

**Bayfront Health Seven Rivers, Crystal River, FL**



**Bayfront Health Brooksville, Brooksville, FL**



**Seven Rivers Freestanding ED, Citrus Hills, FL**



**Bayfront Health Spring Hill, Spring Hill, FL**



## Basic ECG

**Wayne W Ruppert, CVT, CCCC, NREMT-P**  
**Regional Director of Clinical Outreach &**  
**Cardiovascular Accreditations:**  
Chest Pain Center, Heart Failure and  
Therapeutic Hypothermia Programs



# COPYRIGHT NOTICE:

All content contained within this "Basic ECG" program are protected under one or more copyrights owned by the author, Wayne W. Ruppert. This material is provided for the personal use of participants who have attended, or plan to attend, a workshop conducted by Mr. Ruppert or an instructor approved by Mr. Ruppert. Copying, duplicating or replicating of any of this material in any format is expressly forbidden without prior written consent by the author, Wayne Ruppert.

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

[www.practicalclinicalskills.com](http://www.practicalclinicalskills.com)

1. Go to: [www.ECGtraining.org](http://www.ECGtraining.org)

2. Select "Downloads PDF" from menu bar

**Cardiovascular Education Resources**

HOME  
HEART FAILURE  
CV Coordinator Resources  
Chest Pain Center Management Resources  
Resuscitation Resources  
Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention  
Clinician Education  
ACCREDITATION  
DOWNLOADS - PDF  
HELPFUL INFORMATION  
CONTACT US

Automatically Reports To CE BROKER

## Cardiovascular Education Resources.

Serving Patients, Clinicians and the Community.

**CLINICIAN EDUCATION:** We've been registered as a Nursing Continuing Education Provider in the State of Florida for Practical Nurses. We report all CE hours to the State of Florida Board of Nursing via CE Broker within 24 hours of completion. We offer continuing education for Catheterization and / or Electrophysiology (EP) Labs. By combining the latest academic content with real-world Cath for physicians, mid-level providers, respiratory therapists and paramedics - and we frequently see some of each in our

**PATIENT MANAGEMENT TOOLS:** This website provides resources to assist physicians, case managers and nurses in Cardiovascular Disease as well as Resuscitation (Therapeutic Hypothermia) and Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes

**PATIENTS:** This website provides resource to help patients and their families to better understand and cope with their in the near future. We only provide materials supported by the latest evidence-based research, as well as providing I

- The American College of Cardiology
- American Heart Association
- Heart Failure Society of America
- Heart Rhythms Society \*
- Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation \*

\* denotes future addition

1. Go to: [www.ECGtraining.org](http://www.ECGtraining.org)
2. Select "Downloads PDF" from menu bar
3. Select your courses

**Cardiovascular Education Resources**  
**HELPFUL PDF DOWNLOADS**

*All materials featured on this page are copyright protected. This content is offered for INDIVIDUAL USE by Clinicians, Patients and written consent of the EDITOR. (click on "Contact Us" link to message website editor). EXCEPTION: Physicians and allied health may download, reproduce and distribute the documents and content electronically linked to this webpage for education purposes.*

HOME	<a href="#">Download Basic ECG Course</a>
HEART FAILURE	<a href="#">Download The Lifesaving 12 Lead EKG Part 1</a>
CV Coordinator Resources	<a href="#">Download The Lifesaving 12 Lead EKG Part 2</a>
Chest Pain Center Management Resources	<a href="#">Cerner Powerchart Users - EKG Instructions</a>
Resuscitation Resources	<a href="#">Cerner FirstNet Users - EKG Instructions</a>
Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention	<a href="#">Download 12 Lead ECG Workbook 2020</a>
Clinician Education	<a href="#">Download BHSR ED 12 Lead EKG Part 1 2020</a>
ACCREDITATION	<a href="#">Download BHSR ED 12 Lead EKG Part 2 2020</a>
DOWNLOADS - PDF	<a href="#">Download Citrus Co Fire Rescue Class Workbook</a>
HELPFUL INFORMATION	<a href="#">Download Citrus Co Fire Rescue 12 Lead - Morning Session</a>
CONTACT US	<a href="#">Download Citrus Co Fire Rescue 12 Lead - Afternoon Session</a>
	<a href="#">Download STAT 12 Lead ECG Part 1 - Basic Fundamentals</a>



## Standards for Inpatient Electrocardiographic Monitoring

Oct 04, 2017 | [Richard L. Weinberg, MD, PhD, FACC](#)

---

### Authors:

Sandau KE, Funk M, Auerbach A, et al., on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing; Council on Clinical Cardiology; and Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young.

---

### Citation:

[Update to Practice Standards for Electrocardiographic Monitoring in Hospital Settings: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. \*Circulation\* 2017;Oct 3:\[Epub ahead of print\].](#) 

[Download this](#)  
[paper](#)

**AHA SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT**

# Update to Practice Standards for Electrocardiographic Monitoring in Hospital Settings

**A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association**

*Endorsed by the American College of Cardiology, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, and Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology Society*

The comprehensive document is grouped into 5 sections:  
(1) Overview of Arrhythmia, Ischemia, and QTc Monitoring; (2) Recommendations for Indication and Duration of Electrocardiographic Monitoring presented by patient population; (3) Organizational Aspects: Alarm Management, Education of Staff, and Documentation; (4) Implementation of Practice Standards; and (5) Call for Research.

---

The goals of electrocardiographic monitoring have expanded from simple heart rate and basic rhythm determination to the diagnosis of complex arrhythmias, the detection of acute and often silent myocardial ischemia, and the identification of drug-induced prolonged QT interval. The first American Heart Association (AHA) scientific statement on practice standards for electrocardiographic monitoring in hospital settings was published in 2004<sup>1</sup> and provided an interprofessional, comprehensive review of evidence and recommendations for continuous electrocardiographic monitoring of hospitalized patients.

# The Heart:

- Muscle cells
- Electrical system cells
- Connective tissue

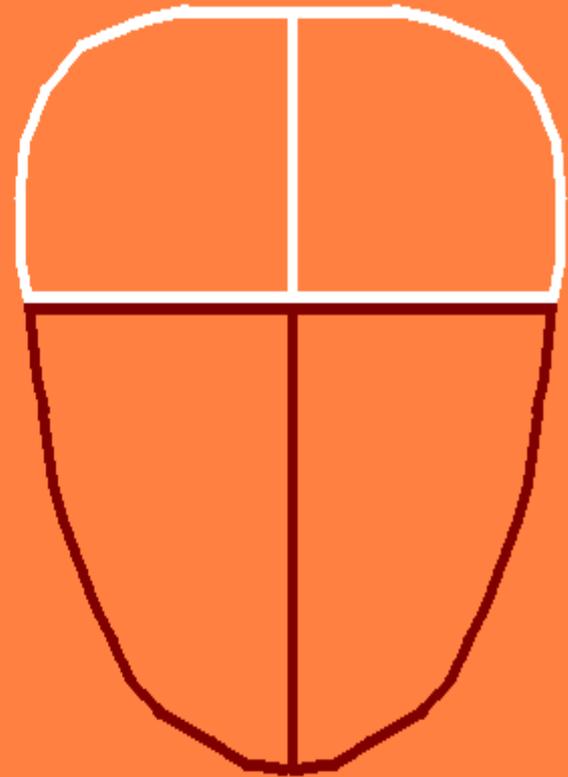
# FOUR CHAMBERED PUMP . . .

2 ATRIUM



PRIMARY JOB:

"PACK VENTRICLES  
FULL OF BLOOD"

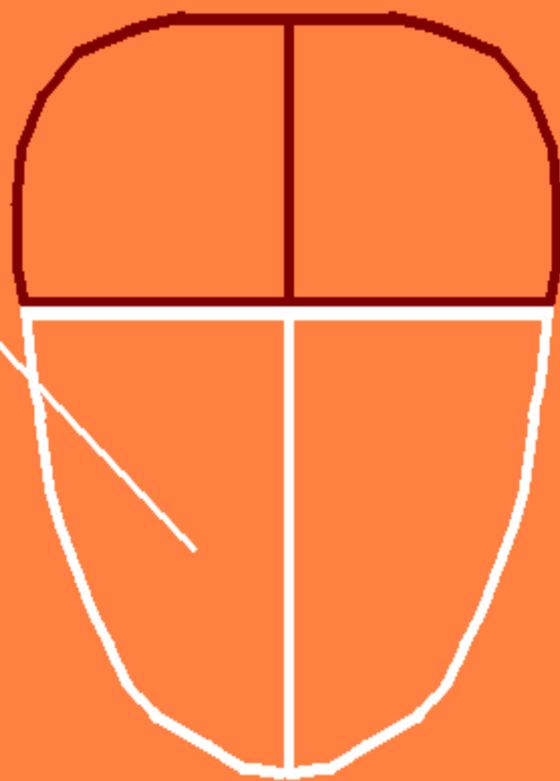


# FOUR CHAMBERED PUMP . . .

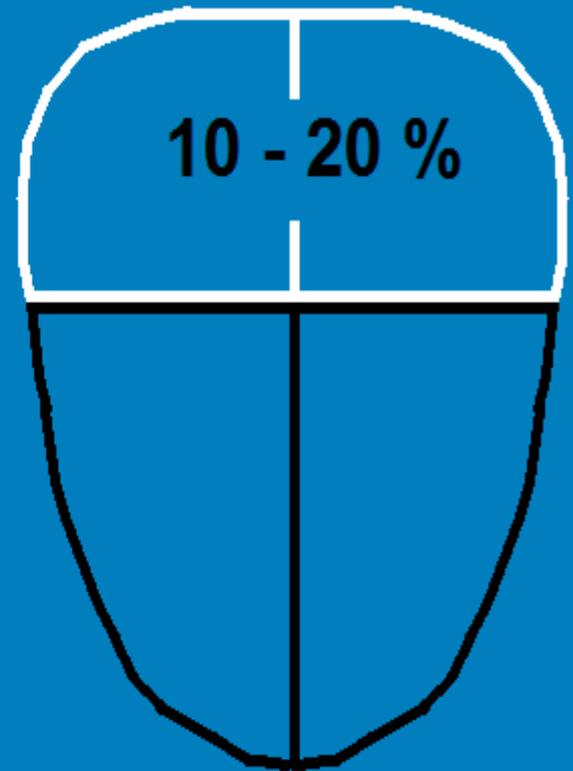
2 VENTRICLES

PRIMARY JOB:

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



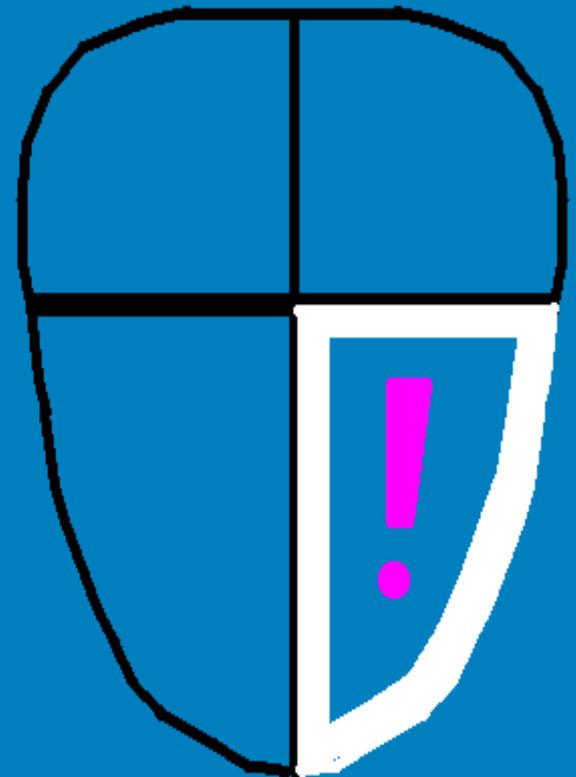
**WHEN FUNCTIONING PROPERLY,  
THE ATRIUM SUPPLY  
APPROXIMATELY  
WHAT  
PERCENTAGE  
OF THE  
CARDIAC OUTPUT ?**



**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

60 - 100  
beats / min.

AV node

Right bundle  
branch

Left 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

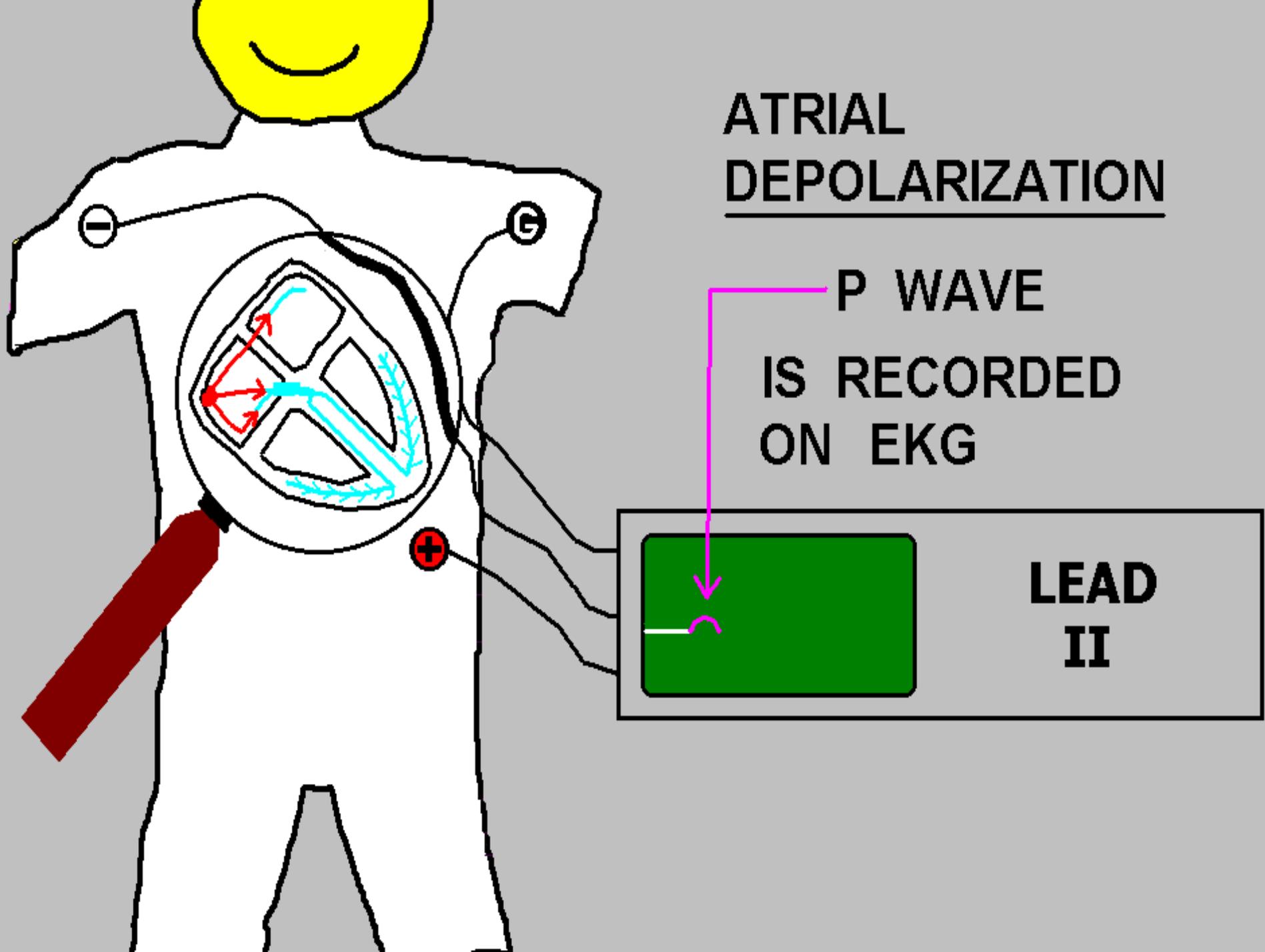
\* VENTRICLES: 1 - 40

\* 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.

# ATRIAL DEPOLARIZATION

P WAVE  
IS RECORDED  
ON EKG

LEAD  
II

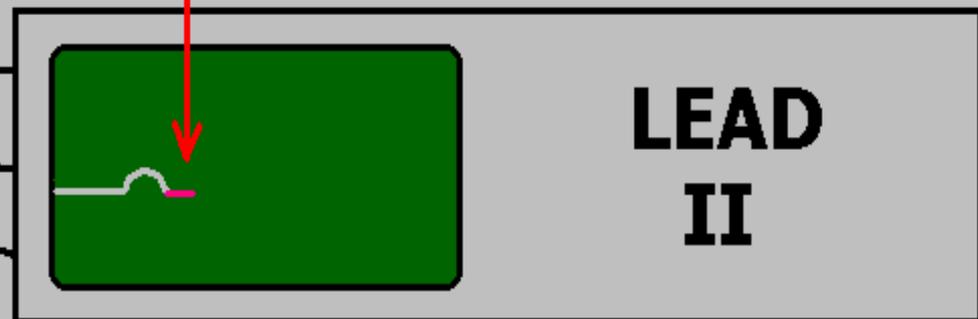


# THE P-R SEGMENT

ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY  
DURING P-R SEGMENT:

- Depolarization wave in A-V node
- Atrial Repolarization

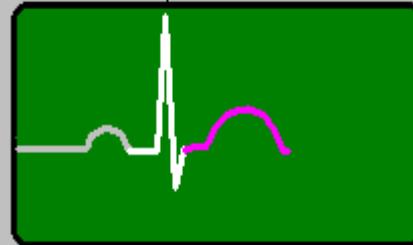
.10 SECOND  
ISOELECTRIC PAUSE





# VENTRICULAR REPOLARIZATION

WRITES A "T"  
WAVE ON THE  
ECG

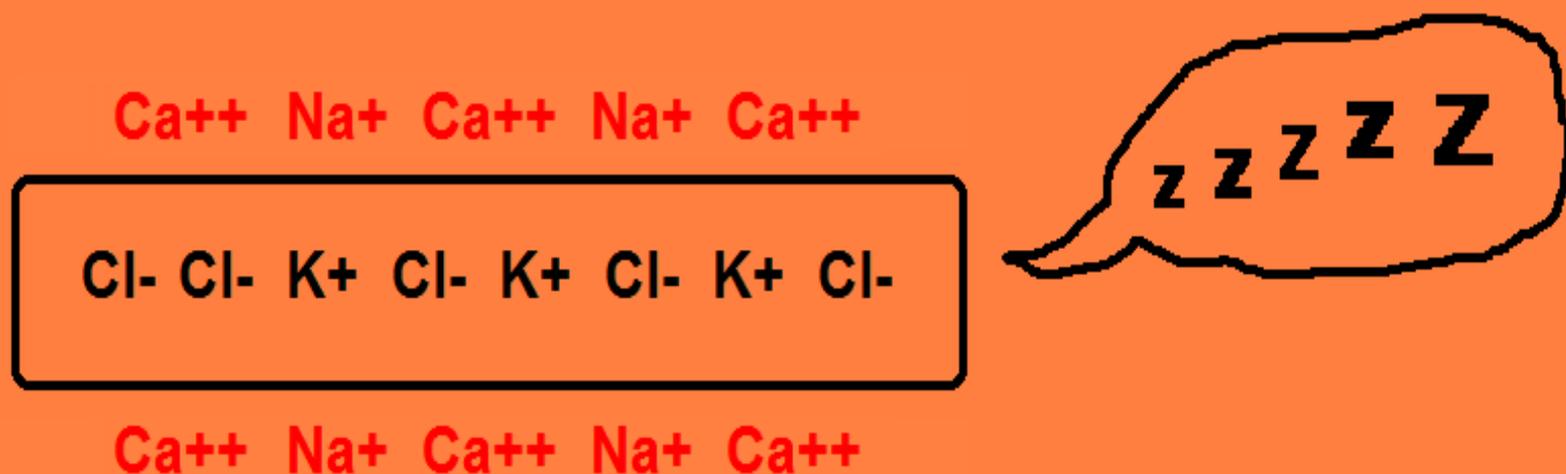


**LEAD  
II**



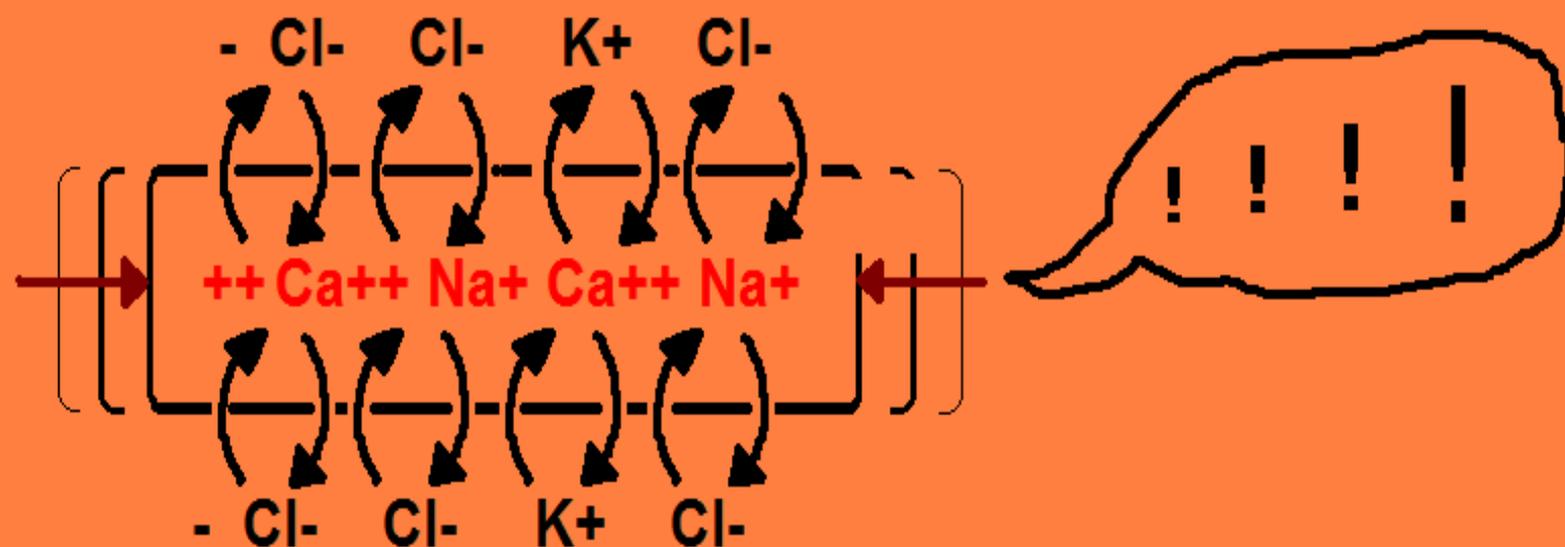
# CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"

**CARDIAC CELLS AT REST** have **POSITIVE** charged IONS on the **OUTSIDE** of the cell membrane, and **NEGATIVE** charged IONS on the **INSIDE**



# CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"

... when the IONS shift ... that is, the POSITIVE IONS that were on the outside TRADE PLACES with the NEGATIVE IONS that were on the INSIDE ....



