



BASIC ECG PRINCIPLES

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www.ECGtraining.org

www.practicalclinicalskills.com

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

HELPFUL INFORMATION

CONTACT US

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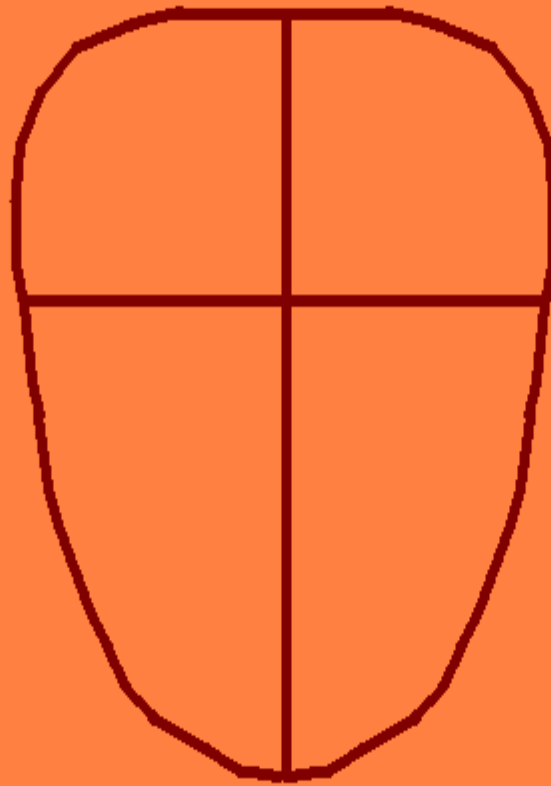
[Download 14 Point AHA Screening Form for Genetic and Congenital Heart Conditions](#)



The Heart:

- Muscle cells
- Electrical system cells
- Connective tissue

FOUR CHAMBERED PUMP



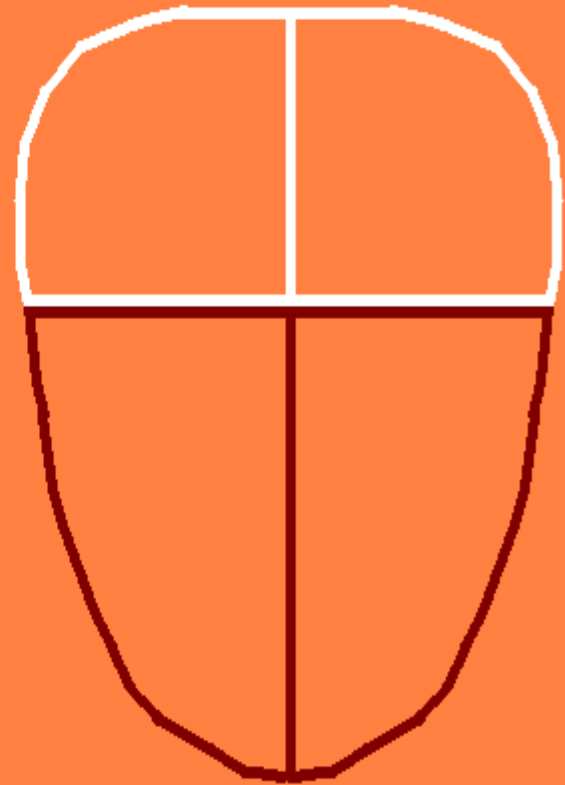
FOUR CHAMBERED PUMP . . .

2 ATRIUM



PRIMARY JOB:

"PACK VENTRICLES
FULL OF BLOOD"

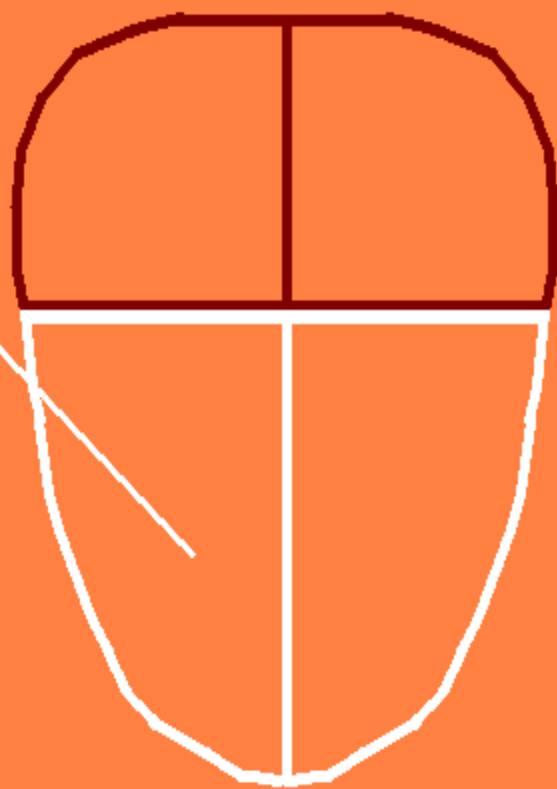


FOUR CHAMBERED PUMP . . .

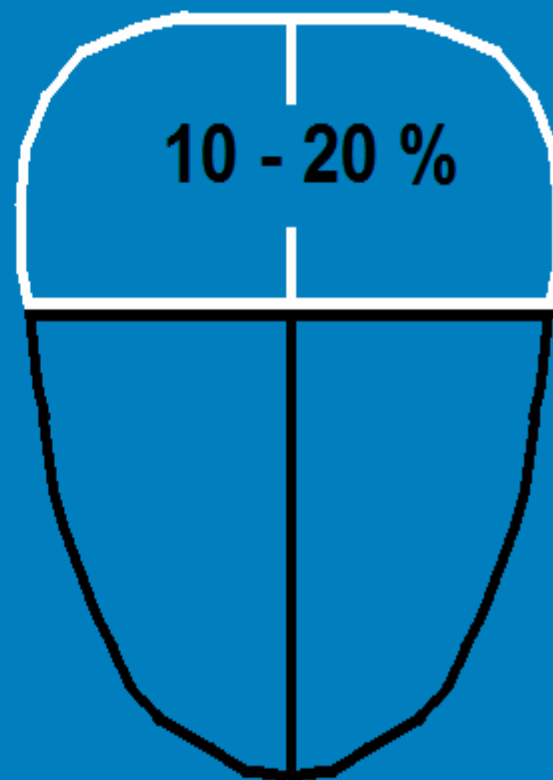
2 VENTRICLES

PRIMARY JOB:

"PUMP BLOOD TO THE
LUNGS AND THE
REST OF THE BODY"



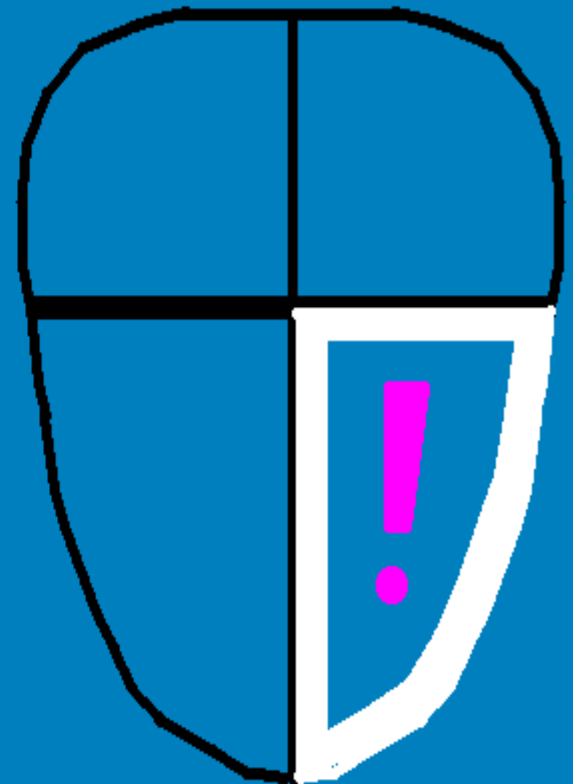
**WHEN FUNCTIONING PROPERLY,
THE ATRIUM SUPPLY
APPROXIMATELY
WHAT
PERCENTAGE
OF THE
CARDIAC OUTPUT ?**



**THE CHAMBER MOST IMPORTANT
TO KEEPING THE PATIENT ALIVE**

**(and the ONLY one
you can't live
without)**

**IS THE
LEFT VENTRICLE
WHICH WE WILL REFER
TO AS THE PUMP**



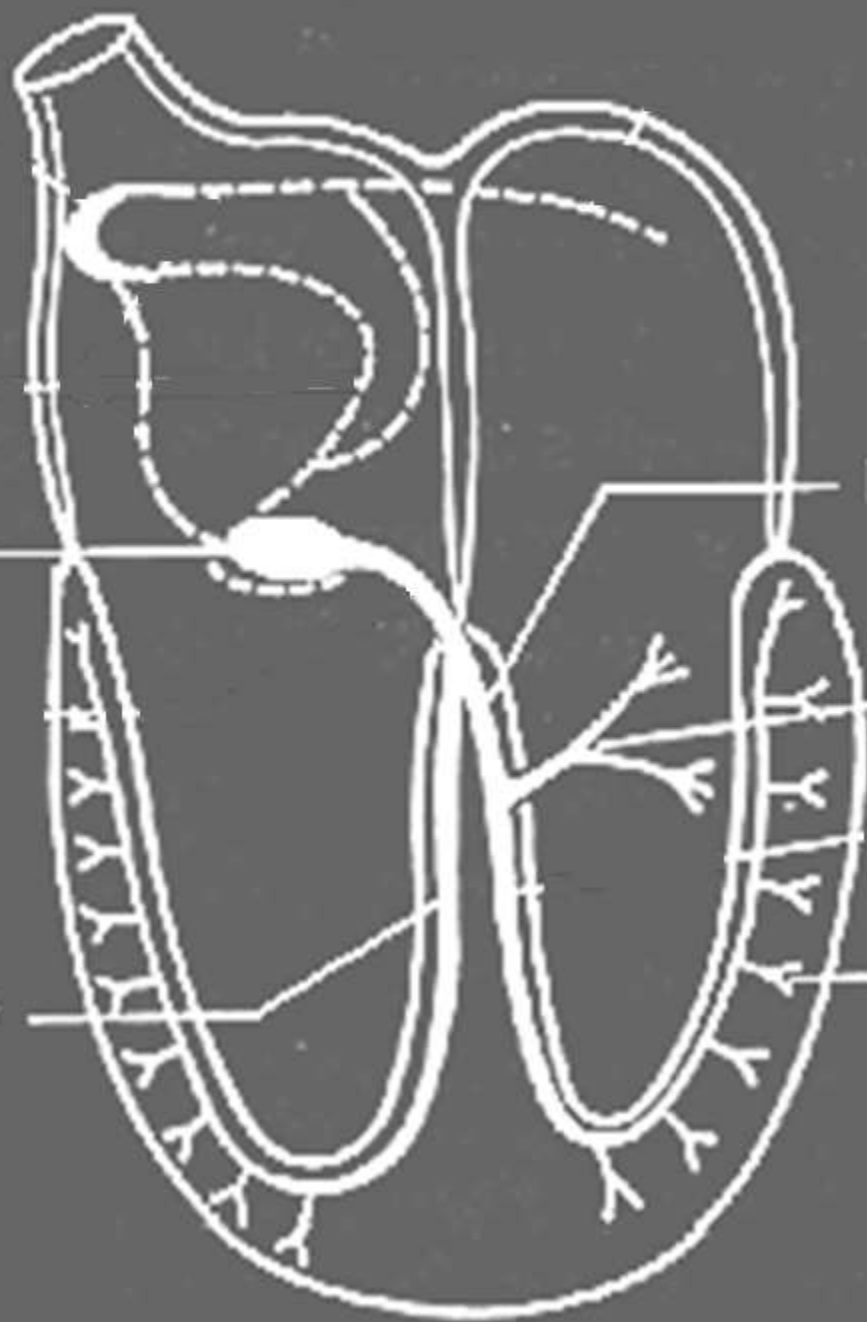
Sinus node

AV node

Right bundle
branch

Left bundle
branch

Purkinje fibers



Sinus node

60 - 100
beats / min.

AV node

Left bundle
branch

Right bundle
branch

Purkinje fibers



~~Sinus node~~

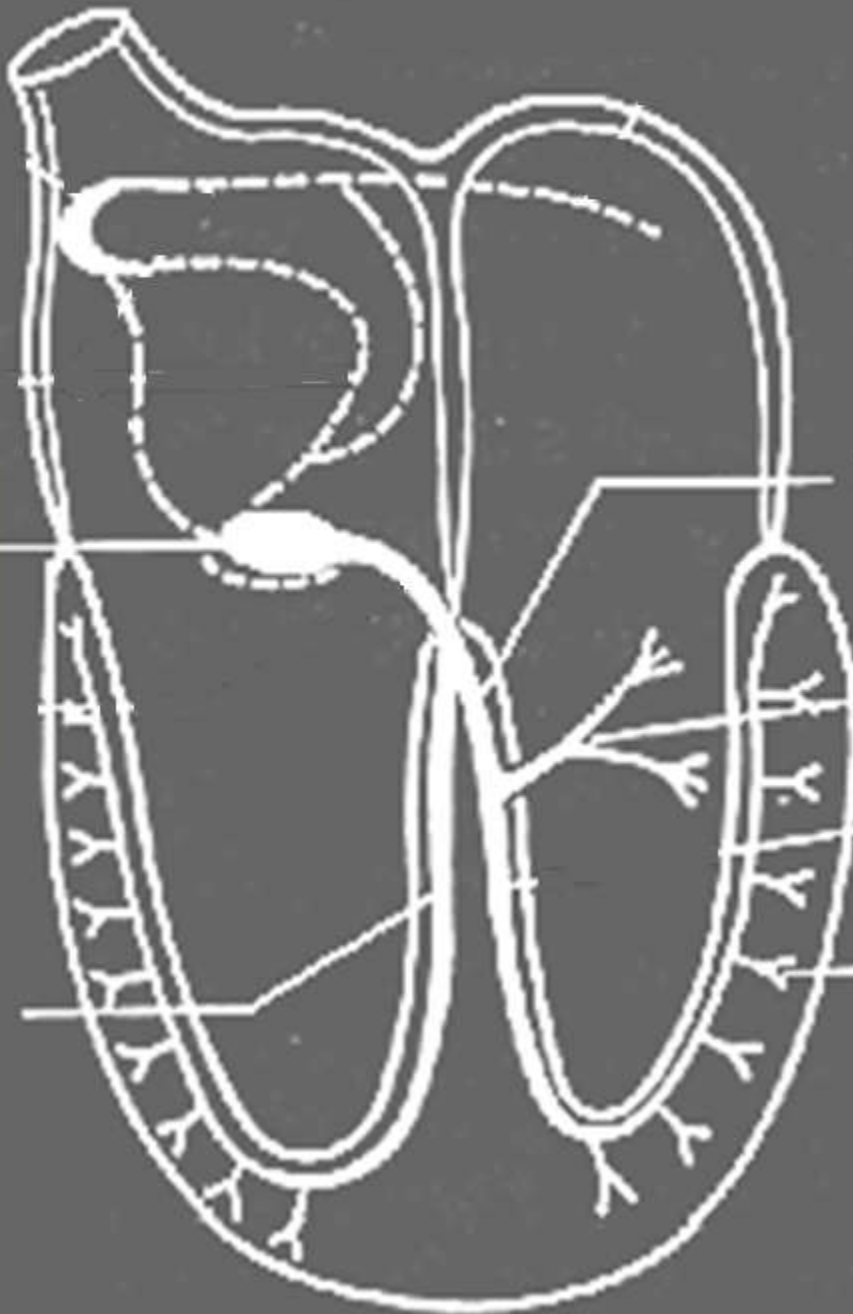
AV node

40 - 60
beats / min.

Right bundle
branch

Left bundle
branch

Purkinje fibers



~~Sinus node~~

~~AV node~~

Right bundle branch

Left bundle branch

Purkinje fibers

Pacemaker site in the Ventricles:
20 - 40 beats / min



NORMAL "INHERENT" RATES:

SA NODE: 60 - 100

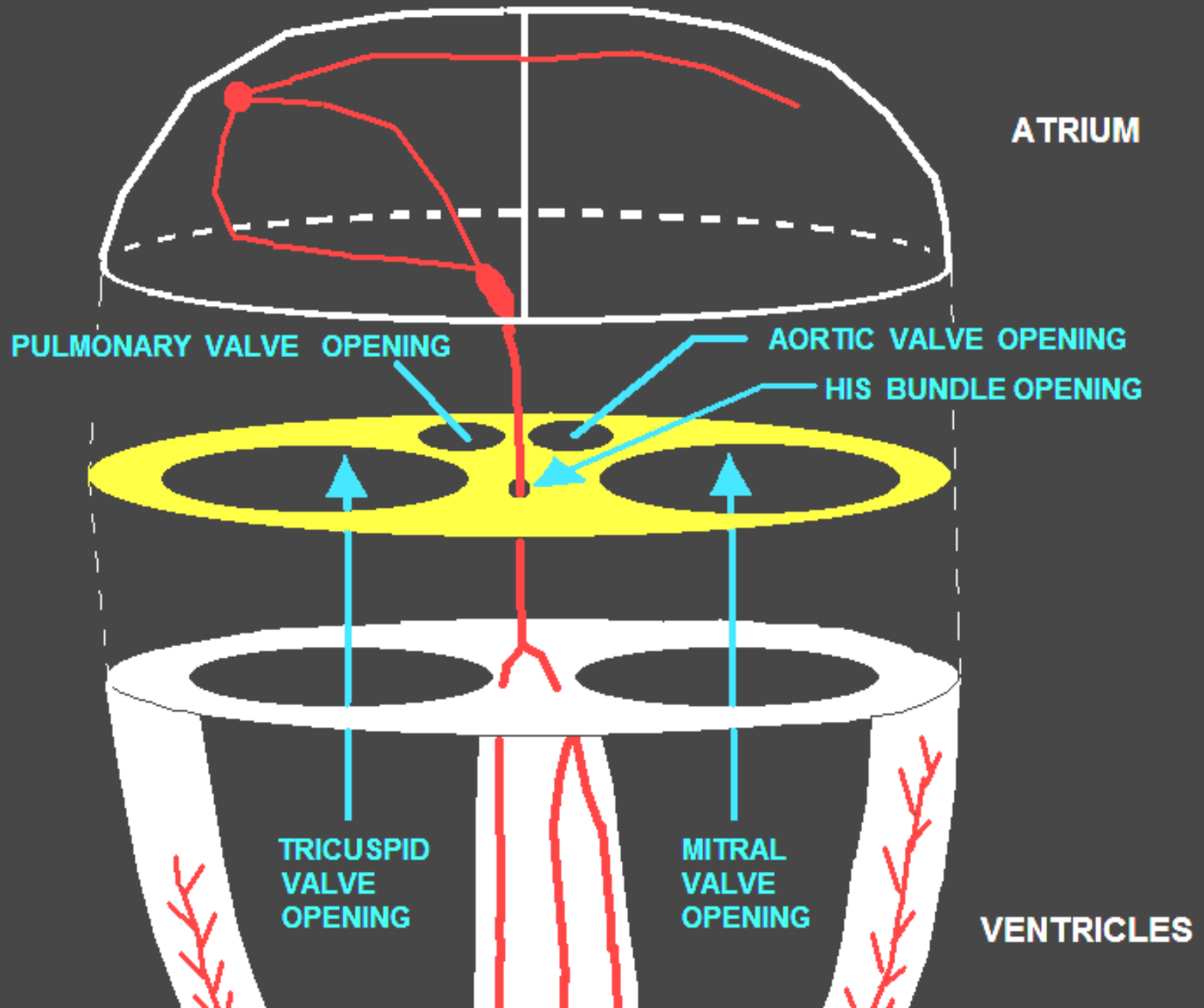
AV NODE: 40 - 60

* VENTRICLES: 1 - 40

* Most reference sources indicate ventricular focal rates as being between "20-40" beats per minute. Since I have personally witnessed patients who have had regular, pulse-producing "idioventricular" rhythms as low as 4 - 5 beats per minute, I can not endorse "20" as a minimum ventricular rate.

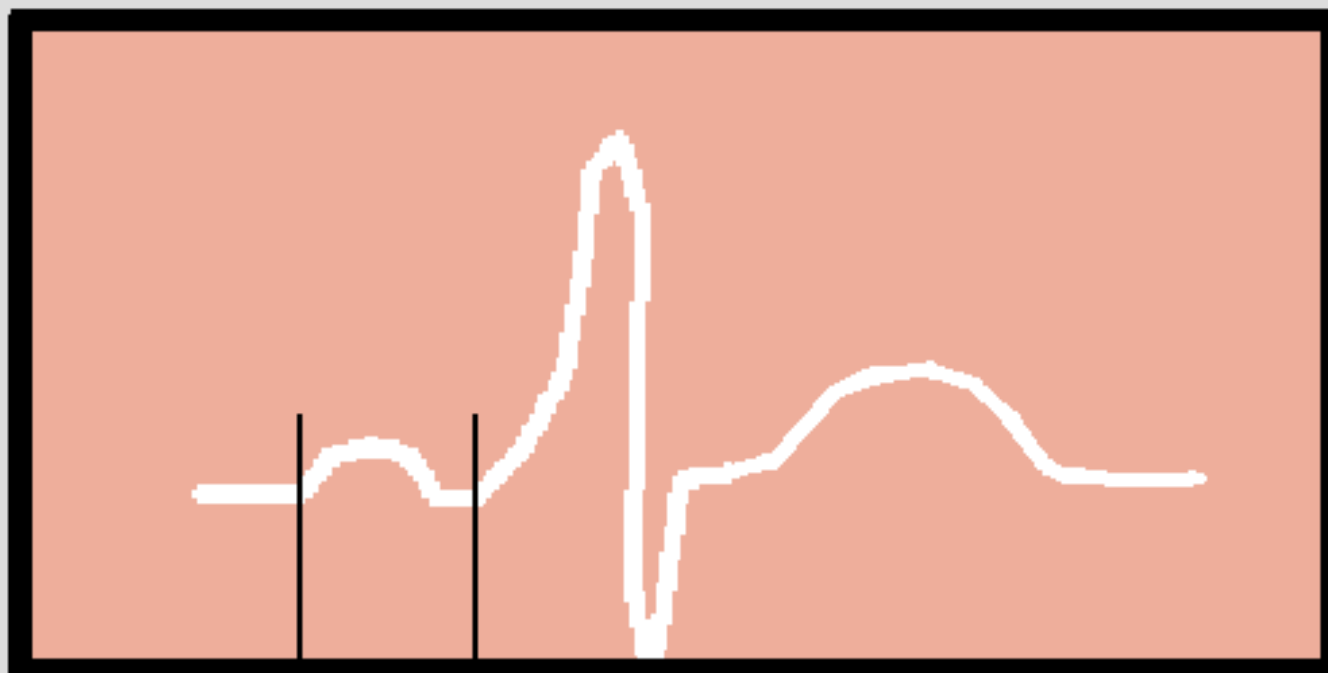
THE "SKELETON OF THE HEART"

**FIBROUS
"SKELETON
of the
HEART"**



WOLFF-PARKINSON-WHITE

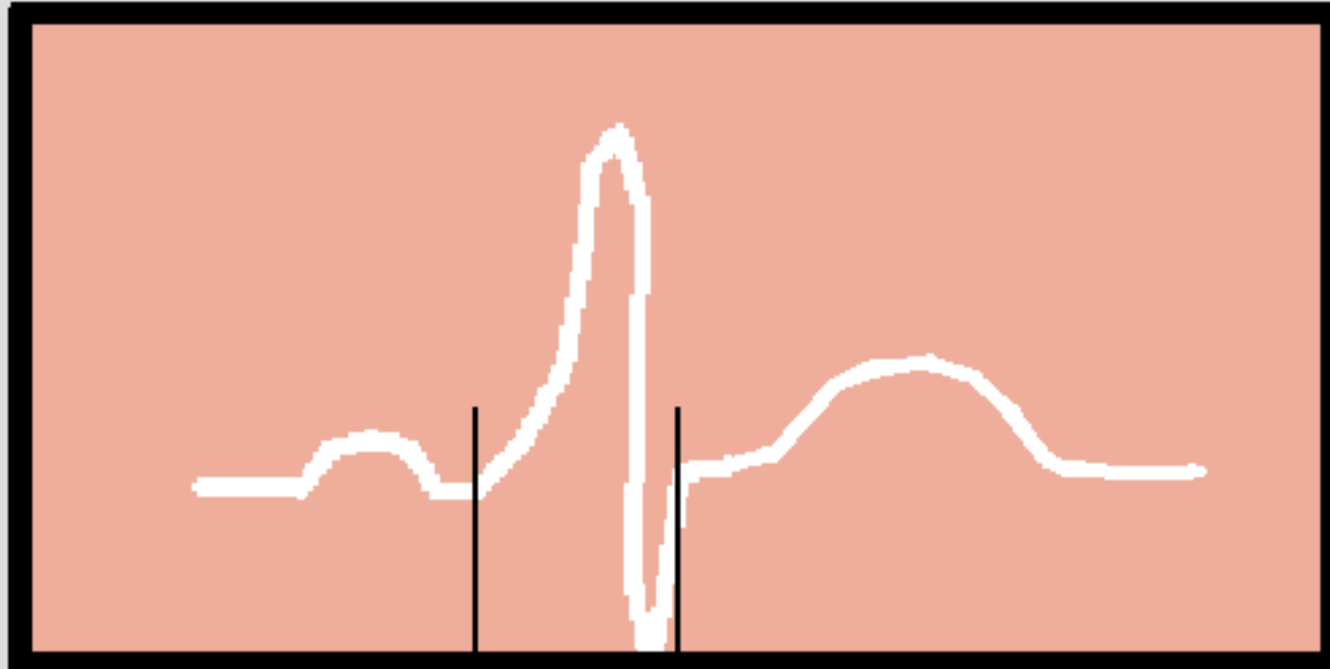
EKG CHARACTERISTICS



SHORTENED
P-R INTERVAL

WOLFF-PARKINSON-WHITE

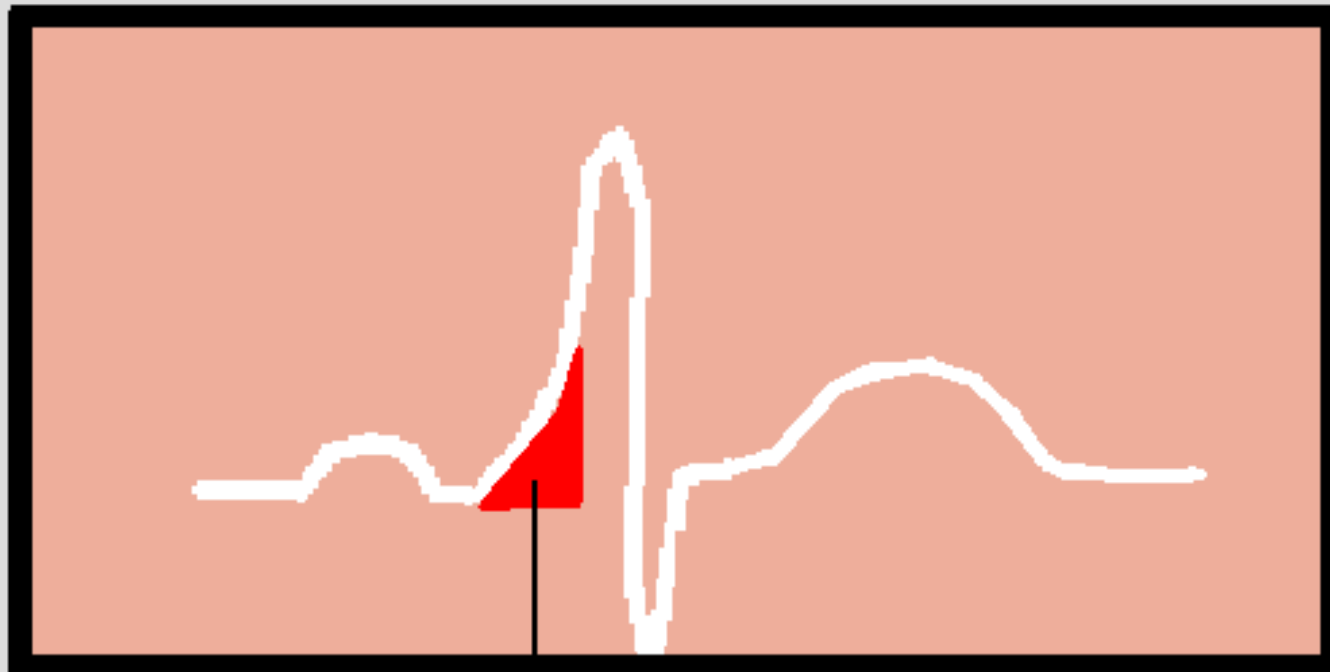
EKG CHARACTERISTICS



WIDENED
QRS COMPLEX

WOLFF-PARKINSON-WHITE

EKG CHARACTERISTICS



DELTA
WAVE

16 yr
 Female Caucasian
 Room:REC
 Loc:20 Option:50

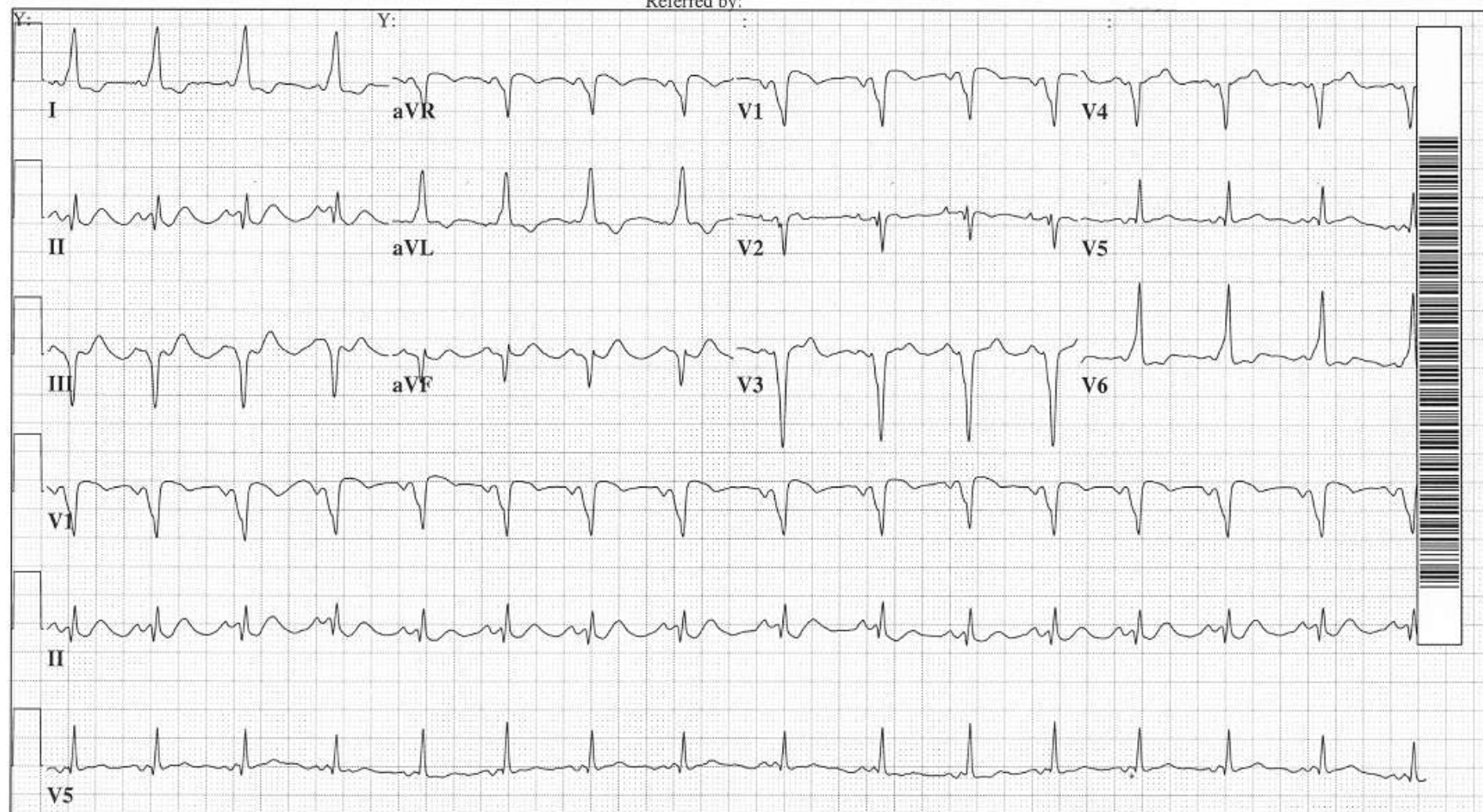
Vent. rate 92 BPM
 PR interval 112 ms
 QRS duration 118 ms
 QT/QTc 356/440 ms
 P-R-T axes 59 -22 107

~~Normal sinus rhythm with sinus arrhythmia~~
~~Left atrial enlargement~~
~~Anterior infarct, age undetermined~~
~~Inferior infarct, age undetermined~~
~~ST & T wave abnormality, consider lateral ischemia~~
Wolf-Parkinson-White
 Abnormal ECG
 No previous ECGs available

History:Unknown **EKG CLASS #WR030100**
 Technician: DP **60783**
 Test ind:EKG

**WOLFF-PARKINSON-WHITE
 TYPE B**

Referred by:



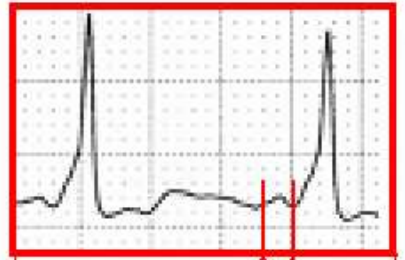
16 yr
Female Caucasian
Room:REC
Loc:20 Option:50

Vent. rate 92 BPM
PR interval 112 ms
QRS duration 118 ms
QT/QTc 356/440 ms
P-R-T axes 59 -22 107

Normal sinus rhythm with sinus arrhythmia
Wolff-Parkinson-White
Abnormal ECG
No previous ECGs available

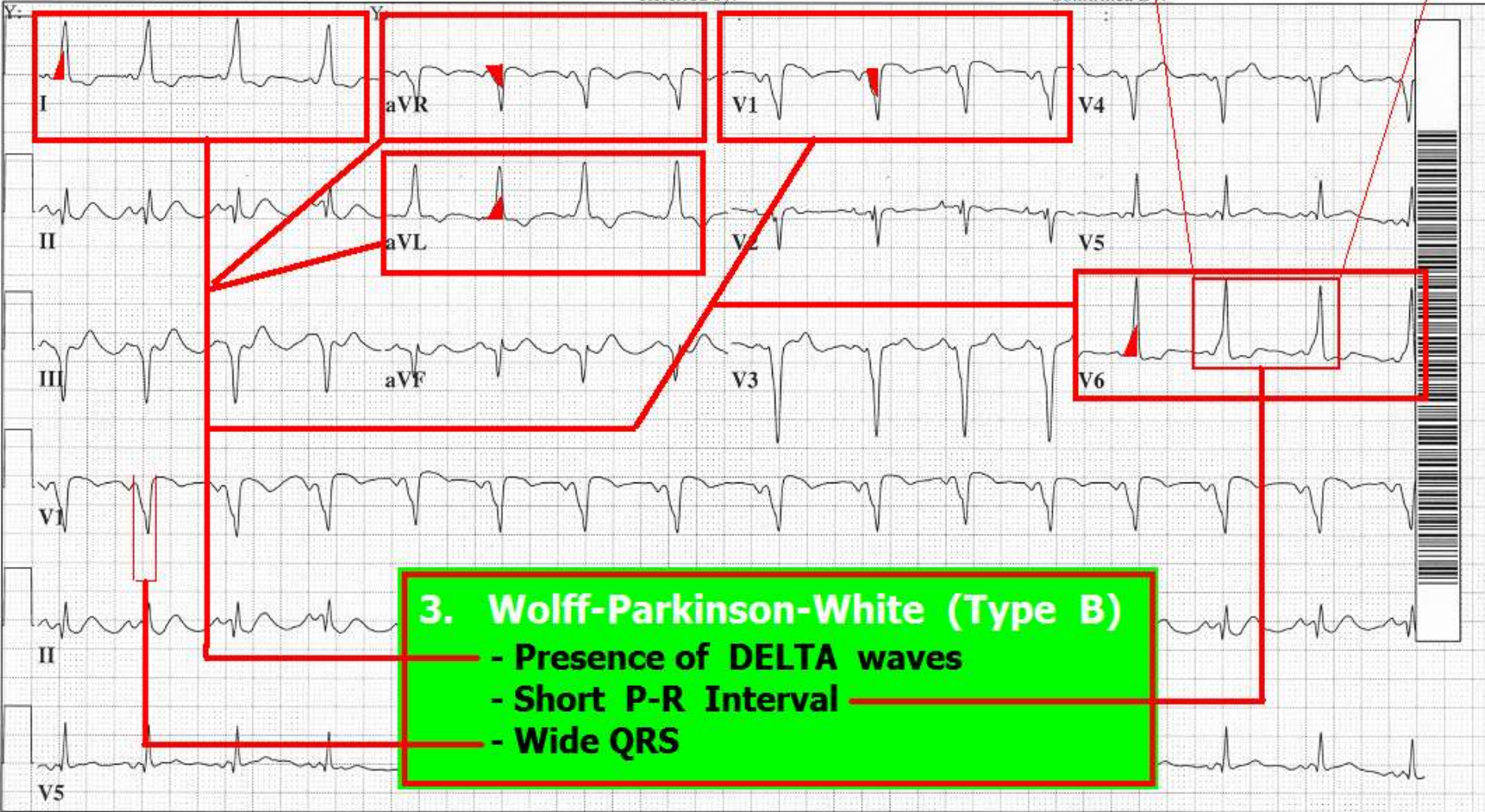
History:Unknown
Technician: DP
Test ind:EKG
EKG CLASS #WR030100
60783

P-R = .08



Referred by:

Confirmed By:



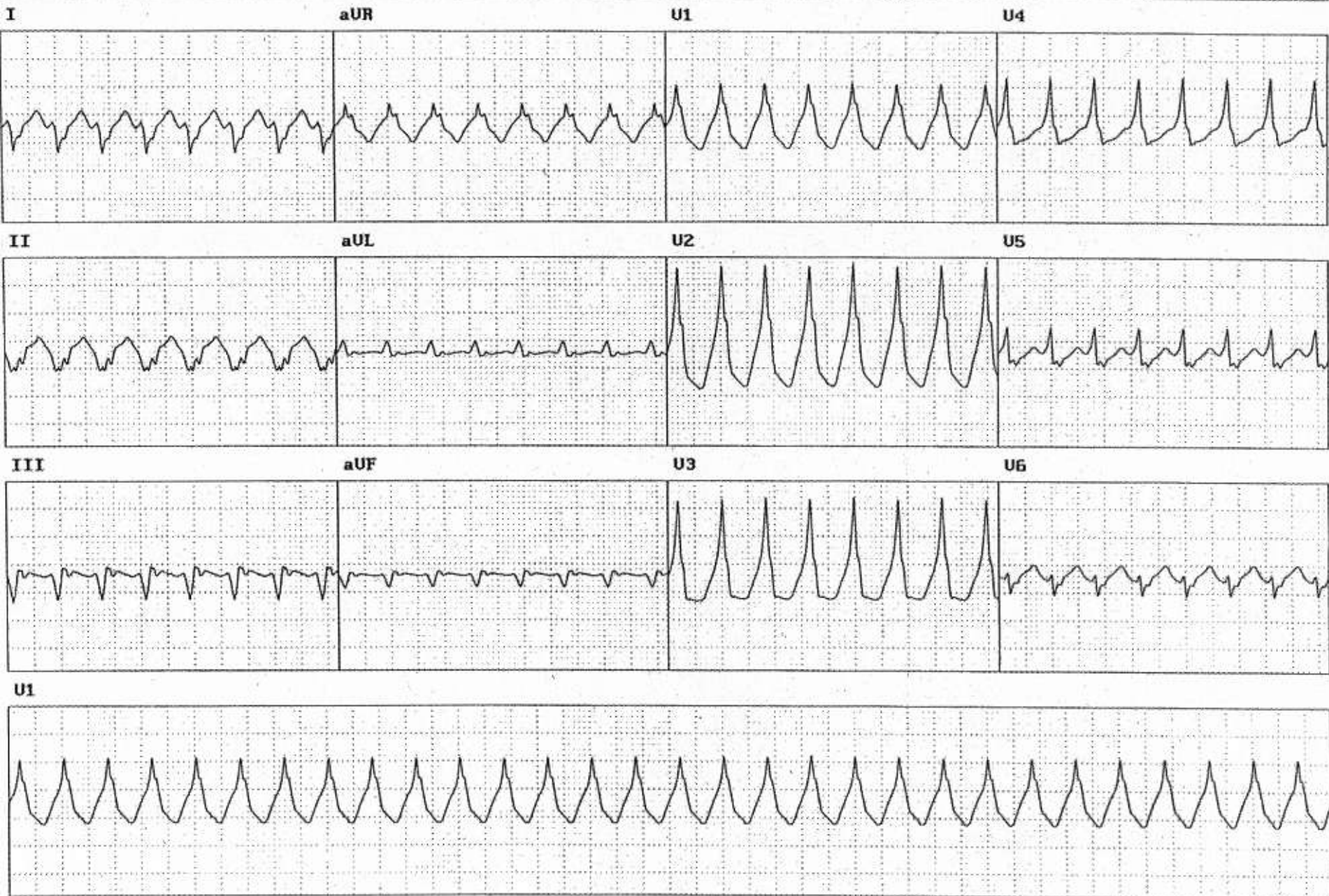
3. Wolff-Parkinson-White (Type B)
- Presence of DELTA waves
- Short P-R Interval
- Wide QRS

W-P-W patients often experience

Tachycardias:

- Narrow QRS Tachycardia (SVT)
- Wide QRS Tachycardia (mimics V-Tach).

