



**Hospital and Cardiovascular Center**

**Physician and Advanced Provider ACLS**

**Wayne W Ruppert, CVT, CCCC**  
**Cardiovascular Coordinator**

# Speaker Bio

## **Wayne Ruppert:**

**-ACC Certified Cardiovascular Coordinator**

(2013-Present)

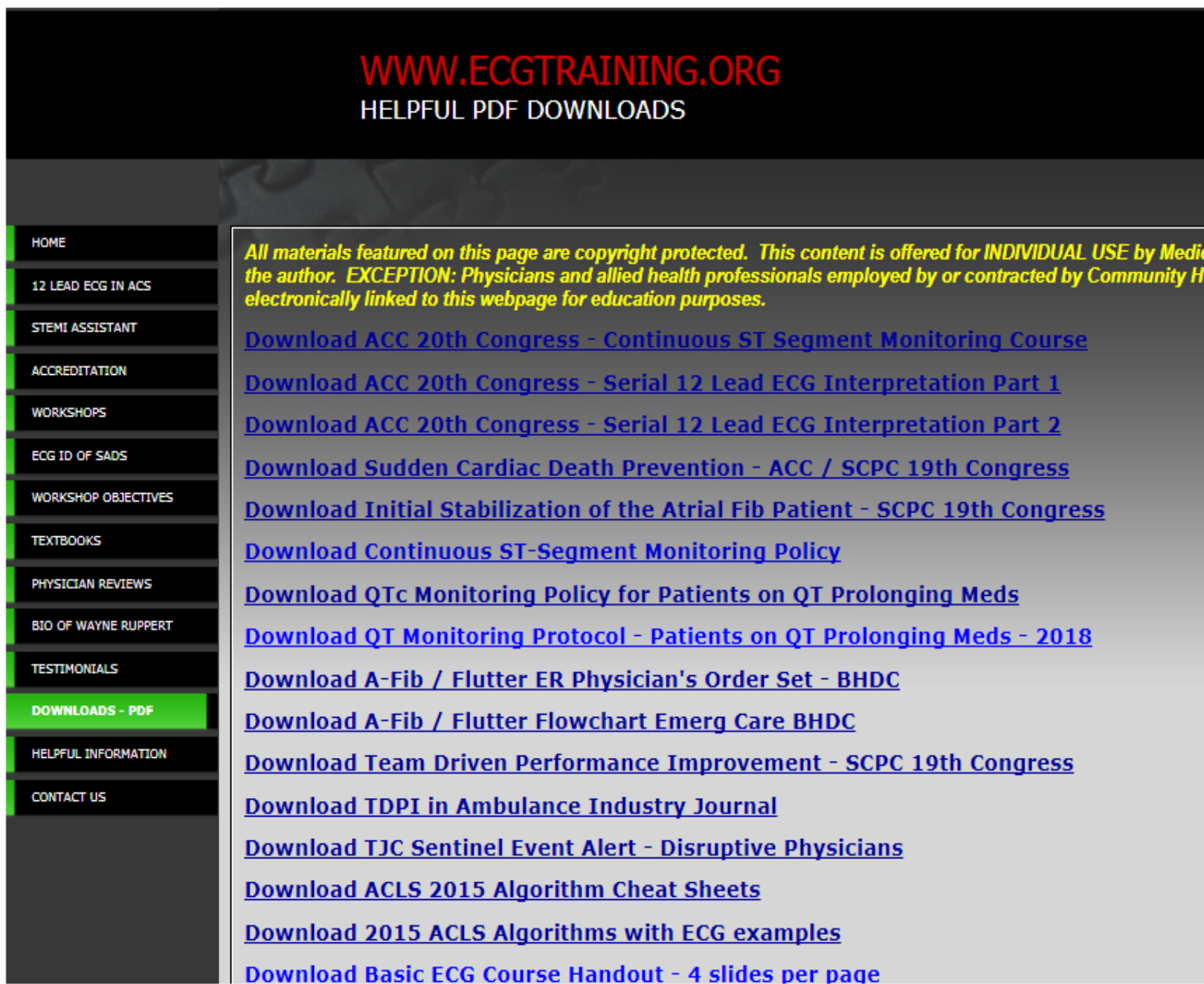
**-ACC Conference Speaker** 6 presentations 2016 & 2017

**-AHA ACLS Instructor** (1982 – Present )

**-Interventional Cardiovascular and Electrophysiology  
Technologist** (1996- 2013)

**-Paramedic** (1980 – 1996 )

Go to [ECGtraining.org](http://ECGtraining.org) then select **DOWNLOADS PDF** from menu bar



The screenshot shows the website [WWW.ECGTRAINING.ORG](http://WWW.ECGTRAINING.ORG) with the heading "HELPFUL PDF DOWNLOADS". On the left is a vertical menu bar with the following items: HOME, 12 LEAD ECG IN ACS, STEMI ASSISTANT, ACCREDITATION, WORKSHOPS, ECG ID OF SADS, WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES, TEXTBOOKS, PHYSICIAN REVIEWS, BIO OF WAYNE RUPPERT, TESTIMONIALS, **DOWNLOADS - PDF** (highlighted in green), HELPFUL INFORMATION, and CONTACT US. A large red arrow points from the text "Go to ECGtraining.org then select DOWNLOADS PDF from menu bar" to the "DOWNLOADS - PDF" menu item. To the right of the menu bar, a list of downloadable PDFs is provided, each preceded by a copyright notice: "All materials featured on this page are copyright protected. This content is offered for INDIVIDUAL USE by Medical professionals. EXCEPTION: Physicians and allied health professionals employed by or contracted by Community Hospitals are electronically linked to this webpage for education purposes." The list of PDFs includes: ACC 20th Congress - Continuous ST Segment Monitoring Course, ACC 20th Congress - Serial 12 Lead ECG Interpretation Part 1, ACC 20th Congress - Serial 12 Lead ECG Interpretation Part 2, Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention - ACC / SCPC 19th Congress, Initial Stabilization of the Atrial Fib Patient - SCPC 19th Congress, Continuous ST-Segment Monitoring Policy, QTc Monitoring Policy for Patients on QT Prolonging Meds, QT Monitoring Protocol - Patients on QT Prolonging Meds - 2018, A-Fib / Flutter ER Physician's Order Set - BHDC, A-Fib / Flutter Flowchart Emerg Care BHDC, Team Driven Performance Improvement - SCPC 19th Congress, TDPI in Ambulance Industry Journal, TJC Sentinel Event Alert - Disruptive Physicians, ACLS 2015 Algorithm Cheat Sheets, 2015 ACLS Algorithms with ECG examples, and Basic ECG Course Handout - 4 slides per page.

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- [Download Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention - ACC / SCPC 19th Congress](#)
- [Download Initial Stabilization of the Atrial Fib Patient - SCPC 19th Congress](#)
- [Download Continuous ST-Segment Monitoring Policy](#)
- [Download QTc Monitoring Policy for Patients on QT Prolonging Meds](#)
- [Download QT Monitoring Protocol - Patients on QT Prolonging Meds - 2018](#)
- [Download A-Fib / Flutter ER Physician's Order Set - BHDC](#)
- [Download A-Fib / Flutter Flowchart Emerg Care BHDC](#)
- [Download Team Driven Performance Improvement - SCPC 19th Congress](#)
- [Download TDPI in Ambulance Industry Journal](#)
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Then select . . . .

**Download Physician's Advanced**  
**ACLS Course SRRMC 2018**



## Objectives:

- Review ESSENTIALS of ACLS
- Provide review of review of relevant, critical cardiovascular issues in contemporary practice which fulfill ACC CPC and AF Accreditation Requirements
- Provide ACLS Written and Practical Exams.

Future: Provide up to 4 AMA Category 1 CMEs.



## ***ELECTRICAL THERAPY***

	<u>BiPHASIC</u>	<u>MONOPHASIC</u>
<u>SYNCHRONIZED CARDIOVERSION:</u>		
NARROW SVT / REGULAR RHYTHM:	50 - 100j	200j
NARROW QRS, IRREG RHYTHM:	120 - 200j	200j
WIDE QRS / MONOPHASIC / REG:	100j	
<u>DEFIB (unsynchronized):</u>		
WIDE QRS, IRREGULAR: (TORSADES / POLYMORPHIC VT)	DEFIB 120 - 200j	360j
V-FIB / PULSELESS VT:	120 - 200j subsequent doses may be equivalent or escalated>	360j

# If Initial Shock Not Successful:

- Consider repositioning pads
  - Anterior / Posterior placement
  - Change polarity (reverse pad locations)
- Increase energy (joules)
- If monophasic current delivery used, try biphasic
- Apply pressure to anterior pad
- Administer meds to lower defibrillation threshold, then repeat defibrillation.

**" There is NO SUCH thing as an  
EP ( heart rate ) emergency . . .**

***If the rate's too slow -- PACE IT***

***If the rate's too fast -- SHOCK IT !"***

**Dr. James Irwin  
Electrophysiologist  
St. Joseph's Hospital  
Tampa, Florida**

**" There is NO SUCH thing as an  
EP ( heart rate ) emergency . . .**

***If the rate's too slow -- PACE IT***

***If the rate's too fast -- SHOCK IT !"***

***. . . and call me in the MORNING.***

**Dr. James Irwin  
Electrophysiologist  
St. Joseph's Hospital  
Tampa, Florida**



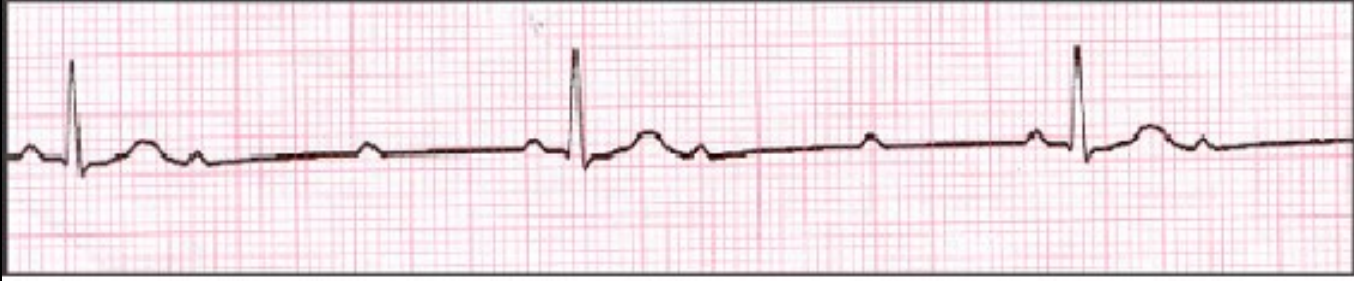












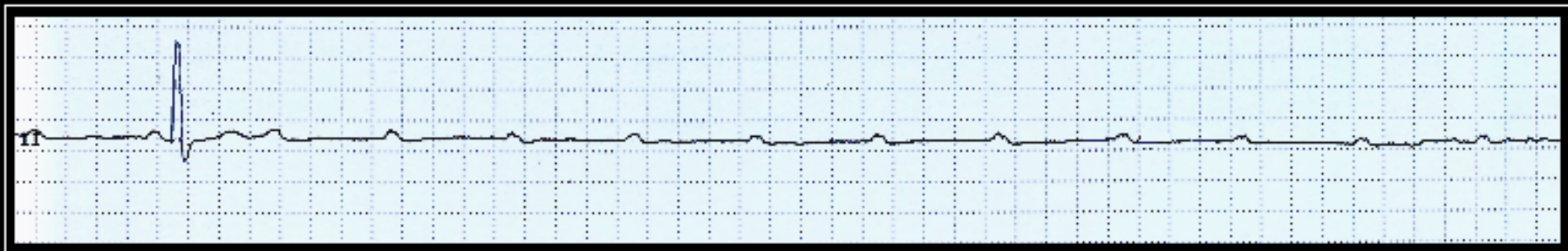
OR



?



## ADAMS - STOKES SYNDROME



### CASE HISTORY:

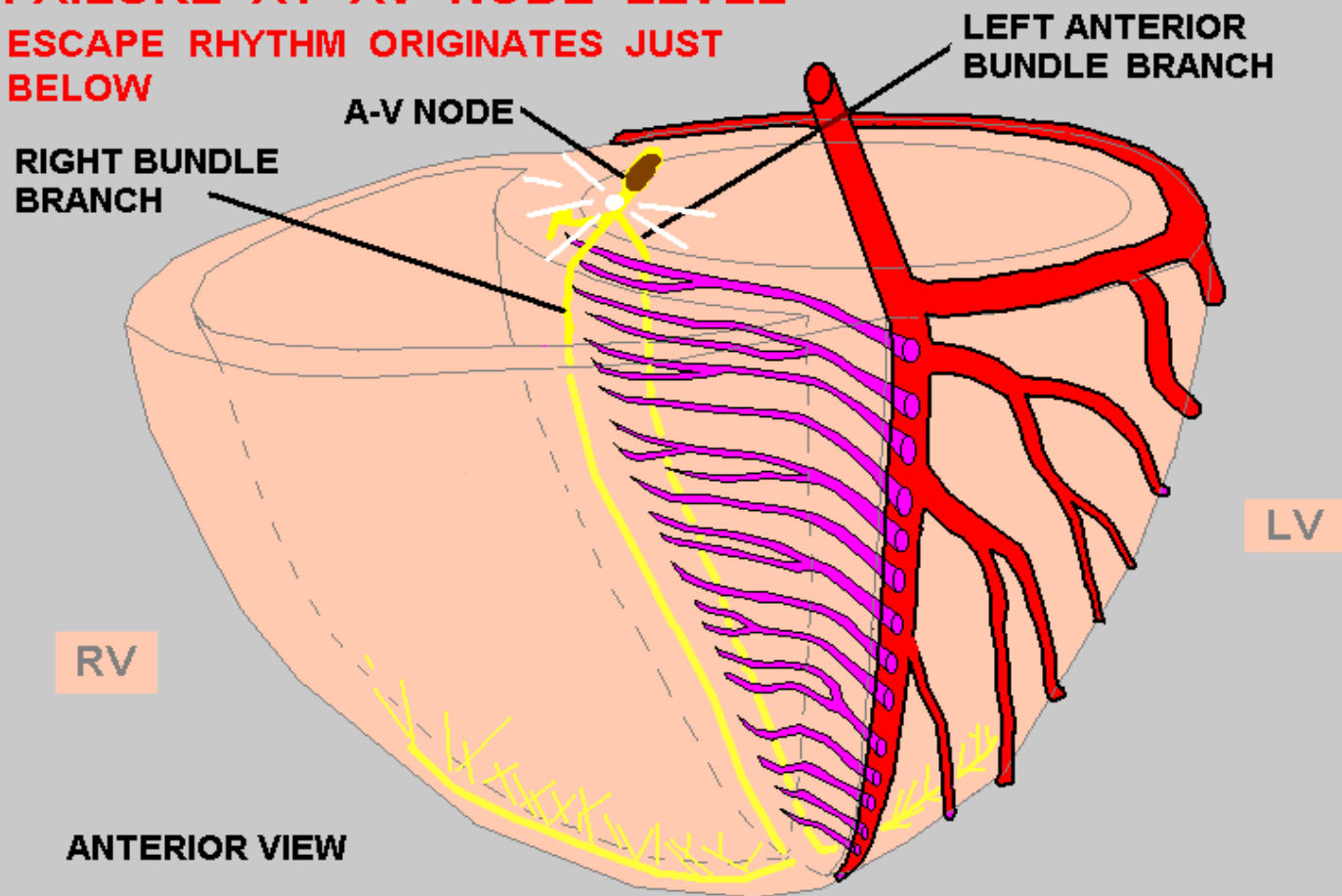
**72 y/o male with history of SYNCOPES OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN. While undergoing Cardiac Catheterization ( Left Heart Cath ), pt went from NSR rate 76 - 80 to 2nd degree TYPE II HEART BLOCK, which quickly deteriorated into VENTRICULAR STANDSTILL .**

**TX: CPR, Atropine, Transvenous Pacemaker, followed by Permanent Pacemaker Implantation. Patient experienced full recovery, was discharged.**



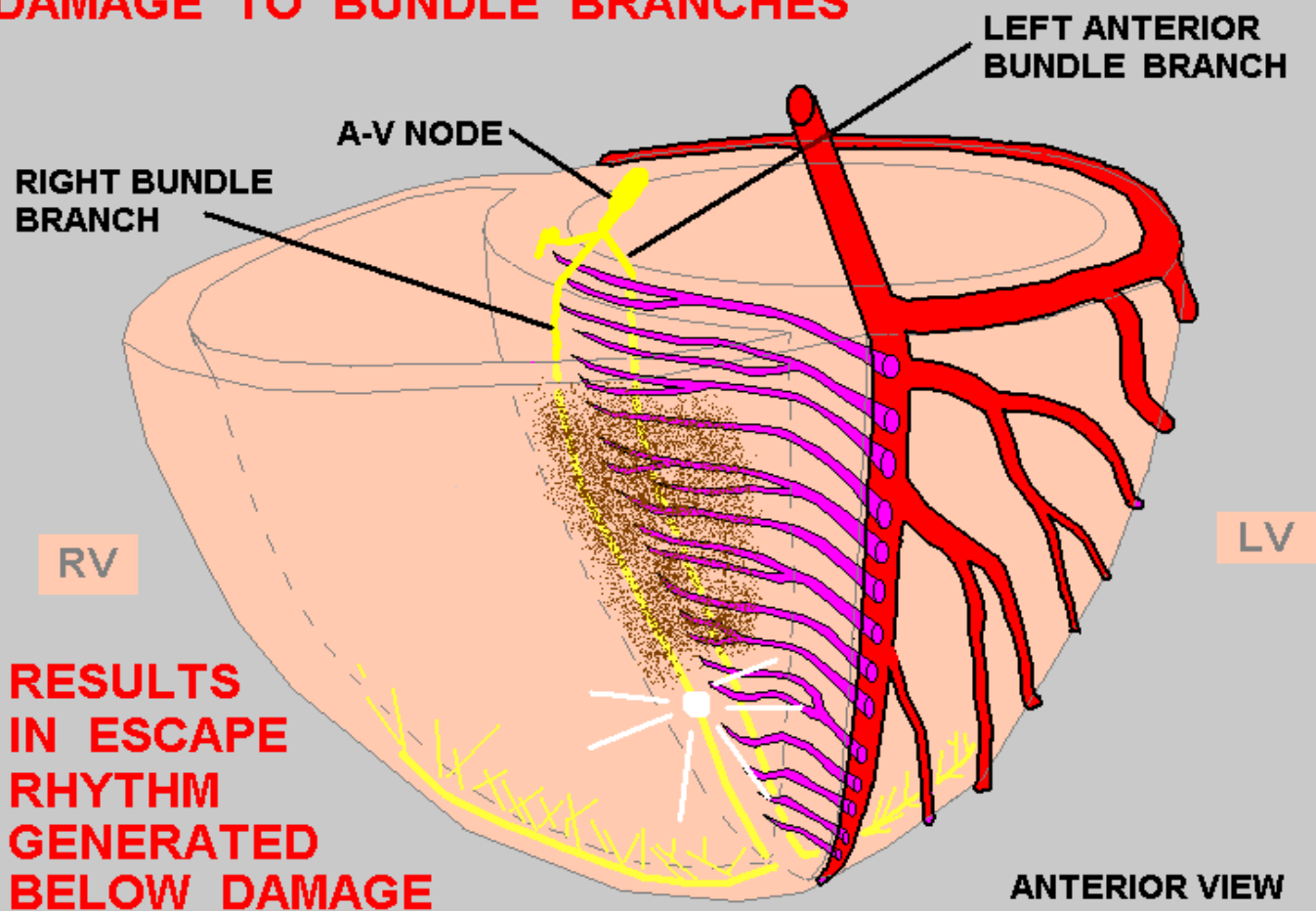


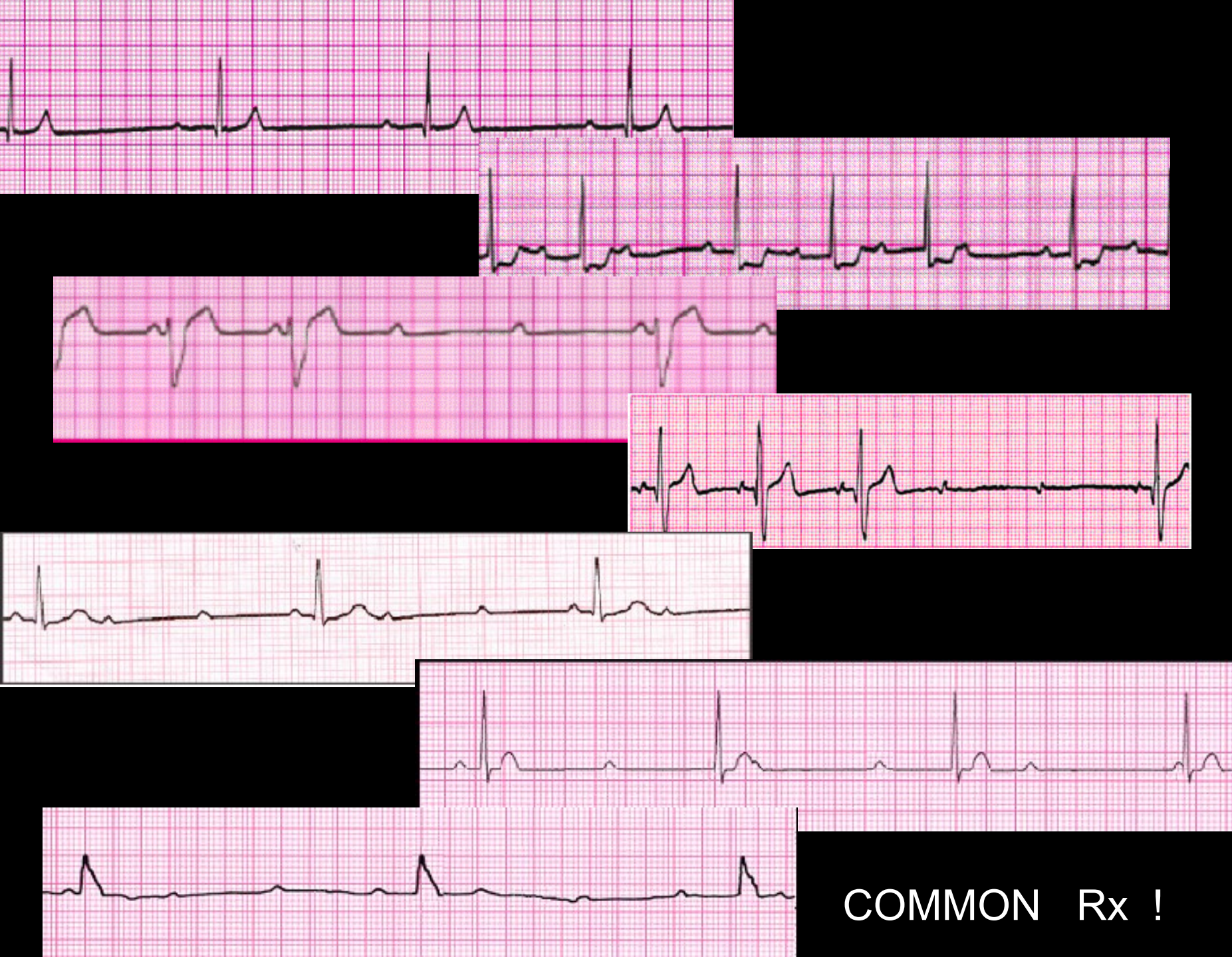
**FAILURE AT AV NODE LEVEL  
ESCAPE RHYTHM ORIGINATES JUST  
BELOW**





## DAMAGE TO BUNDLE BRANCHES





COMMON Rx !



- **SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIAS**
- **HEART BLOCKS with SLOW VENTRICULAR RATES**  
( patient symptomatic )



**Tx:**

- ✓ **ABC s**
- ✓ **GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**
- ✓ **BRADYCARDIA ALGORITHM**



## **As per ACC/AHA Guidelines:**

- 2013 STEMI**
- 2014 NSTEMI-ACS**

**Refrain from administering Oxygen to ACS / suspected ACS patients unless  $SAO_2 < 90\%$ , or patient exhibits signs of hypoxemia or respiratory distress.**

# **SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA**


- **ABC s + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**
- **ATROPINE 0.5 mg. IV**
  - MAY REPEAT 0.5 mg. DOSES IF NEEDED
  - MAXIMUM 3.0 mg.
- **TRANSCUTANEOUS PACEMAKER**
  - PREFERRED PRIMARY Tx FOR HIGH GRADE A-V BLOCK

# **SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA**

- **DOPAMINE gtt.**  
2 - 10 mcg / kg. / min. INFUSION RATE  
IF PACING NOT AVAILABLE or EFFECTIVE
- **EPINEPHRINE gtt.**  
2 - 10 mcg / min INFUSION RATE  
IF PACING NOT AVAILABLE or EFFECTIVE
- **TRANSVENOUS PACEMAKER**

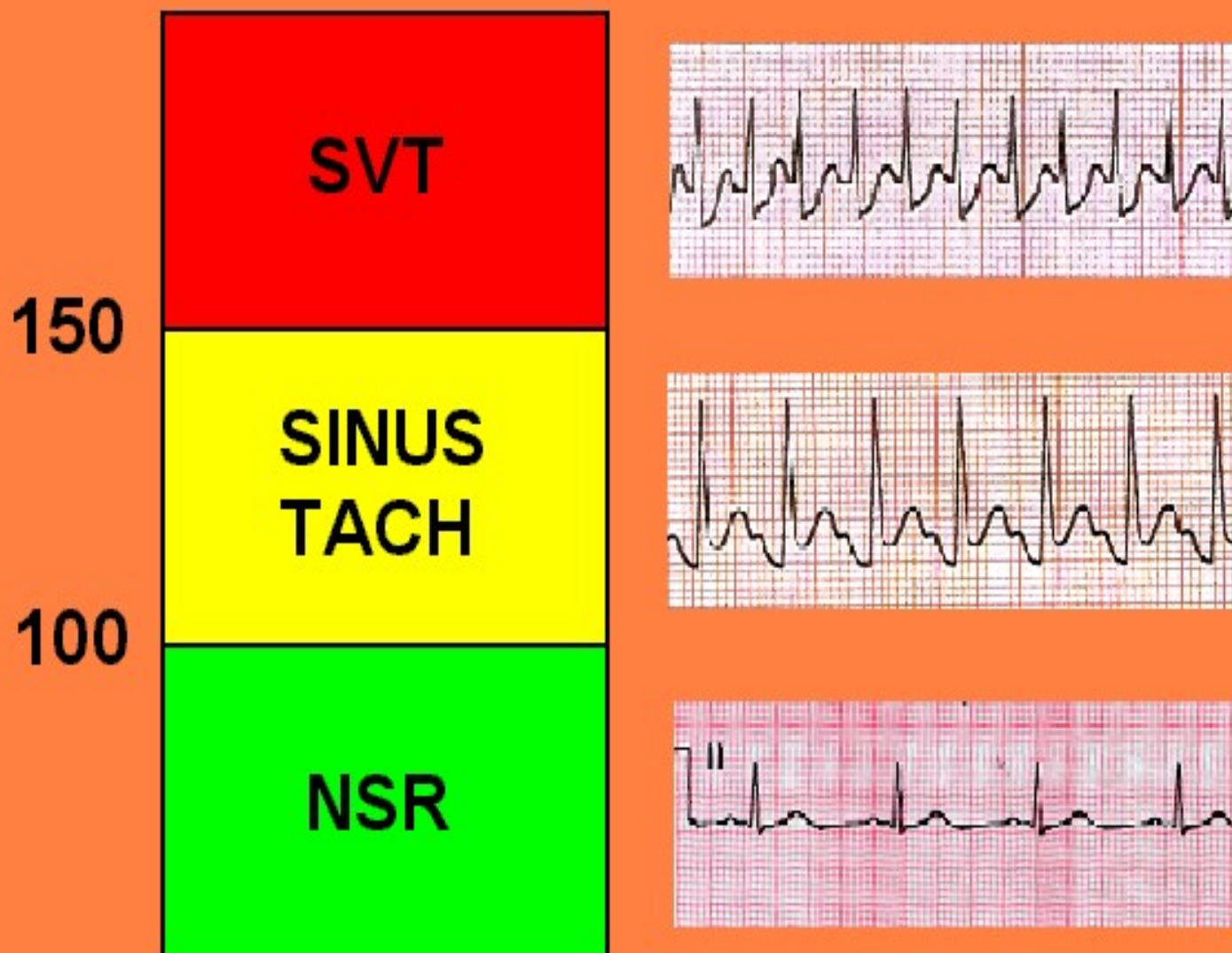
# CAUSES of HEART BLOCK

## THINK:

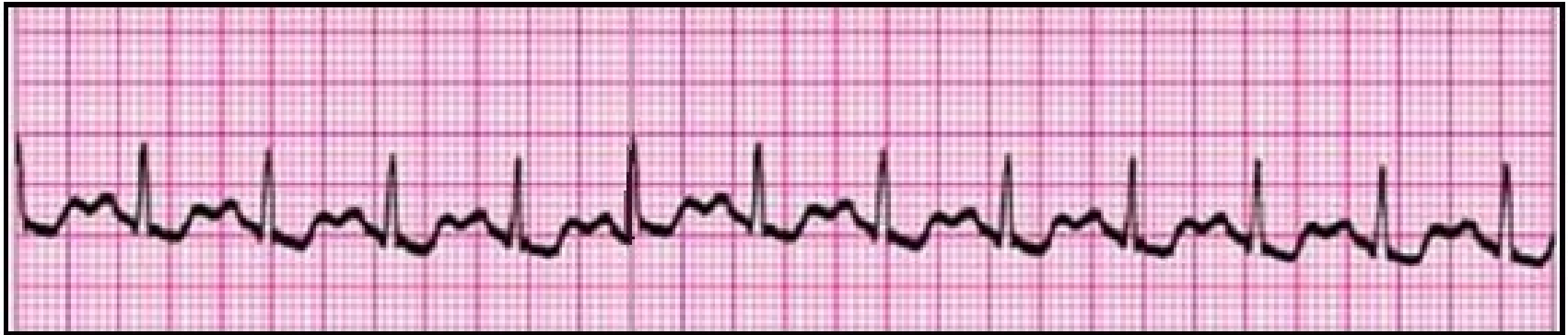
- ISCHEMIA / INFARCTION
  - AV NODE INFERIOR WALL (RCA or CIRCUMFLEX LESIONS)
  - HIS / BUNDLE BRANCHES ANTERIOR WALL (LAD LESIONS)
-  DROMOTROPIC MEDS DIGITALIS / BETA & Ca++ CH BLOCKERS
- INFILTRATIVE DISEASE AMYLOIDOSIS / HEMOCHROMATOSIS
- INFLAMMATORY DISEASE PERICARDITIS / MYOCARDITIS / RHEUMATIC DISORDERS
- LEV'S DISEASE LENEGRE'S SYNDROME
- AORTIC / MITRAL ANNULAR CALCIFICATION



# ACLS TACHYCARDIA GUIDELINES



# THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS TACHYCARDIA



## **WE MUST CONSIDER UNDERLYING CAUSES:**

**ANXIETY / FEAR**



**HYPOVOLEMIA**

**DEHYDRATION**



**BLOOD LOSS**



**MEDICATION EFFECTS**



**OTHER ILLNESS**



## **AND TREAT THEM:**

**CALM PATIENT**

**FLUIDS**

**STOP BLEEDING**

**CONSIDER MEDICAL Tx**

**IDENTIFY & Tx DISORDER**







# **SVT - UNSTABLE PATIENT** ( NARROW QRS )

## **ABC s + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**

( OXYGEN, ECG / VS / SAO2 MONITORING, IV ACCESS )

## **IMMEDIATE SYNCHRONIZED CARDIOVERSION**

- **CONSIDER SEDATION**

—— ADENOSINE - IF IT DOES NOT DELAY CARDIOVERSION !

