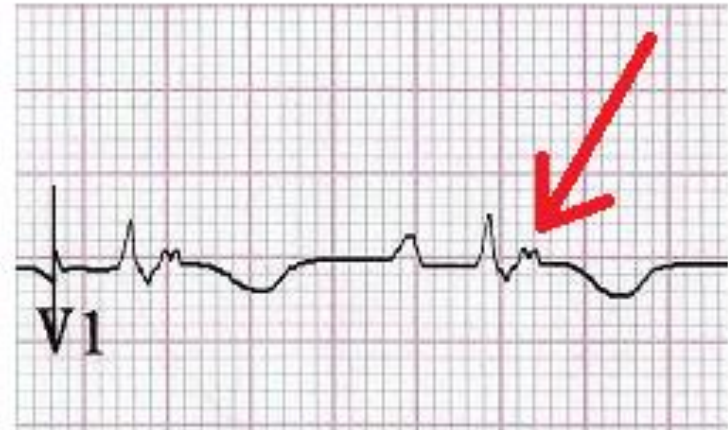
- A genetically acquired myocardial disease associated with paroxysmal ventricular arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death.
- Characterized pathologically by fibro-fatty replacement of the right ventricular myocardium.
- The second most common cause of sudden cardiac death in young people (after HOCM), causing *up to 20% of sudden cardiac deaths in patients < 35 yrs of age*.
- Typically inherited as an autosomal dominant trait, with variable penetrance and expression (there is an autosomal recessive form called [Naxos Disease](#), which is associated with woolly hair and skin changes).
- More common in men than women (3:1) and in people of Italian or Greek descent.
- Estimated to affect approximately 1 in 5,000 people overall.

## **Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular (RV) Cardiomyopathy and/or Dysplasia:**

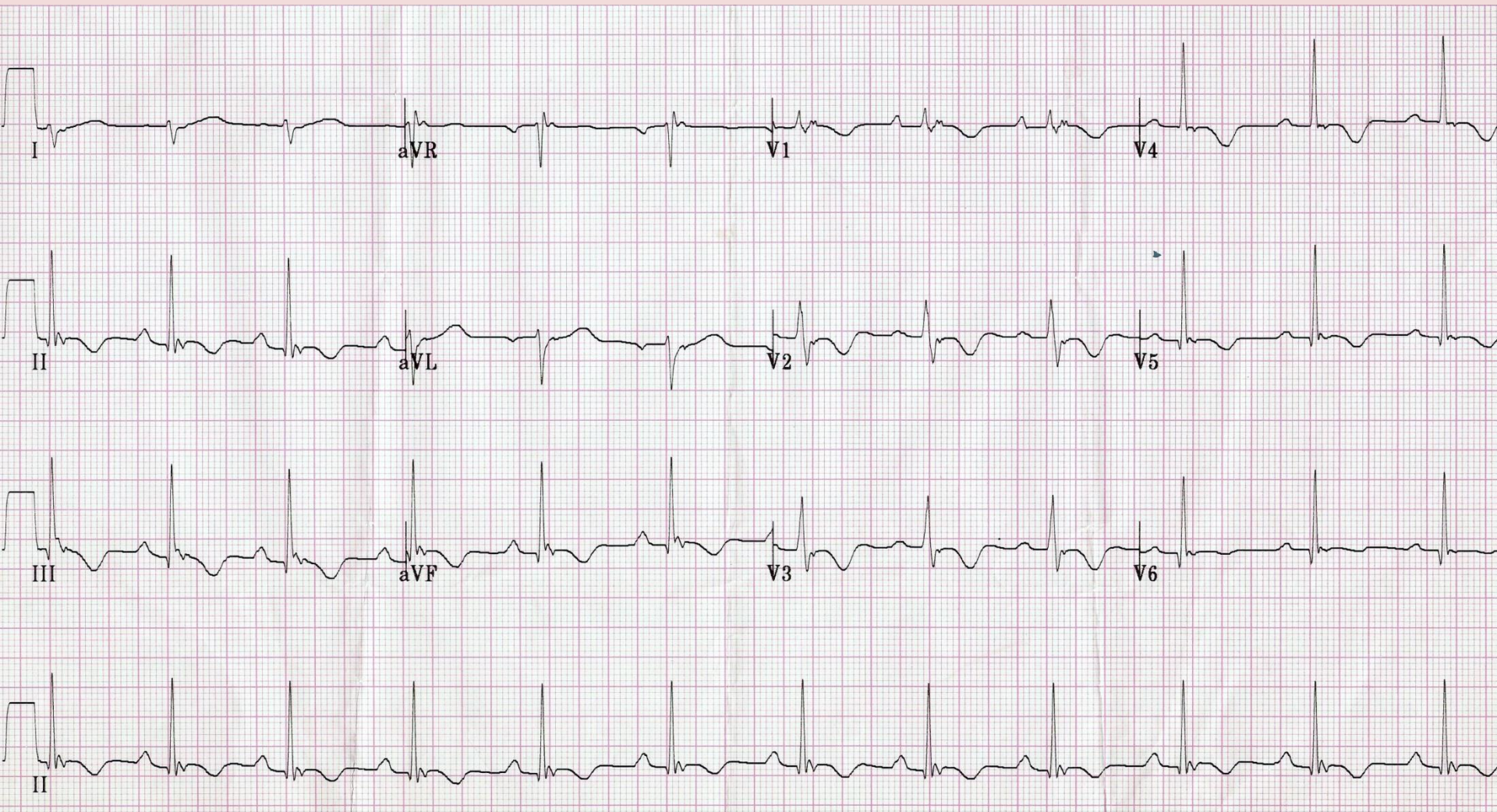
**In 1 autopsy study examining a series of 200 cases of sudden death associated with arrhythmogenic RV cardiomyopathy and/or dysplasia, death occurred in 9.5% of cases during the perioperative period. This emphasizes the importance of close perioperative evaluation and monitoring of these patients for ventricular arrhythmia. Most of these patients require cardiac electrophysiologist involvement and consideration for an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) for long-term management.**