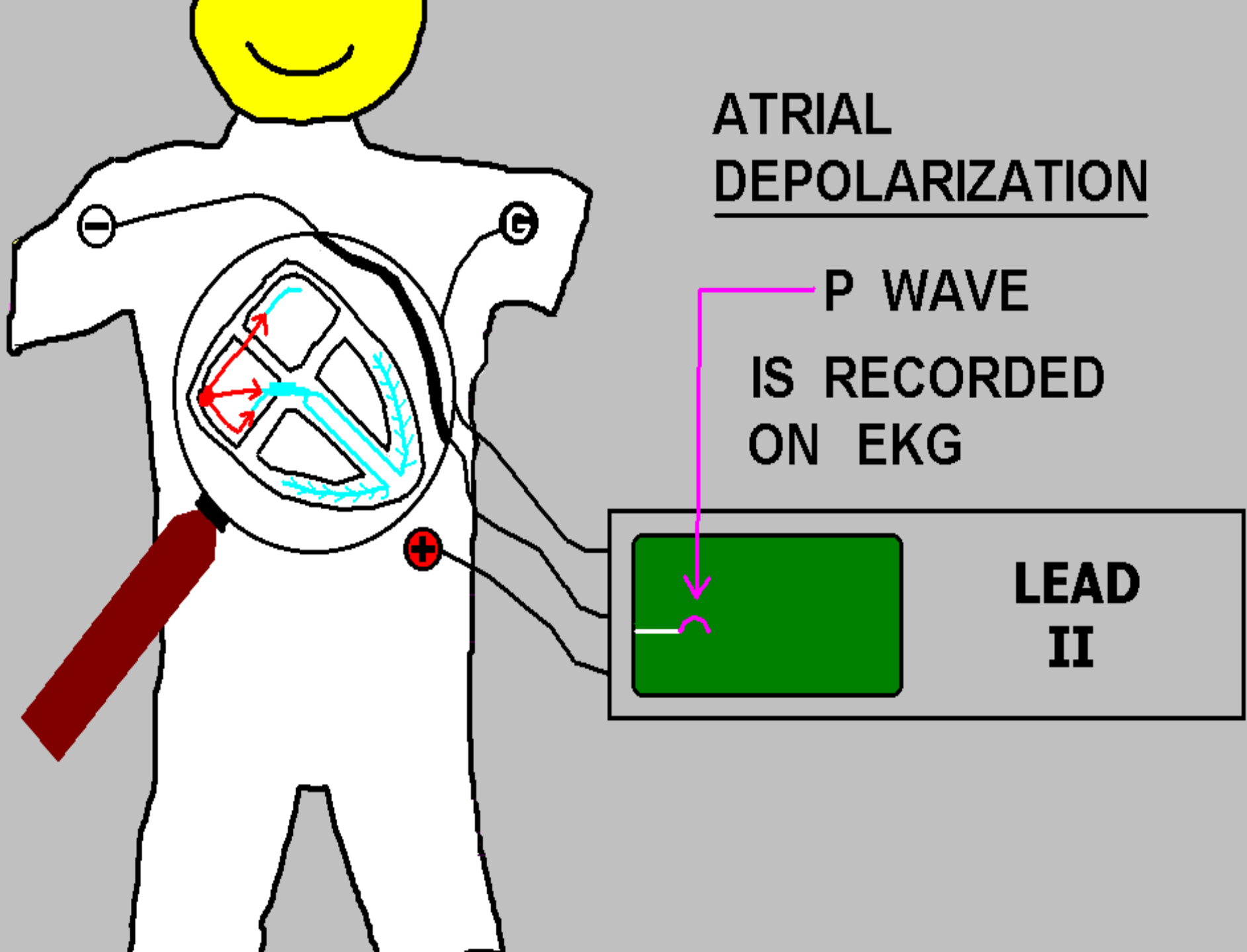
The same patient can present with narrow QRS SVT, and at another time, Wide QRS Tachycardia



ATRIAL DEPOLARIZATION

P WAVE
IS RECORDED
ON EKG

LEAD
II

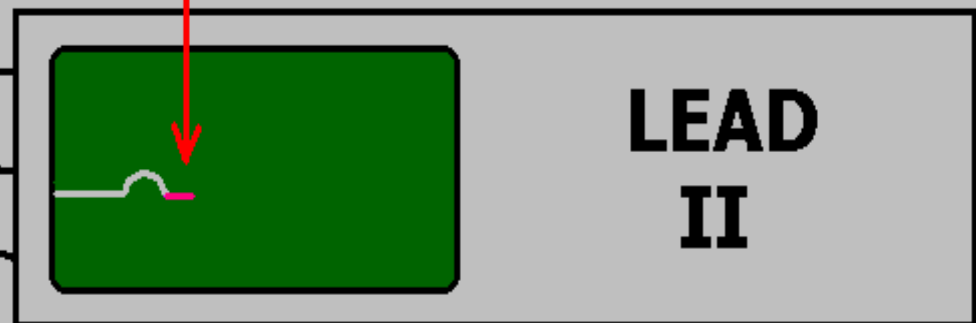


THE P-R SEGMENT

ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY
DURING P-R SEGMENT:

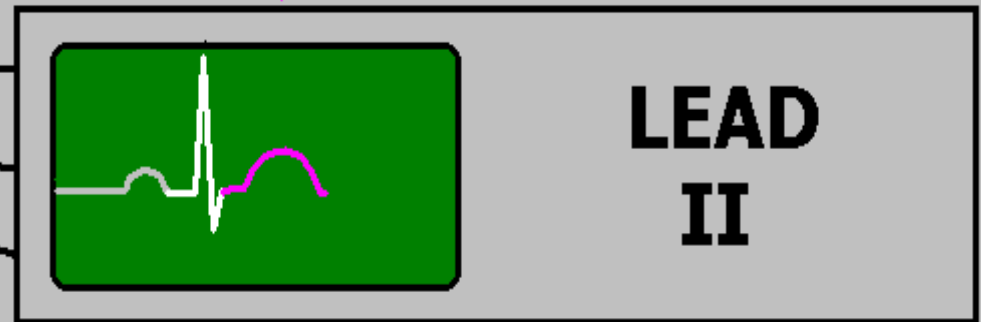
- Depolarization wave in A-V node
- Atrial Repolarization

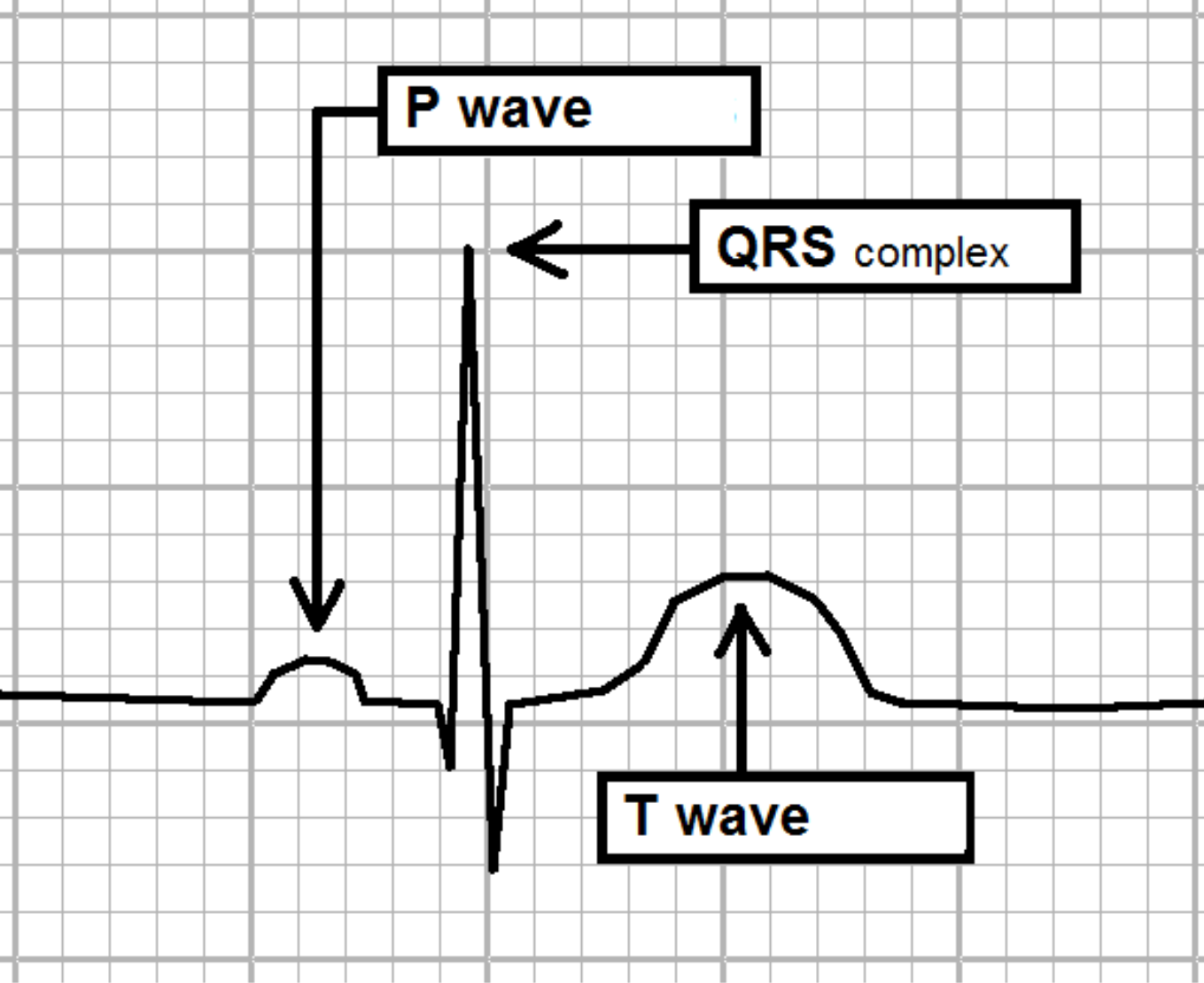
.10 SECOND
ISOELECTRIC PAUSE

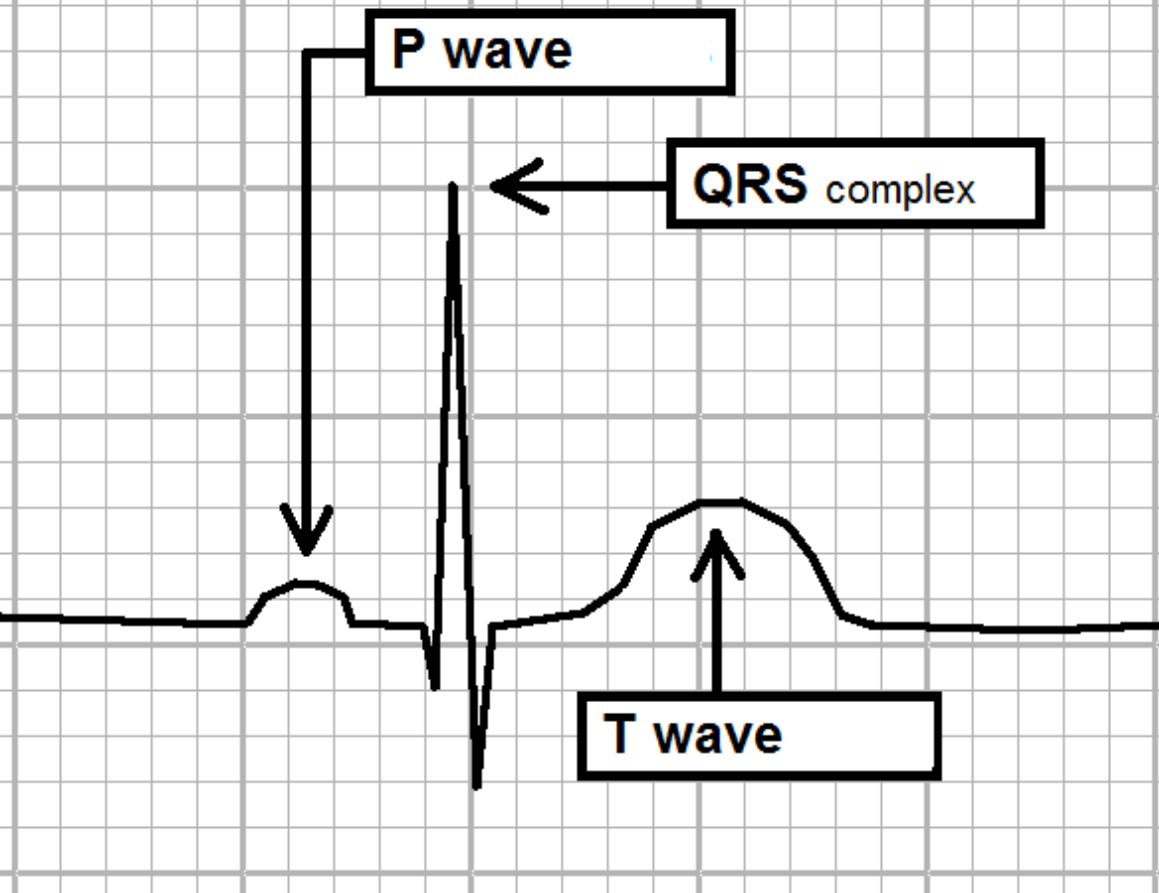


VENTRICULAR REPOLARIZATION

WRITES A "T"
WAVE ON THE
ECG





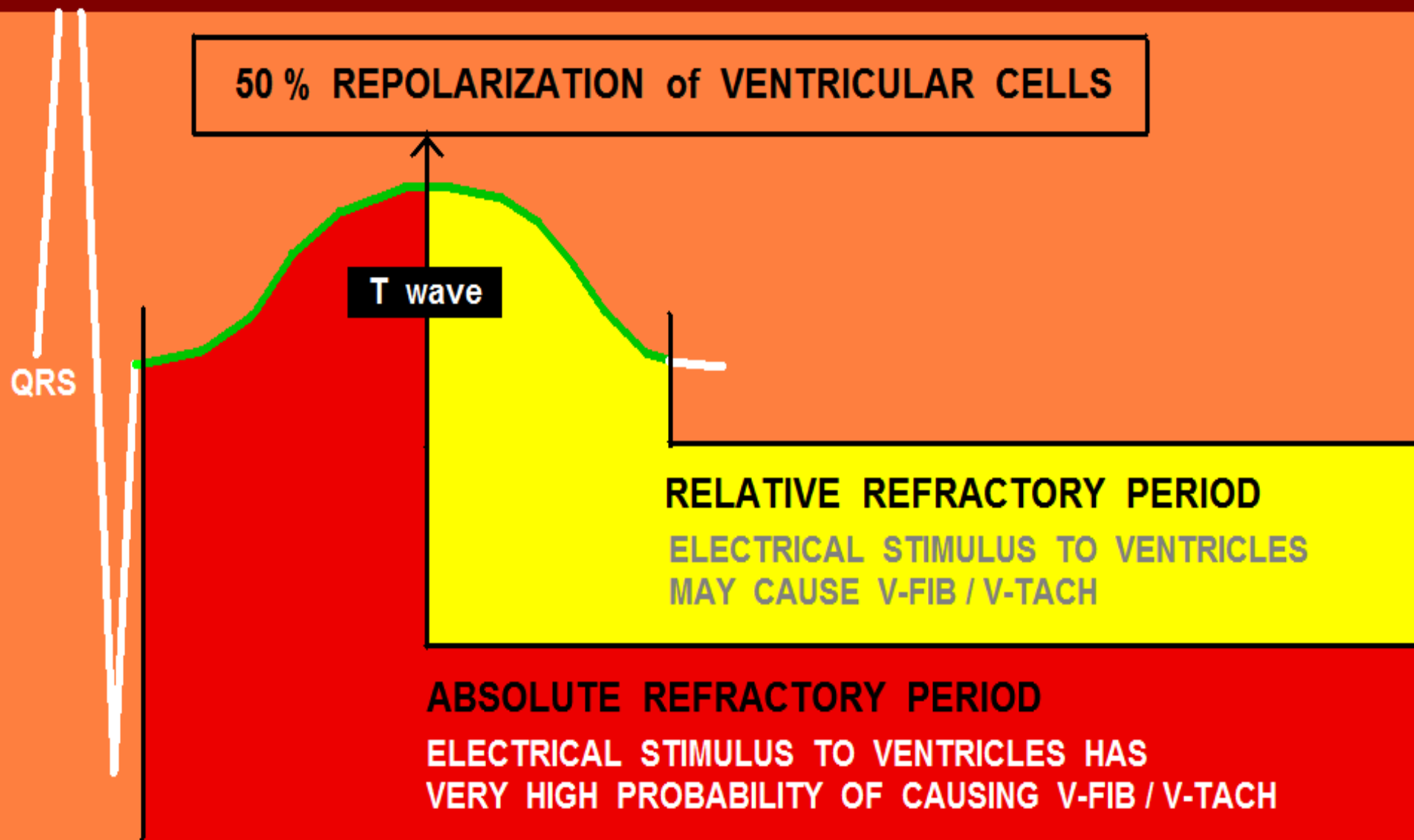


P WAVE =
ATRIAL DEPOLARIZATION

QRS COMPLEX =
VENTRICULAR
DEPOLARIZATION
(contracting)

T WAVE =
VENTRICULAR
REPOLARIZATION
(recharging)

CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"



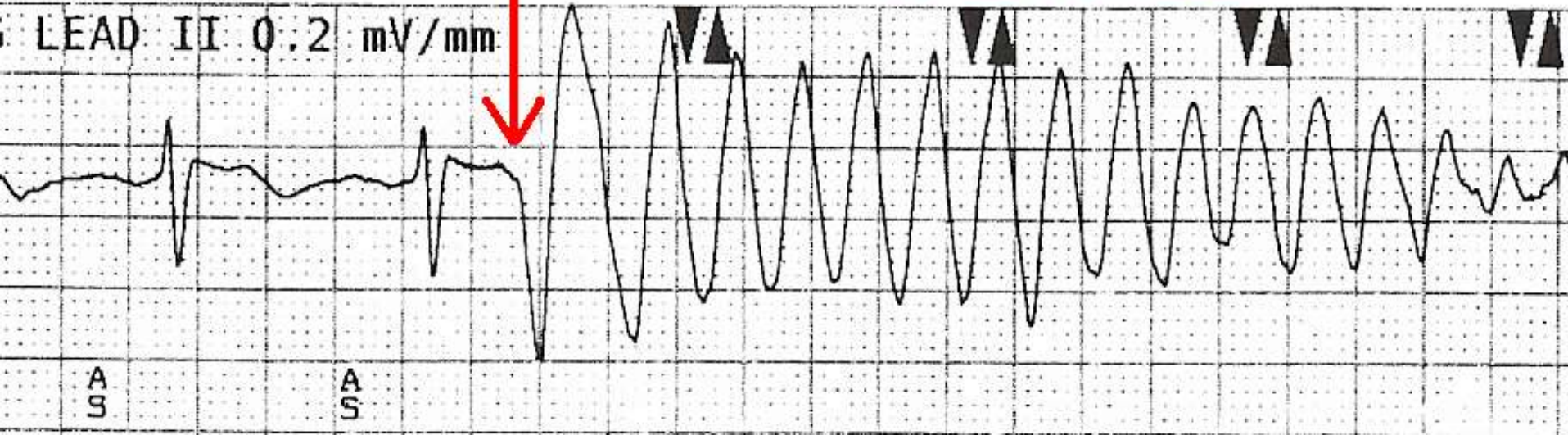
ROUTINE TEST OF ICD

ELECTRICAL IMPULSE
ADMINISTERED DURING ABSOLUTE
REFRACTORY PERIOD -- INDUCES
VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION

08-Sep-2006 18:01:47

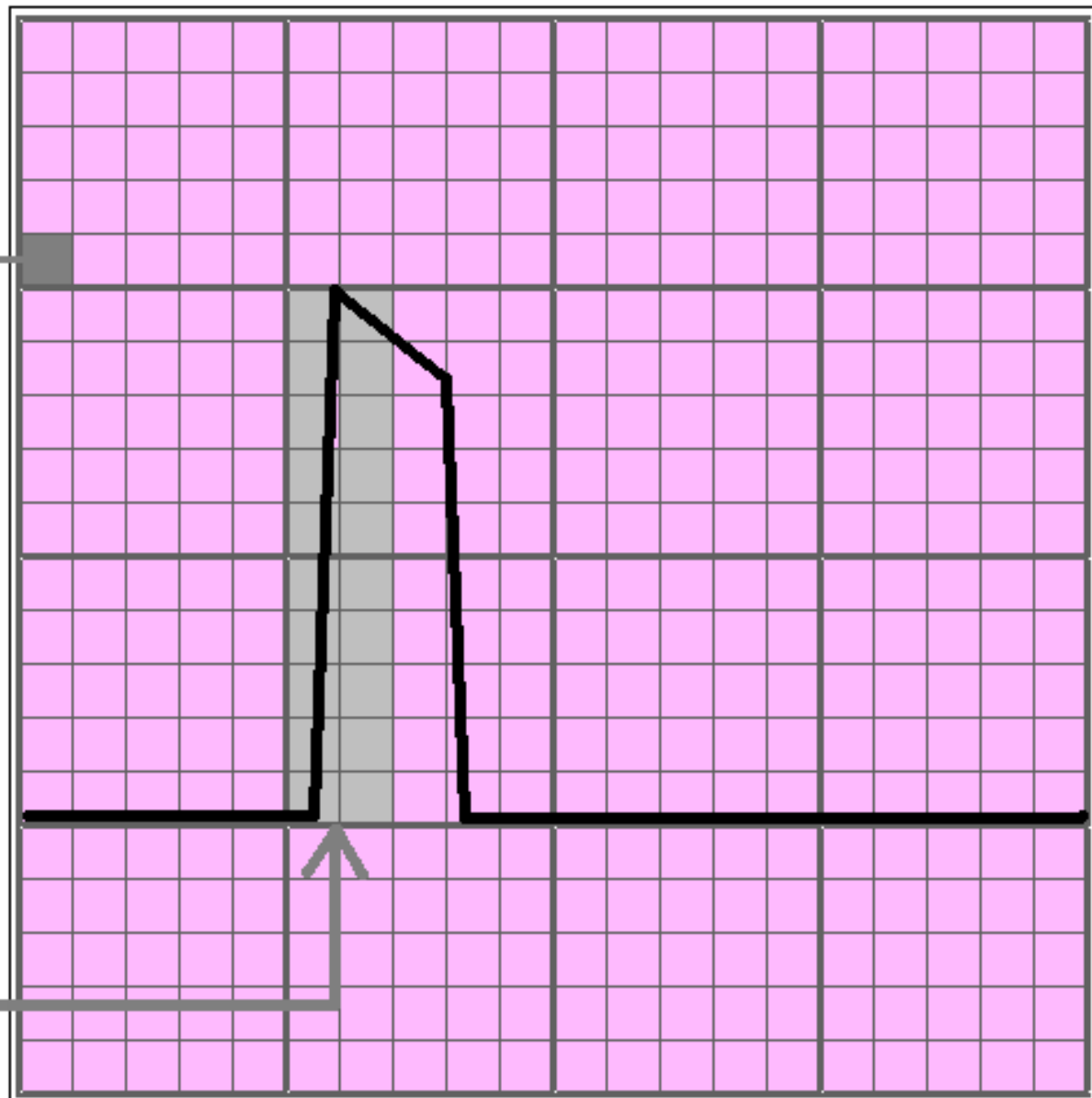
Test Started

SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Ray Heinley
Medtronic Corporation
for this contribution



ECG PAPER - THE VERTICAL AXIS:

- SMALL BOXES = 1mm SQUARES
- THE VERTICAL AXIS REPRESENTS AMPLITUDE (VOLTAGE)
- IN VERTICAL DIRECTION, THERE ARE 5 SMALL BOXES IN EACH LARGE (5mm) BOX
- 1 mV CALIBRATION SPIKE = 10 mm



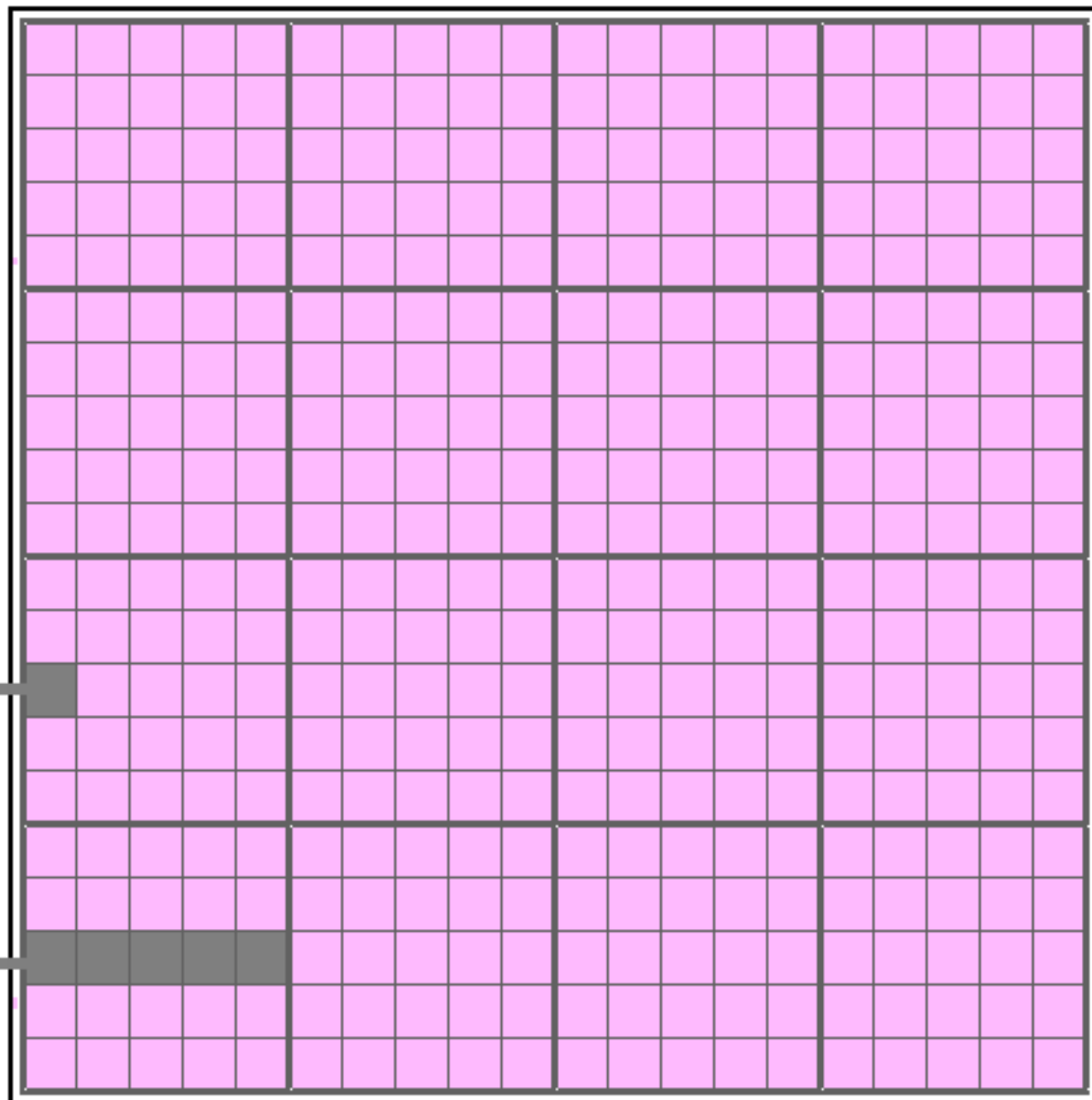
ECG PAPER - THE HORIZONTAL AXIS:

THE HORIZONTAL
AXIS REPRESENTS
TIME . . .

STANDARD SPEED
FOR RECORDING
ADULT EKGs =
25 mm / SECOND

EACH 1mm BOX =
.04 SECONDS, or
40 MILLISECONDS
(40 ms)

5 SMALL BOXES =
.20 SECONDS, or
200 MILLISECONDS
(200 ms)



THE EKG MACHINE

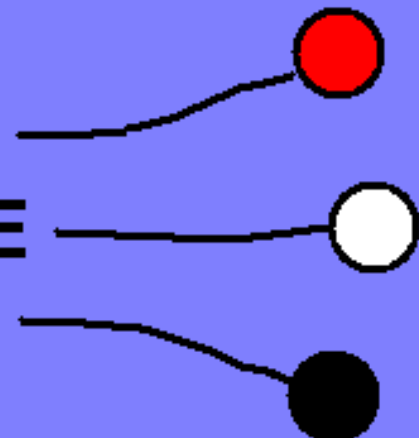
STANDARD 12 LEADS - USES 10 WIRES
(6 CHEST and 4 LIMB)

- I, II, III, and V1, V2, V3, V4, V5, V6
EACH CONSIST OF:

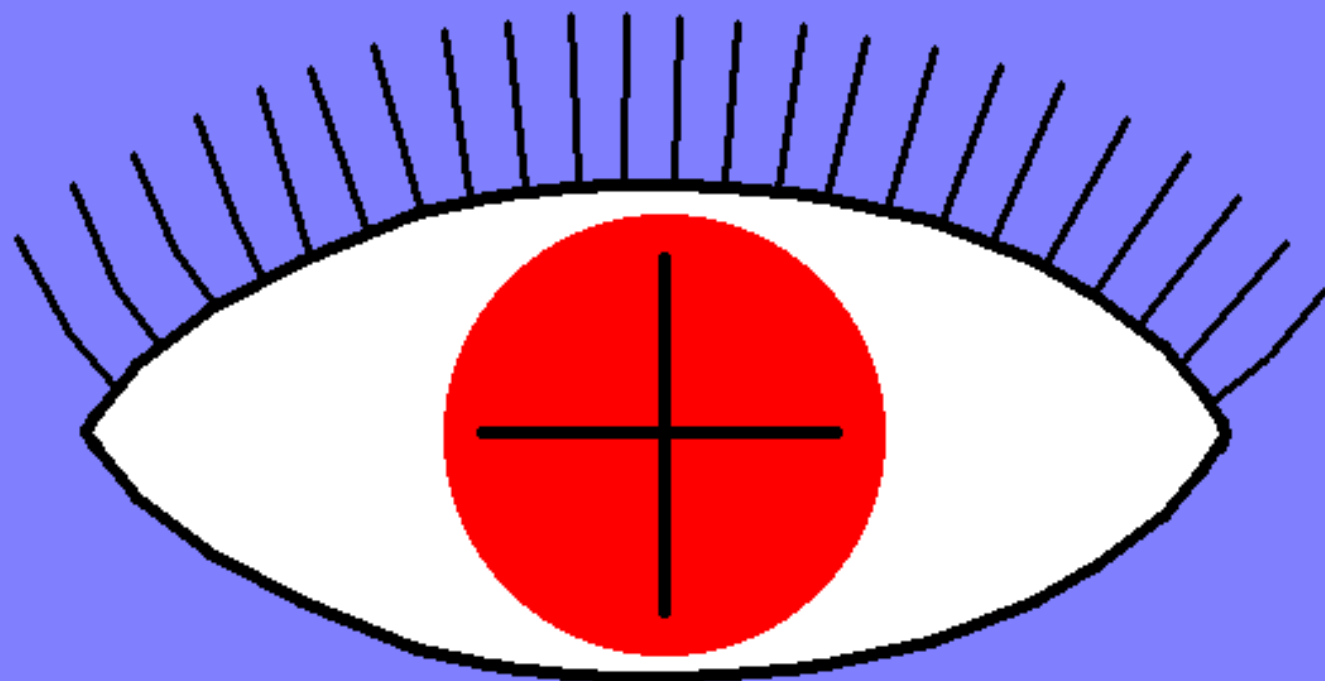
1 POSITIVE ELECTRODE

1 NEGATIVE ELECTRODE

1 GROUND ELECTRODE

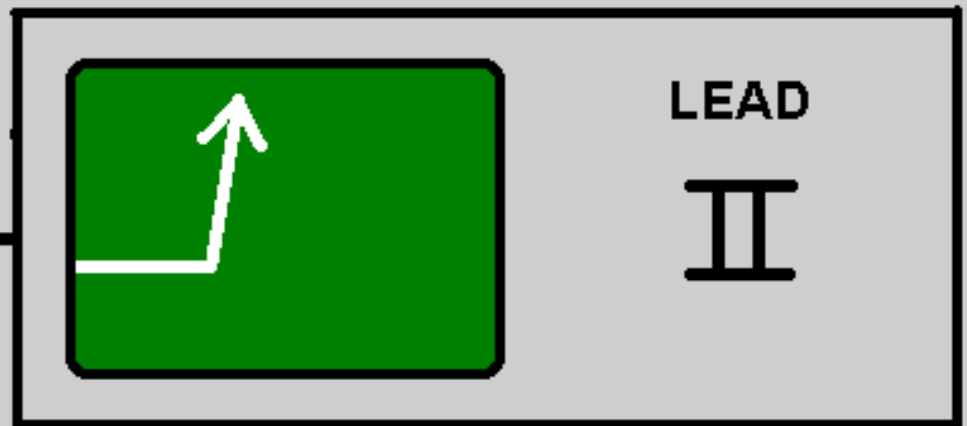
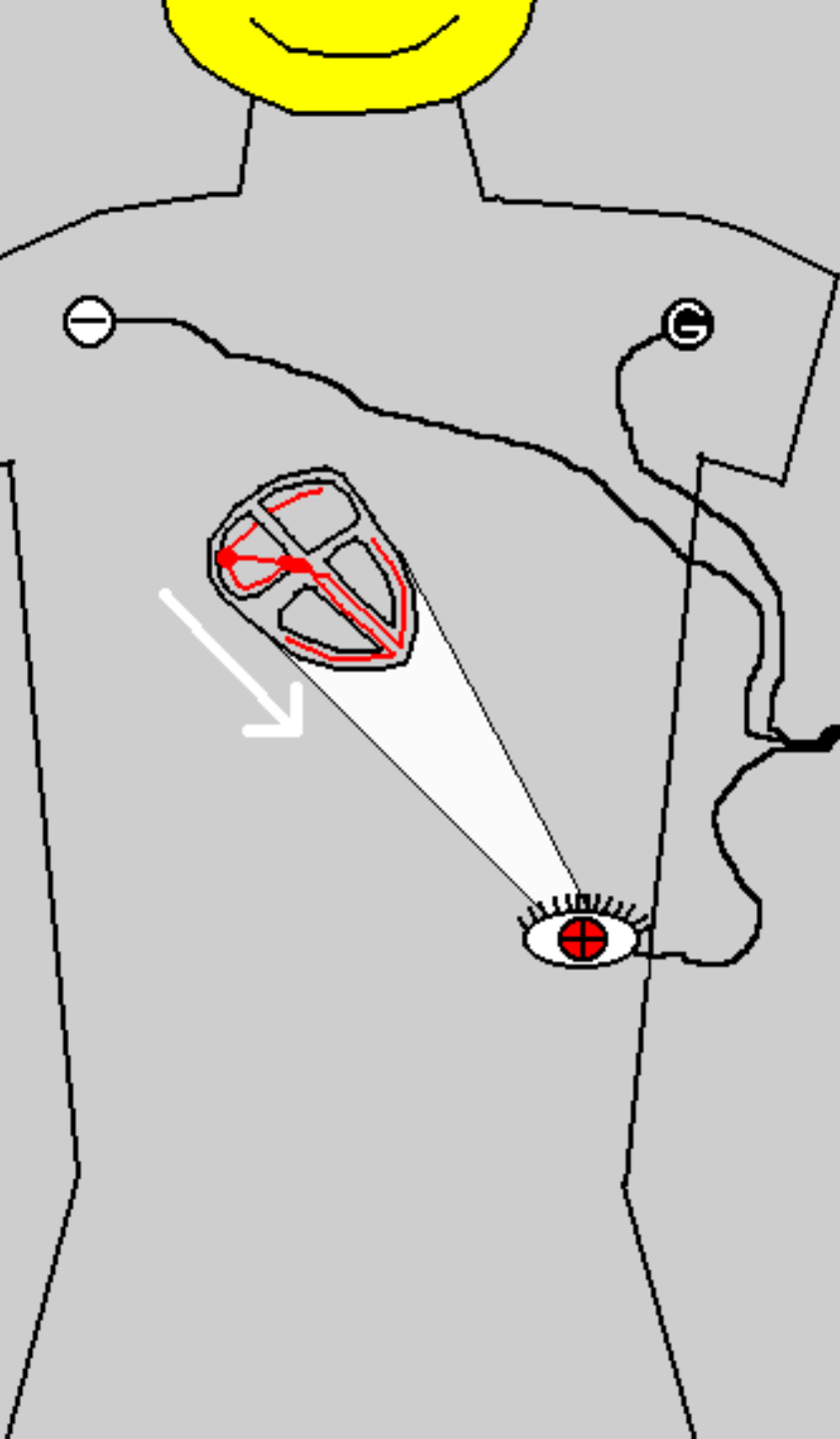


THE POSITIVE ELECTRODE

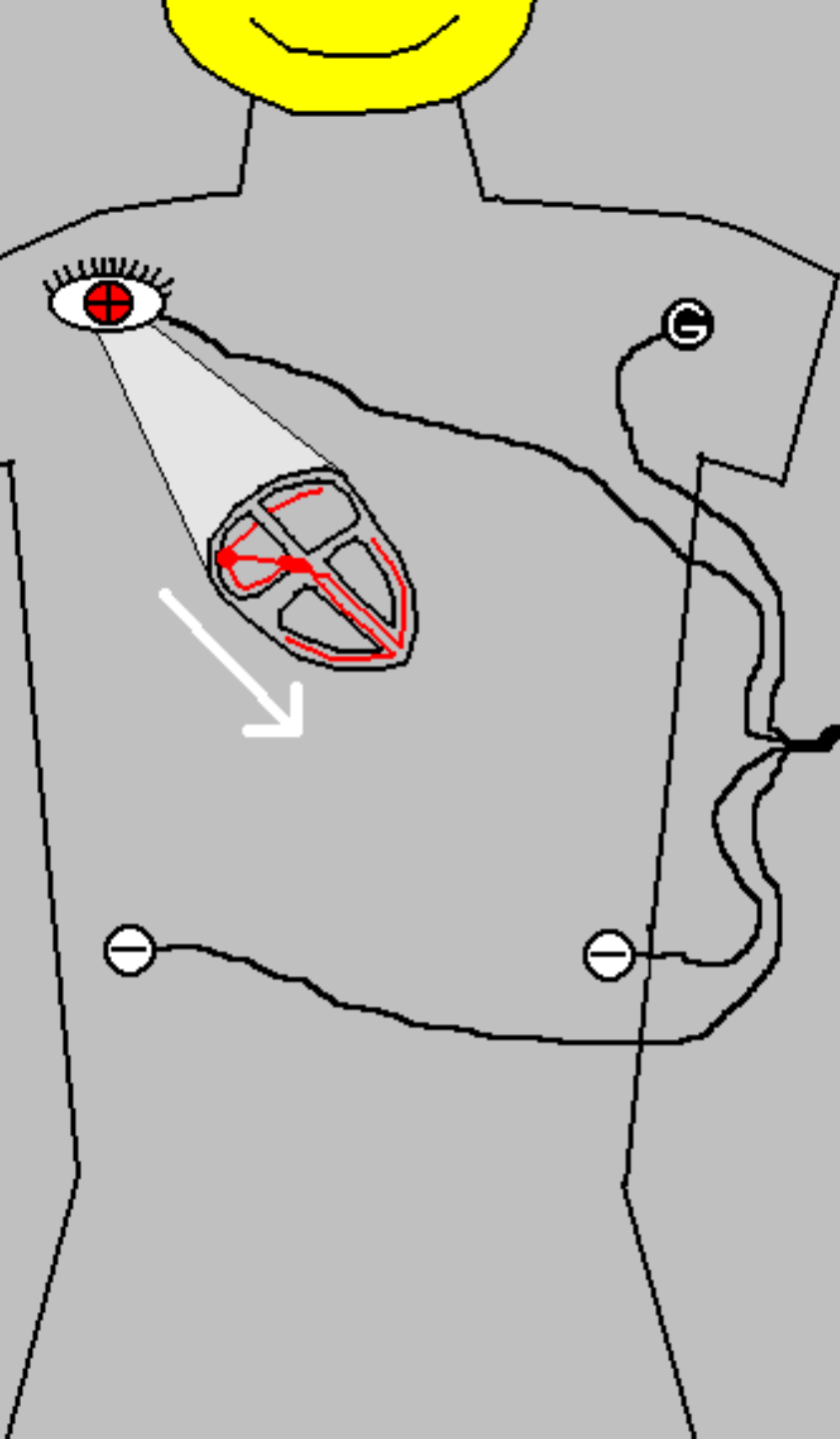


IS THE "EYE" . . .

**CURRENT MOVING
TOWARD THE EYE
(POSITIVE ELECTRODE)**



**RECORDS AN
"UPWARD"
DEFLECTION**

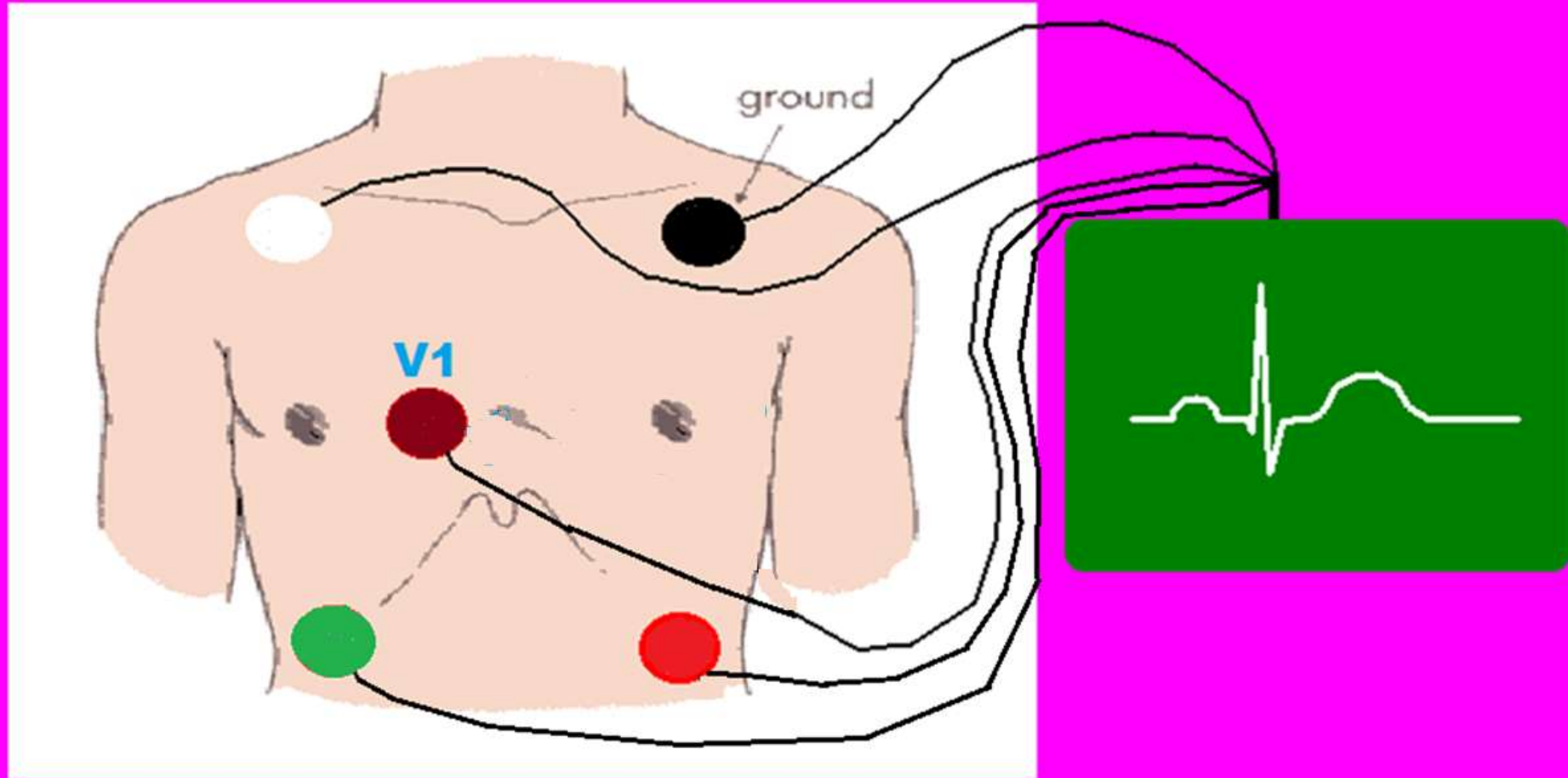


CURRENT MOVING AWAY FROM THE EYE (POSITIVE ELECTRODE)



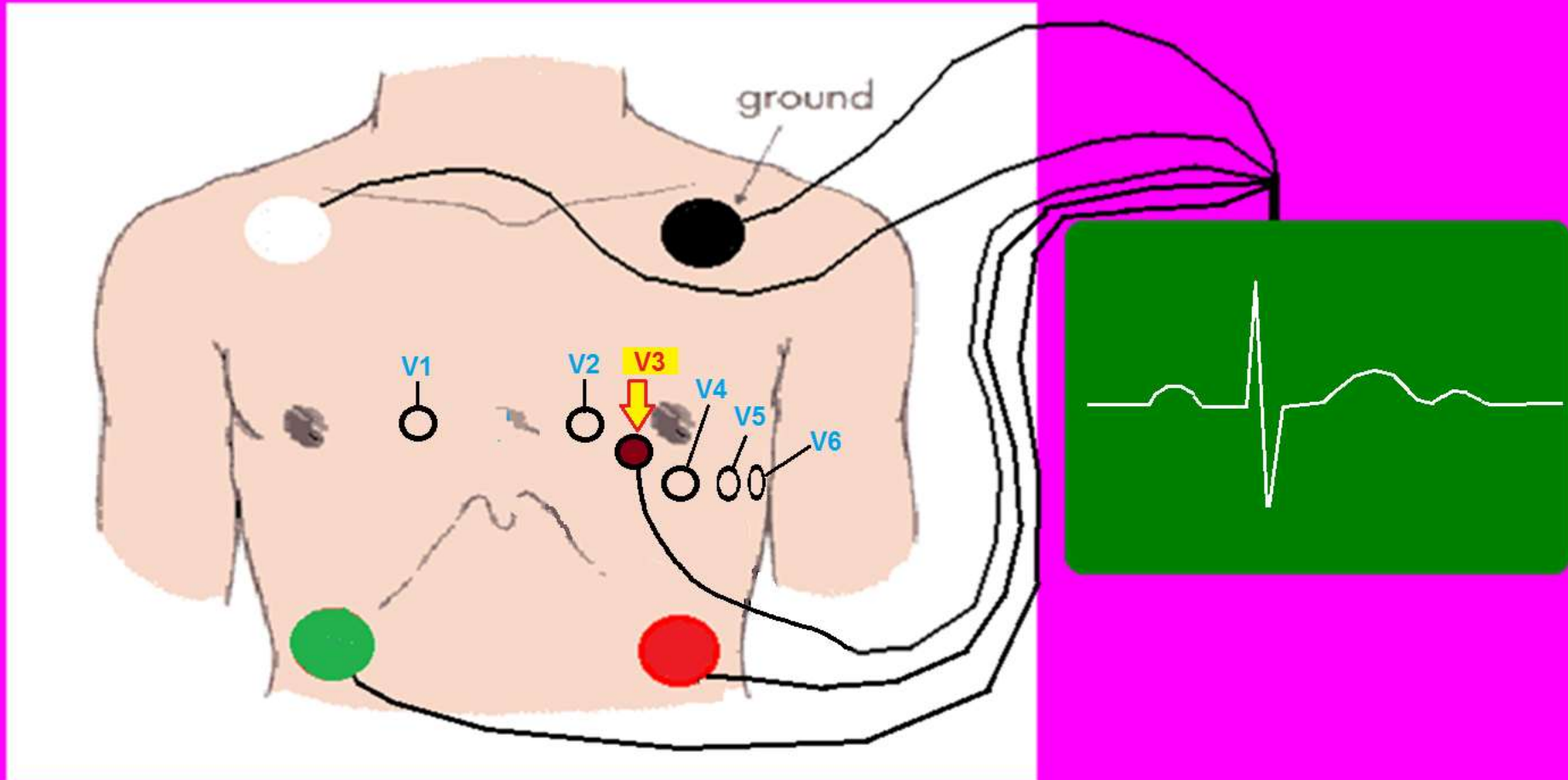
RECORDS A "DOWNWARD" DEFLECTION

Traditional Lead Placement



5 WIRE TELEMETRY UNIT

LEAD PLACEMENT - V3



5 WIRE TELEMETRY UNIT



ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION

- RATE
- RHYTHM
- INTERVALS
- P:QRS RATIO



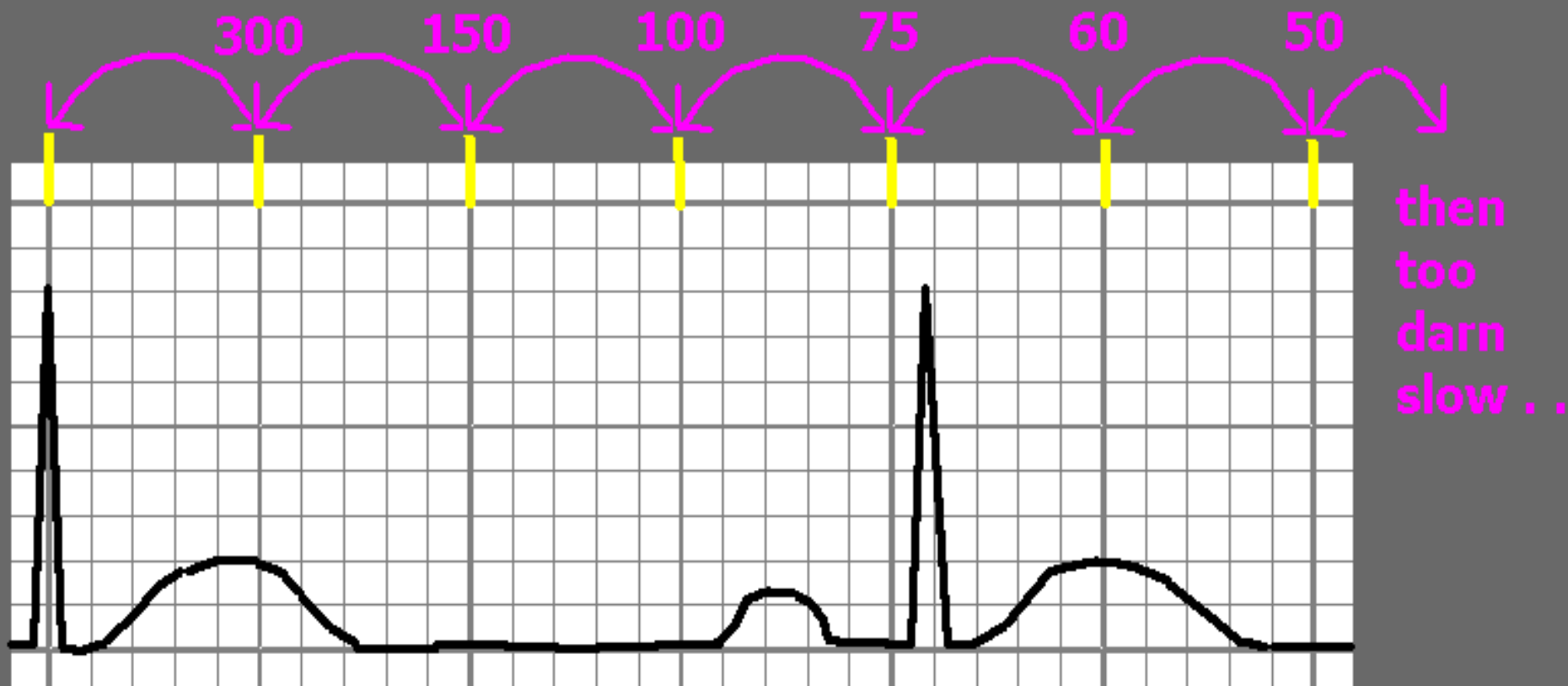
ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION



- RATE
- RHYTHM
- INTERVALS
- P:QRS RATIO

DETERMINE HEART RATE

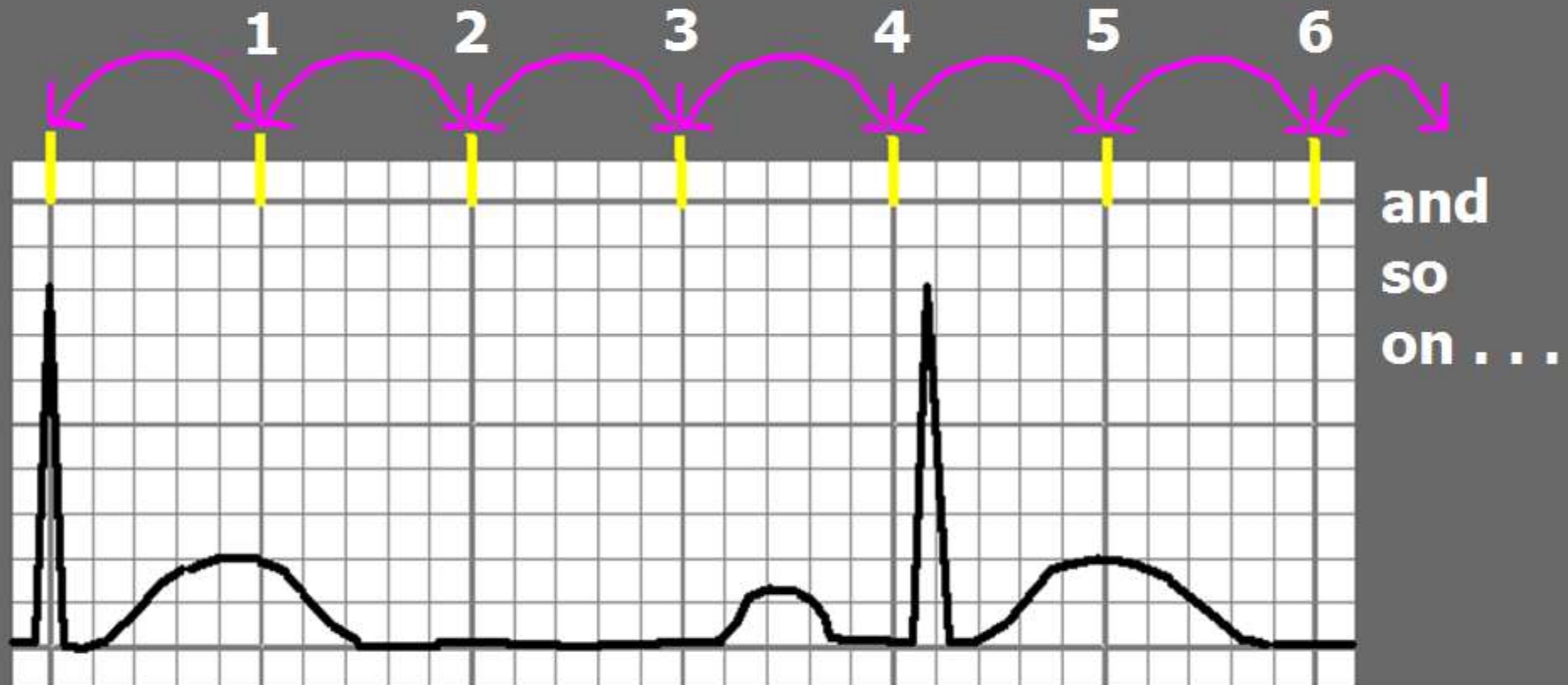
METHOD 1: (regular rhythm)



DETERMINE HEART RATE

"300 Divided By _____"

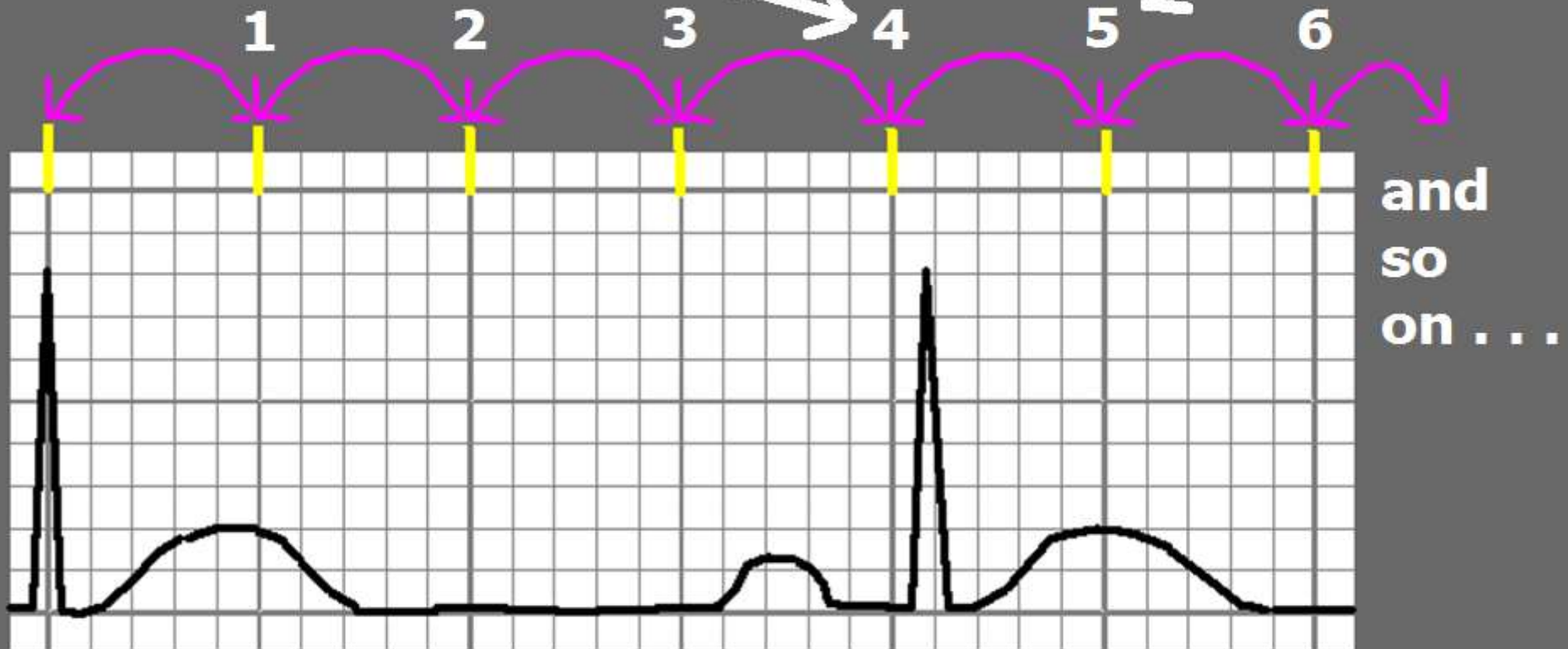
(regular rhythm)



DETERMINE HEART RATE

300 divided by 4 = 75

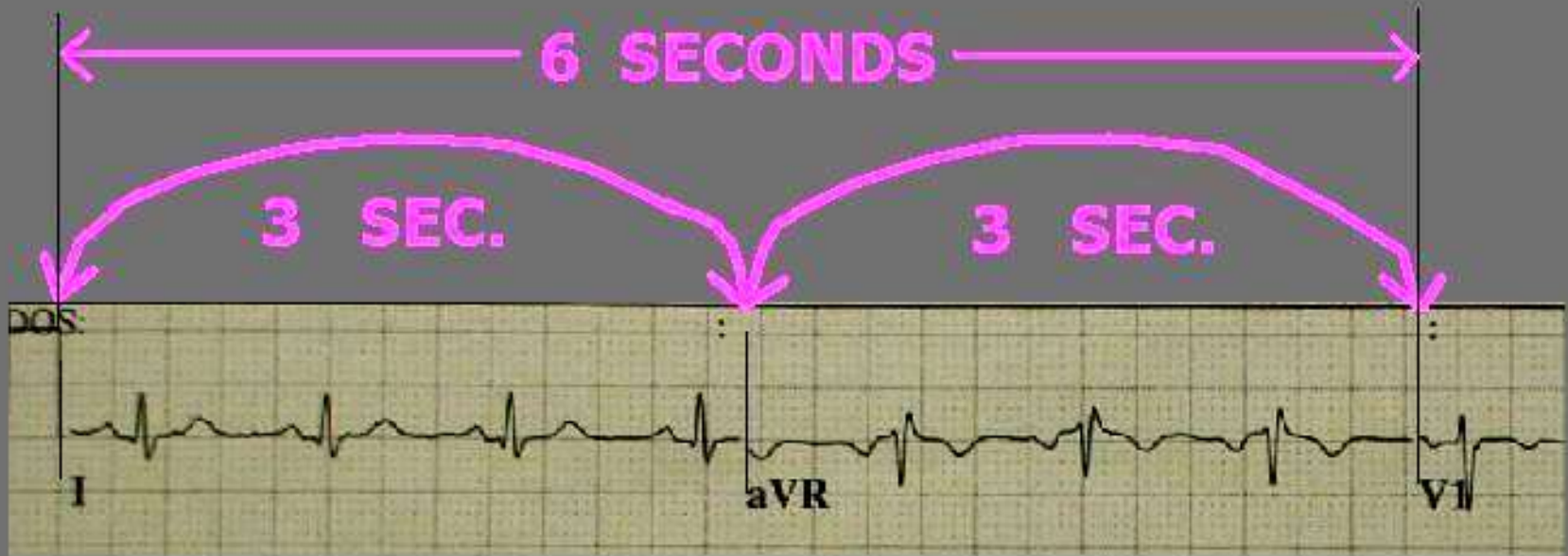
300 divided by 5 = 60



"so our patient's heart rate is between 75 & 60, closer to 75."