- **SYNCHRONIZED CARDIOVERSION**

REGULAR RHYTHM:

50 - 100 j biphasic

IRREGULAR RHYTHM:

100 - 200 j biphasic

----- monophasic = 200 j -----

# **SVT - STABLE PATIENT** ( NARROW QRS )

## **ABC s + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**

### **REGULAR RHYTHM**

- VAGAL MANEUVERS
- ADENOSINE 6 mg / 12 mg

### **IRREGULAR RHYTHM**

POSSIBLE ATRIAL FIB or  
MULTIFOCAL ATRIAL TACH

- BETA BLOCKERS
- CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER
- TREAT UNDERLYING CAUSE ( THE Hs and Ts )
- " EXPERT CONSULTATION "

## THE " H's " and the " T's "

- HYPOVOLEMIA
- HYPOXIA
- HYDROGEN ION ( Ph )
- HYPOGLYCEMIA
- HYPOTHERMIA
  
- TOXINS
- TAMPONADE ( CARDIAC )
- TENSION PNEUMOTHORAX
- THROMBOSIS ( CORONARY or PULMONARY )
- TRAUMA



APR-2004

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL

55 yr  
Male Caucasian

Vent. rate	178	BPM
PR interval	*	ms
QRS duration	90	ms
QT/QTc	264/454	ms
P-R-T axes	* -19	46

**\*\*UNEDITED COPY - REPORT IS COMPUTER GENERATED ONLY, WITHOUT PHYSICIAN INTERPRETATION****Atrial fibrillation with rapid ventricular response**

with premature ventricular or aberrantly conducted complexes

Nonspecific ST abnormality , probably digitalis effect

Abnormal ECG

When compared with ECG of 30-JUL-1998 15:14,

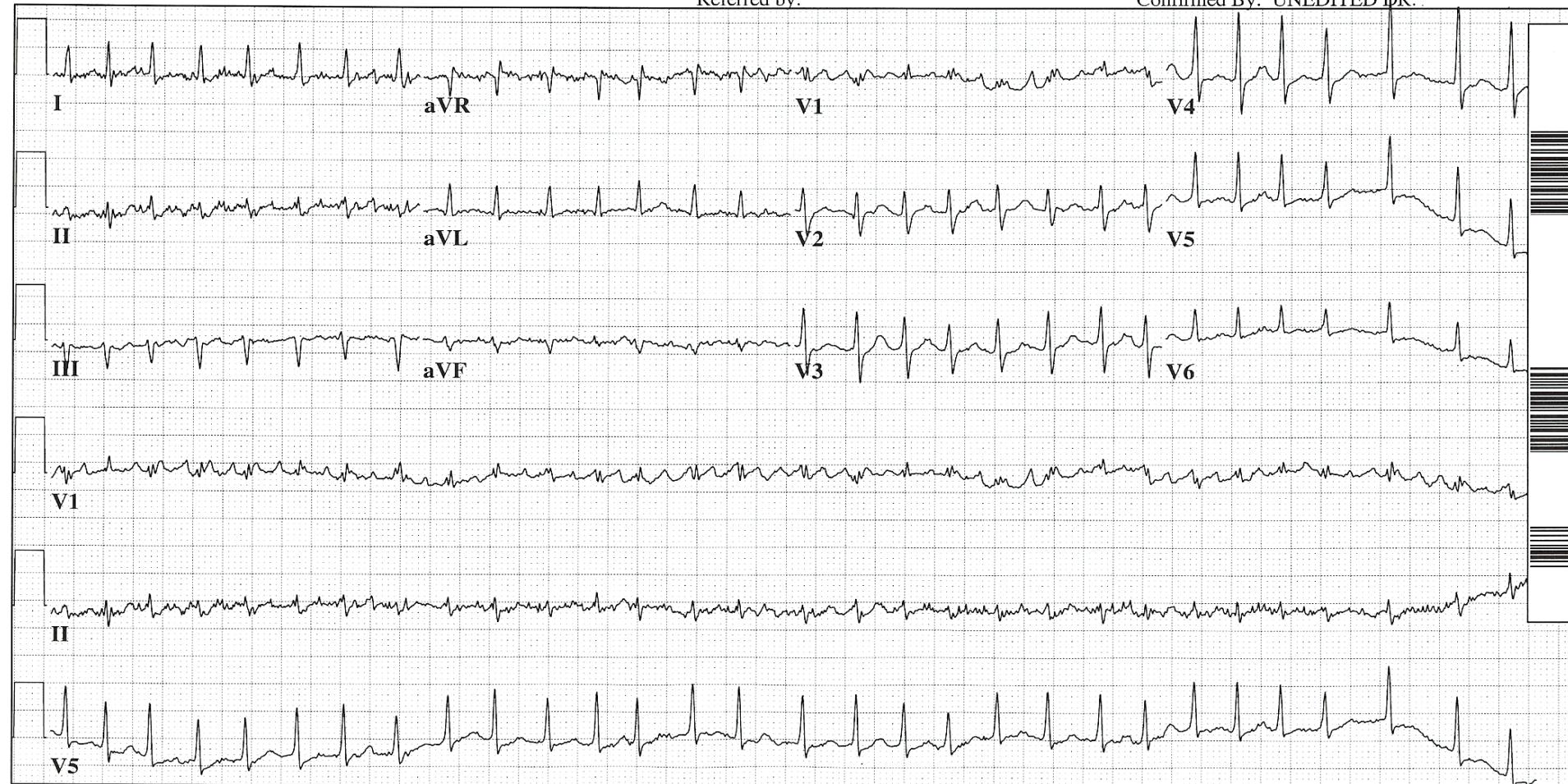
Atrial fibrillation has replaced Sinus rhythm

Vent. rate has increased BY 109 BPM ...

Technician:

Referred by:

Confirmed By: UNEDITED DR.



25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005C 12SL 235 CID: 2

EID:10 EDT:

# **SVT - UNSTABLE PATIENT** ( NARROW QRS )

## **ABC s + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**

( OXYGEN, ECG / VS / SAO2 MONITORING, IV ACCESS )

## **IMMEDIATE SYNCHRONIZED CARDIOVERSION**

- **CONSIDER SEDATION**

—— ADENOSINE - IF IT DOES NOT DELAY CARDIOVERSION !

- **SYNCHRONIZED CARDIOVERSION**

REGULAR RHYTHM:

50 - 100 j biphasic

IRREGULAR RHYTHM:

100 - 200 j biphasic

----- monophasic = 200 j -----

# **Post Emergency Cardioversion; Anticoagulation Strategy:**

- **AF/AFL Duration <48 hours, but patient has high risk of stroke (CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc Stroke Risk Score 2 or more):**
- **AF/AFL Duration 48 hours or more (all patients):**

anticoagulation should be initiated as soon as possible and continued for at least 4 weeks after cardioversion unless contraindicated.

**CLASS I, LOE C**



# **SVT - STABLE PATIENT** ( NARROW QRS )

## **ABC s + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**

### **REGULAR RHYTHM**

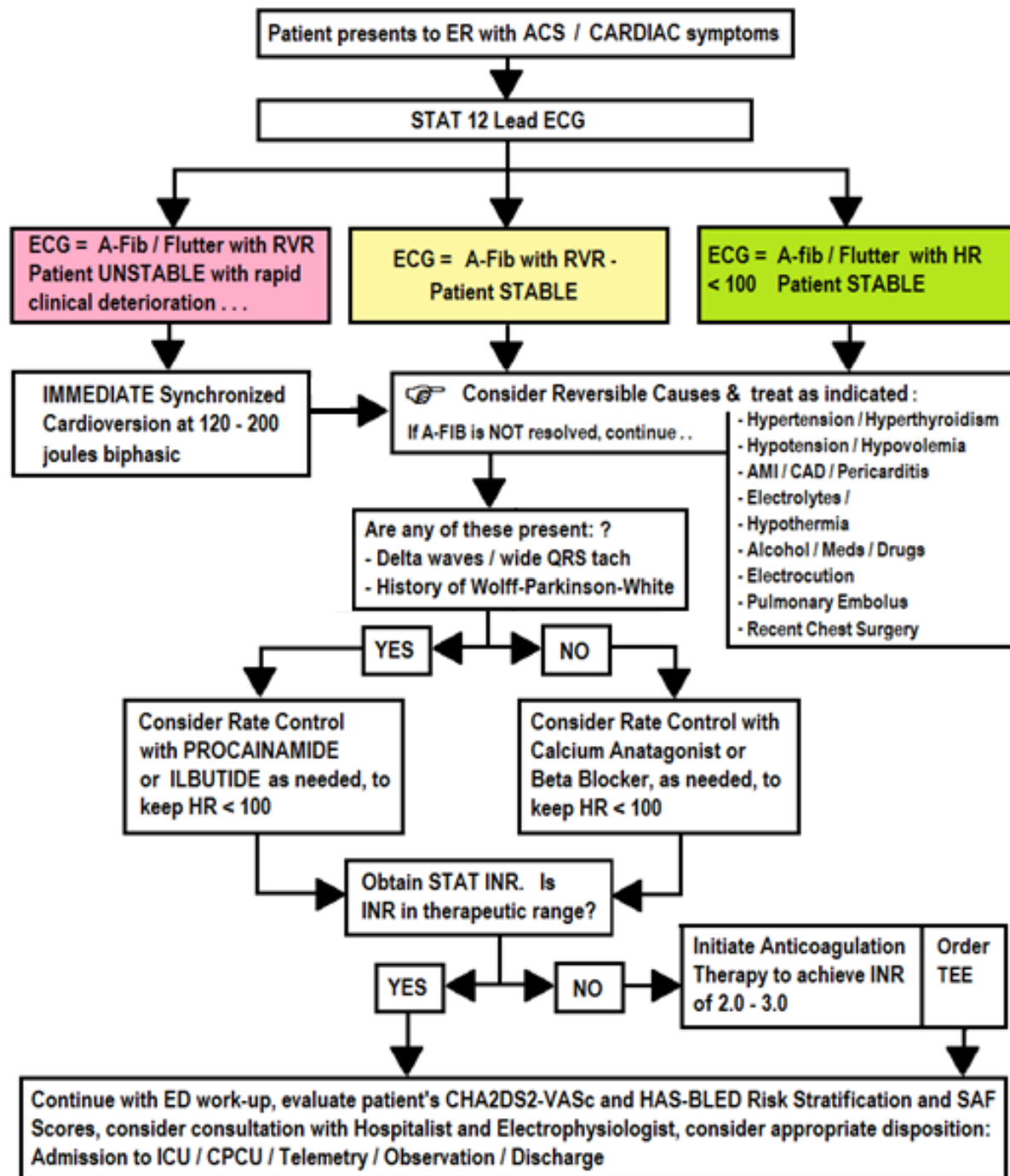
- VAGAL MANEUVERS
- ADENOSINE 6 mg / 12 mg

### **IRREGULAR RHYTHM**

POSSIBLE ATRIAL FIB or  
MULTIFOCAL ATRIAL TACH

- BETA BLOCKERS
- CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER
- TREAT UNDERLYING CAUSE ( THE Hs and Ts )
- " EXPERT CONSULTATION "





Patient presents to ER with ACS / CARDIAC symptoms

STAT 12 Lead ECG

ECG = A-Fib / Flutter with RVR  
Patient UNSTABLE with rapid  
clinical deterioration . . .

ECG = A-Fib with RVR -  
Patient STABLE

ECG = A-fib / Flutter with HR  
< 100 Patient STABLE

IMMEDIATE Synchronized  
Cardioversion at 120 - 200  
joules biphasic

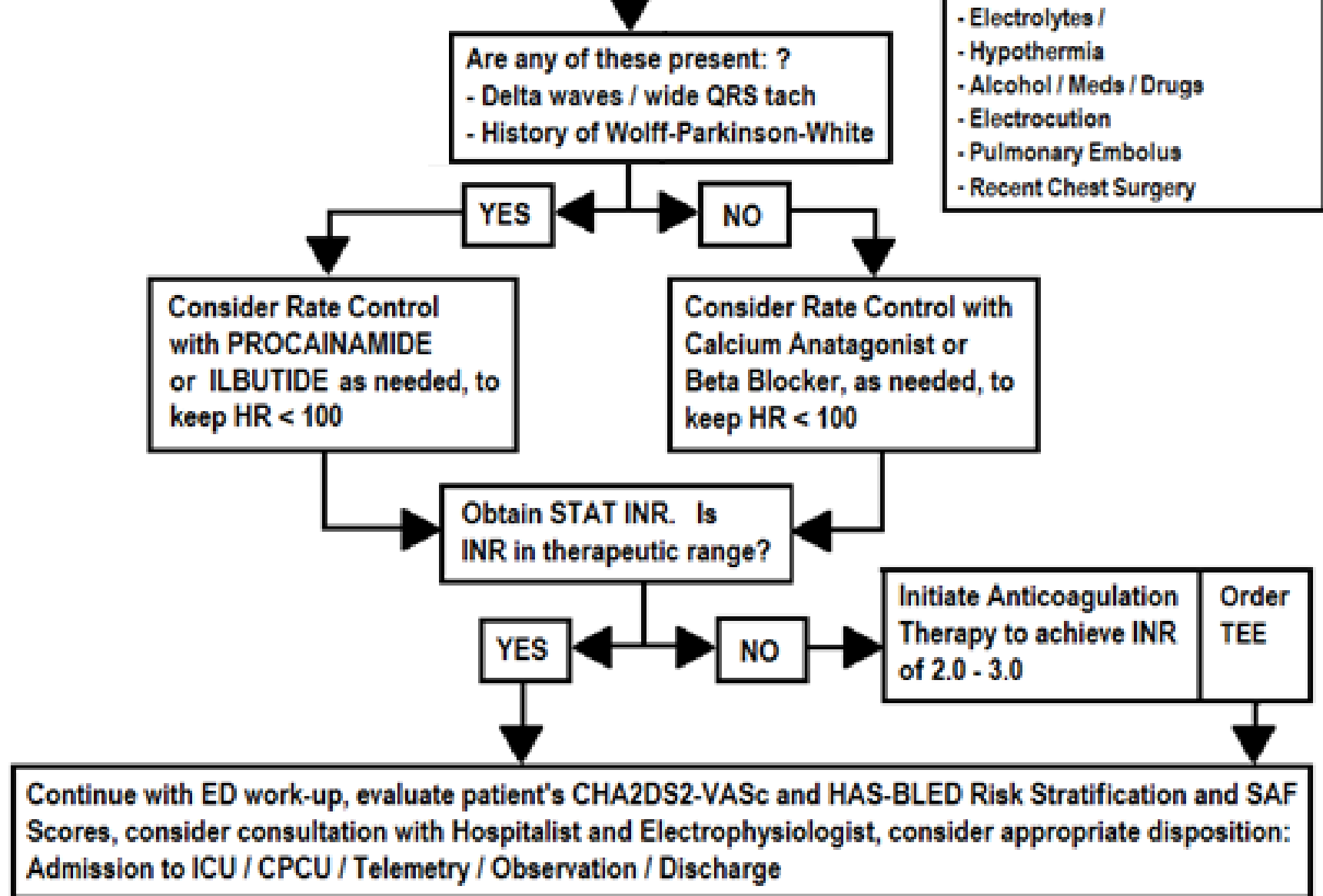
👉 Consider Reversible Causes & treat as indicated :  
If A-FIB is NOT resolved, continue . .

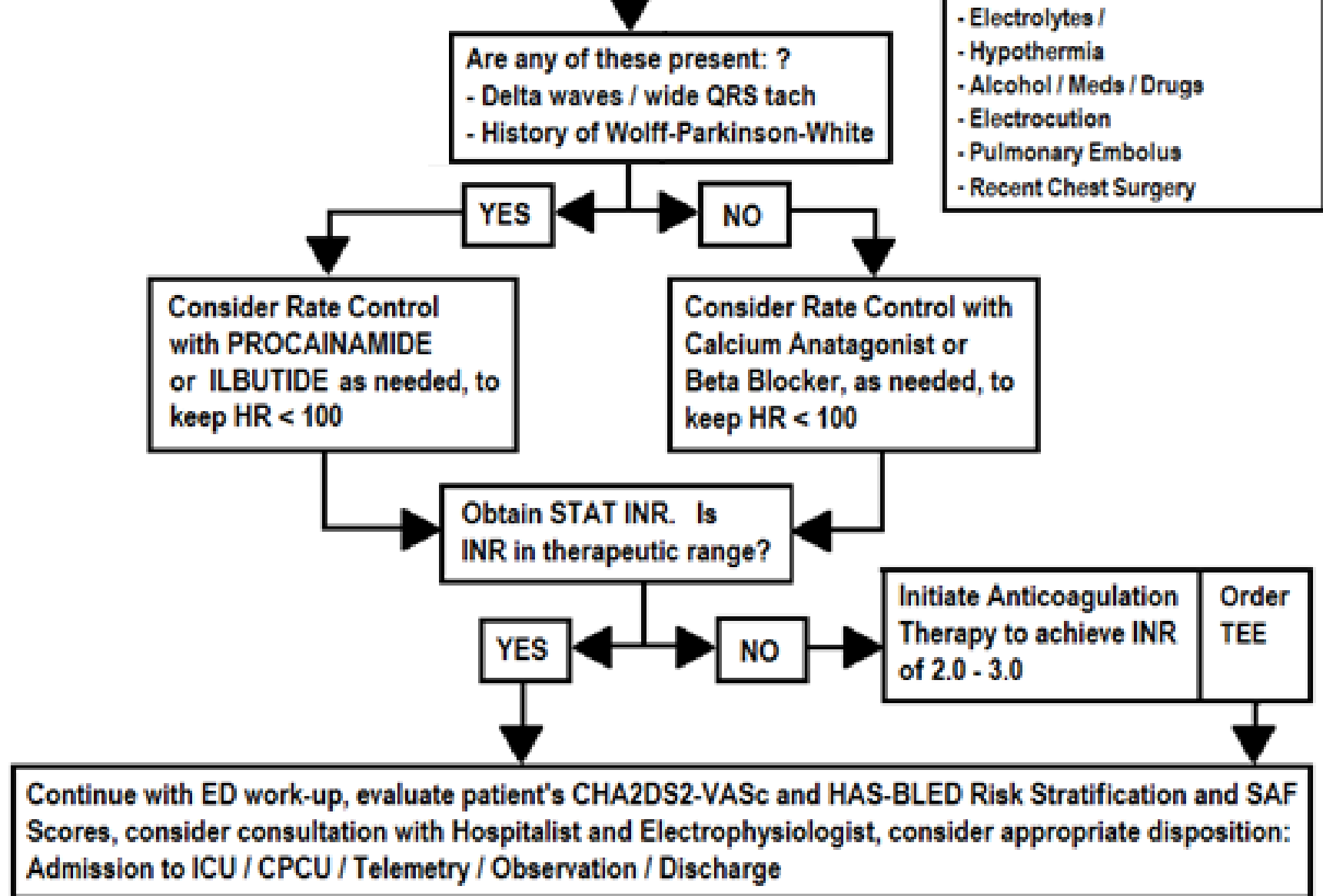
Are any of these present: ?  
- Delta waves / wide QRS tach  
- History of Wolff-Parkinson-White

YES

NO

- Hypertension / Hyperthyroidism
- Hypotension / Hypovolemia
- AMI / CAD / Pericarditis
- Electrolytes /
- Hypothermia
- Alcohol / Meds / Drugs
- Electrocution
- Pulmonary Embolus
- Recent Chest Surgery





**Pay attention to “Wide vs. Narrow” QRS Complexes . . .**

**37 y/o male**

**Chief Complaint: Lightheadedness,  
Palpitations, Shortness of Breath**

**HPI: Sudden onset of above  
symptoms approx. 1 hour ago**

**PMH: HTN (non-compliant)**

**37 y/o male**

**PE: Alert, oriented, restless, cool,  
pale, dry skin. PERL, No JVD, Lungs  
clear. Abd soft non tender,  
Extremities: WNL, no edema**

**Meds: None, NKDA**

**VS: BP 106/50, P 180, R 26, SAO2  
93%**

37 yr  
Male Caucasian  
Room:OP  
Loc:8 Option:16

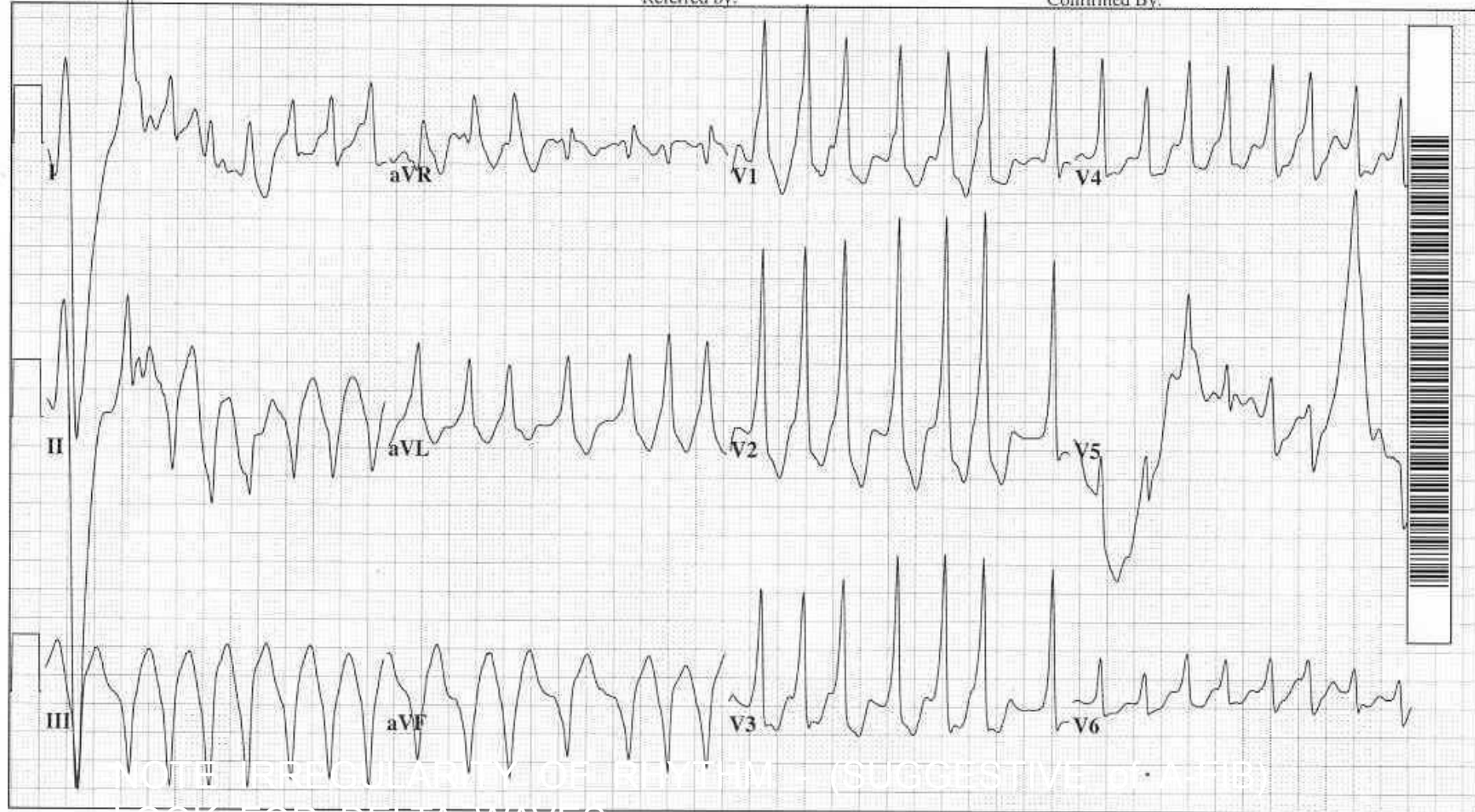
Vent. rate 180 BPM  
PR interval \* ms  
QRS duration 148 ms  
QT/QTc 284/491 ms  
P-R-T axes \* -77 103

WIDE QRS TACHYCARDIA - POSSIBLE VT  
Right bundle branch block PATTERN  
Abnormal ECG

Med: Unknown

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



37 yr  
Male Caucasian  
Room: OP  
Loc: 8 Option: 16

Vent. rate 180 BPM  
PR interval \* ms  
QRS duration 148 ms  
QT/QTc 284/491 ms  
P-R-T axes \* -77 103

WIDE QRS TACHYCARDIA - POSSIBLE VT  
Right bundle branch block PATTERN  
Abnormal ECG

**Do NOT be misled by the COMPUTER's  
MISINTERPRETATION of the ECG !!**



- NOTE IRREGULARITY OF RHYTHM - (SUGGESTIVE of A-FIB)
- WIDE QRS – Consider Bypass Tract (W-P-W)
- DELTA WAVES ? (may or may not be visible).



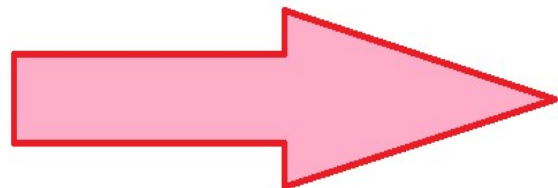
# CHARACTERISTICS of W-P-W with Afib & RVR:

- **WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA**
- **IRREGULARLY IRREGULAR R – R INTERVALS !!**

## NOTE:

**Delta Waves  
may not be  
discernable !**





Are any of these present: ?

- Delta waves / wide QRS tach
- History of Wolff-Parkinson-White

- Electrolytes /
- Hypothermia
- Alcohol / Meds / Drugs
- Electrocution
- Pulmonary Embolus
- Recent Chest Surgery

YES

NO

Consider Rate Control  
with PROCAINAMIDE  
or ILBUTIDE as needed, to  
keep HR < 100

Consider Rate Control with  
Calcium Antagonist or  
Beta Blocker, as needed, to  
keep HR < 100

Obtain STAT INR. Is  
INR in therapeutic range?

YES

NO

Initiate Anticoagulation  
Therapy to achieve INR  
of 2.0 - 3.0

Order  
TEE

Continue with ED work-up, evaluate patient's CHA2DS2-VASc and HAS-BLED Risk Stratification and SAF Scores, consider consultation with Hospitalist and Electrophysiologist, consider appropriate disposition: Admission to ICU / CPCU / Telemetry / Observation / Discharge

# Afib/AFL: Pt. Hemodynamically Stable:

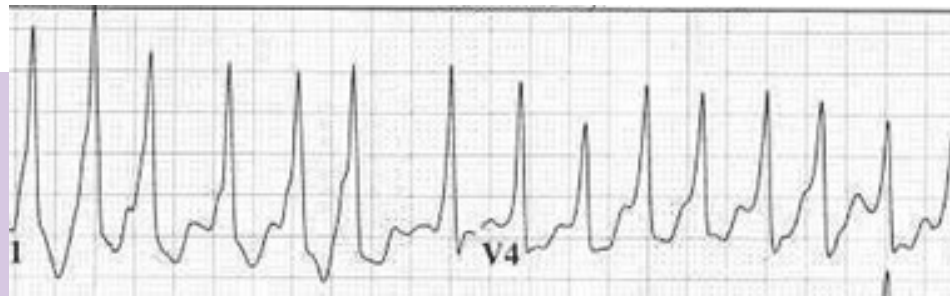
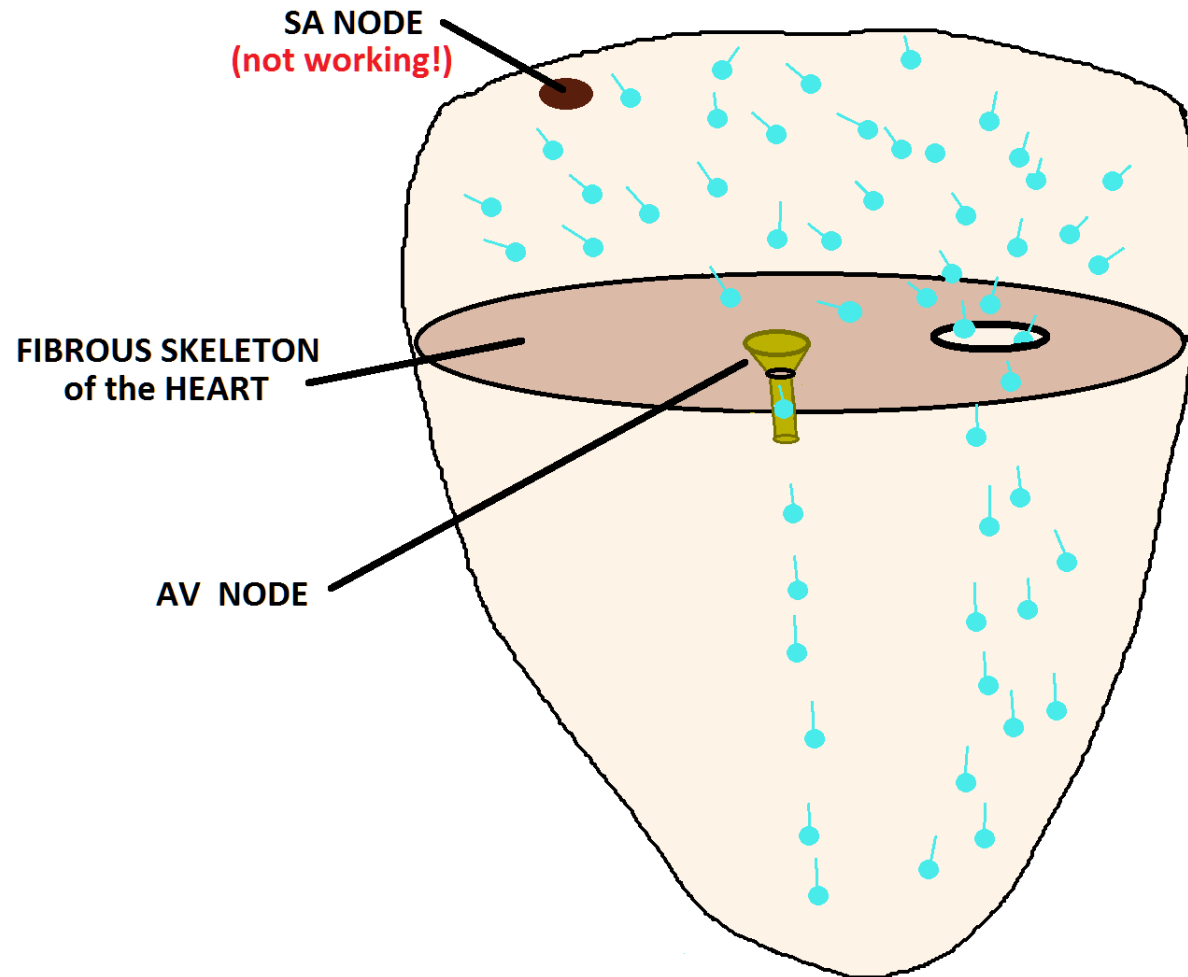
- Rate control strategy:
  - QRS Complexes Wide. If Delta waves are present or if unable to rule out pre-excitation:

**Administration of intravenous amiodarone, adenosine, digoxin (oral or intravenous), or nondihydropyridine calcium channel antagonists (oral or intravenous) in patients with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome who have pre-excited AF is potentially harmful because these drugs accelerate the ventricular rate and are known to precipitate VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION**

**Class III (harm), LOE B**

**Source: 2014 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for the Management of Patients With Atrial Fibrillation**

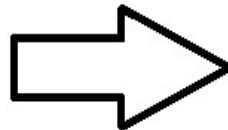
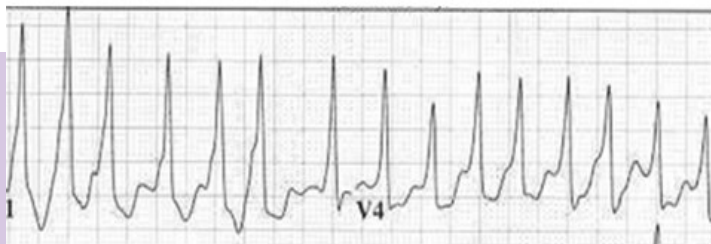
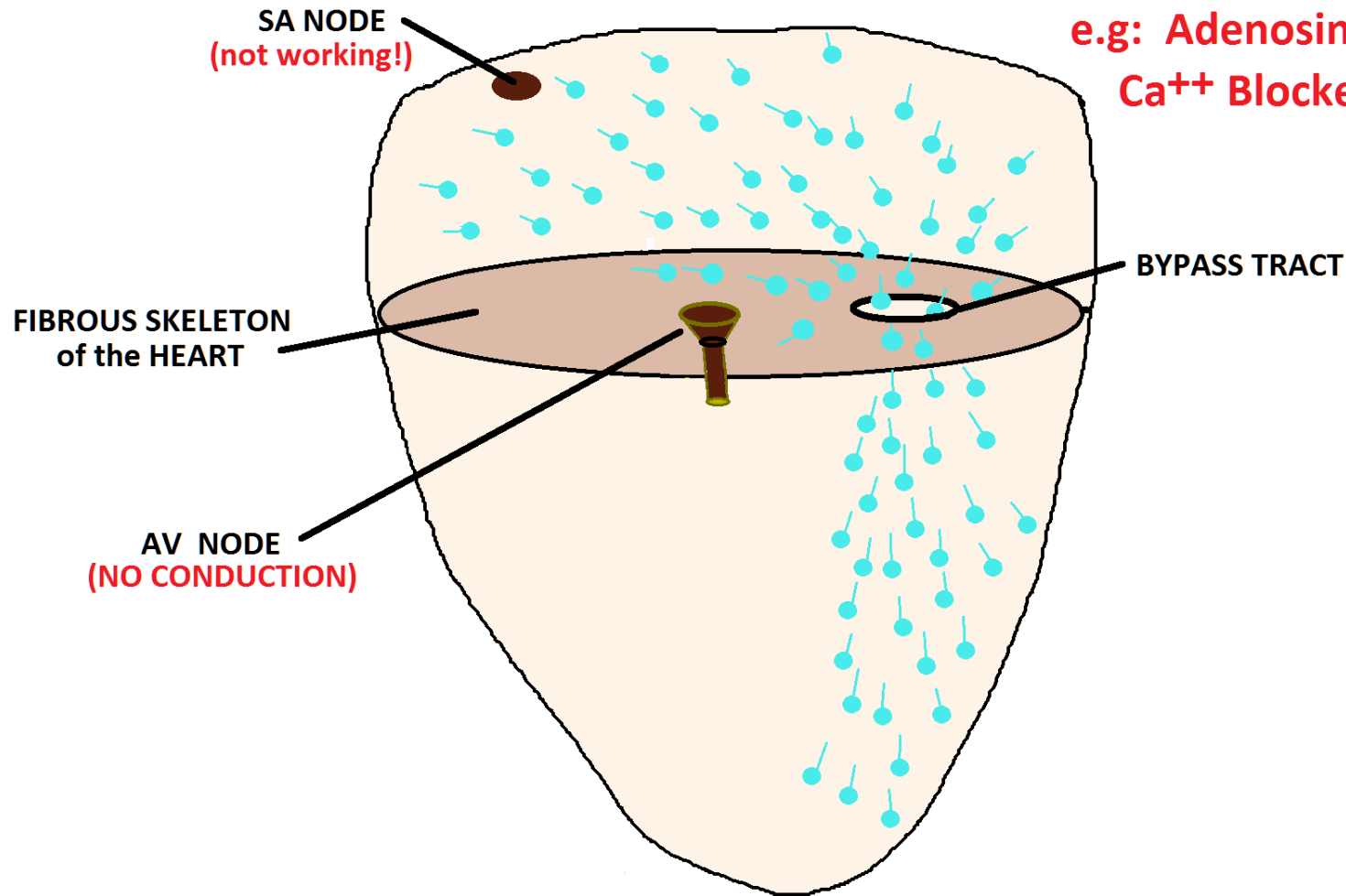
# Atrial Fibrillation with Wolff-Parkinson White



# Atrial Fibrillation with Wolff-Parkinson White

with AV NODAL BLOCKING AGENTS

e.g: Adenosine,  
Ca<sup>++</sup> Blockers



# **AF / AFL with Ventricular Rate >100**

## **Patient is Hemodynamically Stable**

- **Rate control strategy**

- **QRS Complexes Wide (>120ms). If Delta waves are present or if unable to rule out pre-excitation:**

Intravenous **procainamide** or **ibutilide** (Corvert) to restore sinus rhythm or slow the ventricular rate is recommended for patients with pre-excited AF and rapid ventricular response who are not hemodynamically compromised .