# ARVD – 12 Lead ECG Indicators

## EPSILON WAVES



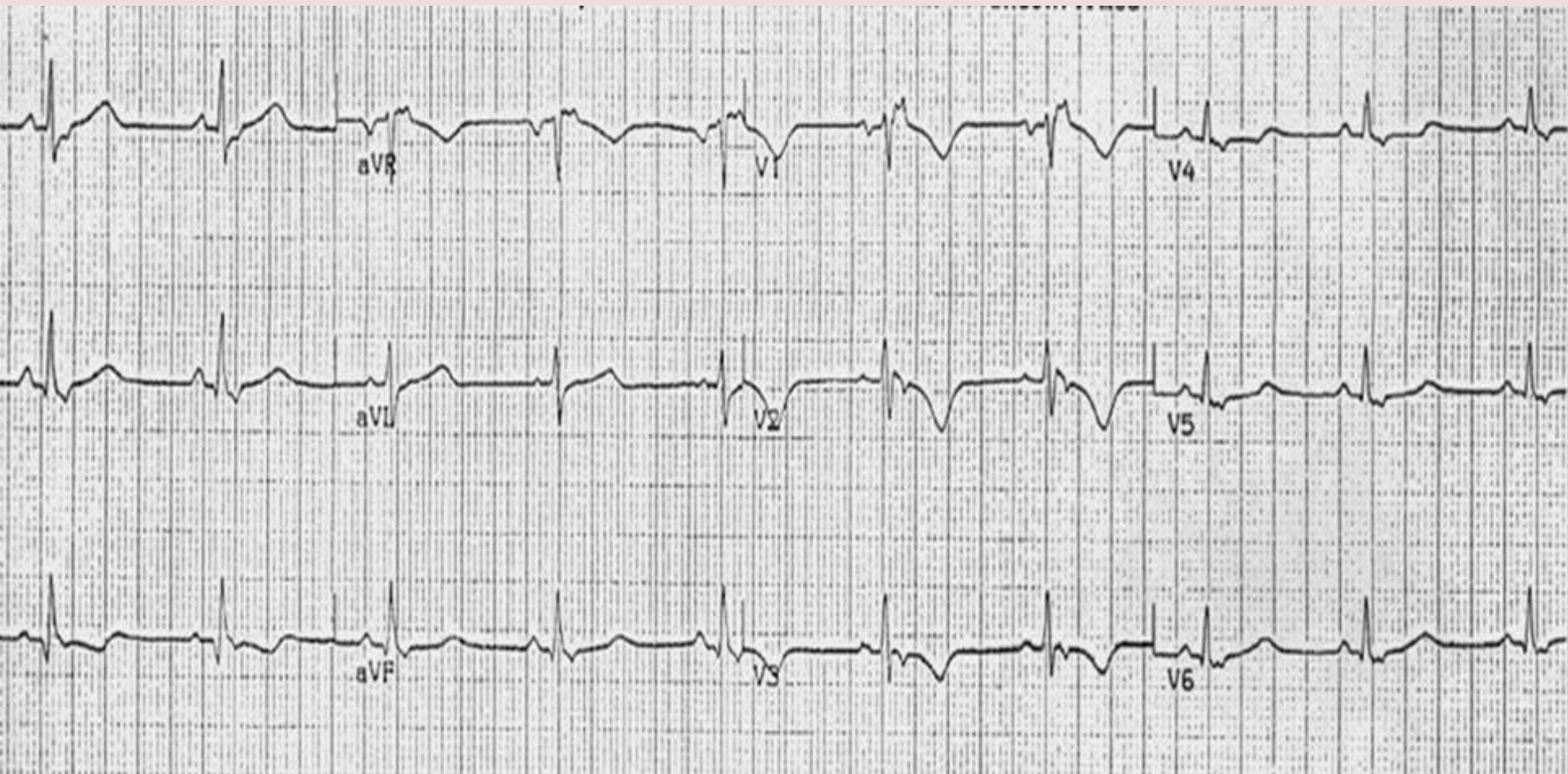
# ARVD ECG 1



1. "Incomplete RBBB" Pattern
2. V1, V2 Rs pattern
3. Inverted T waves, symmetrical, - Global