DETERMINE HEART RATE:

METHOD 2:

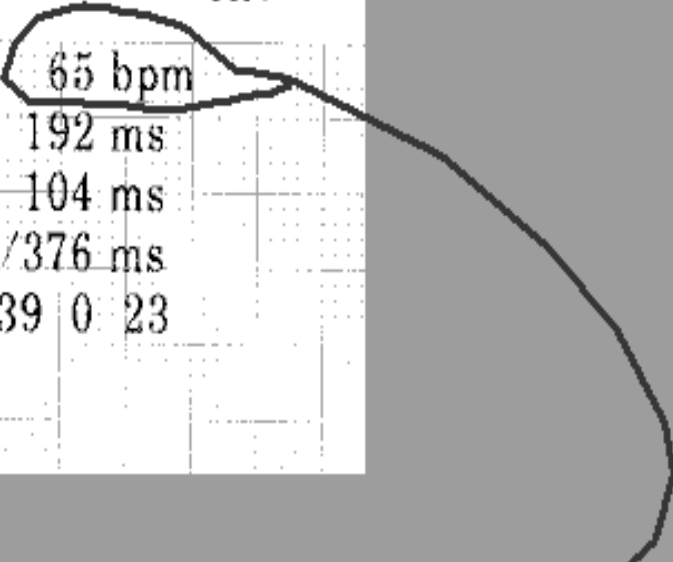


HR = 70

. . . . OR MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF
AND SIMPLY SAY

ID:

Vent. rate	65 bpm
PR interval	192 ms
QRS duration	104 ms
QT/QTc	362/376 ms
P-R-T axes	39 0 23



" HEART RATE IS SIXTY-FIVE ! "

— THE CONCERNS OF ACLS —

IS THE

VENTRICULAR RATE:

— THE CONCERNS OF ACLS —

IS THE

VENTRICULAR RATE:



T O O S L O W

— THE CONCERNS OF ACLS —

IS THE

VENTRICULAR RATE:



T O O S L O W



TOO FAST

— THE CONCERNS OF ACLS —

IS THE

VENTRICULAR RATE:



T O O S L O W



TOO FAST



JUST RIGHT.

**" 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**

HEART RATES THAT ARE:

**BELOW 50 ARE TOO SLOW AND MAY
CAUSE PATIENT TO BE UNSTABLE**

**50 – 150 JUST RIGHT ! SHOULD NOT
CAUSE PATIENT TO BE UNSTABLE**

**ABOVE 150 ARE TOO FAST AND MAY
CAUSE PATIENT TO BE UNSTABLE**

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150

HEART RATE CLASSIFICATIONS

Heart rates
that are:

CLASSIFIED AS:

Below 60

BRADYCARDIA

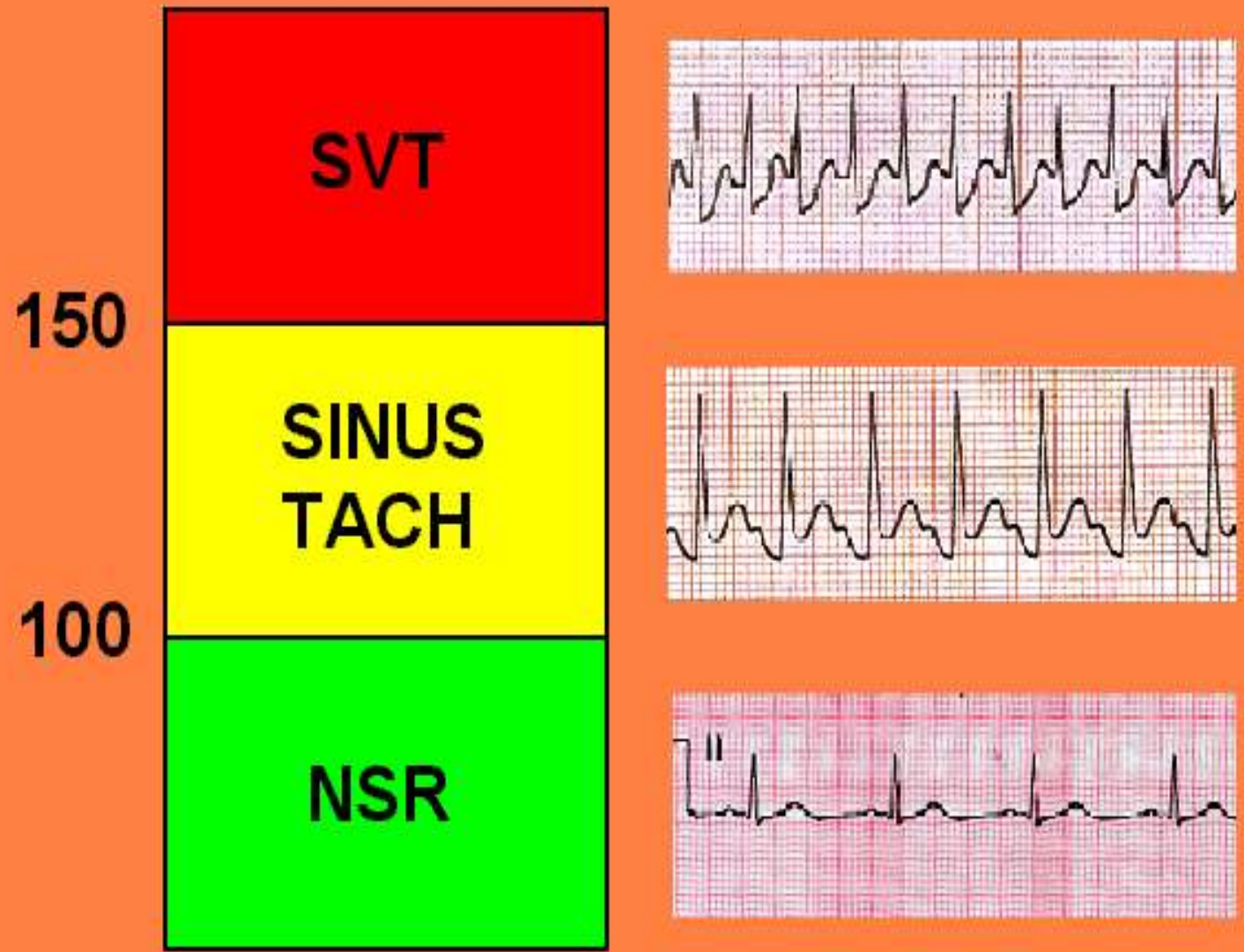
60 - 100

NORMAL

Above 100

TACHYCARDIA

ACLS TACHYCARDIA GUIDELINES





ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION

- RATE
-  RHYTHM
- INTERVALS
- P:QRS RATIO

DETERMINE RHYTHM

" WHEN YOUR R - R INTERVALS . . . "

REGULAR ——— 

" ARE ALWAYS CONSISTENT "

REGULARLY ——— 

IRREGULAR " FOLLOW A PATTERN "

IRREGULARLY - 

IRREGULAR " ARE TOTALLY CHAOTIC "

DETERMINE RHYTHM

REGULAR



**REGULARLY
IRREGULAR**



**IRREGULARLY
IRREGULAR**



DETERMINE RHYTHM

EXAMPLES :

REGULAR

- **SINUS RHYTHM**
- **JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM**
- **VENTRICULAR RHYTHMS**

**REGULARLY
IRREGULAR**

- **WENCKEBACH**
(2nd Degree Type I HB)
- **BIGEMINY, TRIGEMINY, etc**

**IRREGULARLY
IRREGULAR**

- **ATRIAL FIBRILLATION**
- **MULTIFOCAL ATRIAL RHYTHMS**



ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION



RATE



RHYTHM



INTERVALS



P:QRS RATIO

NORMAL P-R INTERVAL

✓ .12 - .20 sec.
or
120 - 200 mSEC.

✓ MUST BE
CONSISTENT
FROM BEAT
TO BEAT !!



P - R INTERVAL TOO SHORT . . .

LESS THAN 120 mSEC

THINK:

- ECTOPIC ATRIAL ACTIVITY**
- PRE-EXCITATION (WPW)**
- JUNCTIONAL (nearly on top of QRS,
possibly inverted)**

P - R INTERVAL TOO LONG
GREATER THAN 200 mSEC

THINK:

- HEART BLOCK

P - R INTERVAL INCONSISTENT

(VARIES FROM BEAT TO BEAT)

THINK:

- 2° TYPE 1 HEART BLOCK**
(WENKEBACH)
- 3° HEART BLOCK**
(COMPLETE HEART BLOCK)

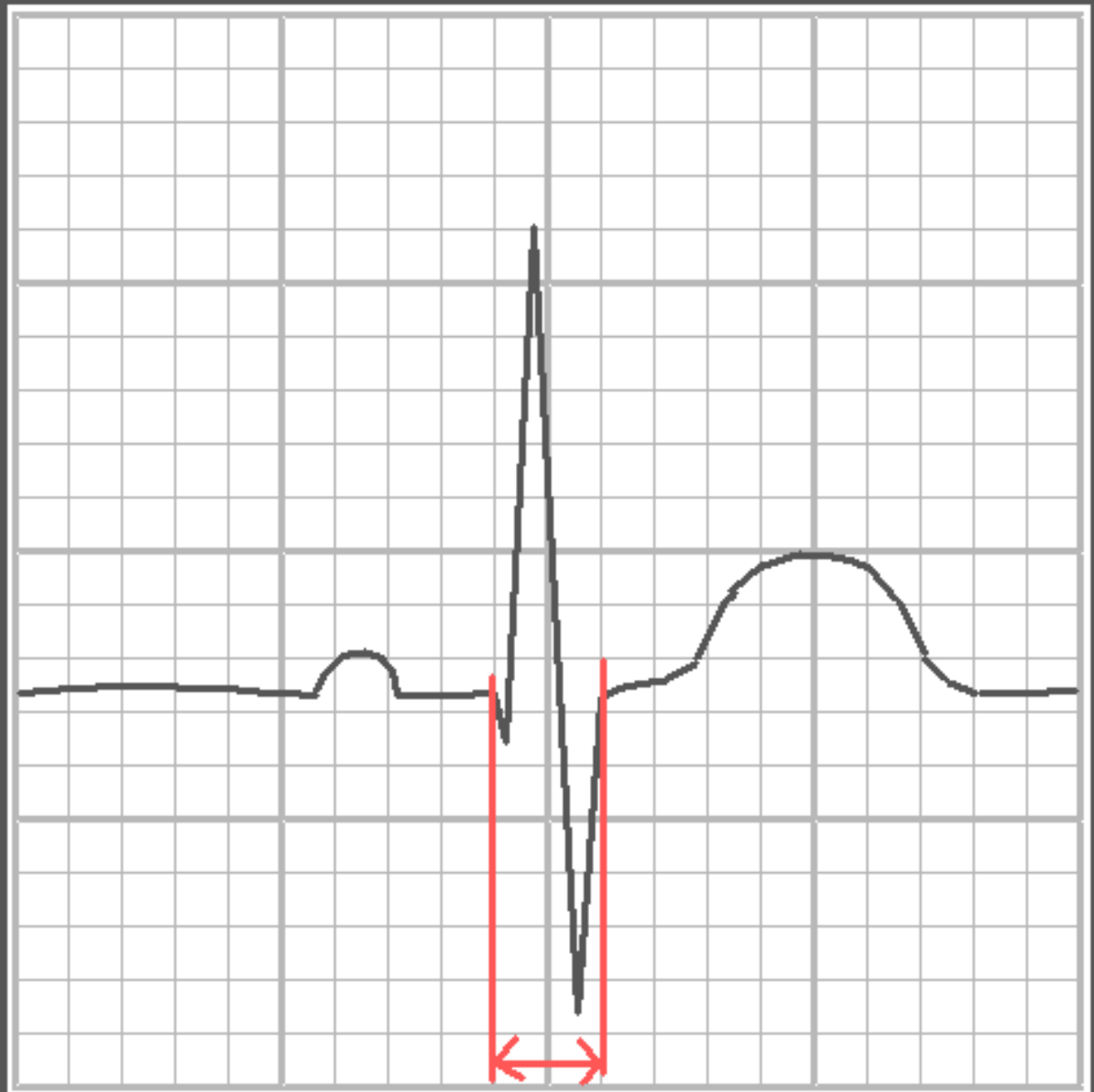
QRS INTERVAL

LESS THAN

.12

OR

120 mSEC



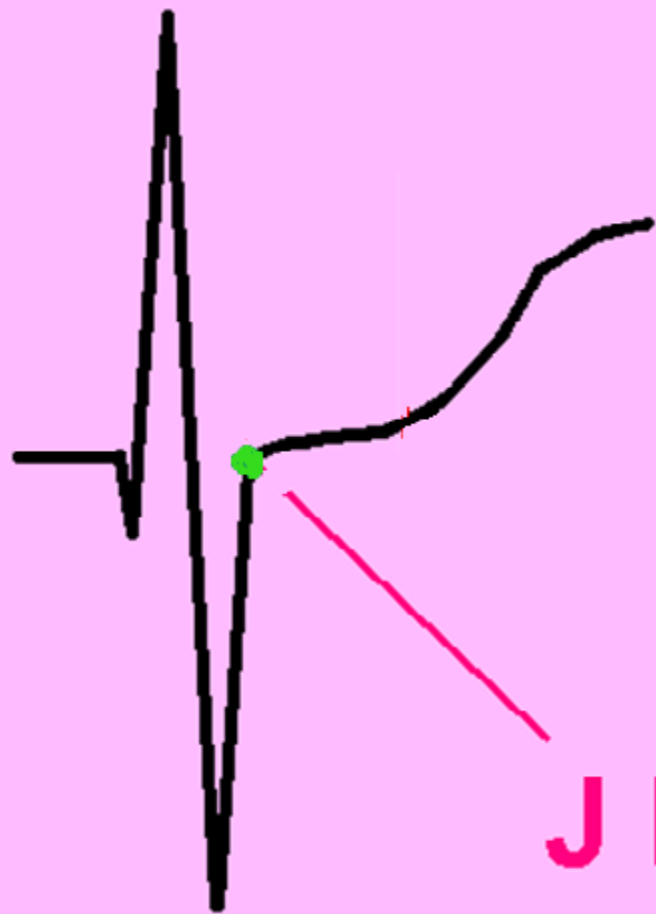
QRS COMPLEX TOO WIDE
WIDER THAN 120 mSEC

THINK:

- **BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK**
- **VENTRICULAR COMPLEX (ES)**
- **PACED RHYTHM**
- **L VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY**
- **ELECTROLYTE IMBAL. ($\uparrow K^+$ $\downarrow Ca^{++}$)**
- **DELTA WAVE (PRE-EXCITATION)**

THE J POINT

is where the QRS complex ends and the S-T Segment begins.



J POINT

THE J POINT SHOULD BE ..



WITHIN
1 mm
ABOVE

OR

BELOW

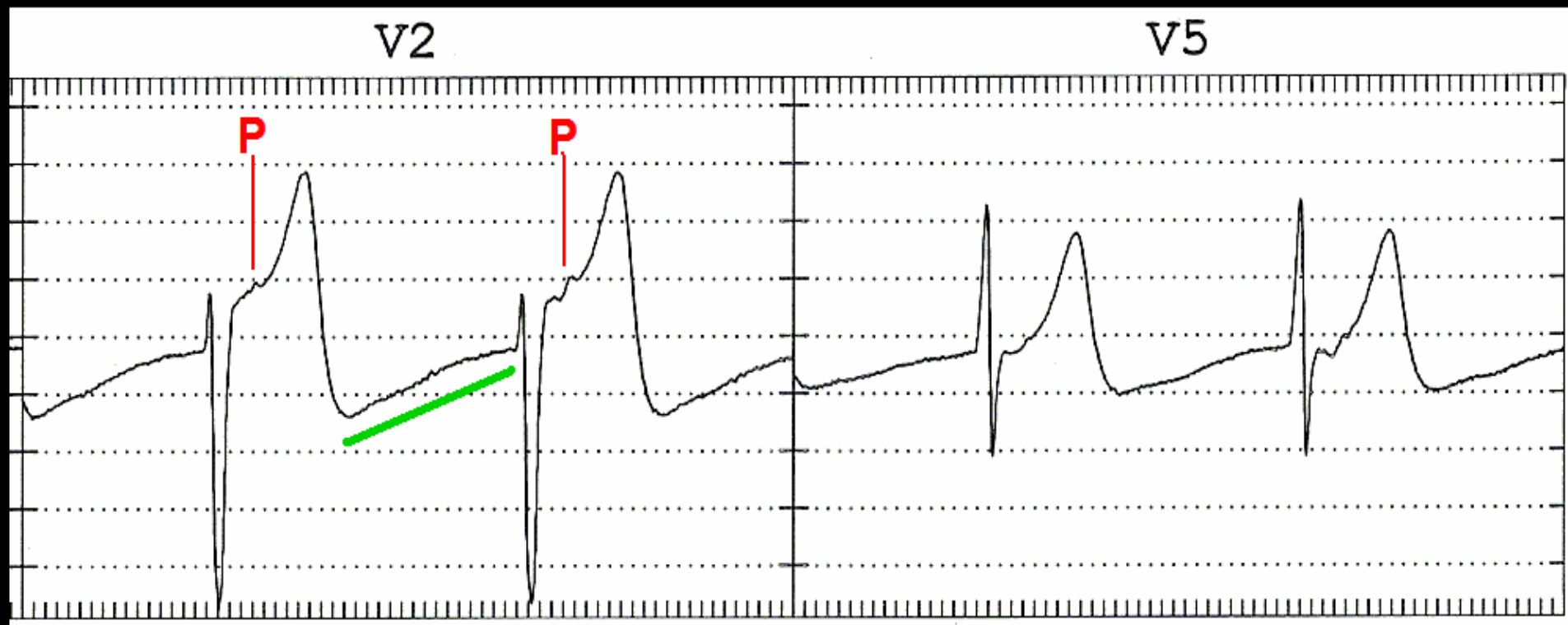
the

ISOELECTRIC
LINE

or the P-Q JUNCTION.

THE ISOELECTRIC LINE

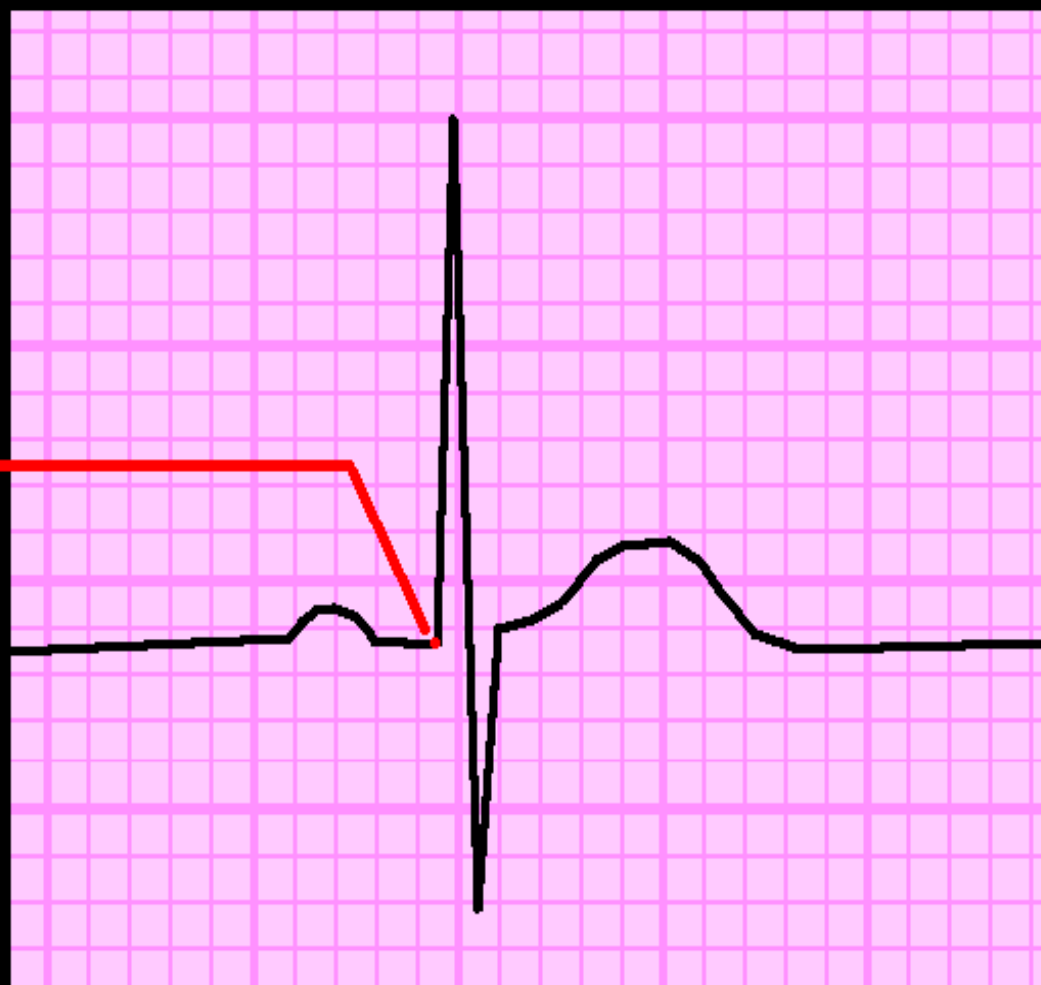
EKG from 13 y/o girl in ACCELERATED JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM.
note: upsloping T-P interval, and P buried in T waves.



THE P-Q JUNCTION

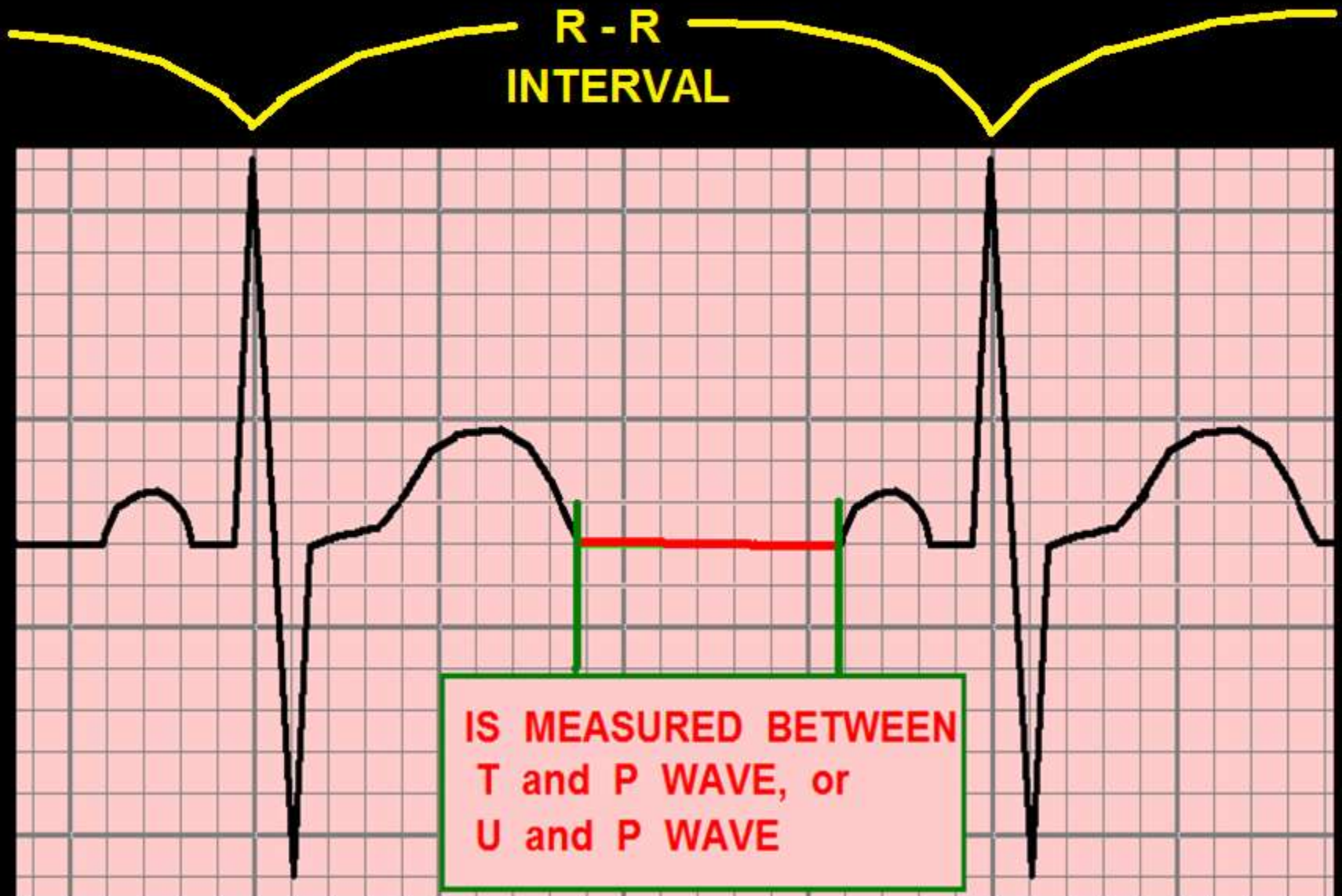
. . . is the POINT where the P-R SEGMENT ends and the QRS COMPLEX BEGINS.

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

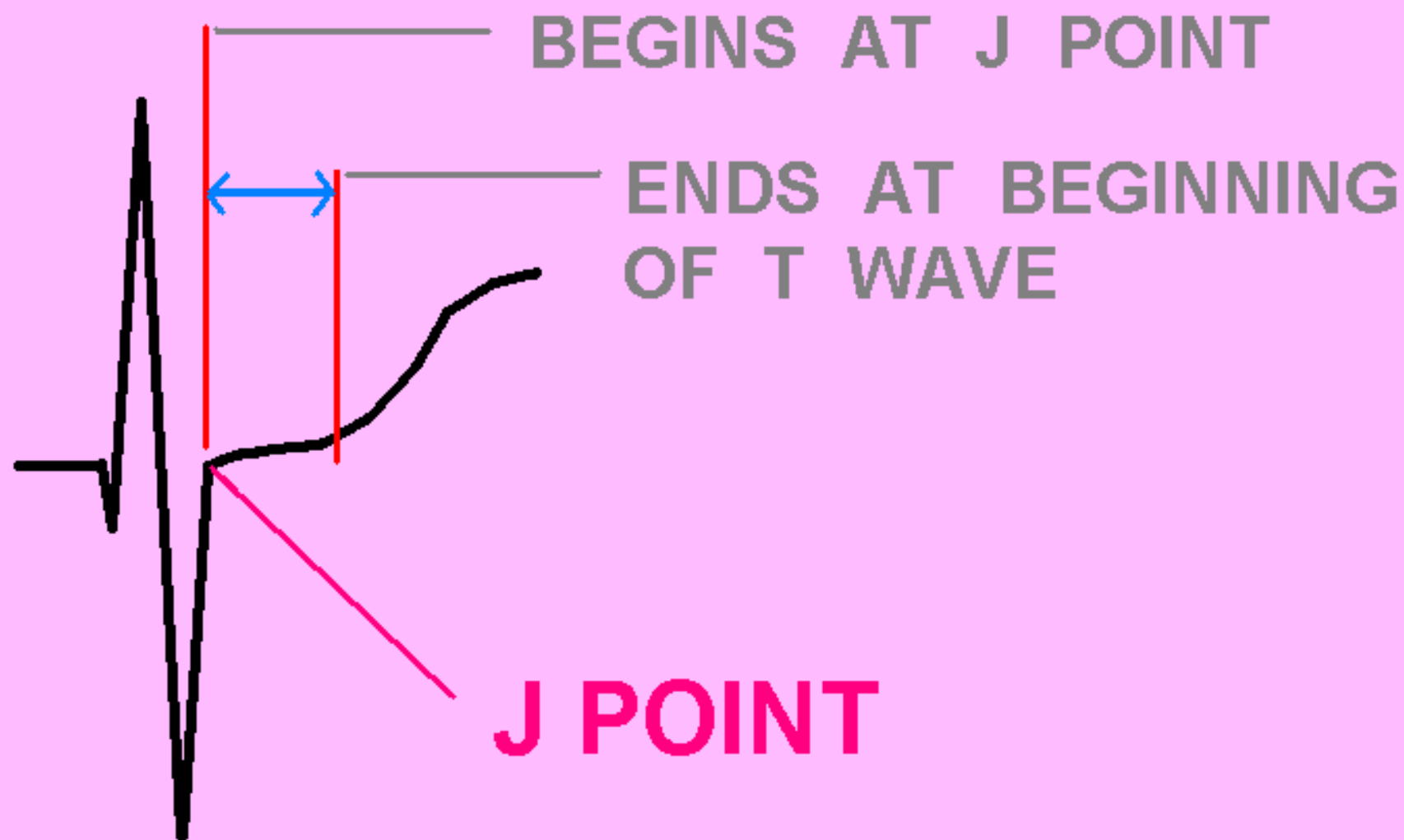


— as per the A.H.A., A.C.C., and WANG, ASINGER, and MARRIOTT, N.E.J.M. vol. 349:2128-2135 Nov. 27, 2003

THE ISOELECTRIC LINE



THE S-T SEGMENT



Q - T INTERVAL

- VARIES BASED
ON HEART RATE
AND SEX



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

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

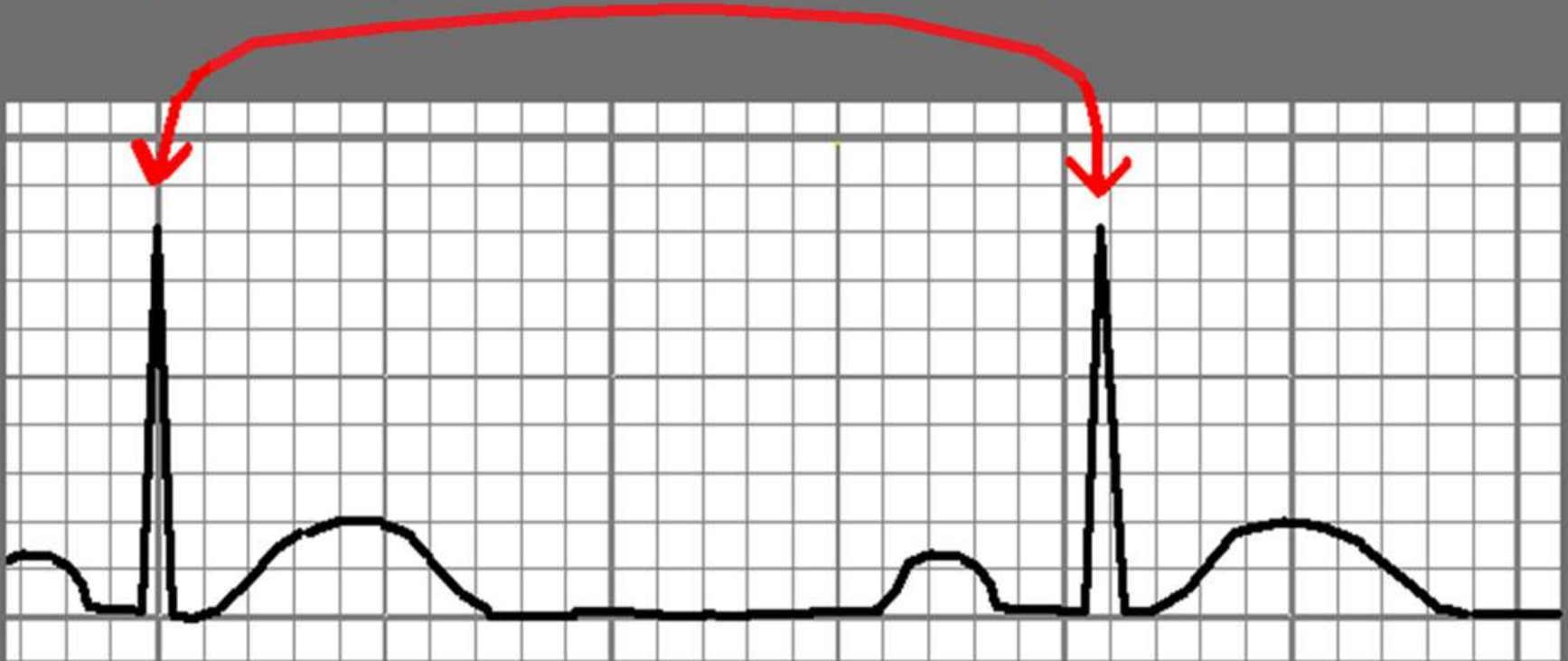
Rautaharju

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

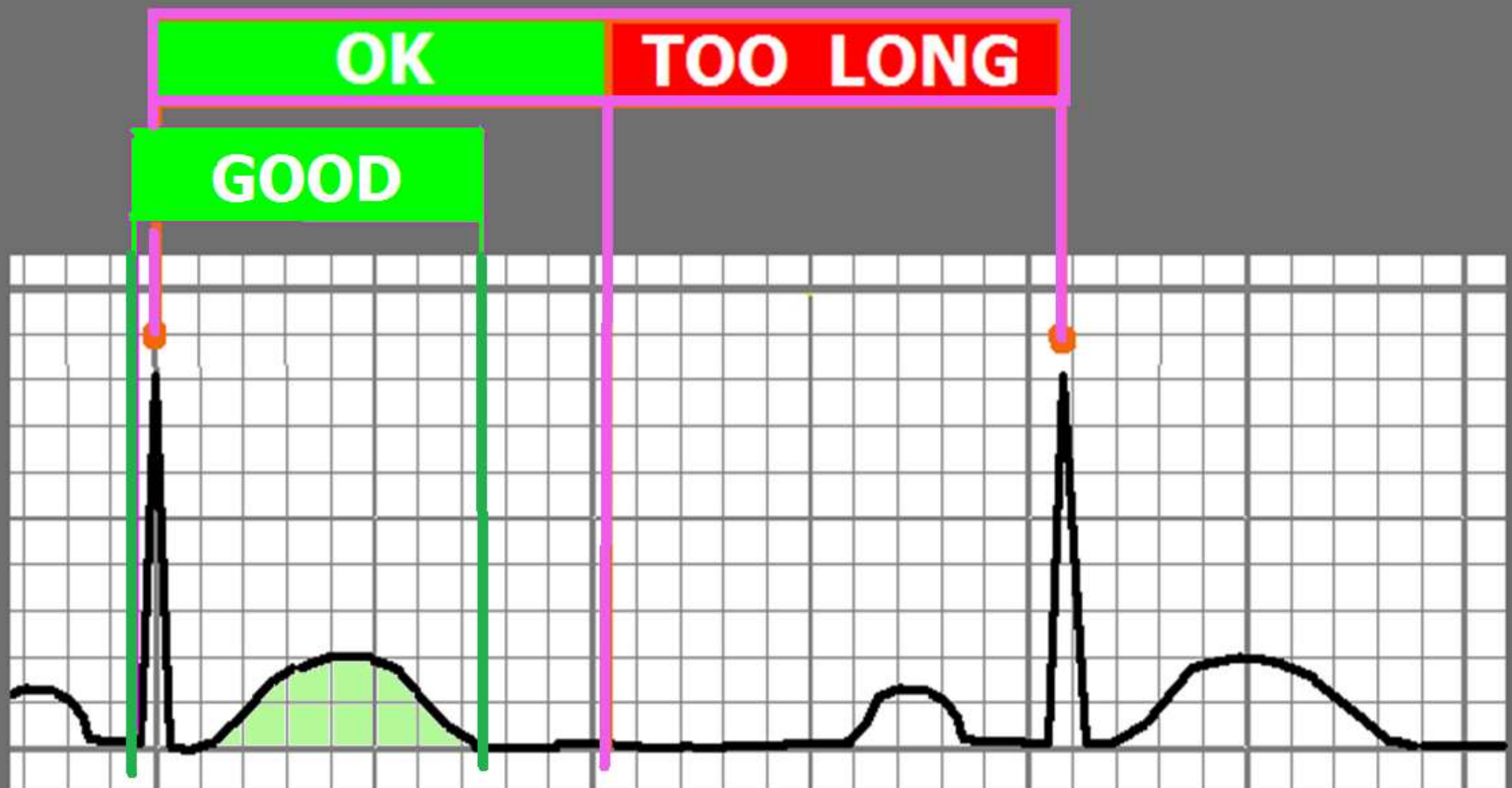
DETERMINING Q-T INTERVAL LIMITS

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		



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!”

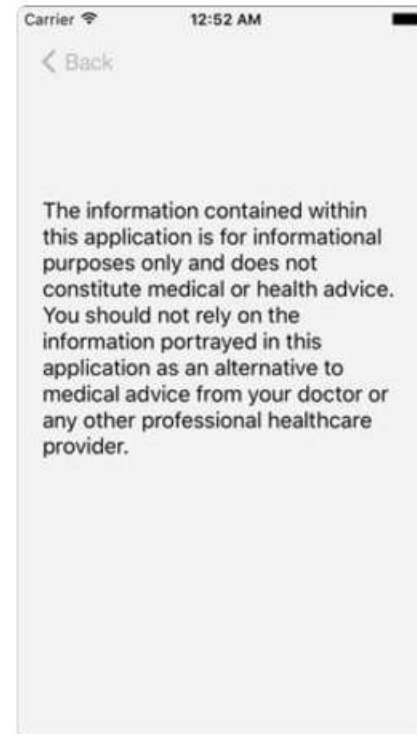
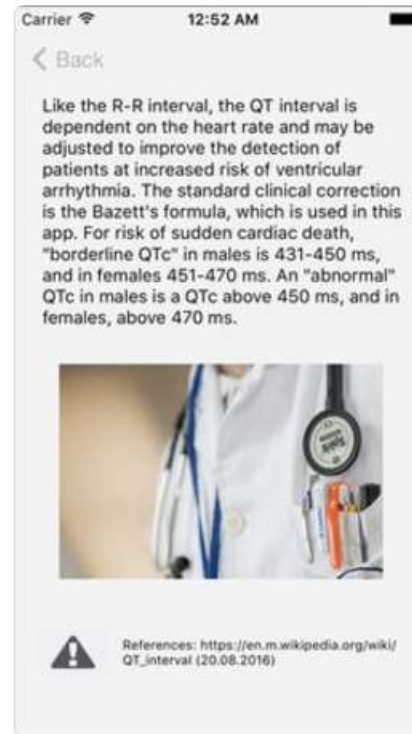
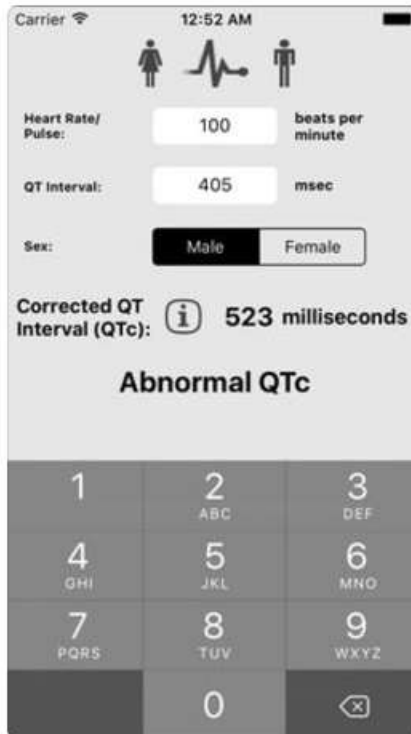


Corrected QT Interval (QTc) 17+

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

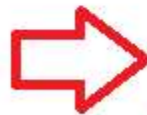
Input:

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

Results:

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

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

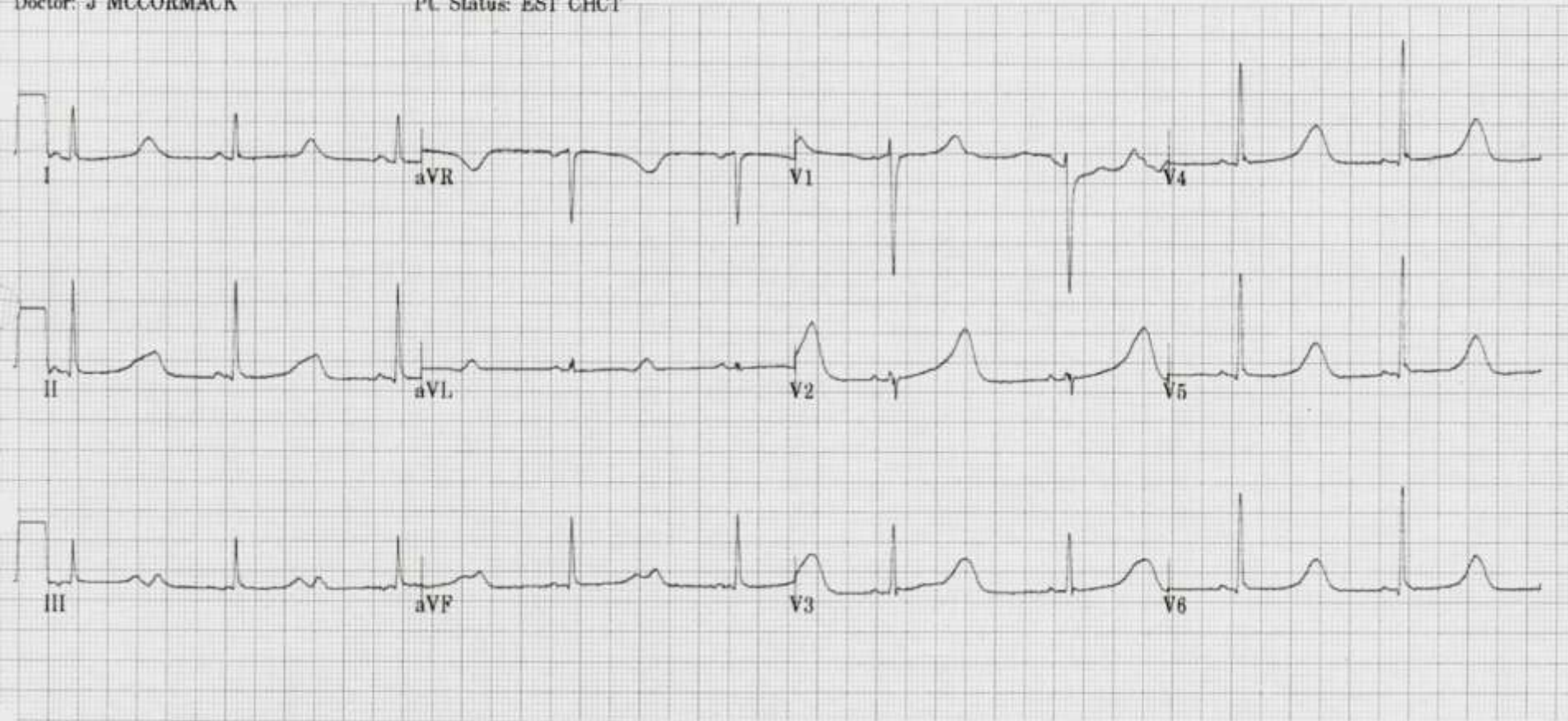
22 y/o FEMALE

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

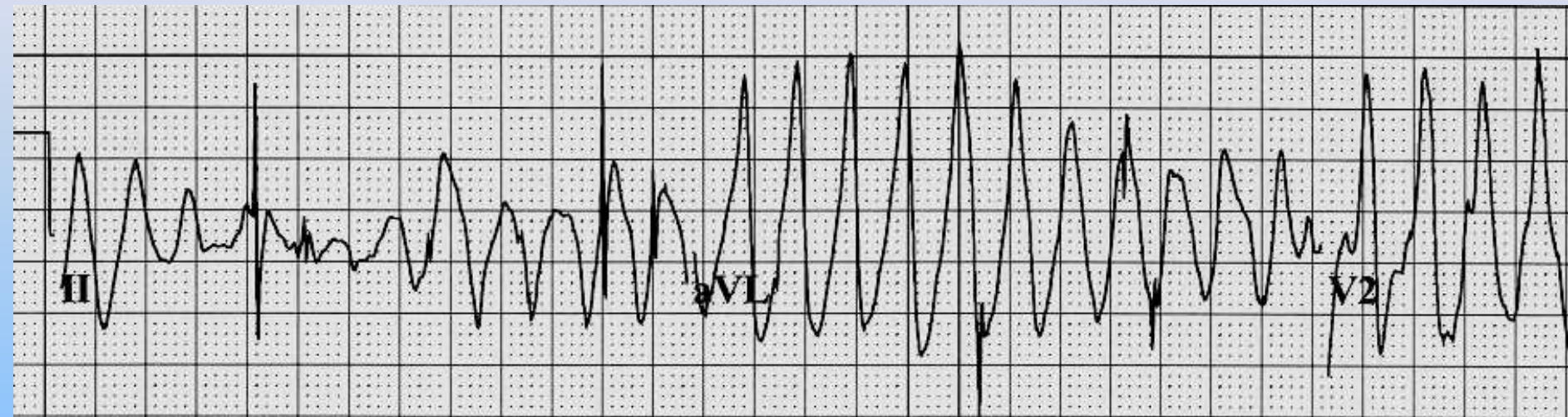
Doctor: J MCCORMACK

Pt. Status: EST CHCT



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

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



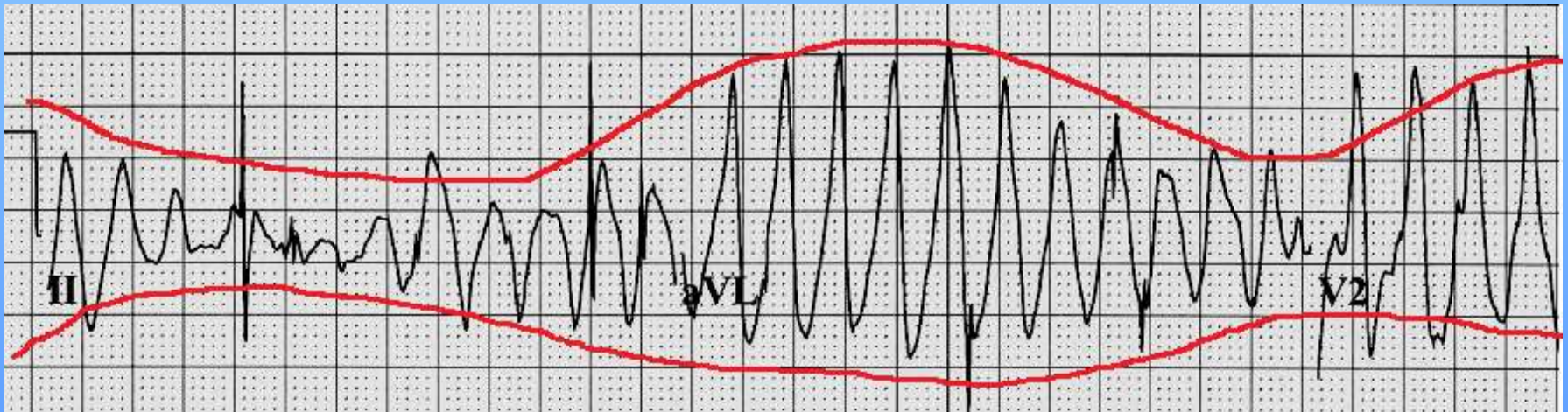
Torsades de Pointes (TdP) – **HEMODYNAMICS:**

- **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 !