**Class I, LOE C**



# WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA

(QRS > 120 ms)

MONOPHASIC

ABCs

NO PULSE

GO TO  
V-FIB  
ALGORITHM !

PULSE - UNSTABLE

- IMMEDIATE SYNC. CARDIOVERSION:
  - 120 j biphasic
  - consider sedation
- INCREASE joules
- MEDS:
  - PROCAINAMIDE
  - ~~AMIODARONE~~

PULSE - STABLE

- O2, IV-IO, EKG
- MEDS:
  - ~~• ADENOSINE 6-12 (only if BENIGN AR)~~
  - PROCAINAMIDE (20-50mg/min)
  - ~~• AMIODARONE (150 mg bolus)~~
  - ILBUTILIDE

# Case Progression . . . .

- ED Physician ordered Diltiazem bolus and maintenance infusion.
- Veteran ED RN expressed concern that rhythm could be Afib with Bypass Tract. Physician became visibly angered and ordered RN to administer the Diltiazem *as ordered*.
- **During Diltiazem bolus, patient converted to Ventricular Fibrillation.**
- Post Defibrillation 12 Lead ECG revealed . . . .



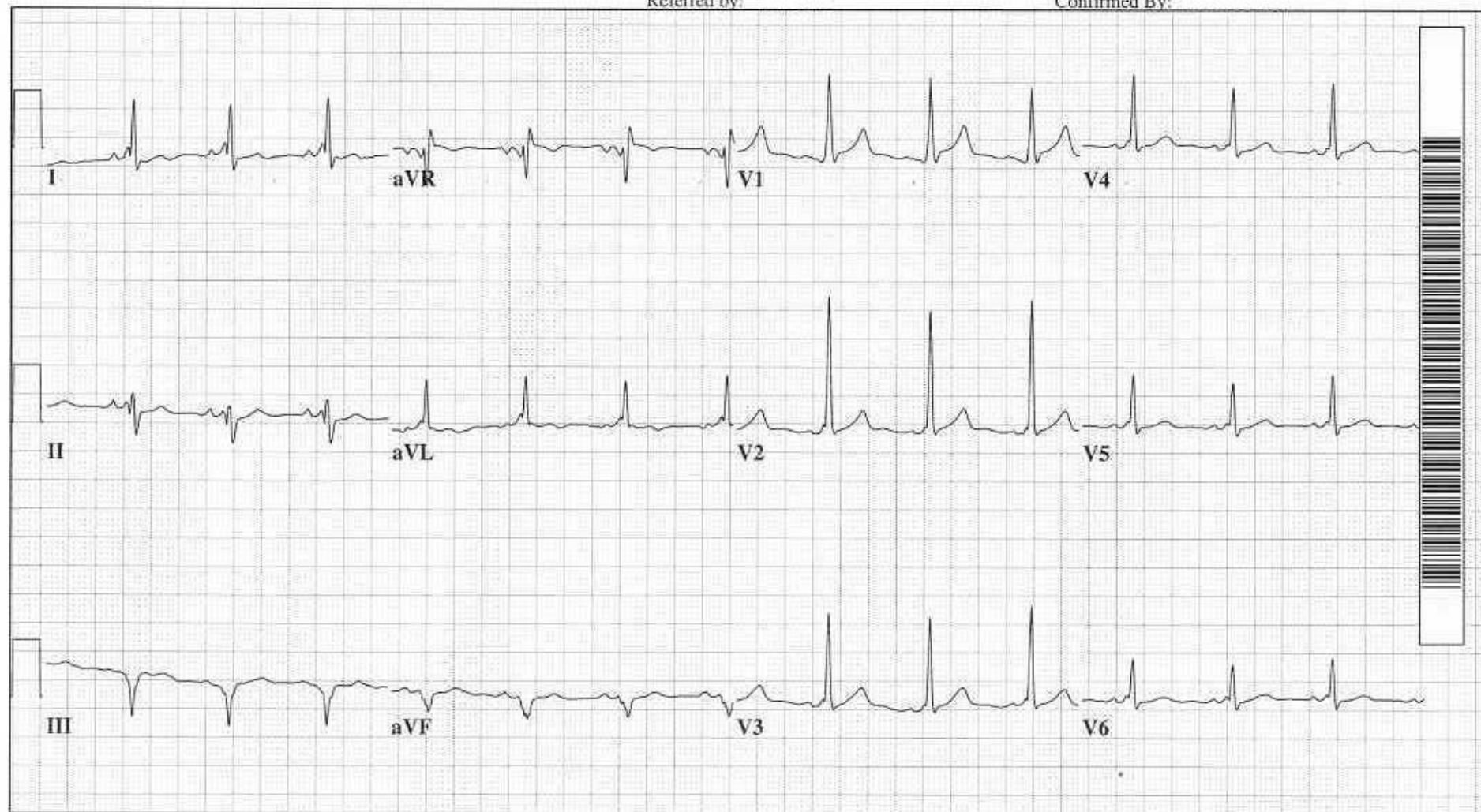
37 yr  
Male Caucasian  
Room:OP  
Loc:8 Option:19

Vent. rate 82 BPM  
PR interval 132 ms  
QRS duration 128 ms  
QT/QTc 392/458 ms  
P-R-T axes 77 -44 154

Normal sinus rhythm  
Ventricular pre-excitation, WPW pattern type A  
Abnormal ECG

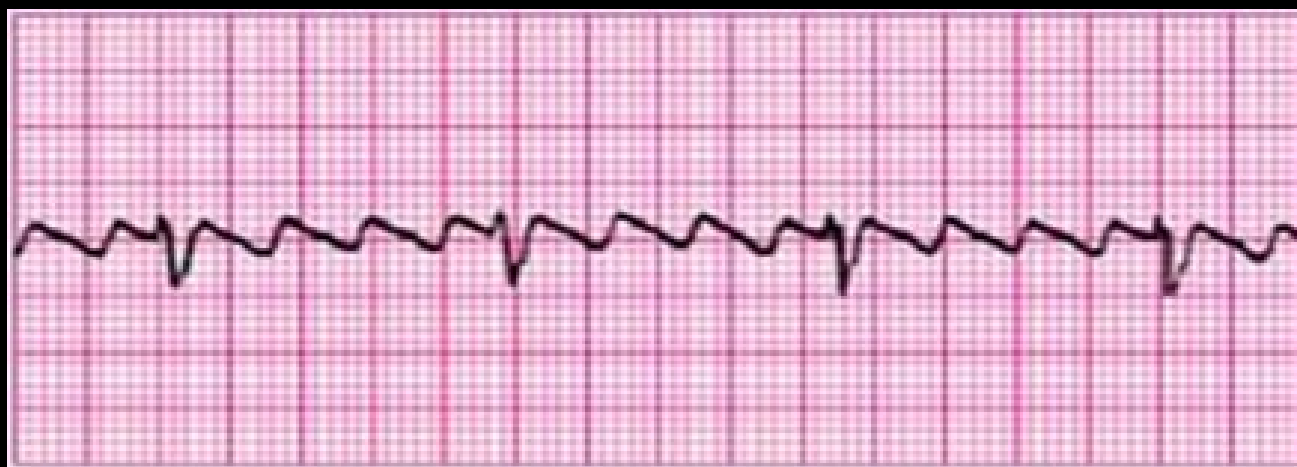
Referred by:

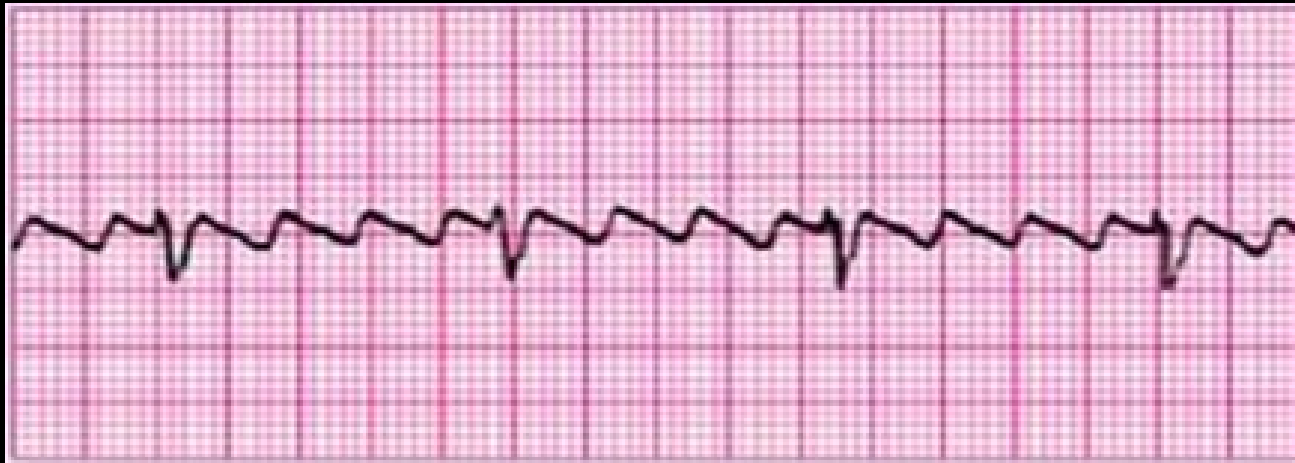
Confirmed By:



# AHA ACLS Advocates TEAM CONCEPT:

- Team Leader coordinates overall patient management.
- Asking other Team Members for their ideas and suggestions is encouraged.
- Consider suggestions with open mind, then implement or veto suggestion as indicated.
- ***When orders are given, staff must repeat order back to team leader. THIS IS CALLED: "CLOSED-LOOP COMMUNICATION."***





-NEED FOR EMERGENT TX BASED ON VENTRICULAR RATE

-OFTEN OBSERVED INTERMITTENTLY WITH A-FIB

-IF CARDIOVERSION NEEDED, CONSIDER R/O ATRIAL THROMBUS

68 yr  
Male Hispanic  
Room: VAM  
Loc: 3 Option: 23

Vent. rate 85 BPM  
PR interval \* ms  
QRS duration 100 ms  
QT/QTc 342/406 ms  
P-R-T axes \* 58 46

\*\*\*UNEDITED COPY: REPORT IS COMPUTER GENERATED ONLY, WITHOUT PHYSICIAN INTERPRETATION".  
Atrial fibrillation  
Voltage criteria for left ventricular hypertrophy  
Abnormal ECG  
When compared with ECG of 19-NOV-2006 07:39,  
No significant change was found

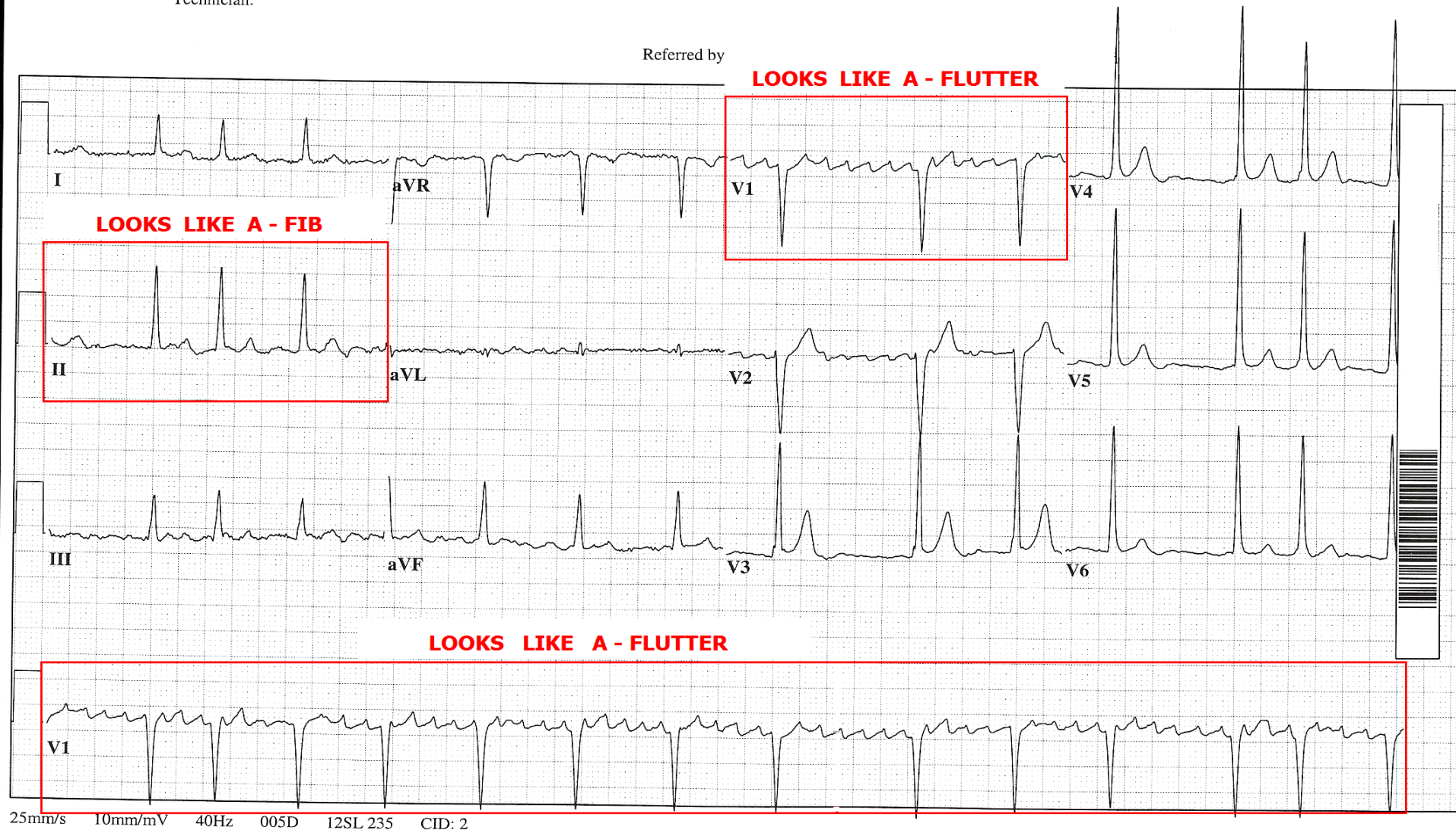
Technician:

Referred by

**LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER**

**LOOKS LIKE A - FIB**

**LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER**



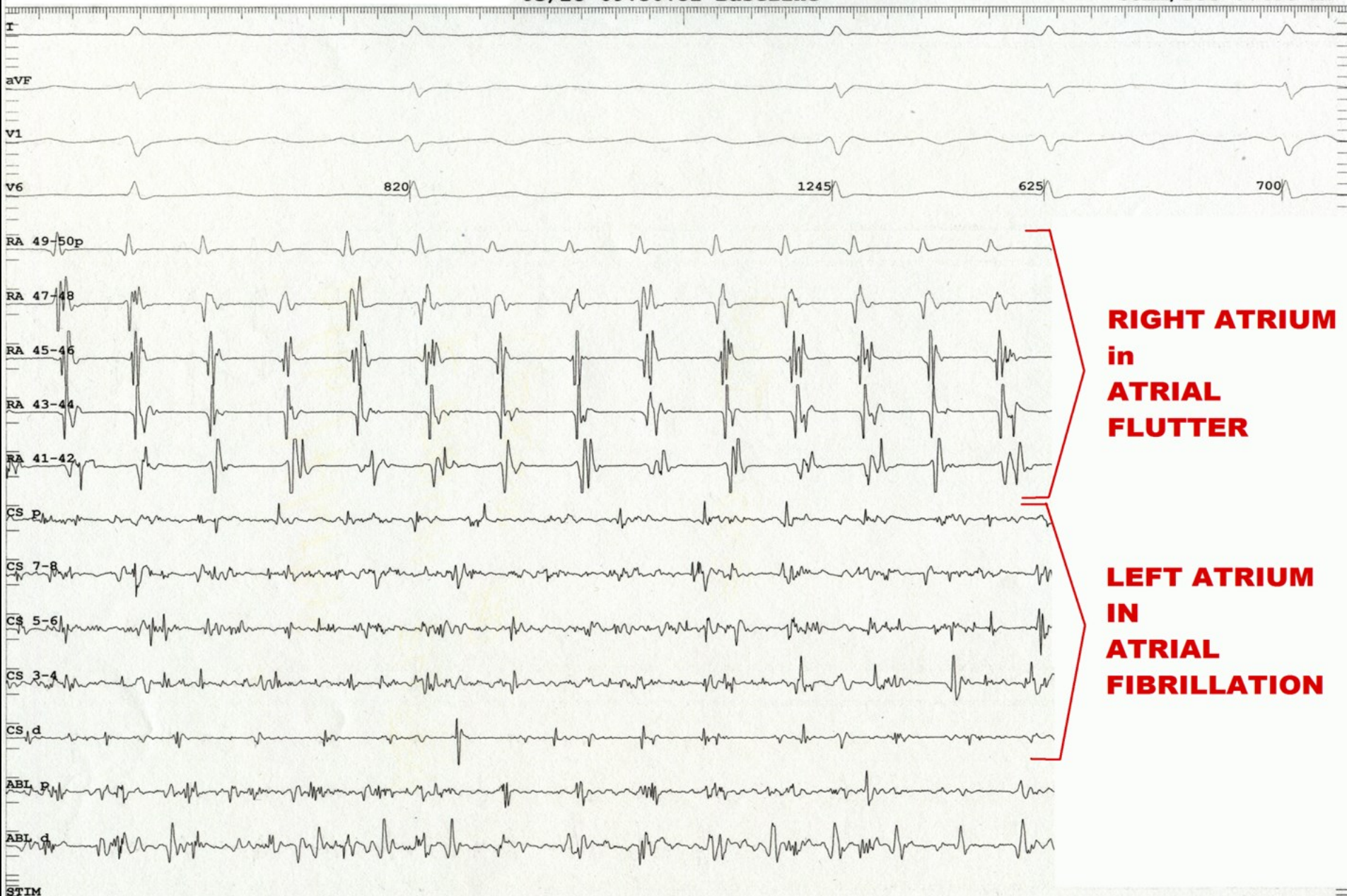
25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005D 12SL 235 CID: 2



# "ATRIAL FIB - FLUTTER"

03/28 09:30:52 Baseline

63mm/sec 0.400 mV



**RIGHT ATRIUM  
in  
ATRIAL  
FLUTTER**

**LEFT ATRIUM  
IN  
ATRIAL  
FIBRILLATION**

 Management of A-Flutter:  
same considerations as A-Fib.





For MORE INFO on the Mgmt. of Afib / AFL,



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

May 25-27, 2016

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

## **Initial Evaluation and Early Stabilization: Best Practices for the Atrial Fibrillation / Flutter Patient**

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

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

[CLICK HERE to download presentation “Initial Evaluation and Early Stabilization: Best Practices for the AF/AFL Pt.”](#)



## THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER FOR MANAGEMENT OF VENTRICULAR ECTOPY:

1. DOES IT POSE AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO THE PATIENT'S WELL-BEING (e.g. R on T, RUNS OF VT, or EXCESSIVE FREQUENCY) ?
2. DOES IT IMPAIR THE PATIENT'S VENTRICULAR FUNCTION (e.g. - Frequent RV OUTFLOW TRACT PVCs).
3. ETIOLOGY ? (AMI, ISCHEMIA, etc)

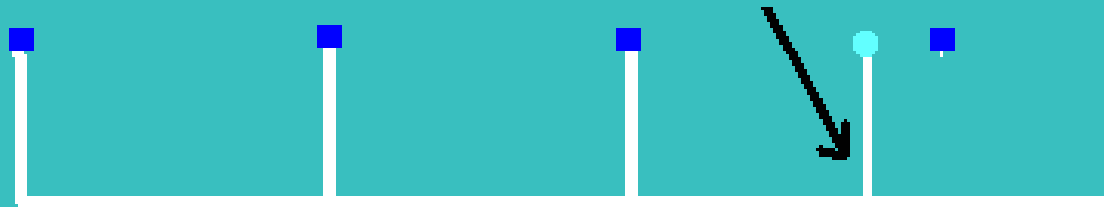
### IMMEDIATE THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION:

- **PROCAINAMIDE** (BE AWARE OF QT INTERVAL)
- **AMIODARONE** (BE AWARE of QT INTERVAL – **USE OF AMIODARONE MAY DELAY SUCCESSFUL EP STUDY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS !!** )
- **LIDOCAINE**

# CLASSIFICATIONS OF ECTOPY

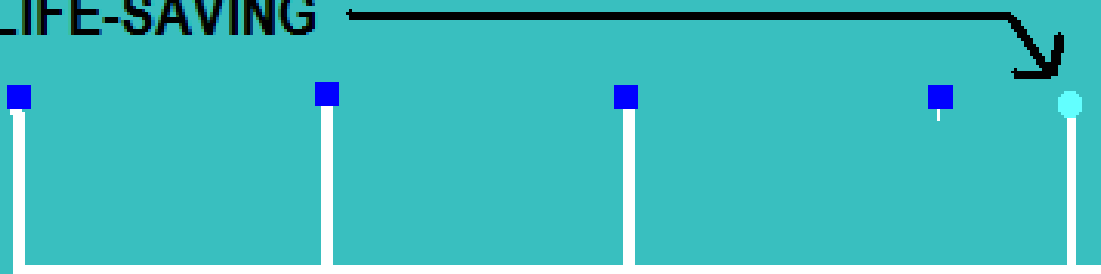
## 1. PREMATURE

THE ECTOPIC BEAT COMES BEFORE THE NEXT REGULARLY EXPECTED BEAT (IT'S EARLY!)



## 2. END-DIASTOLIC, ESCAPE, or COMPENSATORY

THE ECTOPIC BEAT COMES AFTER A REGULAR BEAT FAILS TO HAPPEN. END-DIASTOLIC BEATS MAY BE LIFE-SAVING



# CAUSES OF ECTOPY


---

## 1. PREMATURE

- HYPOXIA
- IRRITABILITY
- CHANGES IN SYMPATHETIC / PARASYMPATHETIC TONE
- DAMAGE TO MYOCARDIUM CAUSING CHANGES IN AUTOMATICITY (such as from MI / NECROSIS, etc. ).
- MEDICATIONS / SUBSTANCES
- ELECTROLYTES

## 2. END-DIASTOLIC, ESCAPE, or COMPENSATORY

- FAILURE OF SA NODE
- FAILURE OF AV NODE



WHEN THESE FAIL TO PRODUCE OR PROPOGATE AN IMPULSE, ESCAPE FOCI MAY TAKE OVER PACING THE HEART BY PRODUCING END-DIASTOLIC BEATS

# SIMPLY STATED,

## 1. PREMATURE BEATS ----

**BAD**



IN SOME CASES WE MUST ELIMINATE  
PREMATURE BEATS TO PROTECT THE  
PATIENT

## 2. END-DIASTOLIC or ESCAPE BEATS ----

**GOOD**

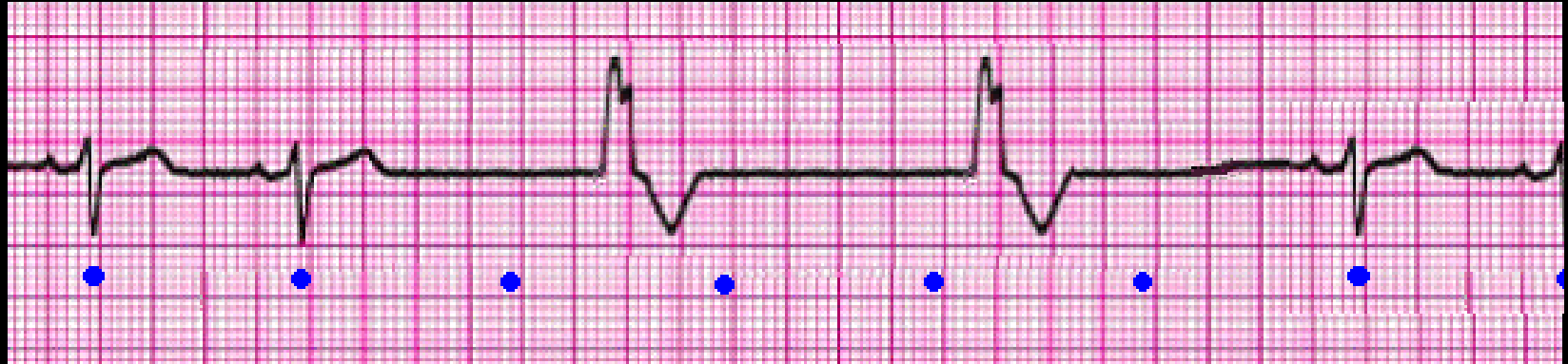


ELIMINATION OF END-DIASTOLIC  
BEATS COULD BE DEADLY





## THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS ARREST w/ VENT. ESCAPE



### TREATMENT / INTERVENTION (S):

- EMERGENT TREATMENT IS TRANSCUTANEOUS PACING.
- TREAT UNDERLYING CAUSE OF SINUS / AV ARREST
- **DO NOT** ATTEMPT TO SUPPRESS VENTRICULAR ESCAPE BEATS WITHOUT HAVING BACK-UP TRANSCUTANEOUS / TRANSVENOUS PACING ATTACHED TO PATIENT !!!

## WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA . . . .



### IT COULD BE:

- MONOPHASIC VT
- SVT WITH BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK
- ANTEDROMIC RECIPROCATING BYPASS TRACT MEDIATED TACHYCARDIA (W-P-W).

# **WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA**

( QRS > 120 ms )

**MONOPHASIC**

**ABC s**

## **NO PULSE**

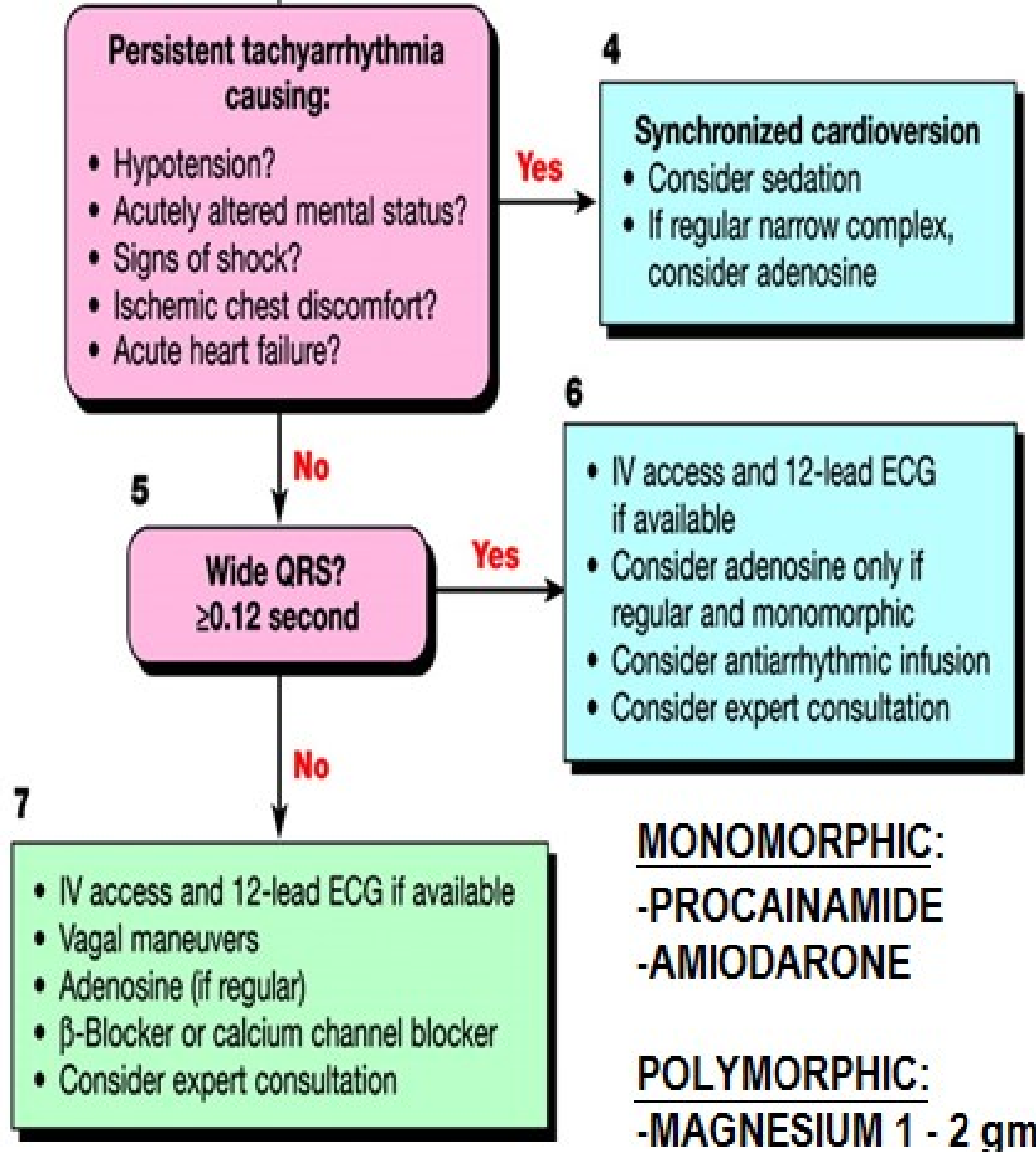
**GO TO  
V - FIB  
ALGORITHM !**

## **PULSE - UNSTABLE**

- IMMEDIATE SYNC. CARDIOVERSION:
  - 100 j biphasic
  - consider sedation
- INCREASE joules
- MEDS:
  - PROCAINAMIDE
  - AMIODARONE

## **PULSE - STABLE**

- O2, IV-IO, EKG
- MEDS:
  - ADENOSINE 6-12 (only if REGULAR)
  - PROCAINAMIDE (20-50mg/min)
  - AMIODARONE (150 over 10min + 1mg/ min INFUSION)



**MONOMORPHIC:**

**-PROCAINAMIDE**

**-AMIODARONE**

**POLYMORPHIC:**

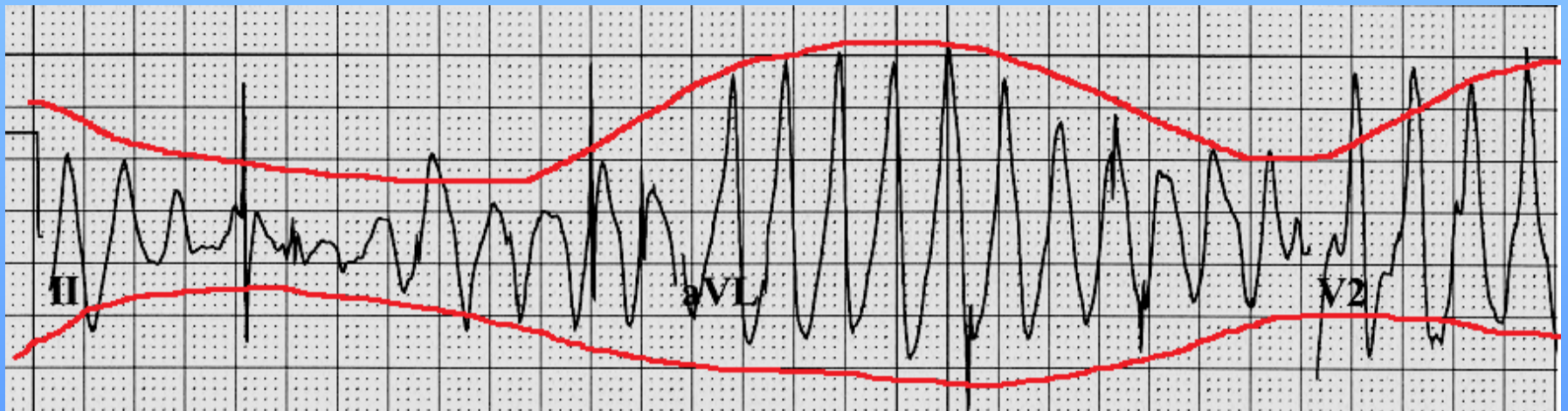
**-MAGNESIUM 1 - 2 gm**



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



*a piece of Twisted Ribbon !*



# WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA

## TORSADES de POINTES

( QRS > 120 ms )

### ABC s

```
graph TD; A[ABCs] --> B[NO PULSE]; A --> C[PULSE - UNSTABLE]; A --> D[PULSE - STABLE]; B --> B1[GO TO V-FIB ALGORITHM!]; C --> C1[IMMEDIATE UNSYNCHRONIZED DEFIBRILLATION 120-200 j biphasic 360 monophasic]; D --> D1[O2 / IV / EKG]; D --> D2[MAGNESIUM 1-2 gm OVER 5-60 min, THEN INFUSION];
```

#### NO PULSE

GO TO  
V - FIB  
ALGORITHM !