... THE CELL CONTRACTS!

# CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"

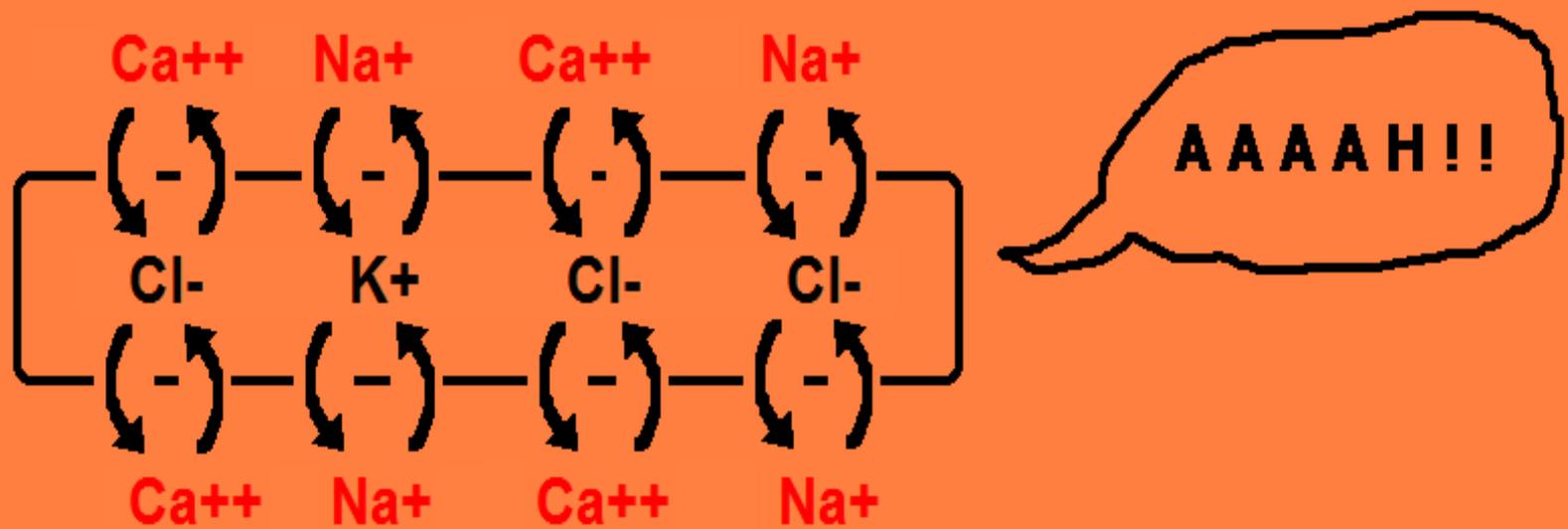
**THIS (OF COURSE) IS KNOWN AS . . .**

## **DEPOLARIZATION**

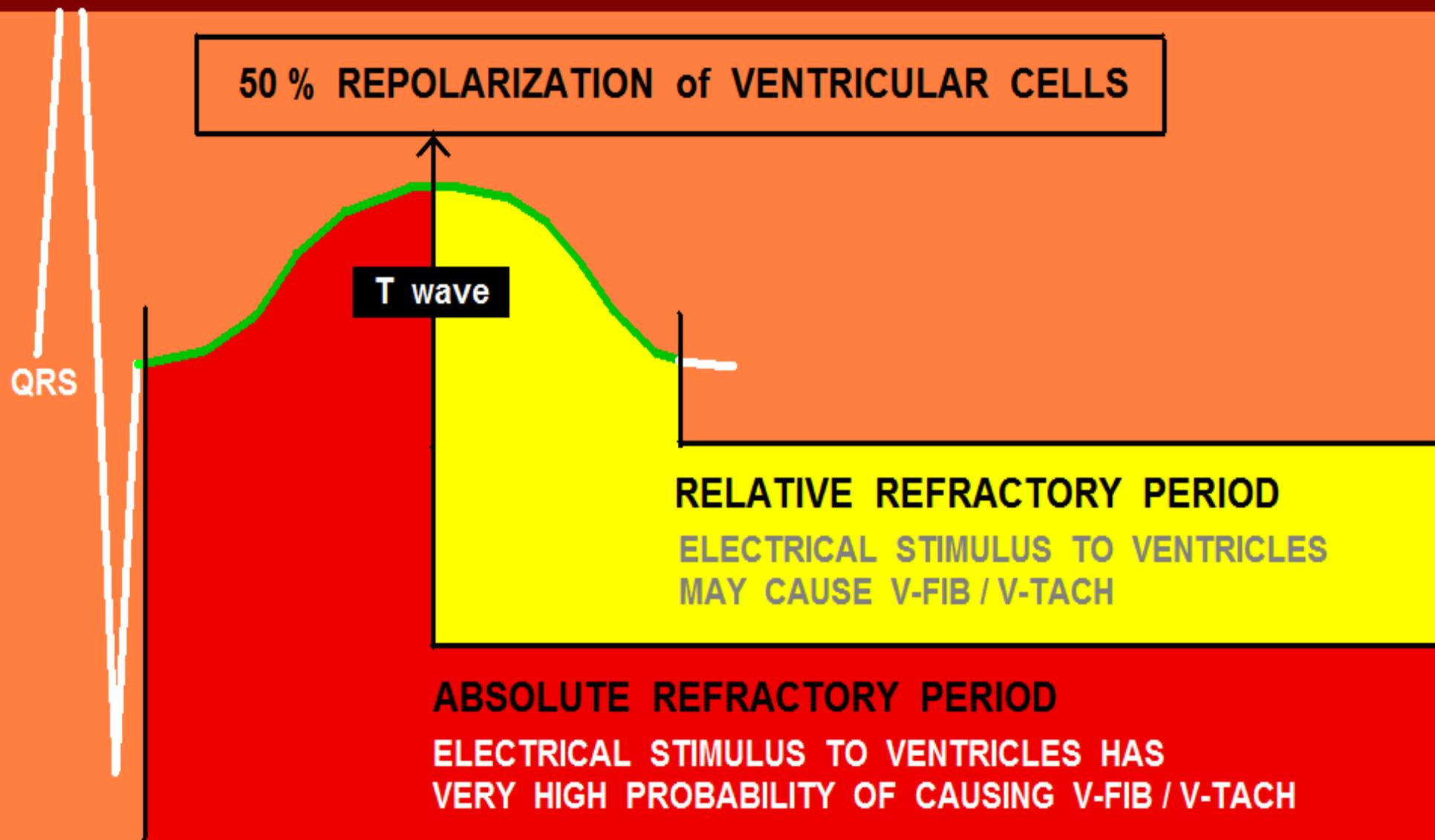
**WHEN EVERYTHING IS WORKING PROPERLY, THE WAVE OF DEPOLARIZING CELLS CAUSES THE HEART TO CONTRACT, AND PUMP BLOOD TO THE LUNGS AND THE SYSTEMIC CIRCULATION**

# CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"

AFTER DEPOLARIZATION, THE CELLS RELAX.  
THE IONS RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITIONS --  
THIS PROCESS IS KNOWN AS **REPOLARIZATION**



# CARDIAC ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY "101"



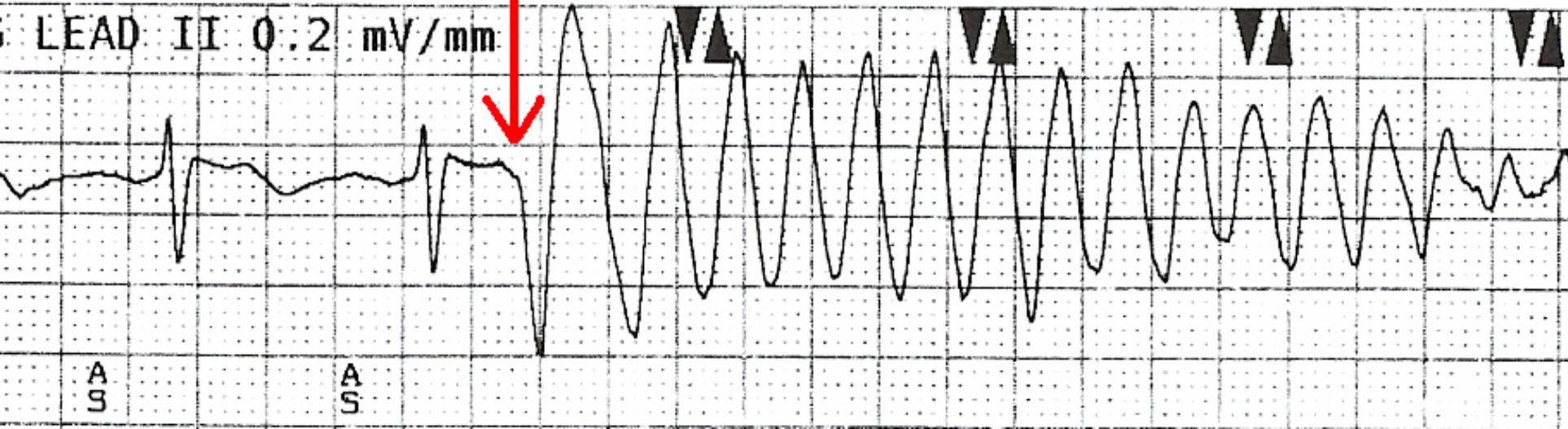
# ROUTINE TEST OF ICD

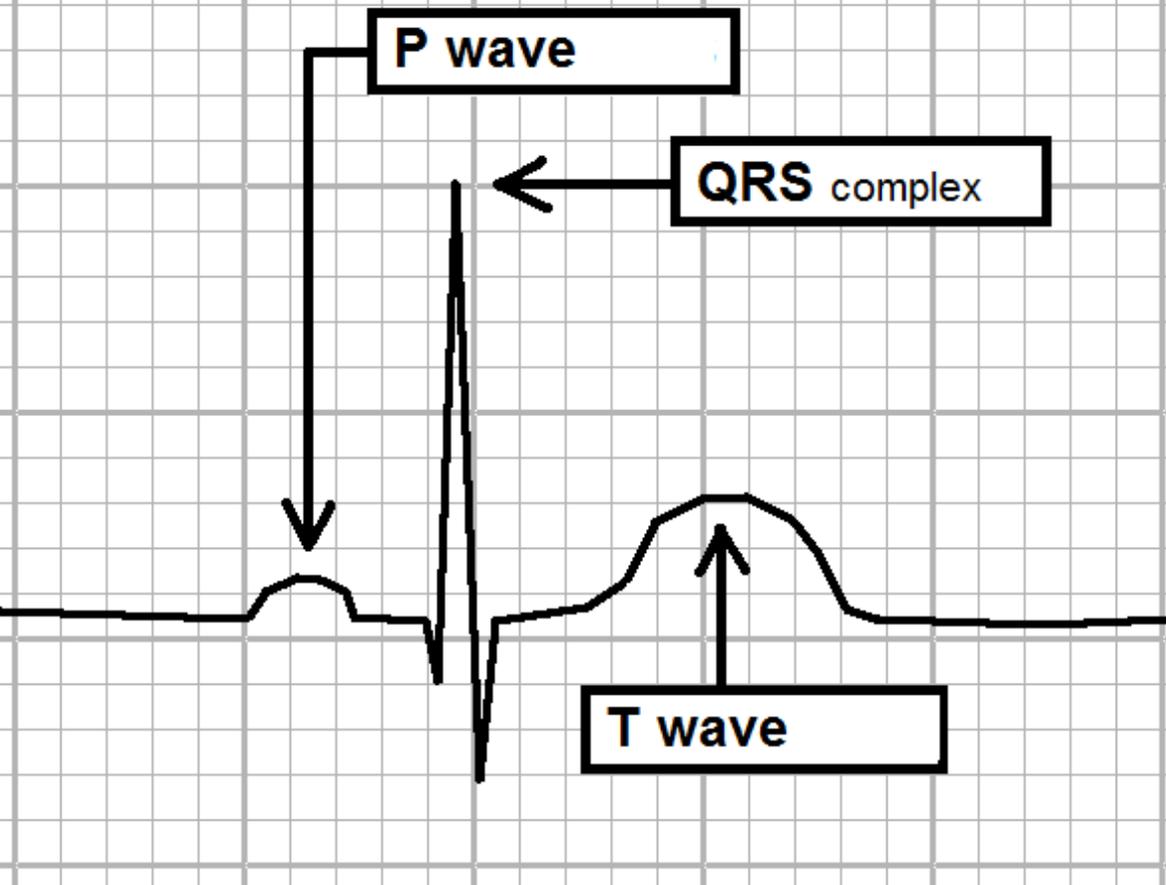
ELECTRICAL IMPULSE  
ADMINISTERED DURING ABSOLUTE  
REFRACTORY PERIOD -- INDUCES  
VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION

08-Sep-2006 18:01:47

Test Started

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**  
**Ray Heinley**  
**Medtronic Corporation**  
**for this contribution**





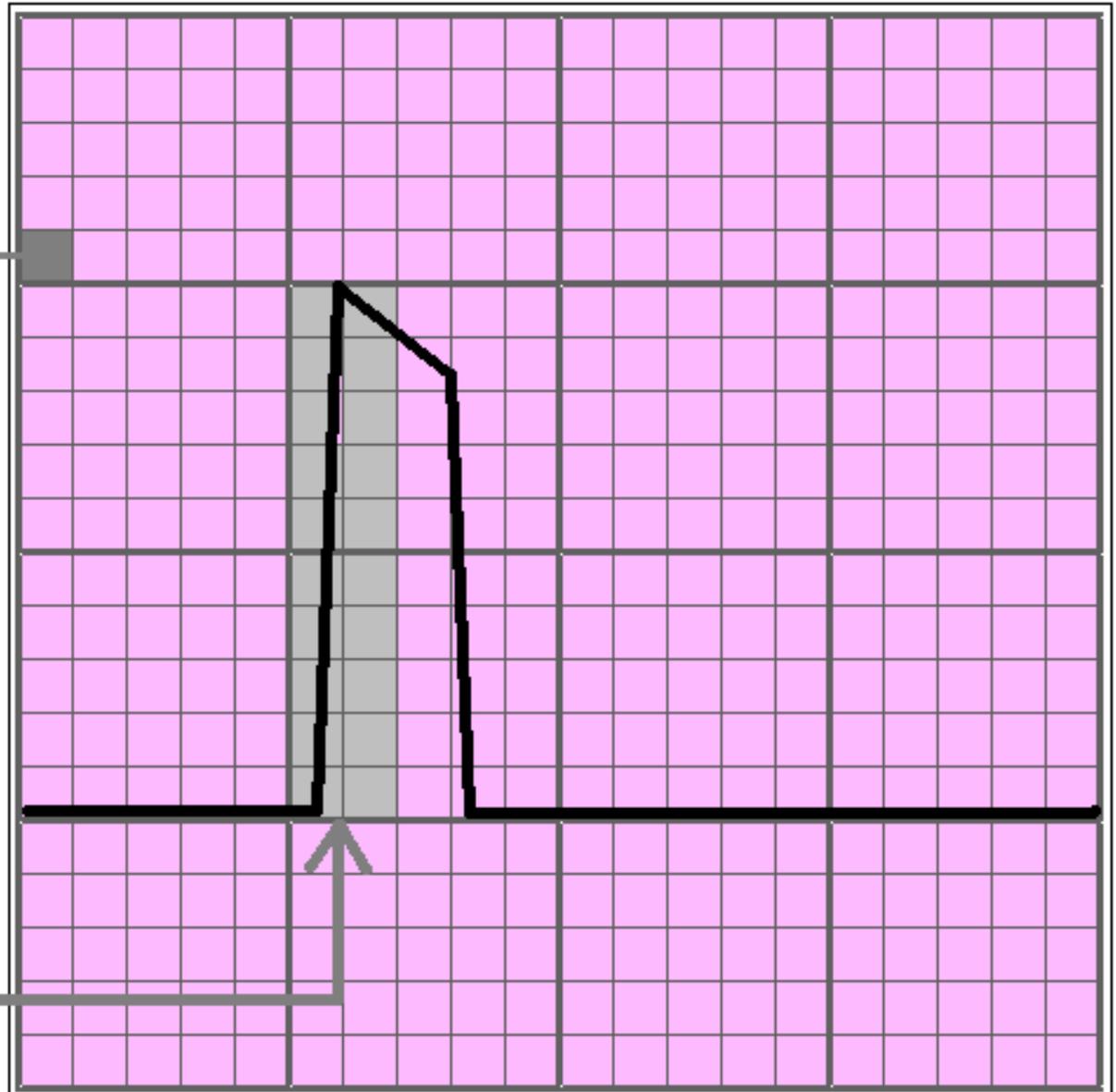
**P WAVE =**  
ATRIAL DEPOLARIZATION

**QRS COMPLEX =**  
VENTRICULAR  
DEPOLARIZATION  
(contracting)

**T WAVE =**  
VENTRICULAR  
REPOLARIZATION  
(recharging)

# 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



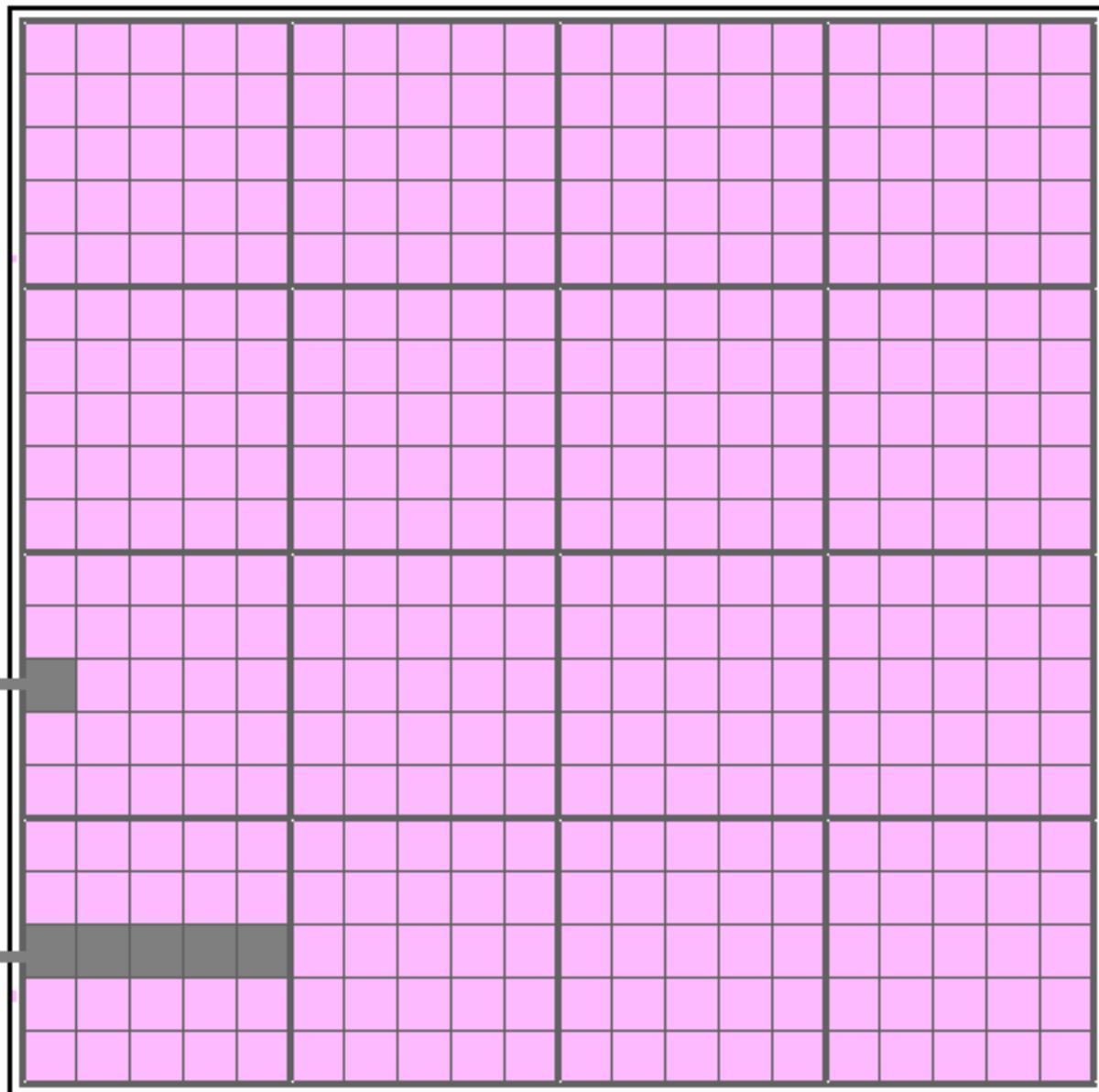
# ECG PAPER - THE HORIZONTAL AXIS:

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

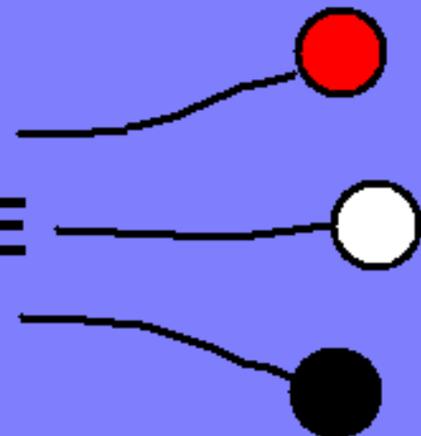
STANDARD 12 LEADS - USES 10 WIRES  
( 6 CHEST and 4 LIMB )