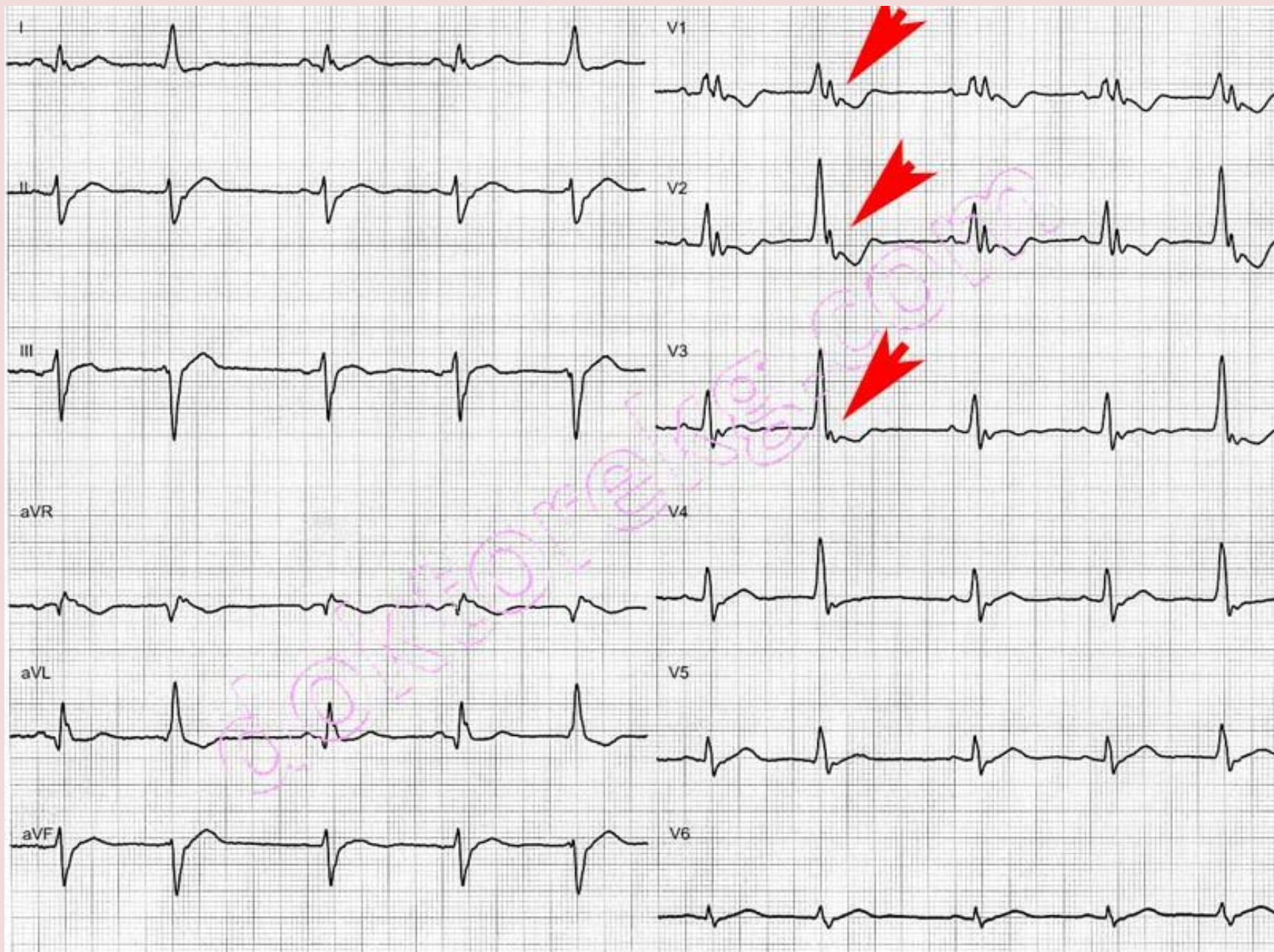
4. Epsilon's waves

# ARVD ECG 2

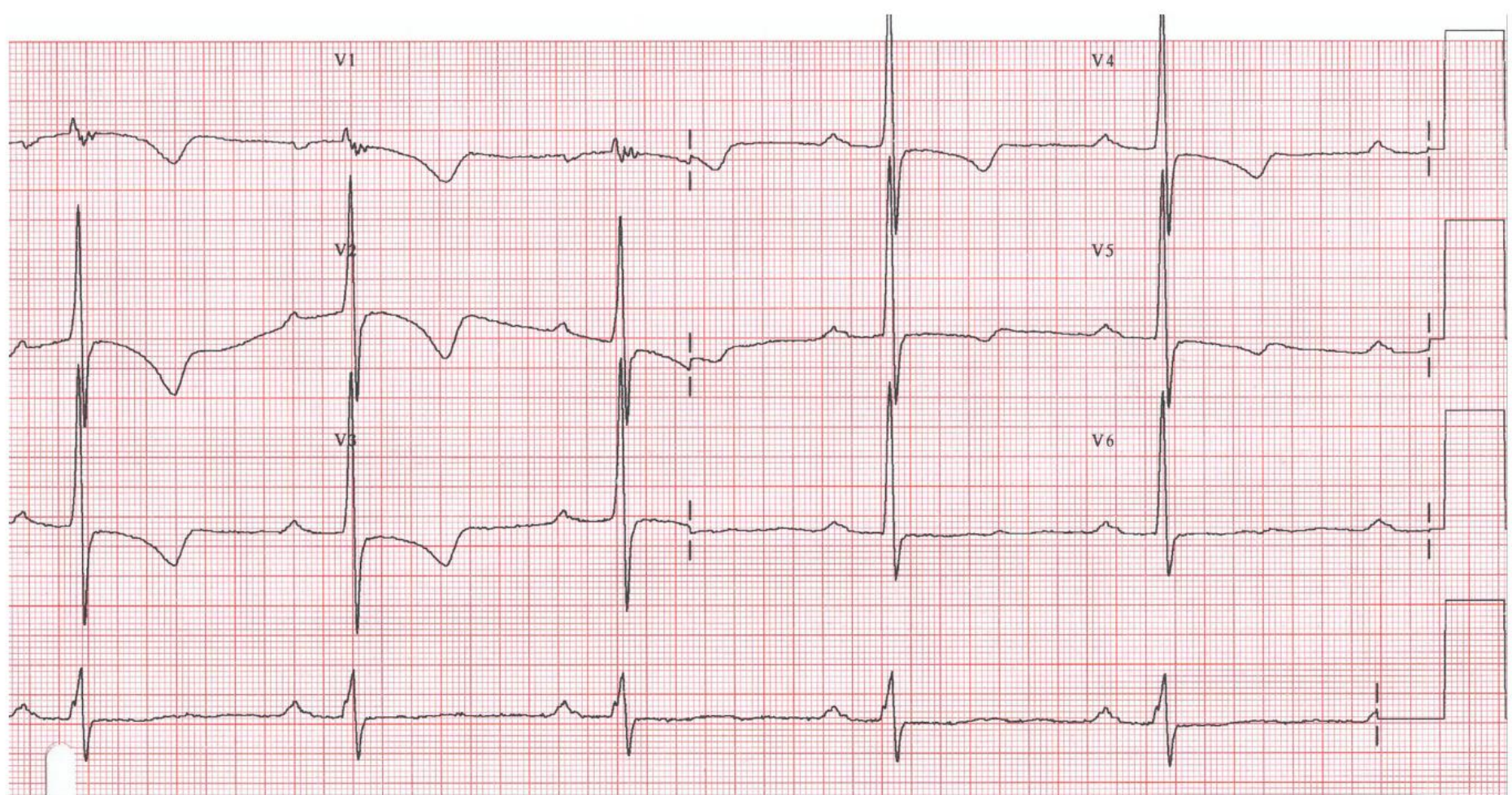


1. “Incomplete RBBB” Pattern
2. V1, V2 Rs pattern
3. Inverted T waves, symmetrical, - Global