#### PULSE - UNSTABLE

- IMMEDIATE  
*UNSYNCHRONIZED*  
DEFIBRILLATION  
120-200 j biphasic  
360 monophasic

#### PULSE - STABLE

- O2 / IV / EKG
- MAGNESIUM  
1 - 2 gm OVER  
5 - 60 min, THEN  
INFUSION

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



# ***Patient Experiencing Runs of TdP:***

- ***DC QT prolonging Meds IMMEDIATELY  
(consider alternate therapy - pharmacy?)***
- ***Magnesium Sulfate 1-2 grams IV infused  
over 5-60 minutes***
- ***STAT 12 Lead ECG – Assess QT / QTc  
interval, Abnormal T and U waves . . .***
- ***Electrolytes with Serum Mag.***

# 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--

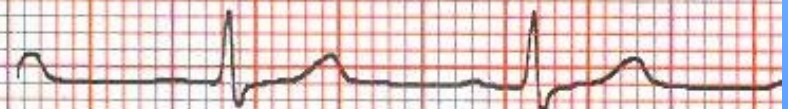
P 70

QRS 41

T -1

12 Lead; Standard Place

I



# 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

# ***CONSIDER ORDERING 12 Lead ECG (to asses QT/QTc) on “high risk” patients:***

- History / Fam history of:***
  - LQTS***
  - Brugada Syndrome***
  - Sudden Death***
- Patients receiving two or more QT prolonging Meds***
- Patients with “syncope unknown etiology”***

***Also for patients with known QT  
prolongation or “at risk” patients:***

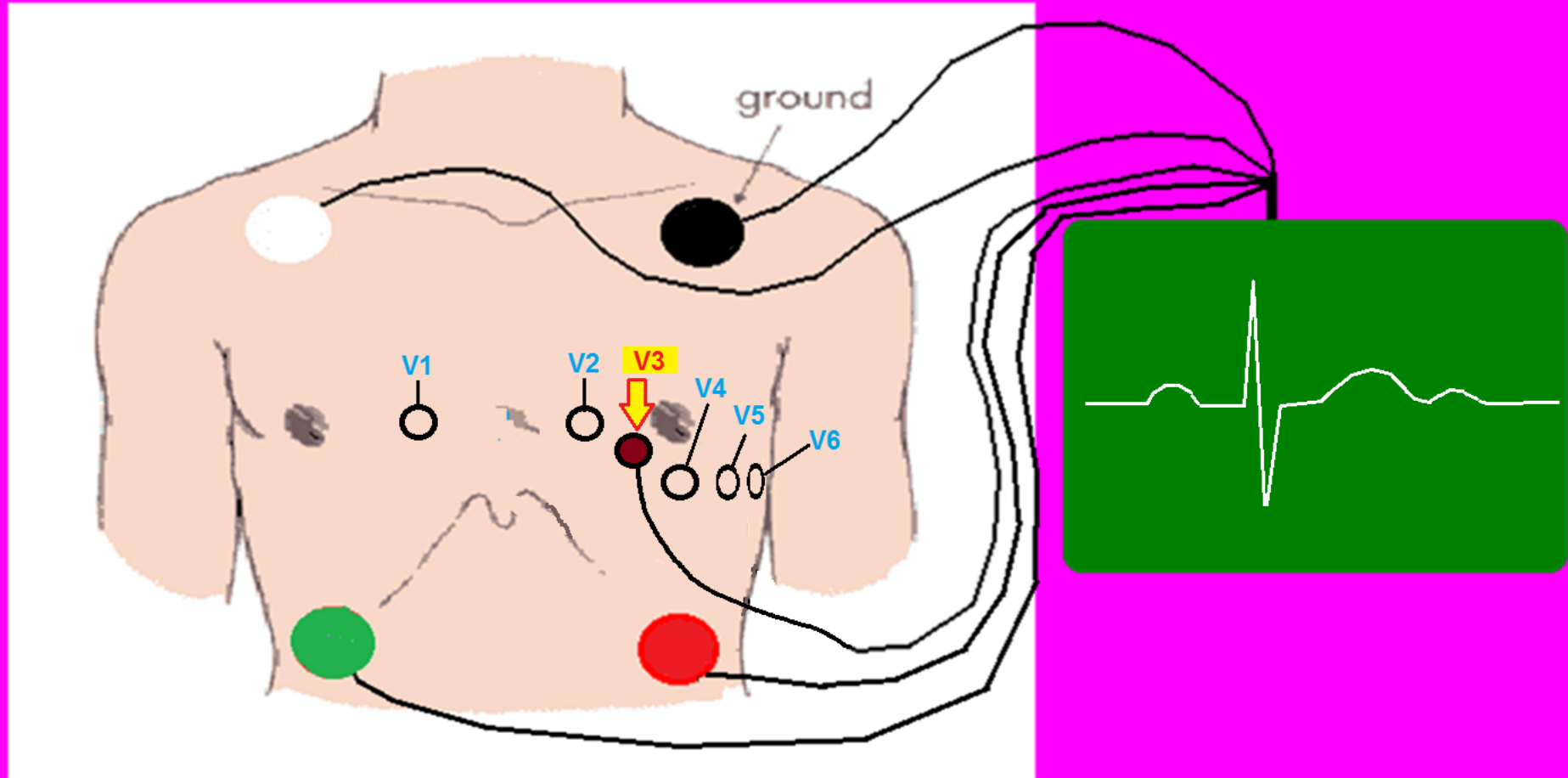
***Consider ordering***

**CONTINUOUS QT<sub>c</sub> MONITORING**

***For CPC Accreditation, SRRMC is  
currently developing a  
“QTc Monitoring Protocol.”***

***It will include . . . .***

# LEAD PLACEMENT - V3



**5 WIRE TELEMETRY UNIT**



# *At SRRMC: Automated CONTINUOUS QTc MONITORING Available for Tele:*



*At SRRMC: Automated  
CONTINUOUS QTc MONITORING  
Available for Tele:*



# QT Prolongation -- *D/C QT Prolonging Meds:*

 *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!***

[LINK to preview EP tools on iTunes website – click here](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/epTools/id430201878?mt=8)

//itunes.apple.com/us/app/epTools/id430201878?mt=8

## App Store Preview

This app is only available on the



**epTools** 17+

Resources for Cardiac EP  
Busy Being Born Solutions, LLC

\$5.99

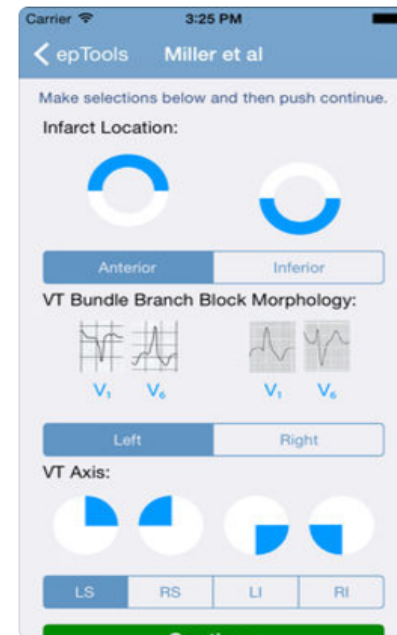
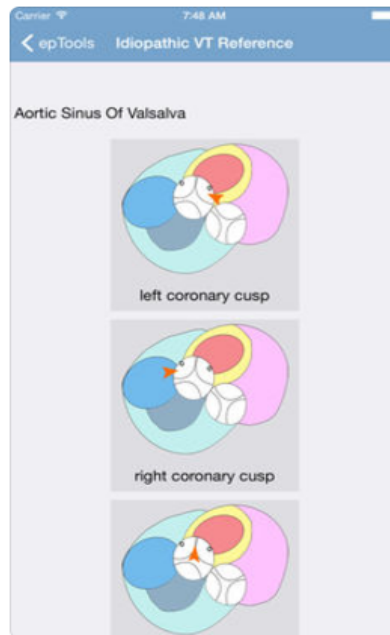
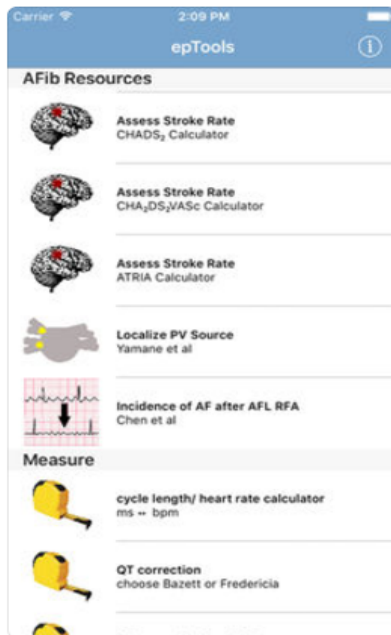
**My favorite ECG / Cardiology iPhone APP:**

- has updated list of QT prolonging meds from AZ University (AZCERT)
- QTc calculation tools (Bazett's & Fredericia)

## Screenshots

[iPhone](#)

[iPad](#)



**FOR VENTRICULAR RATES BETWEEN 60 – 100 with QRSd <120ms:**

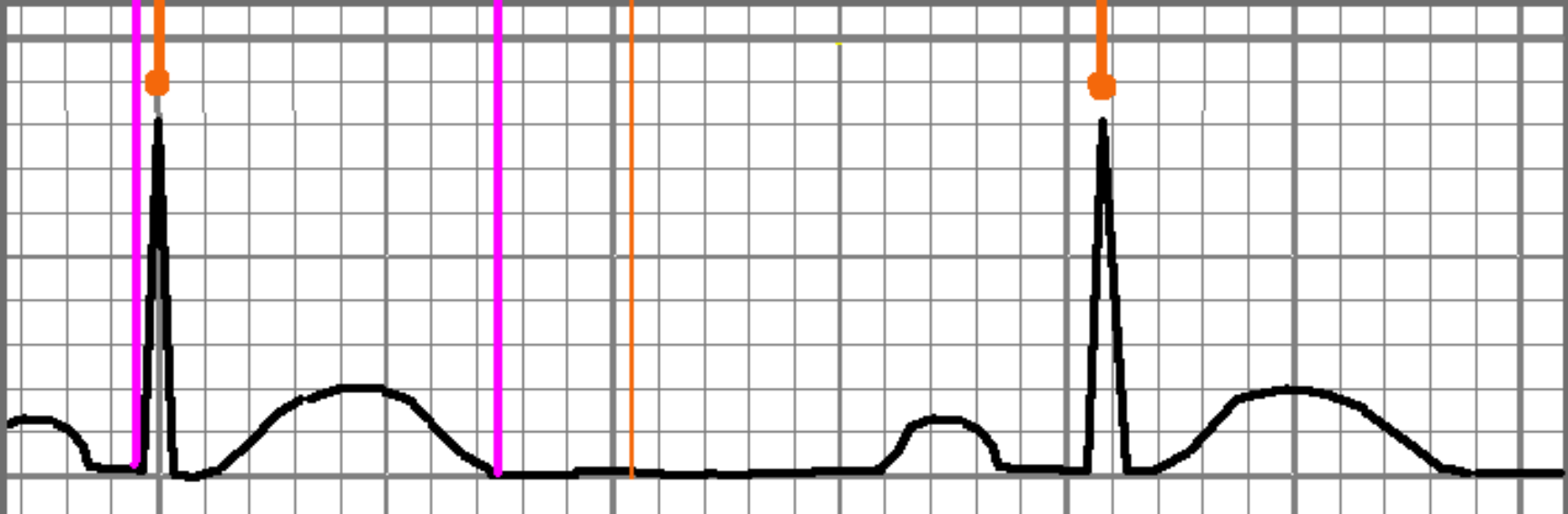
**The Q - T Interval  
should be LESS THAN 1/2 the**

**R - R Interval**

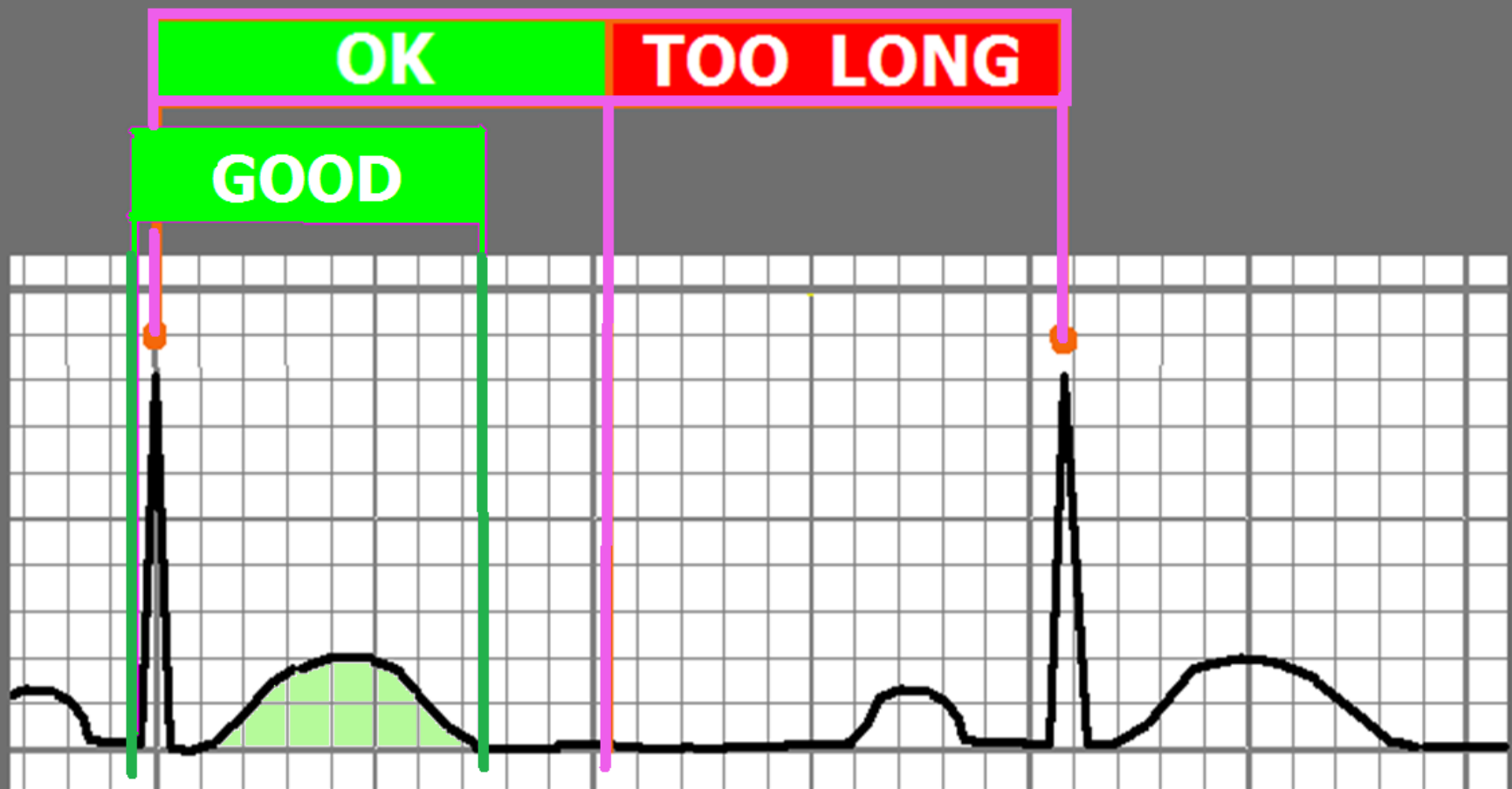
**OK**

**TOO LONG**

**GOOD**



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





## Known ECG Indicators of Long QT Syndrome:

- QTc 460ms or longer in females\*
- QTc 450ms or longer in males\*
- T wave alterans
- U waves 100% size of the T wave\*\*
- U waves merged with T waves
- U wave opposite polarity of T wave
- U waves >0.1mv (1mm on standard calibrated ECG)

\*P. Rautaharju, et al, "[Standardization and Interpretation of the ECG, Part IV](#)"  
JACC2009;53, no. 11:982-991

\*\* Medical literature citations reflect variation in the value for U wave amplitude as an indicator of LQTS, ranging from 25 – 100% of the T wave amplitude.



**WHEN LQTS IS SUSPECTED, TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS . . . .**

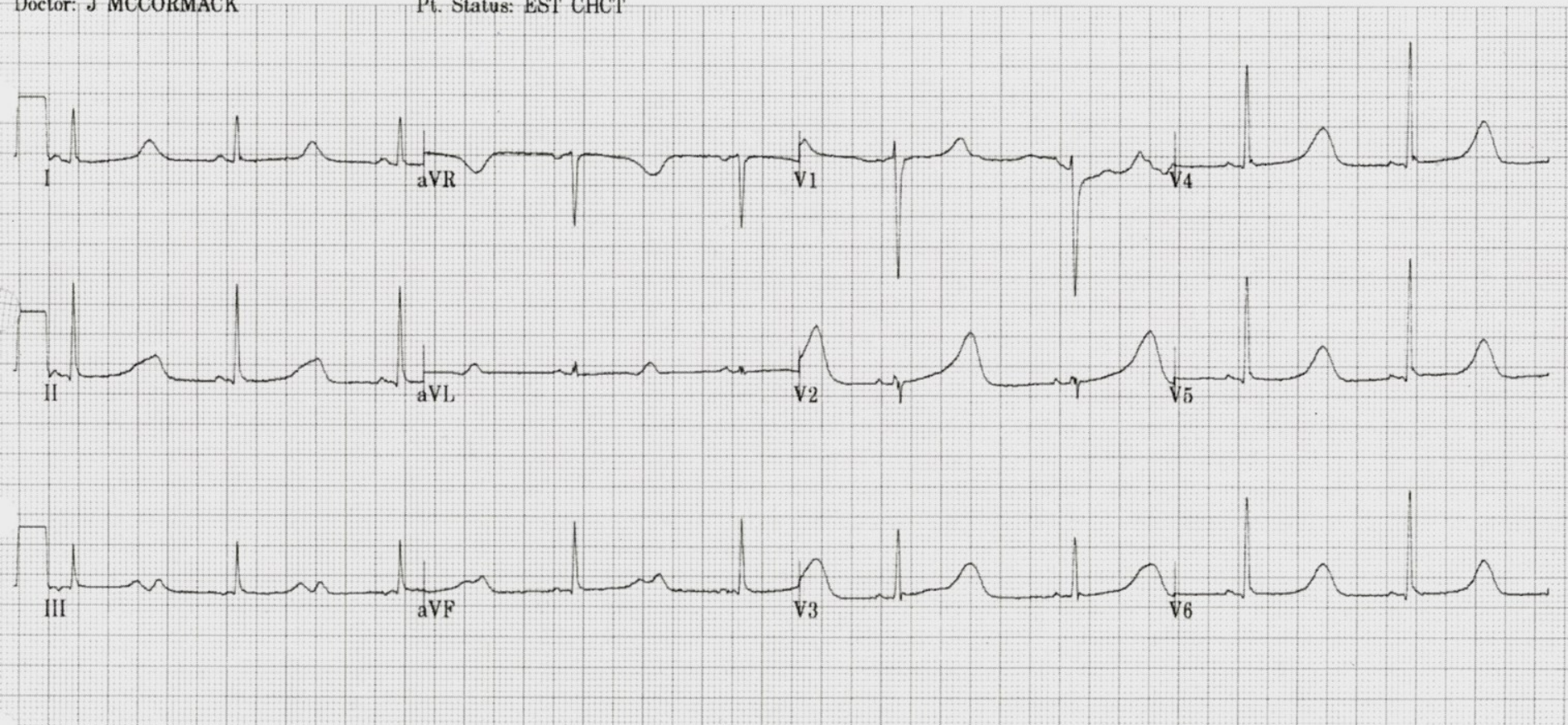
**22 y/o FEMALE**

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

Doctor: J MCCORMACK

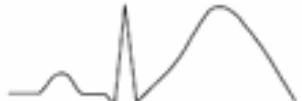


Pt. Status: EST CHCT



**Patient diagnosed with Epilepsy, Rx: Dilantin, Phenobarbitol, Cerebrex –  
All INEFFECTIVE at controlling grand mal seizures . . . .**

# 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

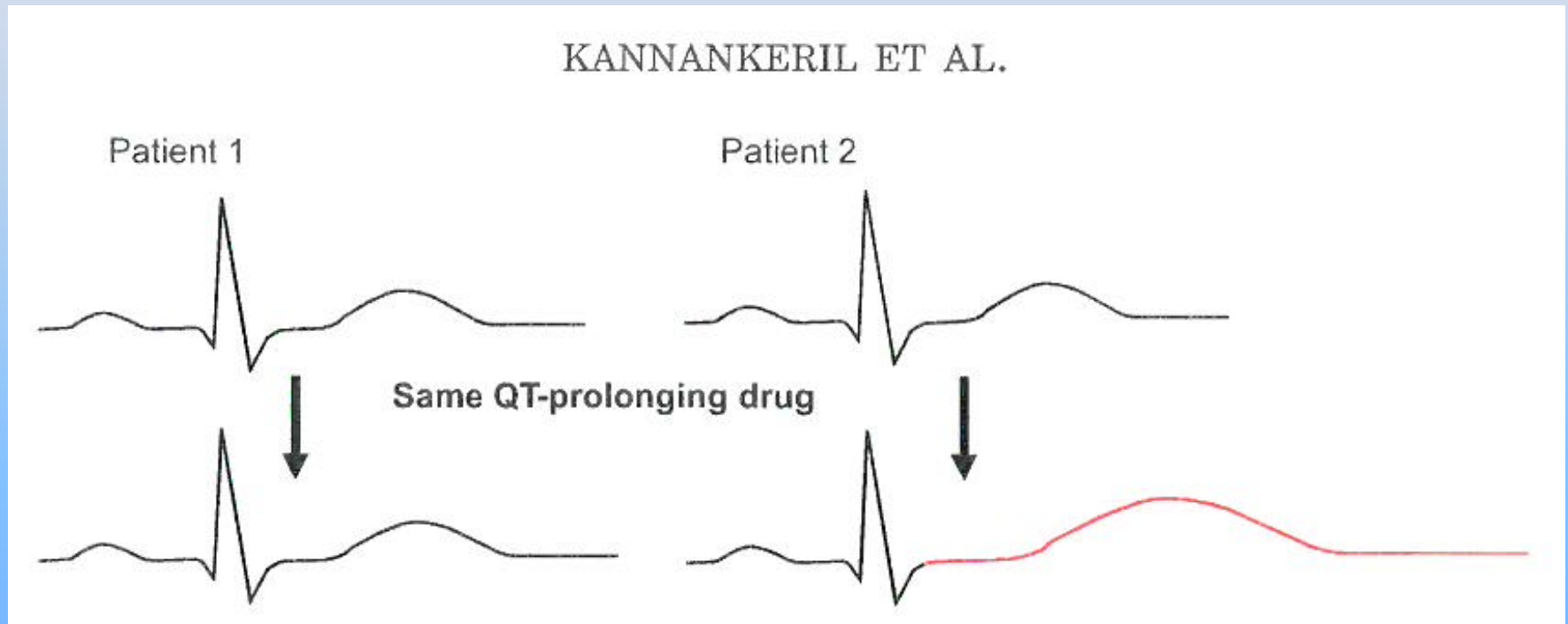
### **Miscellaneous**

Coronary Artery Disease

Mitral Valve Prolapse

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.](#)



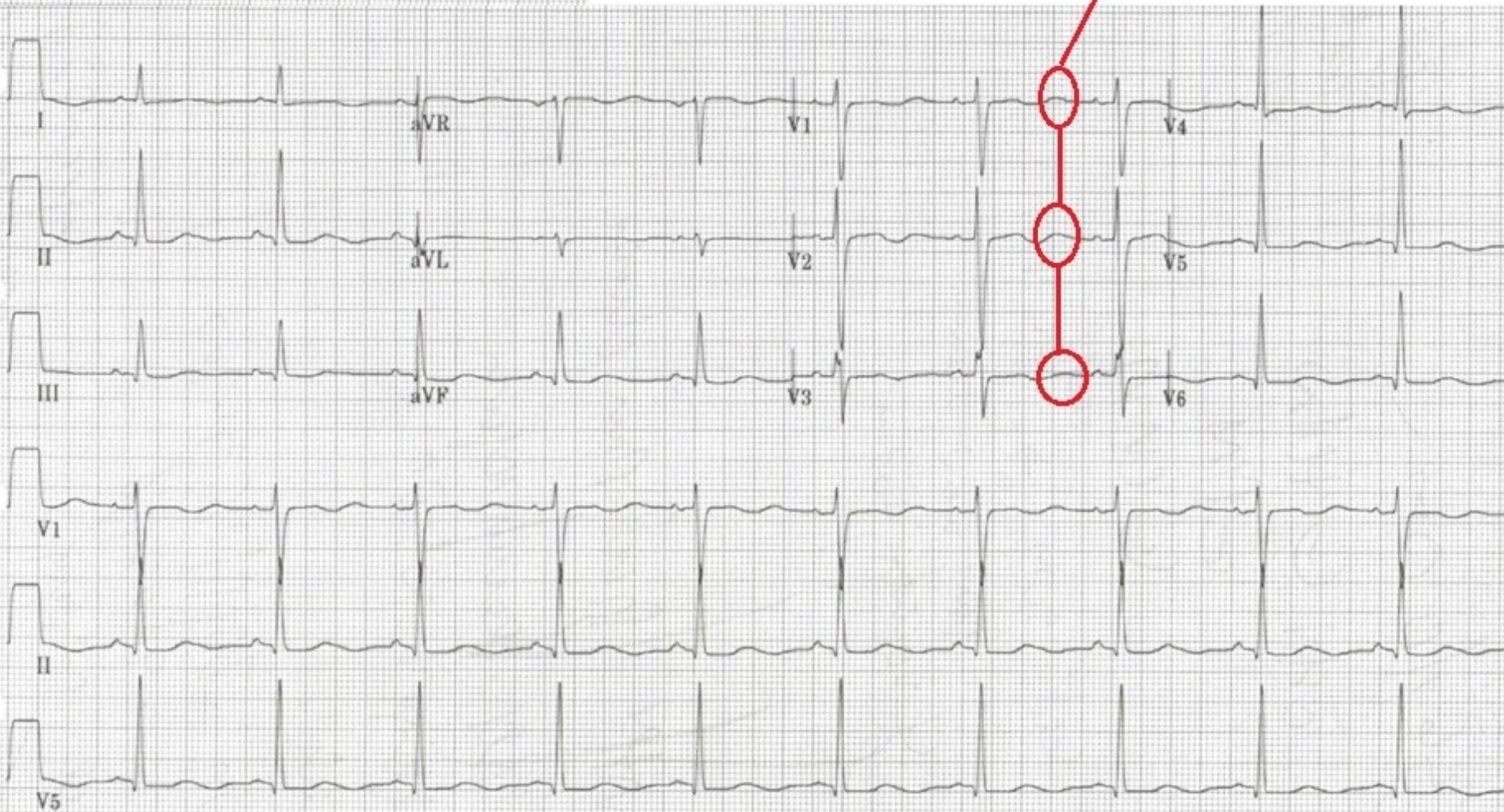
## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male

56 years 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

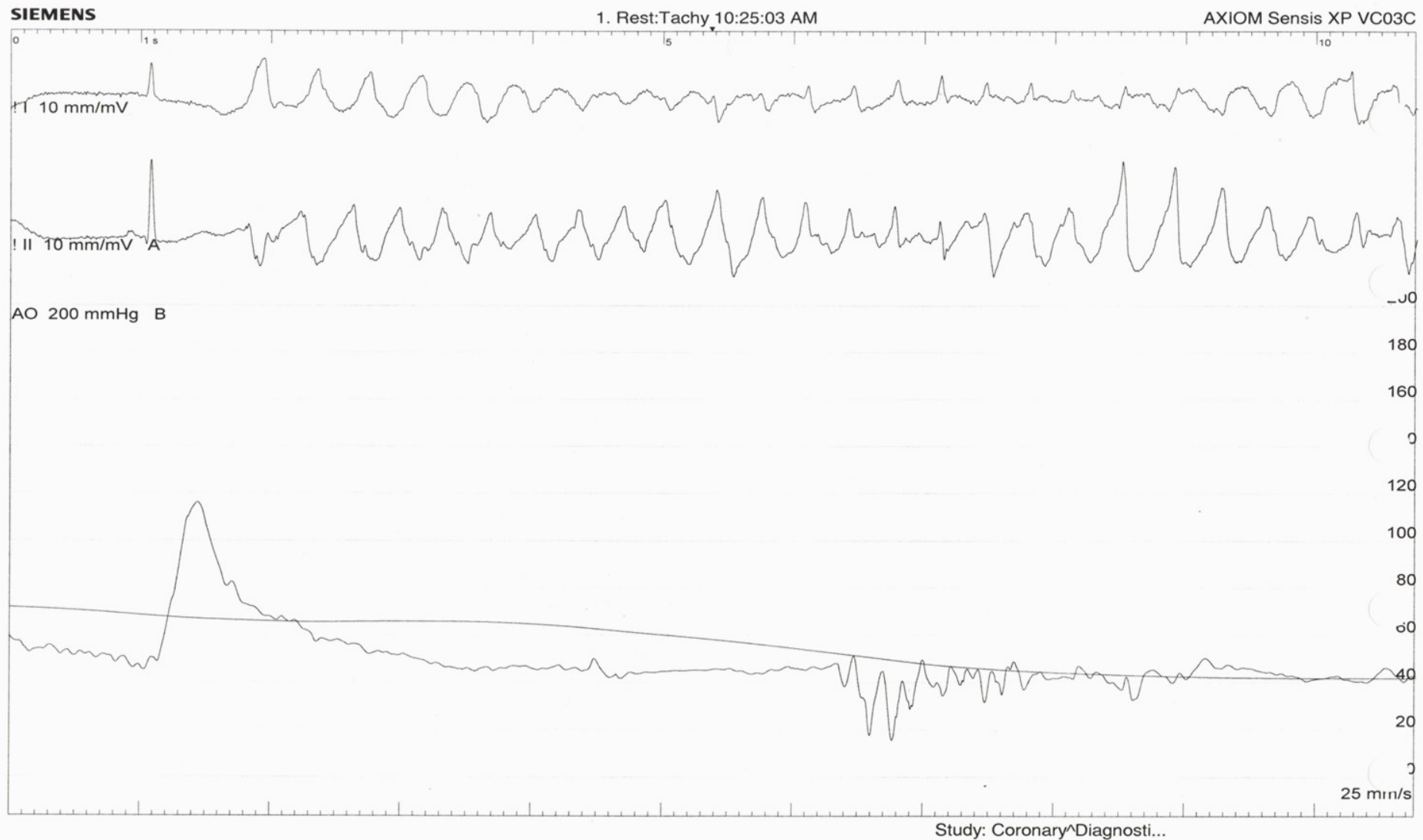
Technician:

### "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.



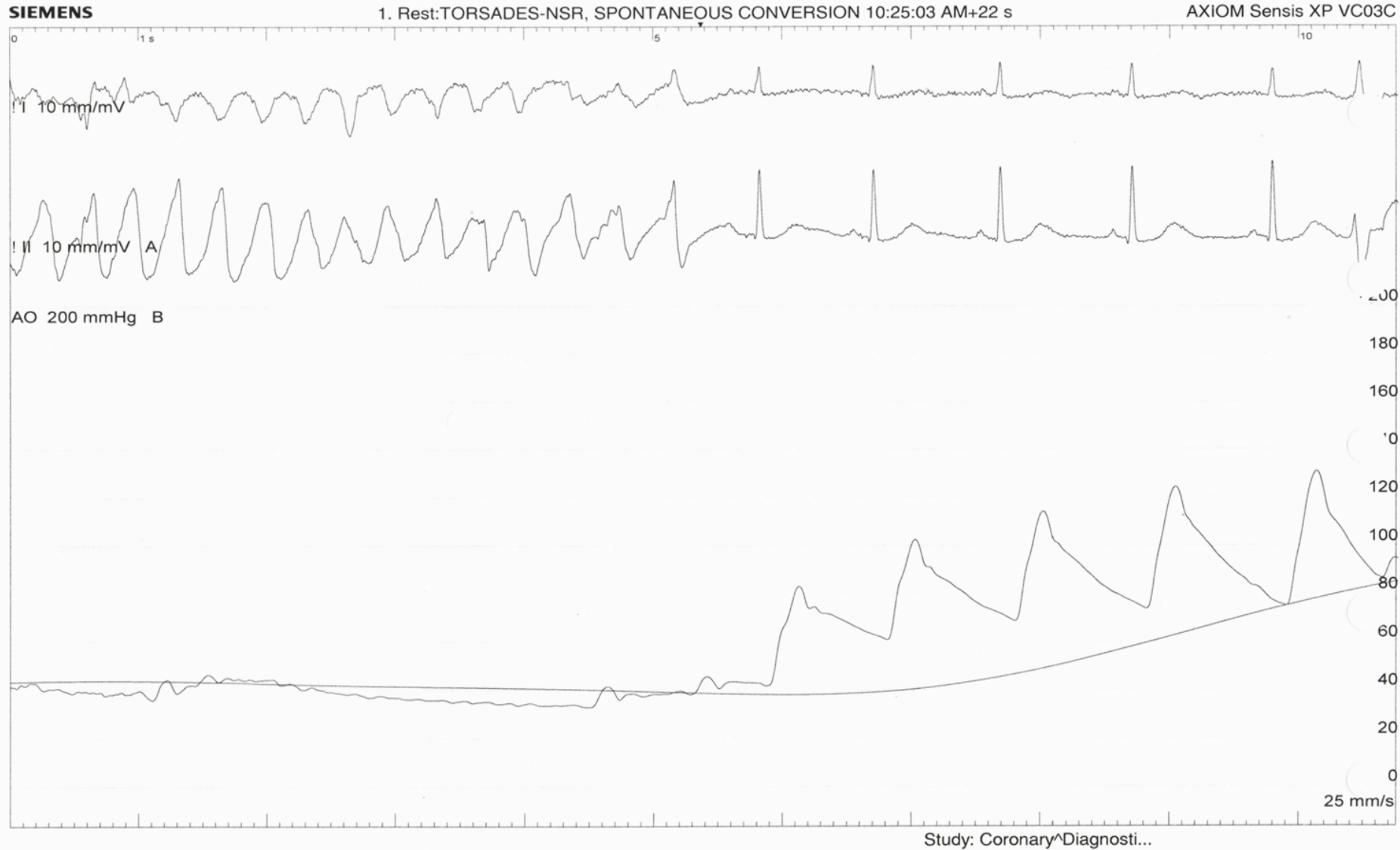
## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male



**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**

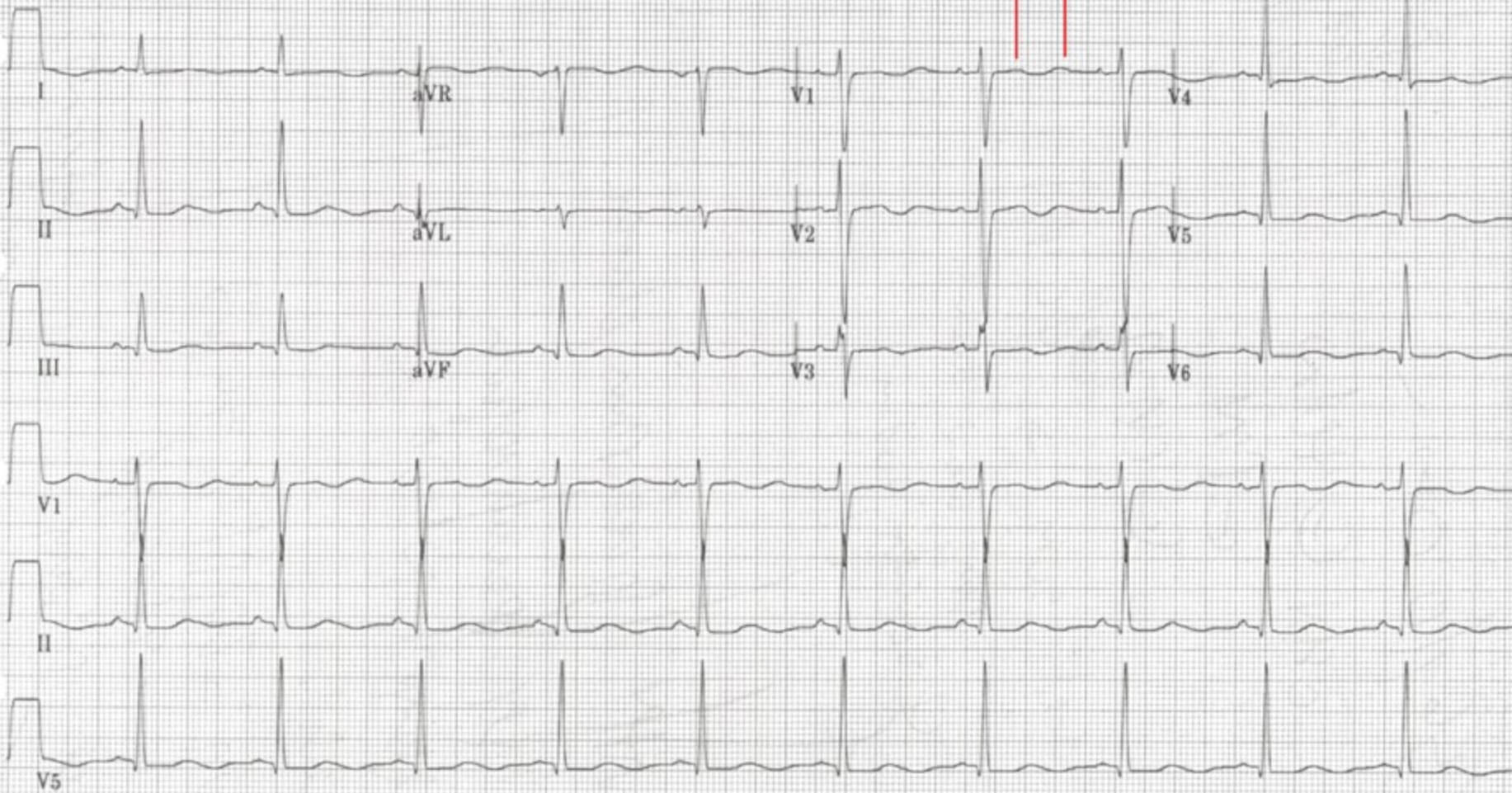
## Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male

56years		Vent. rate	64 bpm
Male	Caucasian	PR interval	152 ms
		QRS duration	104 ms
Room:		QT/QTc	662/682 ms
Loc: 3	Opt: 23	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**



[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](#)”



I

aVR

V1

V4

II

aVL

V2

V5

III

aVF

V3

V6

**15 year old male , suffered sudden cardiac arrest. Successful out-of-hospital resuscitation with CPR / AED. His ECG is shown below:**



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.**

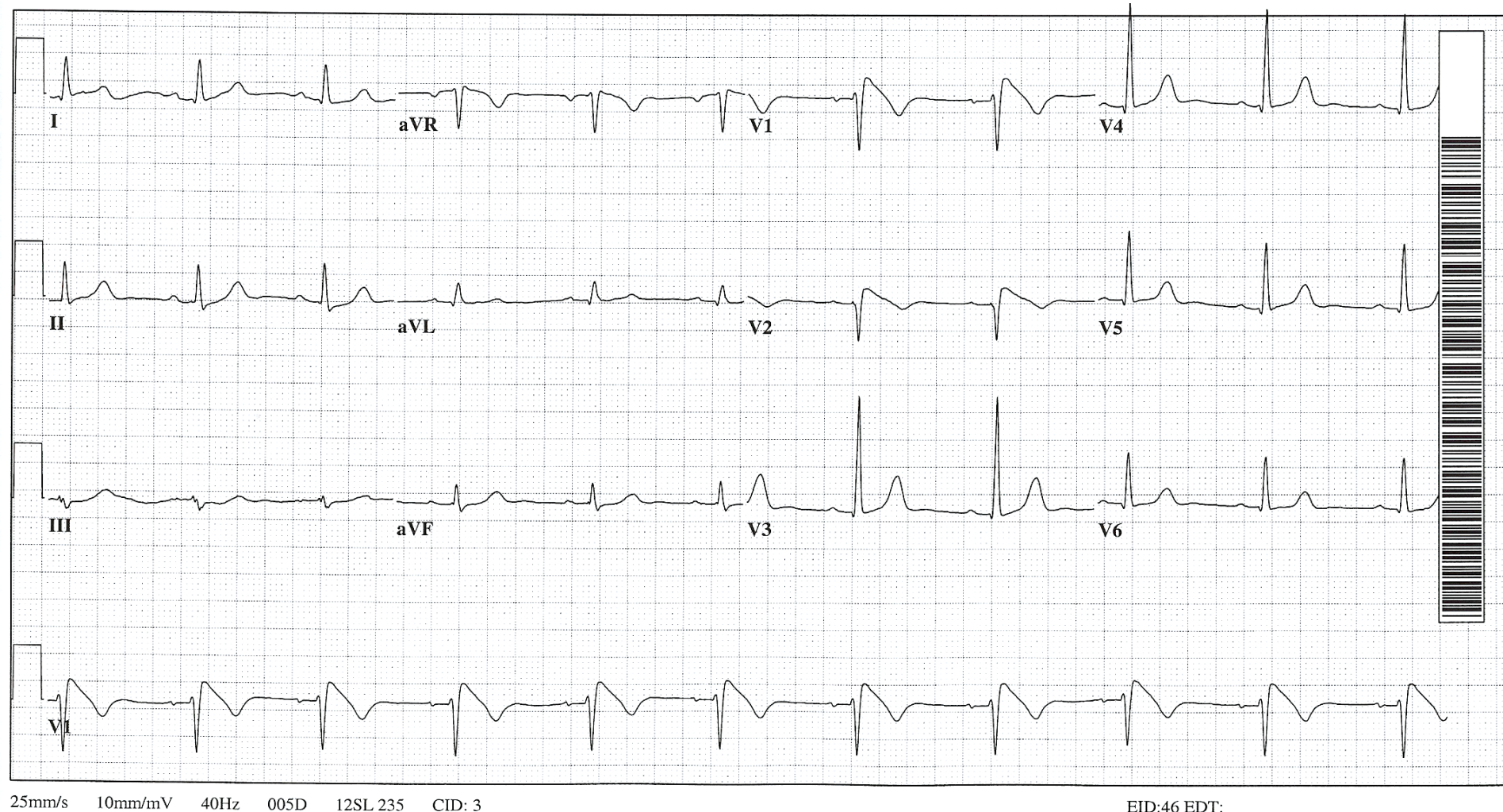
# IS THERE ANYTHING ABNORMAL WITH THIS EKG ?

37 yr  
Female Caucasian  
Room: C4A  
Loc: 3 Option: 23

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

ECG of 37 year old female who suffered syncopal episode while driving, crashed into a tree, resulting in minor soft tissue injuries. . . . .



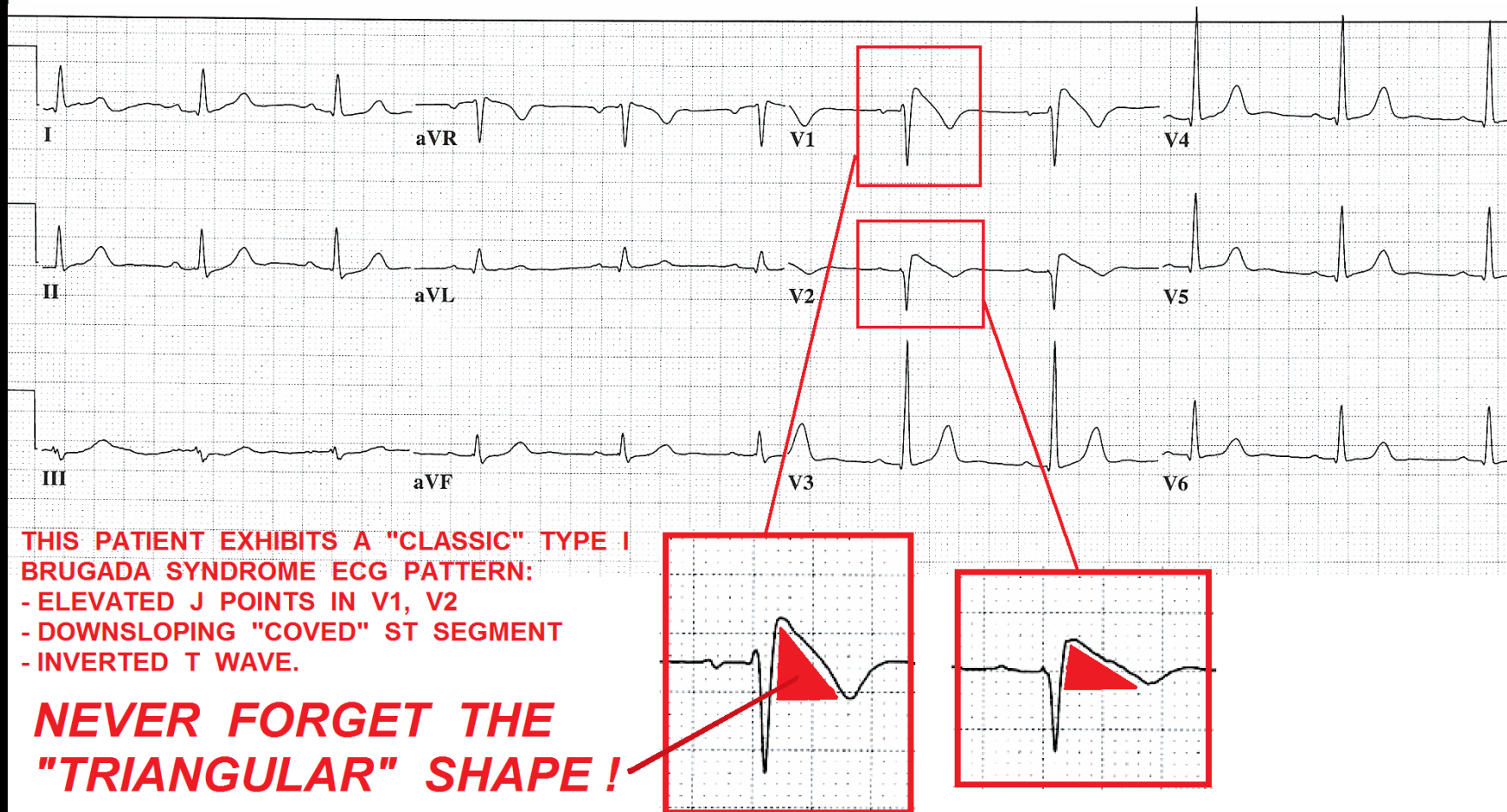


37 yr  
Female Caucasian

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 !**





# SUSPECT

## BRUGADA SYNDROME



37 yr  
Female Caucasian  
Room: C4A  
Loc: 3 Option: 23

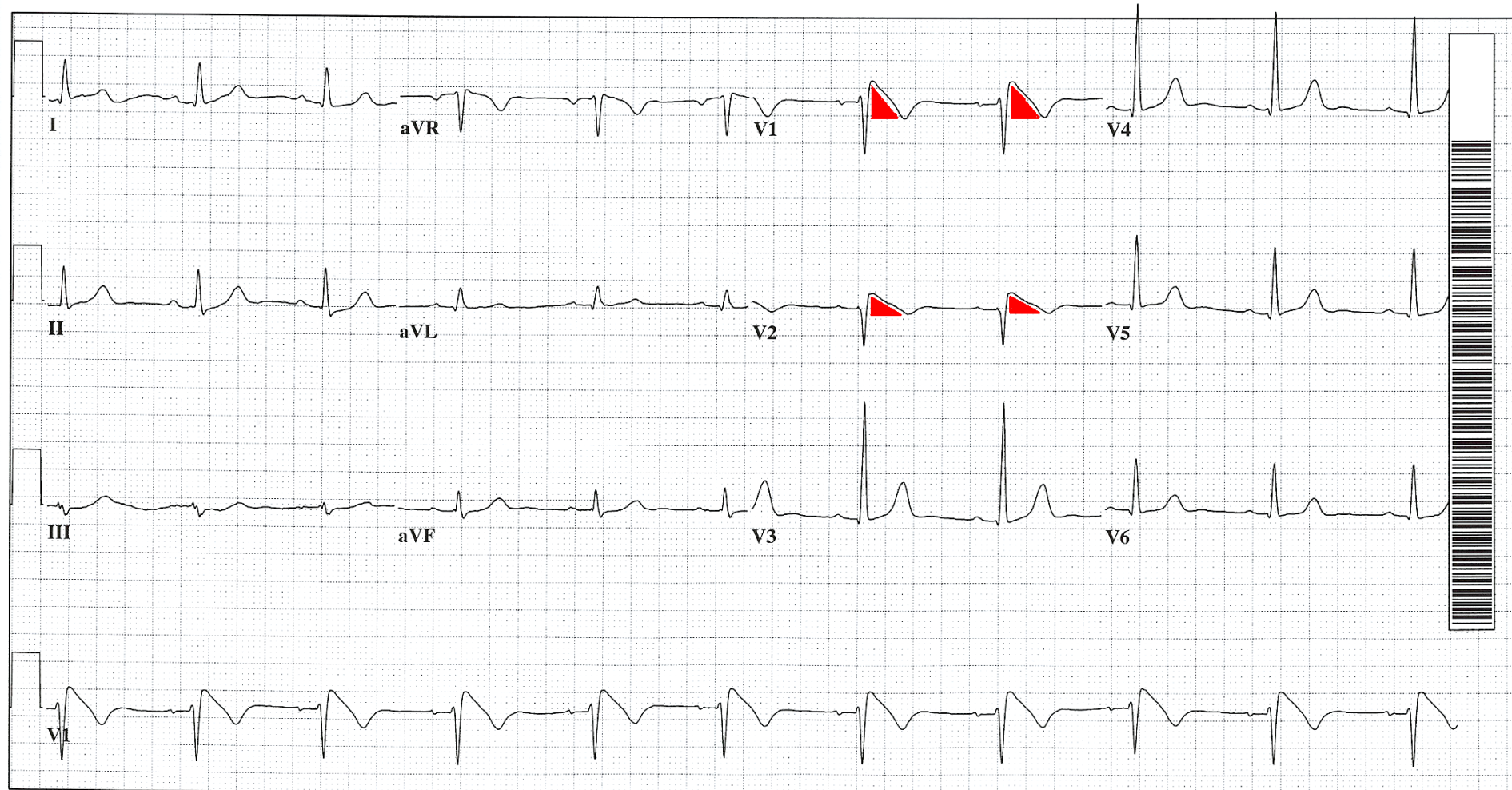
Vent. rate	62	BPM
PR interval	180	ms
QRS duration	88	ms
QT/QTc	418/424	ms
P-R-T axes	37 22	47

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available

**- NOTE THE "TRIANGULAR"  
SHAPED S-T COMPLEXES . . . .**

Technician: .

Referred by:



# 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**



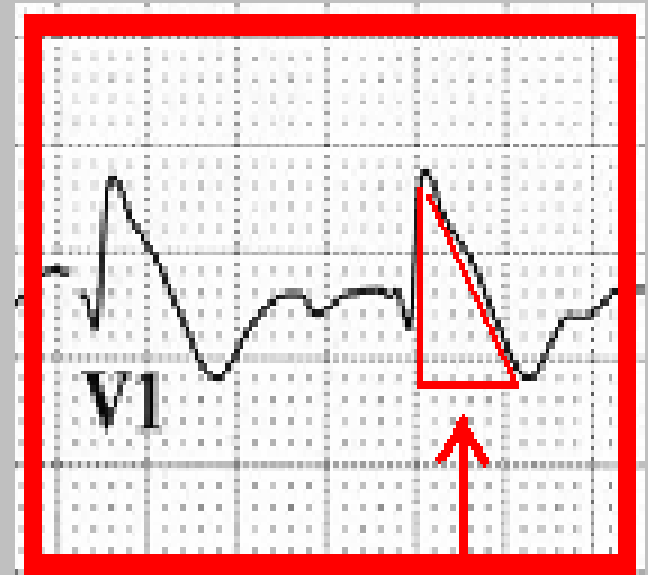
# BRUGADA SYNDROME

1. RBBB PATTERN

2. S-T ELEVATION

V1, V2, possibly V3

3. ATYPICAL "TRIANGLE"  
SHAPED S-T SEGMENT

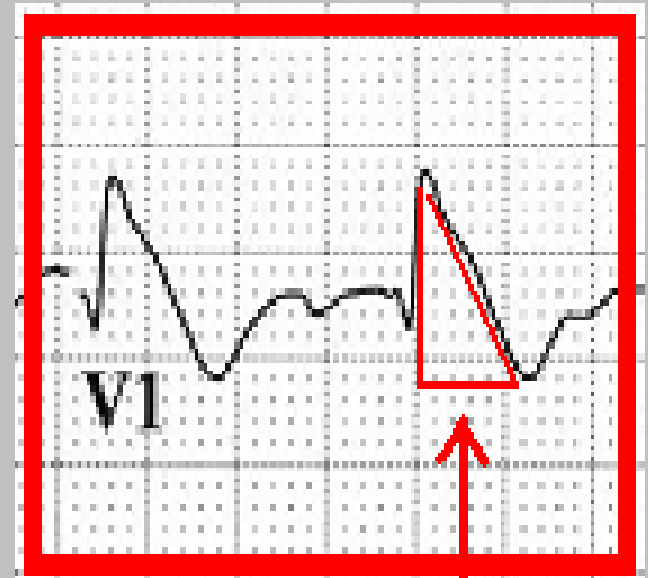


4. USUALLY EFFECTS YOUNG, HEALTHY  
PEOPLE

5. CAUSES SUDDEN DEATH by TORSADES

# BRUGADA SYNDROME

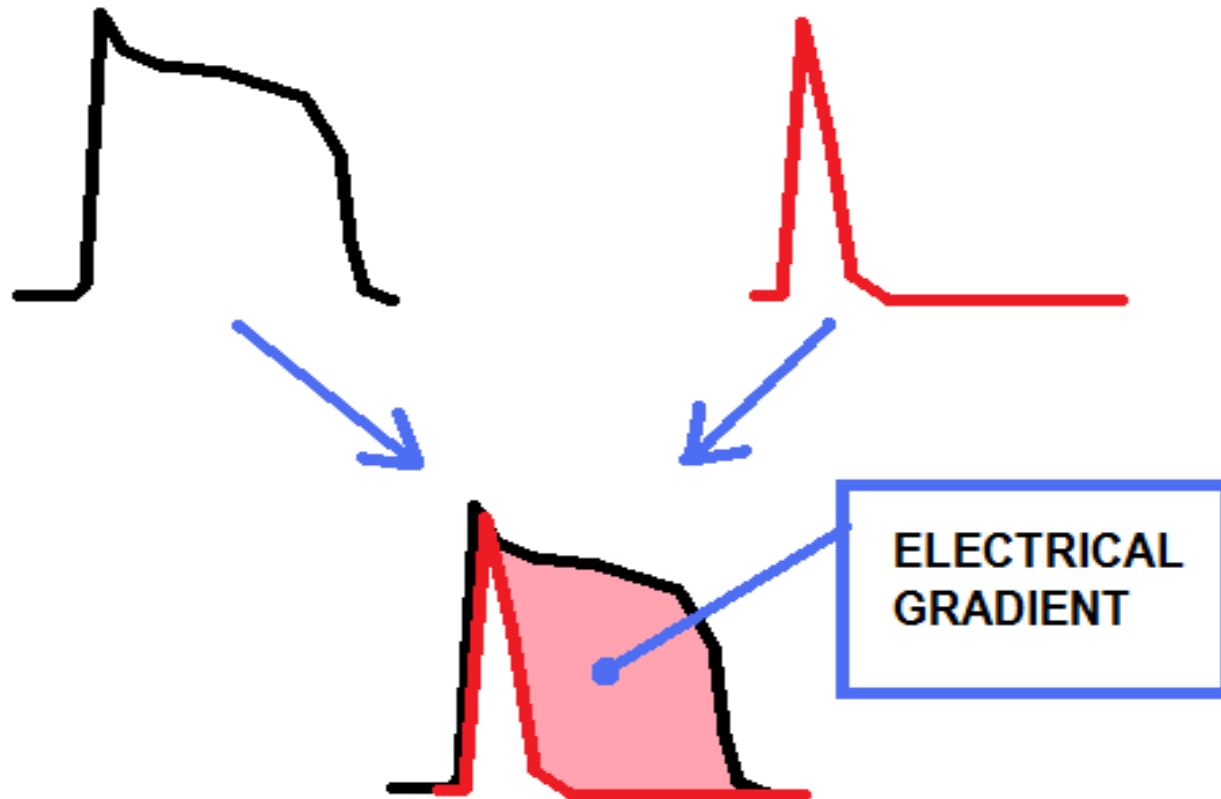
- GENETIC DISORDER - GENE SCN5A, which encodes CARDIAC SODIUM CHANNELS.
- CAUSES EARLY RIGHT VENTRICULAR SUB-EPICARDIAL REPOLARIZATION
- CAUSES RUNS OF TORSADES de POINTES, and SUDDEN DEATH from TORSADES and V-FIB.
- IS BELIEVED TO CAUSE 4 - 12 % of ALL SUDDEN DEATHS, and 50 % of ALL CARDIAC DEATHS where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



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

NORMAL ENDOCARDIAL  
ACTION POTENTIAL

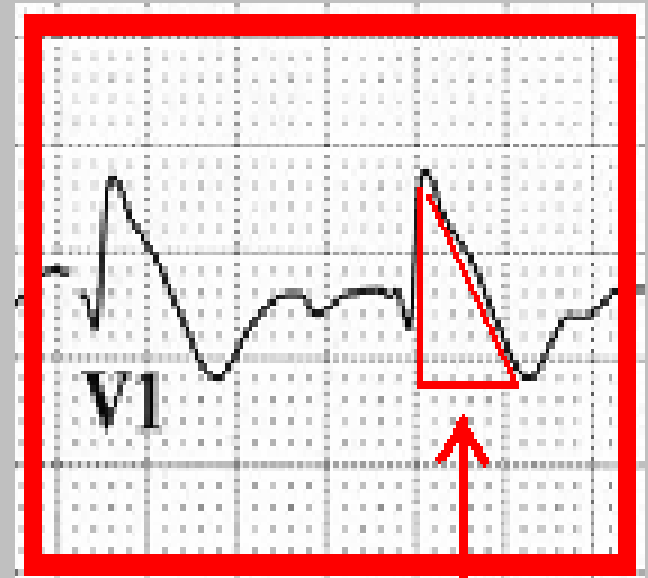
ALTERED (SHORTENED) ACTION  
POTENTIAL OF EPICARDIAL CELLS



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

# BRUGADA 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.



# [CLICK HERE to download 2017 ACC AHA HRS Guideline- Eval and Mgmt of Syncope](#)



## **2017 ACC/AHA/HRS guideline for the evaluation and management of patients with syncope <sup>e</sup>**

*A report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines and the Heart Rhythm Society*

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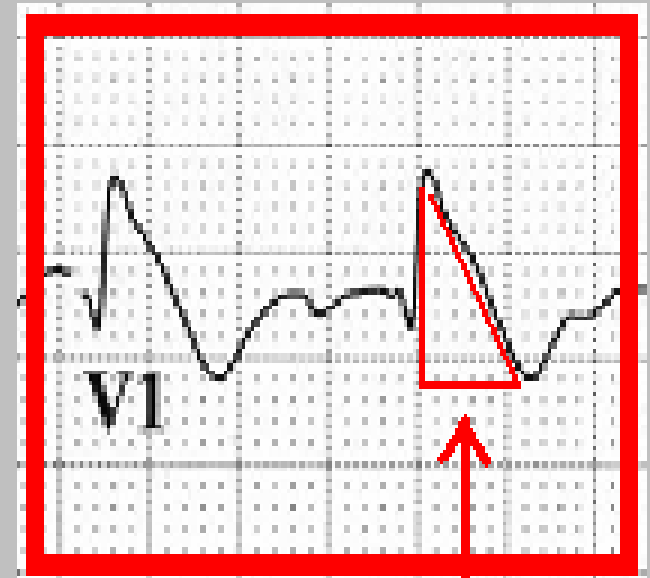
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Federico Gentile, MD, FACC



# BRUGADA SYNDROME - TREATMENT

ICD implantation is the only known effective treatment to date.

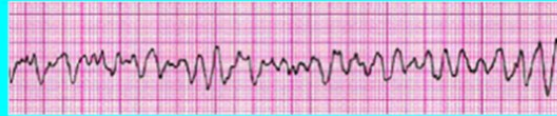


[www.BRUGADA.org](http://www.BRUGADA.org)



# V-FIB & PULSELESS VT

V - FIB



MONOMORPHIC  
V - TACH



TORSADES de  
POINTES /  
Polymorphic VT



ABCs (CAB)

CPR --

- SEND FOR MONITOR / DEFIB or AED  
- CALL CODE or 911 (DELEGATE !)