-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**

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⁺ AND MAG LEVELS
- POSSIBILITY OF TORSADES

PROLONGED Q - T INTERVAL

THINK:

- CHECK K+ 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:

-Amiodarone

-Ritalin

-Procainamide

-Pseudoephedrine

-Levaquin

-Haloperidol

-Erythromycin

-Thorazine

-Norpace

-Propulcid

-Tequin

-Zofran

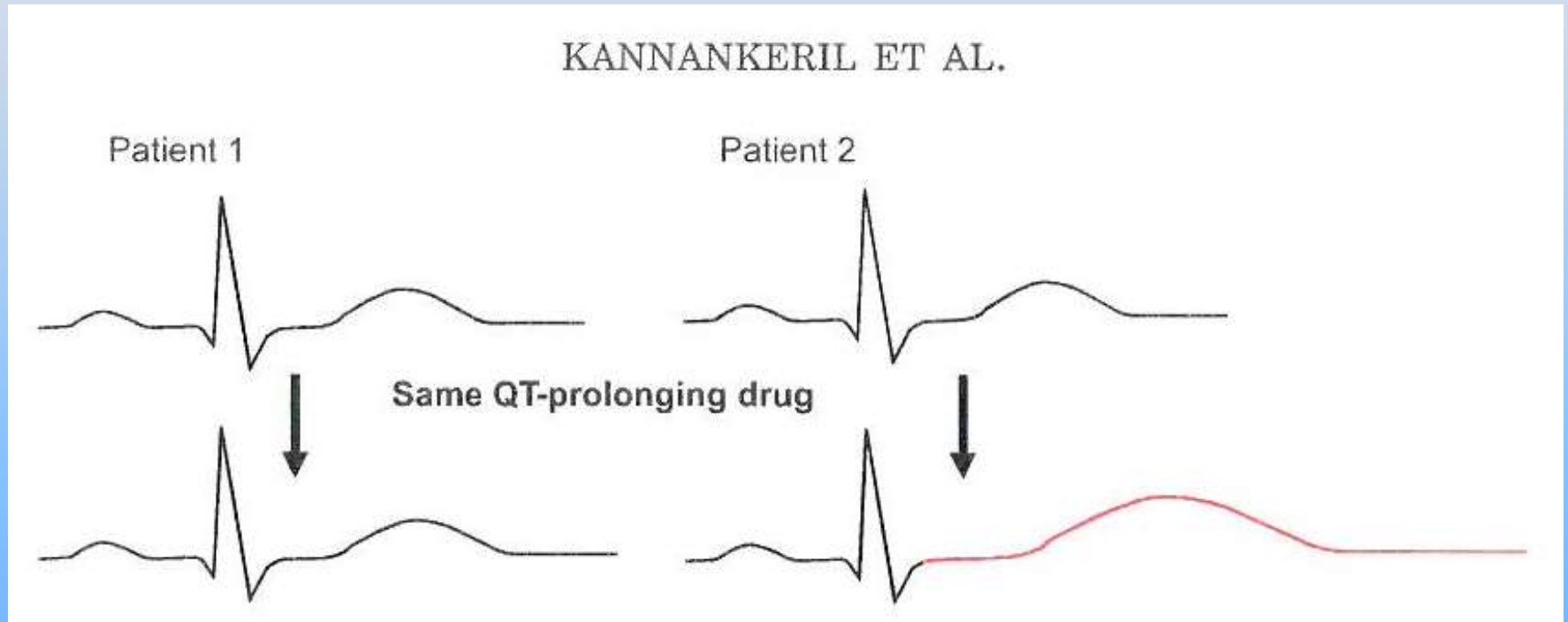
-Benadryl

-Ilbutilide

and MANY more!

PATIENT 1: NORMAL

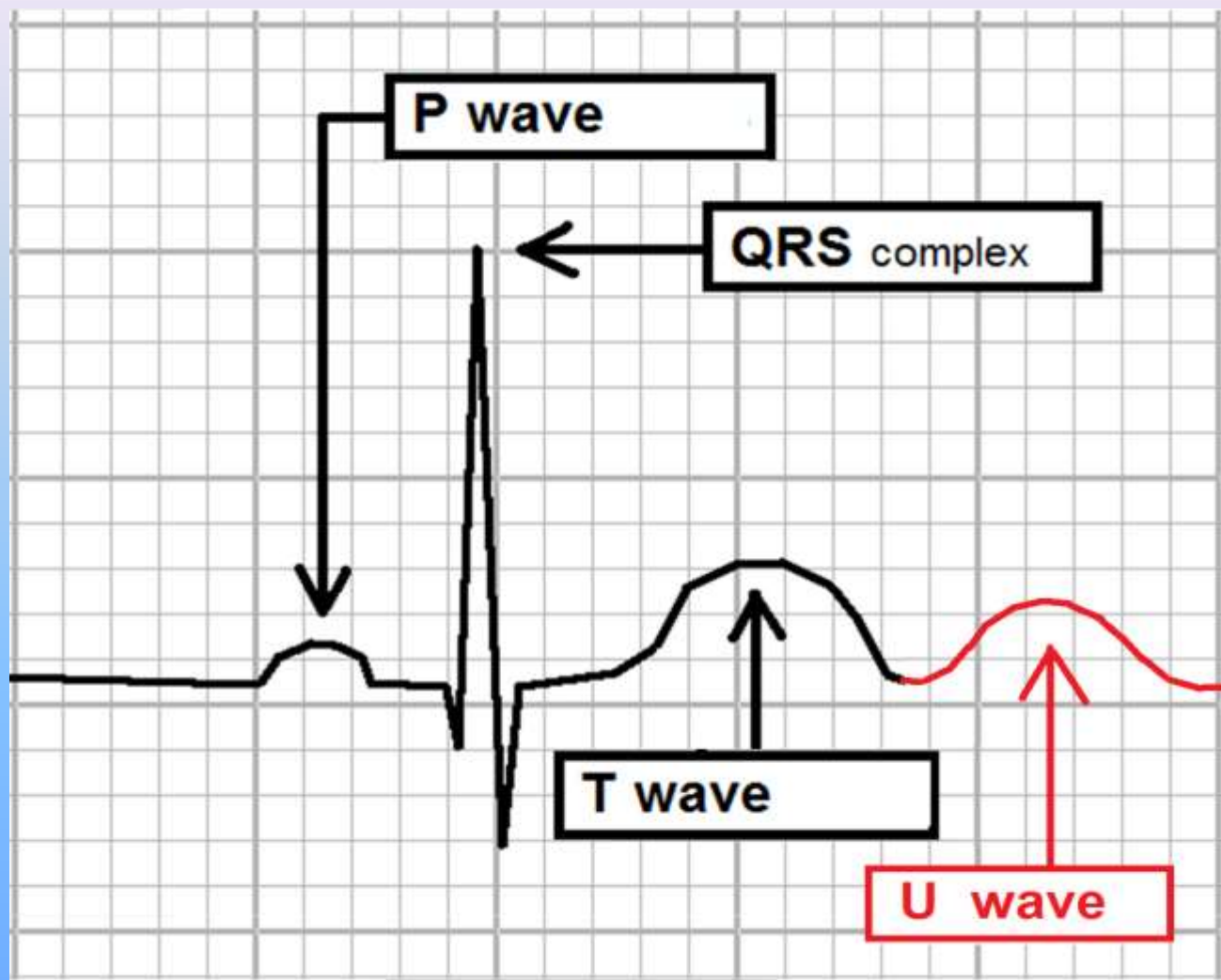
PATIENT 2: Genetic susceptibility; sensitivity to QT prolonging drugs:



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

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***
 - **Hypocalcemia***
 - **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.](#)

I

aVR

V1

V4



II

aVL

V2

V5

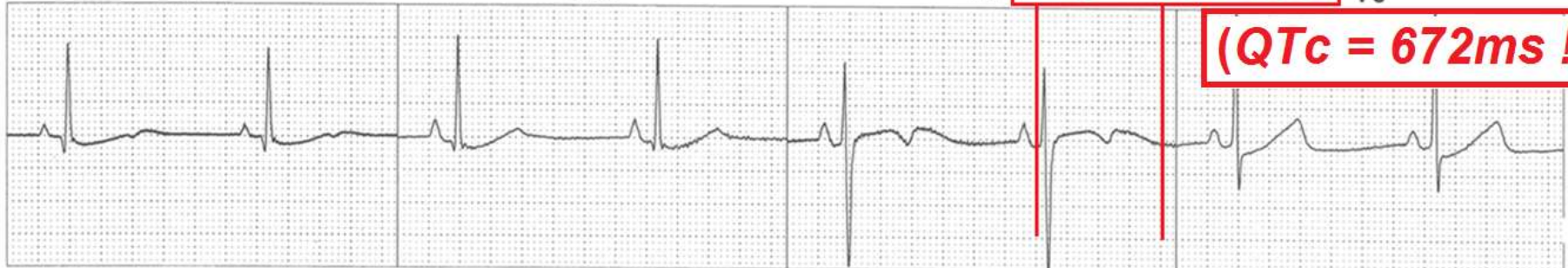


III

aVF

V3

V6



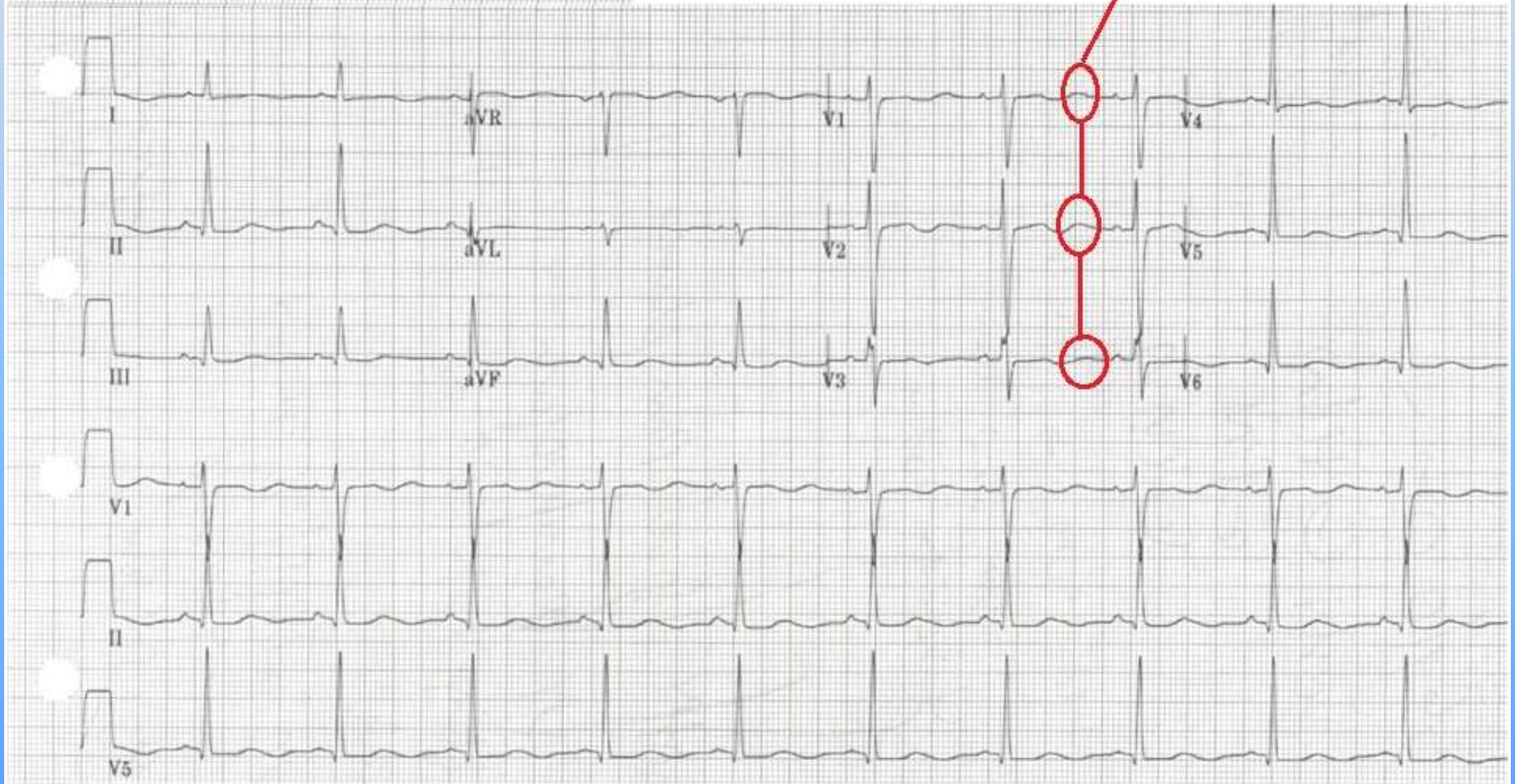
This ECG illustrates the degree of variation that can be noted between different leads on the 12 Lead ECG. ALWAYS measure the QT Interval in the lead with the GREATEST value.

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

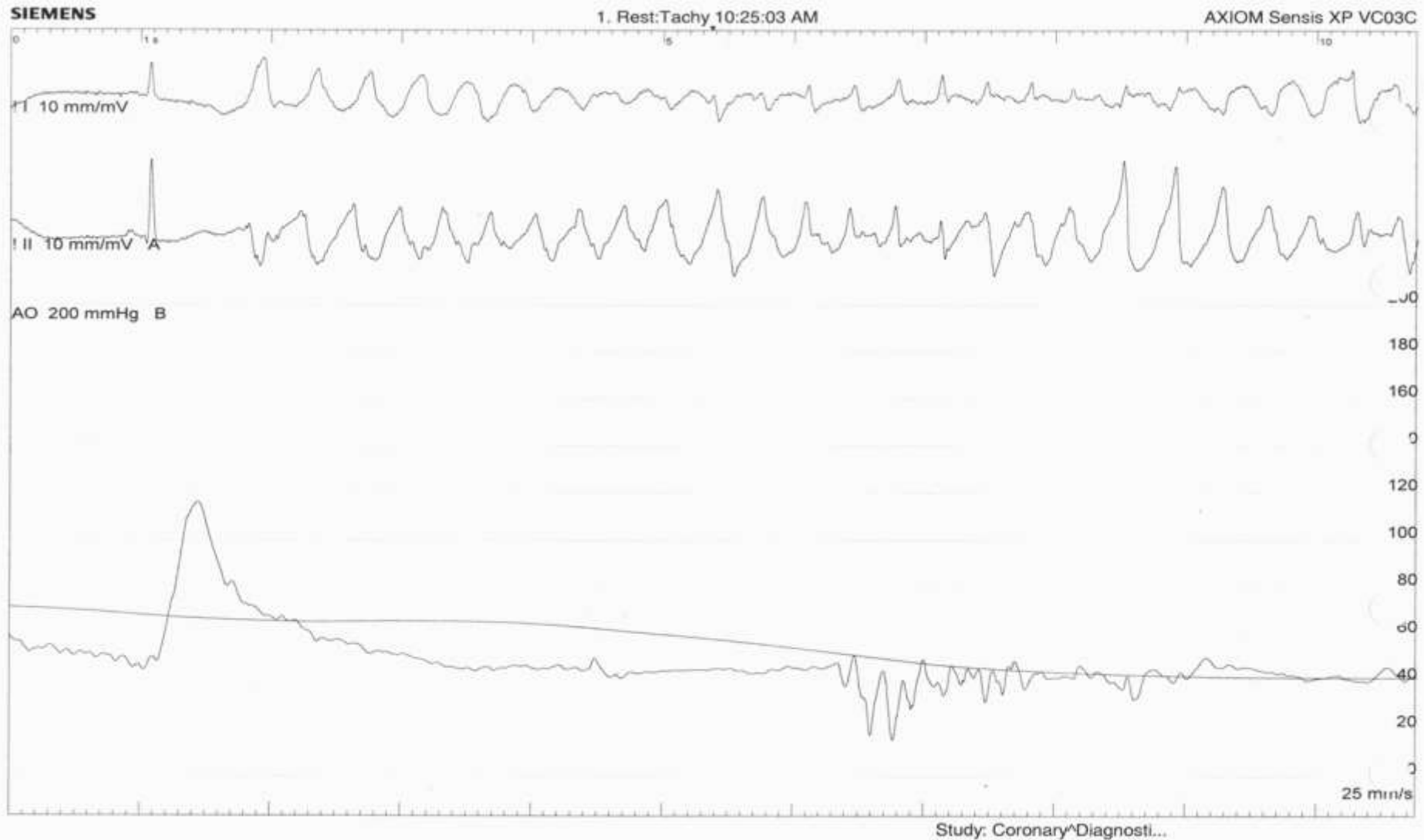
56 years
Male Caucasian
Room: Loc: 3 Opt: 23
Technician:
Vent. rate 64 bpm
PR interval 152 ms
QRS duration 104 ms
QT/QTc 662/682 ms
P-R-T axes 51 64 212

"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.

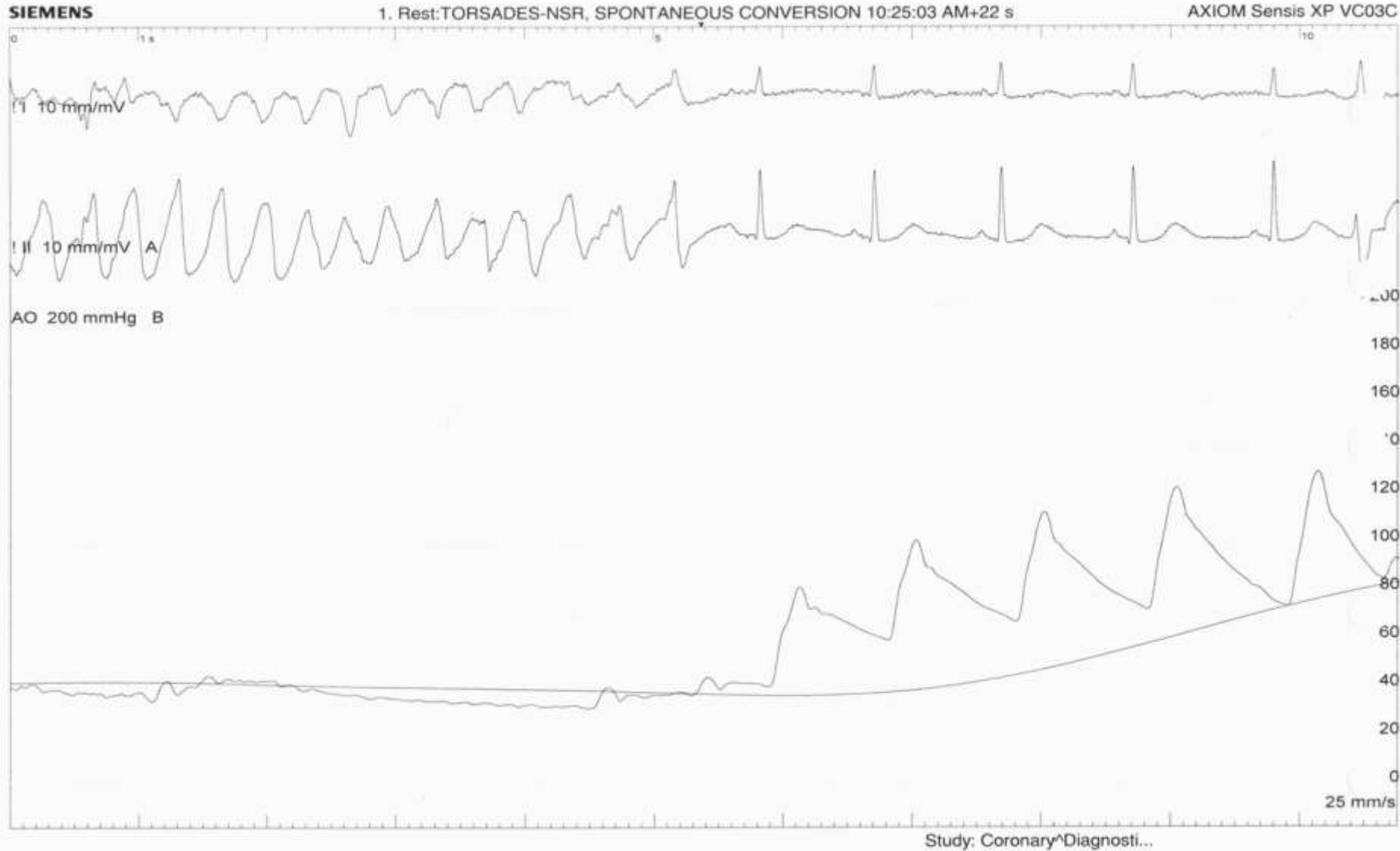


Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male



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

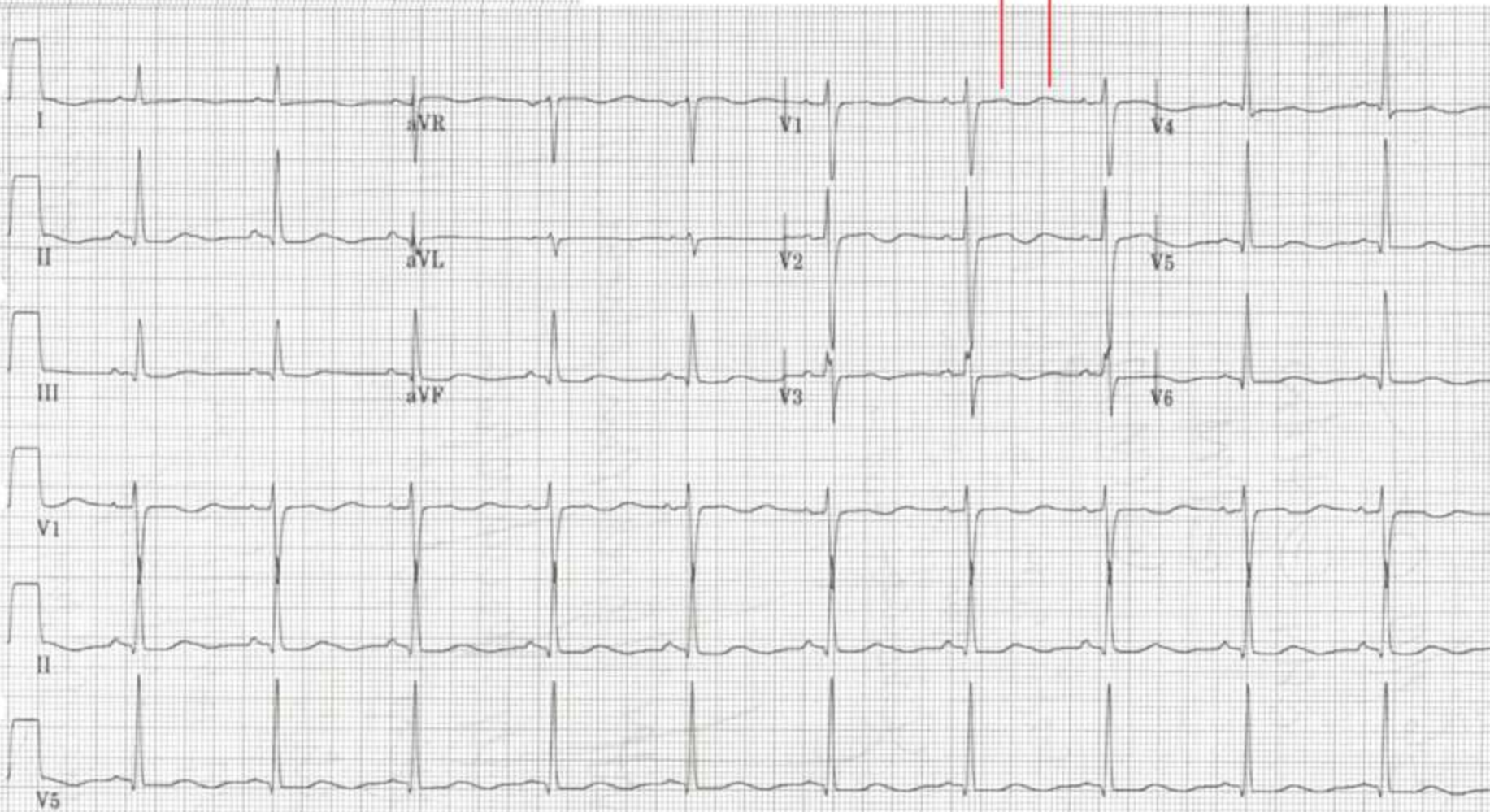
Medication induced LQTS with TdP and Cardiac Arrest - Case Study: 56 year old male

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:

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

T U





ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION



RATE



RHYTHM



INTERVALS

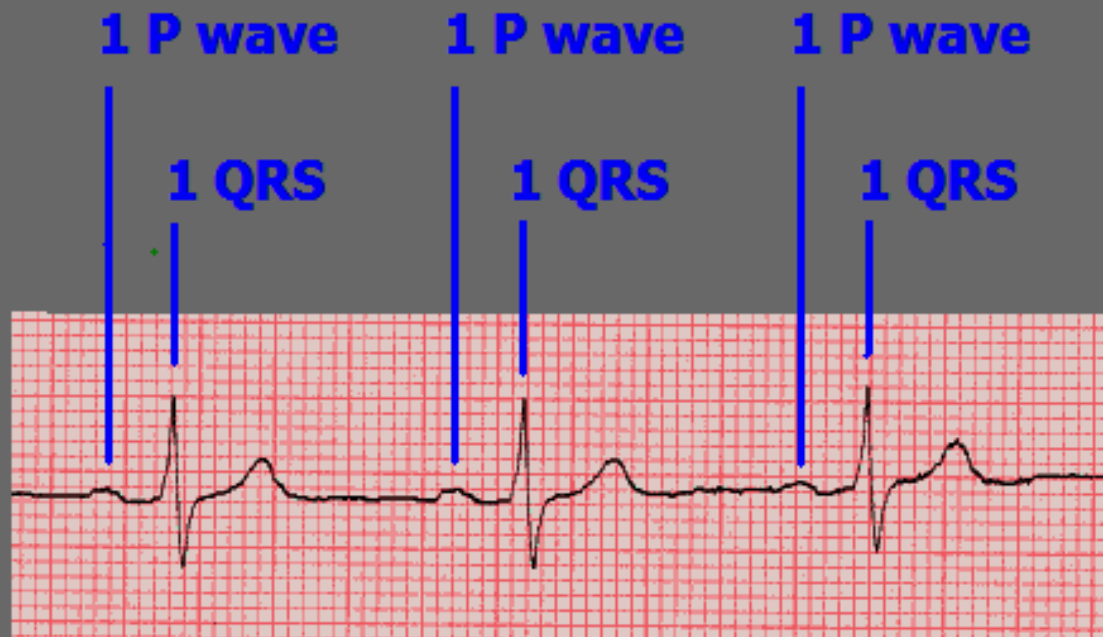


P:QRS RATIO

DETERMINE P : QRS RATIO



SIMPLY STATED, SHOULD ALWAYS BE 1 : 1



P : QRS RATIO

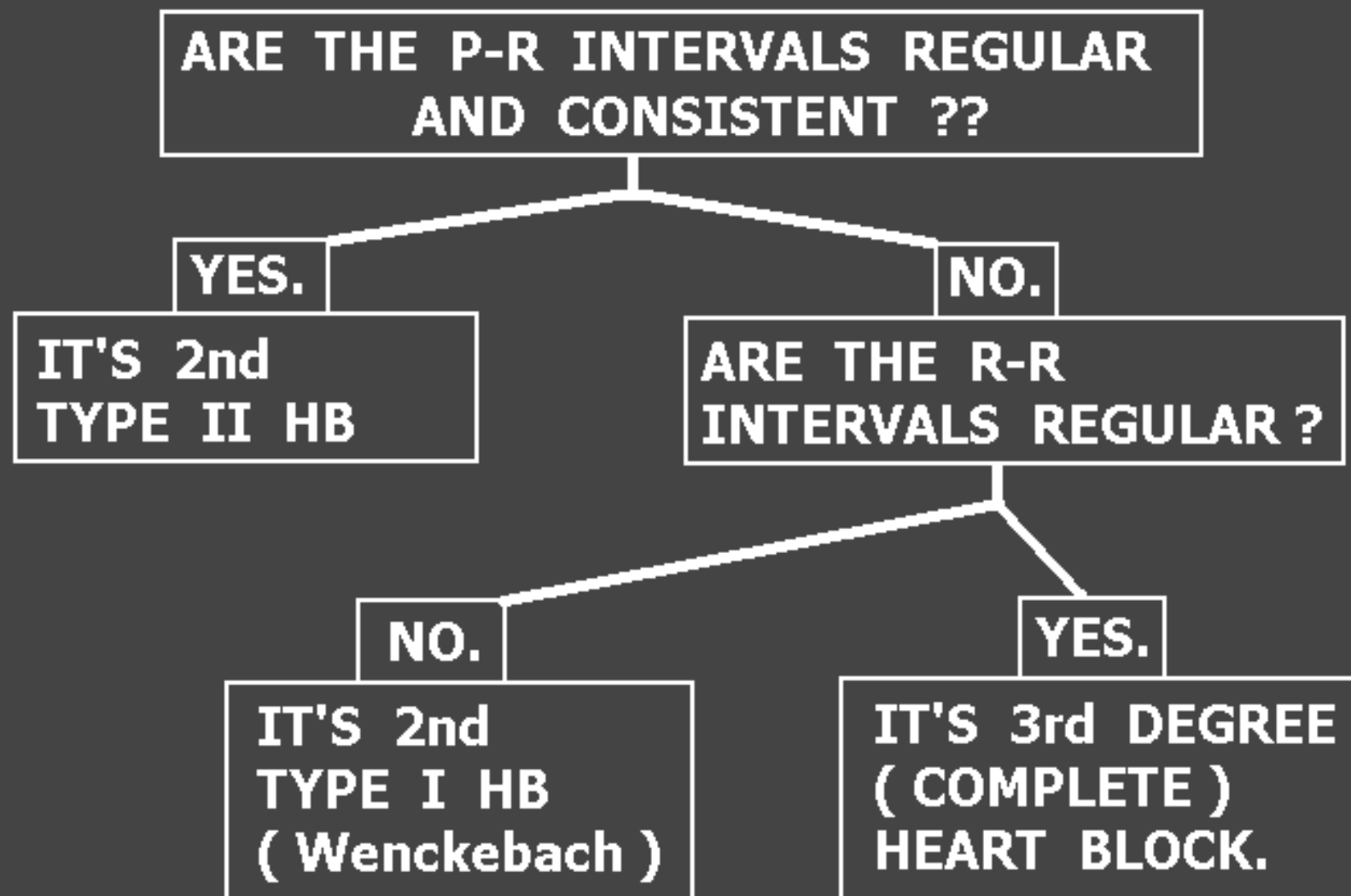
IF GREATER THAN 1 : 1

THINK:

- **2° HEART BLOCK**
(TYPE 1 or 2)
- **3° HEART BLOCK**
- **ATRIAL FLUTTER**
(SAW-TOOTHED "F" WAVES)

DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK

MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

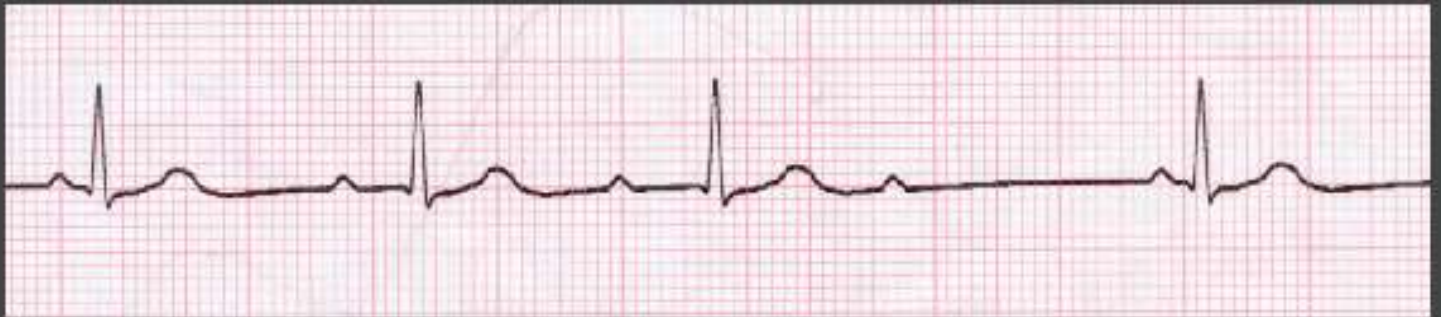


LET'S TEST THE PROCEDURE . . .

1



2



3



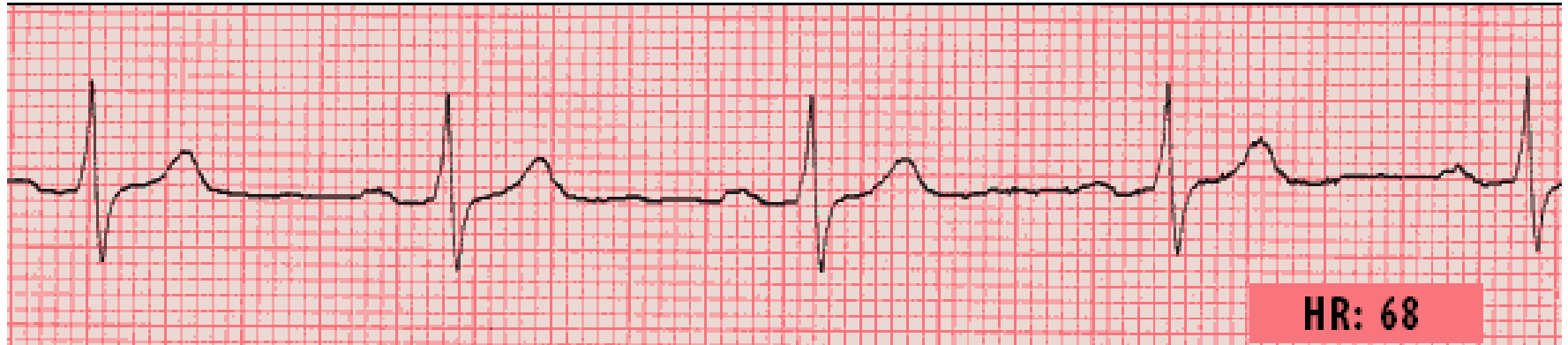


ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION

- RATE
- RHYTHM
- INTERVALS
- P:QRS RATIO



THIS RHYTHM IS: NORMAL SINUS RHYTHM

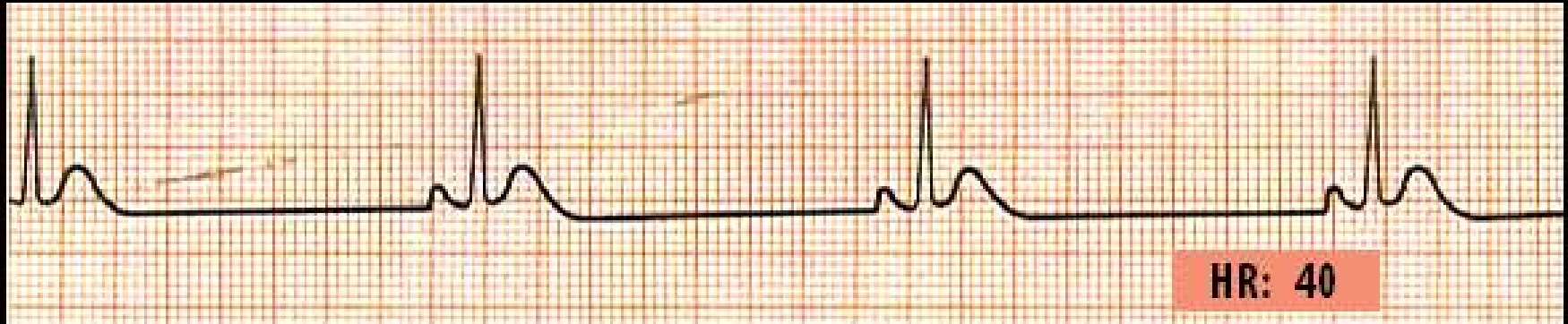


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): PERFECTLY NORMAL IN EVERY WAY!

RATE ----- **BETWEEN 60 - 100**
RHYTHM ----- **REGULAR**
P-R INTERVAL ----- **120 - 200 ms (.12 - .20)**
P:QRS RATIO ----- **1:1**
QRS INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL (LESS THAN 120 ms)**

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS: NONE!

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

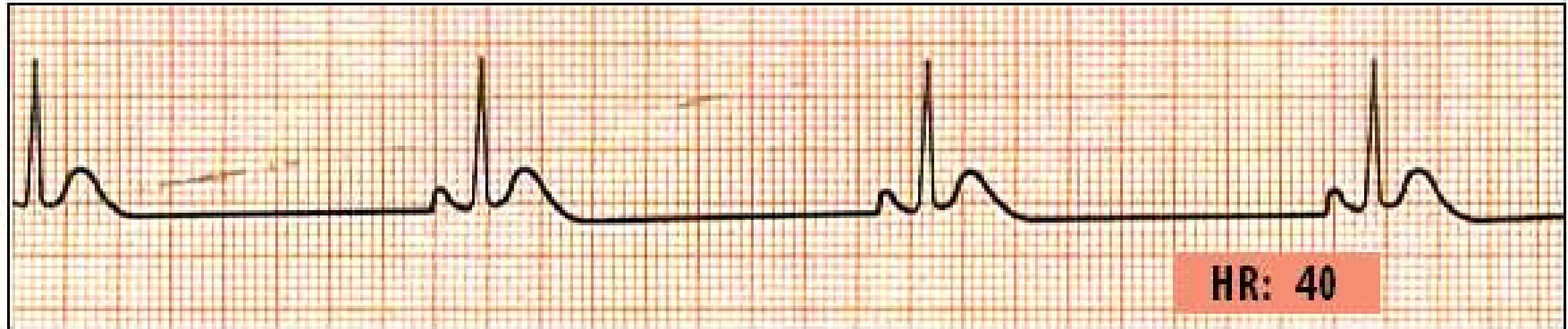
RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P: QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS BRADYCARDIA



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **HEART RATE LESS THAN 60**

RATE	LESS THAN 60
RHYTHM	REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL	NORMAL (120 - 200 ms)
P:QRS RATIO	1:1
QRS INTERVAL	NORMAL (< 120 ms)

POTENTIAL PROBLEM(S):

- HYPOTENSION / SHOCK
- MAY HAVE OTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS (SUCH AS ACUTE MI)

SHOCK ASSESSMENT





SECONDS

SHOCK =

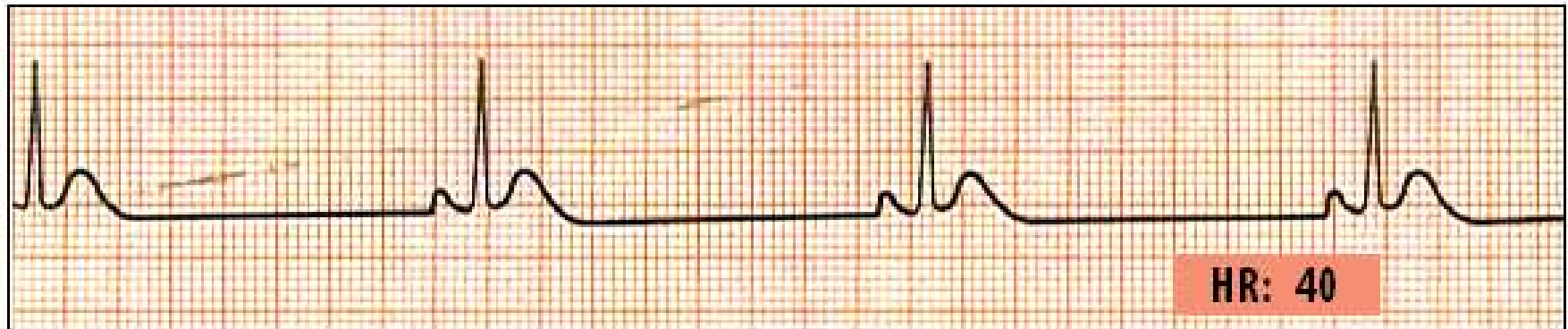
INADEQUATE TISSUE
PERFUSION

- STARTS THE INSTANT YOU SEE PATIENT
- ENDS WHEN YOU REACH THE PATIENT'S SIDE

SHOCK ASSESSMENT

LOC:	ANXIOUS RESTLESS LETHARGIC UNCONSCIOUS	AWAKE ALERT & ORIENTED
SKIN:	PALE / ASHEN CYANOTIC COOL DIAPHORETIC	NORMAL HUE WARM DRY
BREATHING:	TACHYPNEA	NORMAL
PULSE:	WEAK / THREADY TOO FAST or SLOW	STRONG
STATUS:	 SHOCK 	NORMAL

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS BRADYCARDIA



WE MUST CONSIDER UNDERLYING CAUSES:

- INCREASED VAGAL TONE →
- BLOCKED SA NODAL ARTERY →
(INFERIOR WALL MI)
- ELECTROLYTE IMBAL. (K⁺) →
- HYPOTHERMIA →
- ORGANOPHOSPHATE POISONING →
- ATHLETIC METABOLISM →
(excellent health!)

AND TREAT THEM:

- ATROPINE
- CARDIAC CATH - PTCA / STENT
- THROMBOLYTICS
- CORRECT ELECTROLYTES
- WARM PATIENT
- ATROPINE
- COMPLIMENT PATIENT!