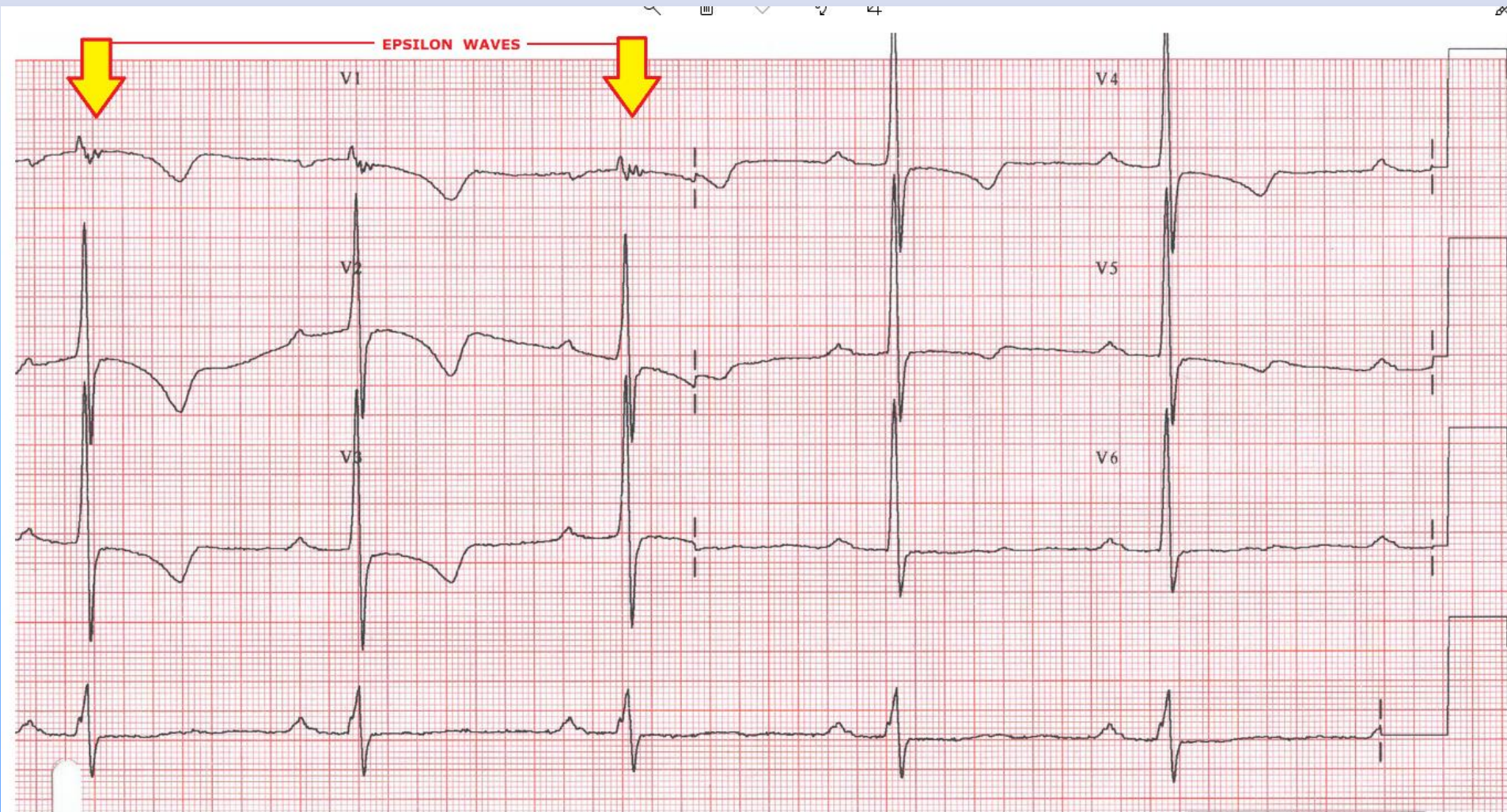
4. Epsilon’s waves



# Would you spot the Epsilon's Waves?