ASSESS ECG 120 - 200 j BiPHASIC  
SHOCK x 1 360 j MONOPHASIC

Switch Rescuers

CPR - 2 min

- START IV / IO  
- ADVANCED AIRWAY

ASSESS ECG 120 - 200 j BiPHASIC  
SHOCK x 1 360 j MONOPHASIC

Switch Rescuers

CPR - 2 min

- EPI 1 mg every 5 min

ASSESS ECG 120 - 200 j BiPHASIC  
SHOCK x 1 360 j MONOPHASIC

Switch Rescuers

CPR - 2 min

- AMIODARONE (1st DOSE - 300 mg)  
(2nd DOSE - 150 mg)

AFTER AMIODARONE - CONSIDER MAGNESIUM SULFATE  
1 - 2 gm AND / OR LIDOCAINE 1.5 mg/kg

PULSELESS  
TORSADES:  
USE  
MAGNESIUM  
SULFATE  
FIRST

# V-FIB & PULSELESS VT

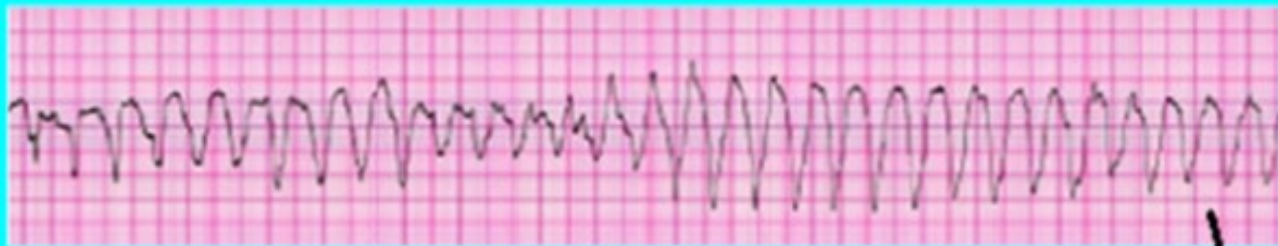
V - FIB



MONOMORPHIC  
V - TACH



TORSADES de  
POINTES /  
Polymorphic VT



ABCs (CAB)

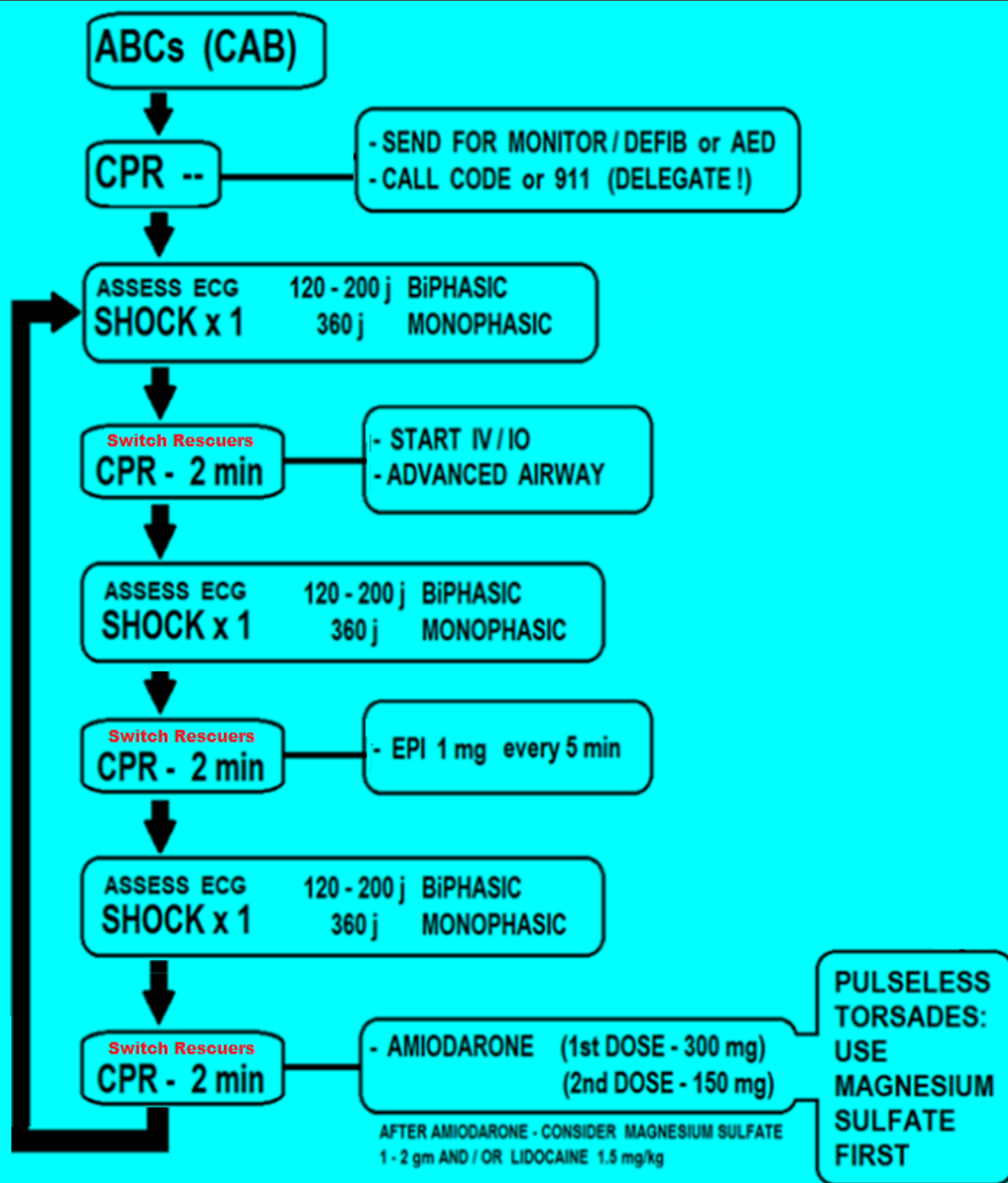


CPR --

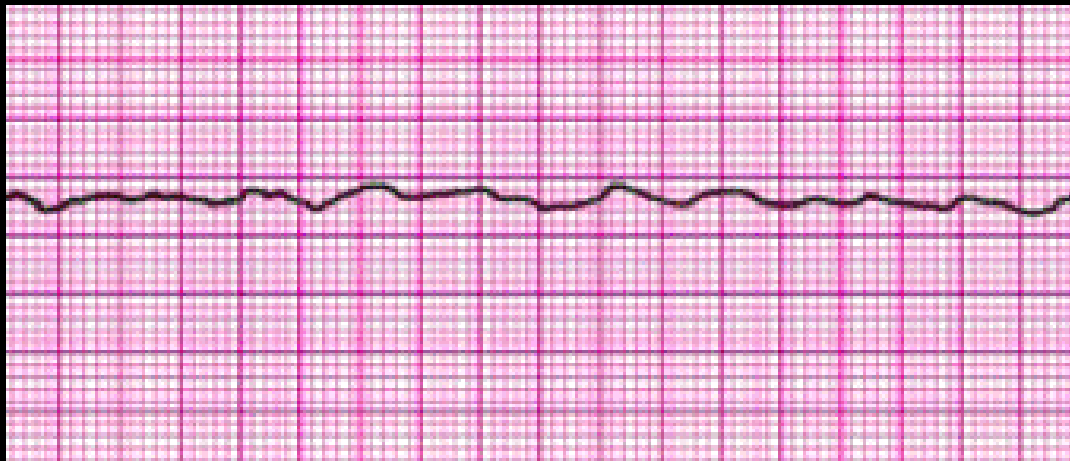
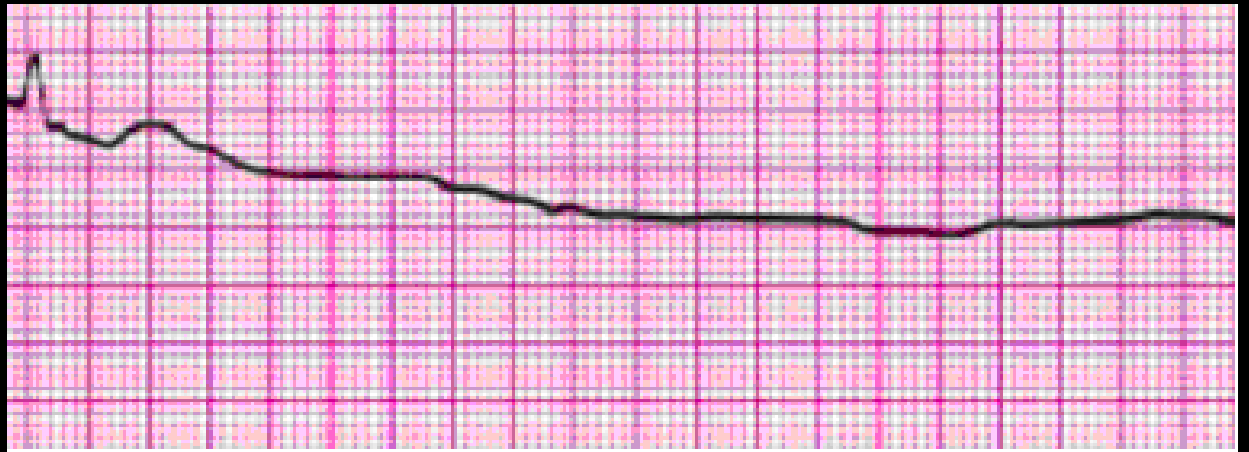


- SEND FOR MONITOR / DEFIB or AED  
- CALL CODE or 911 (DELEGATE !)

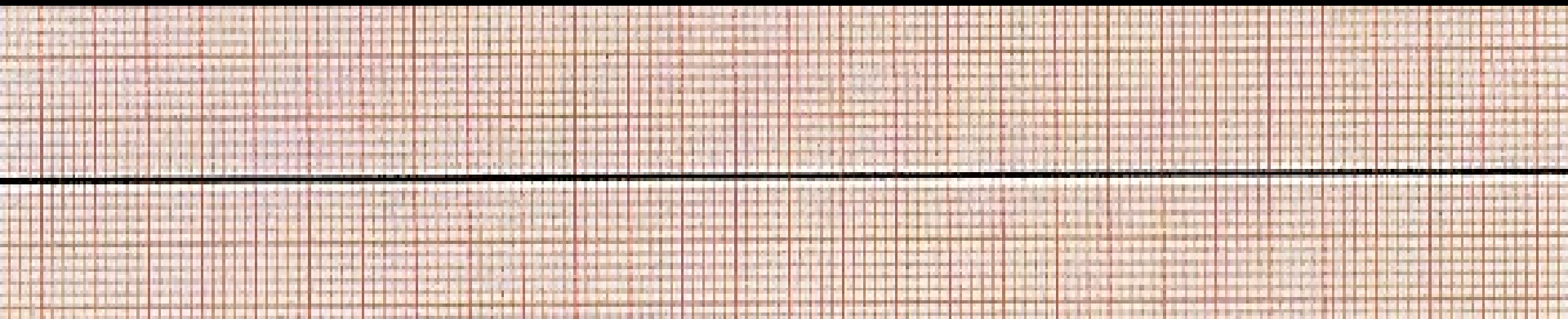
# VF & Pulseless VT Algorithm



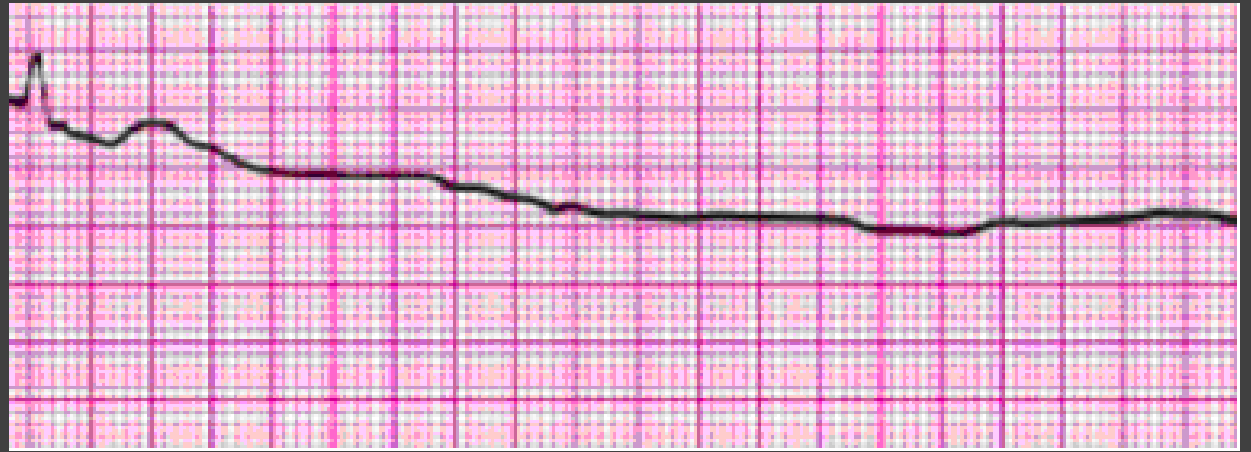




CPR  
|  
IV / AIRWAY  
|  
EPI 1 mg  
|



If QRS  
complexes  
have a  
PULSE  
then apply



**PACEMAKER !!**

CPR  
|  
IV / AIRWAY  
|  
EPI 1 mg  
|



# ASYSTOLE - P.E.A.

ASYSTOLE



PULSELESS  
ELECTRICAL  
ACTIVITY



AGONAL  
RHYTHM



\* IF AGONAL QRS  
COMPLEXES HAVE A  
PULSE -- APPLY  
PACEMAKER  
IMMEDIATELY !!

ABCs (CAB)

CPR --

- SEND FOR MONITOR / DEFIB or AED  
- CALL CODE or 911 (DELEGATE!)

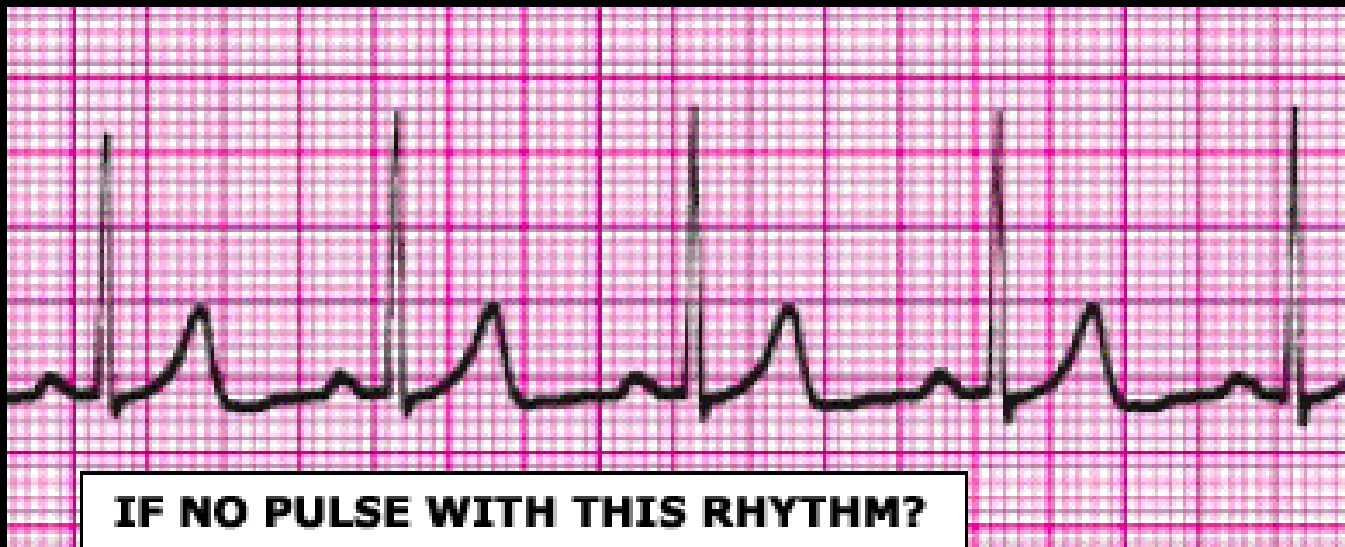
- START IV / IO  
- EPI 1 mg every 5 min  
- ADVANCED AIRWAY

CONSIDER H's & T's:

- HYPOXIA	- TOXINS (includes all meds, legal & illegal)
- HYPOVOLEMIA	- TAMPONADE
- HYPOTHERMIA	- TENSION PNEUMO- THORAX
- HYPOGLYCEMIA	- THROMBUS (PE & CARDIAC)
- HYDROGEN ION (ph)	- TRAUMA
- HYPERKALEMIA	

Every  
TWO  
MINUTES . . .

- Do PULSE CHECK / ECG eval.
- SWITCH CHEST Compressors



CPR  
|  
IV / AIRWAY  
|  
EPI 1 mg

**AND THEN . . . . ?**

## THE " H's " and the " T's "

- HYPOVOLEMIA
  - HYPOXIA
  - HYDROGEN ION ( Ph )
  - HYPOGLYCEMIA
  - HYPOTHERMIA
  - HYPERKALEMIA
- 
- TOXINS
  - TAMPONADE ( CARDIAC )
  - TENSION PNEUMOTHORAX
  - THROMBOSIS ( CORONARY or PULMONARY )
  - TRAUMA

# ECG Indicators of STEMI:

*“Abnormal ST Elevation in TWO or more CONTINGUOUS LEADS” . . .*

# “Abnormal ST Elevation” . . .

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


## Leads V2 & V3:

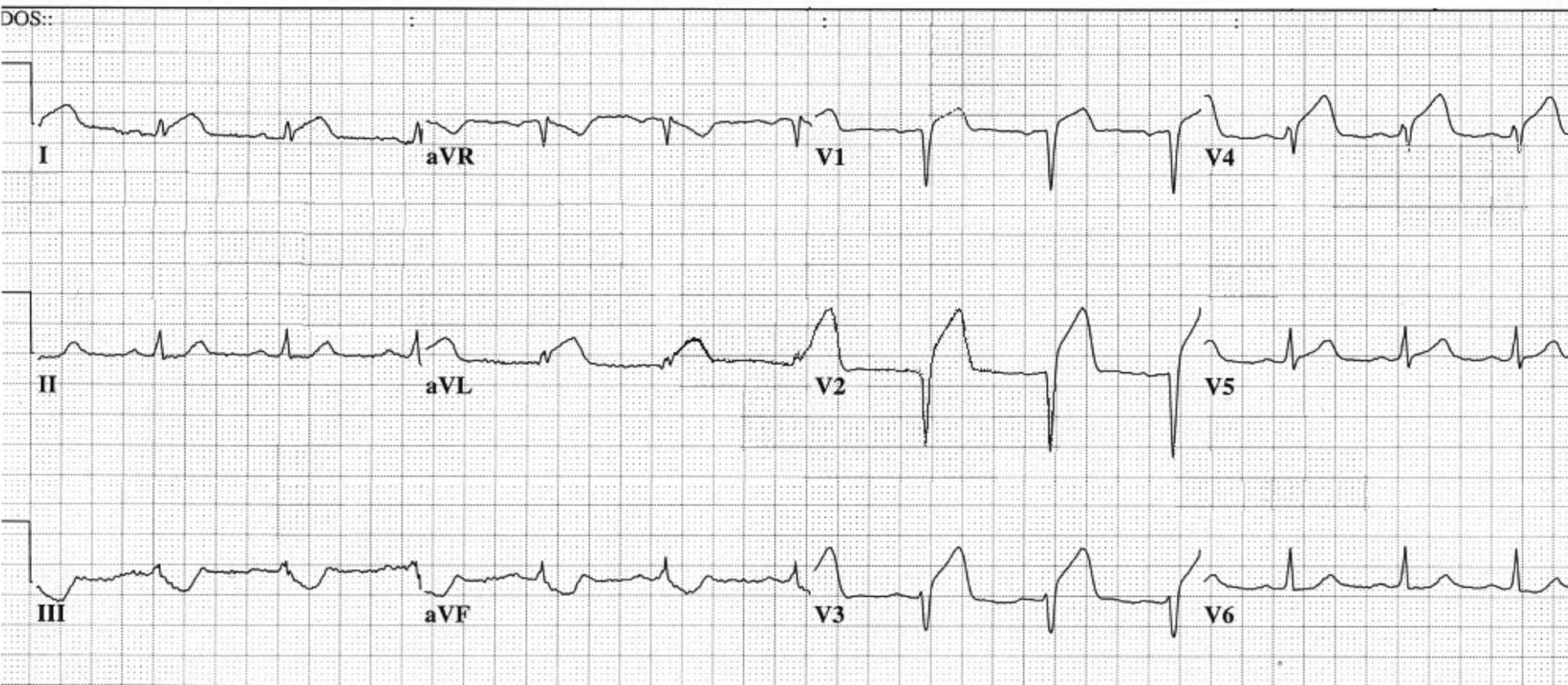
- Men < age 40: up to 2.5 mm (.25mv)
- Men 40 +: up to 2.0 mm (.20mv)
- Women (all): up to 1.5 mm (.15mv)

## All other Leads of 12 Lead ECG:

- All patients: up to 1.0 mm (.10mv)

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

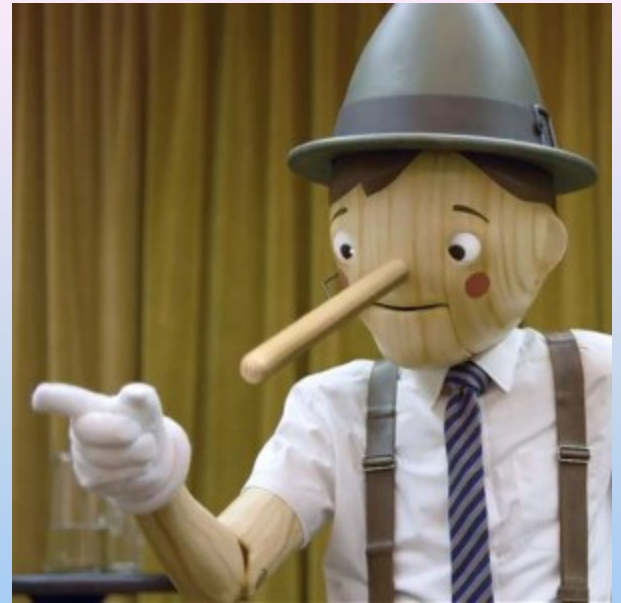
 **EVALUATE the EKG for signs of ACS:**  
- ST SEGMENT ELEVATION / DEPRESSION  
- HYPERACUTE T WAVES  
- CONVEX / FLAT ST SEGMENTS  
- OTHER ST - T WAVE ABNORMALITIES



**Not all STEMI's this obvious . . .**



***EKGs DON'T  
ALWAYS TELL THE  
TRUTH. . .***



***“When evaluating the ECG , there is always an undesirable degree of LACK OF SENSITIVITY (“false negatives”) and LACK OF SPECIFICITY (“false positives”).***



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

- ***J-T Apex abnormalities***
- ***Hyper-Acute T Waves***
- ***Dynamic ST-T Wave  
Changes on Serial ECGs***

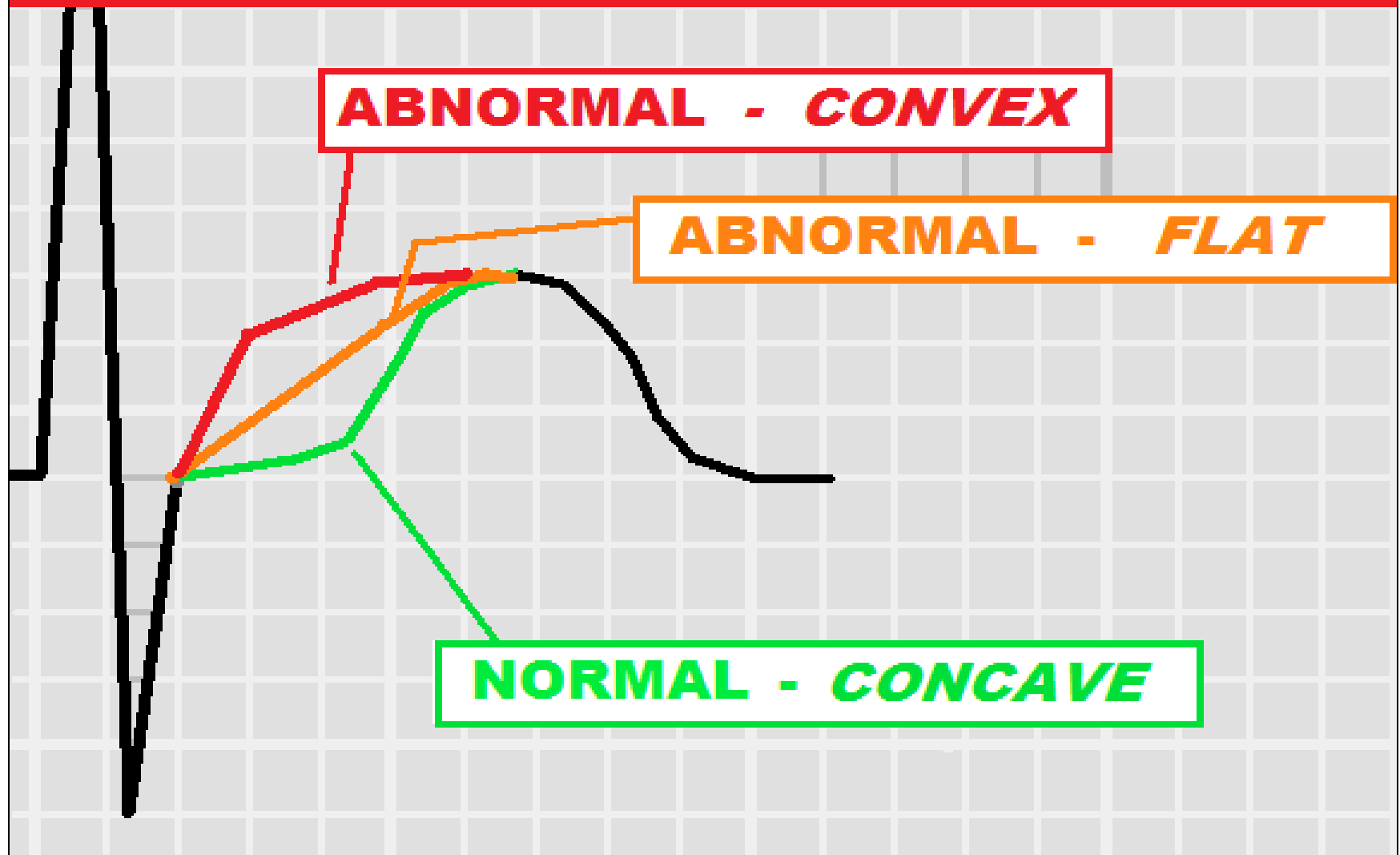


J-T Apex Segment

ST-Segment

T wave: origin to apex

# J - T APEX SEGMENT VARIATIONS



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

56 yr  
Male      Caucasian  
Room:A9  
Loc:3      Option:23

Vent. rate      80 BPM  
PR interval      154 ms  
QRS duration      78 ms  
QT/QTc      380/438 ms  
P-R-T axes      51 -24 38

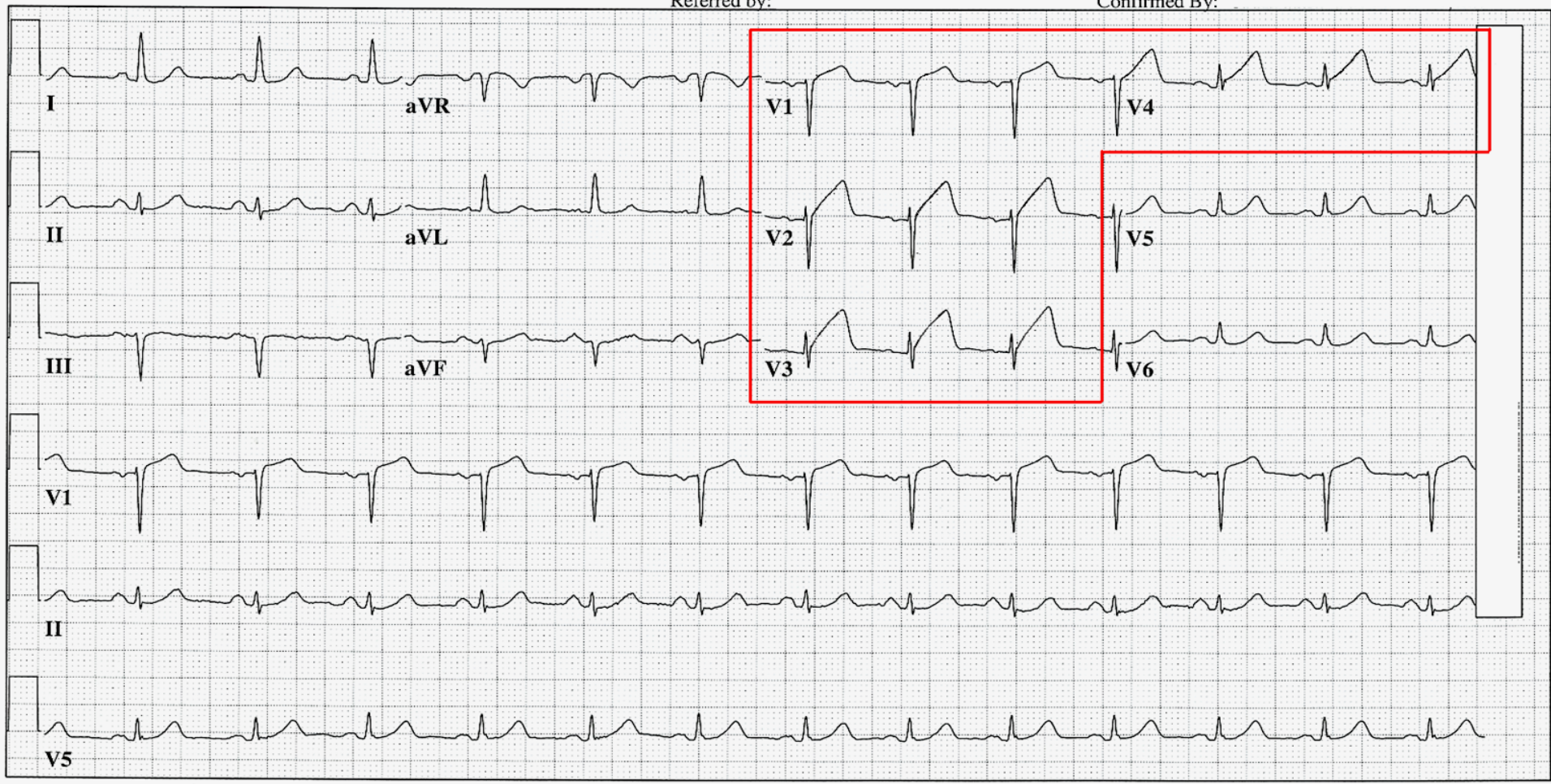
**\*\*UNEDITED COPY – REPORT IS COMPUTER GENERATED ONLY, WITHOUT  
PHYSICIAN INTERPRETATION**

Normal sinus rhythm  
Normal ECG  
No previous ECGs available

Technician: W Ruppert

Referred by:

Confirmed By:

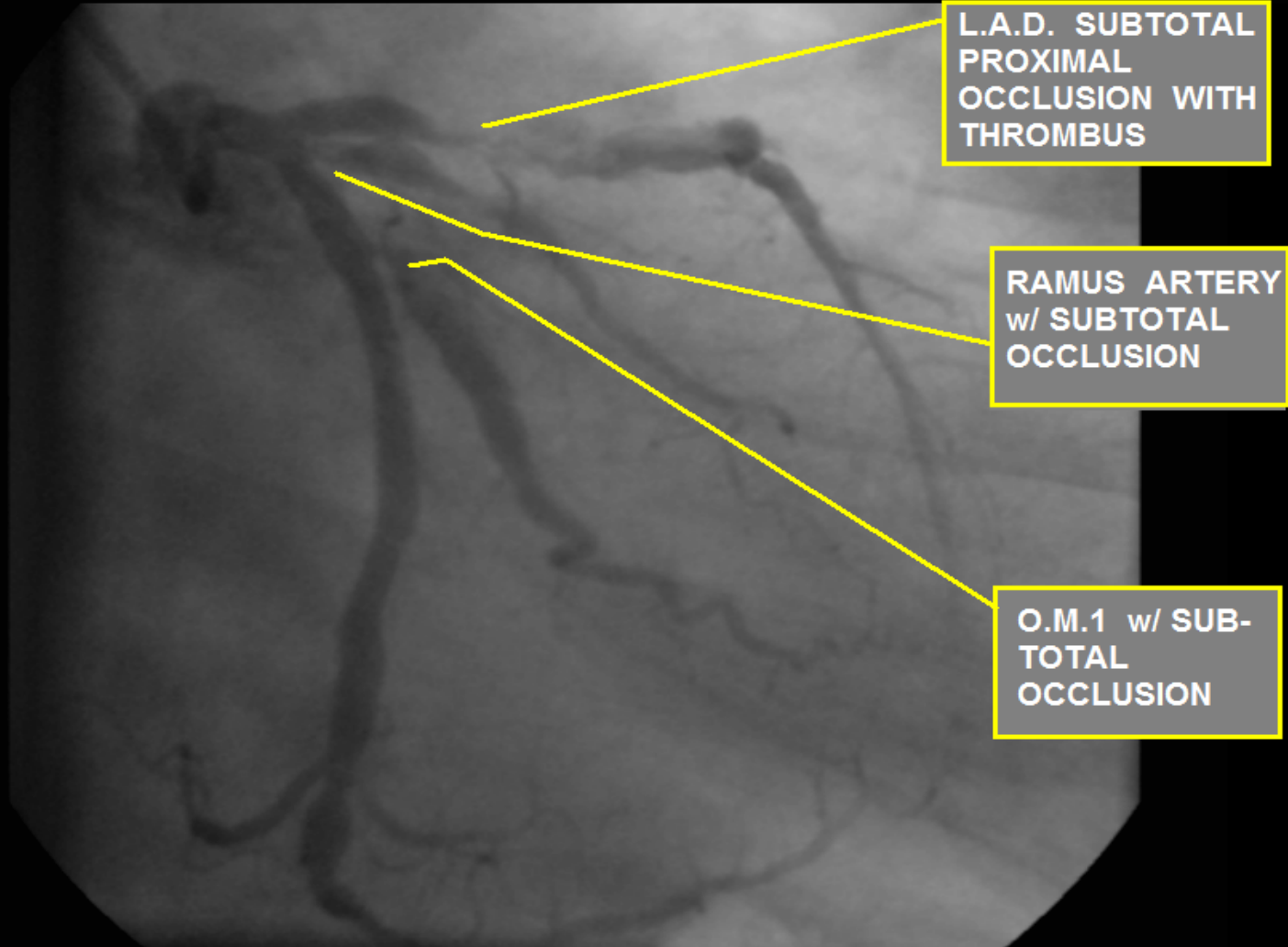


25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005C 12SL 235 CID: 3

EID:10 EDT:

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

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



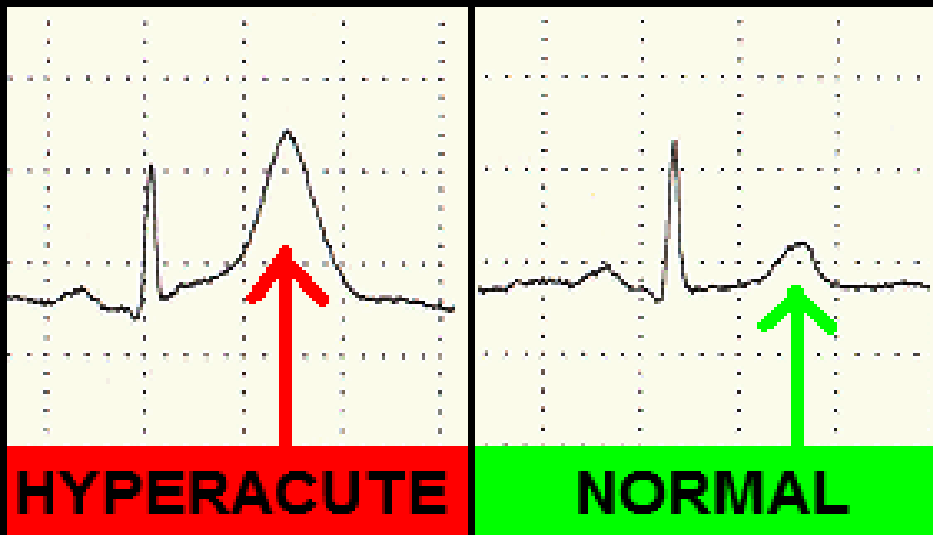
**TREATMENT PLAN : EMERGENCY CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY ( 4 VESSEL )**

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

- ***J-T Apex abnormalities***
- ***Hyper-Acute T Waves***
- ***Dynamic ST-T Wave  
Changes on Serial ECGs***

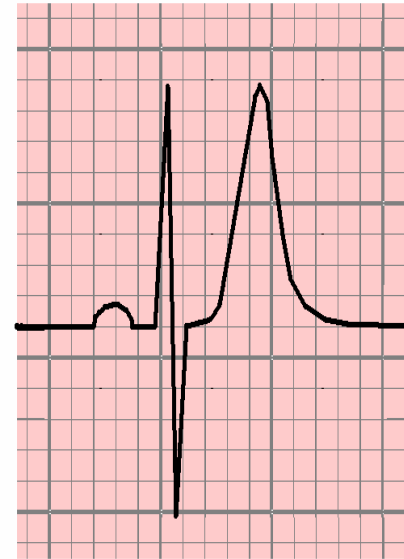


# HYPERACUTE T WAVES



BOOK PAGE: 88

## HYPER-ACUTE T WAVES - COMMON ETIOLOGIES:



CONDITION: \_\_\_\_\_

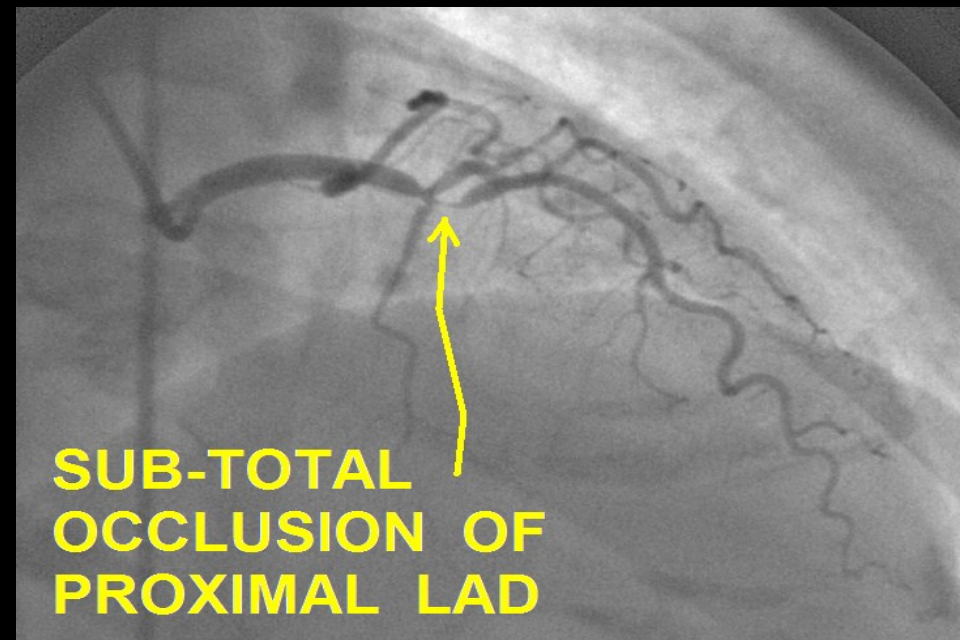
SEE PAGE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

 **HYPERKALEMIA** — XX - XX

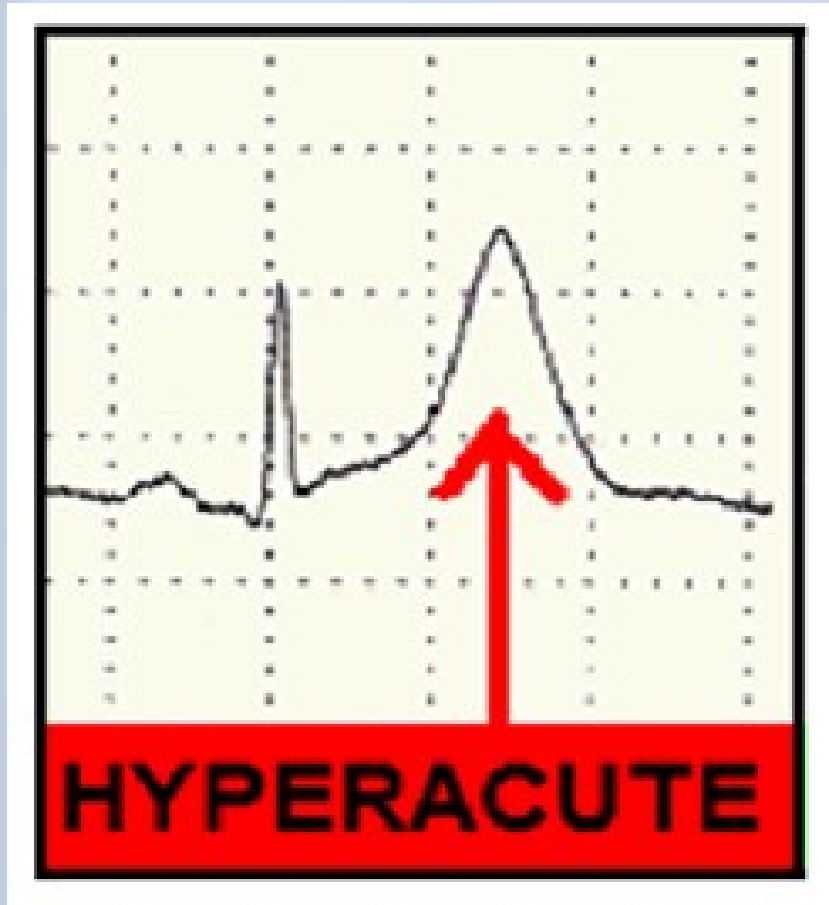
 **ACUTE MI** — XX - XX

 **TRANS-MURAL  
ISCHEMIA** — XX - XX

 **HYPERTROPHY** — XX - XX



# 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**

# Helpful Clue: Hyper-Acute T Waves

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



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

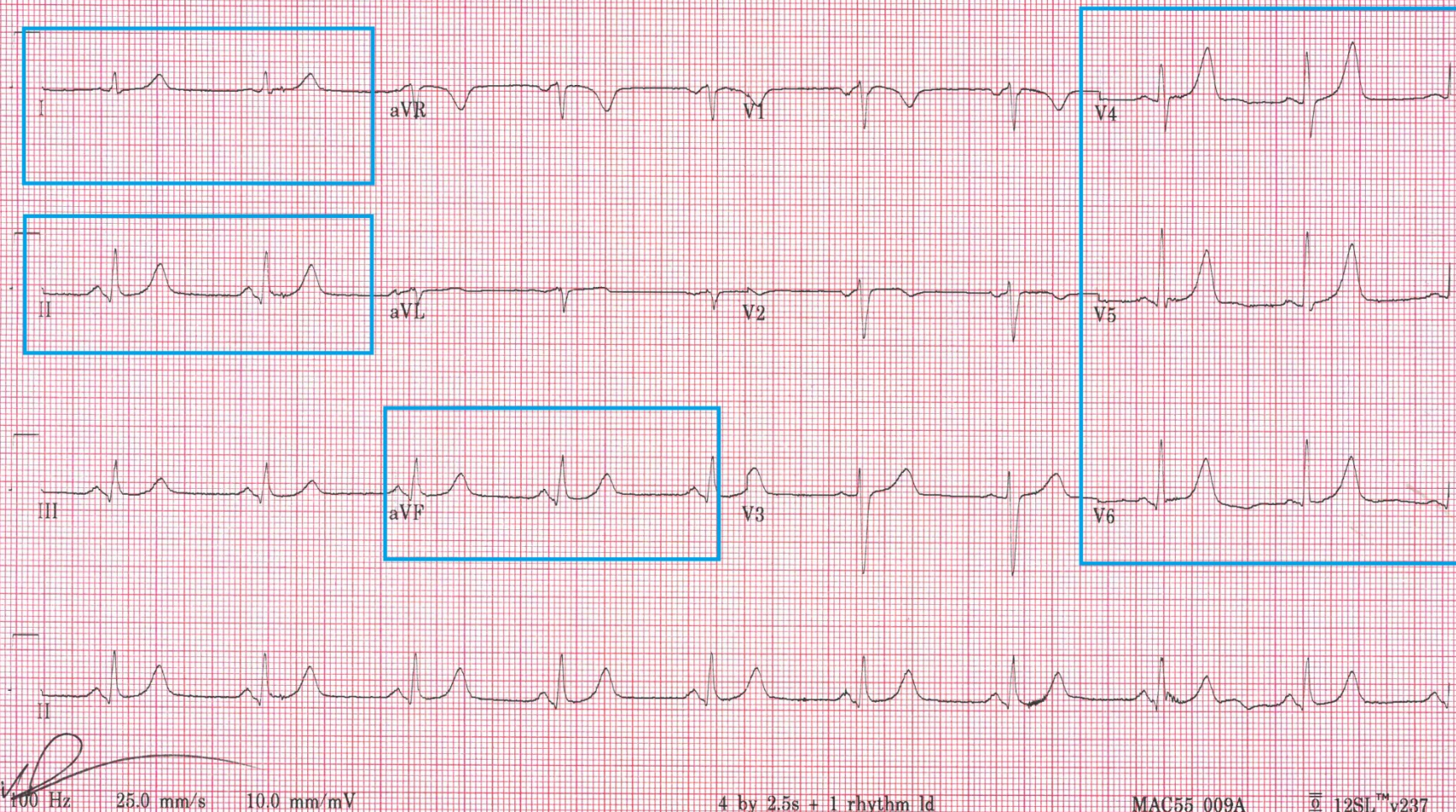
**K+ = 6.7**

Technician:  
Test ind:

Referred by:

Unconfirmed

LOCATION:





# Helpful Clue: Hyper-Acute T Waves

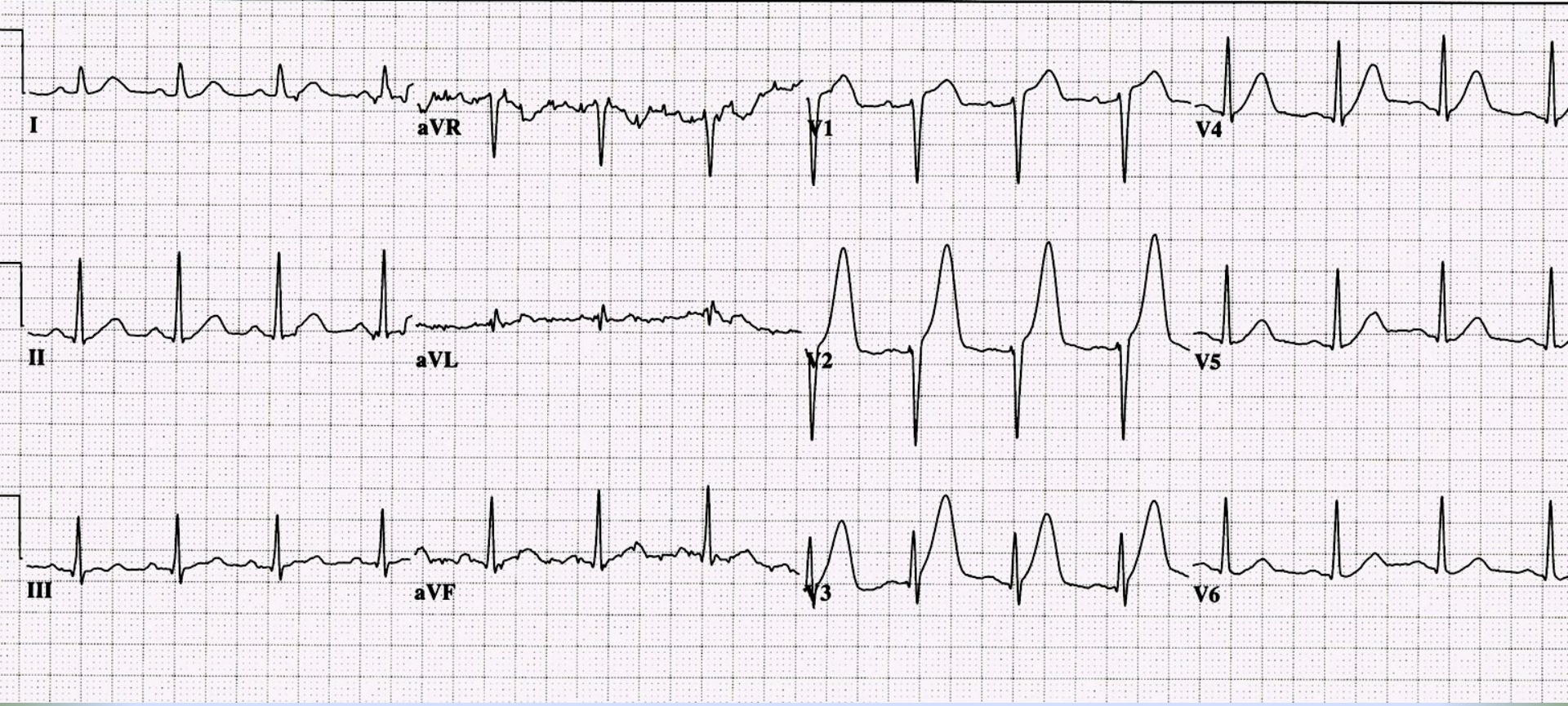
- **GLOBAL Hyper-acute T Waves** (in leads viewing multiple myocardial regions / arterial distributions) **favors HYPERKALEMIA**
- **Hyper-acute T Wave noted in ONE ARTERIAL DISTRIBUTION** ( Anterior / Lateral / Inferior ) **favors TRANSMURAL ISCHEMIA / Early Phase Acute MI**

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



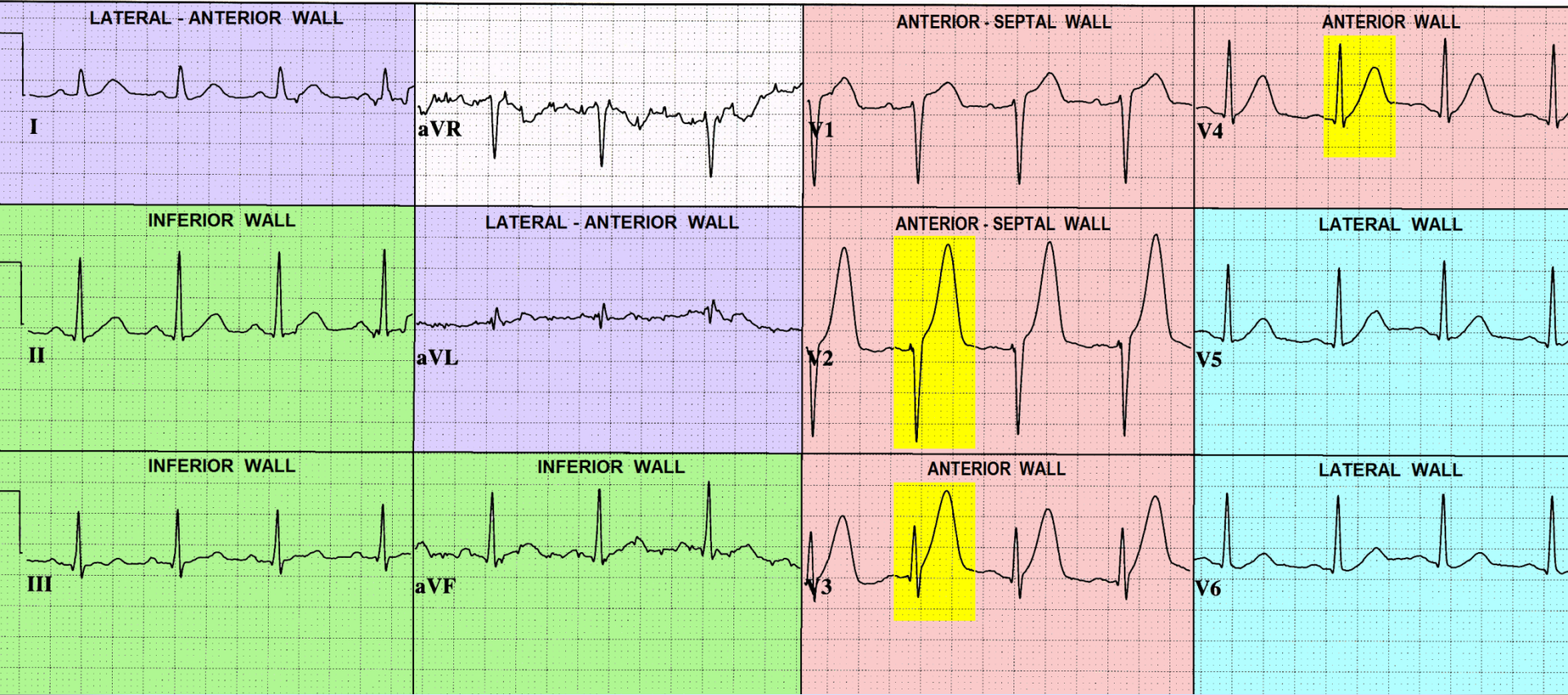


30 yr  
Male      Black  
  
Room: ER  
Loc:      Option:

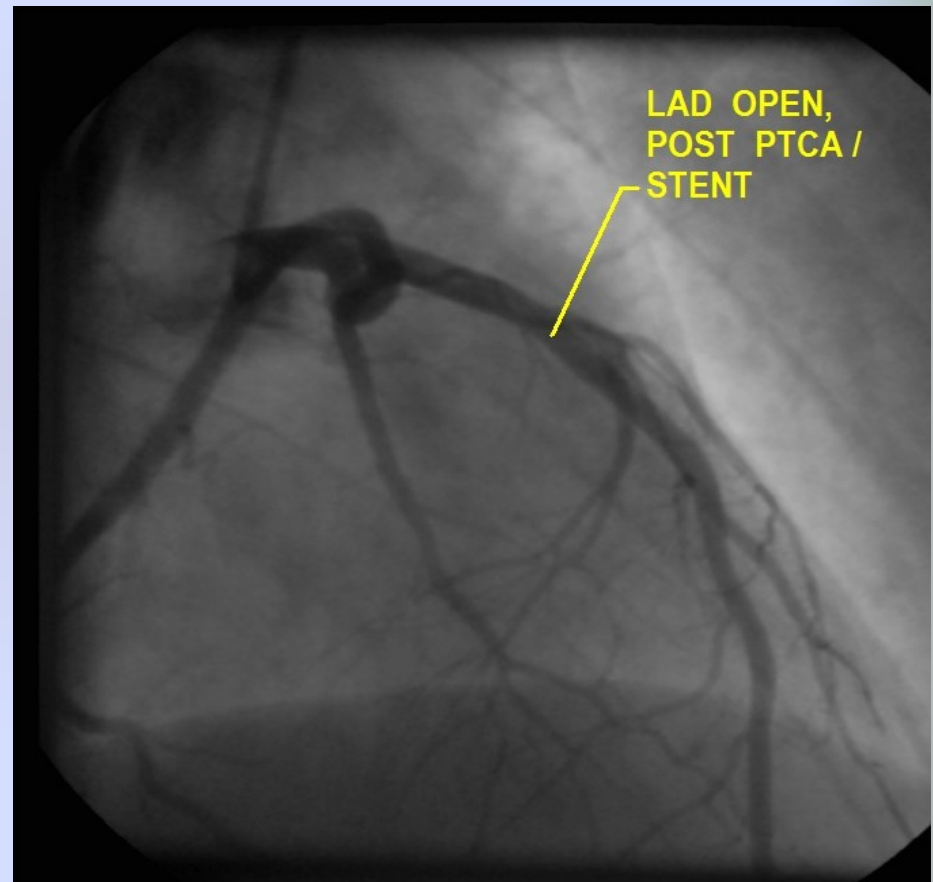
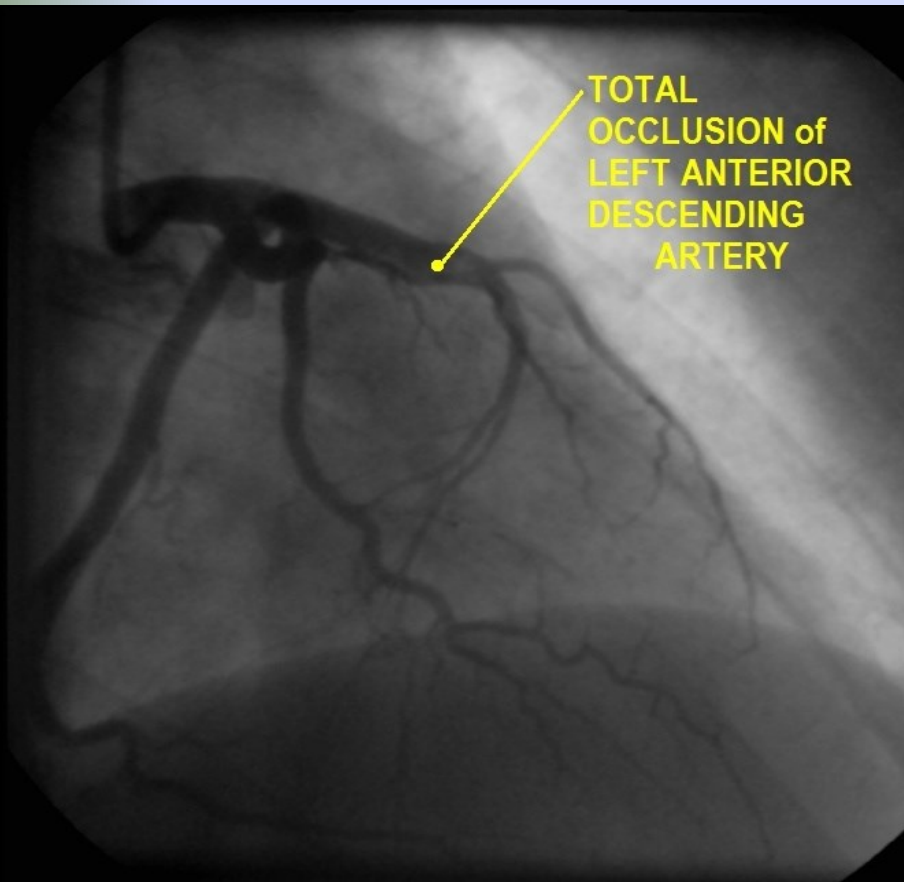
Vent. rate                      88    BPM  
PR interval                    164    ms  
QRS duration                 90    ms  
QT/QTc                        370/447    ms  
P-R-T axes                    61   62   53

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:



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

- ***J-T Apex abnormalities***
- ***Hyper-Acute T Waves***
- ***Dynamic ST-T Wave  
Changes on Serial ECGs***



12:33:40

Seven Rivers Regional  
Dept: 2 south  
Room: ER

Rate 75 . SINUS RHYTHM.....normal P axis, V-rate 50- 99  
FR 140 . CONSIDER ANTEROSEPTAL INFARCT.....Q >30ms, V1 V2  
QRS 90 . BORDERLINE REPOLARIZATION ABNORMALITY.....ST dep & abnormal T  
QT 376  
QTc 420  
T . BASELINE WANDER IN LEAD(S) V1,V2

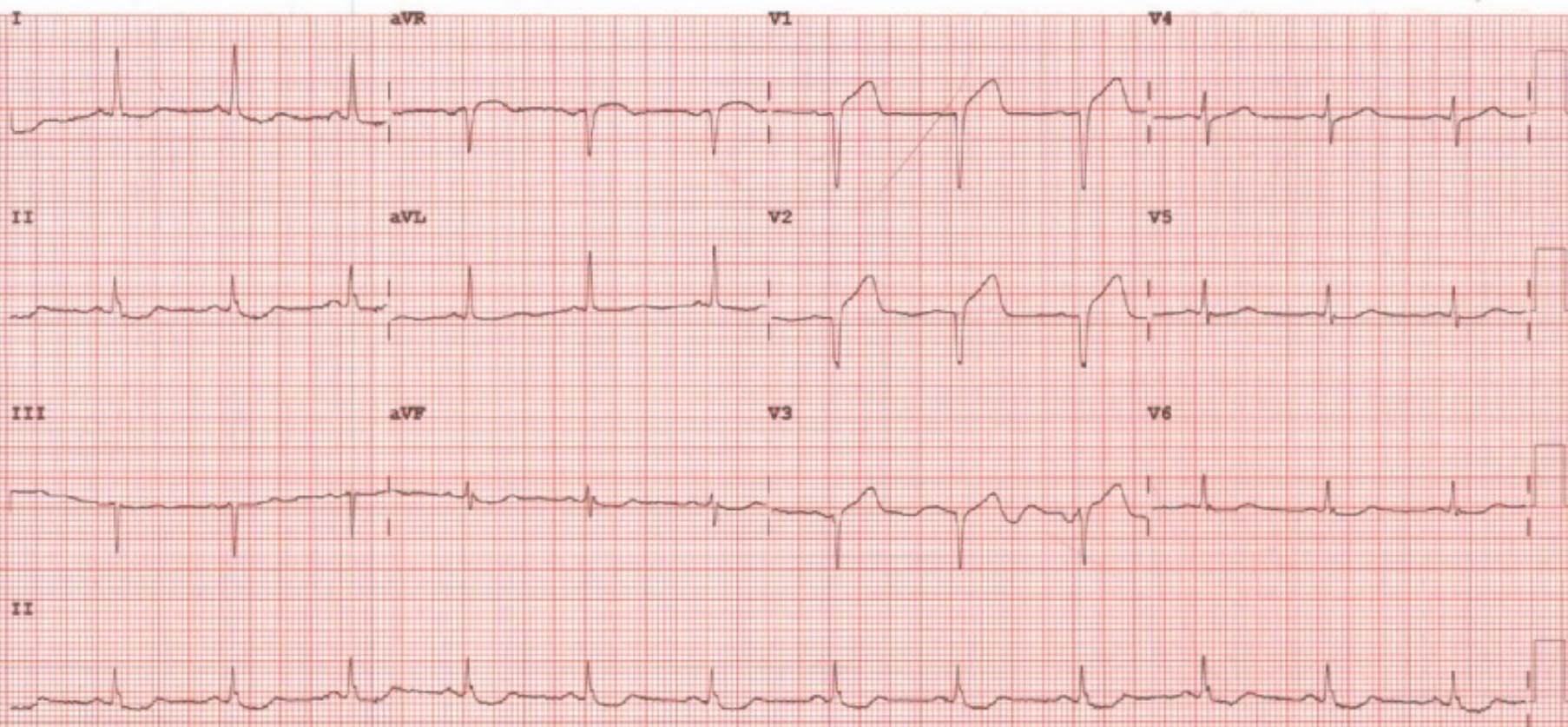
--AXIS--

P 35  
QRS 6  
T 193

- ABNORMAL ECG -

SEVEN RIVERS REGIONAL MED CTR

Unconfirmed Diagnosis



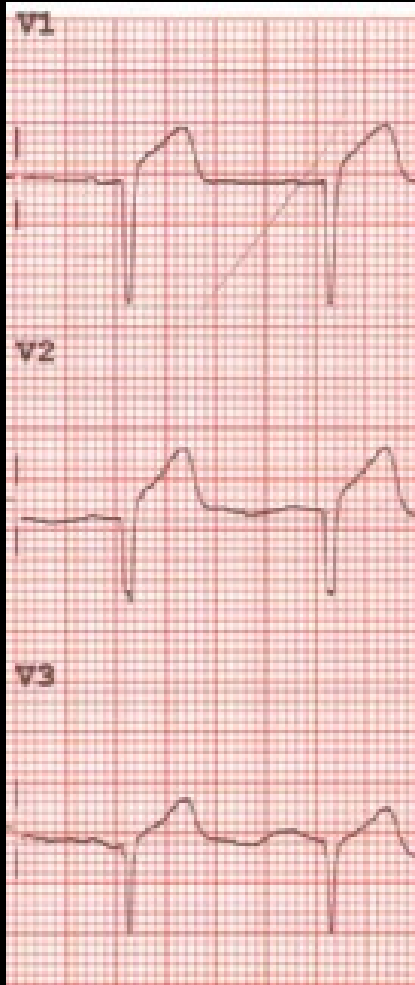
Dev: Speed: 25 mm/sec Limb: 10 mm/mV Chest: 10.0 mm/mV

F 60- 0.15-100 Hz

PH09CA L P?

### 3. Dynamic ST-T Wave Changes in Serial ECGs. Recorded at SRRMC

1<sup>st</sup> ECG



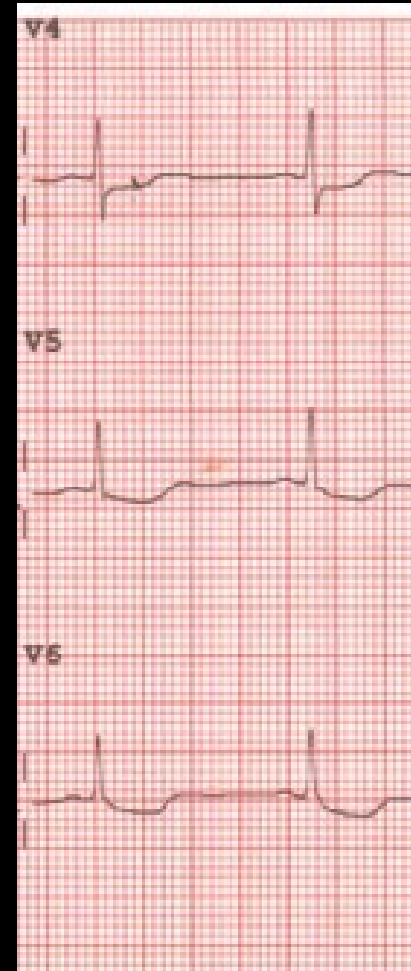
2<sup>nd</sup> ECG



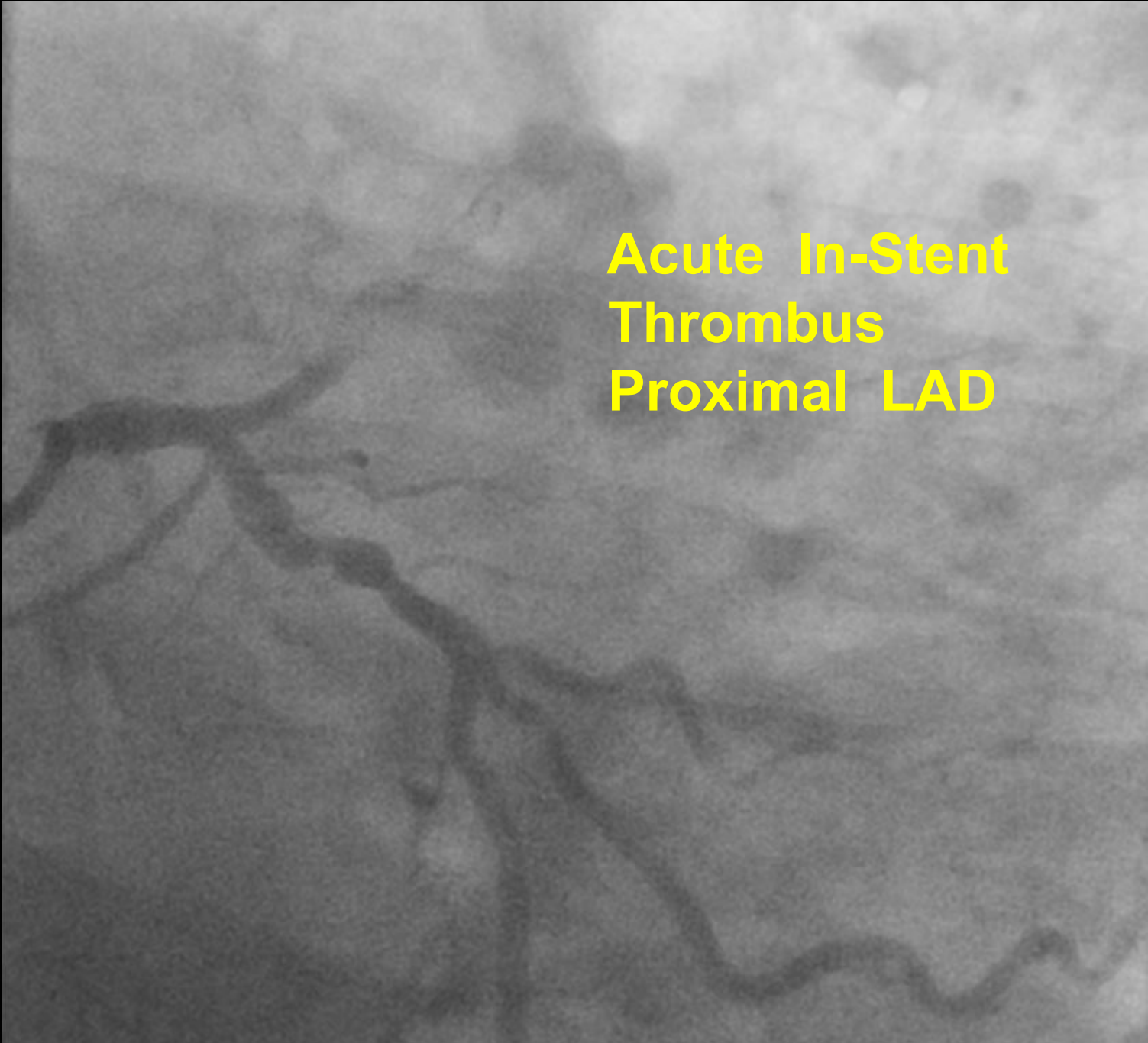
1<sup>st</sup> ECG



2<sup>nd</sup> ECG





An angiogram of the proximal left anterior descending (LAD) artery. The image shows a dark, contrast-filled vessel lumen. A prominent, dense, and irregular filling defect is visible within the proximal segment of the LAD, indicating an acute thrombus. The vessel lumen is significantly narrowed or occluded at this site. The surrounding myocardial tissue is visible as a lighter, textured background.