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

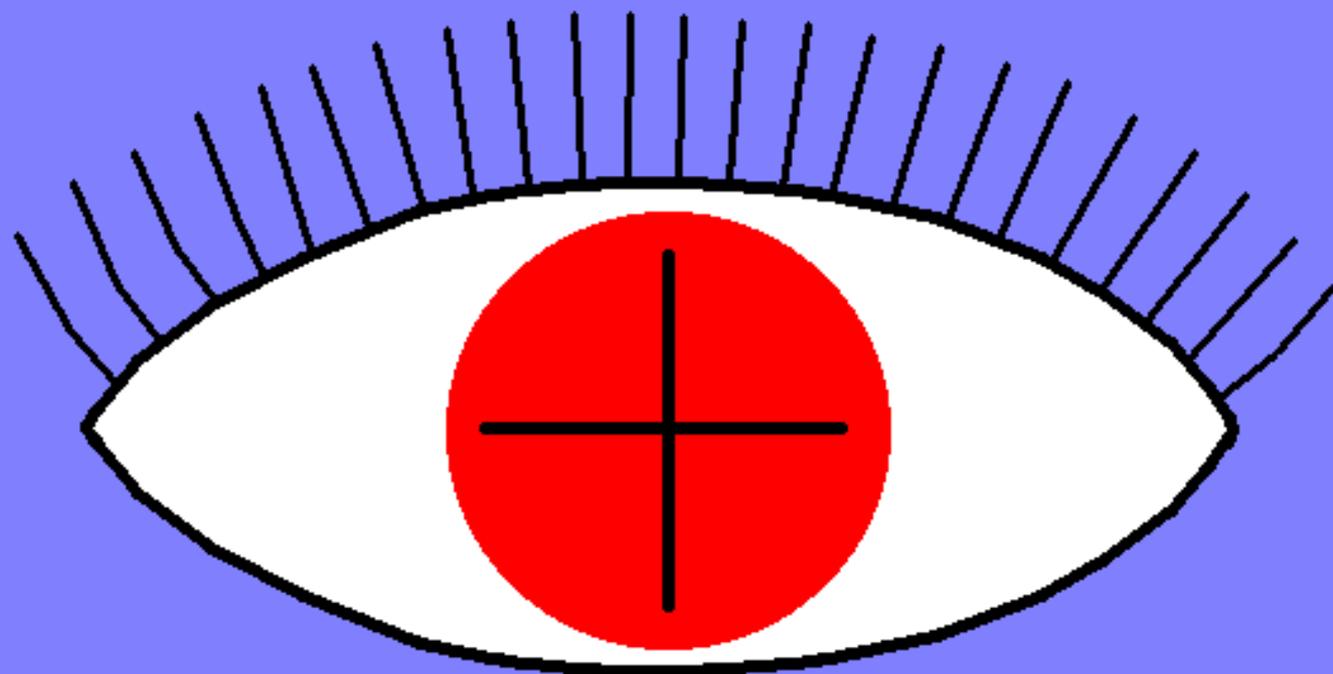
1 POSITIVE ELECTRODE

1 NEGATIVE ELECTRODE

1 GROUND ELECTRODE

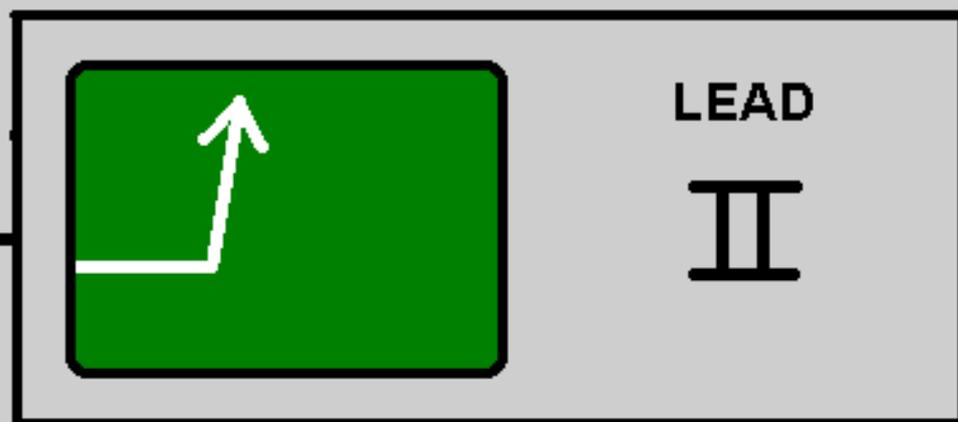
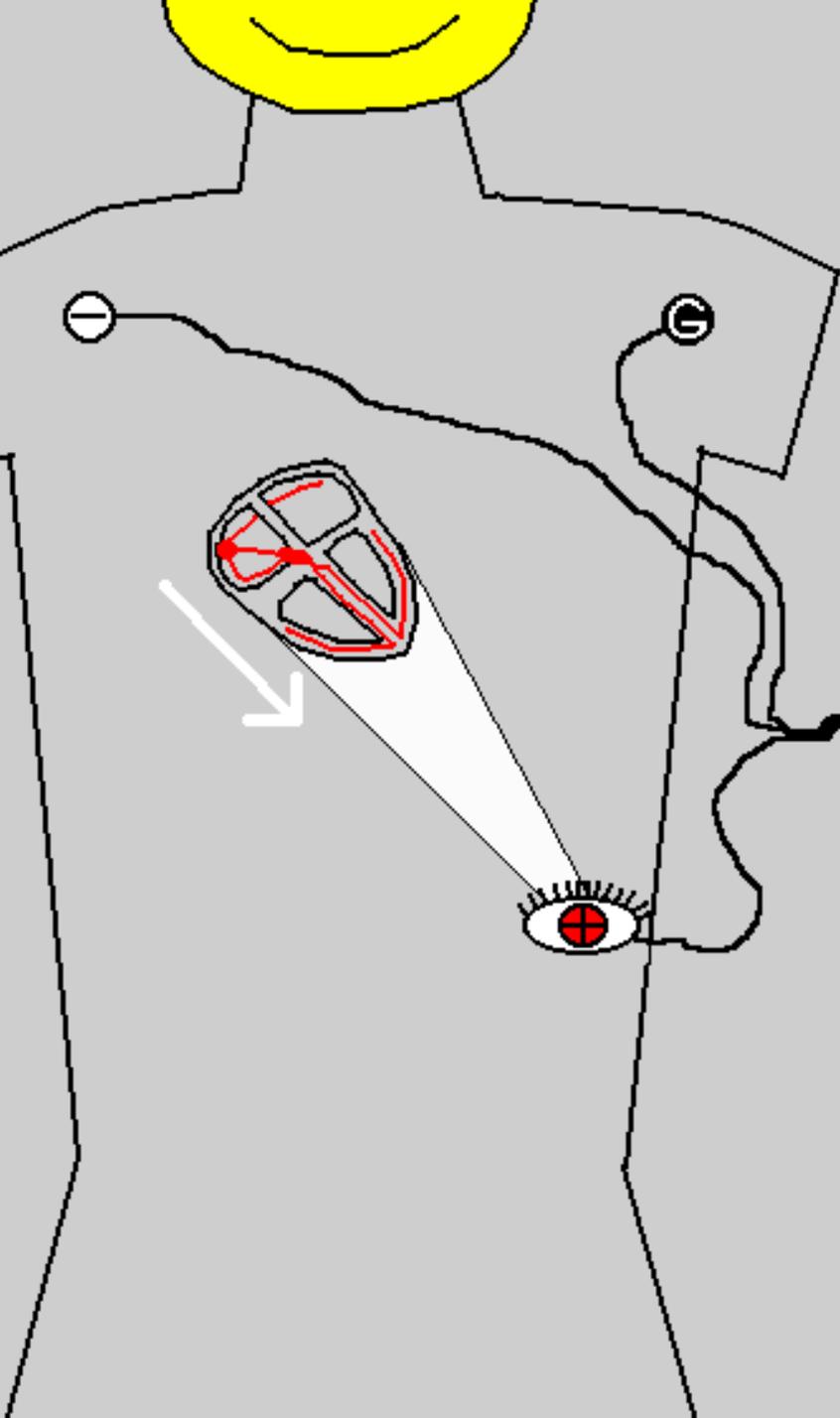


# THE POSITIVE ELECTRODE

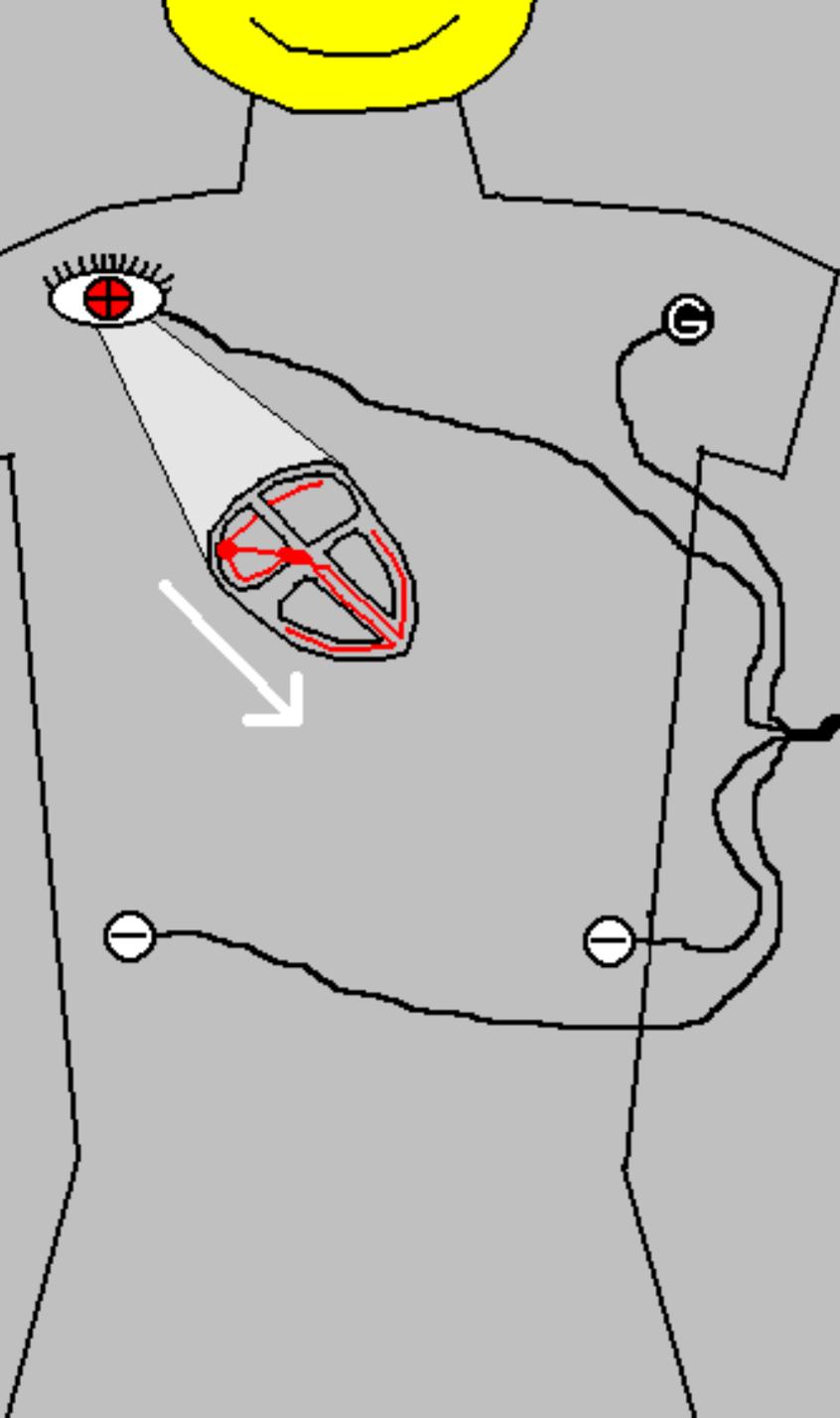


IS THE "EYE" . . .

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



**RECORDS AN  
"UPWARD"  
DEFLECTION**

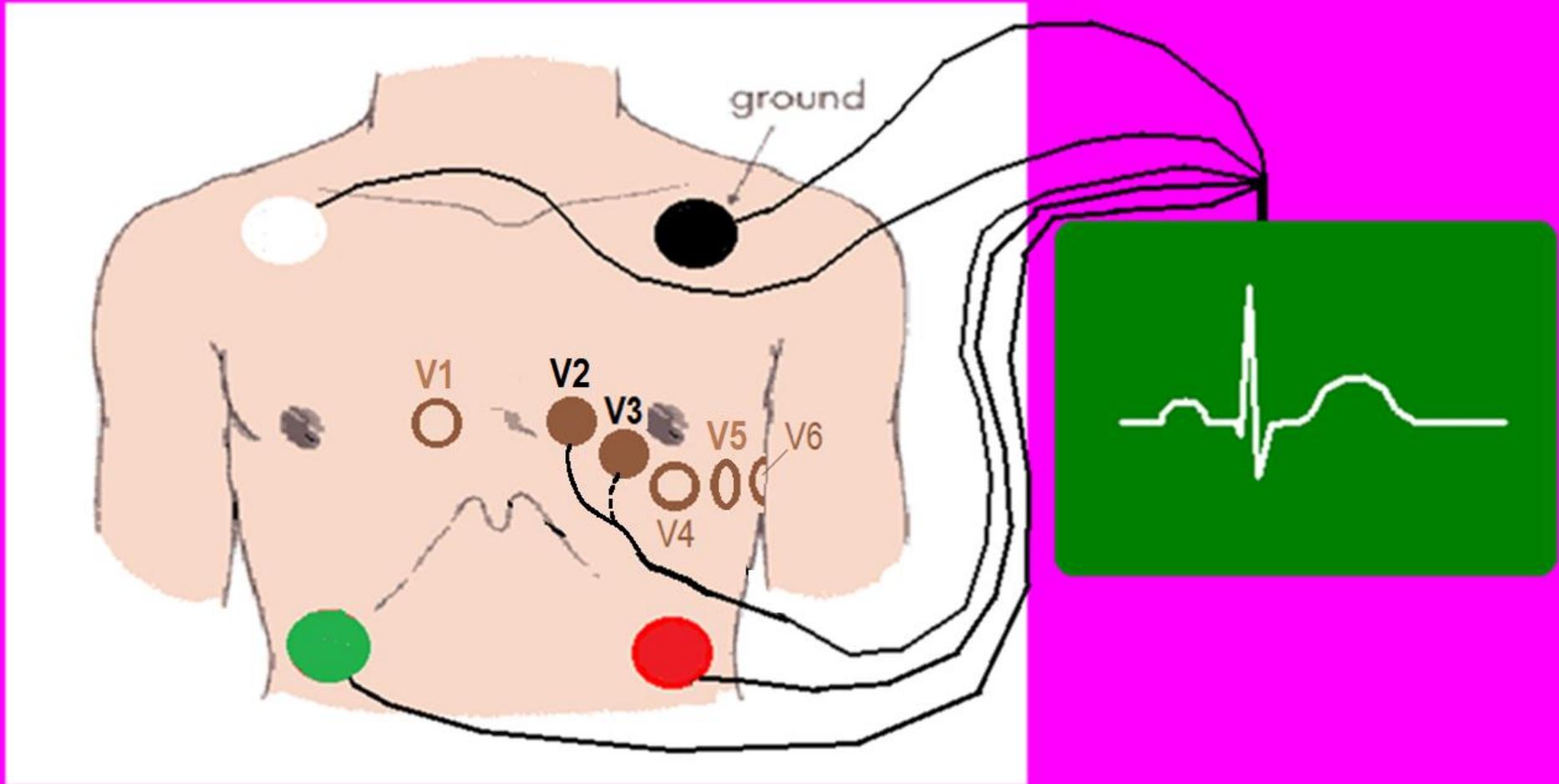


**CURRENT MOVING  
AWAY FROM  
THE EYE  
( POSITIVE ELECTRODE )**



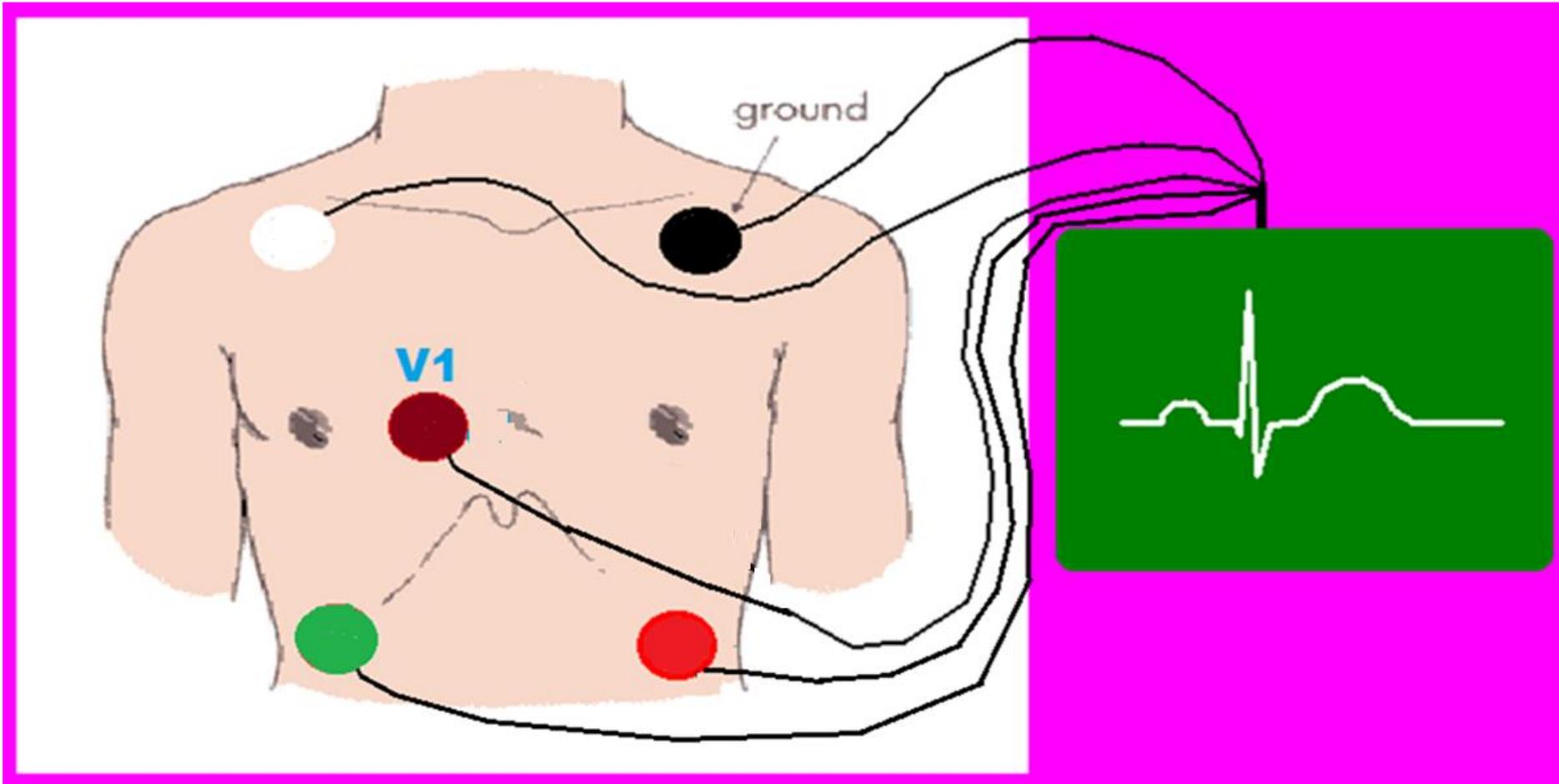
**RECORDS A  
"DOWNWARD"  
DEFLECTION**

# LEAD PLACEMENT

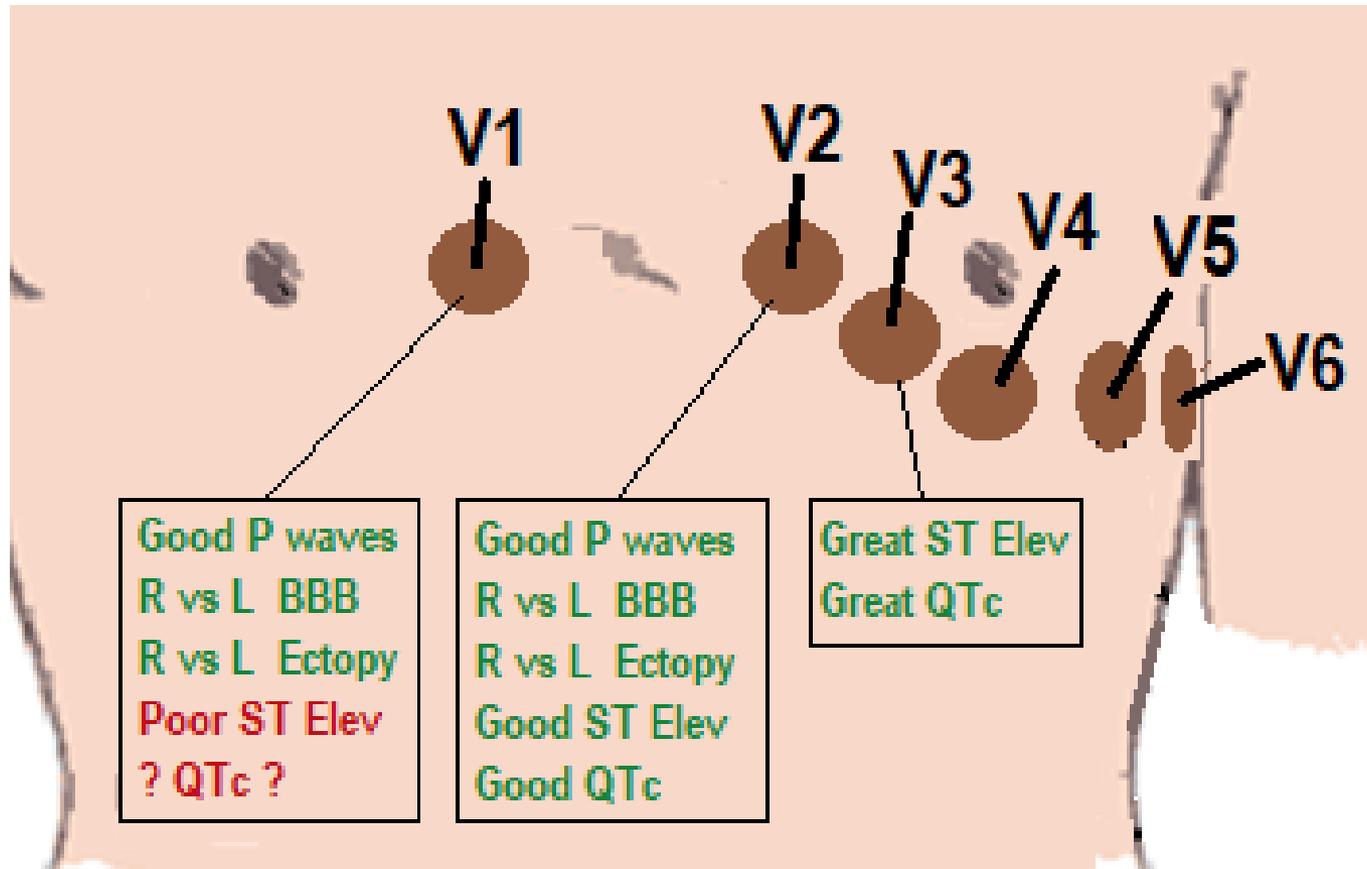


**5 WIRE TELEMETRY UNIT**

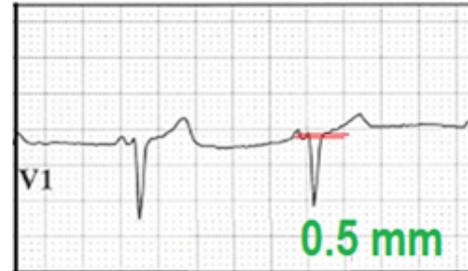
# *Why not V1 ? (we've used V1 for years!)*