# BHSR Patient – Epsilon's Waves

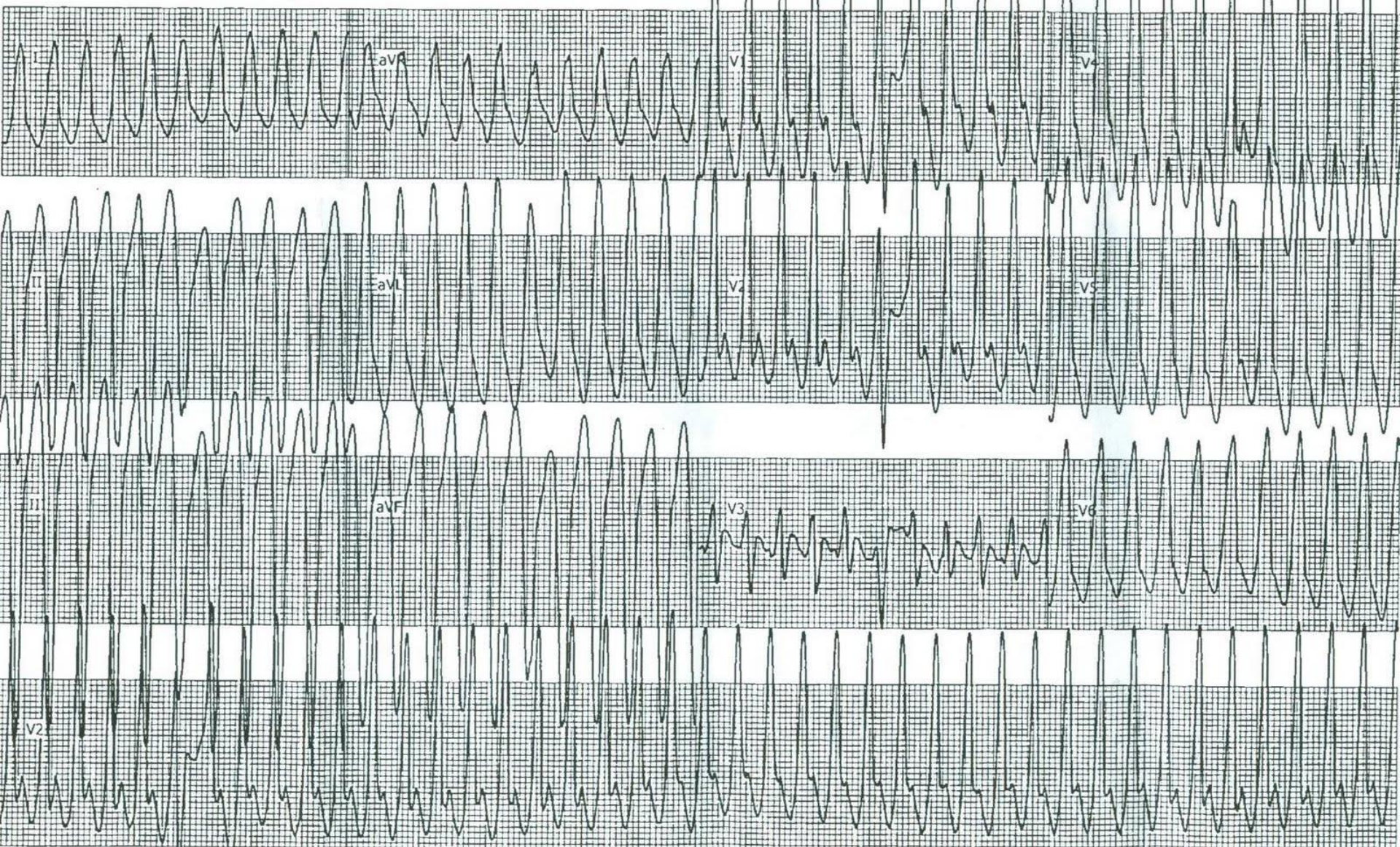


1 Years  
: Male  