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P: QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

THIS RHYTHM IS: FIRST DEGREE HEART BLOCK



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **P - R INTERVAL TOO LONG -
(GREATER THAN 200 mSEC.)**

RATE	-----	NORMAL
RHYTHM	-----	REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL	-----	> 200 mSEC.
P: QRS RATIO	-----	1:1
QRS INTERVAL	-----	NORMAL

THIS RHYTHM IS: FIRST DEGREE HEART BLOCK



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **P - R INTERVAL TOO LONG - (GREATER THAN 200 mSEC.)**

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- HR MAY BE BRADYCARDIC (< 60)
- MAY PROGRESS TO HIGHER GRADE HB (2° , 3°) with SLOWER VENTRICULAR RATE

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

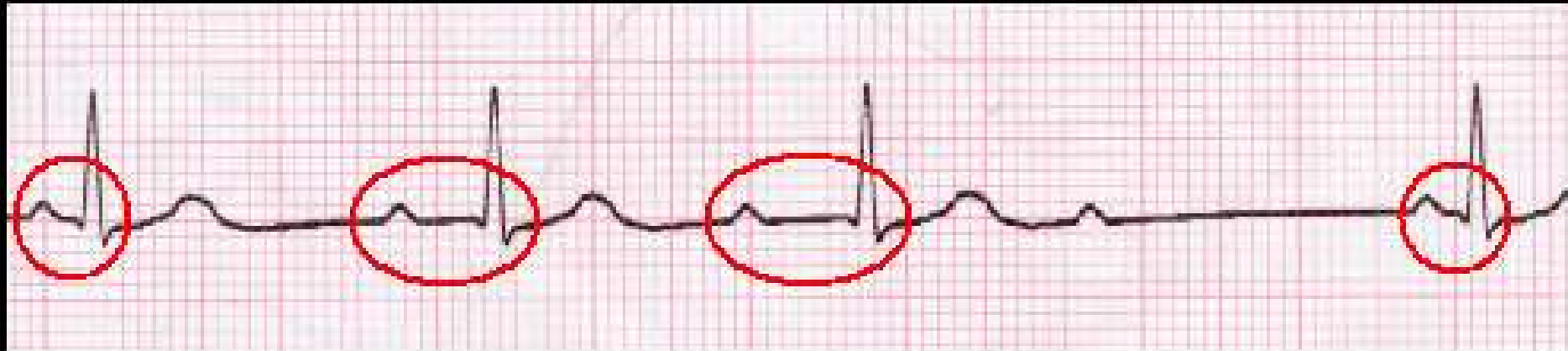
RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P: QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK

MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

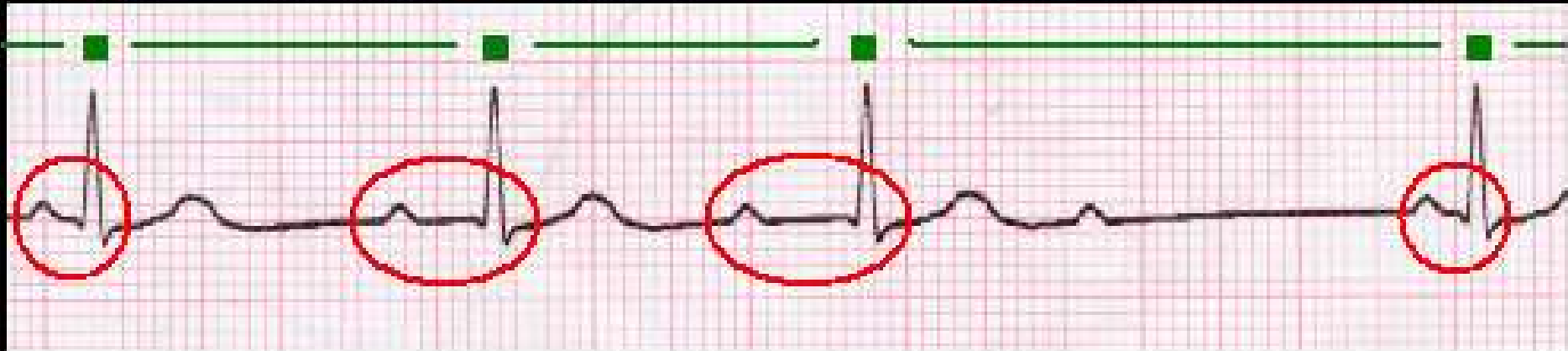
YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

STEP 1

EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK
MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

STEP 1
EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

STEP 2
EVALUATE R - R INTERVALS

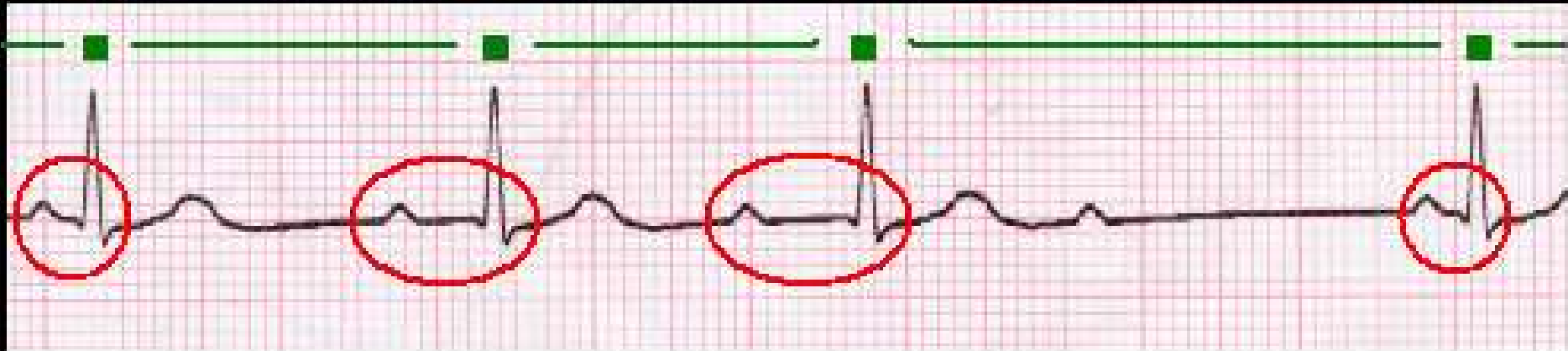
NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK
MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

STEP 1
EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

STEP 2
EVALUATE R - R INTERVALS

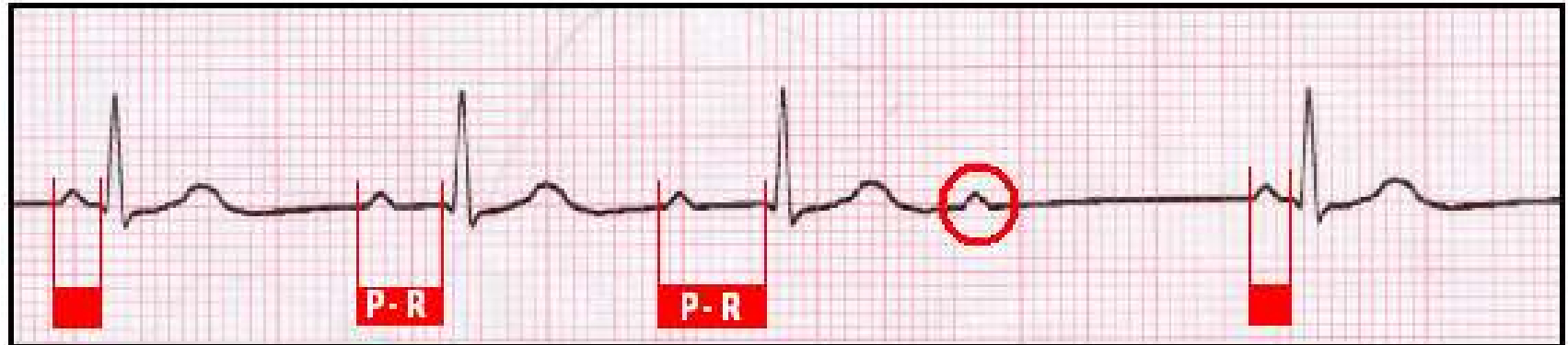
NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

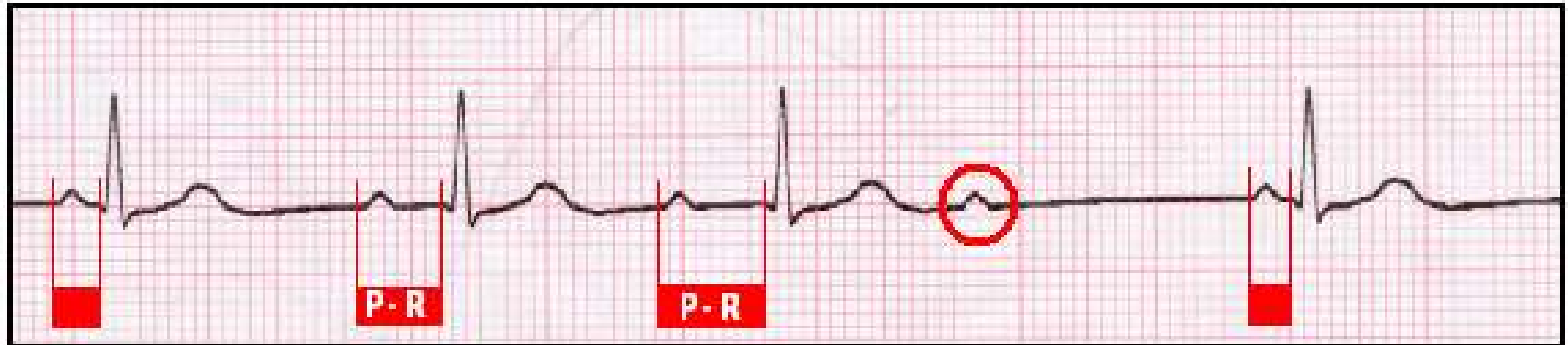
THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd^o TYPE I HB (Wenckebach)



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVAL GETS PROGRESSIVELY LONGER UNTIL IT DROPS A QRS – THEN CYCLE REPEATS

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| RATE | NORMAL or BRADYCARDIC |
| RHYTHM | REGULARLY IRREGULAR |
| P-R INTERVAL | VARIABLE (regularly irregular) |
| P: QRS RATIO | VAIRES (usually 1:1 and 2:1) |
| QRS INTERVAL | NORMAL |

THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd° TYPE I HB (Wenckebach)



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVAL GETS PROGRESSIVELY LONGER UNTIL IT DROPS A QRS – THEN CYCLE REPEATS

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- HR MAY BE BRADYCARDIC (<60)
- MAY PROGRESS TO HIGHER GRADE HB (2^o type II , 3^o)
with SLOWER VENTRICULAR RATE
- PT MAY BE SYMPTOMATIC (SHOCK) FROM
↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P: QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK
MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

STEP 1 —————
EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK
MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

STEP 1
EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

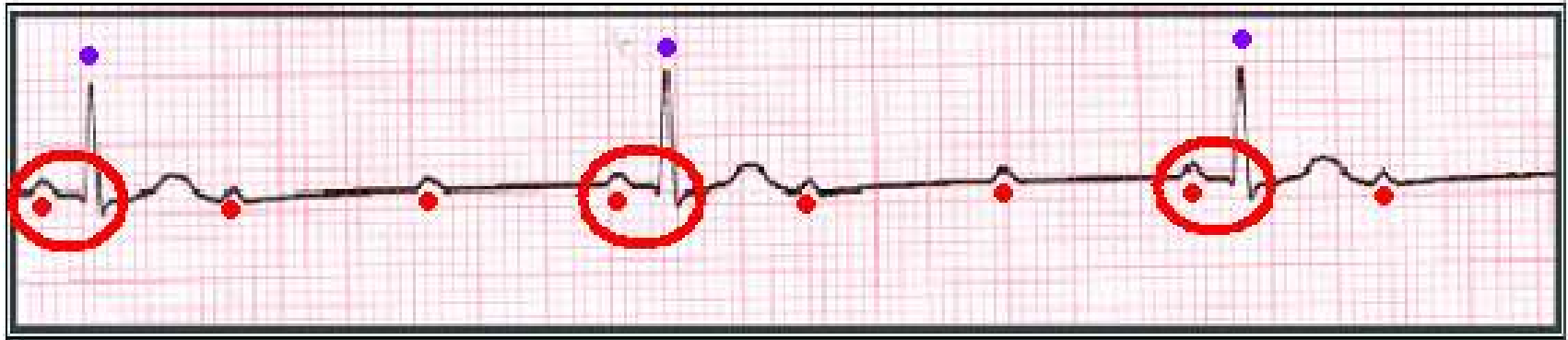
THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd° TYPE II HEART BLOCK



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): MORE THAN ONE P WAVE FOR EACH QRS – BUT EVERY QRS HAS A NORMAL, CONSISTENT P - R INTERVAL

RATE ----- **USUALLY BRADYCARDIC**
RHYTHM ----- **USUALLY REGULAR (can be irregular)**
P-R INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL and CONSISTENT**
P: QRS RATIO ----- **≥ 2:1**
QRS INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL**

THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd ° TYPE II HEART BLOCK



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **MORE THAN ONE P WAVE FOR EACH QRS – BUT EVERY QRS HAS A NORMAL, CONSISTENT P - R INTERVAL**

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- PT MAY BE SYMPTOMATIC (SHOCK) FROM ↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT
- BLOCKAGE MAY ADVANCE TO VENTRICULAR STANDSTILL (ADAMS - STOKES SYNDROME) AND CARDIAC ARREST
- MAY PROGRESS TO COMPLETE (3rd °) HEART BLOCK

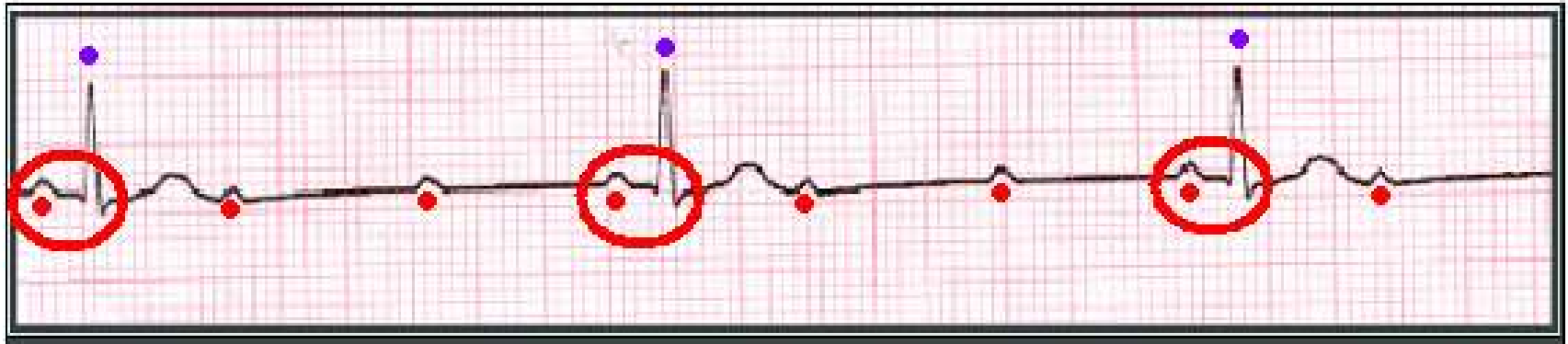
-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**

THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd ° TYPE II HEART BLOCK



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **MORE THAN ONE P WAVE FOR EACH QRS -- BUT EVERY QRS HAS A NORMAL, CONSISTENT P - R INTERVAL**

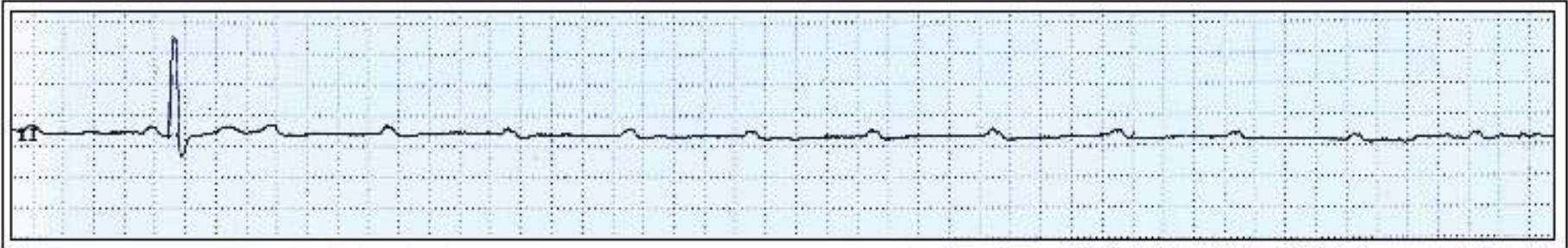


ADAMS - STOKES SYNDROME is essentially spontaneous **CARDIAC ARREST** -- characterized by episodes of **ASYSTOLE**, **VENTRICULAR STANDSTILL** and **V-FIB**. In this regard, 2nd ° TYPE II HB can be more dangerous than 3rd ° HB (at least 3rd ° Heart Block has an **ESCAPE RHYTHM**)





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 o 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.

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P:QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

RHYTHM -----

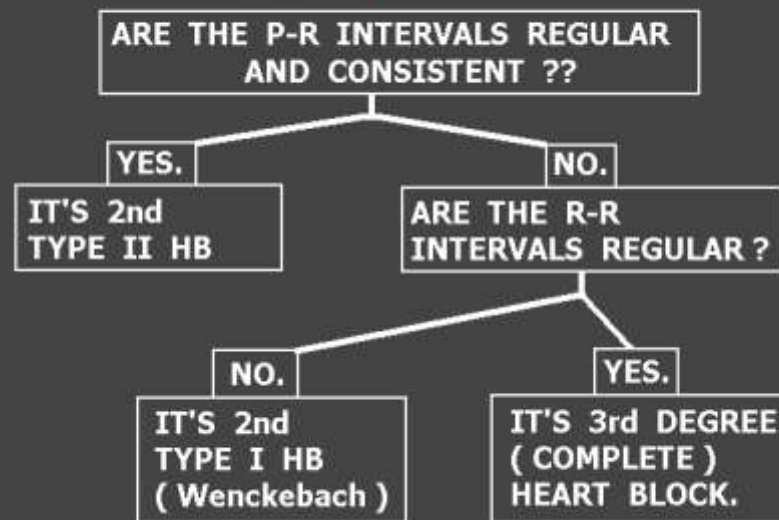
P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

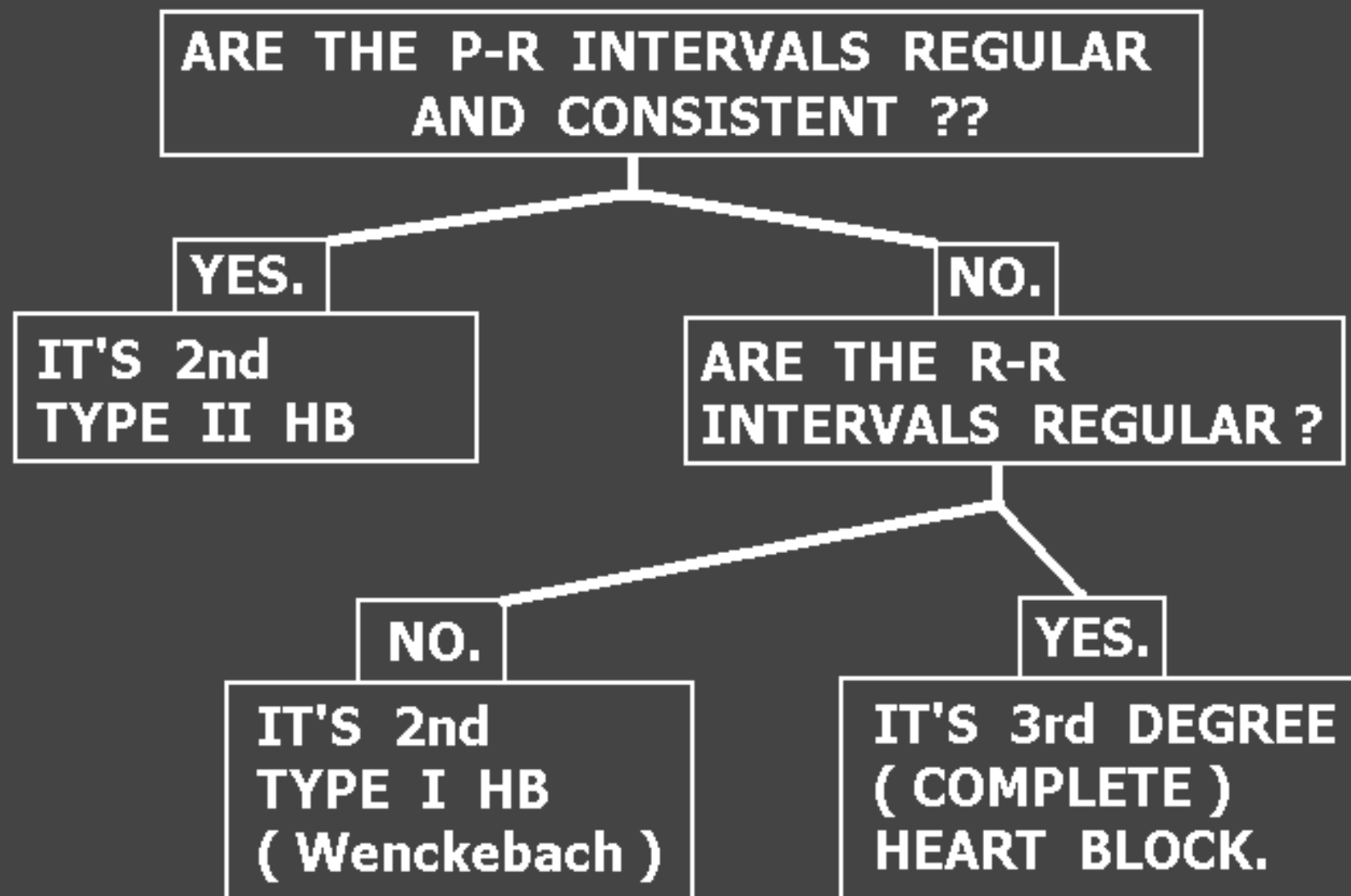
DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK

MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK

MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.



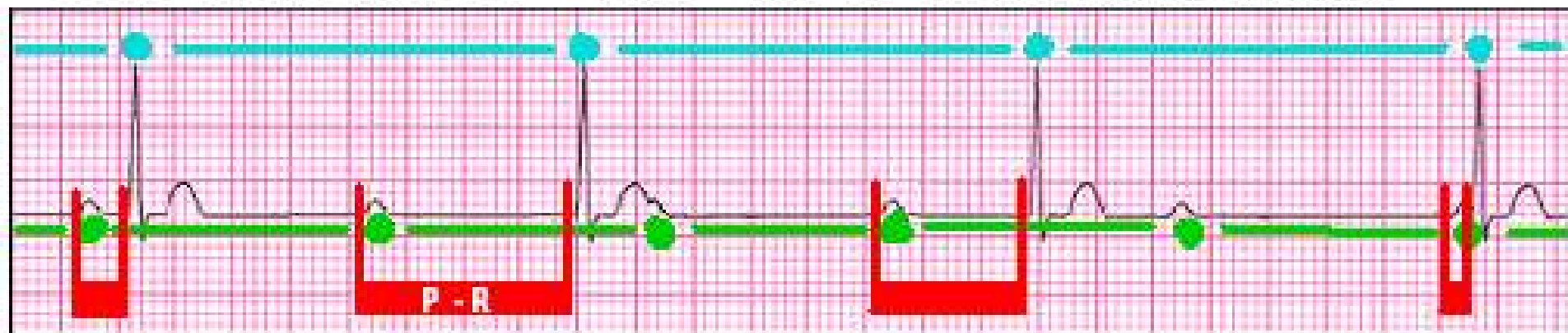
THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd^o HB \bar{c} JUNCTIONAL ESCAPE



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVAL INCOSISTENT, P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR -- NO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES.

RATE -----	USUALLY BRADYCARDIC (40 - 60 JUNCTIONAL RATE)
RHYTHM -----	REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL ----	INCONSISTENT (irregularly irregular)
P:QRS RATIO ----	VARIES - USUALLY > 2:1
QRS INTERVAL ----	NORMAL (< 120 ms) UNLESS PT HAS BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

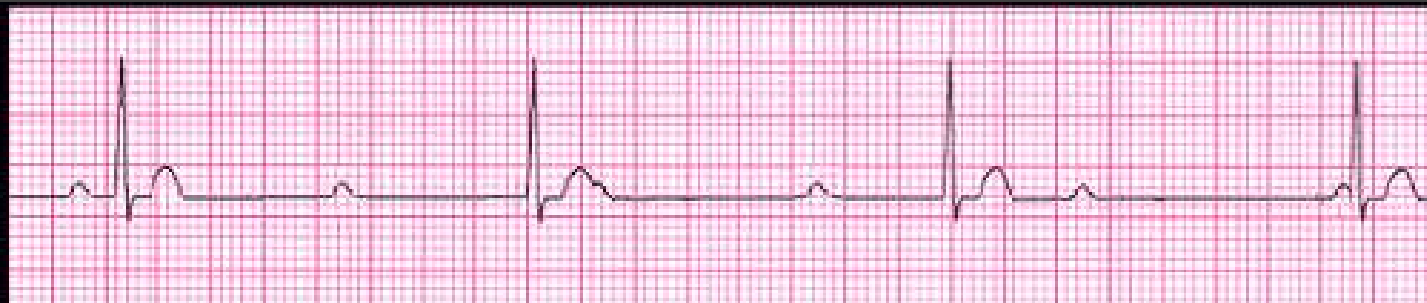
THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd^o HB \bar{c} JUNCTIONAL ESCAPE



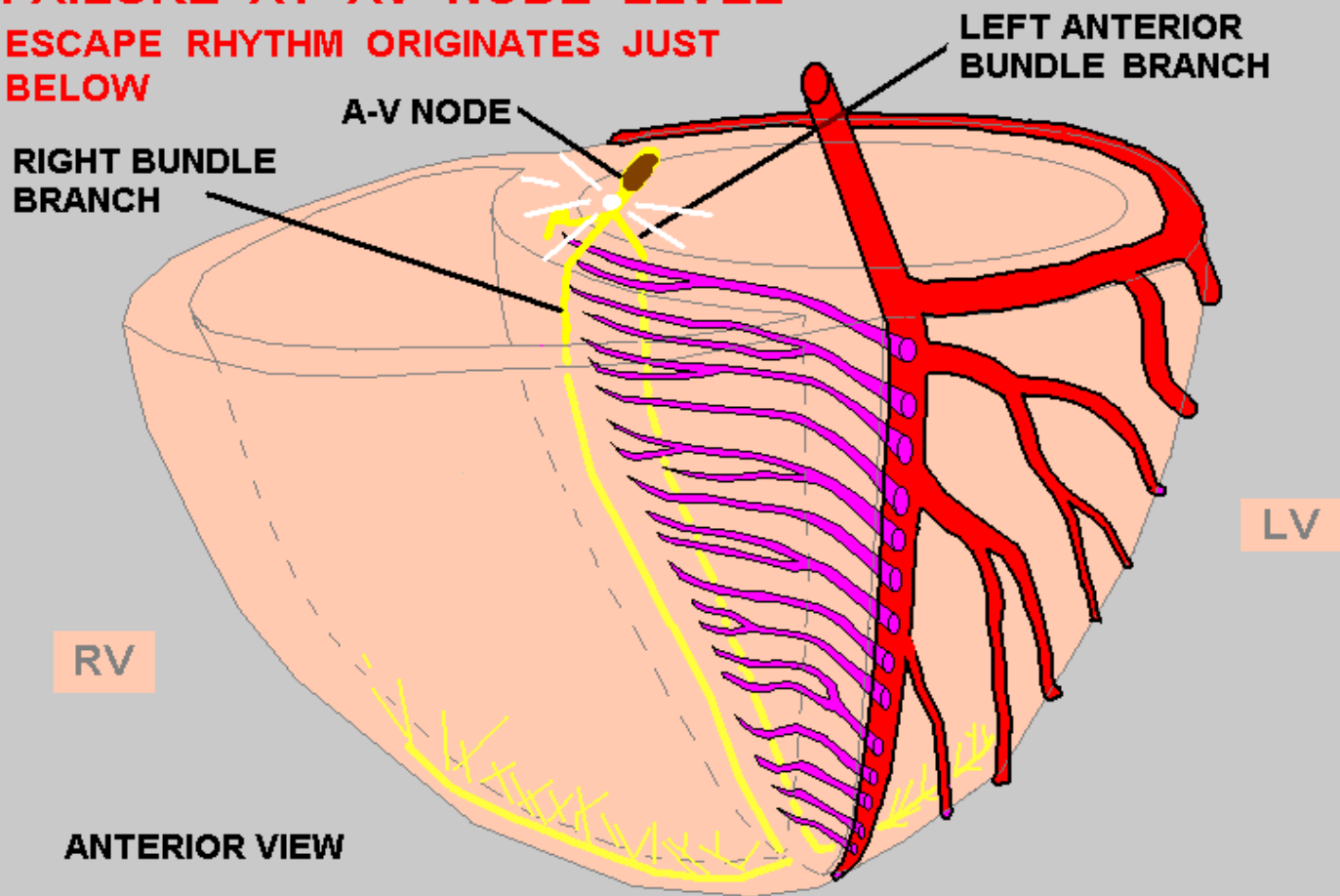
MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVAL INCOSISTENT, P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR -- NO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES.

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- HYPOTENSION and SHOCK due to ↓ HEART RATE and ↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT



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



THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P:QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

WHEN YOU SEE "EXTRA P WAVES"



DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK
MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.

STEP 1
EVALUATE P - R RELATIONSHIP

ARE THE P-R INTERVALS REGULAR AND CONSISTENT ??

YES.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE II HB

NO.

ARE THE R-R
INTERVALS REGULAR ?

STEP 2
EVALUATE R - R INTERVALS

NO.

IT'S 2nd
TYPE I HB
(Wenckebach)

YES.

IT'S 3rd DEGREE
(COMPLETE)
HEART BLOCK.

THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd^o HB \bar{c} IDIOVENTRICULAR ESCAPE



**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVALS INCONSISTENT
P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR. NO
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES. QRS
COMPLEXES are WIDER THAN 120ms, AND OF SLOW VENTRICULAR
RATE (usually < 40)**

RATE ----- USUALLY BRADYCARDIC (< 40 VENTRICULAR RATE)

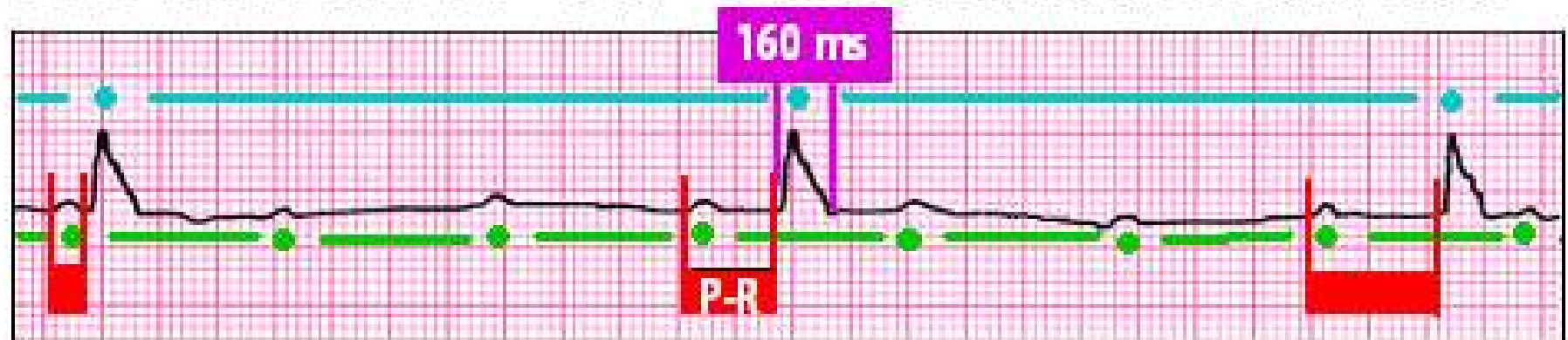
RHYTHM ----- REGULAR

P-R INTERVAL ---- INCONSISTENT (irregularly irregular)

P:QRS RATIO ---- VARIES - USUALLY > 2 : 1

QRS INTERVAL ---- WIDER THAN 120 ms

THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd^o HB \bar{c} IDIOVENTRICULAR ESCAPE



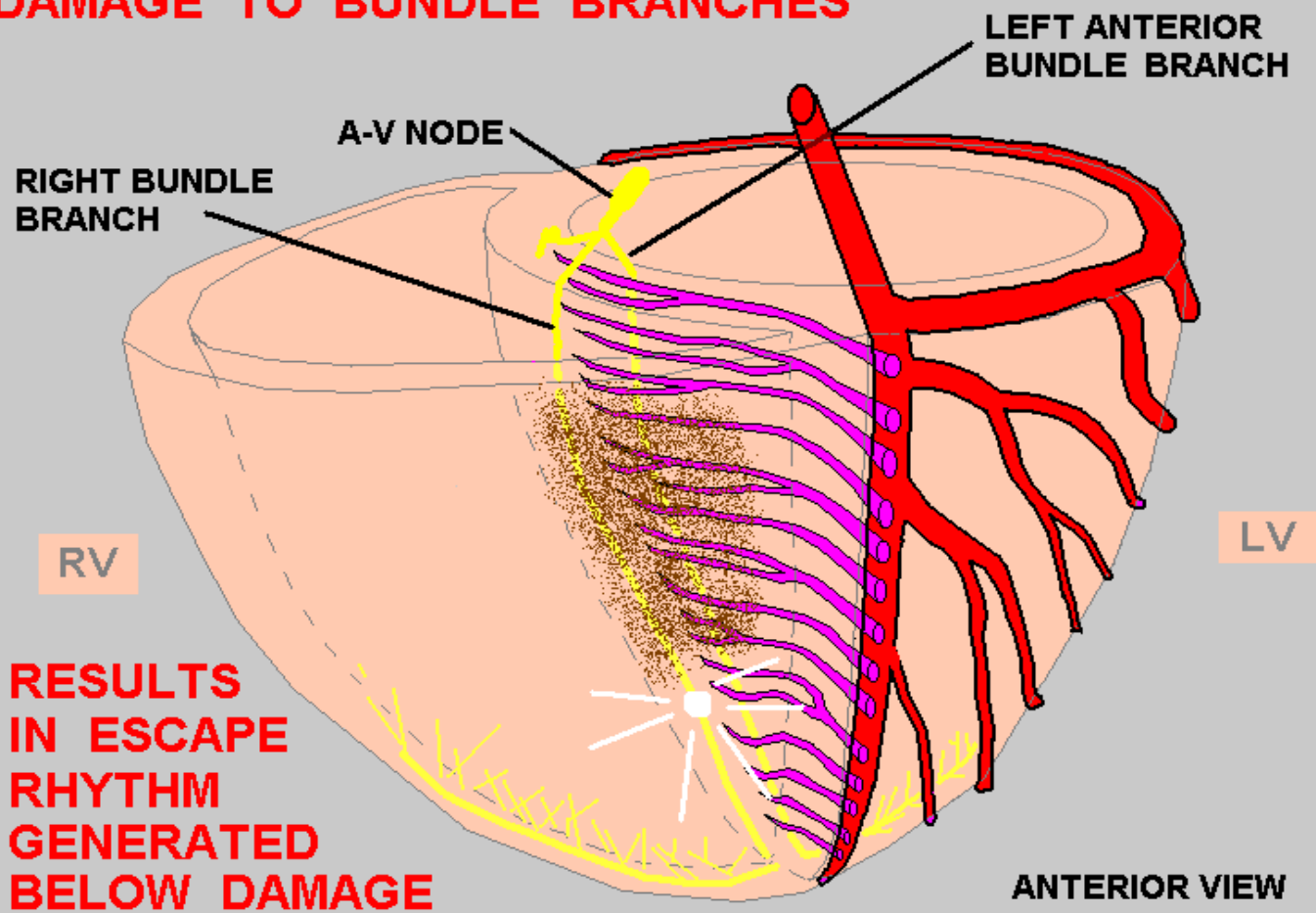
MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P - R INTERVALS INCONSISTENT
P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR. NO
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES. QRS
COMPLEXES are WIDER THAN 120ms, AND RATE (usually < 40)

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

HYPOTENSION and SHOCK due to ↓ HEART RATE and
↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT



DAMAGE TO BUNDLE BRANCHES







SINUS ARREST.

Causes: SA Nodal disease, Increased vagal tone,
SA Node ischemia / MI

Hemodynamic Concerns: Patient may experience syncope,
cardiac arrest

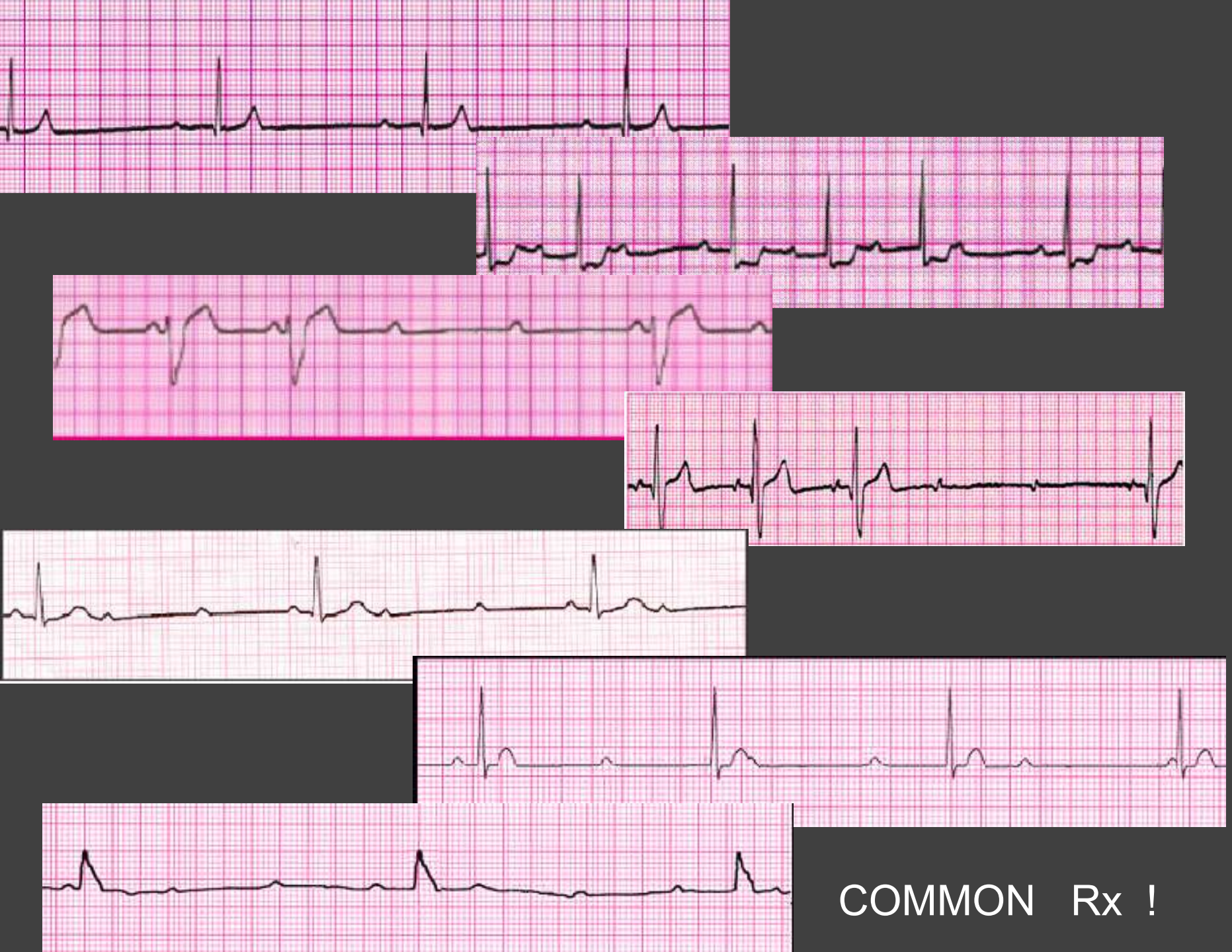
Treatment: Atropine, CPR, Pacemaker

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**



COMMON Rx !

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



TX:

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

SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA

- **ABCs + 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**

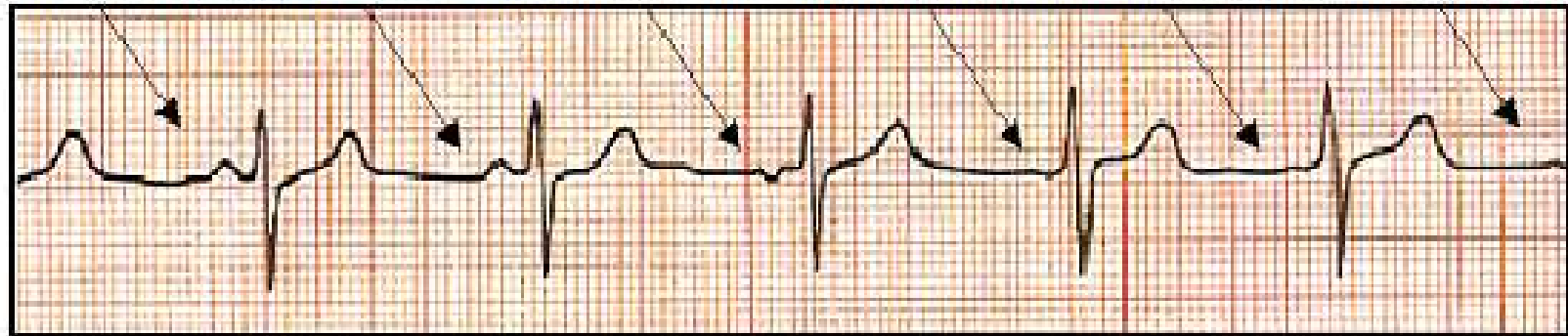
THIS RHYTHM IS: WANDERING ATRIAL PACEMAKER



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ARE OF DIFFERENT SIZES, DEFLECTIONS, and P - R INTERVALS SLIGHTLY VARY

RATE	-----	NORMAL
RHYTHM	-----	NORMAL
P-R INTERVAL	-----	SLIGHT VARIATION
P:QRS RATIO	-----	1:1
QRS INTERVAL	-----	NORMAL (unless BBB)

THIS RHYTHM IS: WANDERING ATRIAL PACEMAKER



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ARE OF DIFFERENT SIZES, DEFLECTIONS, and P - R INTERVALS SLIGHTLY VARY

POTENTIAL PROBLEM(S) :

- **USUALLY NONE.**
- **THIS RHYTHM IS SEEN MOST FREQUENTLY IN HEALTHY YOUNG CHILDREN**

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

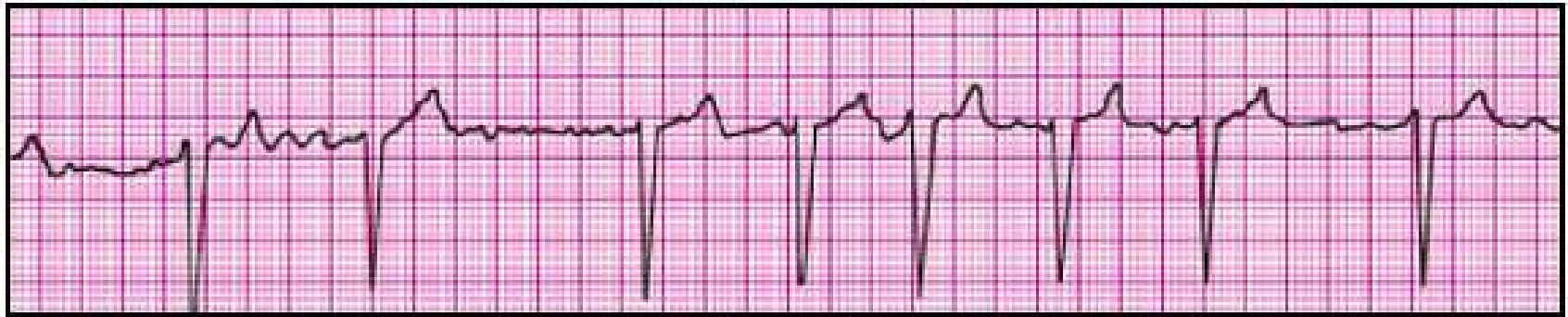
THIS RHYTHM IS: ATRIAL FIBRILLATION



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **IRREGULARLY IRREGULAR R-R INTERVALS, NO DISCERNABLE P WAVES, FIBRILLATORY BASE-LINE.**

RATE ----- **BRADY, NORMAL, or TACHY**
RHYTHM ----- **IRREGULARLY IRREGULAR**
P-R INTERVAL ---- **NOT DISCERNABLE**
P:QRS RATIO ----- **NOT DISCERNABLE**
QRS INTERVAL ---- **NORMAL, (unless BBB present)**

THIS RHYTHM IS: ATRIAL FIBRILLATION



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **IRREGULARLY IRREGULAR R - R INTERVALS, NO DISCERNABLE P WAVES, FIBRILLATORY BASE-LINE.**

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- VENTRICULAR RATE CAN BECOME TOO SLOW or TOO FAST
- WITHOUT THE " ATRIAL KICK," CARDIAC OUTPUT DROPS 10 - 20%
- THROMBUS FORMATION MAY OCCUR IN THE LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE, PUTTING PATIENT AT HIGH RISK FOR CVA

THIS RHYTHM IS: ATRIAL FIBRILLATION



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **IRREGULARLY IRREGULAR R - R INTERVALS, NO DISCERNABLE P WAVES, FIBRILLATORY BASE-LINE.**

TREATMENT / INTERVENTIONS:

- **NEED FOR EMERGENCY INTERVENTION FOR A-FIB IS BASED ON PATIENT'S VENTRICULAR RATE:**
 - ☞ **TOO SLOW - SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA ALGORITHM**
 - ☞ **TOO FAST - TACHYCARDIA ALGORITHM**

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

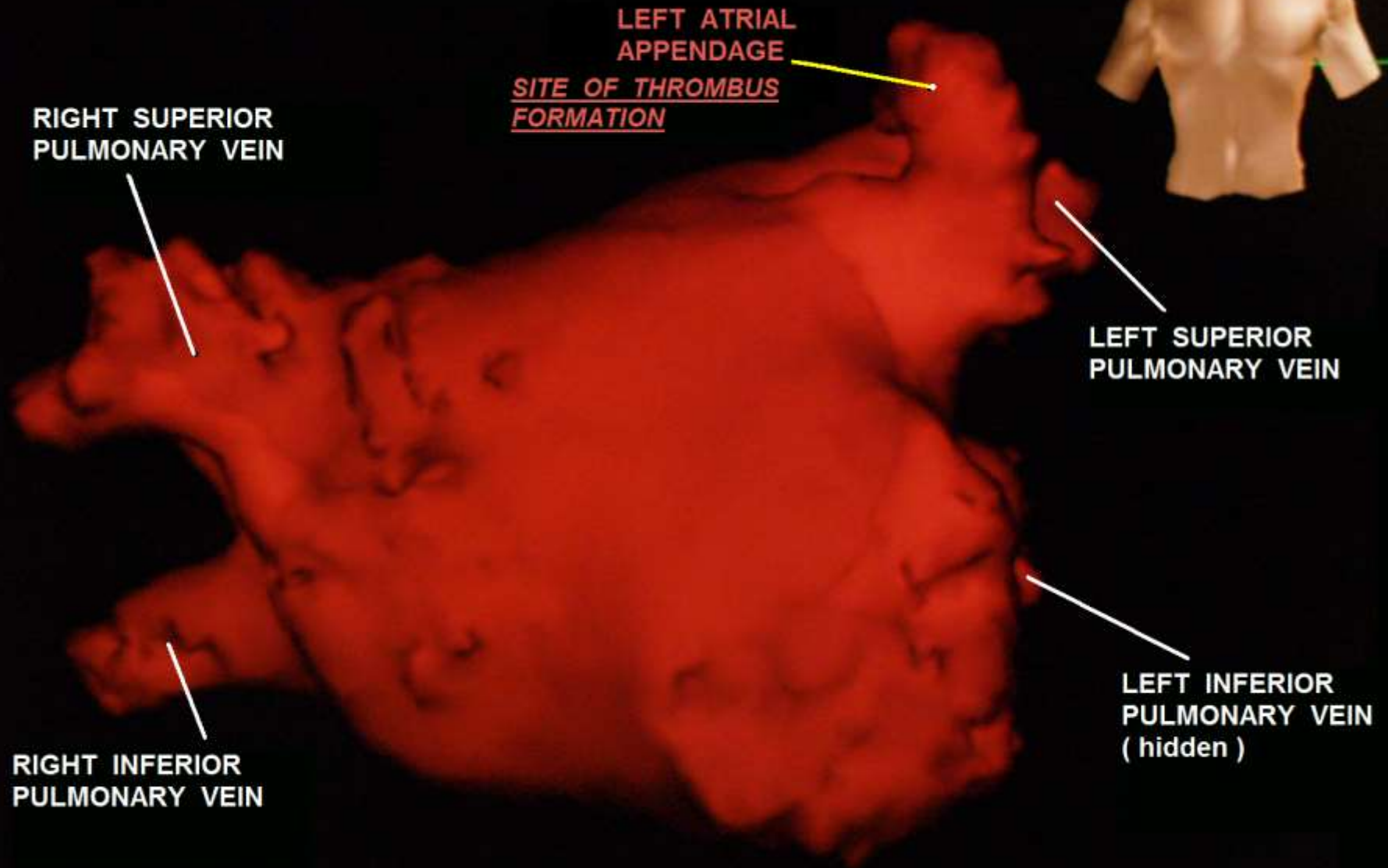
-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**

LEFT ATRIUM

ANTERIOR VIEW



LEFT ATRIUM

LAO VIEW

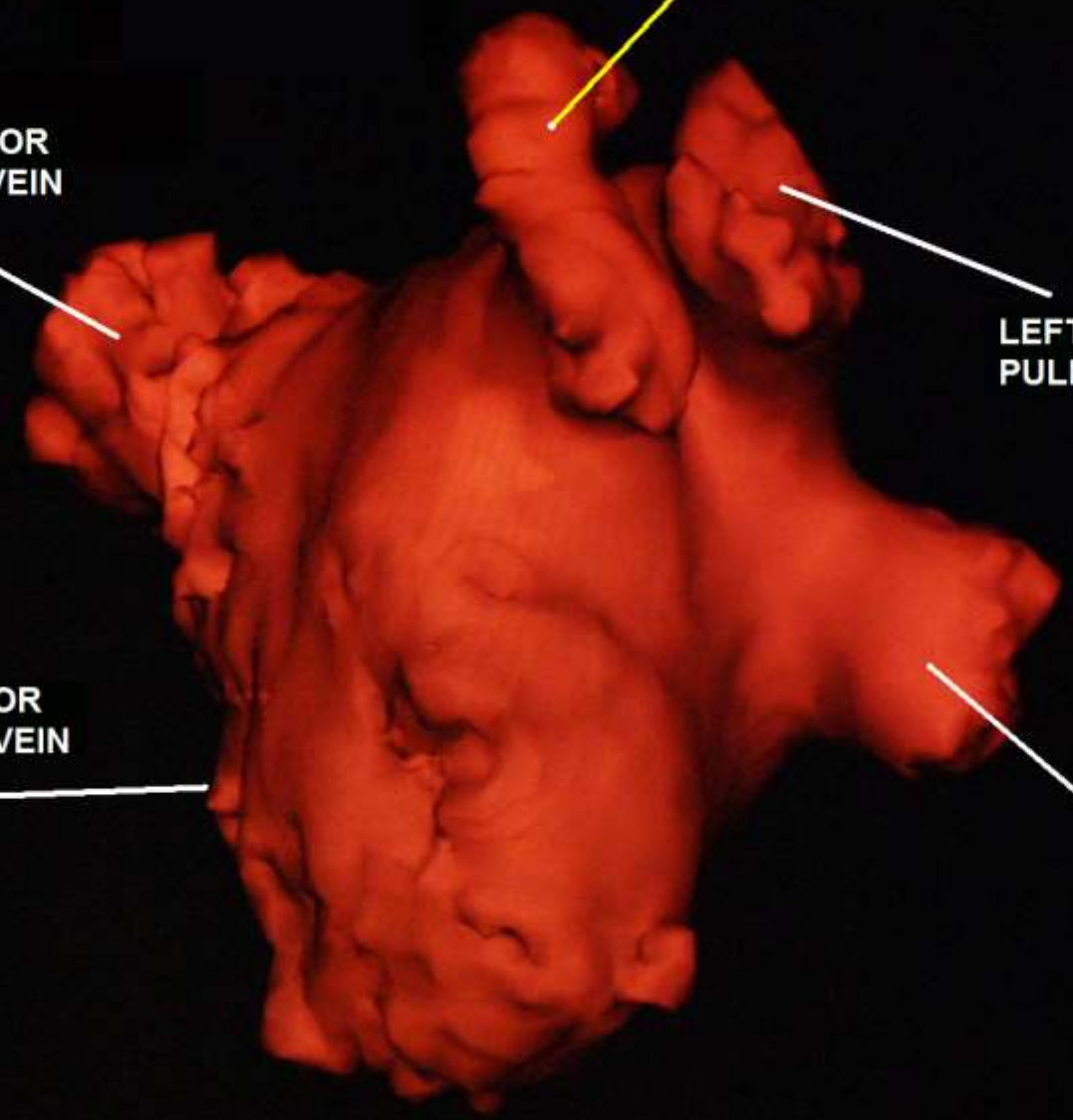
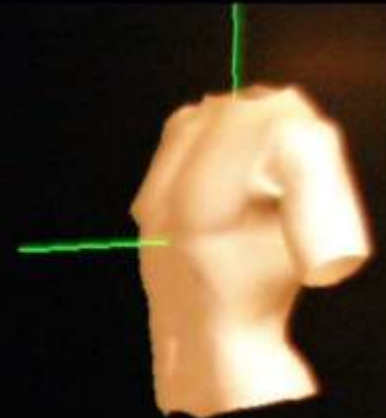
LEFT ATRIAL
APPENDAGE
SITE OF THROMBUS
FORMATION