# Lead V2 – GOOD Choice.....



# *Why not V1 ?*

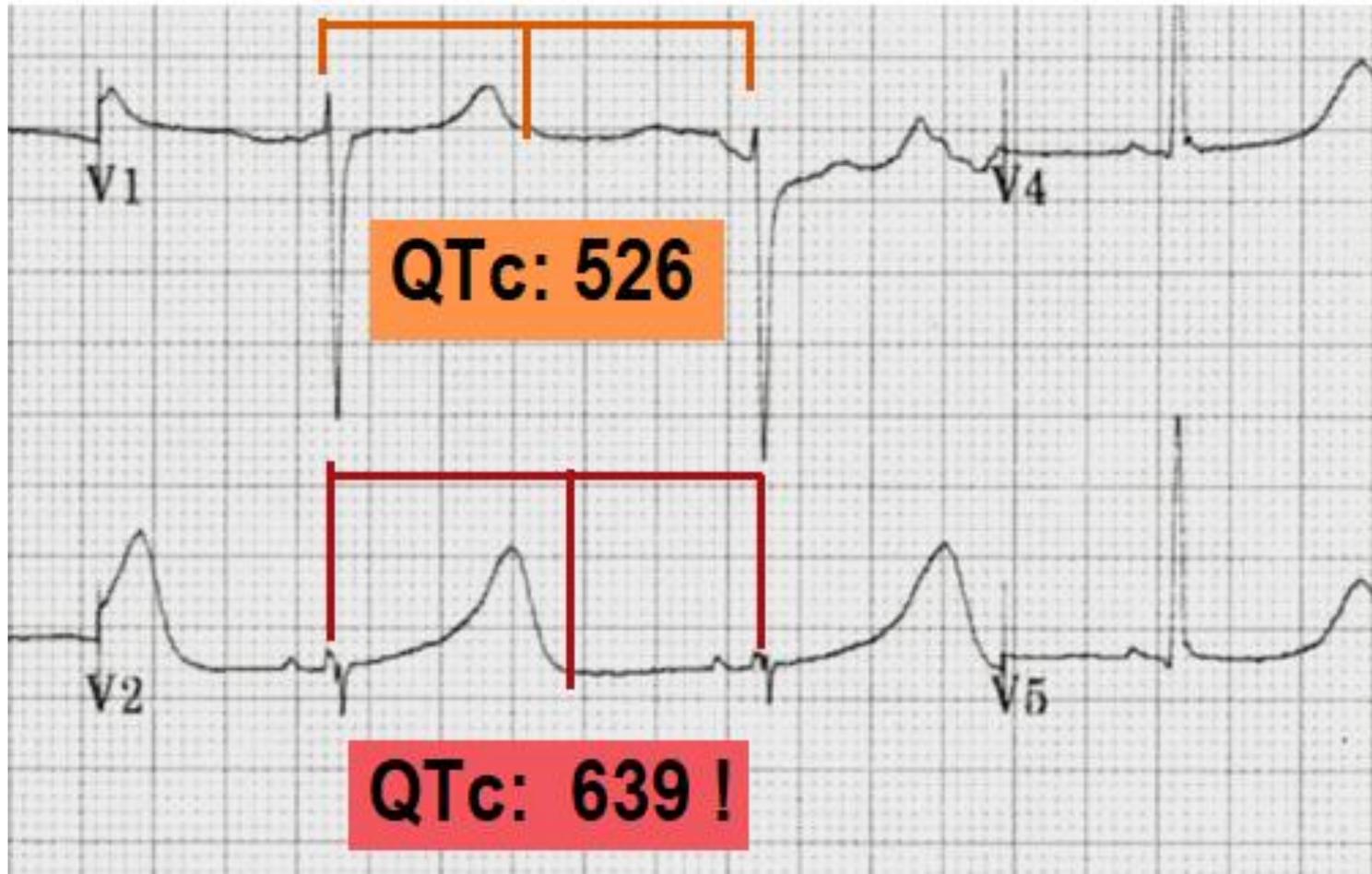


# Why not V1 ? *(often won't see STEMI !)*



If you were only monitoring Leads II and V1, you **would NOT detect this patient's STEMI !!**

# **Why not V1 ? (may not detect critical QTc)**





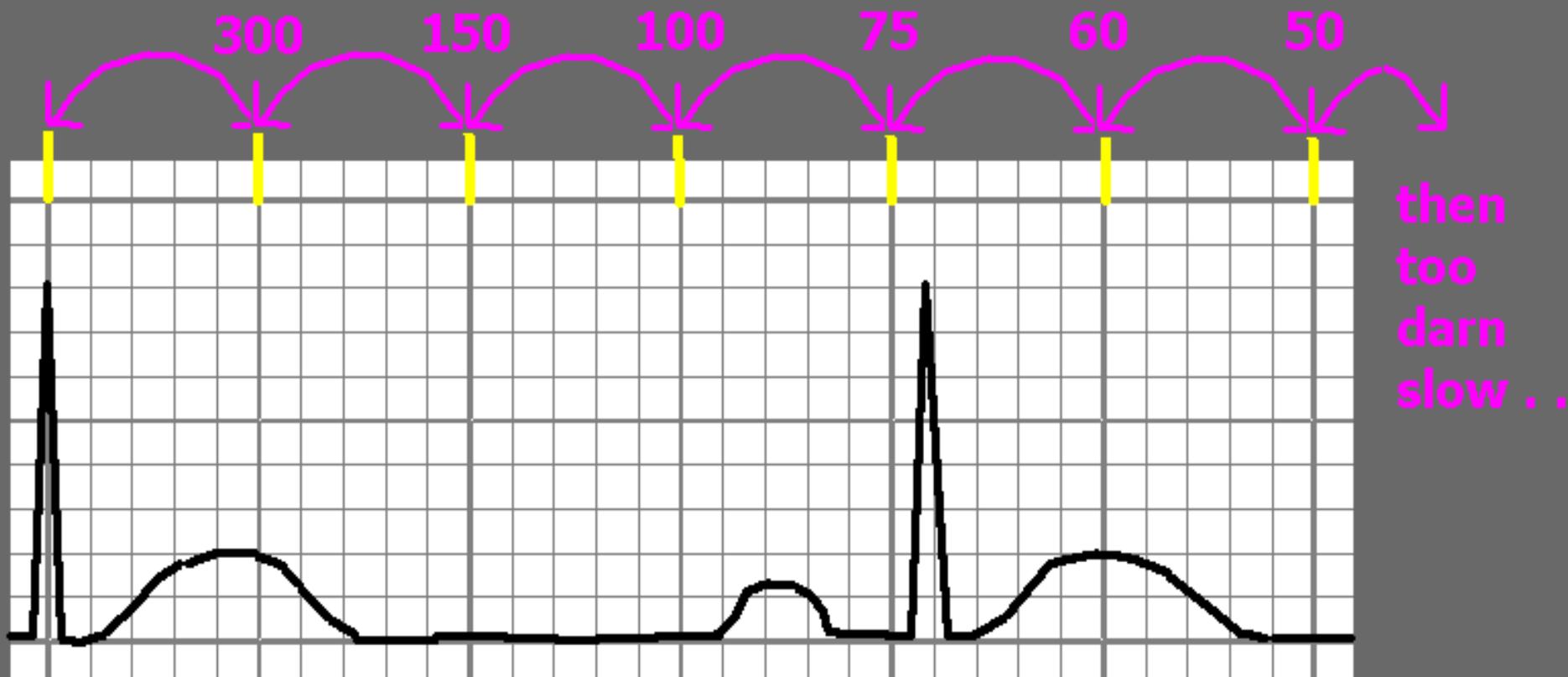
# ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION . . . . .



- RATE
- RHYTHM
- INTERVALS
- P:QRS RATIO

# DETERMINE HEART RATE

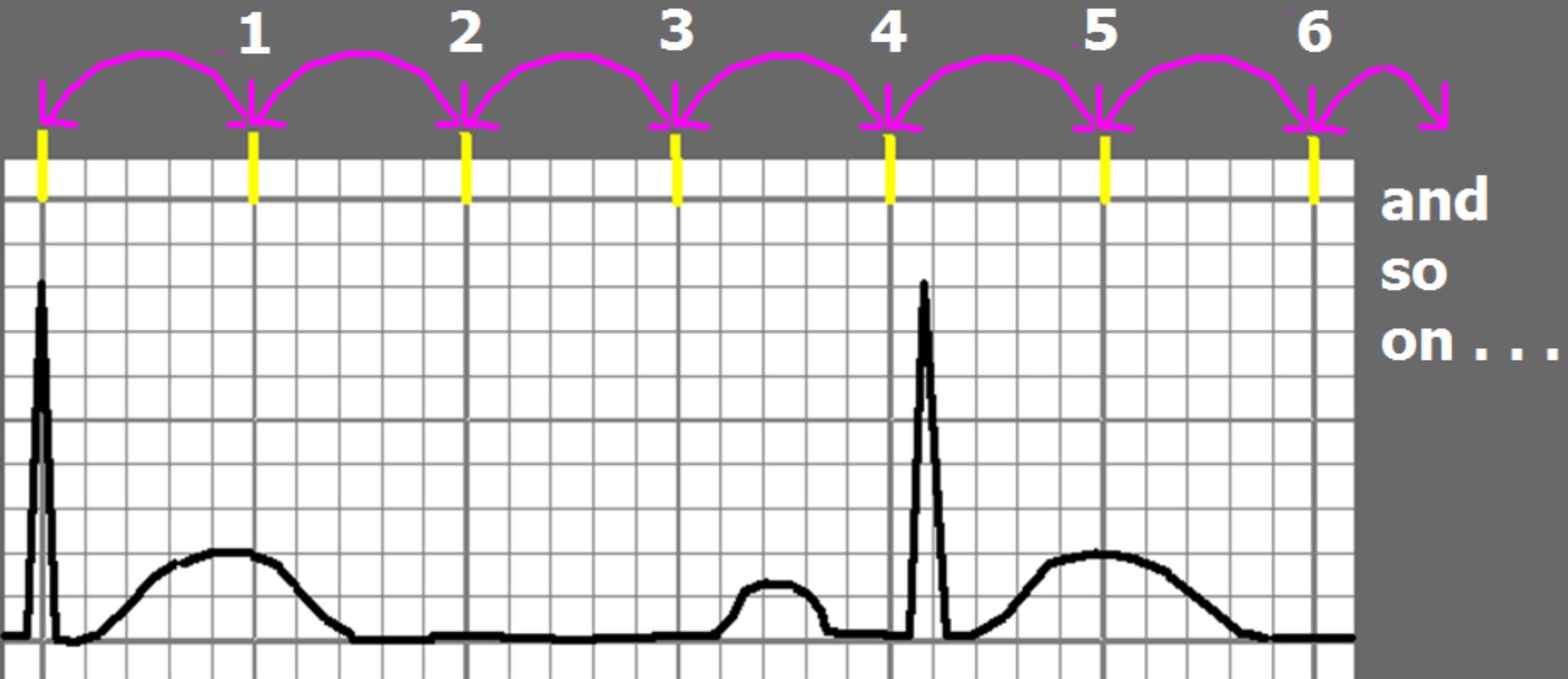
## METHOD 1: (regular rhythm)



# DETERMINE HEART RATE

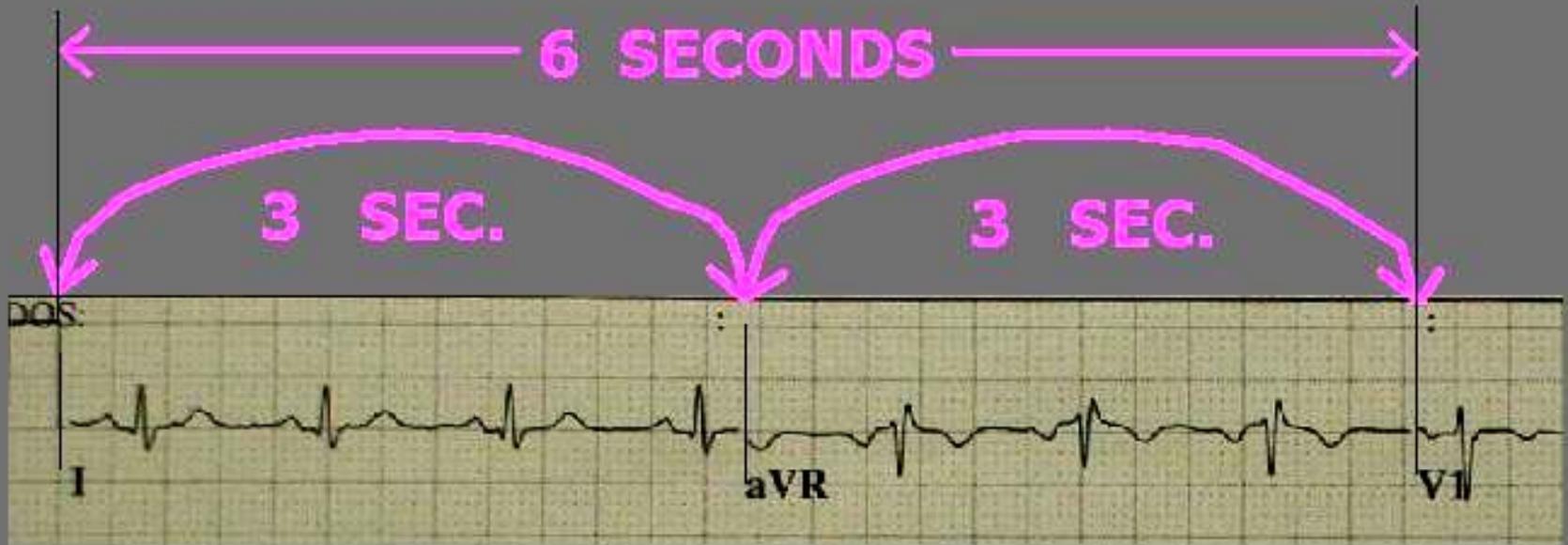
"300 Divided By \_\_\_\_\_"

(regular rhythm)



# DETERMINE HEART RATE:

## METHOD 2:

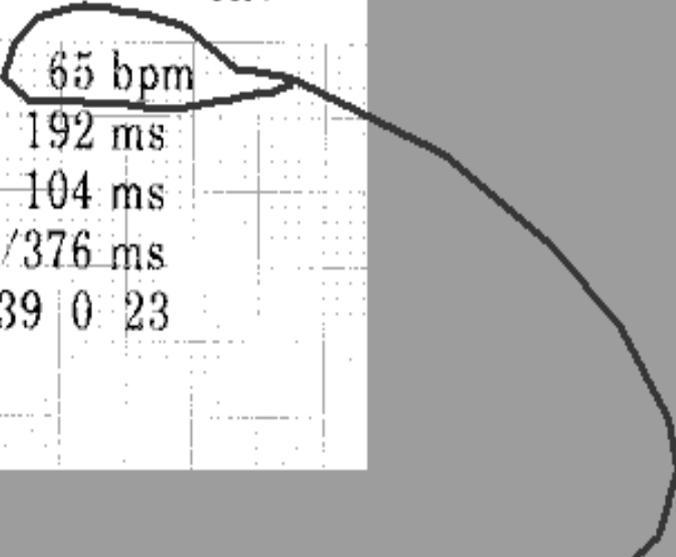


**HR = 70**

. . . . 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:**

---



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

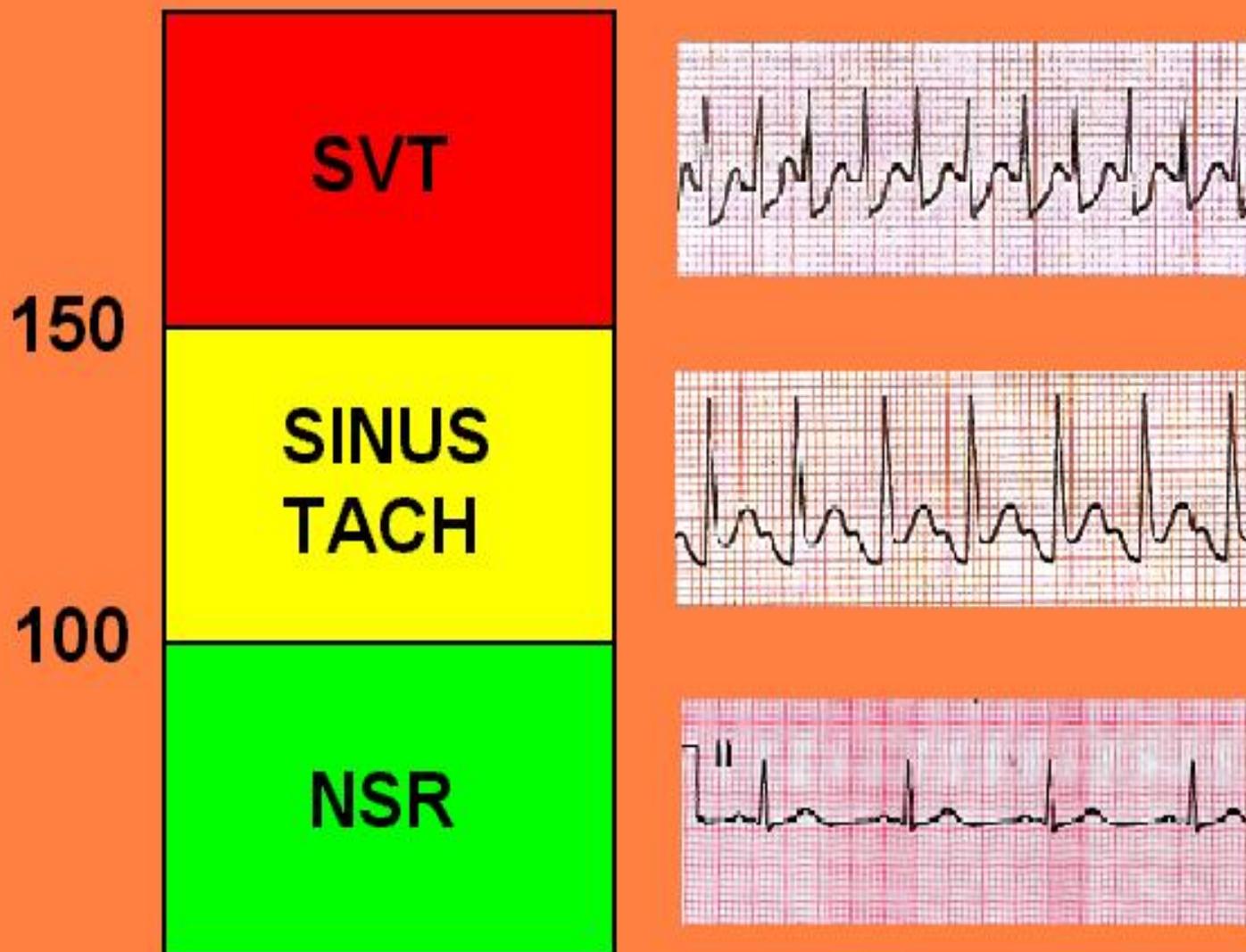
60 - 100

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

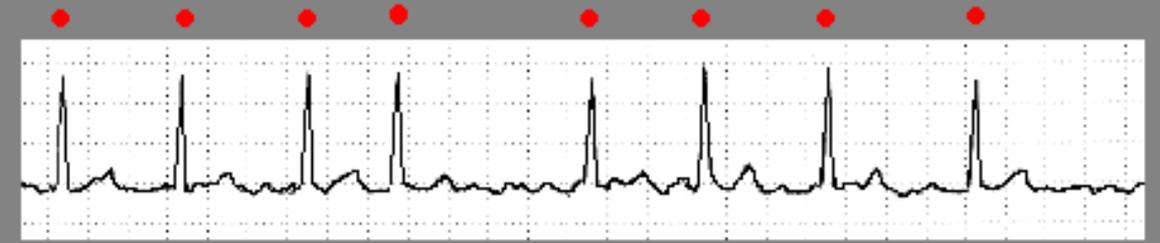
**REGULAR**



**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



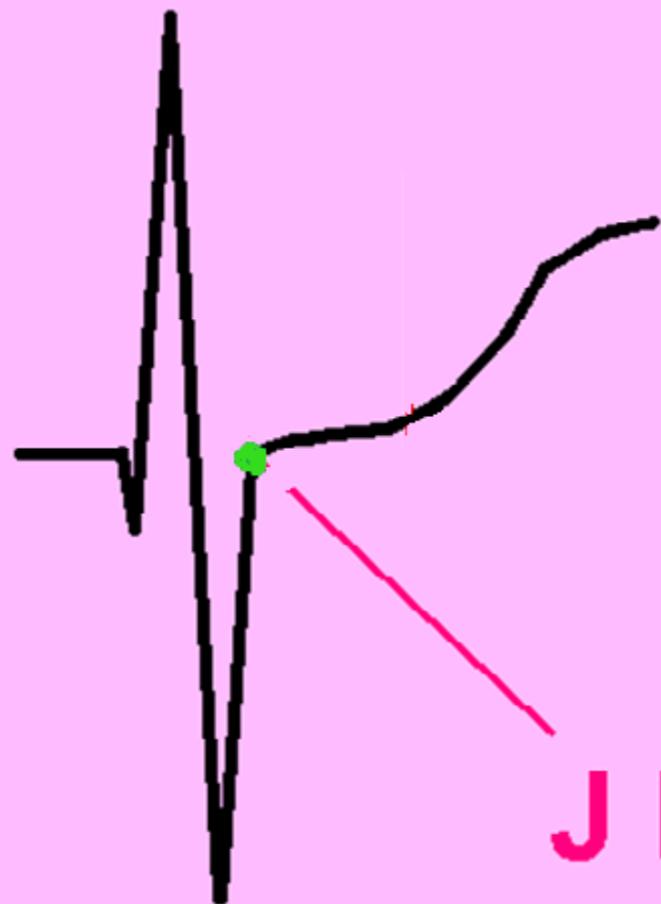
**QRS COMPLEX TOO WIDE**  
**WIDER THAN 120 mSEC**