185 Cm

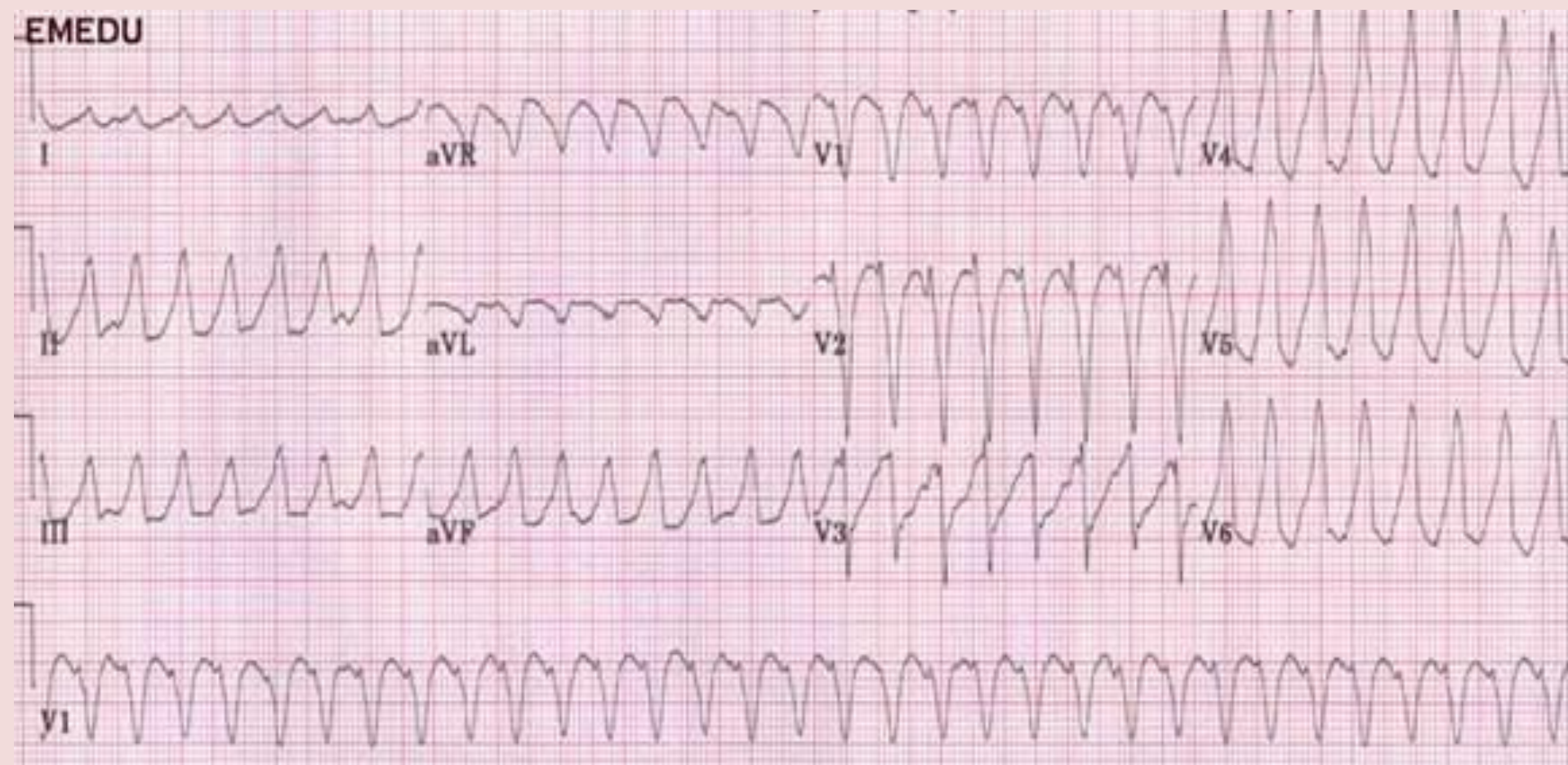
Weight: 62.0 Kg  
Vent Rate (BPM): 252  
RR (msec): 238