RIGHT SUPERIOR
PULMONARY VEIN

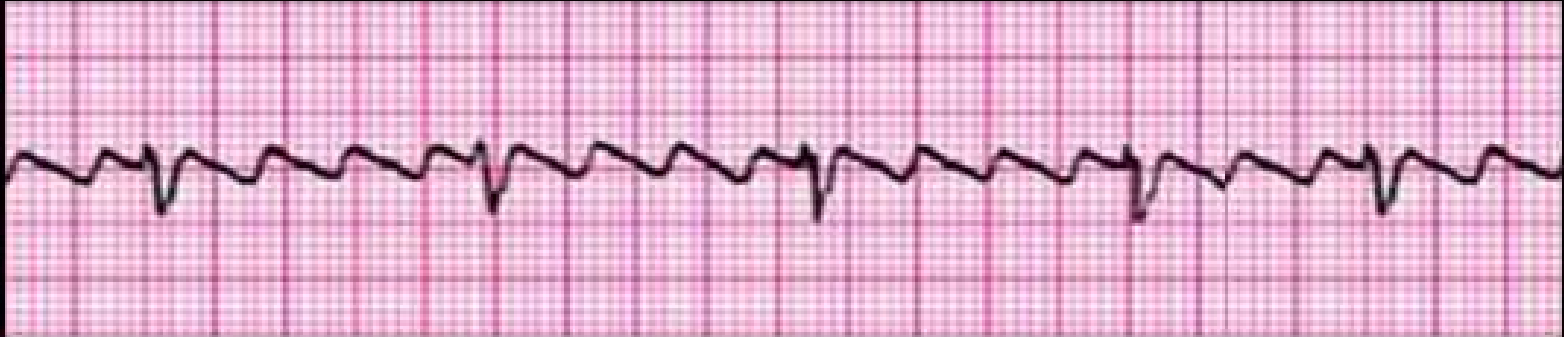
LEFT SUPERIOR
PULMONARY VEIN

RIGHT INFERIOR
PULMONARY VEIN
(hidden)

LEFT INFERIOR
PULMONARY VEIN



THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

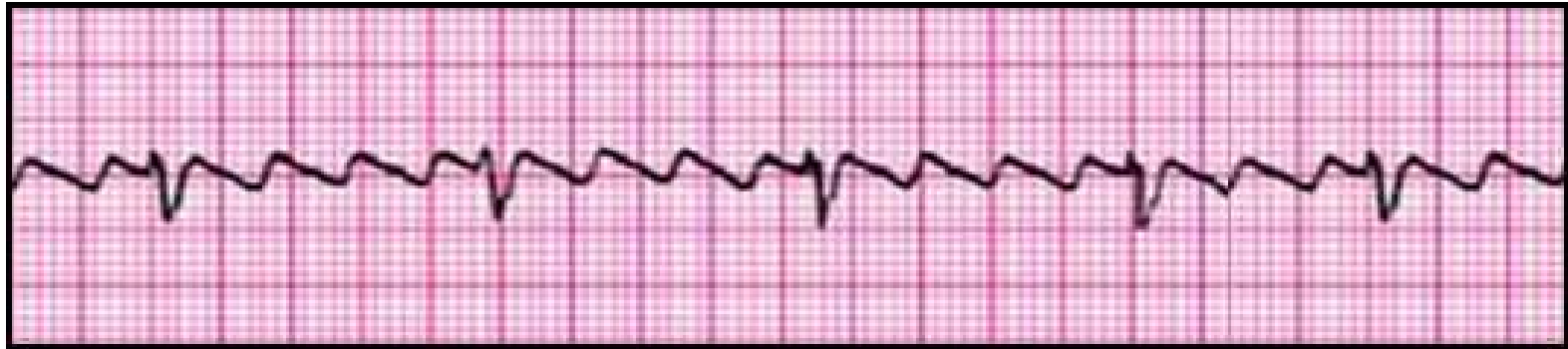
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

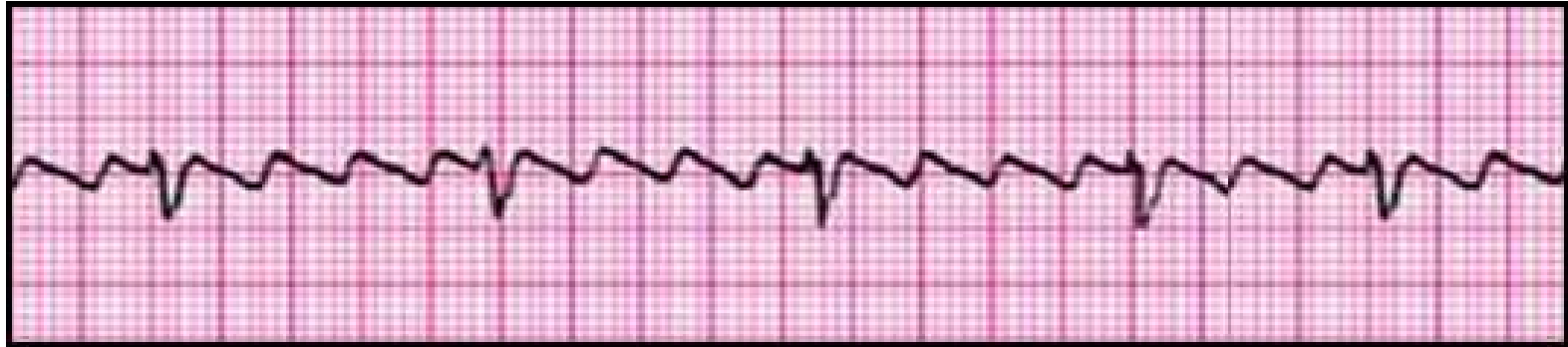
THIS RHYTHM IS: ATRIAL FLUTTER



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **RAPID RATE "SAW-TOOTHED" FLUTTER WAVES (F-WAVES)**

RATE ----- **ATRIAL : 200 - 300, VENT: BRADY, NORMAL or TACHY**
RHYTHM ----- **REGULAR or IRREGULAR**
P-R INTERVAL ----- **USUALLY NORMAL, CONSISTENT**
P:QRS RATIO ----- **VARIES (usually 3:1, 4:1, or 5:1)**
QRS INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL (unless BBB present)**

THIS RHYTHM IS: ATRIAL FLUTTER



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **RAPID RATE "SAW-TOOTHED" FLUTTER WAVES (F-WAVES)**

POTENTIAL PROBLEM(S):

- **VENTRICULAR RATE CAN BE TOO RAPID or TOO SLOW**
- **A-FLUTTER OFTEN IS INTERMITTENT WITH A-FIB -- A-FIB PRECAUTIONS APPLY (THROMBUS RISKS)**

TREATMENT / INTERVENTIONS:

- ☞ **TOO SLOW - SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA ALGORITHM**
- ☞ **TOO FAST - TACHYCARDIA ALGORITHM**

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

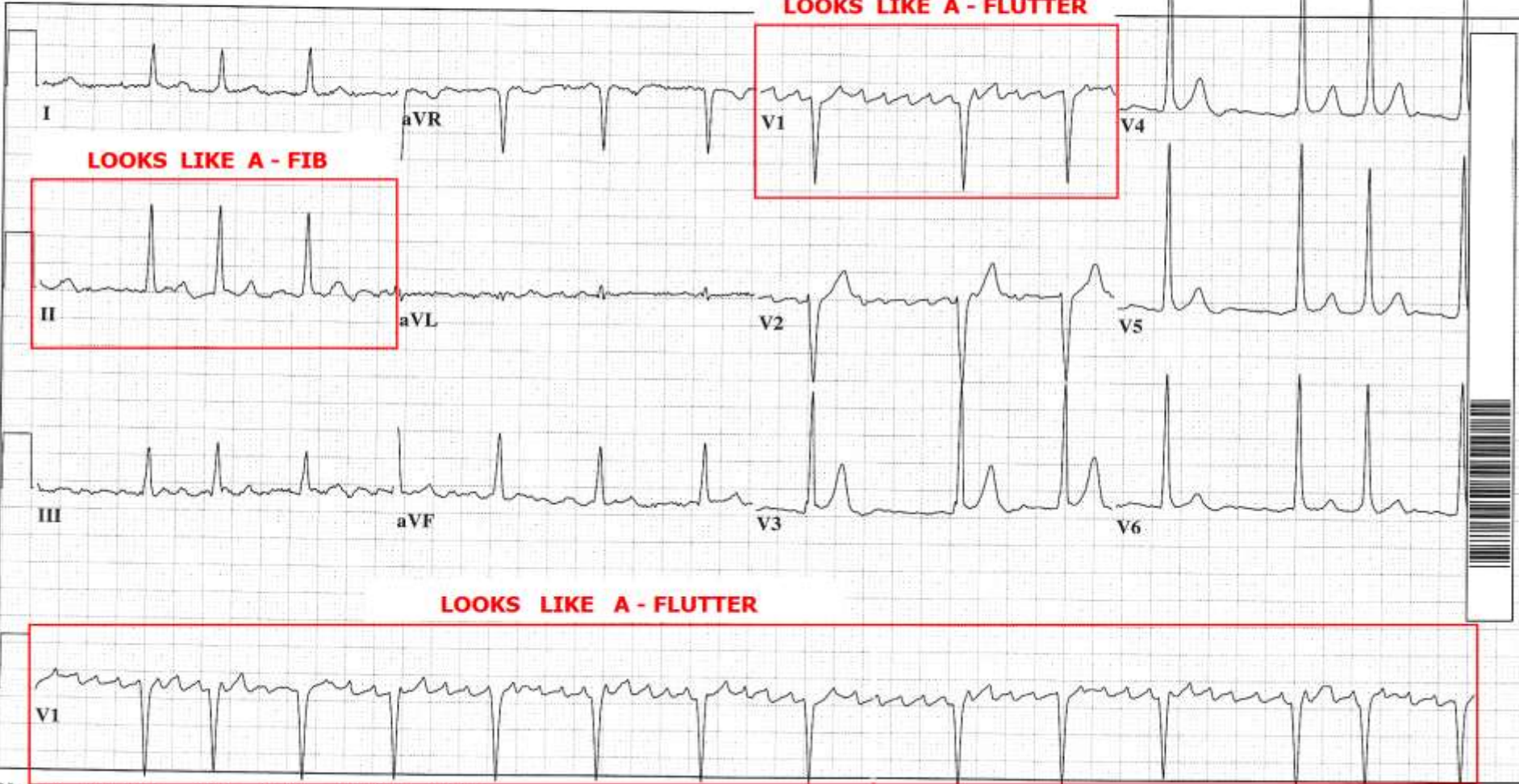
Technician:

Referred by

LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER

LOOKS LIKE A - FIB

LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER



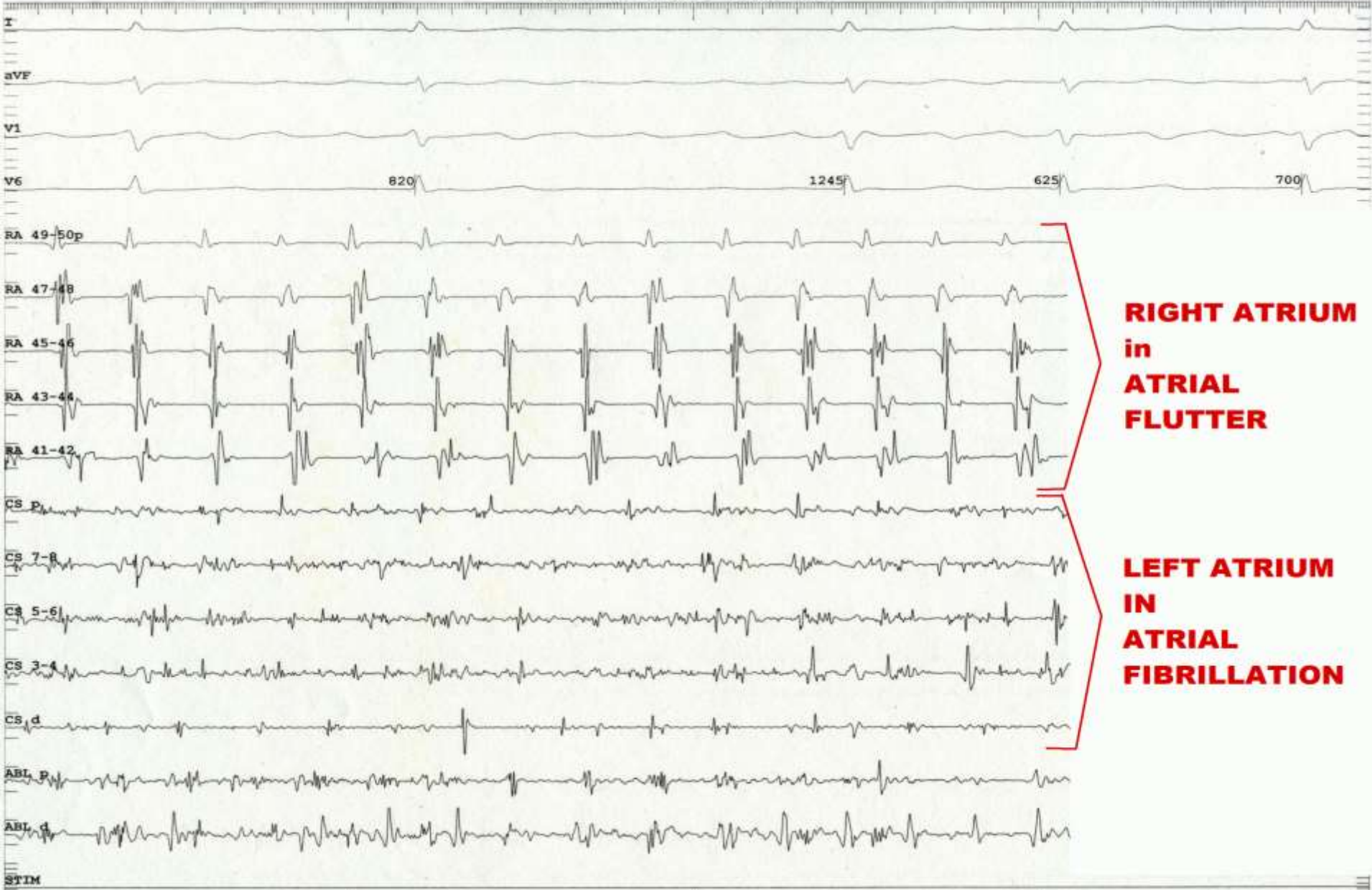
25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005D 12SL 235 CID: 2

44 y/o FEMALE

"ATRIAL FIB - FLUTTER"

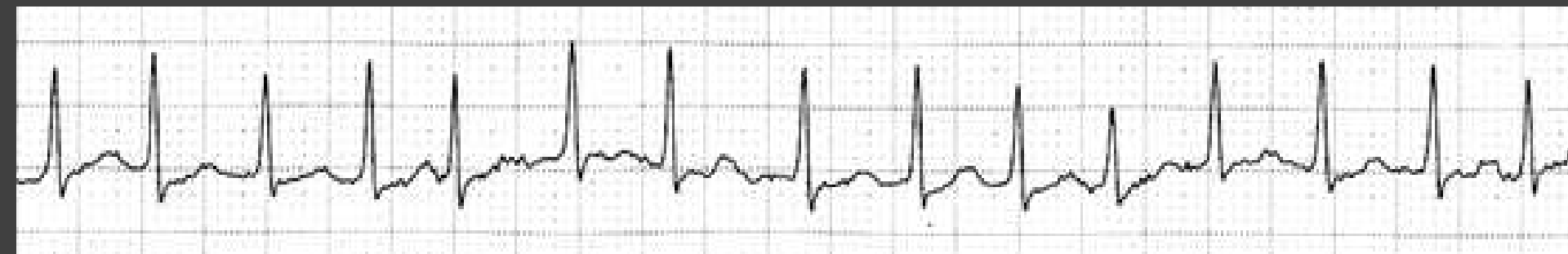
03/28 09:30:52 Baseline

63mm/sec 0.400 mV



**RIGHT ATRIUM
in
ATRIAL
FLUTTER**

**LEFT ATRIUM
IN
ATRIAL
FIBRILLATION**



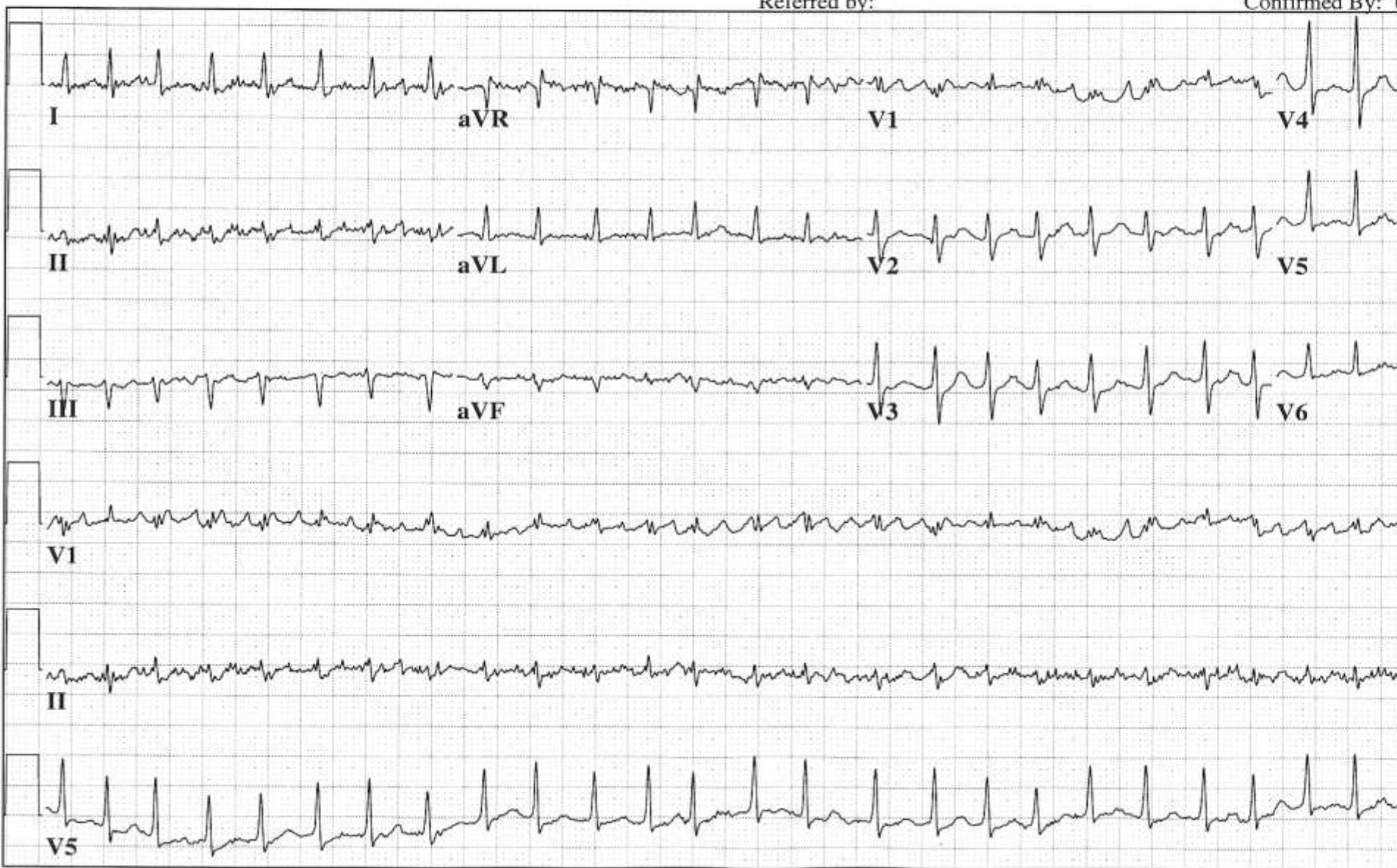
55 y/o Male c/o “palpitations,”
No previous cardiac history

Technician:

Atrial fibrillation has replaced Sinus rhythm
Vent. rate has increased BY 109 BPM ...

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



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

EID:10 EDT:

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

CRITICAL CONSIDERATION

COULD PATIENT HAVE BEEN
IN A - FIB FOR AT LEAST
48 HOURS ? _____

YES

IS PATIENT ON
ANTICOAGULANTS ? _____

NO



**THEN RULE OUT EMBOLI IN ATRIUM
WITH EITHER A STAT ECHO or T.E.E.
BEFORE CONVERTING TO SINUS
RHYTHM !**

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

CRITICAL CONSIDERATION

COULD PATIENT HAVE BEEN
IN A - FIB FOR AT LEAST
48 HOURS ? _____

YES

IS PATIENT ON
ANTICOAGULANTS ? _____

NO

In the REAL world, thrombus has been noted in as little as 6 hours !



**THEN RULE OUT EMBOLI IN ATRIUM
WITH EITHER A STAT ECHO or T.E.E.
BEFORE CONVERTING TO SINUS
RHYTHM !**

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)

ABCs + 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"

SVT - STABLE PATIENT

(NARROW QRS !!!!)

ABCs + 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"

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

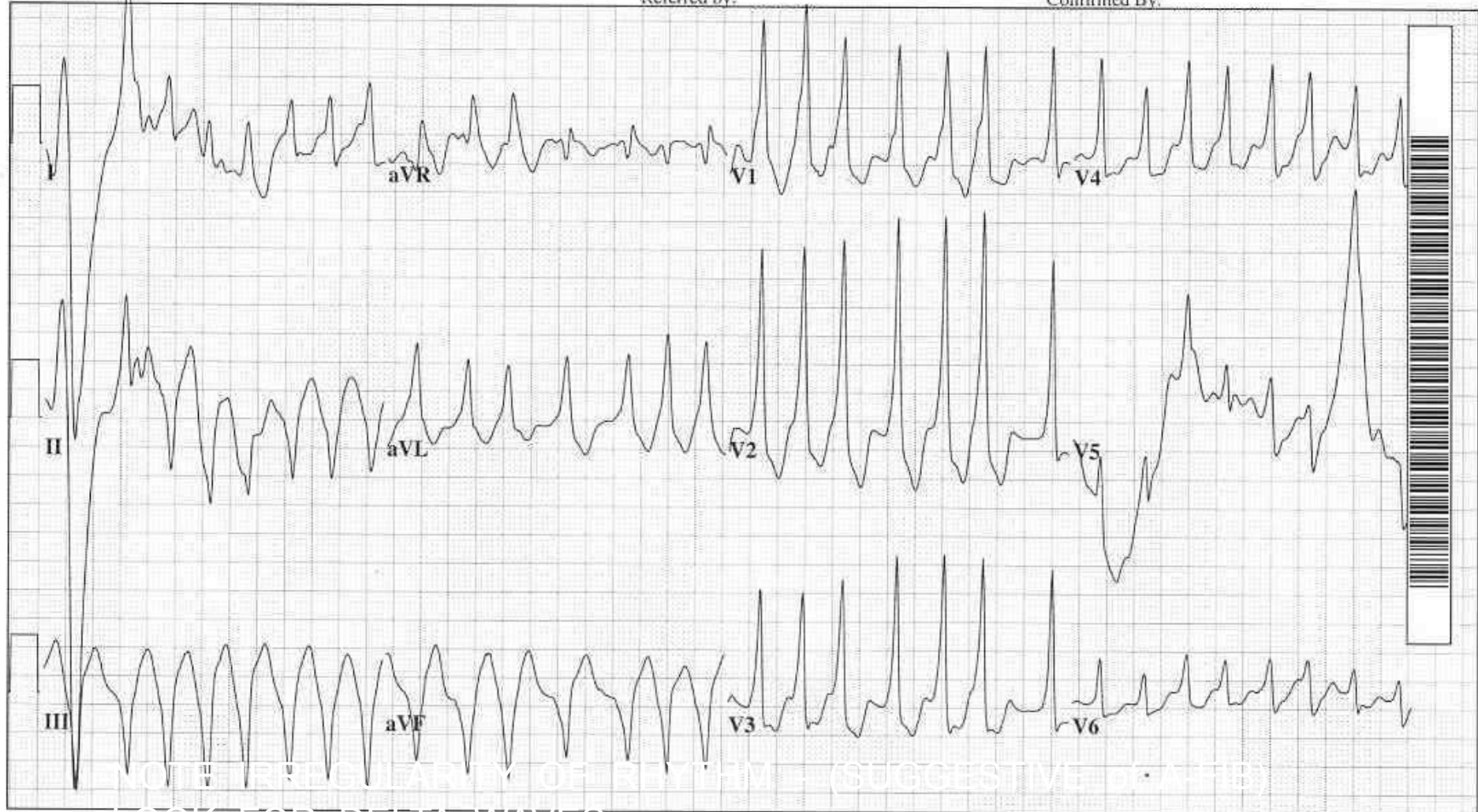
Vent. rate 180 BPM
PR interval * ms
QRS duration 148 ms
QT/QTc 284/491 ms
P-R-T axes + -77 103

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

Med: Unknown

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



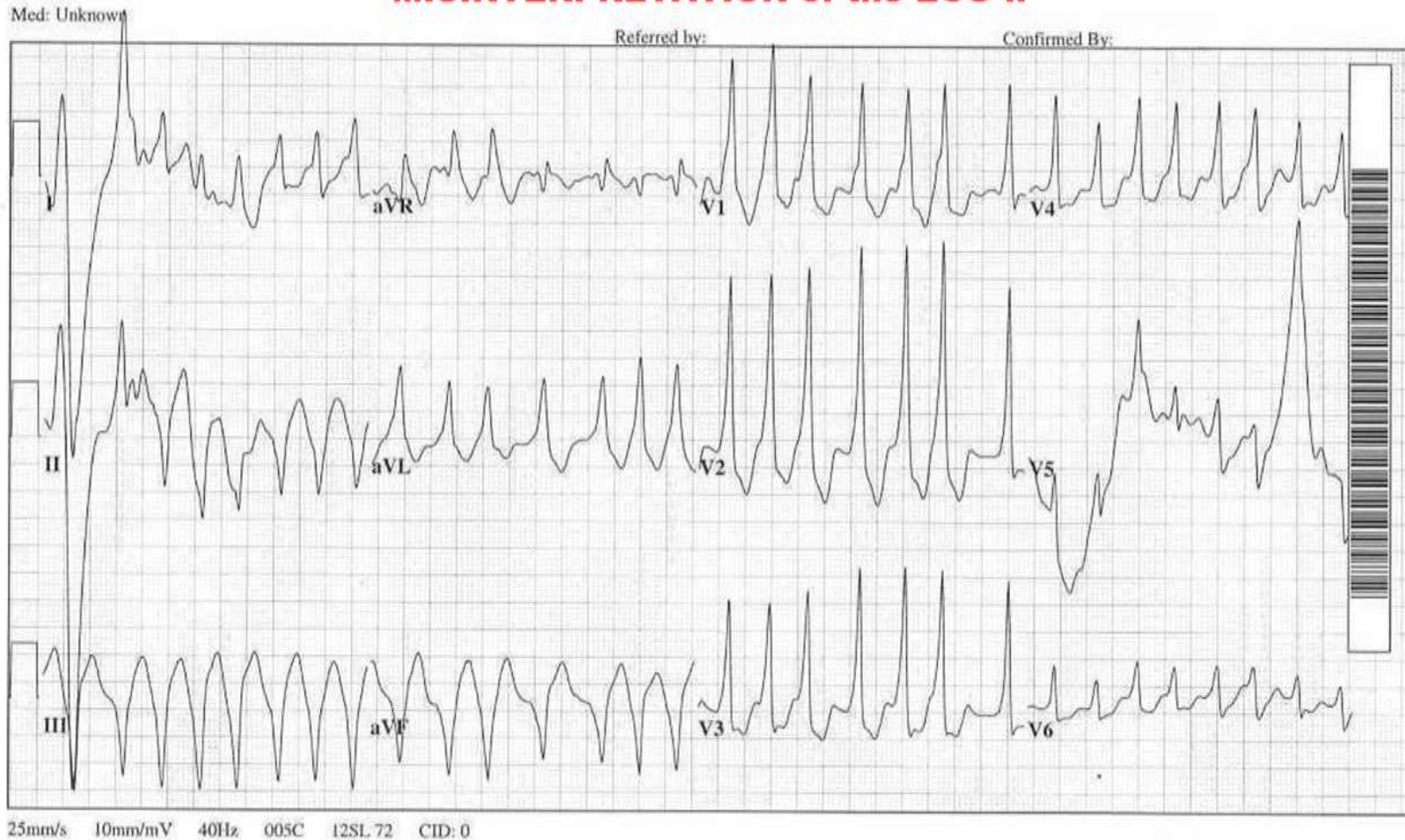
NOT IRREGULARITY OF RHYTHM - (SUGGESTIVE OF AFIB)

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 !**

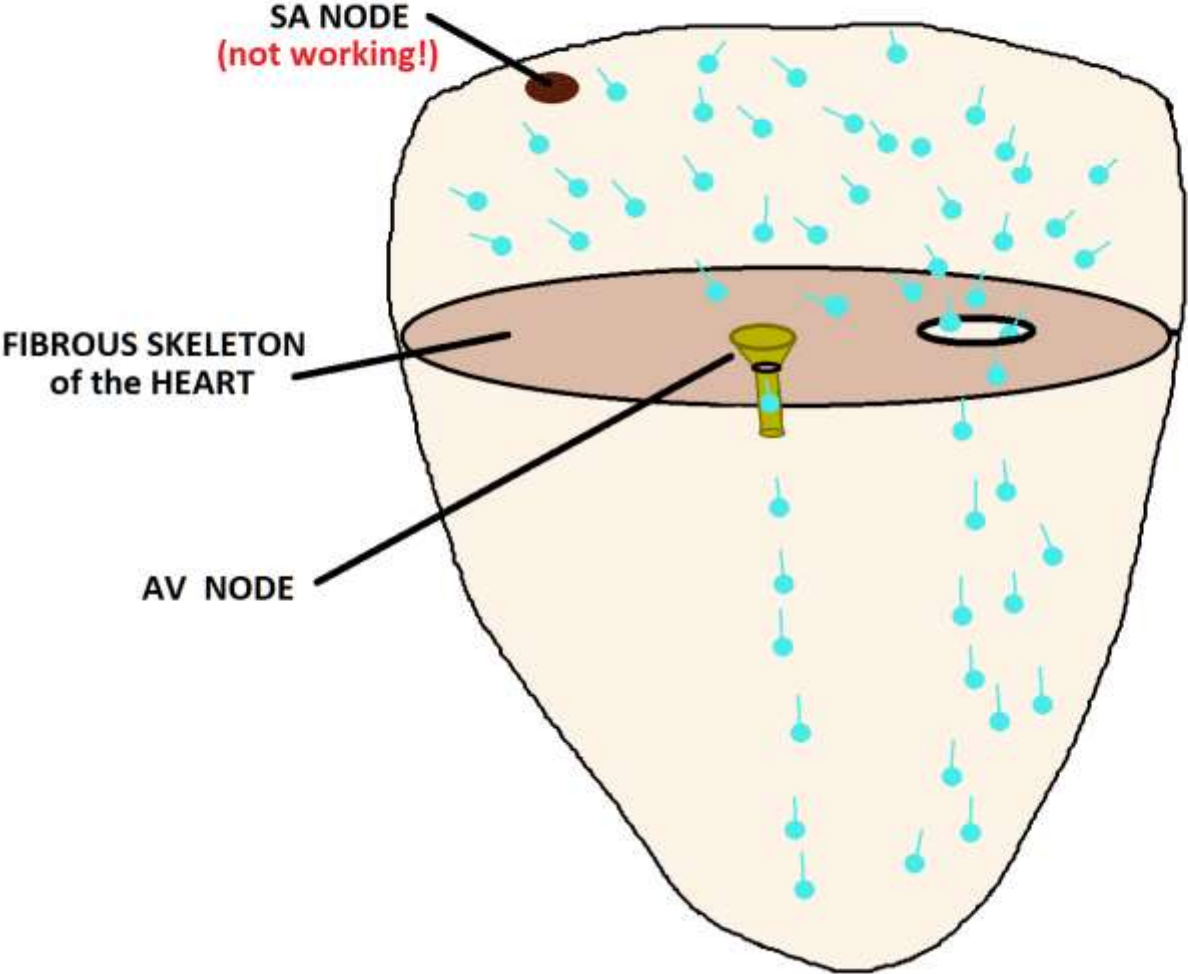


Wolff-Parkinson-White + A-fib

Wolff-Parkinson-White + A-fib = *DISASTER*

***NO AV NODAL BLOCKERS
(e.g. ADENOSINE, CALCIUM
CHANNEL BLOCKERS)
FOR WIDE COMPLEX
TACHYCARDIAS THAT COULD
BE ATRIAL FIBRILLATION with
Pre-Excitation (W-P-W)***

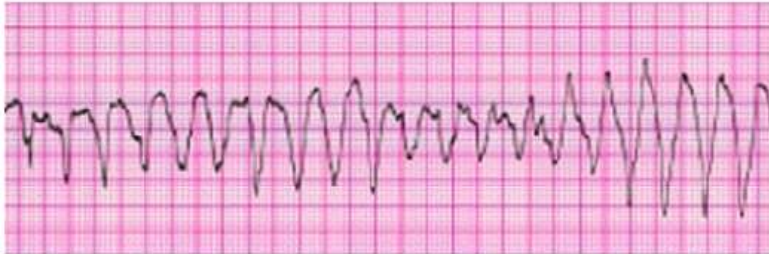
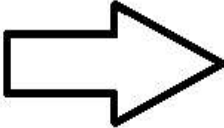
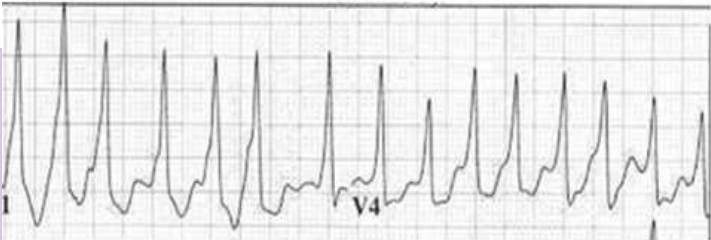
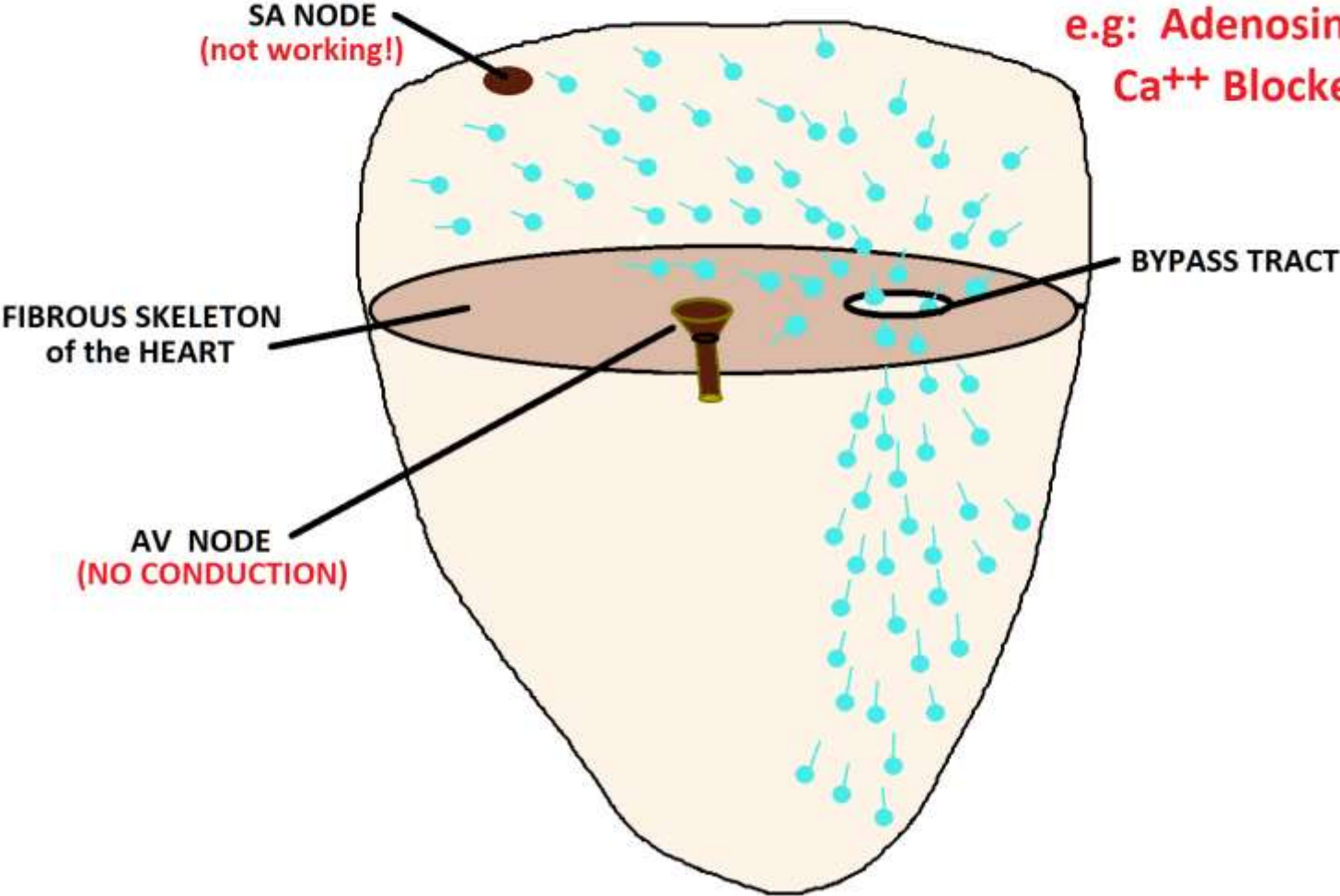
Atrial Fibrillation with Wolff-Parkinson White



Atrial Fibrillation with Wolff-Parkinson White

with AV NODAL BLOCKING AGENTS

e.g: Adenosine,
Ca⁺⁺ Blockers



WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA

(QRS > 120 ms)

MONOPHASIC

ABCs

NO PULSE

GO TO
V-FIB
ALGORITHM!

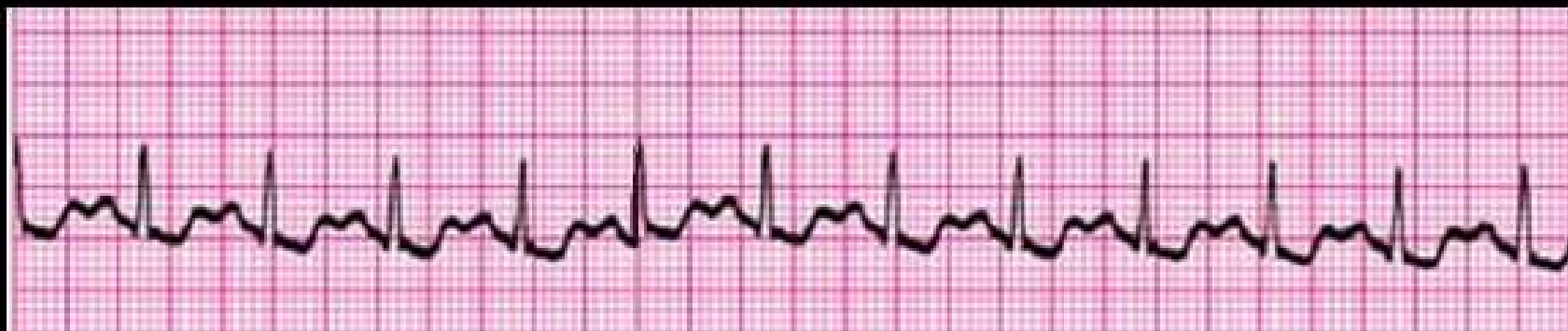
PULSE - UNSTABLE

- 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)~~
 - PROCAINAMIDE (20-50mg/min)
 - ~~AMIODARONE~~
 - ILBUTILIDE

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

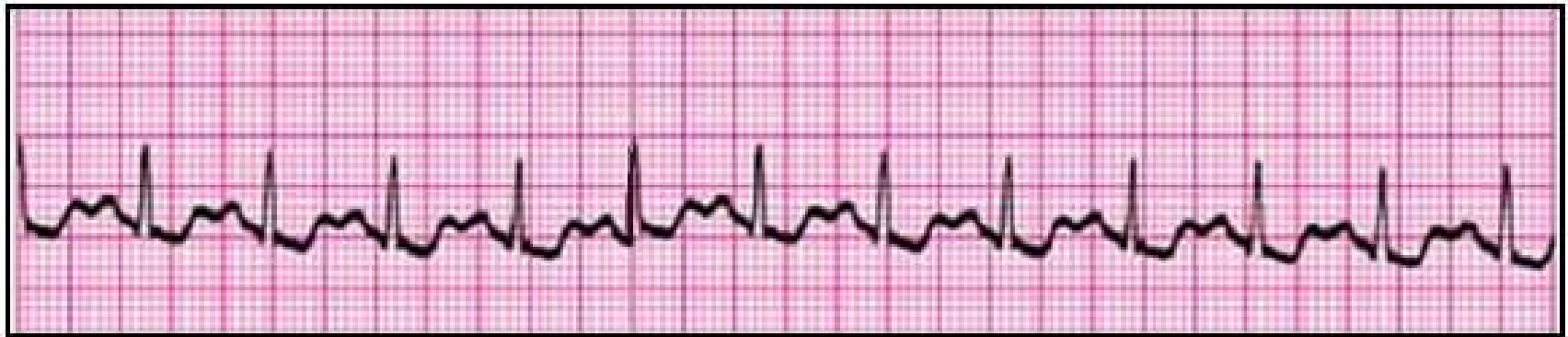
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS TACHYCARDIA



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **SINUS RHYTHM, RATE HIGHER THAN 100. (ACLS guidelines: heart rate 100 - 150)**

RATE ----- **100 - 150 (can be > 150)**

RHYTHM ----- **REGULAR**

P-R INTERVAL ---- **NORMAL (120 - 200 ms)**

P:QRS RATIO ----- **1:1**

QRS INTERVAL ---- **NORMAL (< 120 ms), (unless Bundle Branch Block present)**

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS TACHYCARDIA

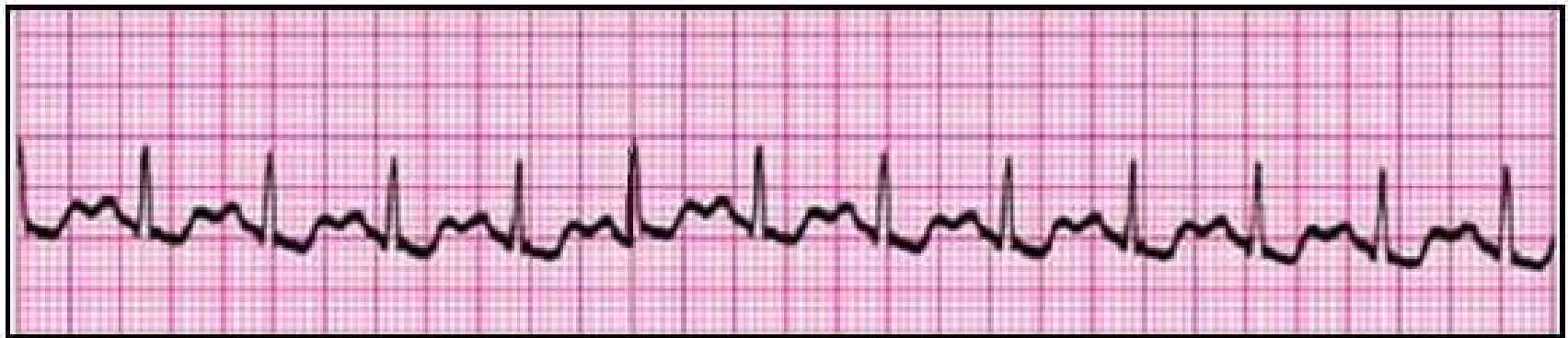


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **SINUS RHYTHM, RATE HIGHER THAN 100. (ACLS guidelines: heart rate 100 - 150)**

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS :

- Usually none, unless pt. has severe underlying disease, such as a LOW EF (<40 %).
- IN MOST CASES, the patient's UNDERLYING PROBLEM is the key issue

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS TACHYCARDIA



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **SINUS RHYTHM, RATE HIGHER THAN 100. (ACLS guidelines: heart rate 100 - 150)**

TREATMENT / INTERVENTIONS :



IN MOST CASES, YOU TREAT THE UNDERLYING CAUSE!