**THINK:**

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

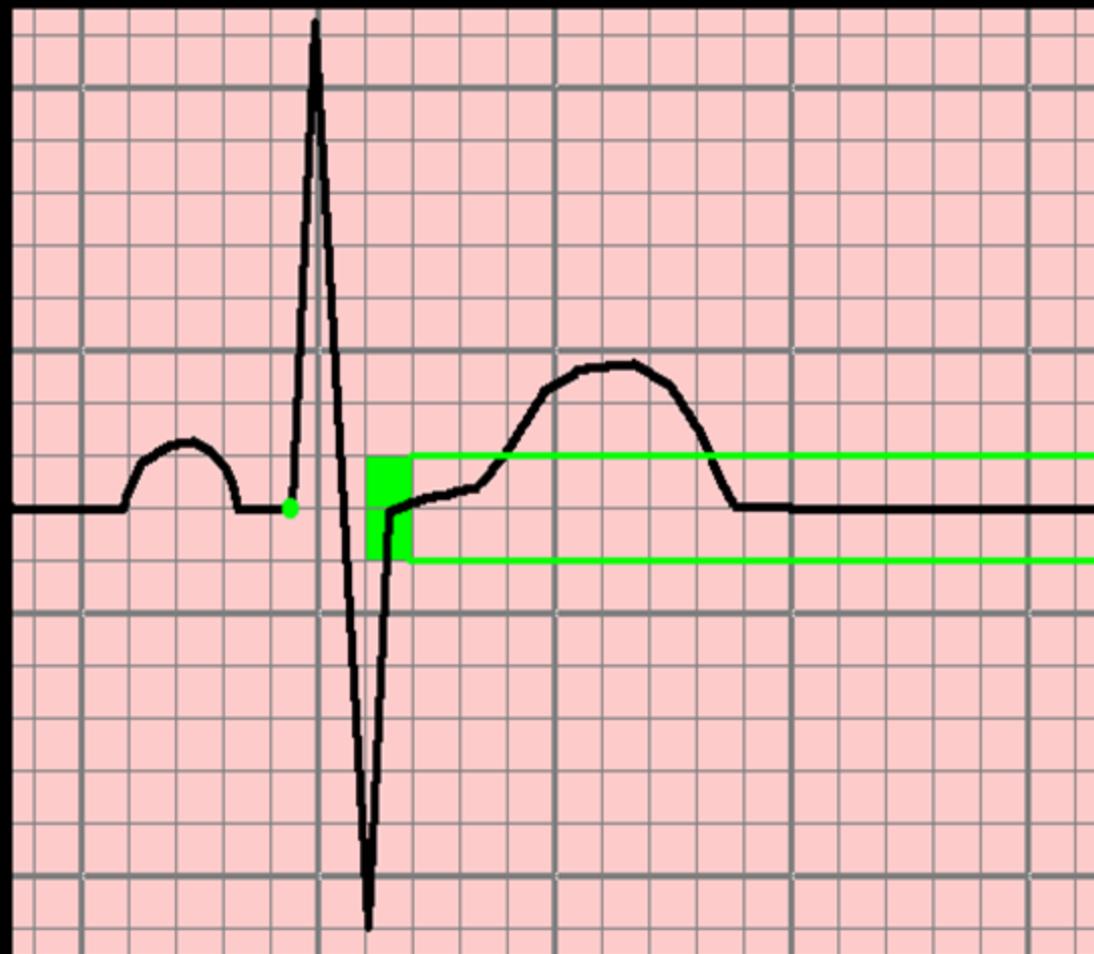
# THE J POINT

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



J POINT

# THE J POINT SHOULD BE ..



WITHIN  
1 mm  
ABOVE

OR

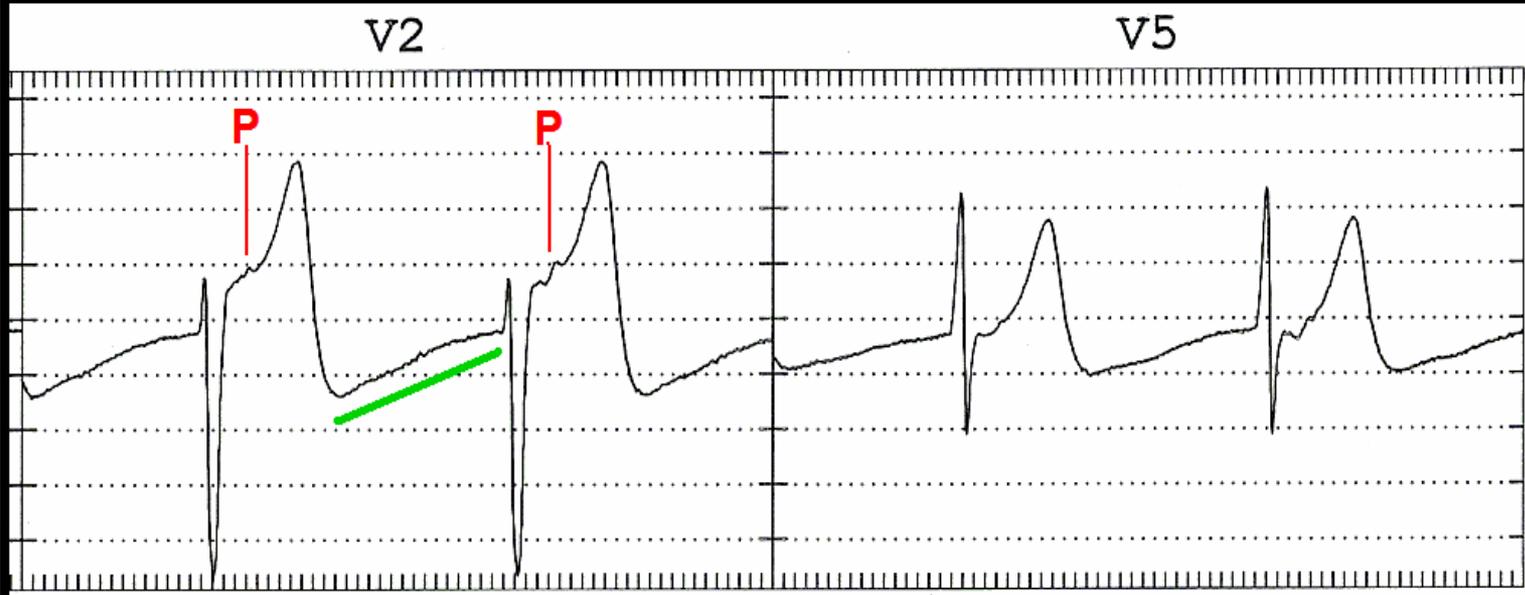
BELOW  
the  
ISOELECTRIC  
LINE

or the P-Q JUNCTION.

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

## THE ISOELECTRIC LINE

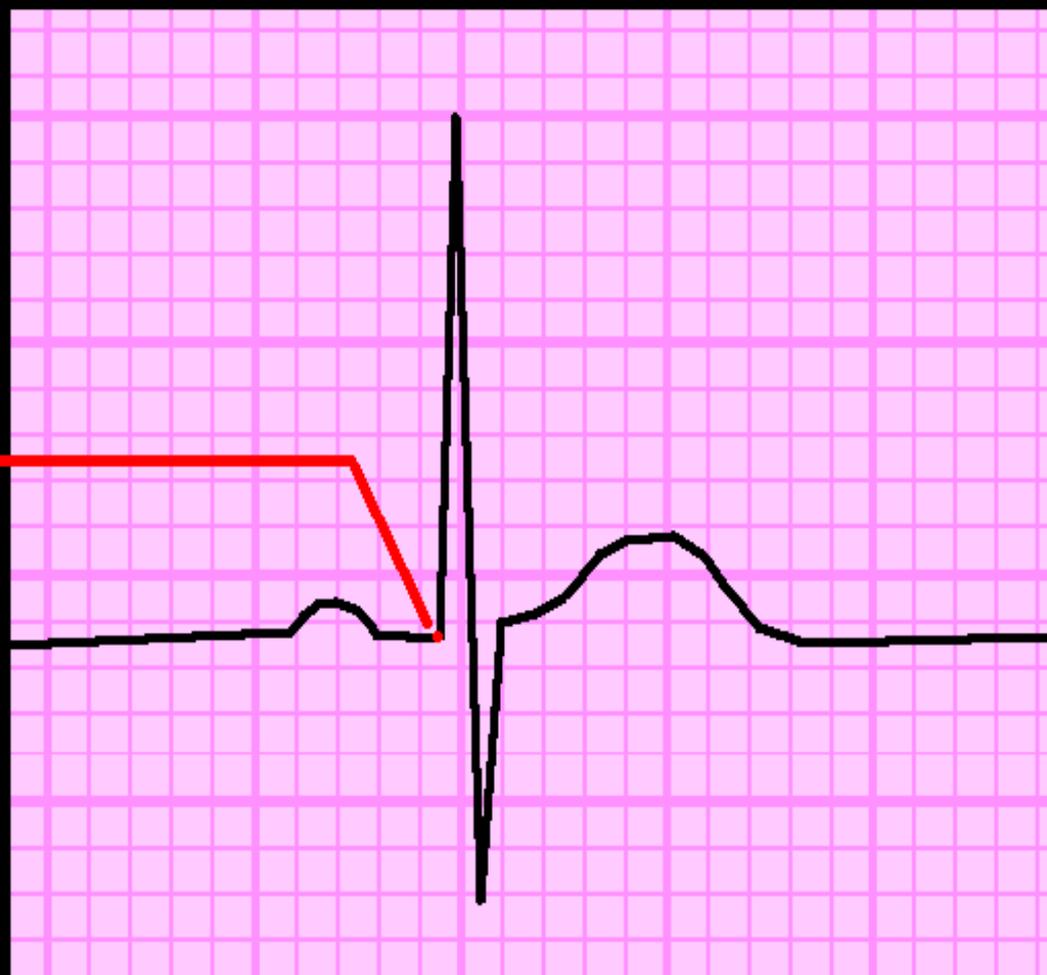
EKG from 13 y/o girl in ACCELERATED JUNCTIONAL RHYTHM.  
note: upsloping T-P interval, and P buried in T waves.



# THE P-Q JUNCTION

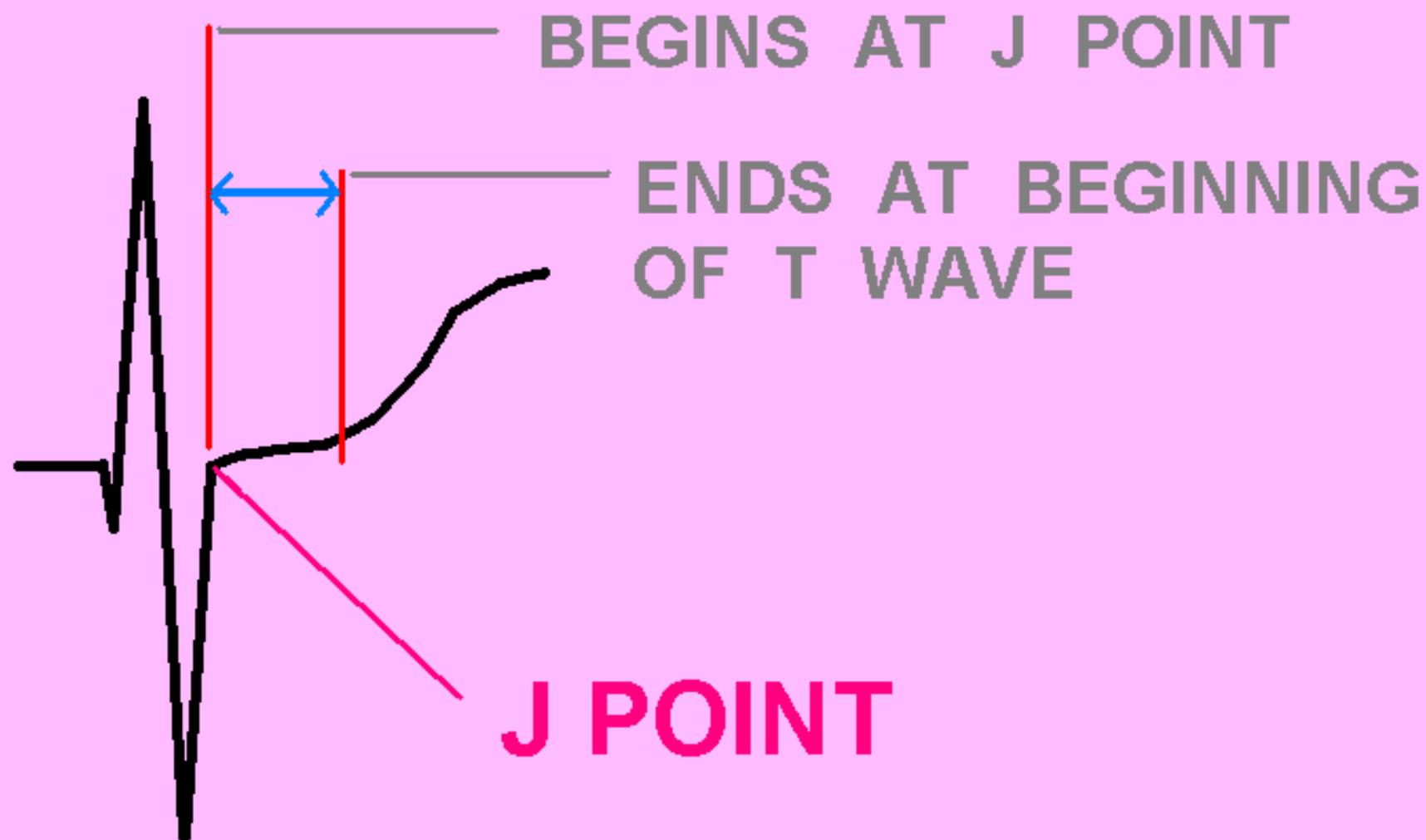
. . . is the POINT where the P-R SEGMENT ends and the QRS COMPLEX BEGINS.

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

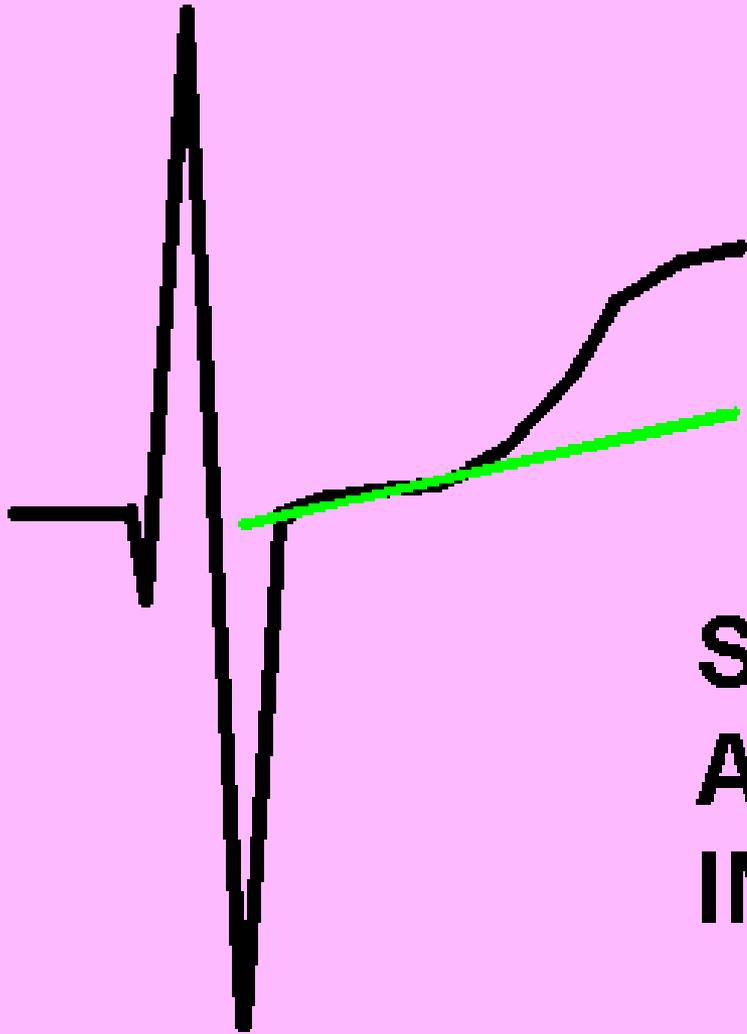


— as per the A.H.A., A.C.C., and WANG, ASINGER, and MARRIOTT, N.E.J.M. vol. 349:2128-2135 Nov. 27, 2003

# THE S-T SEGMENT

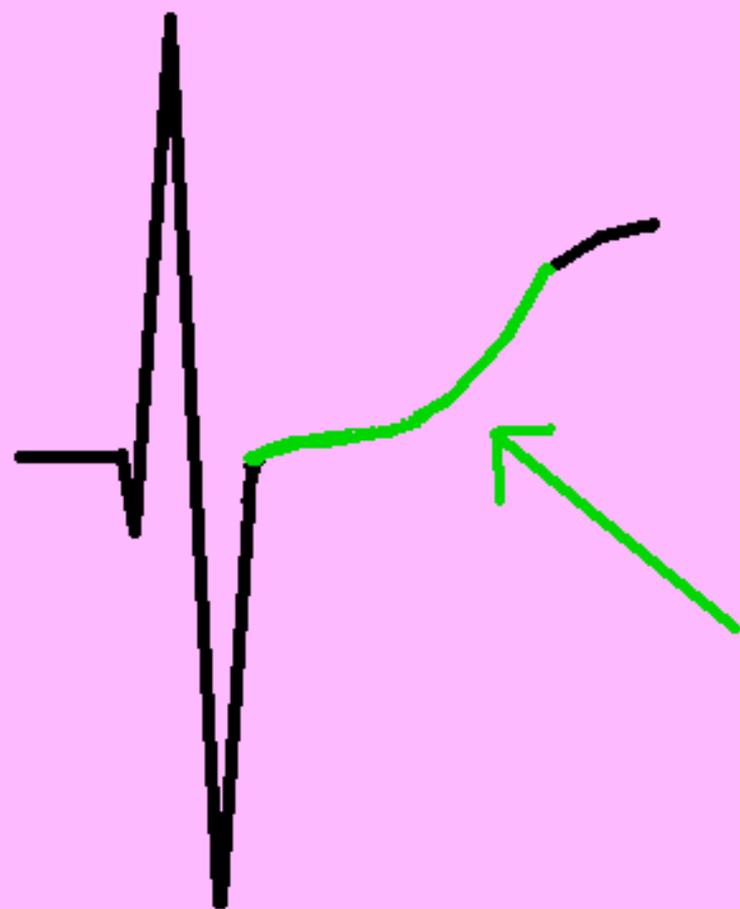


# THE S-T SEGMENT



SHOULD HAVE  
A "SLIGHT POSITIVE"  
INCLINATION

# THE S-T SEGMENT

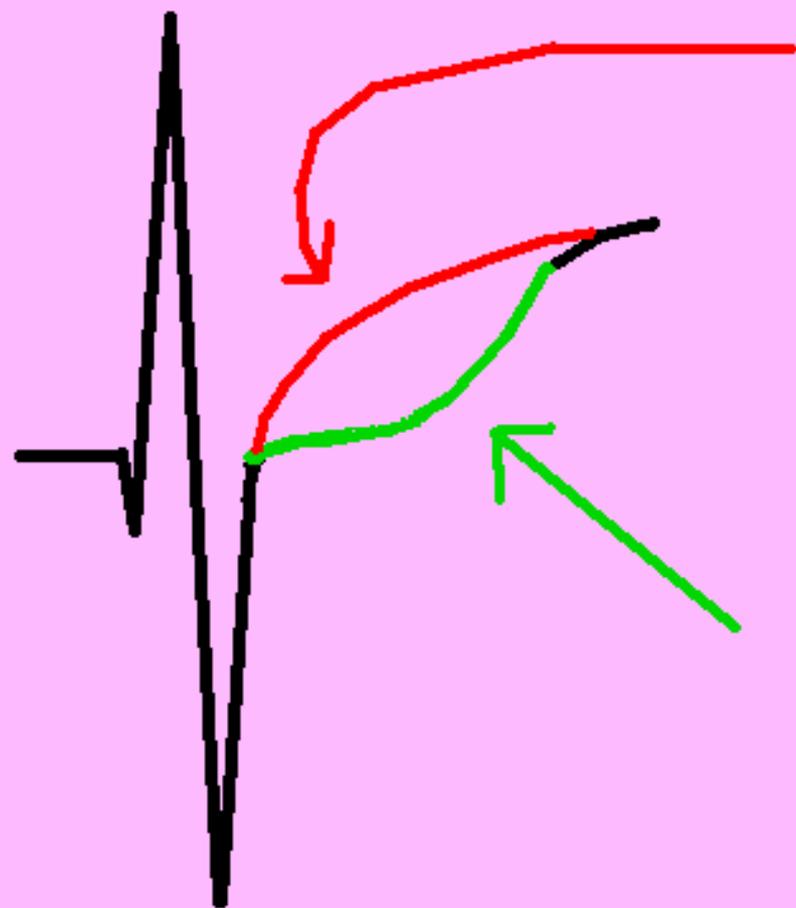


SHOULD BE  
"CONCAVE" IN  
SHAPE . . .