PR (msec): 218  
QRS dur (msec): 116  
QT / QTC (msec): 262 / 538

Display speed: 25 mm/sec  
Display Scale: 15 mm/mV



# ARVD INDUCED VT



# Evidence Based Reference Sources

- [2016 ACC Interassociation Consensus Statement on Cardiovascular Care of College Student-Athletes](#)
- [2014 AHA/ACC Scientific Statement](#): Assessment of the 12-Lead ECG as a Screening Test for Detection of Cardiovascular Disease in Healthy General Populations of Young People (12–25 Years of Age)
- [AHA/ACCF/HRS Recommendations for the Standardization and Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram: Part IV: The ST Segment, T and U Waves, and the QT Interval : Circulation 2009 119: e241-e250](#)
- [AHA Circulation: Inherited Arrhythmias; Basic Science for Clinicians](#)
- [AHA ACC Scientific Statement Prevention of Torsade de Pointes in Hospital Settings](#)
- [AHA ACC QTc Behavior During Exercise and Genetic Testing for the Long-QT Syndrome](#)
- [Pharmacology Review: Drug Induced Long QT Syndromes](#)

# Evidence Based Reference Sources, cont'

- [HRS/EHRA/APHRS Expert Consensus Statement on the Diagnosis and Management of Patients with Inherited Primary Arrhythmia Syndromes](#)
- [Genetic Determinants of Sudden Cardiac Death: AHA Circulation.2008; 118: 1854-1863](#)
- [AHA/ACCF/HRS Recommendations for the Standardization and Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram: Part III: Intraventricular Conduction Disturbances](#)
- [AHA/ACCF/HRS Recommendations for the Standardization and Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram : Part V: Electrocardiogram Changes Associated With Cardiac Chamber Hypertrophy](#)
- [Arrhythmogenic Disorders of Genetic Origin; Brugada Syndrome: Circulation: Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology.2012; 5: 606-616](#)

# Other Reference Sources:

[www.JACC.org](http://www.JACC.org)

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/>



[www.SADS.org](http://www.SADS.org)



***My top two reasons for giving everything in life the best I have to offer.***

***YOU MADE IT !!!***

**Any**

**???**