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

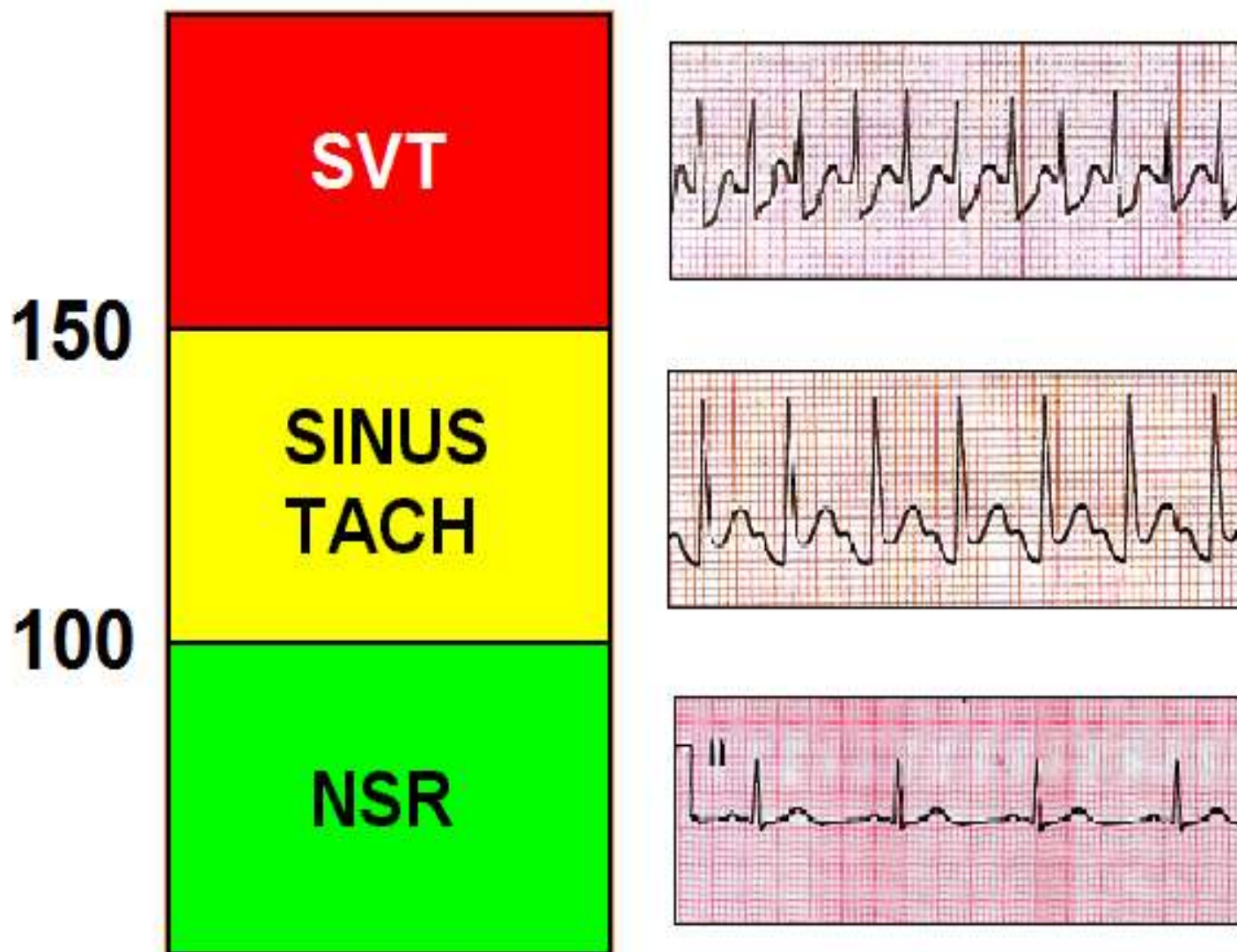
FLUIDS

STOP BLEEDING

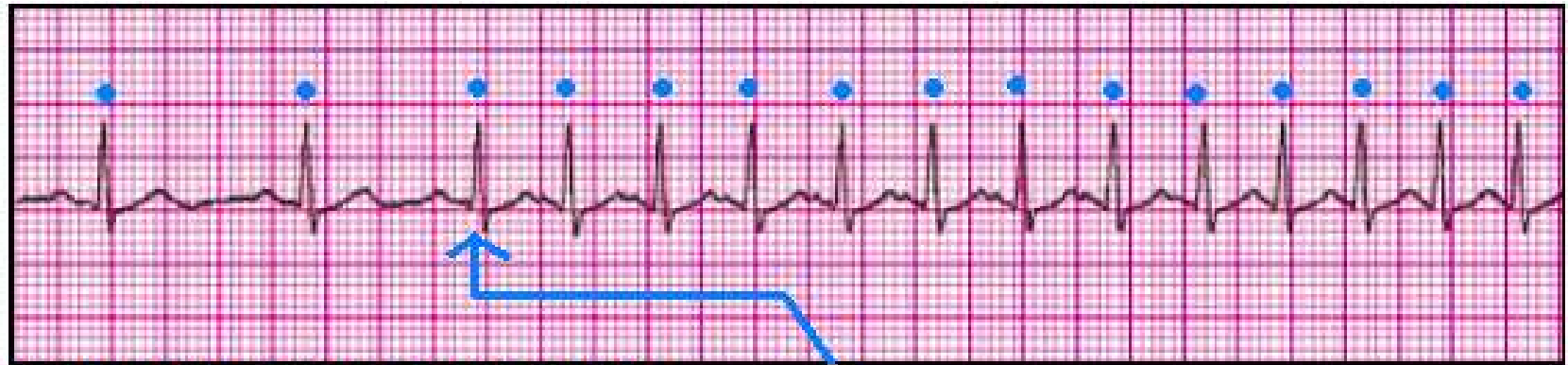
CONSIDER MEDICAL Tx

IDENTIFY & Tx DISORDER

ACLS TACHYCARDIA GUIDELINES



RHYTHM CLUES



SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA

SVT is usually PAROXYSMAL -- ie: has a SUDDEN ONSET.

SINUS TACHYCARDIA usually has a "ramp - up " and "ramp - down " period -- a gradual change in HEART RATE.

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

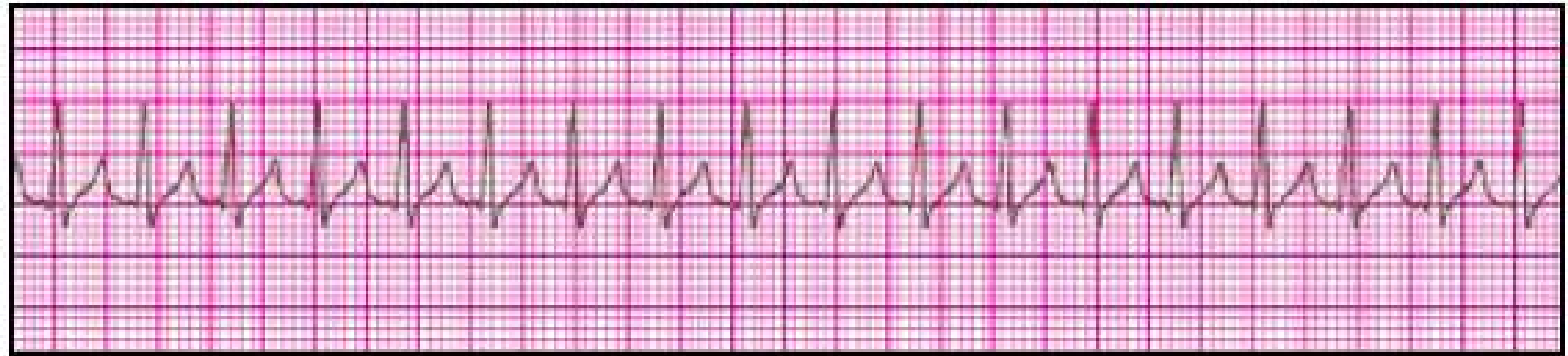
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

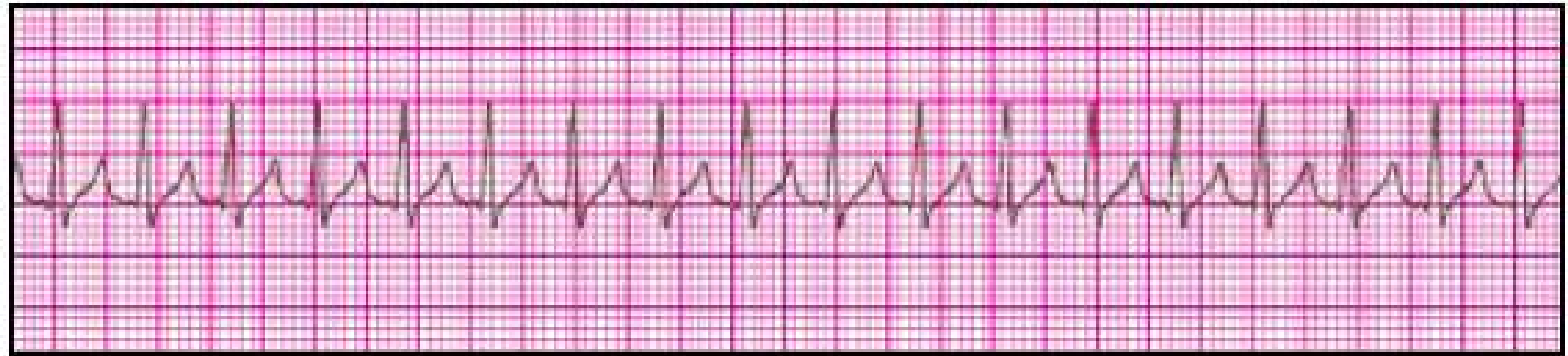
THIS RHYTHM IS: SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT)



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): HEART RATE TOO FAST, USUALLY > 150. P WAVES MAY BE "BURIED" IN THE PRECEDING T WAVES. Pt USUALLY C/O "SUDDEN ONSET of HEART RACING," or "PALPITATIONS."

RATE -----	TACHYCARDIC (usually > 150)
RHYTHM -----	REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL -----	NORMAL or ABNORMAL. MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE DUE TO P WAVE BURIED IN T WAVES
P:QRS RATIO -----	1:1
QRS INTERVAL -----	NORMAL

THIS RHYTHM IS: SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT)

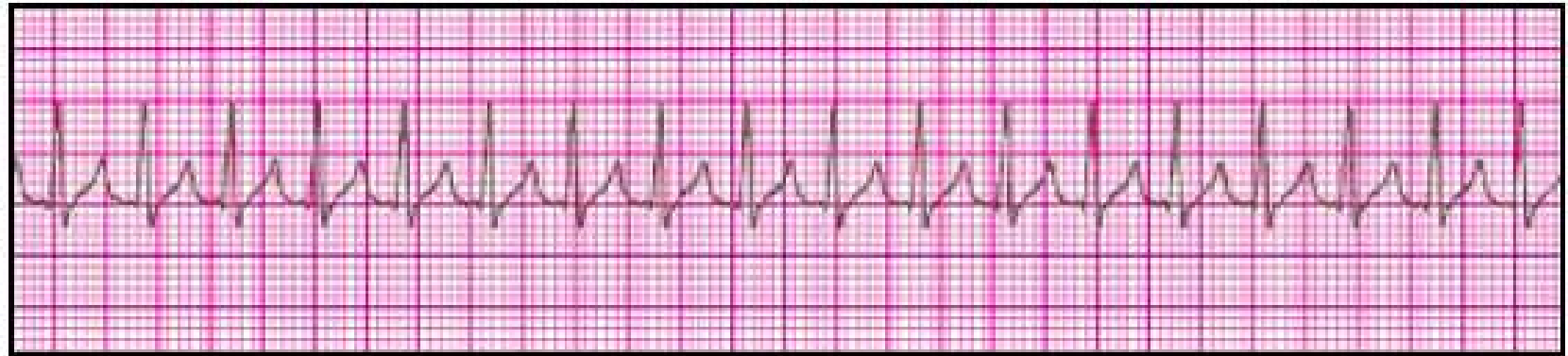


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): HEART RATE TOO FAST, USUALLY > 150. P WAVES MAY BE "BURIED" IN THE PRECEDING T WAVES. Pt USUALLY C/O "SUDDEN ONSET of HEART RACING," or "PALPITATIONS."

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- HEART MAY BE BEATING TOO FAST TO ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME FOR VENTRICULAR FILLING, RESULTING IN ↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT AND POSSIBLE HYPOTENSION AND SHOCK.
- MYOCARDIAL ISCHEMIA (and therefore CHEST PAIN) IN PATIENTS WITH SIGNIFICANT UNDERLYING HEART DISEASE.

THIS RHYTHM IS: SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT)



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): HEART RATE TOO FAST, USUALLY > 150. P WAVES MAY BE "BURIED" IN THE PRECEDING T WAVES. Pt USUALLY C/O "SUDDEN ONSET of HEART RACING," or "PALPITATIONS."

TREATMENT / INTERVENTIONS:



BASED ON WHETHER PATIENT IS

STABLE or UNSTABLE . . .

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

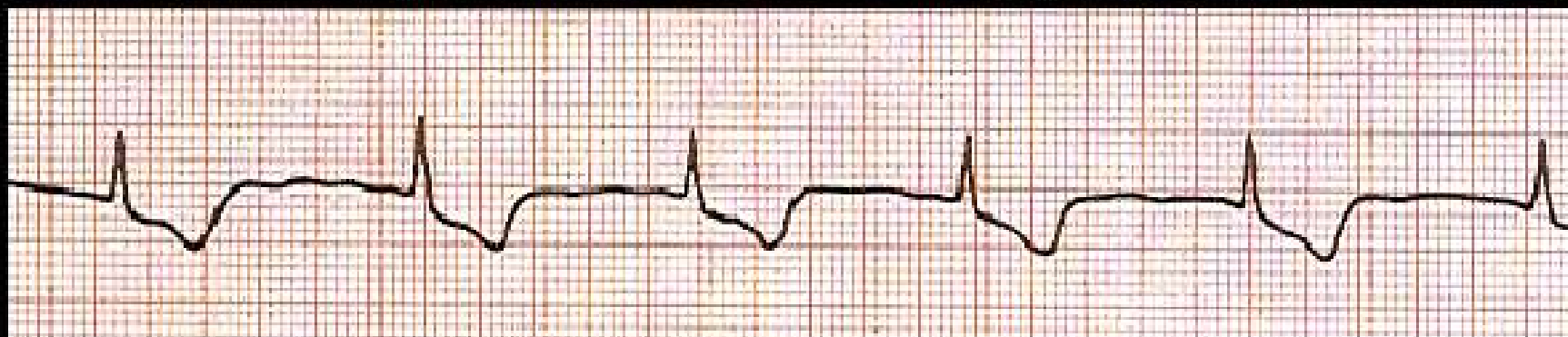
- VAGAL MANEUVERS
- ADENOSINE 6 mg / 12 mg

IRREGULAR RHYTHM

POSSIBLE ATRIAL FIB or
MULTIFOCAL ATRIAL TACH

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

THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

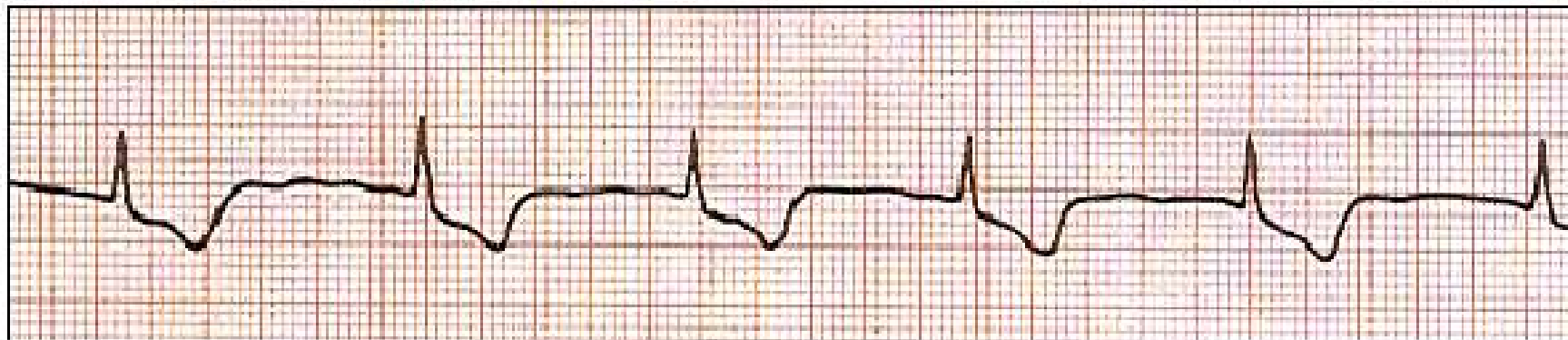
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ABSENT, or LOCATED JUST AFTER QRS (in S-Tseg) or JUST BEFORE QRS (short P-R). WHEN P wave

seen, it is INVERTED (upside-down).

- HR USUALLY 40 -60

RATE ----- 40 -60

RHYTHM ----- REGULAR

P-R INTERVAL ---- ABSENT or SHORT

P:QRS RATIO ----- 1:1

QRS INTERVAL ---- NORMAL

THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **P WAVES ABSENT**, or **LOCATED JUST AFTER QRS (in S-Tseg)** or **JUST BEFORE QRS (short P-R)**. WHEN P wave seen, it is **INVERTED (upside-down)**.
- HR USUALLY 40 -60



THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ABSENT, or LOCATED JUST AFTER QRS (in S-Tseg) or JUST BEFORE QRS (short P-R). WHEN P wave seen, it is INVERTED (upside-down).
- HR USUALLY 40 -60

POTENTIAL PROBLEM(S):

- HR can be TOO FAST or TOO SLOW !! (↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT)
- COULD BE INDICATOR OF MORE SERIOUS UNDERLYING CONDITIONS:
 - M.I.
 - ELECTRICAL SYSTEM DISTURBANCES

THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ABSENT, or LOCATED JUST AFTER QRS (in S-Tseg) or JUST BEFORE QRS (short P-R). WHEN P wave seen, it is INVERTED (upside-down).
- HR USUALLY 40 -60

TREATMENT / INTERVENTION:

- CORRECT HEART RATE, if pt. symptomatic and HR too SLOW or FAST. (atropine, pacemaker - cardioversion, etc)
- FURTHER DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES to determine *why SINUS NODE not working !!!*

THIS RHYTHM IS: JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM



HEART RATE TOO **FAST**

**WE MUST CONSIDER
UNDERLYING CAUSES:**

- AV NODAL RE-ENTRANT TACHYCARDIA (AVNRT) (Pt. has DUAL AV NODES)
- WPW ORTHODROMIC TACHYCARDIA

AND TREAT THEM:

- "CHEMICAL" CARADIOVERSION
- SYNCHRONIZED CARADIOVERSION
- ABLATION of "SLOW PATHWAY" (AVNRT) or ACCESSORY BYPASS TRACT (WPW) in EP LAB

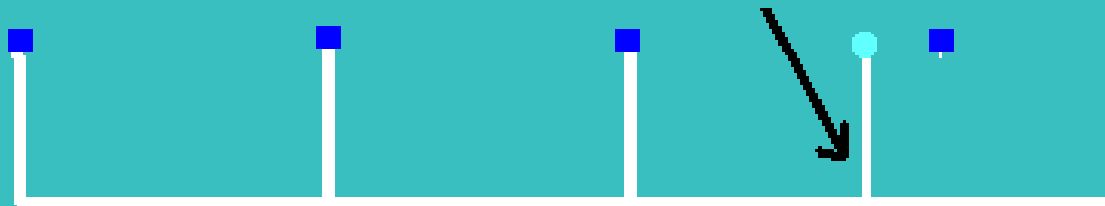
ECTOPY

- ATRIAL
- JUNCTIONAL
- VENTRICULAR

CLASSIFICATIONS OF ECTOPY

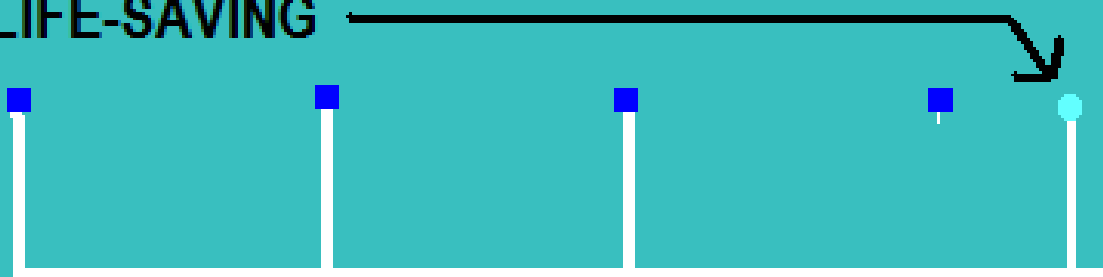
1. PREMATURE

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

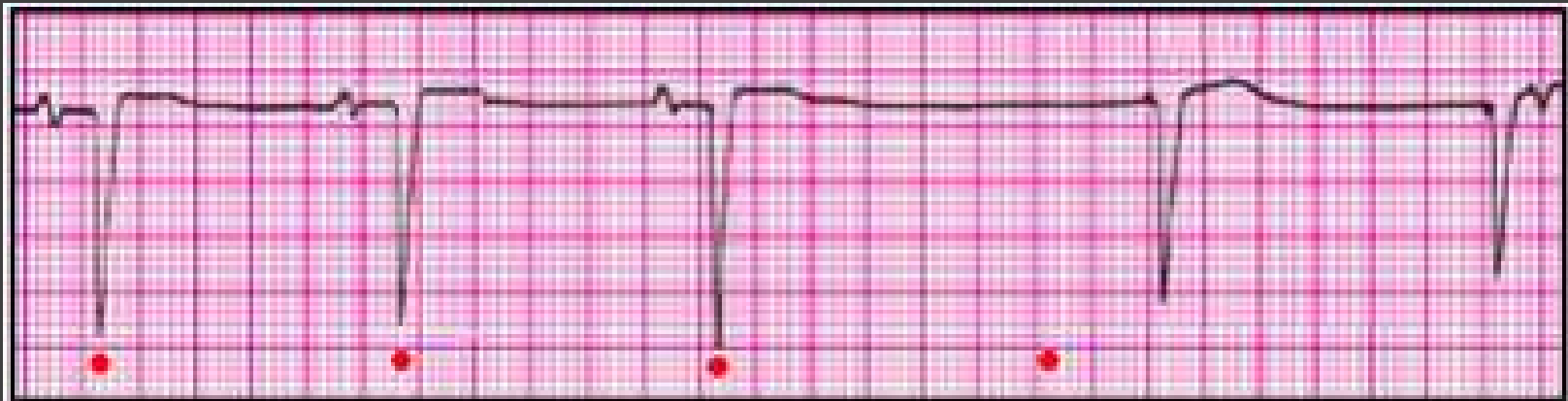


ELIMINATION OF END-DIASTOLIC BEATS COULD BE DEADLY

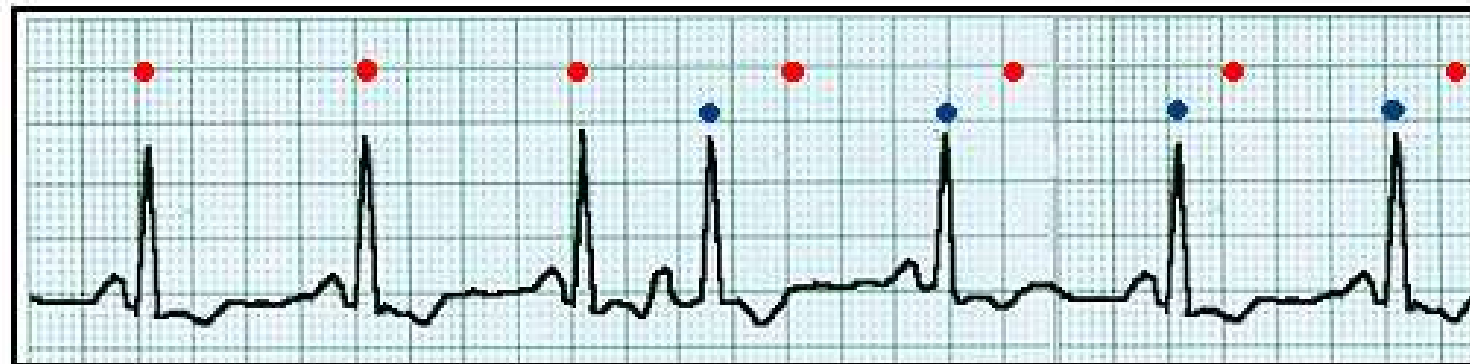
Premature



End Diastolic (escape)



THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR with PAC



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **PREMATURE COMPLEX,**
NORMAL QRS; P-WAVE DIFFERENT THAN OTHERS; P-R INTERVAL
FREQUENTLY LONGER or SHORTER THAN NORMAL; NO COMPENSATORY PAUSE

RATE ----- **NORMAL**
RHYTHM ----- **IRREGULAR**
P-R INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL (except PAC may be LONGER or SHORTER)**
P:QRS RATIO ----- **1:1**
QRS INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL (unless BBB present)**

THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR with JUNCTIONAL ESCAPE BEAT



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): BEAT OCCURS LATER THAN NEXT EXPECTED BEAT; QRS IS NORMAL; P WAVE ABSENT or JUST IN FRONT OF or JUST AFTER QRS and is USUALLY INVERTED.

RATE ----- NORMAL

RHYTHM ----- IRREGULAR (because of ESCAPE BEAT)

P-R INTERVAL ---- NORMAL for NSR/ ABSENT or SHORT for ESCAPE BEAT

P:QRS RATIO ----- 1:1 for NSR / 0:1 or 1:1 for ESCAPE BEAT

QRS INTERVAL ---- NORMAL (unless BBB present)

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

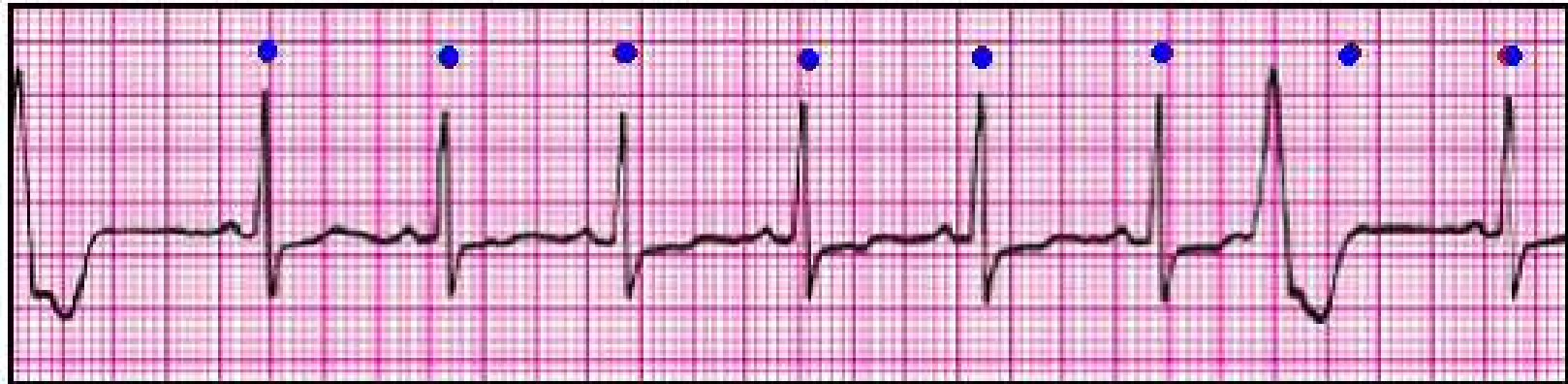
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

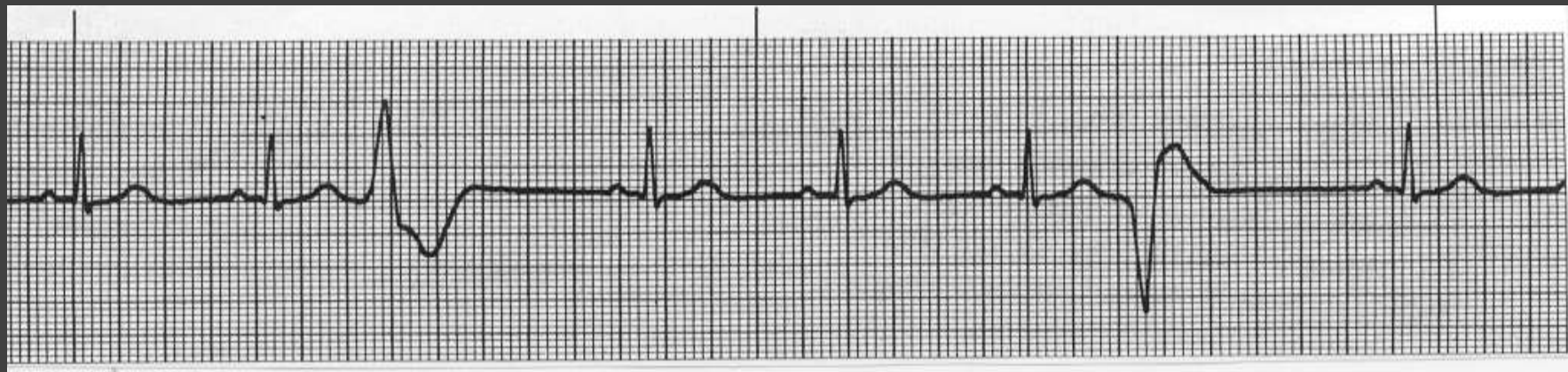
QRS INTERVAL -----

THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR with UNIFOCAL PVCs

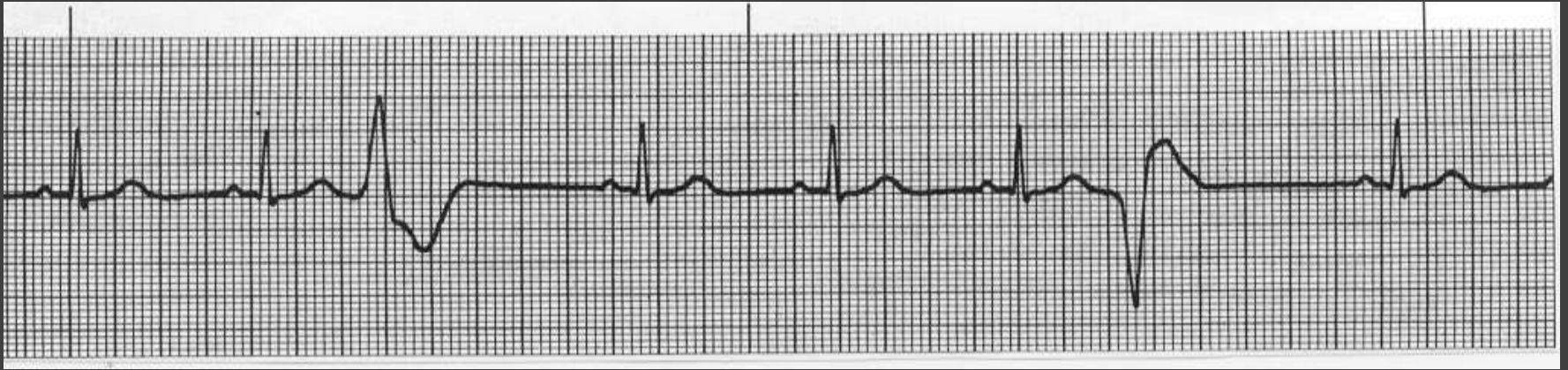


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): ECTOPIC BEATS ARE PREMATURE, AND WIDE (> 120 ms); COMPLEXES MAY BE OF ANY SHAPE or DEFLECTION, BUT ALL HAVE SAME APPEARANCE; THERE IS A COMPENSATORY PAUSE

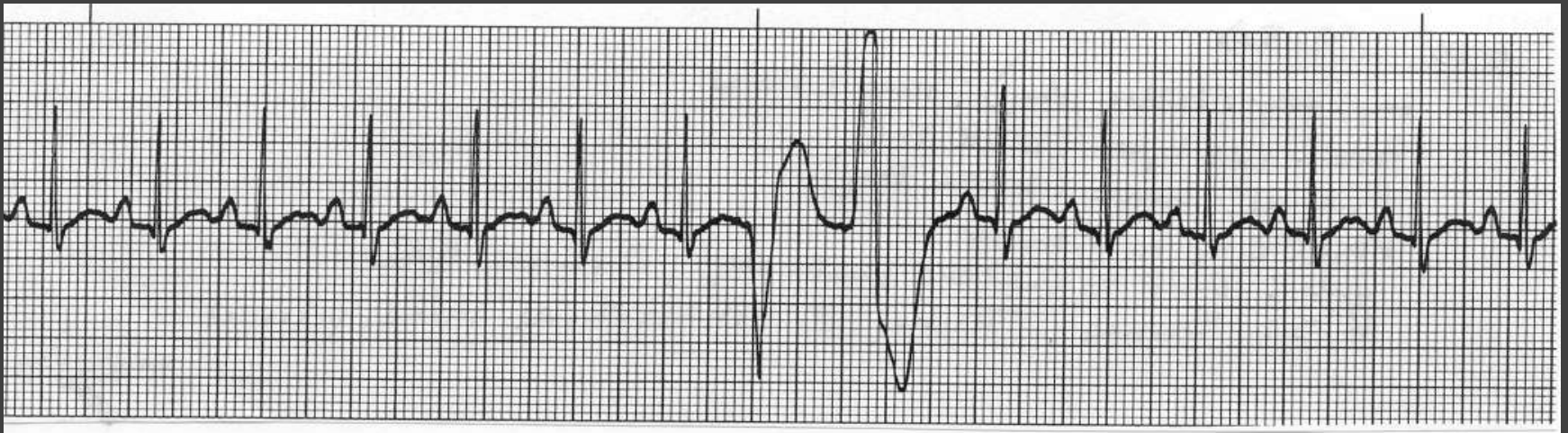
RATE	-----	NORMAL
RHYTHM	-----	IRREGULAR (due to PVCs)
P-R INTERVAL	-----	NSR BEATS - NORMAL (120 - 200 ms) PVCs - N/A
P:QRS RATIO	-----	NSR BEATS - 1:1 PVCs - N/A
QRS INTERVAL	-----	NSR BEATS < 120 ms PVCs > 120 ms



Multifocal PVCs



Multifocal Couplet PVCs



-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 2 or MORE TOGETHER, R on T, greater than 6 per minute,**

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE _____

RHYTHM _____

P-R INTERVAL _____

P:QRS RATIO _____

QRS INTERVAL _____

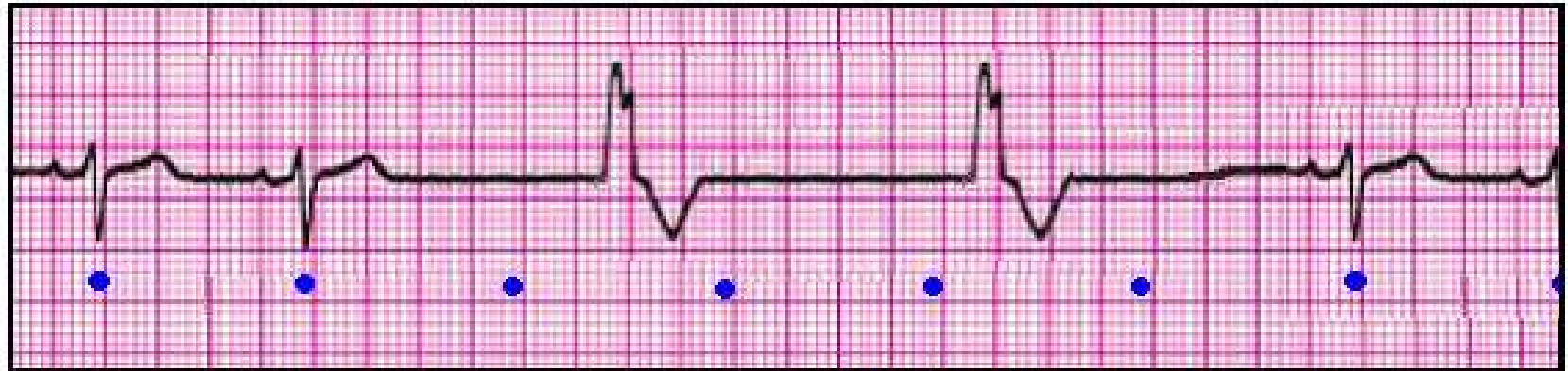
THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS ARREST w/ VENT. ESCAPE



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): END DIASTOLIC (ESCAPE) BEAT(S); COMPLEXES WIDER THAN 120 ms ; MAY BE UNIFOCAL or MULTIFOCAL ; MAY or MAY NOT HAVE GOOD PULSE w/ COMPLEXES

RATE -----	USUALLY < 40
RHYTHM -----	VENT. ESCAPE: USUALLY REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL ----	VENT. ESCAPE: N/A
P: QRS RATIO -----	VENT. ESCAPE: N/A
QRS INTERVAL ----	VENT. ESCAPE: > 20 ms

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS ARREST w/ VENT. ESCAPE

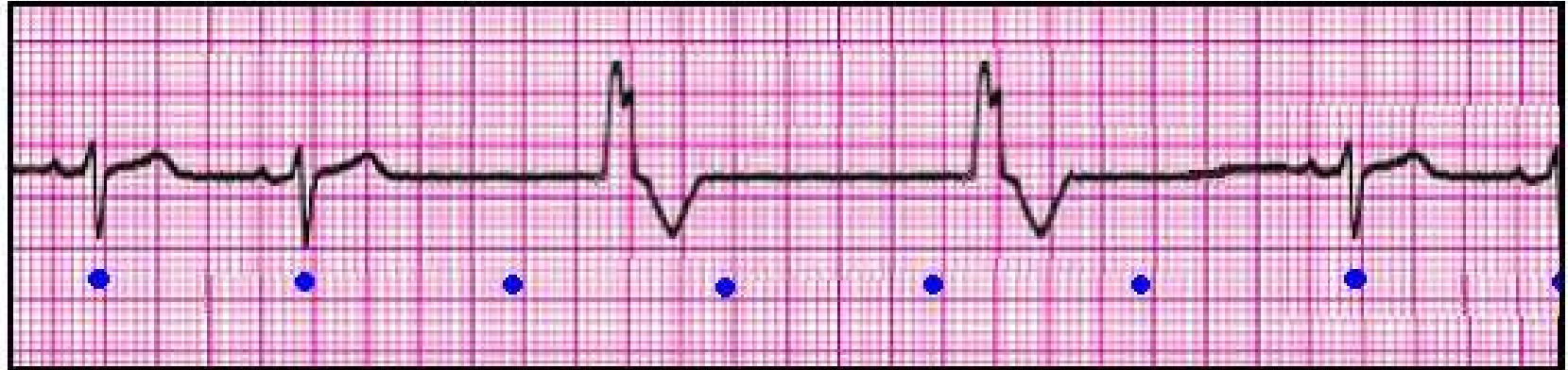


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): END DIASTOLIC (ESCAPE) BEAT(S); COMPLEXES WIDER THAN 120 ms ; MAY BE UNIFOCAL or MULTIFOCAL ; MAY or MAY NOT HAVE GOOD PULSE w/ COMPLEXES

PRESENTING PROBLEM(S):

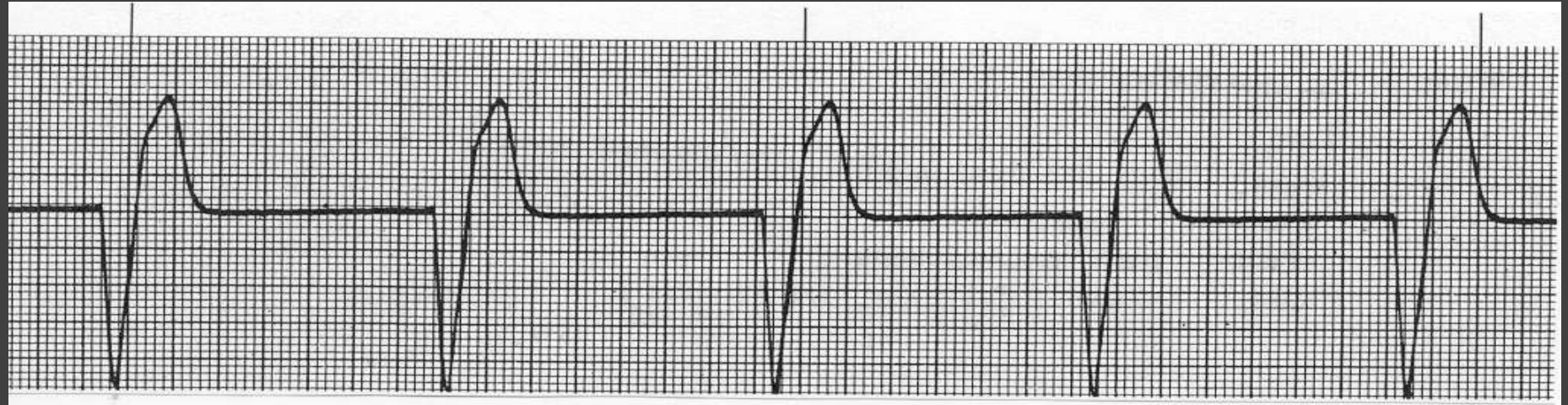
- PROBLEM IS WITH UNDERLYING REASON WHY SINUS NODE and AV NODE HAVING PERIODS OF ARREST.
- THE VENTRICULAR ESCAPE COMPLEXES MAY BE VERY SLOW, BUT MAY BE ONLY THING KEEPING PATIENT PERFUSED DURING PERIODS OF SINUS / AV ARREST.

THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS ARREST w/ VENT. ESCAPE

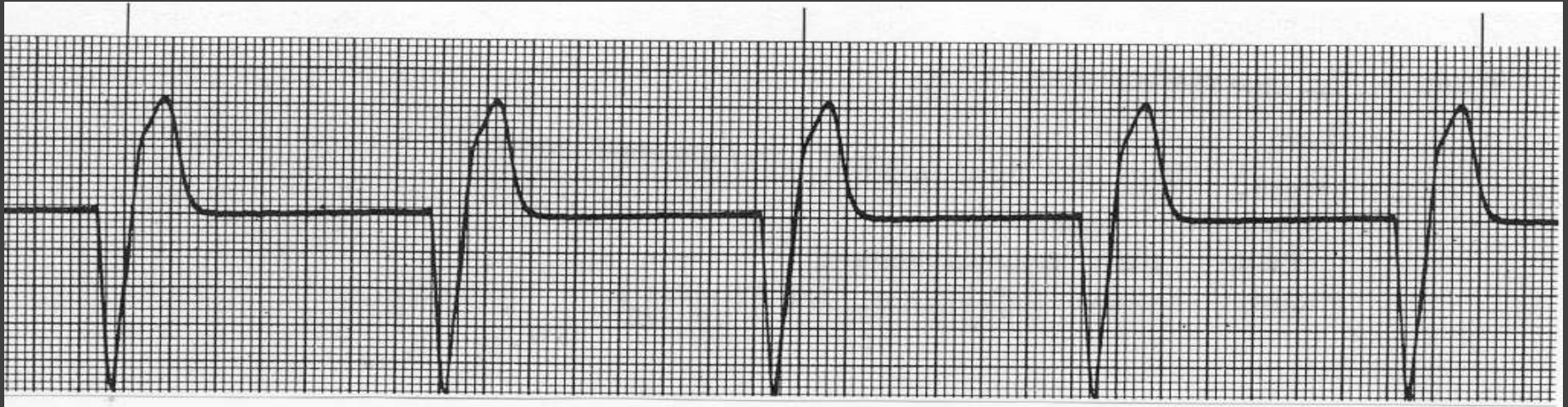


TREATMENT / INTERVENTION (S):

- 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 !!!



Accelerated Idioventricular Rhythm (AIVR)



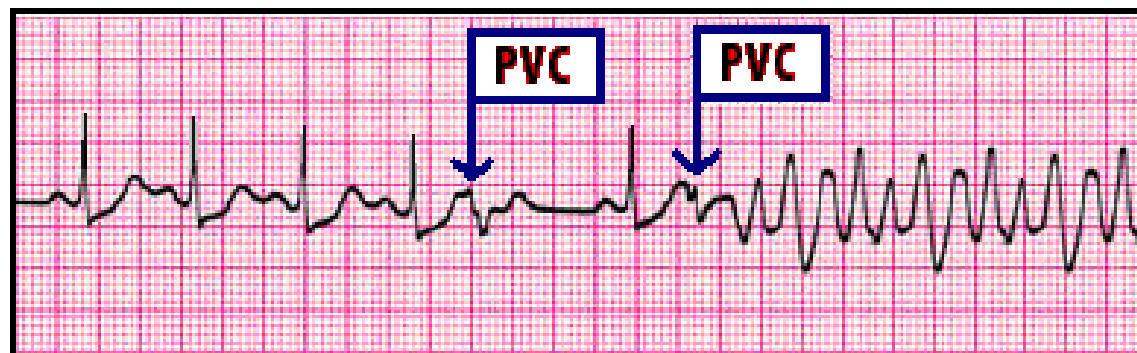
No P waves

Wide QRS Complexes

Rate usually “Ventricular” - 40 or less

This may be the only RHYTHM keeping the Patient alive.

THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR with R on T PHENOMENON

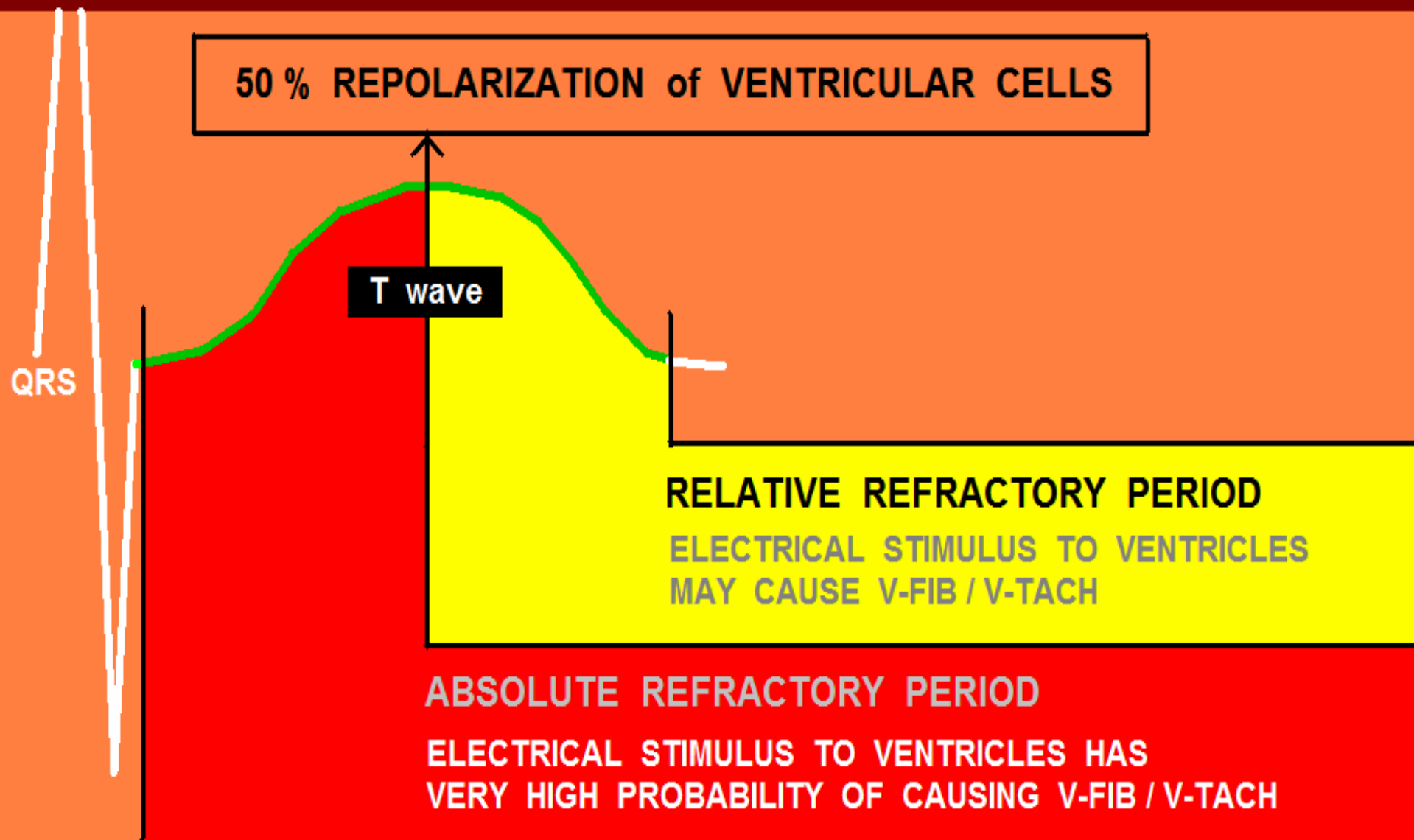


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): ECTOPIC BEATS ARE WIDE (> 120 ms); ALL APPEAR TO HAVE SAME SHAPE and DEFLECTION; THERE IS A COMPENSATORY PAUSE

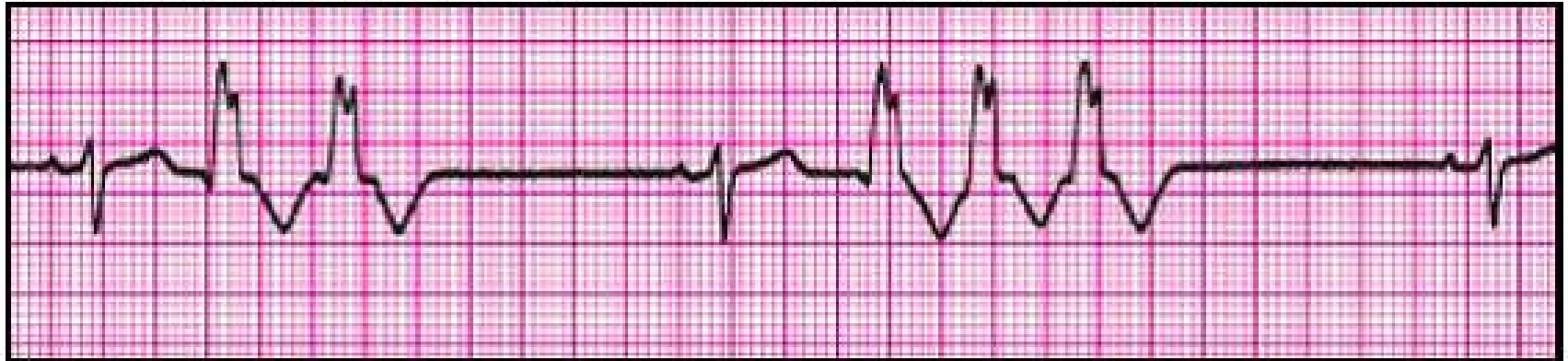
POTENTIAL PROBLEMS (S):

- THE UNDERLYING REASON PVCs ARE PRESENT COULD BE A CRITICAL ISSUE . . .
- PVCs MAY HAVE A WEAKER PULSE, or NO PULSE
- PVCs DURING REFRACTORY PERIOD COULD CAUSE V-FIB
- PVCs COUPLED TOGETHER COULD PRECIPITATE V-TACH

CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"



THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR w/ COUPLET and RUN of V-TACH

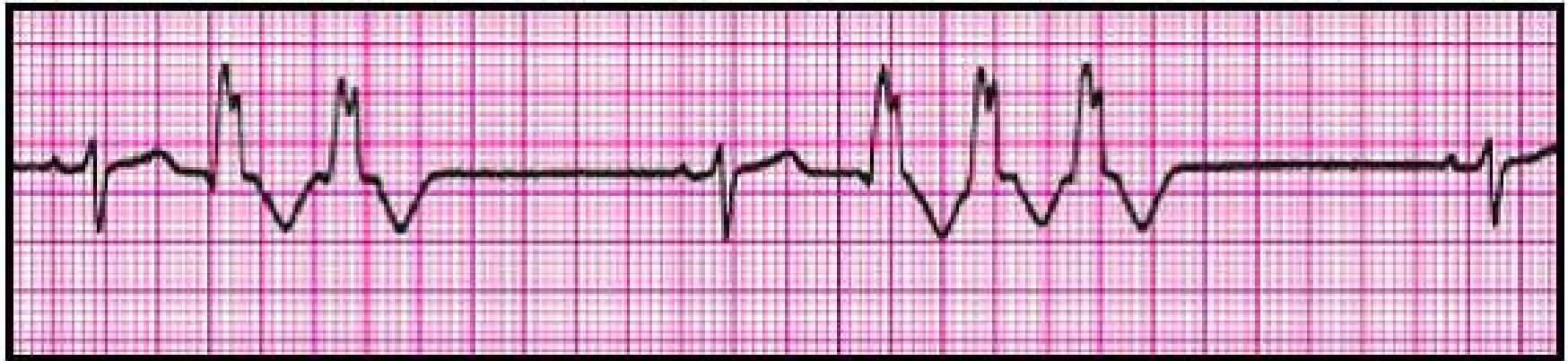


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): ECTOPIC BEATS ARE WIDE (> 120 ms); PVCs ARE COUPLED TOGETHER (2 = "COUPLET"), (3 or more = RUN OF V-TACH)

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS (S):

- THE UNDERLYING REASON PVCs ARE PRESENT COULD BE A CRITICAL ISSUE . . .
- PVCs MAY HAVE A WEAKER PULSE, or NO PULSE
- PVCs DURING REFRACTORY PERIOD COULD CAUSE V-FIB
- PVCs COUPLED TOGETHER COULD PRECIPITATE V-TACH

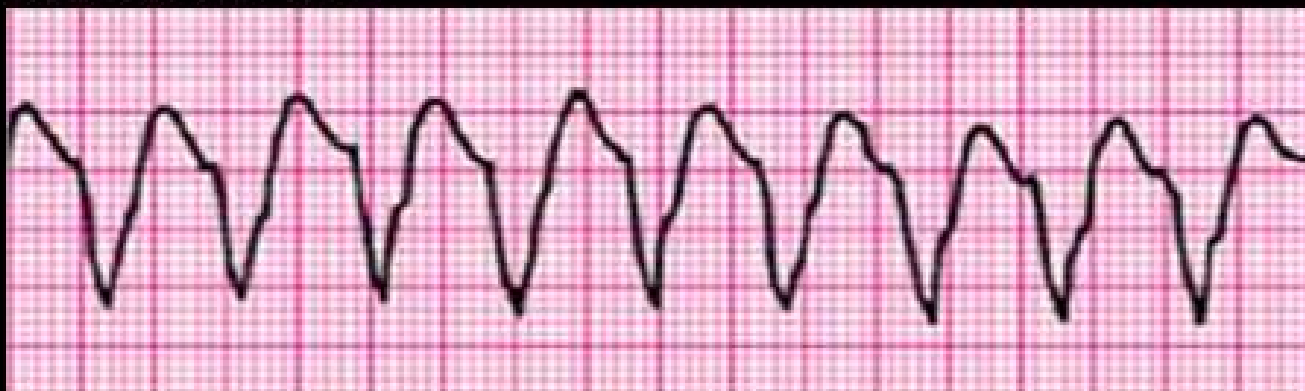
THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR w/ COUPLET and **RUN OF V-TACH**



TEXTBOOK STANDARDS:

- **3 or more PVCs IN A ROW = RUN OF VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA**
- **DEFINITION OF "SUSTAINED V-TACH" VARIES FROM "3 or more BEATS IN A ROW" to "MORE THAN 30 SECONDS OF V-TACH."**
(*"Electrophysiologic Testing,"* by: Richard N. Fogoros, MD, p. 179)
- **ACLS 2006 Standards DO NOT define WHEN you treat VENTRICULAR ECTOPY, or attempt to define when "RUNS OF PVCs" are to be considered as "VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA ."**

THIS RHYTHM IS:



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

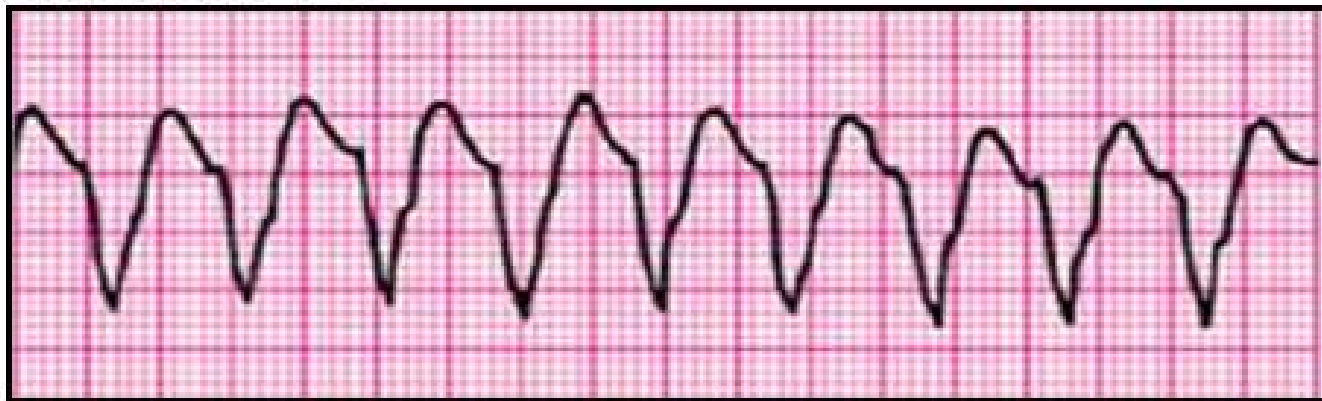
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

THIS RHYTHM IS: MONOMORPHIC V-TACH



**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): WIDE QRS COMPLEXES (> 120 ms)
HR USUALLY BETWEEN 150 - 200 ; ALL QRS COMPLEXES APPEAR SAME IN
SHAPE and DEFLECTION ; IF P WAVES SEEN, DISASSOCIATED w/ QRS**

RATE -----	> 100 (usually 150 - 200)
RHYTHM -----	REGULAR
P-R INTERVAL ----	N / A
P: QRS RATIO -----	N / A
QRS INTERVAL ----	> 120 ms

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 2 or MORE TOGETHER, R on T, greater than 6 per minute,**
- 7. V-TACH, or WIDE QRS TACHYCARDIA of unknown origin**

WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA

(QRS > 120 ms)

MONOPHASIC

ABC s

NO PULSE

GO TO
V - FIB
ALGORITHM !

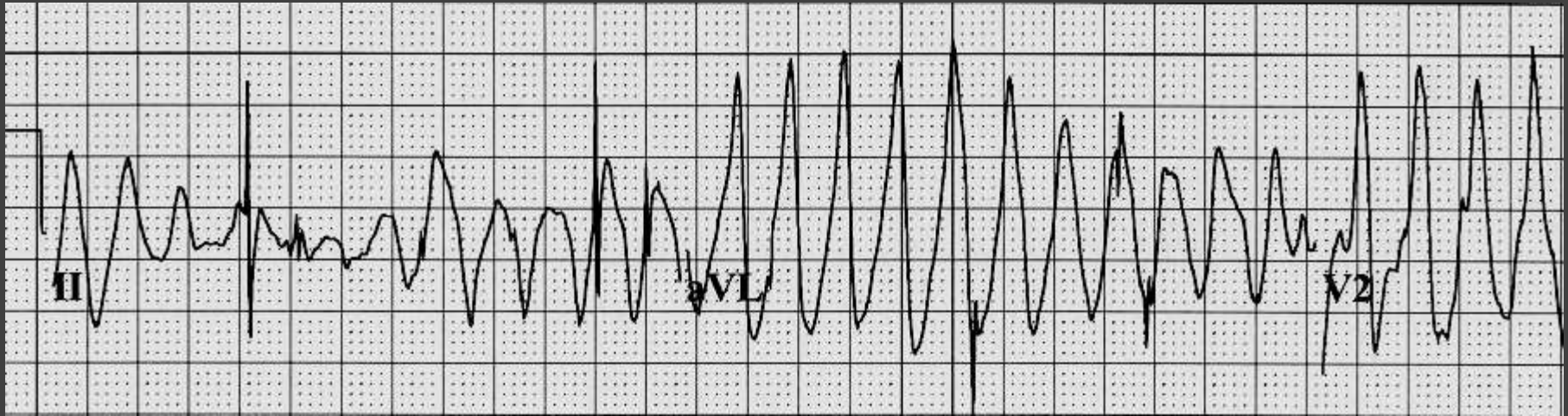
PULSE - UNSTABLE

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

PULSE - STABLE

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

This RHYTHM is ??



THIS RHYTHM IS: POLYMORPHIC V-TACH



MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **WIDE QRS COMPLEXES,**
MULTIPLE SHAPES AND FORMS, POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE DEFLECTIONS,
APPEARS TO ROTATE BETWEEN NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE (TWISTING OF POINTS)

RATE -----	200 - 300
RHYTHM -----	VARIES
P-R INTERVAL -----	N/A
P: QRS RATIO -----	N/A
QRS INTERVAL -----	VARIES

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

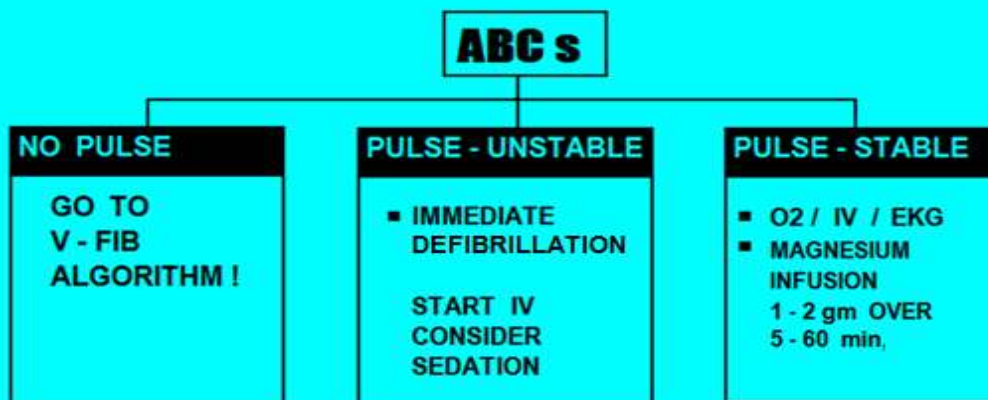
-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 2 or MORE TOGETHER, R on T, greater than 6 per minute,**
- 7. V-TACH, or WIDE QRS TACHYCARDIA of unknown origin**
- 8. TORSADES de POINTES**

WIDE COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA TORSADES de POINTES

(QRS > 120 ms)



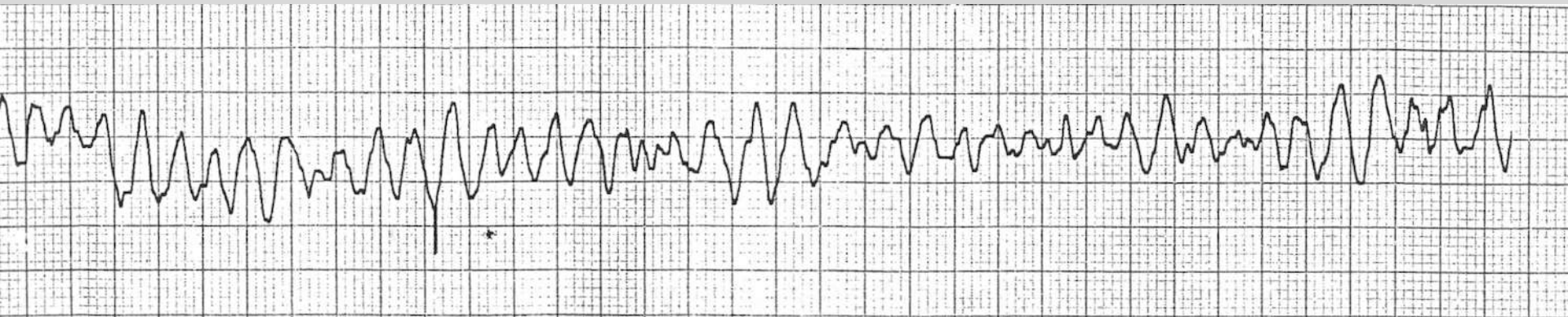
DO NOT give PROCAINAMIDE, AMIODARONE, or SOTALOL to patients with TORSADES or POLYMORPHIC VT !!!

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

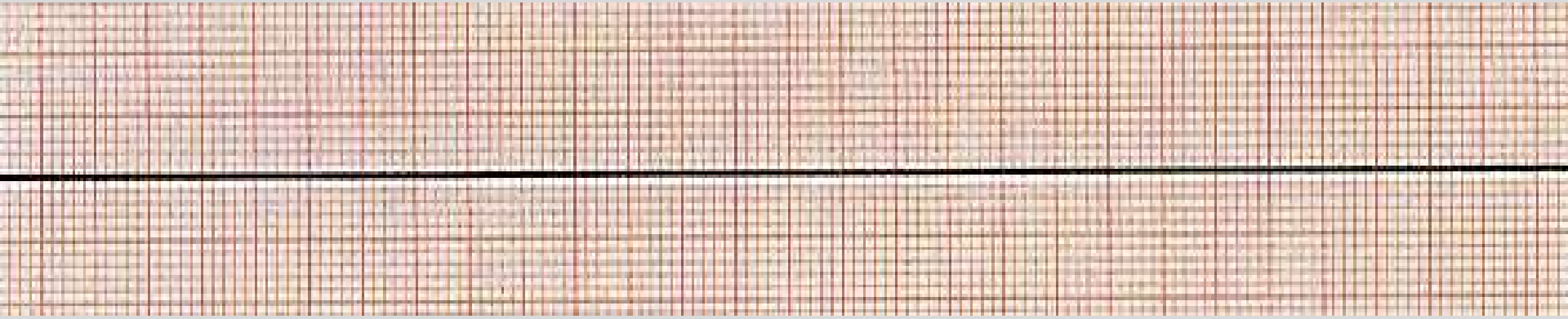
REPORT ANY ABNORMAL FINDINGS TO PHYSICIAN.

VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION



CARDIAC ARREST RHYTHM

Ventricular Asystole



CARDIAC ARREST RHYTHM

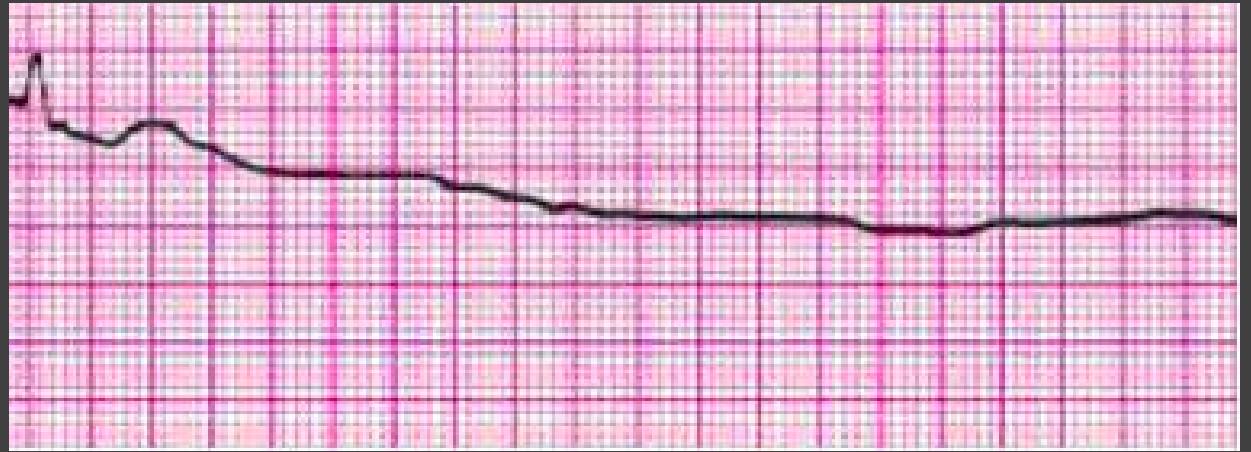
-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree HEART BLOCK**
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- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 2 or MORE TOGETHER, R on T, greater than 6 per minute,**
- 7. V-TACH, or WIDE QRS TACHYCARDIA of unknown origin**
- 8. TORSADES de POINTES**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**

If QRS
complexes
have a
PULSE
then apply



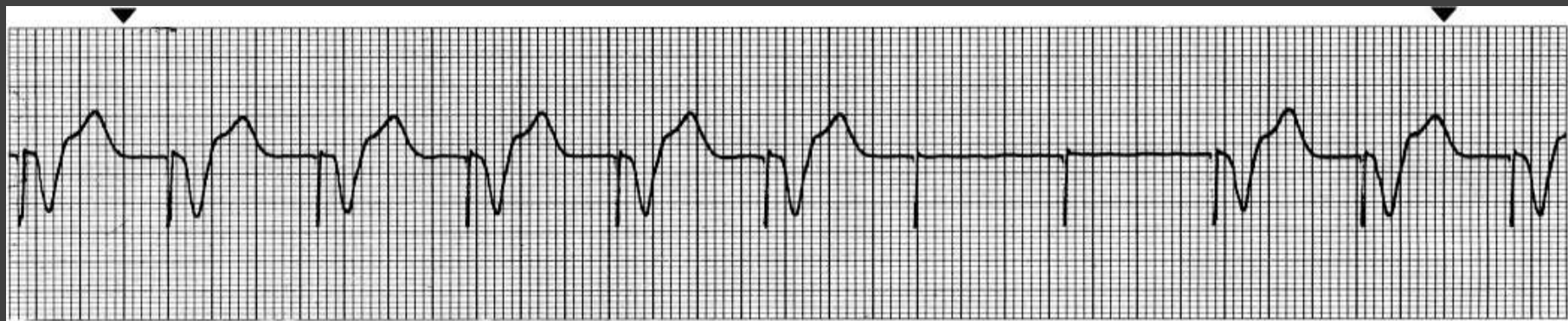
PACEMAKER !!

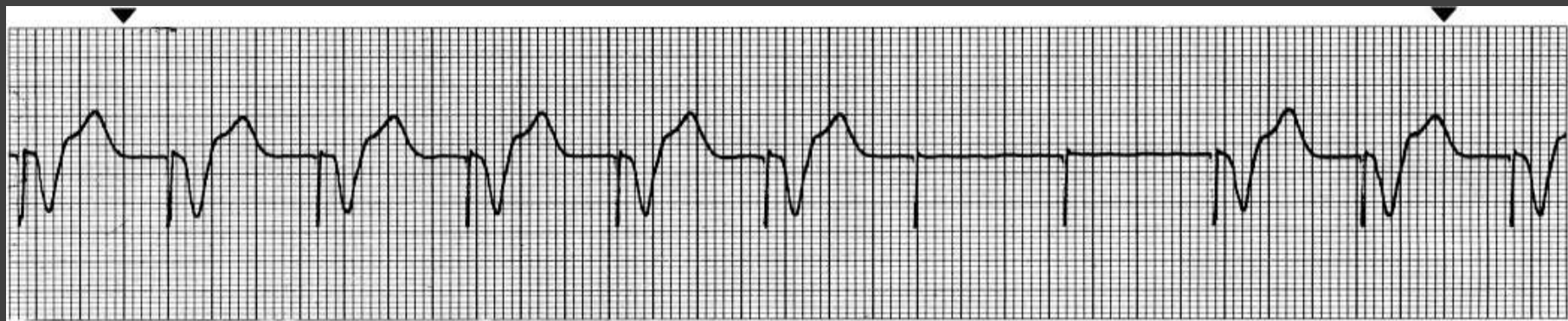
CPR
|
IV / AIRWAY
|
EPI 1 mg
|

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

- HYPOVOLEMIA
- HYPOXIA
- HYDROGEN ION (Ph)
- HYPOGLYCEMIA
- HYPOTHERMIA

- TOXINS
- TAMPONADE (CARDIAC)
- TENSION PNEUMOTHORAX
- THROMBOSIS (CORONARY or PULMONARY)
- TRAUMA





-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

-Immediately check patient

-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command

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- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 2 or MORE TOGETHER, R on T, greater than 6 per minute,**
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THE QRS COMPLEX

DIAGNOSING BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK



K.I.S.S.

THEORY

THE QRS COMPLEX

DIAGNOSING BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

- There are several methods to differentiate **Right Bundle Branch Block (RBBB)** from **Left Bundle Branch Block (LBBB)**.
- Our methods use **Lead V1 (or MCL 1)**

METHOD 1: Rotate rhythm strip 90 degrees clockwise ("York Hospital" Method)

METHOD 2: Terminal Deflection of QRS Complex: Negative or Positive ?

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"

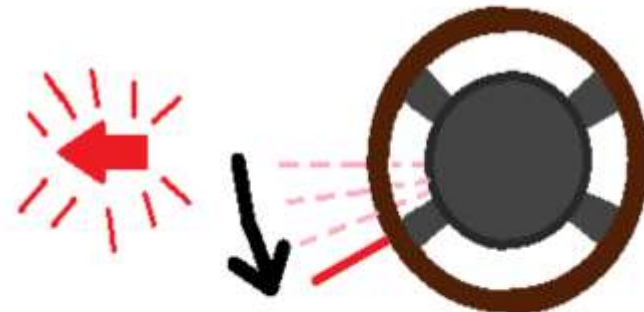


V1

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

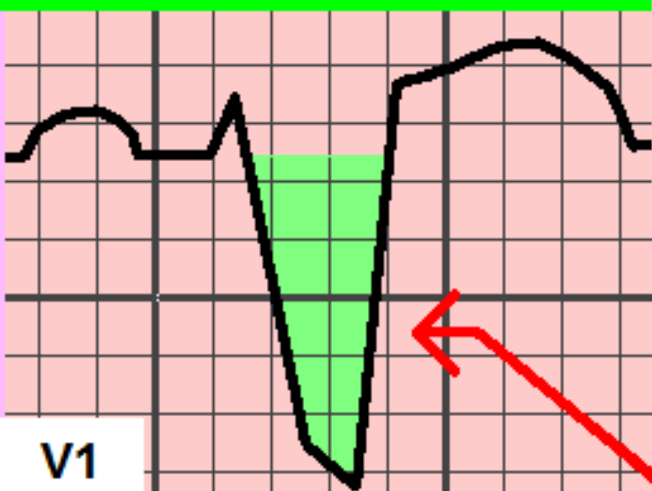
THINK:

"QRS points DOWN = LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK"



DIAGNOSING BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

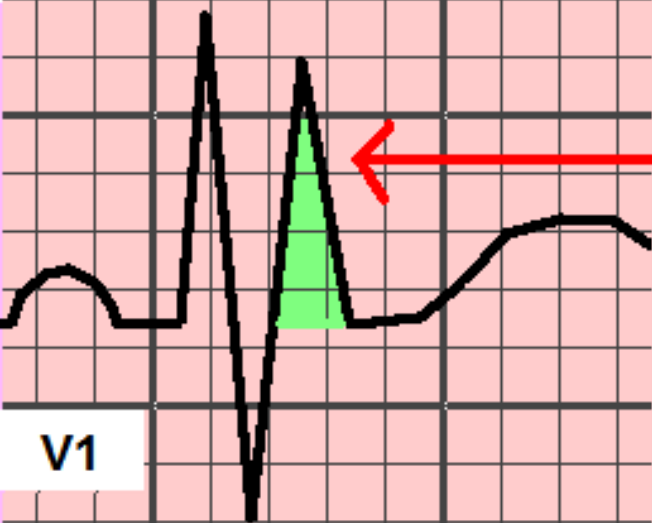
L.B.B.B.



USING LEAD V1

- QRS WIDER THAN 120 ms
- BEAT IS SUPRAVENTRICULAR IN ORIGIN
- TERMINAL PHASE OF QRS COMPLEX (LAST DEFLECTION)

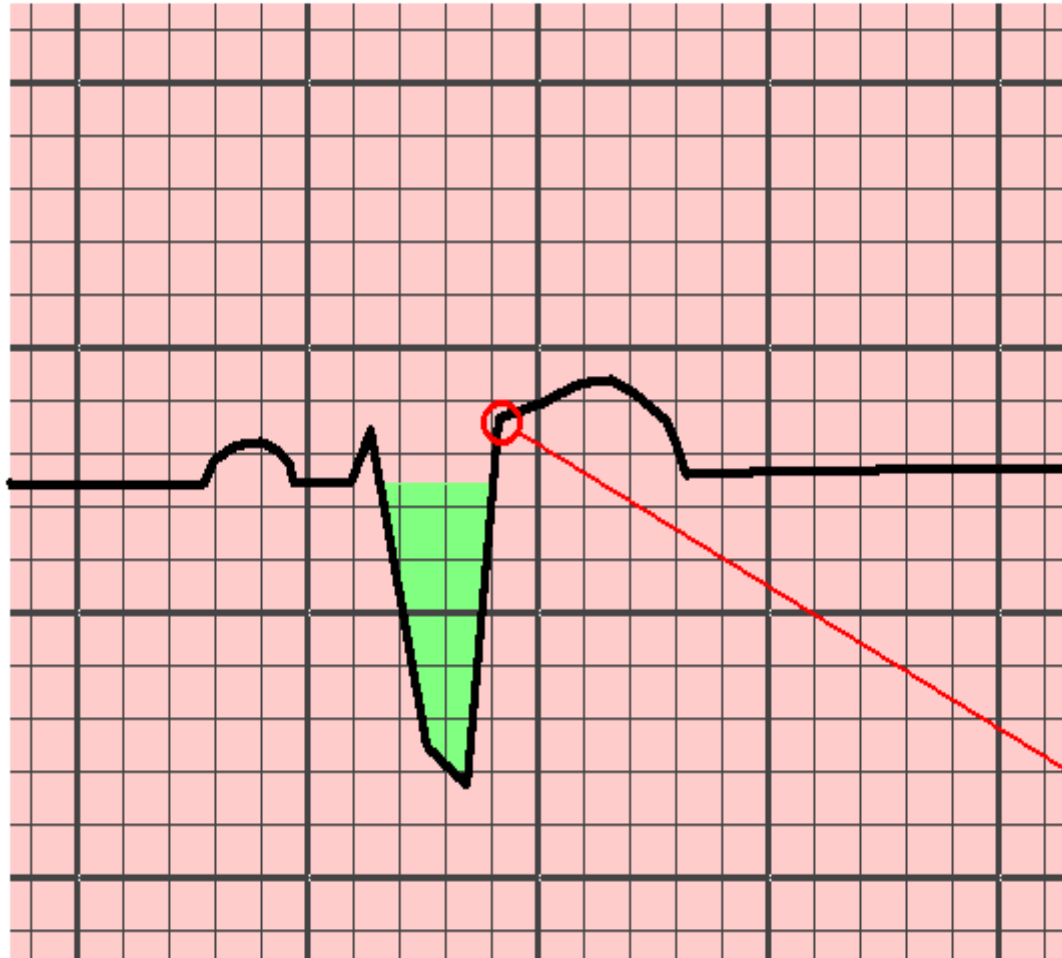
R.B.B.B.



NEGATIVE = LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

POSITIVE = RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

DIAGNOSING LBBB IN LEAD V1:



- QRS GREATER THAN 120 ms (.12)
- EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS NOT VENTRICULAR BEAT
- TERMINAL PHASE (LAST PART) OF QRS COMPLEX IS NEGATIVE DEFLECTION
- S-T SEGMENTS ARE NORMALLY ALWAYS ELEVATED !

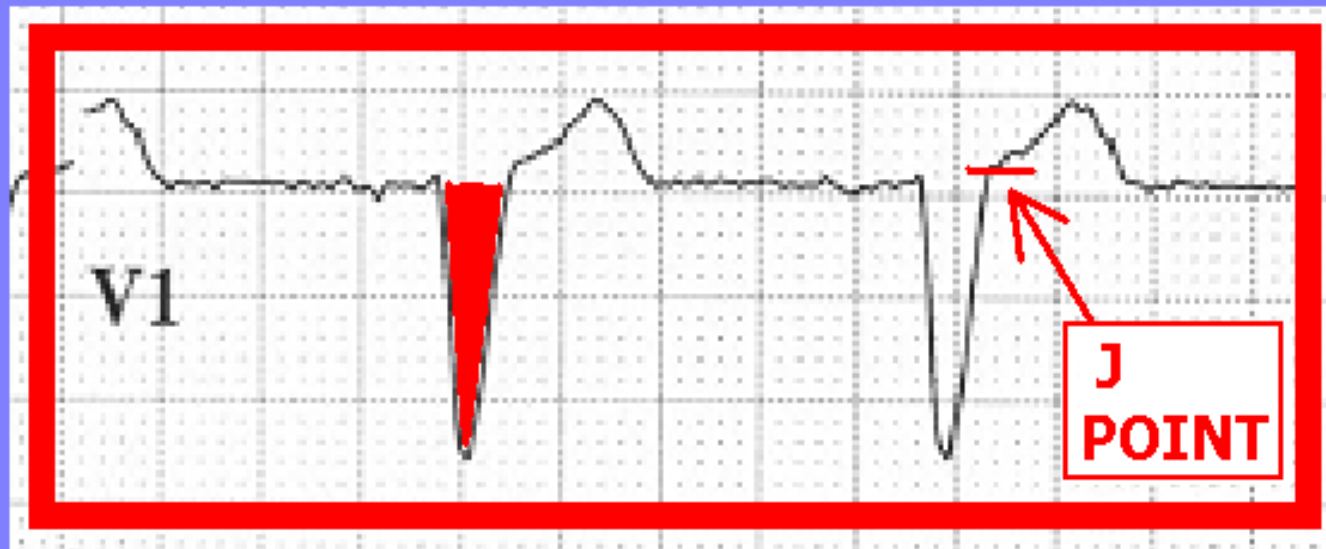
DIAGNOSING RBBB IN LEAD V1:



- **WIDER THAN 120 ms (.12)**
(or 3 little boxes)
- **TERMINAL PHASE (LAST PART) OF QRS COMPLEX IS POSITIVE DEFLECTION**



**TERMINAL PHASE OF QRS IS
NEGATIVE**



**= LEFT BUNDLE
BRANCH BLOCK**



TERMINAL PHASE OF QRS IS

POSITIVE



**= RIGHT BUNDLE
BRANCH BLOCK**

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**Use of
TELEMETRY MONITORING
For
ONGOING EVALUATION of:**

- ***Acute Coronary Syndrome***
- **“Low Probability Chest Pain”**
- **Post PCI / STENT**

Acute Coronary Syndrome (**ACS**) includes:

- **STEMI** (ST segment elev. MI)
- **NSTEMI** (Non-ST seg. Elev. MI)
- **Unstable Angina**

***Stay tuned for
The NEXT
LEVEL of ECG
Monitoring . . .
Coming Soon!***

The ECG Markers of ACS involve the:

- J Point
- ST Segment
- T Wave

Of every lead on the 12 Lead ECG.

THE ECG should NOT CHANGE. Any changes that occur to the Patient's ECG waveforms should be considered ***ABNORMAL*** and should be ***REPORTED.***

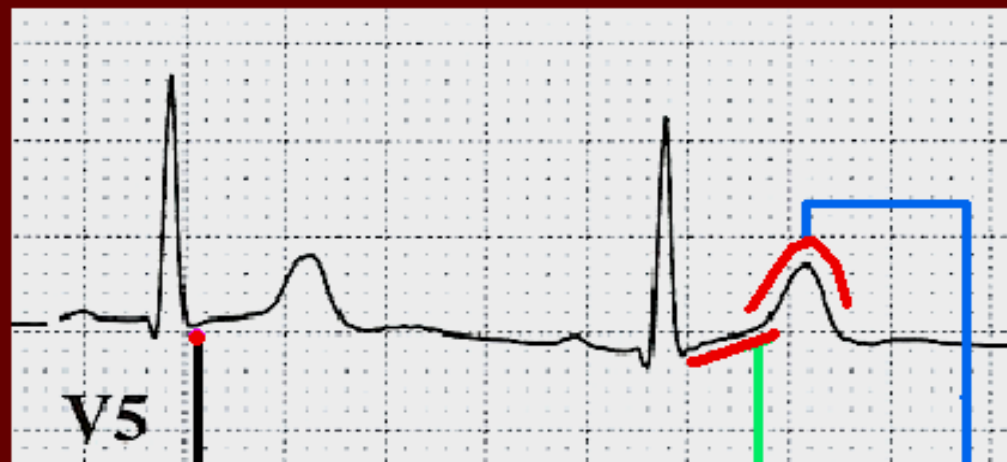
When QRS complex width is NORMAL (< 120 ms):

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

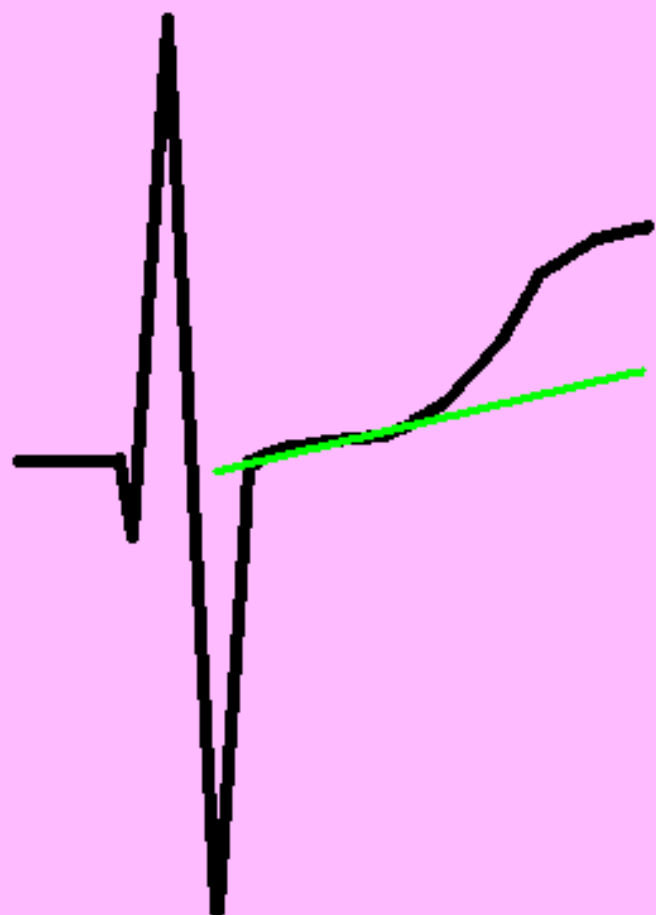
BELOW

the

ISOELECTRIC
LINE

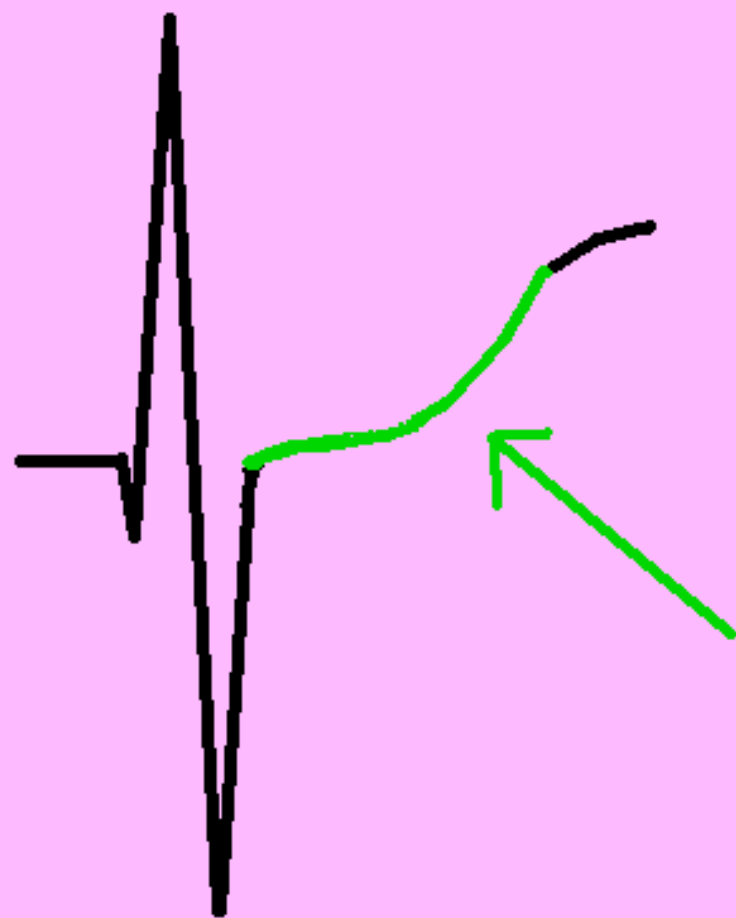
or the P-Q JUNCTION.

THE S-T SEGMENT



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

THE S-T SEGMENT

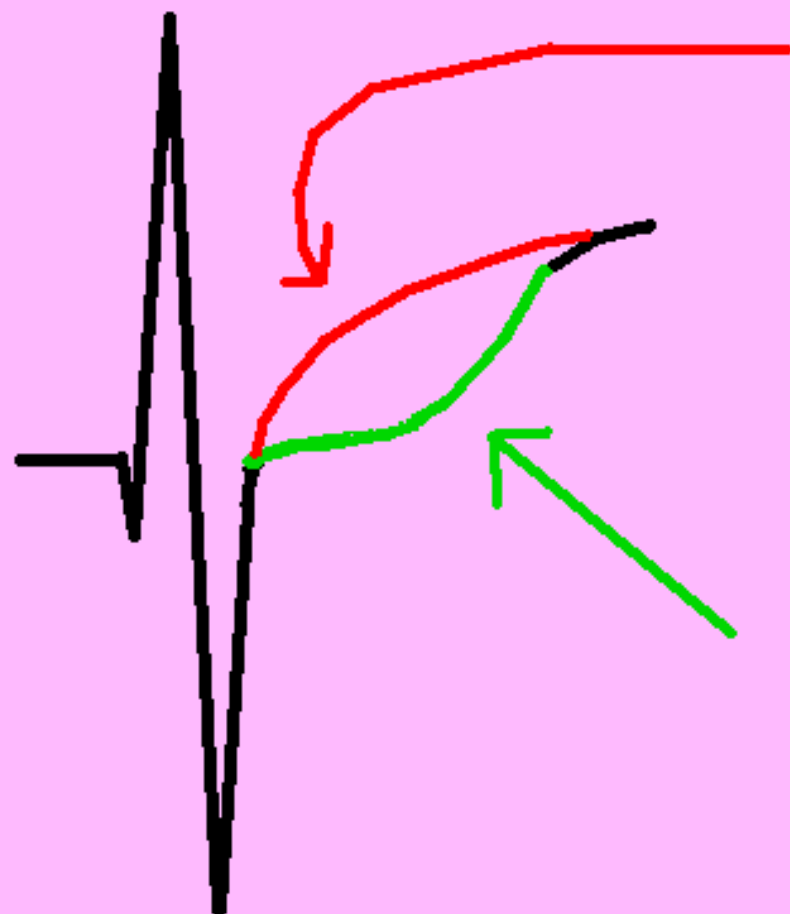


SHOULD BE
"CONCAVE" IN
SHAPE . . .

THE S-T SEGMENT

AS OPPOSED TO
"CONVEX" IN
SHAPE

SHOULD BE
"CONCAVE" IN
SHAPE . . .



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

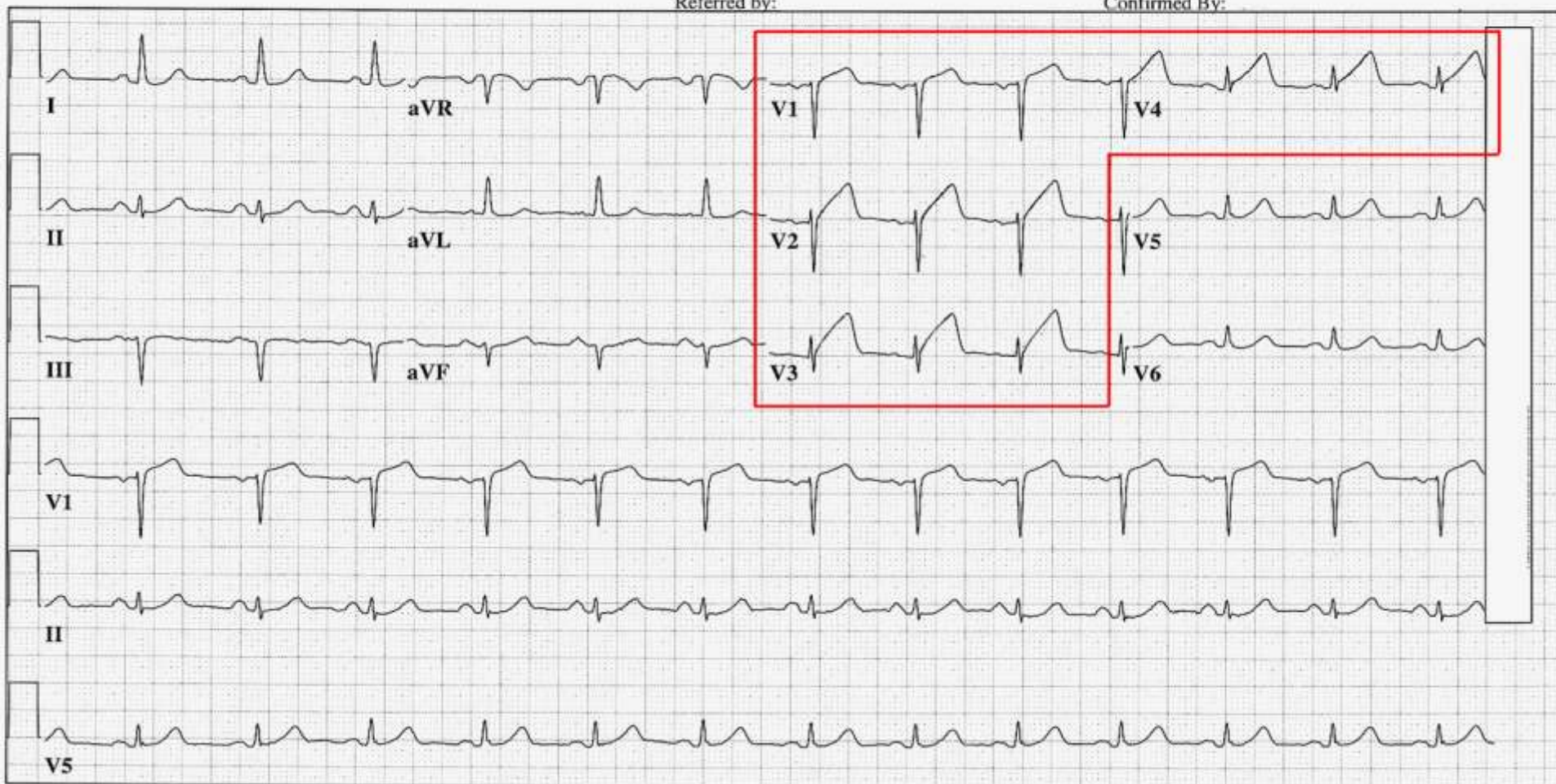
Vent. rate 80 BPM
PR interval 154 ms
QRS duration 78 ms
QT/QTc 380/438 ms
P-R-T axes 51 -24 38

****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:

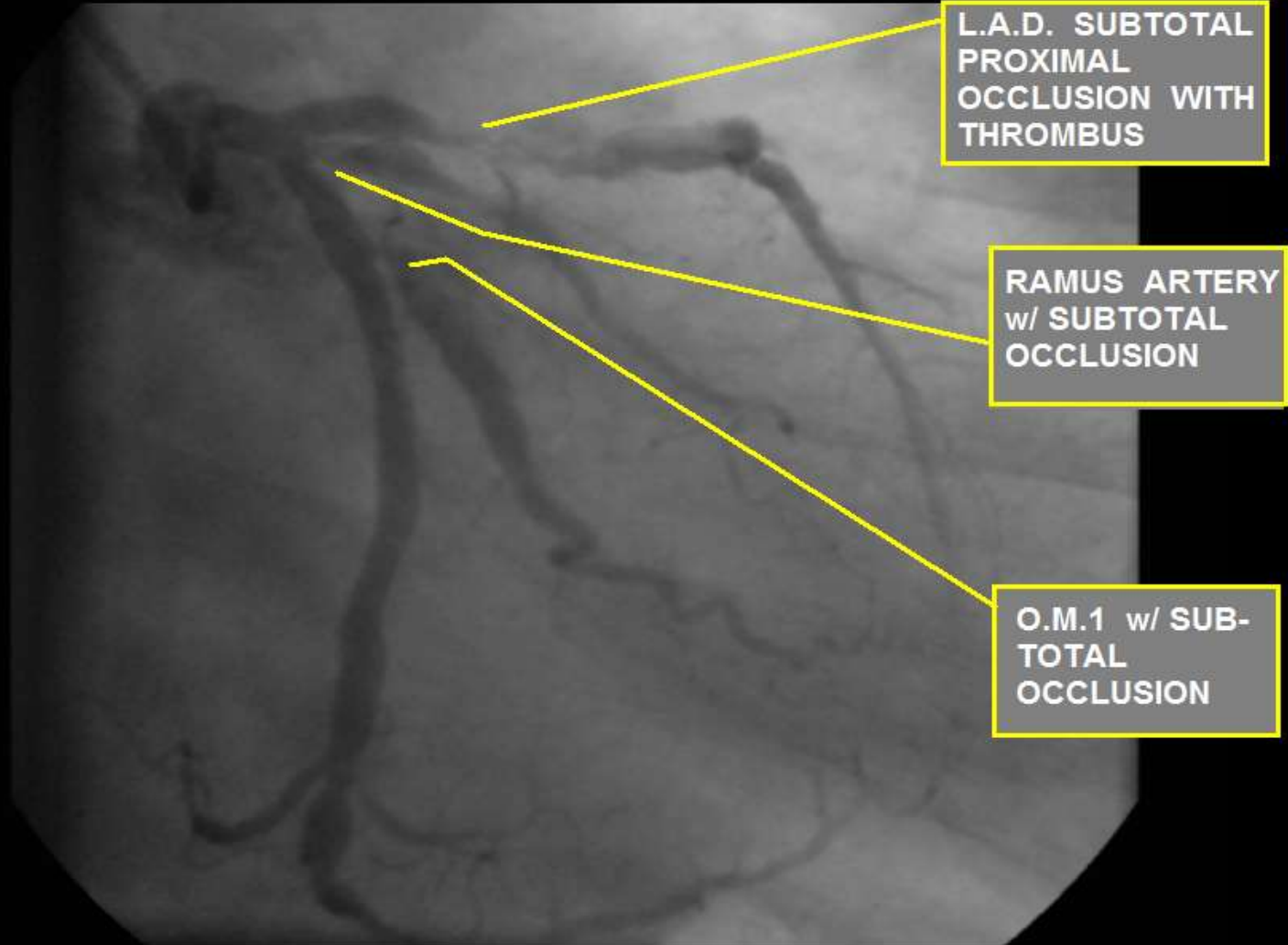


25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005C 12SL 235 CID: 3

EID:10 EDT:

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

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



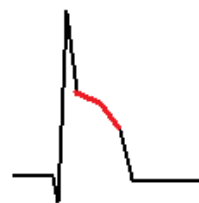
TREATMENT PLAN : EMERGENCY CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY (4 VESSEL)

ST SEGMENT ELEVATION:

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



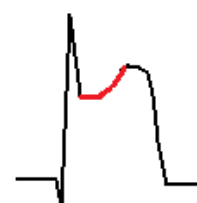
IN THIS CASE, a normal response to balloon occlusion of the RIGHT CORONARY ARTERY during PTCA in the CARDIAC CATH LAB



**DOWNSLOPING
S-T SEGMENT**















**FLAT
S-T SEGMENT**



**UPSLOPING
S-T SEGMENT**

EKG PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA

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

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

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WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION OF THIS RHYTHM STRIP ?



WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION OF THIS RHYTHM STRIP ?



SIGNIFICANT ST SEGMENT ELEVATION, most likely patient is suffering ***STEMI***

WHAT WOULD THE MOST APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION BE ?



WHAT WOULD THE MOST APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION BE ?



Immediately:

notify Charge RN

check patient

obtain 12 Lead ECG

Notify physician / Cardiologist

Activate STEMI protocol

-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --

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