# THE S-T SEGMENT

AS OPPOSED TO  
"CONVEX" IN  
SHAPE

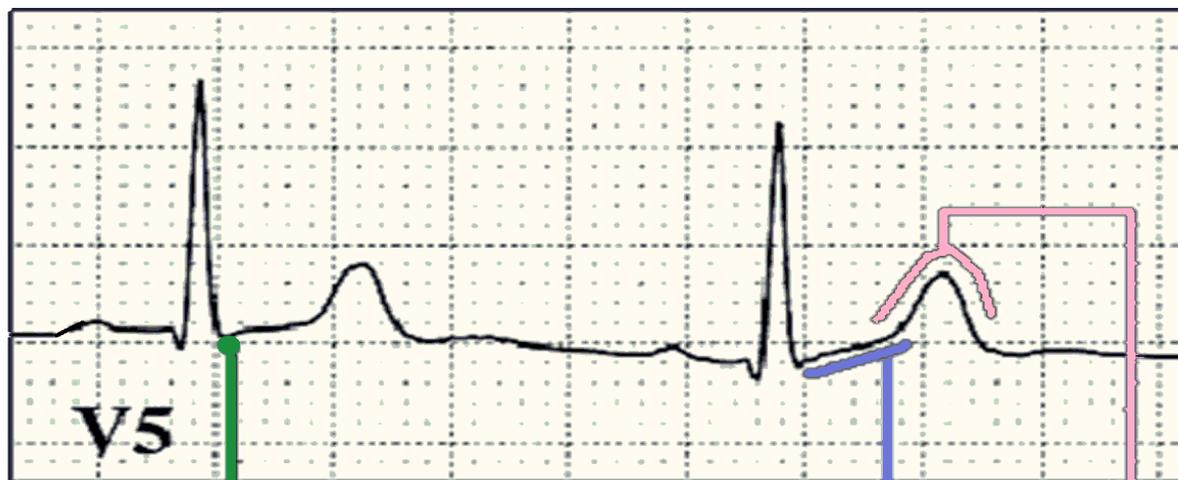
SHOULD BE  
"CONCAVE" IN  
SHAPE . . .



**When QRS width is normal (<120ms), use this example of NORMAL as your**



### **ECG MARKERS of NORMAL PERFUSION**



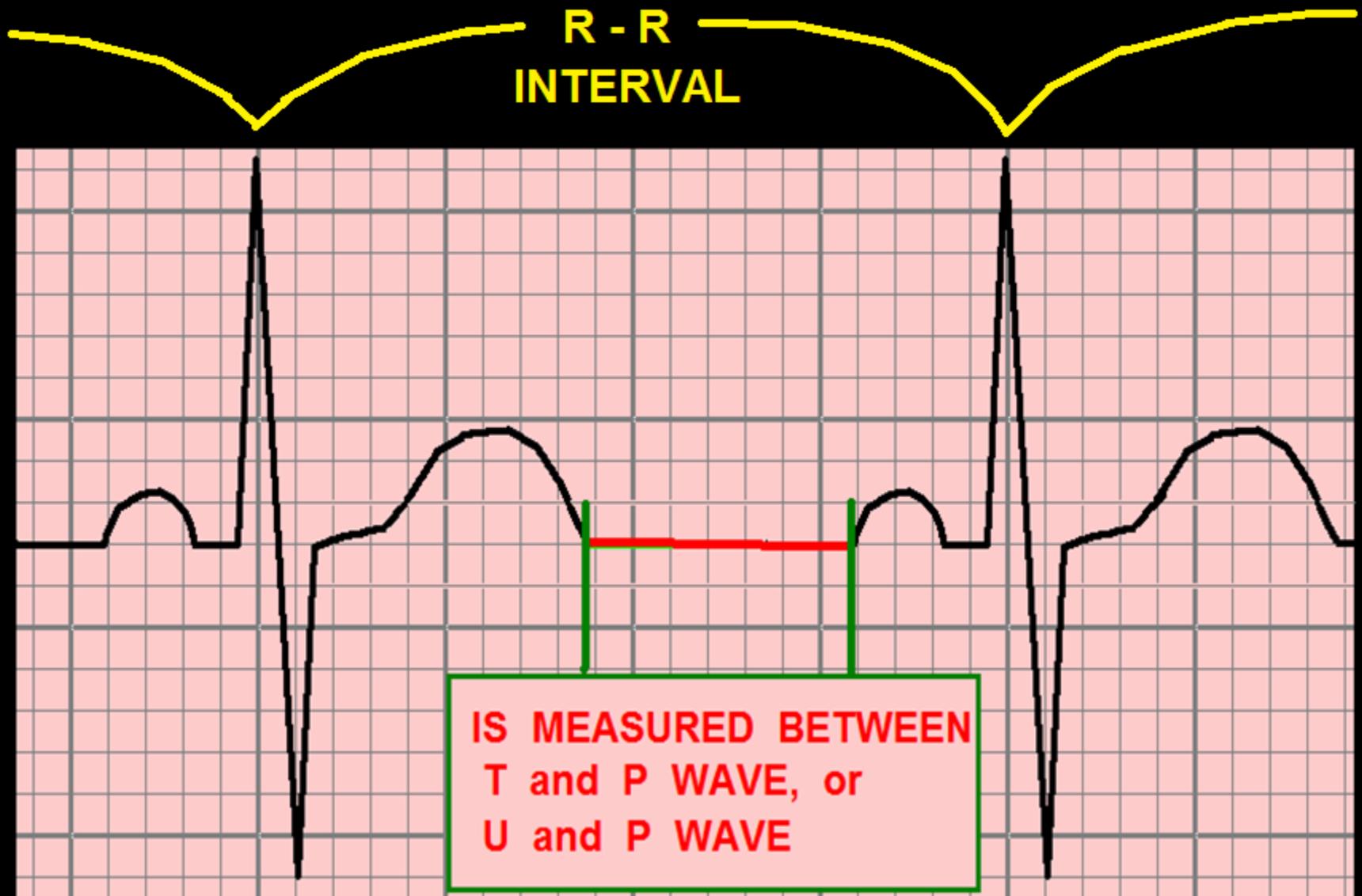
**V5**

**J POINT ISOELECTRIC**

**ST SEGMENT: "MILD POSITIVE INCLINATION"**

**T WAVE: SAME POLARITY AS QRS**

# THE ISOELECTRIC LINE



# Q - T INTERVAL

- VARIES BASED  
ON HEART RATE  
AND SEX



# Lead Selection: QT Interval

- Targeted QT measurement using 12 Lead ECG:

## *Appropriate Lead Selection*

The AHA/ACC Foundation/Heart Rhythm Society recommendations for the standardization and interpretation of the ECG (2009) recommend selecting the electrocardiographic lead with the longest T wave when monitoring the QT interval



Chest Leads

V2 & V3

often display

**LONGEST QT Intervals.**

# 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	<b>0.40</b>
60	<b>0.40</b>	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 the QT / QTc

## Method 1 – 12 Lead ECG Report:

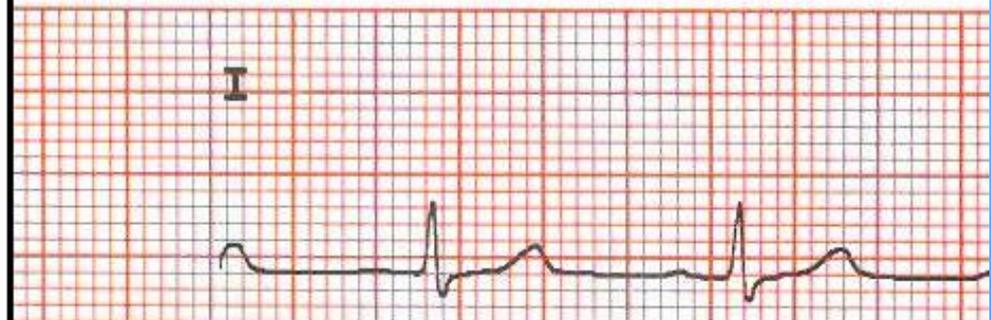
Standard 12 Lead ECG  
printout . . .

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		



“There’s  
an APP  
for  
that!”

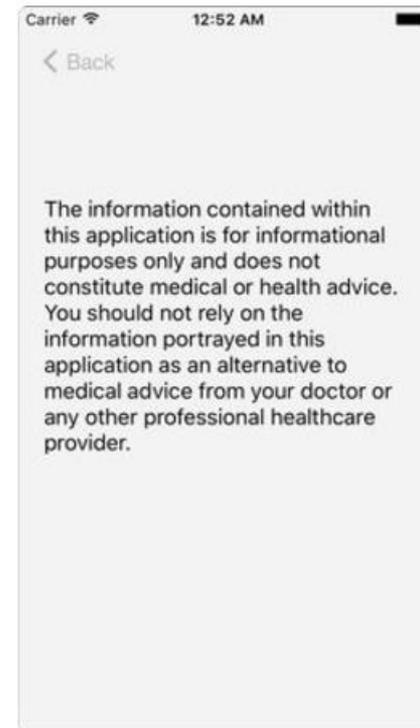
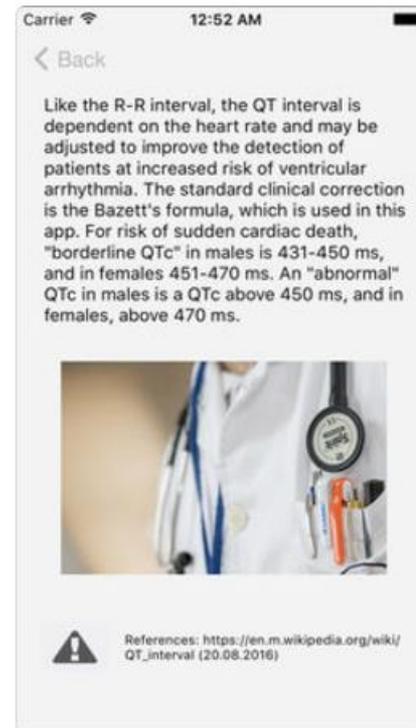
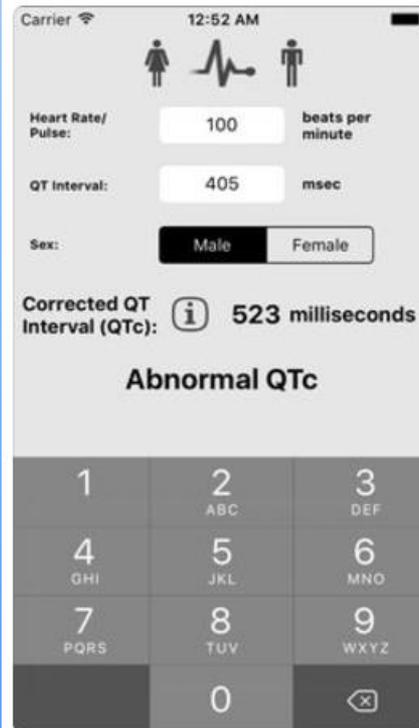


## Corrected QT Interval (QTc) 17+

Daniel Juergens

\$0.99

### iPhone Screenshots



# 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>

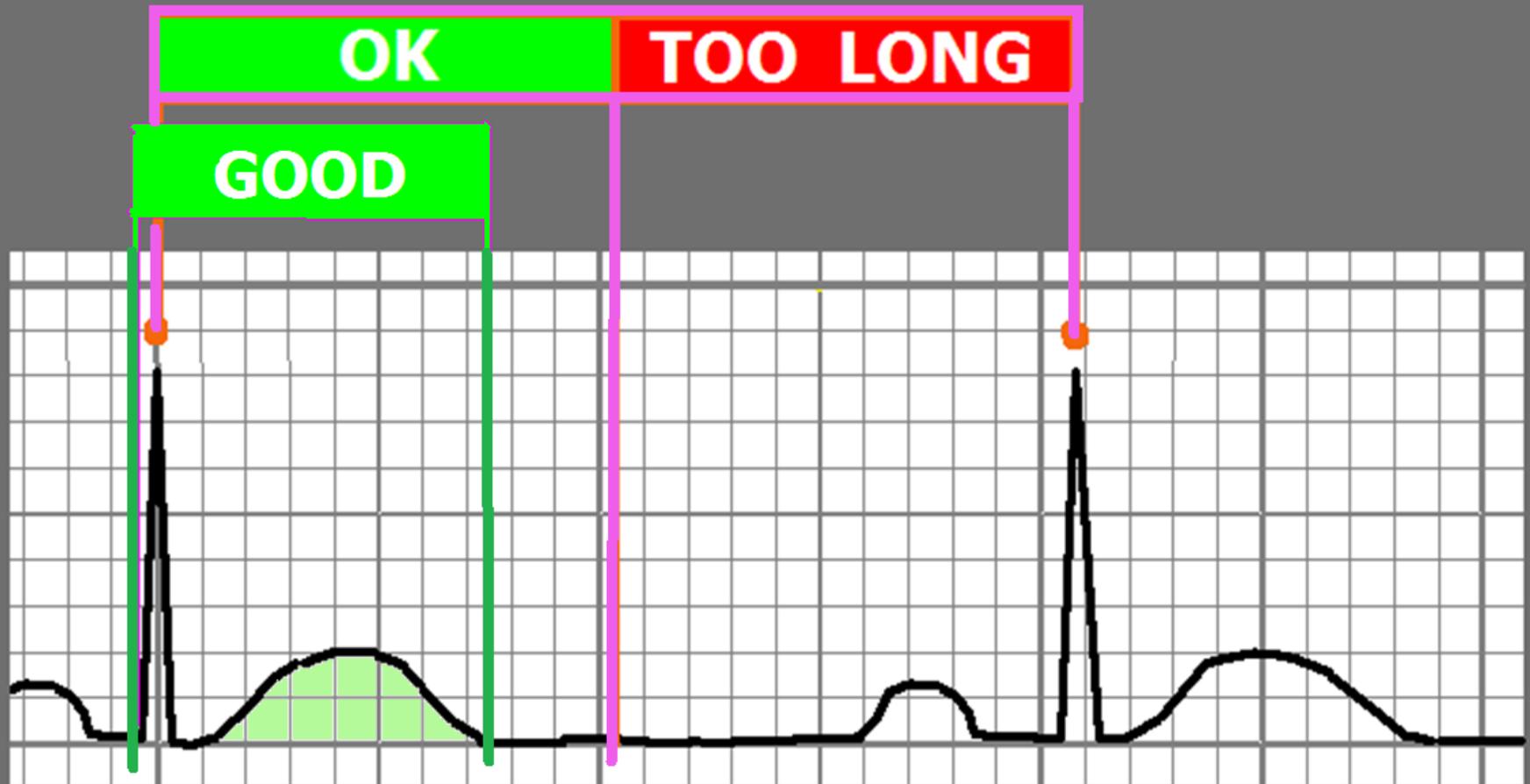
# DETERMINING Q-T INTERVAL LIMITS

## 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



# 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**

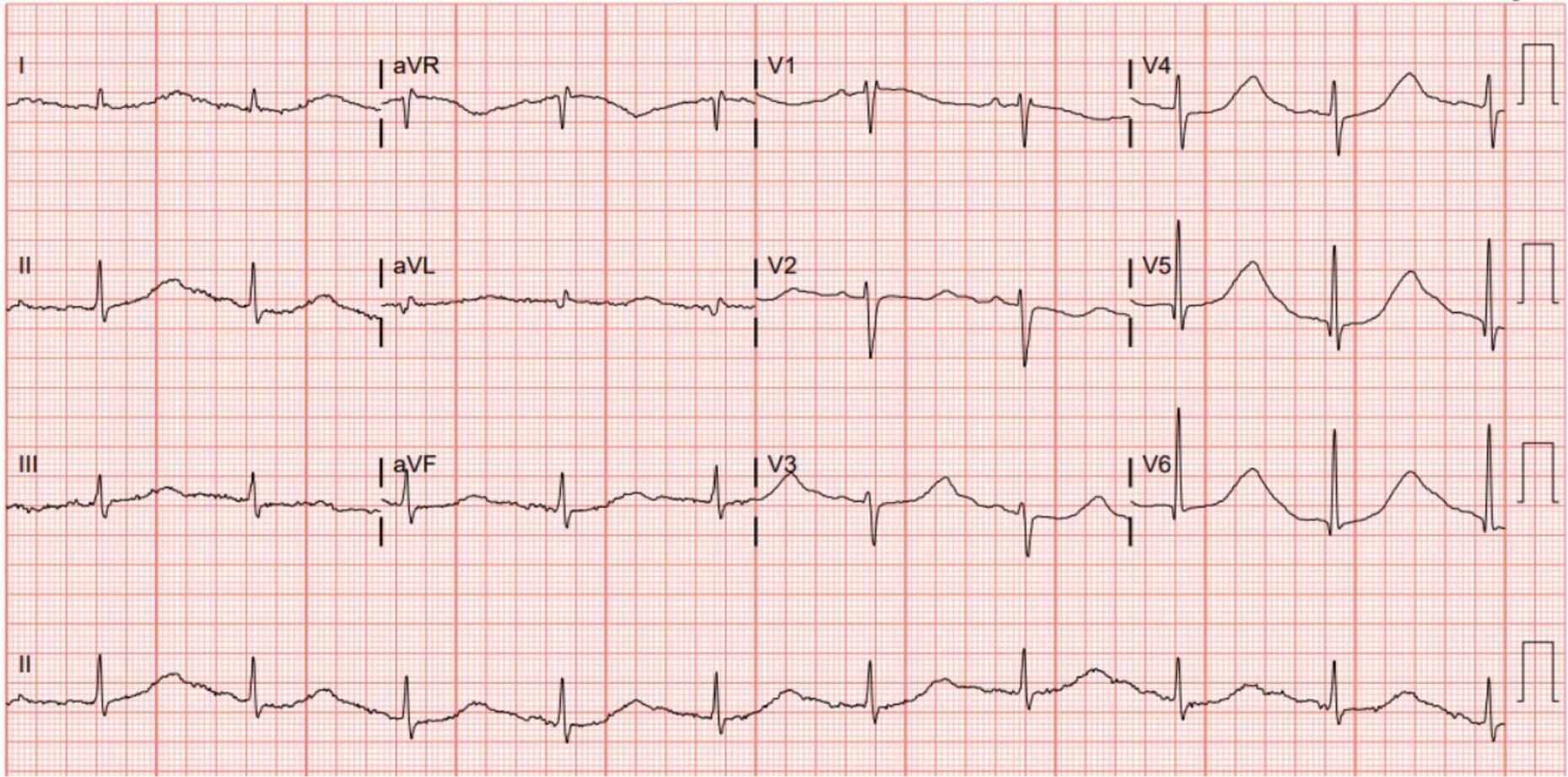
**(associated with TdP):** 600 + ms

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

--Axis--  
P 107  
QRS 61  
T 45

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis

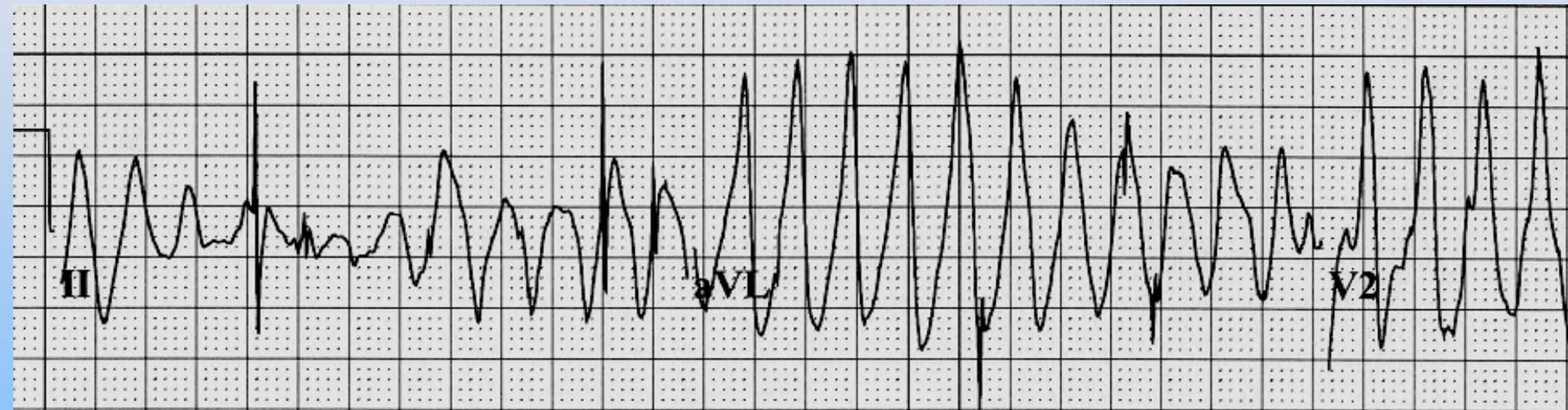




# Prolonged QT Interval

- **QTc 500 – 520** may be due to oral antiarrhythmics (sotalol, amiodarone, etc)
- **QTc above 500**: NOT ADVISABLE to administer any QT prolonging meds
  - Check electrolytes (especially K, Mg, Ca)
- **QTc 550** and above: advise immediate discontinuance of all QT prolonging meds
- **QTc 600+ ANTICIPATE Torsades de Pointes (TdP)**

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



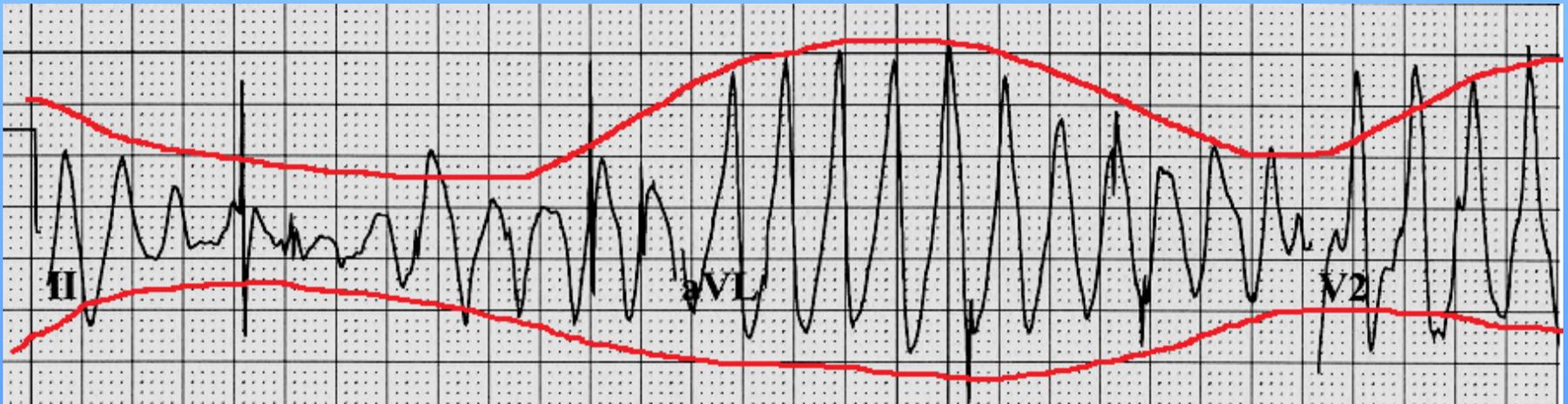
## Torsades de Pointes (TdP) – **HEMODYNAMICS:**