**Acute In-Stent  
Thrombus  
Proximal LAD**



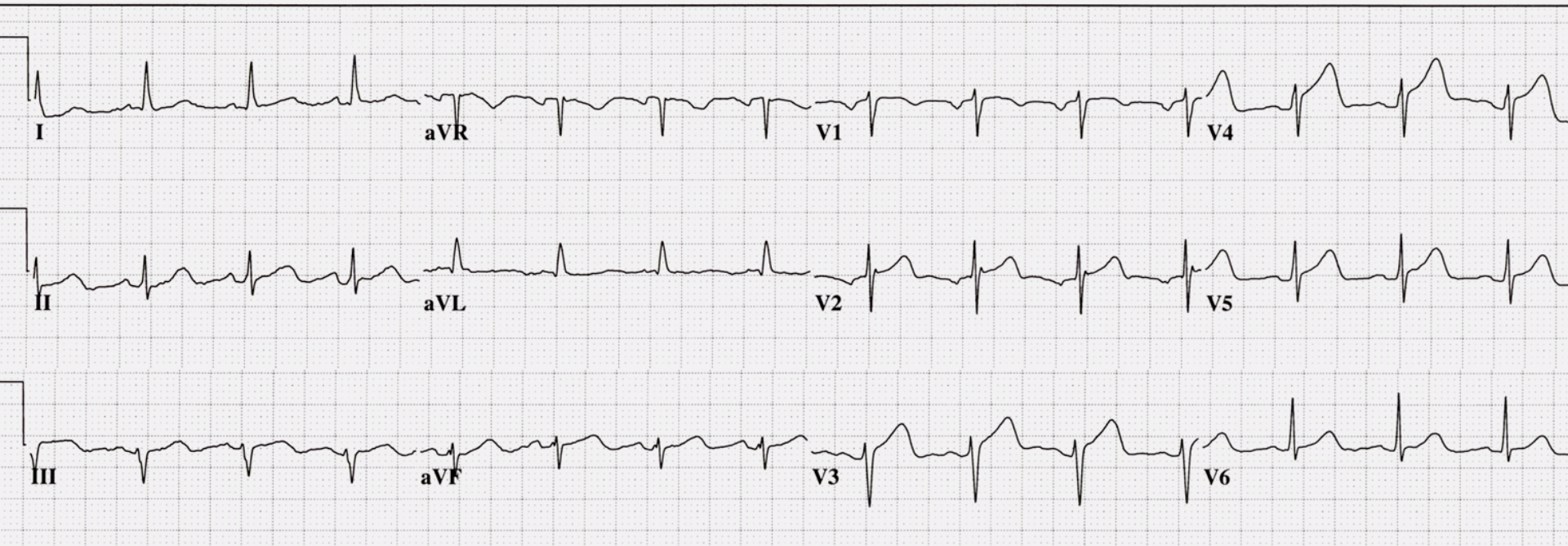
# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

- 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	

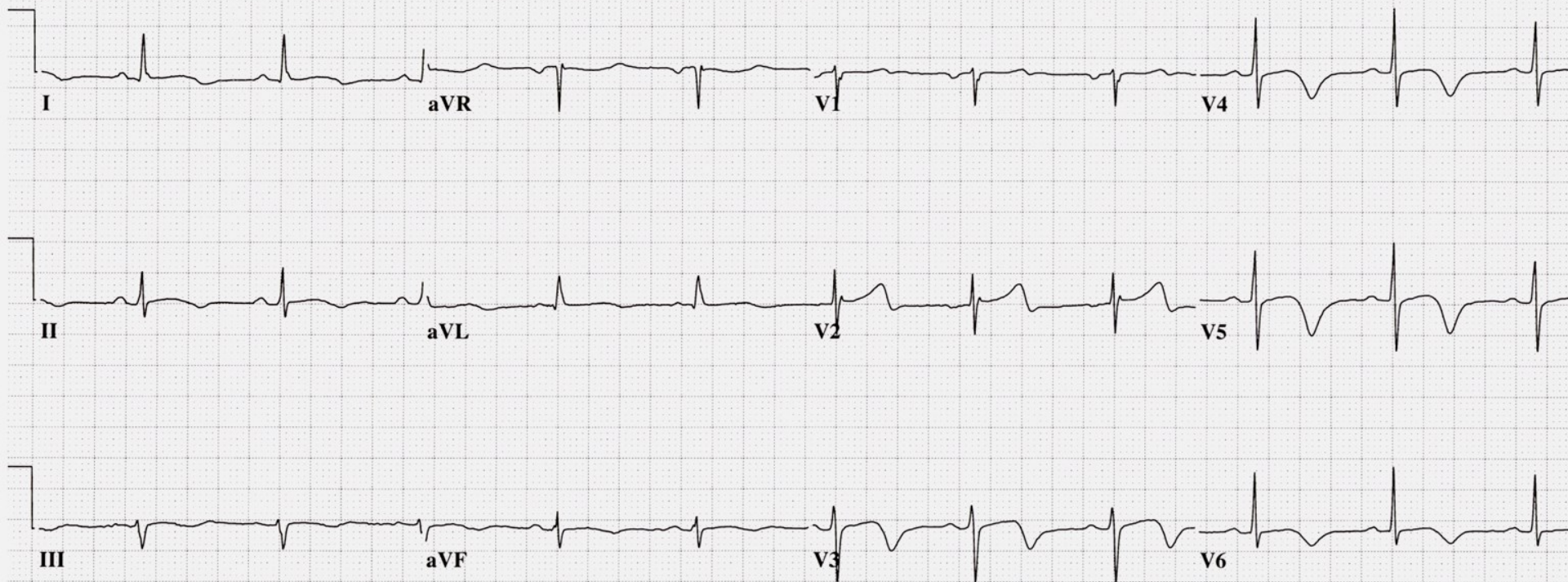


# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

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

33 yr		Vent. rate	67	BPM
Male	Black	PR interval	160	ms
		QRS duration	82	ms
Room:A13		QT/QTc	512/541	ms
Loc:3	Option:23	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***

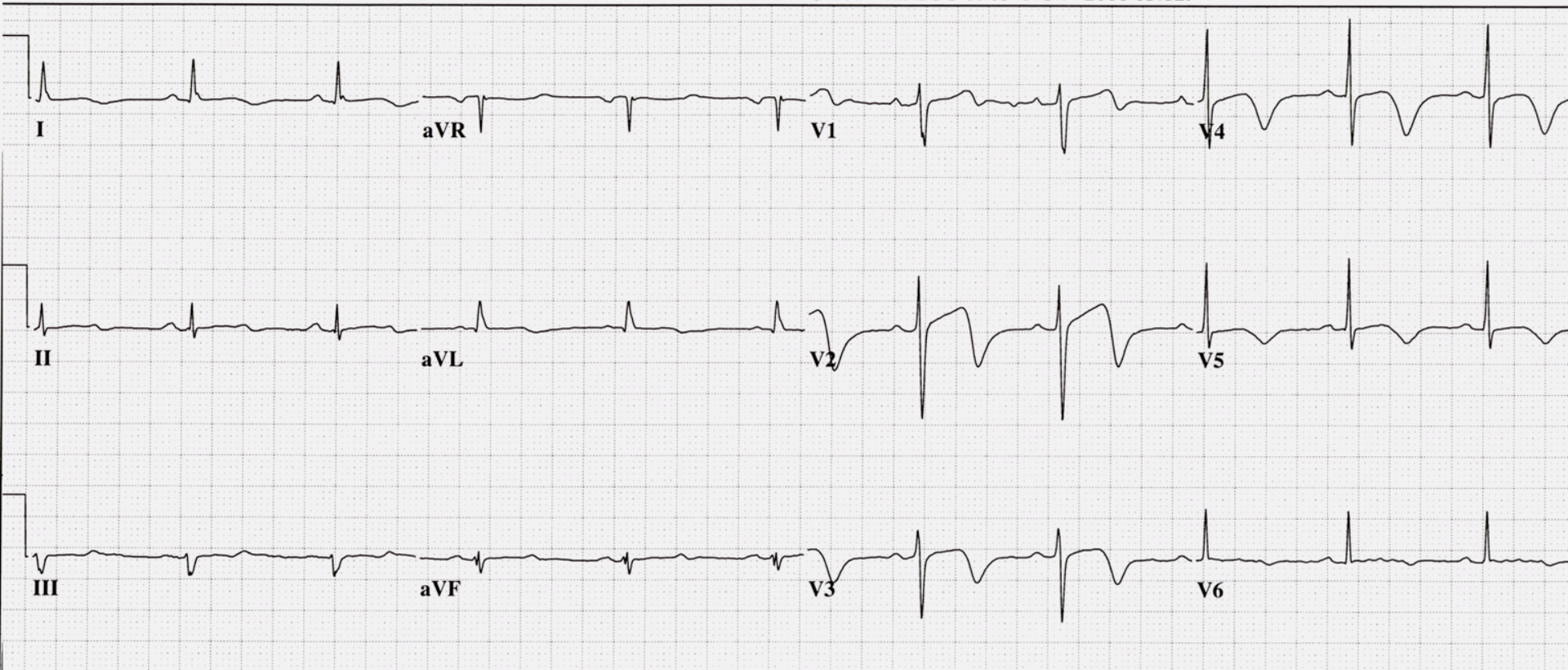
***CARDIOLOGIST !!!!***



# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

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

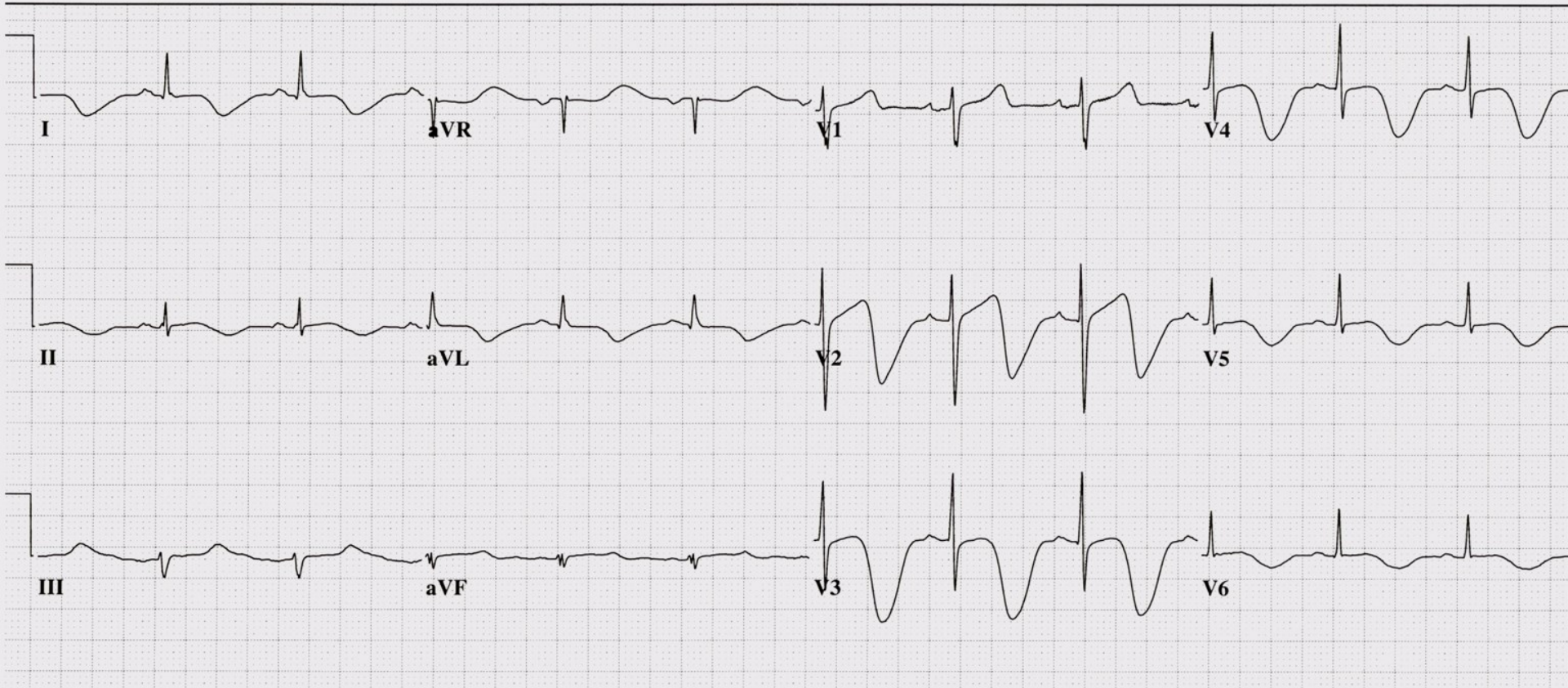
33 yr		Vent. rate	64	BPM	Normal sinus rhythm
Male	Black	PR interval	160	ms	Marked T wave abnormality, consider anterolateral ischemia
		QRS duration	84	ms	Prolonged QT
		QT/QTc	514/530	ms	Abnormal ECG
Loc:7	Option:35	P-R-T axes	45 3	91	When compared with ECG of 05-NOV-2008 05:12.



# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

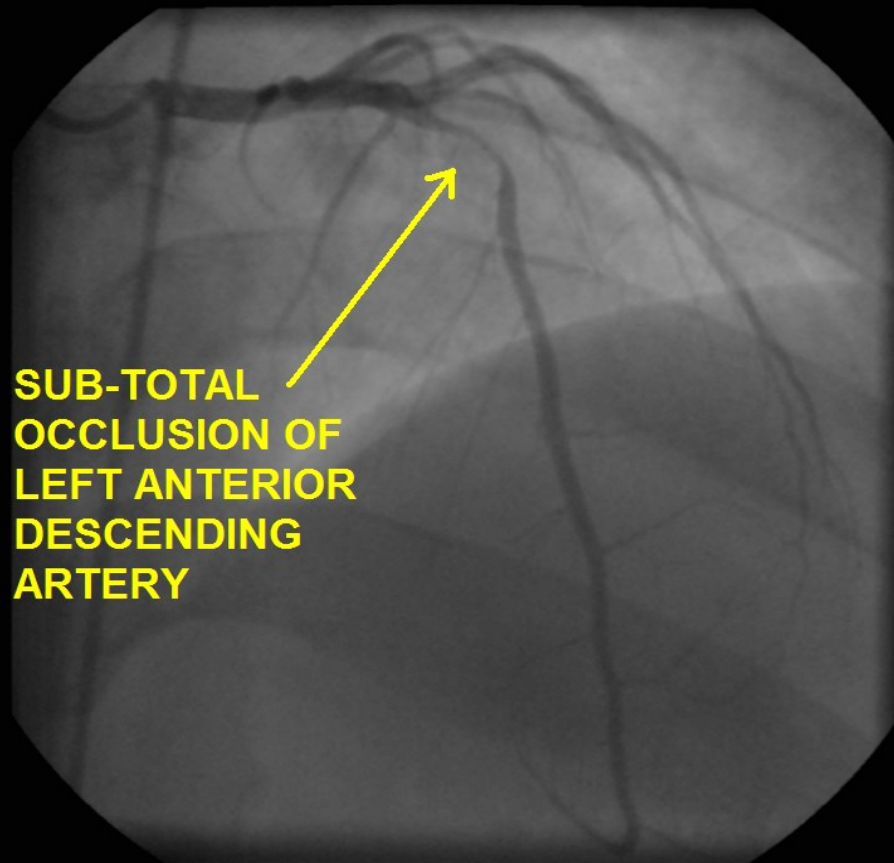
## SERIAL EKG CASE STUDY 1 - EKG # 4 @ 15:37 HOURS

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	

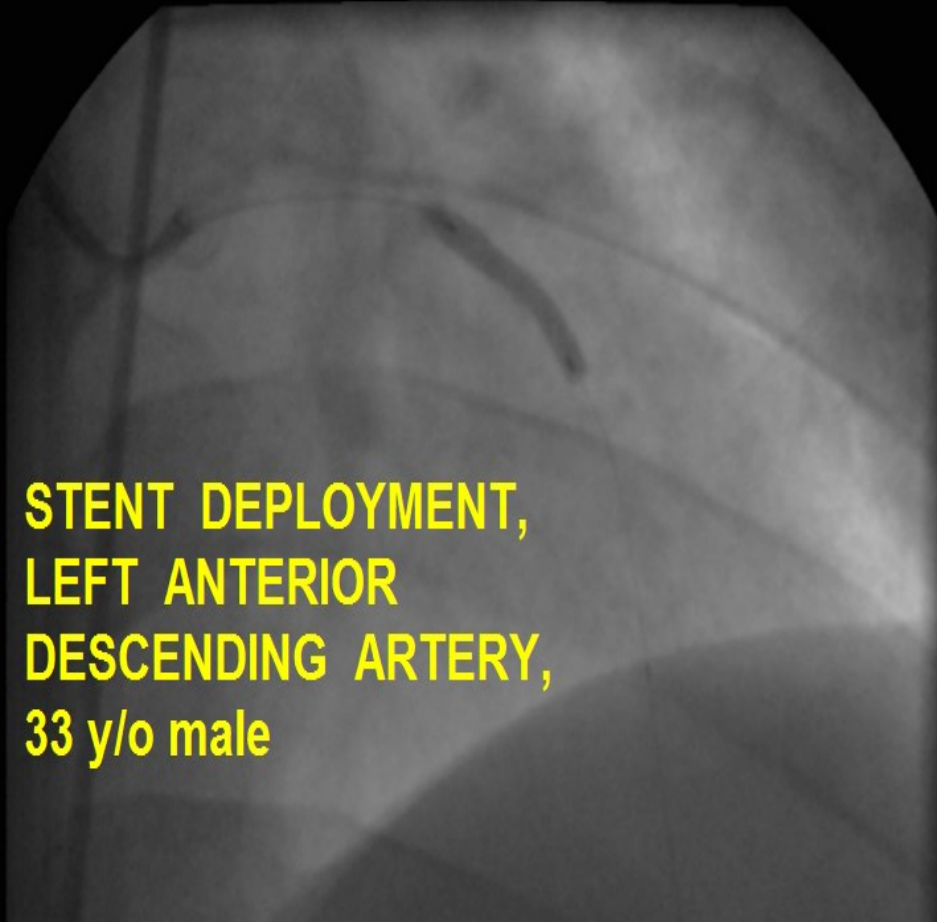




# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study

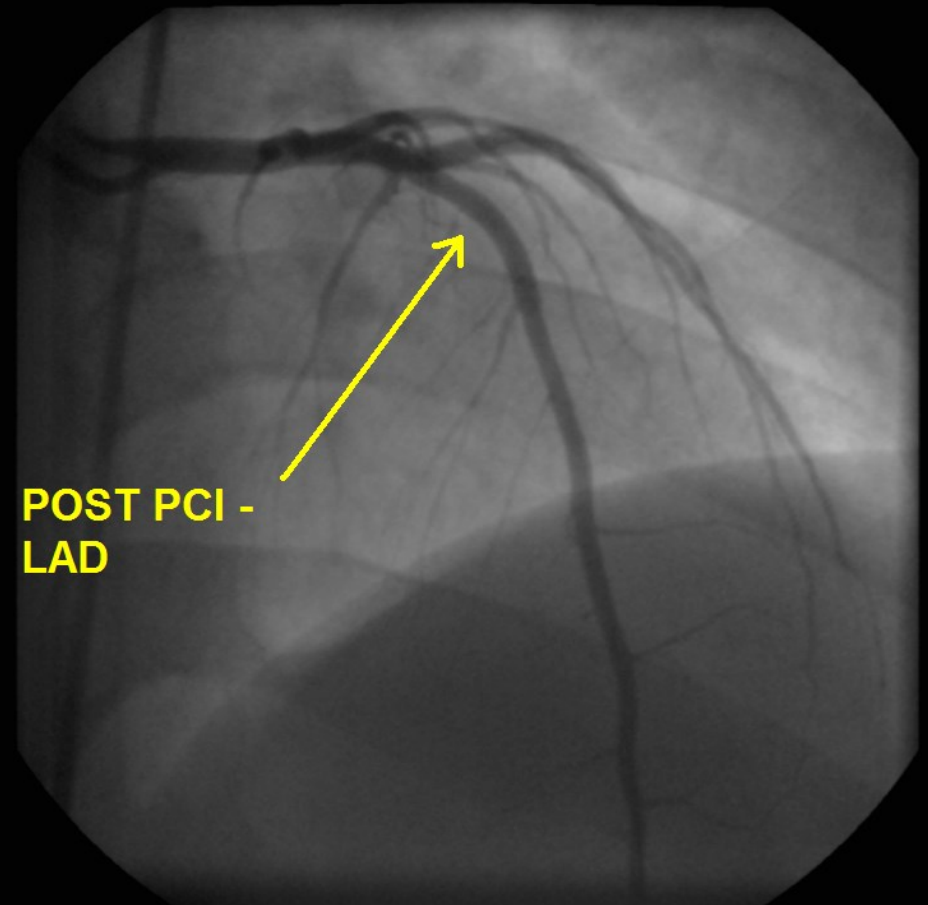
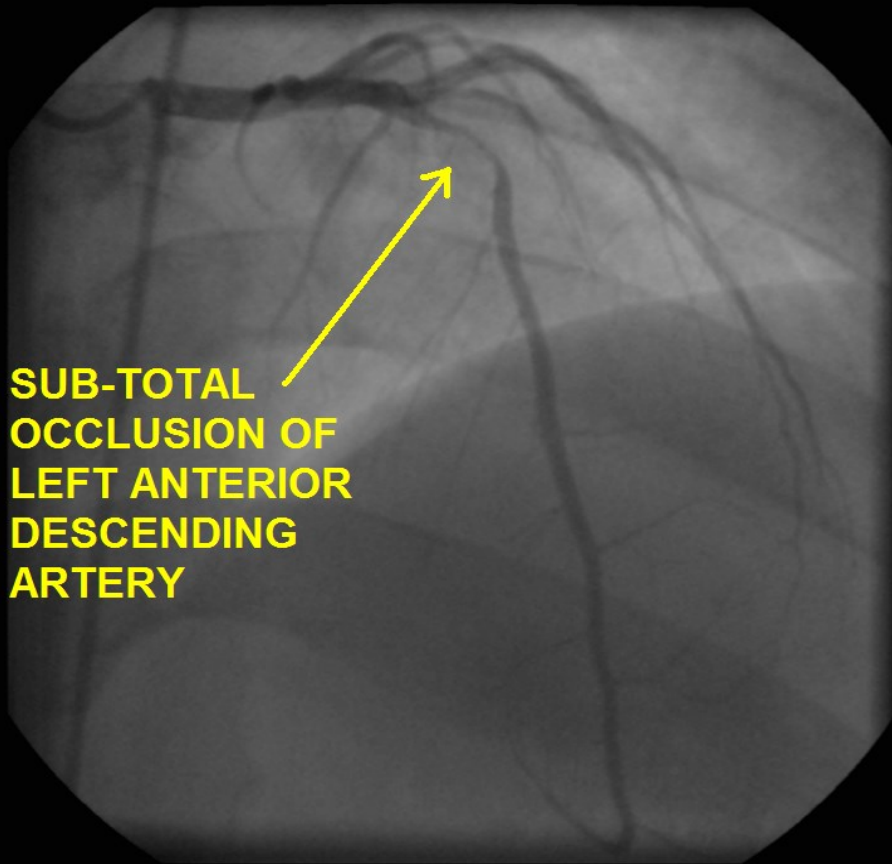


SUB-TOTAL  
OCCLUSION OF  
LEFT ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING  
ARTERY

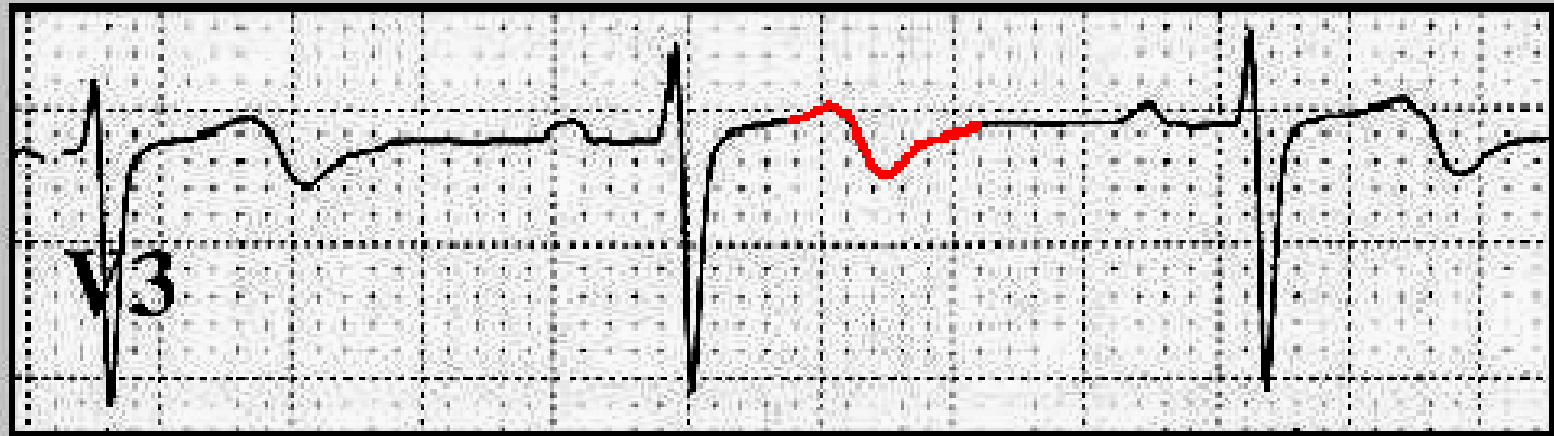


STENT DEPLOYMENT,  
LEFT ANTERIOR  
DESCENDING ARTERY,  
33 y/o male

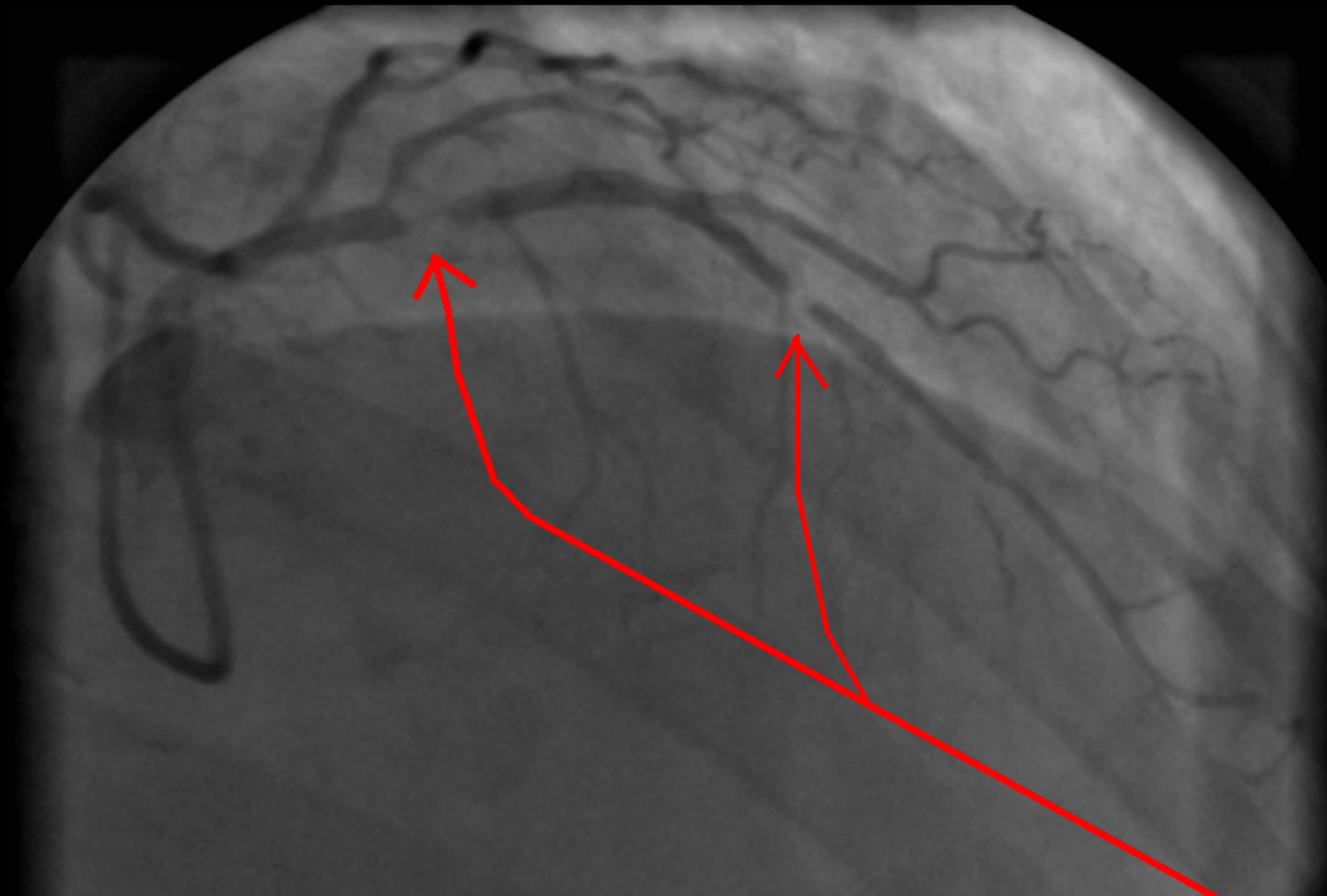
# Wellen's Syndrome Case Study



# 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 X 2**

# **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](#)

[CLICK HERE to download complete ACC 20<sup>th</sup> Congress  
12 Lead ECG Serial ECG Workshop](#)

**American College of Cardiology  
20<sup>th</sup> Congress 2017**

Red Rock Resort, Las Vegas  
October 25 & 26, 2017

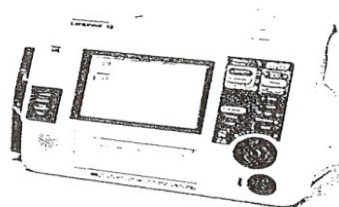
**Observation Medicine ECG  
Instructor Workshop  
Serial 12 Lead ECG Interpretation**

By: Wayne W Ruppert, CVT, CCCC, NREMT-P

# QUESTIONS ???



He's 96. She's 26. There's only one way to make this marriage last.



defibrillator/monitor series

Introducing a new era in acute cardiac care response—the new LIFEPAK 12 defibrillator/monitor series. A defibrillator and multiparameter monitor, all in one small, rugged, lightweight unit. With both AED and manual modes, it can be used by healthcare professionals with varied skill levels. A large, easy-to-read display and user-friendly Selector knob make training on the 12 simple. And the FASTPAK® 2 battery provides a fuel gauge to show the state of charge at the push of a button. Plus, an extensive data management system ties it all together. The 12 is also fully upgradeable, which means this will be the only system you'll need for quite a while. In fact it just may last longer than most marriages. For more information give us a call: 1.800.442.1142, or circle #101 on the reader service card.



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