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

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



*a piece of Twisted Ribbon !*



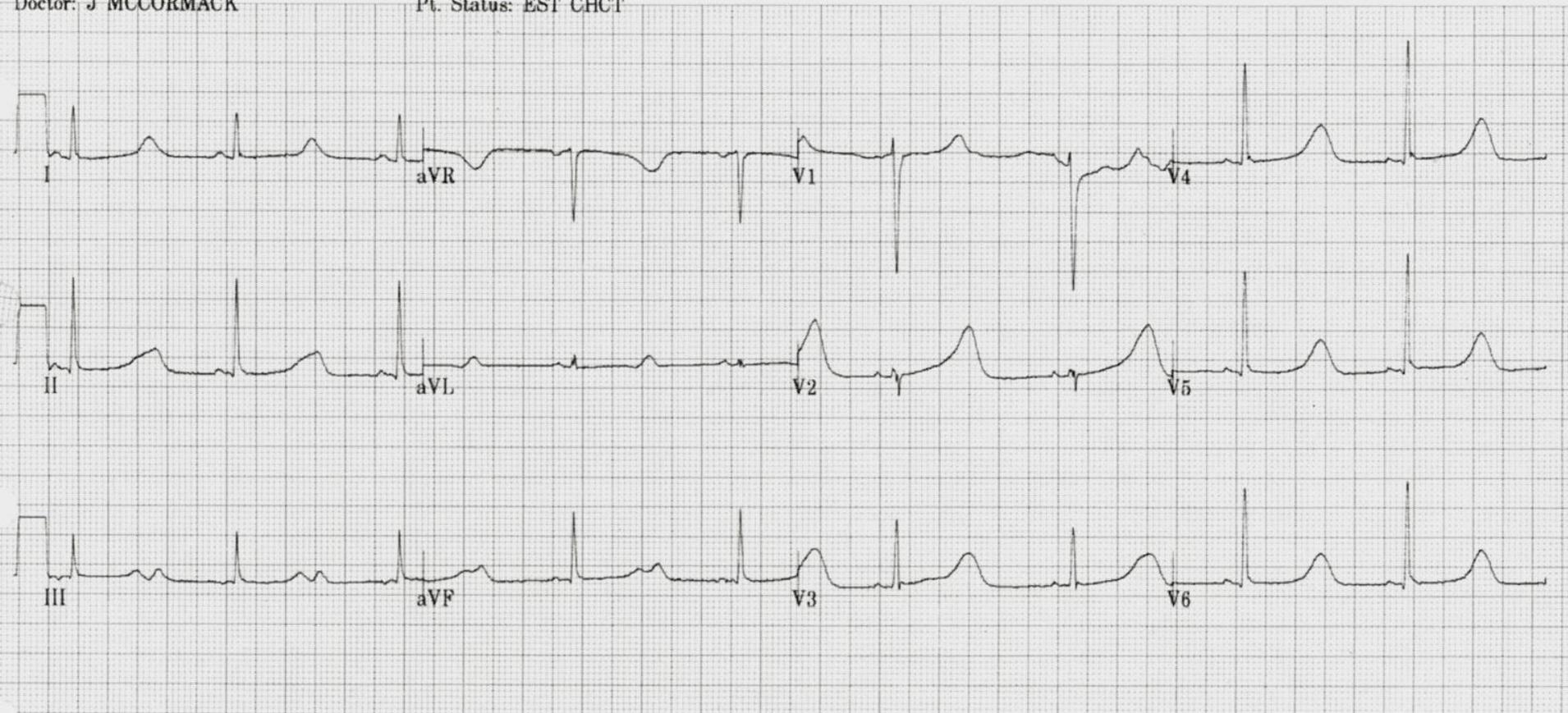
**22 y/o FEMALE**

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

PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

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?

# **-- 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<sup>+</sup> AND MAG LEVELS
- POSSIBILITY OF TORSADES

# PROLONGED Q - T INTERVAL

**THINK:**

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

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

# QT Prolongation -- *STAT Intervention:*

 [Avoidance of Meds that are known to prolong the QT Interval. Click here for current list from CREDIBLEMEDS.ORG](#)

*Commonly used QT prolonging meds include:*

**-Amiodarone**

**-Ritalin**

**-Procainamide**

**-Pseudoephedrine**

**-Levaquin**

**-Haloperidol**

**-Erythromycin**

**-Thorazine**

**-Norpace**

**-Propulcid**

**-Tequin**

**-Zofran**

**-Benadryl**

**-Ilbutilide**

***and MANY more!***

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

- [Smartphone Apps](#)
- [List of clinical factors associated with prolonged QTc and/or Torsades de Pointes \(TdP\)](#)



**CREDIBLEMEDS®**

A Trusted Partner Providing  
Reliable Information On Medicines

Assessing risk of drugs that prolong  
the QT interval and cause arrhythmias.

FOR EVERYONE    FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS    FOR RESEARCH SCIENTISTS

Crediblemeds > News > Smartphone Apps for CredibleMeds Now Available

Print   Share   RSS   Donate

# Other QT issues

- A-fib: challenging to calculate QTc due to varying R-R intervals. The next slide show the formulas for a more accurate calculation . . .

From: **What Clinicians Should Know About the QT Interval**

JAMA. 2003;289(16):2120-2127. doi:10.1001/jama.289.16.2120

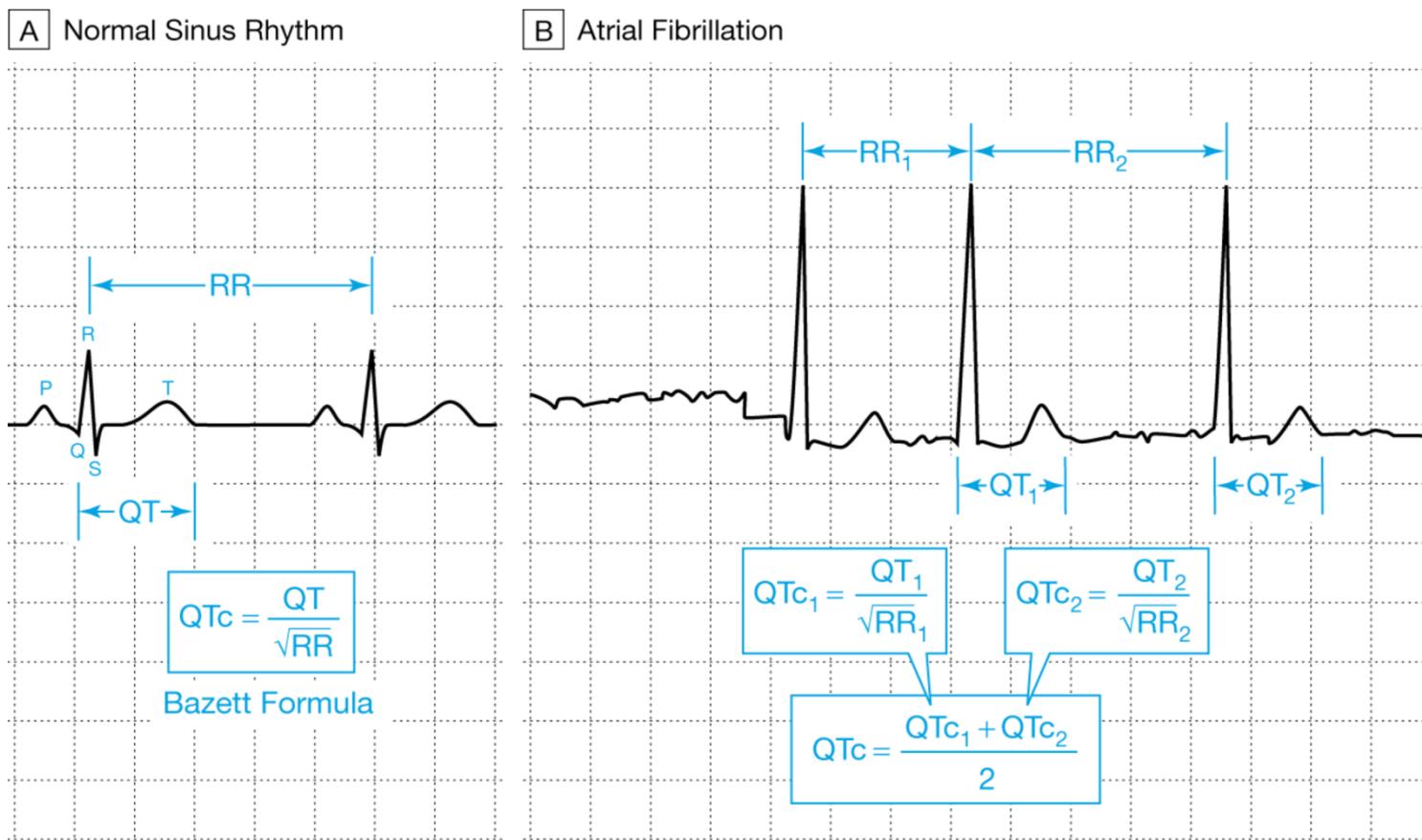


Figure Legend:

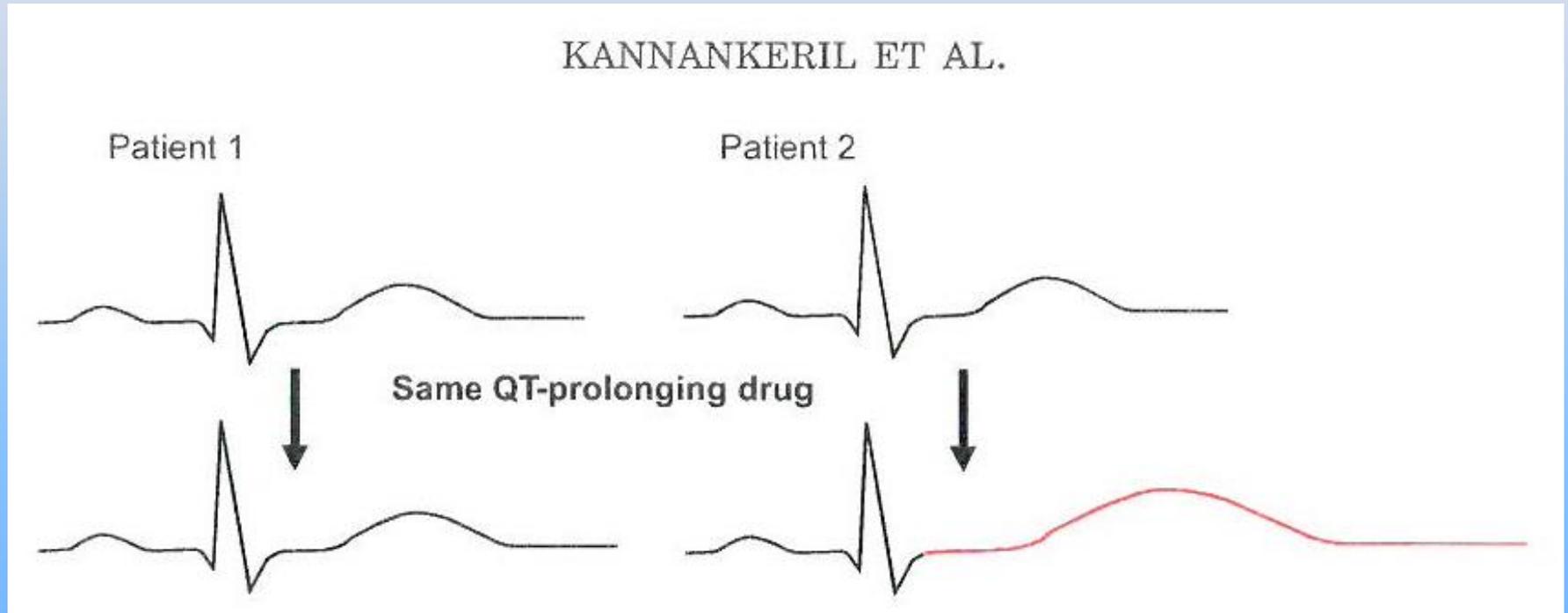
QTc indicates corrected QT interval; RR, R-R interval. A, Normal sinus rhythm; the Bazett formula is used to correct the QT interval for the heart rate. B, Atrial fibrillation; QT interval is calculated by taking the average of QT intervals with shortest and longest preceding R-R intervals.

# Other QT issues

- A-fib: challenging to calculate QTc due to varying R-R intervals.
- Wide QRS (QRSd >120ms): The delay in depolarization (widening of QRS) will also delay repolarization. Therefore a QT interval that appears “elongated” may be due to nothing more than a Bundle Branch Block.

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.](#)

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

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

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

## Screen all children for potential heart issues

The American Academy of Pediatrics now says all children should be screened for conditions that can lead to cardiac arrest or death — a reversal from 2012 guidance that mainly focused on children who play sports.

"We tended to focus on athletes in the past when parents brought their children and teens in for a sports physical, or preparticipation exam," said Christopher Erickson, MD, lead author of the statement. "We know today that all children and teens benefit from a simple screening to help identify any potential problem that warrants follow-up with a cardiac specialist."

In an updated policy statement published in the July issue of *Pediatrics*, the academy lays out four screening questions physician should ask all children at least every two to three years, particularly when they start middle school or junior high school:

1. Have you ever fainted, passed out, or had an unexplained seizure suddenly and without warning, especially during exercise or in response to sudden loud noises, such as doorbells, alarm clocks and ringing telephones?
2. Have you ever had exercise-related chest pain or shortness of breath?
3. Has anyone in your immediate family (parents, grandparents, siblings) or other, more distant relatives (aunts, uncles, cousins) died of heart problems or had an unexpected sudden death before age 50? This would include unexpected drownings, unexplained auto crashes in which the relative was driving, or SIDS.
4. Are you related to anyone with HCM or hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome, ACM, LQTS, short QT syndrome, BrS, or CPVT or anyone younger than 50 years with a pacemaker or implantable defibrillator?

If screening indicates any reason for concern, an electrocardiogram should be the first test administered, the academy said.



# ESTABLISH YOUR ROUTINE ECG EVALUATION . . . . .



RATE



RHYTHM



INTERVALS

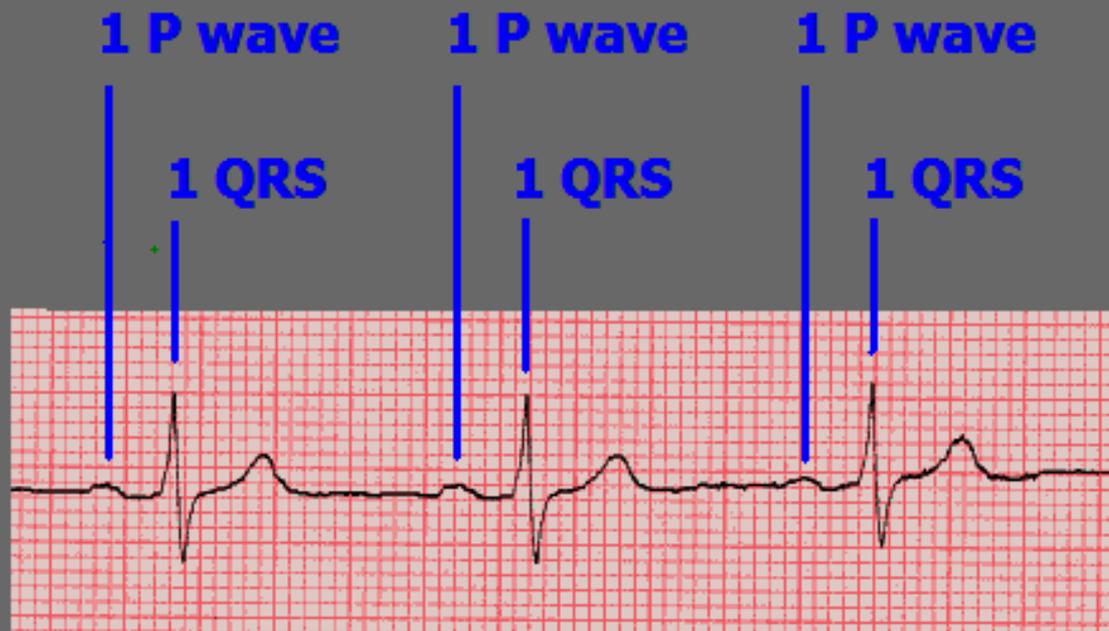


P:QRS RATIO

# DETERMINE P : QRS RATIO



**SIMPLY STATED, SHOULD ALWAYS BE 1 : 1**



# **P : QRS RATIO**

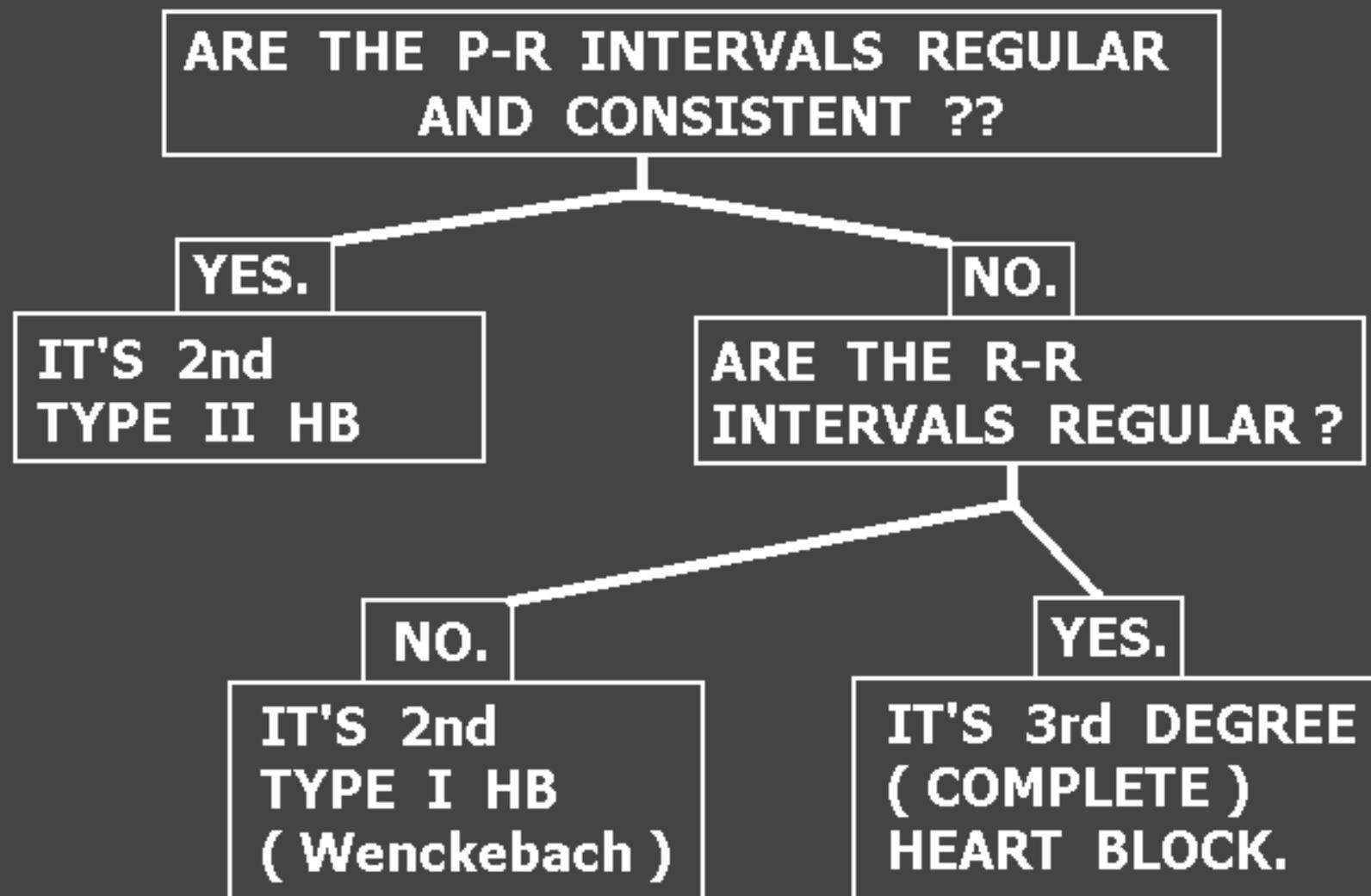
**IF GREATER THAN 1 : 1**

**THINK:**

- **2° HEART BLOCK**  
( TYPE 1 or 2 )
- **3° HEART BLOCK**

# 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

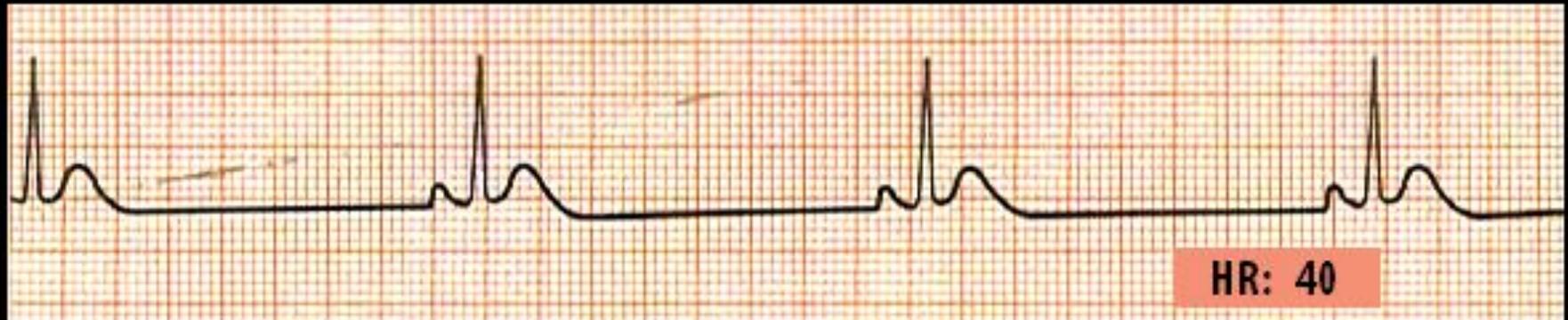


**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): PERFECTLY NORMAL IN EVERY WAY!**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

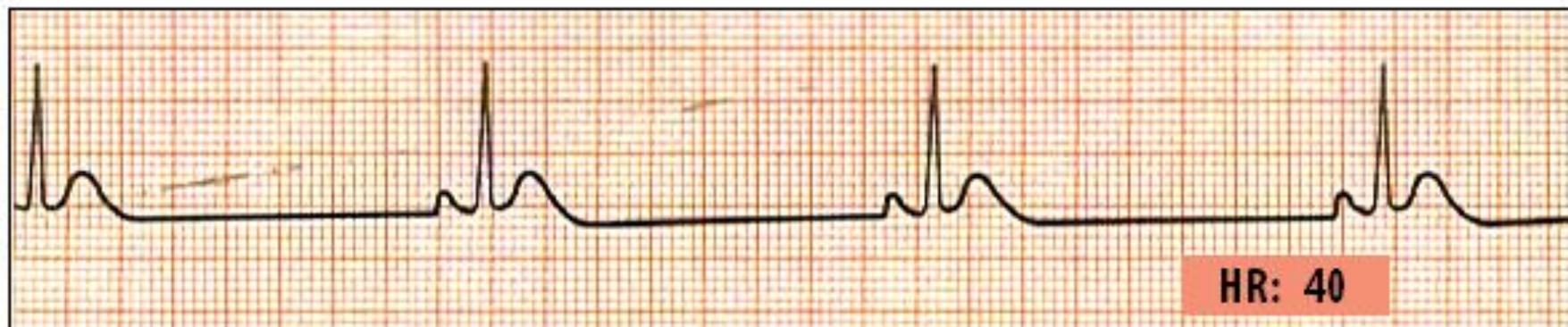
RHYTHM \_\_\_\_\_

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)

# ***-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --***

- Immediately check patient**
- Notify next “higher up” in chain of command**

**1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**

***AND WHEN YOU'RE AT THE NURSES STATION AND YOU SEE A PATIENT'S HEART RATE IS TOO SLOW OR TOO FAST, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ??***

# SHOCK ASSESSMENT



SECONDS

SHOCK =

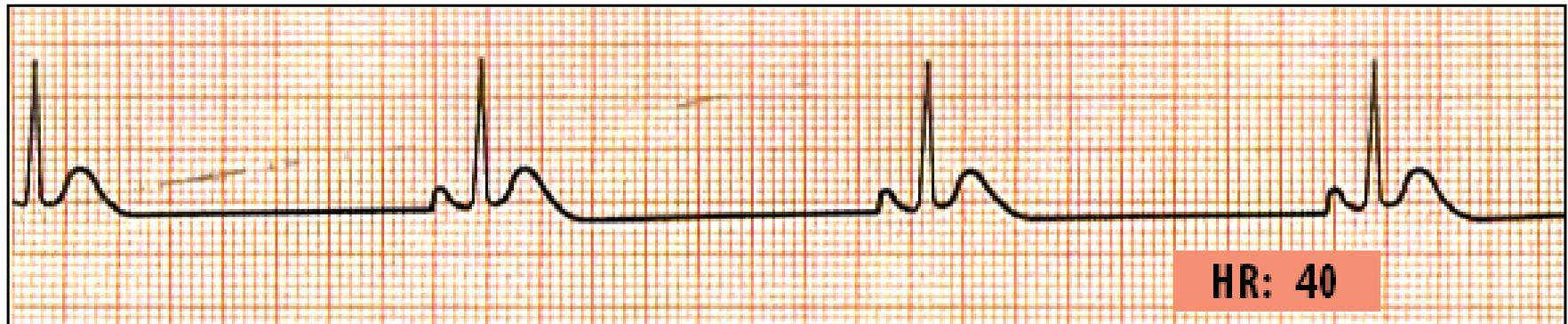
INADEQUATE TISSUE  
PERFUSION

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

# SHOCK ASSESSMENT

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

# THIS RHYTHM IS: SINUS BRADYCARDIA



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

- INCREASED VAGAL TONE →
- BLOCKED SA NODAL ARTERY →  
(INFERIOR WALL MI)
- ELECTROLYTE IMBAL. (K<sup>+</sup>) →
- 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 -----	<b>NORMAL</b>
RHYTHM -----	<b>REGULAR</b>
P-R INTERVAL -----	<b>&gt; 200 mSEC.</b>
P: QRS RATIO -----	<b>1:1</b>
QRS INTERVAL -----	<b>NORMAL</b>

# 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 ( $2^{\circ}$ ,  $3^{\circ}$ ) with SLOWER VENTRICULAR RATE

# THIS RHYTHM IS:



## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE \_\_\_\_\_

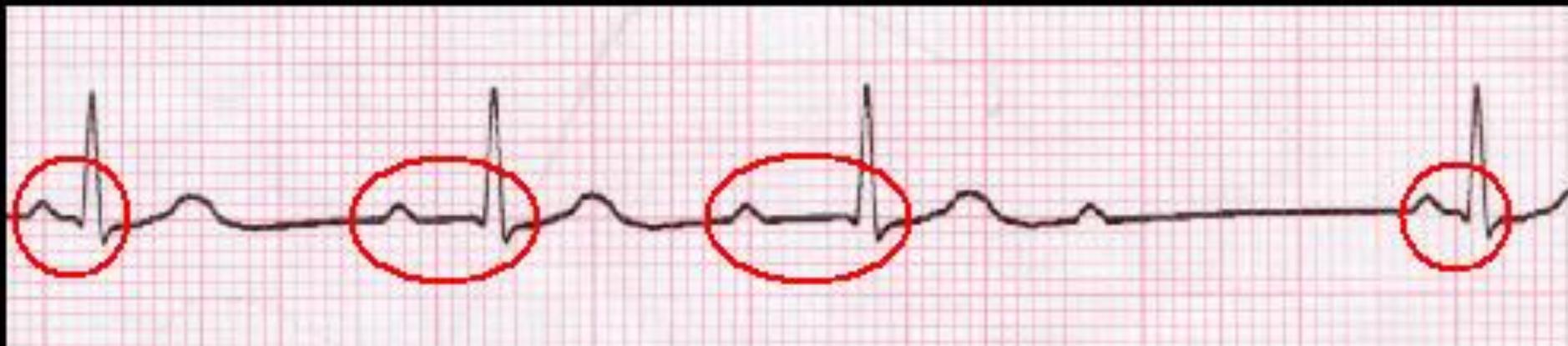
RHYTHM \_\_\_\_\_

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

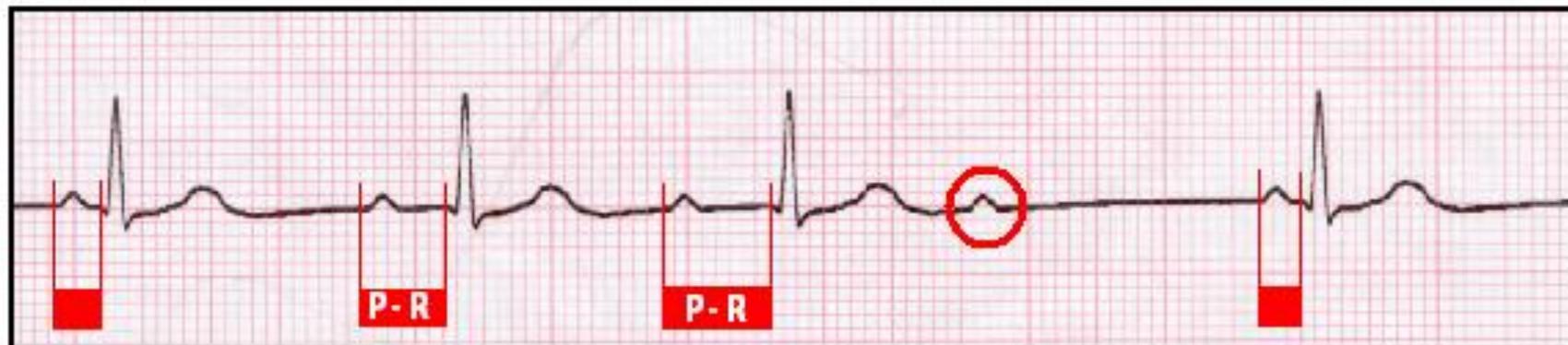
NO.

IT'S 2nd  
TYPE I HB  
( Wenckebach )

YES.

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

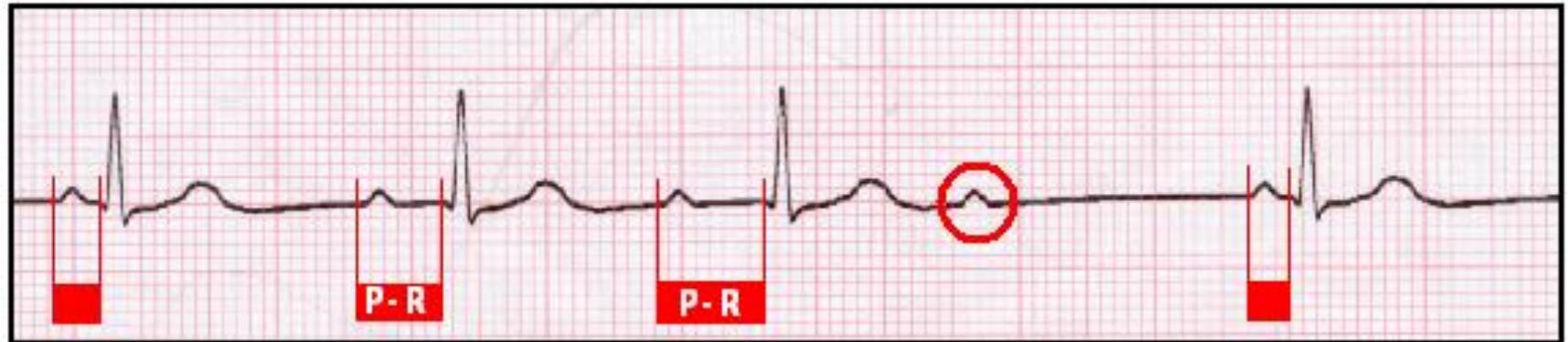
# THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd<sup>o</sup> TYPE I HB (Wenckebach)



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

RATE -----	<b>NORMAL</b> or <b>BRADYCARDIC</b>
RHYTHM -----	<b>REGULARLY IRREGULAR</b>
P-R INTERVAL -----	<b>VARIES (regularly irregular)</b>
P: QRS RATIO -----	<b>VAIRES (usually 1:1 and 2:1)</b>
QRS INTERVAL -----	<b>NORMAL</b>

## THIS RHYTHM IS: 2<sup>nd</sup>° 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° type II, 3°) 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 ?

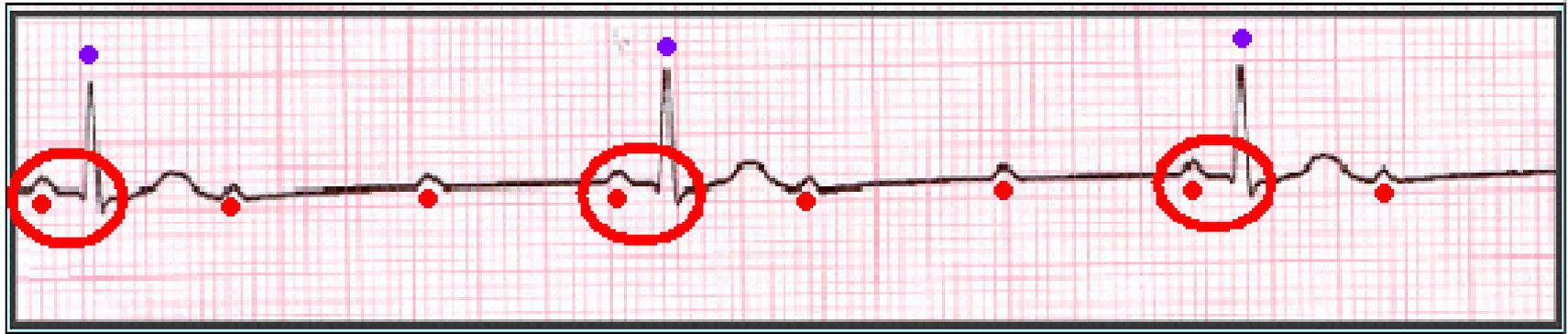
NO.

IT'S 2nd  
TYPE I HB  
( Wenckebach )

YES.

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

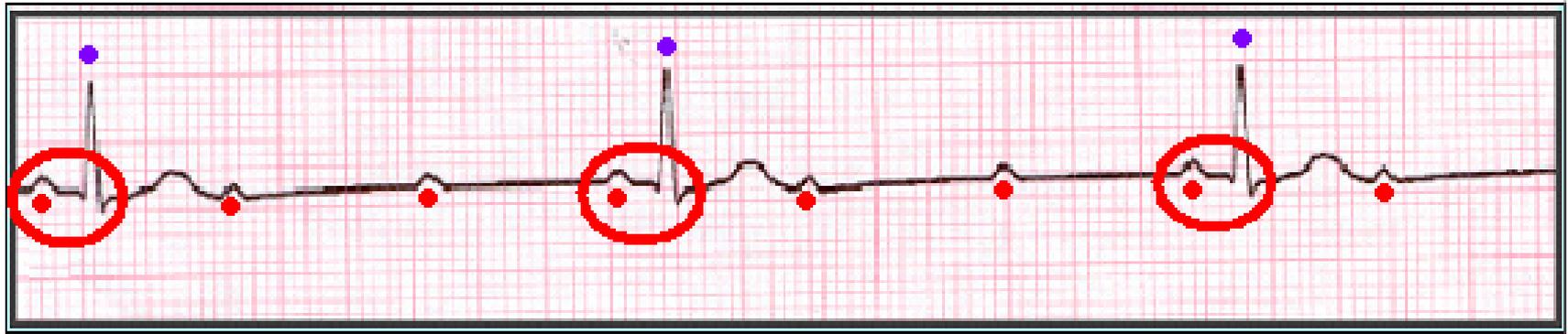
# THIS RHYTHM IS: 2nd<sup>o</sup> TYPE II HEART BLOCK



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 -----  **$\geq 2:1$**
- QRS INTERVAL ----- **NORMAL**

# THIS RHYTHM IS: 2<sup>nd</sup> ° 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 (3<sup>rd</sup> °) HEART BLOCK

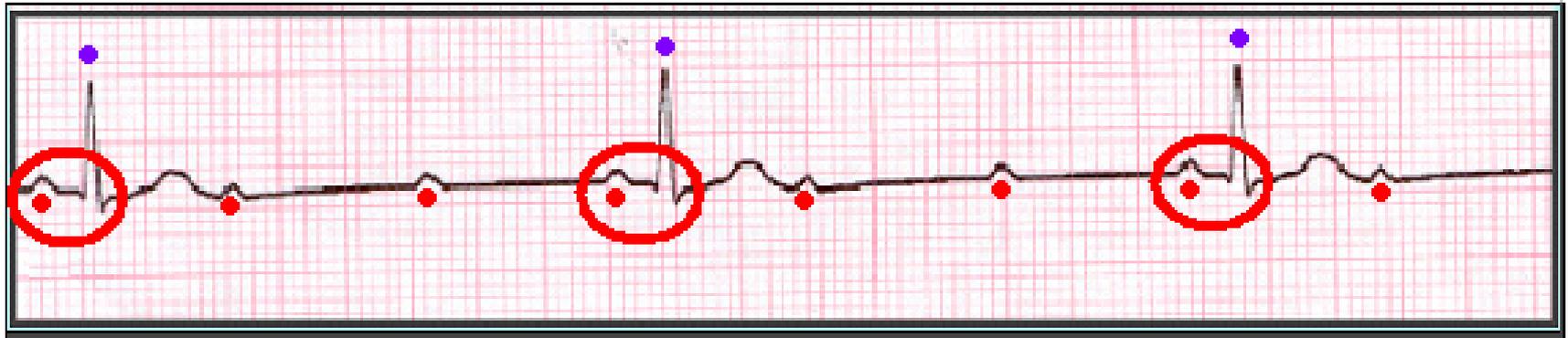
# **-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --**

**-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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree HEART BLOCK**

# THIS RHYTHM IS: 2<sup>nd</sup> ° 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**

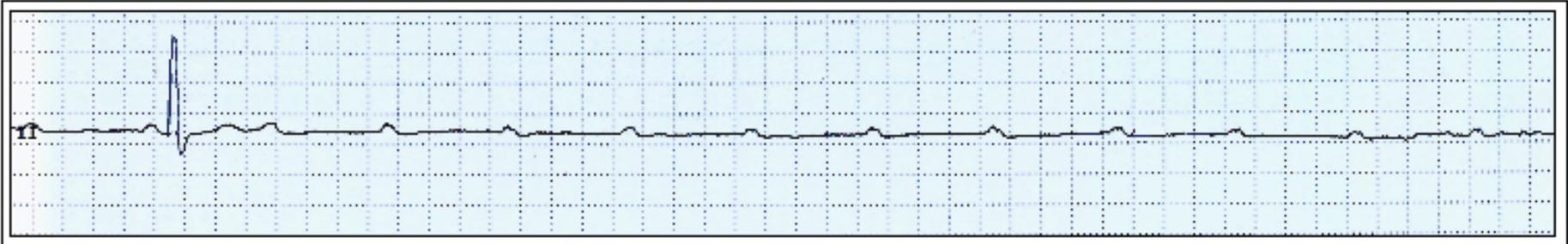


**ADAMS - STOKES SYNDROME is essentially spontaneous CARDIAC ARREST -- characterized by episodes of **ASYSTOLE**, **VENTRICULAR STANDSTILL** and **V-FIB**. In this regard, 2<sup>nd</sup> ° TYPE II HB can be more dangerous than 3<sup>rd</sup> ° HB (at least 3<sup>rd</sup> ° Heart Block has an **ESCAPE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

## THIS RHYTHM IS:



### MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE \_\_\_\_\_

RHYTHM \_\_\_\_\_

P-R INTERVAL \_\_\_\_\_

P:QRS RATIO \_\_\_\_\_

QRS INTERVAL \_\_\_\_\_

# THIS RHYTHM IS:

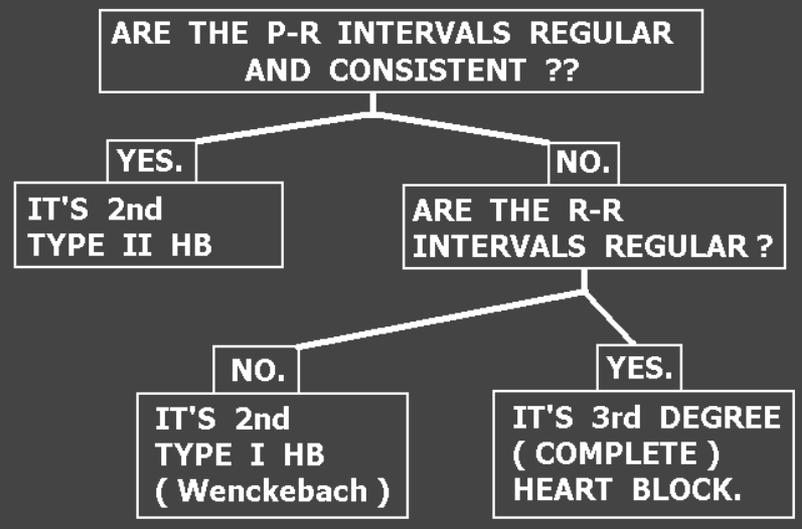


## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

- RATE \_\_\_\_\_
- RHYTHM \_\_\_\_\_
- P-R INTERVAL \_\_\_\_\_
- P:QRS RATIO \_\_\_\_\_
- QRS INTERVAL \_\_\_\_\_

### DIAGNOSING 2nd and 3rd DEGREE HEART BLOCK

MORE P-WAVES THAN QRS COMPLEXES PRESENT.



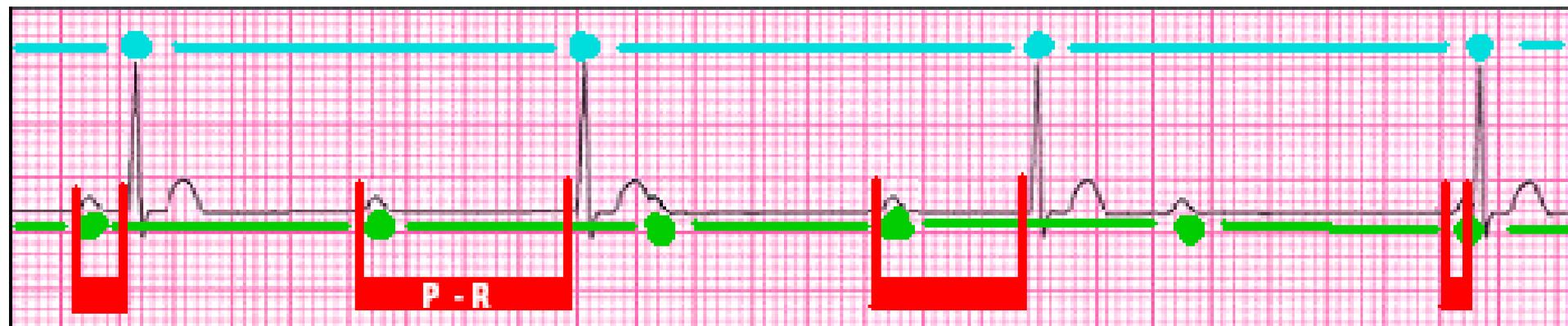
# THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd<sup>o</sup> HB $\bar{c}$ JUNCTIONAL ESCAPE



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

# THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd<sup>o</sup> HB $\bar{c}$ JUNCTIONAL ESCAPE



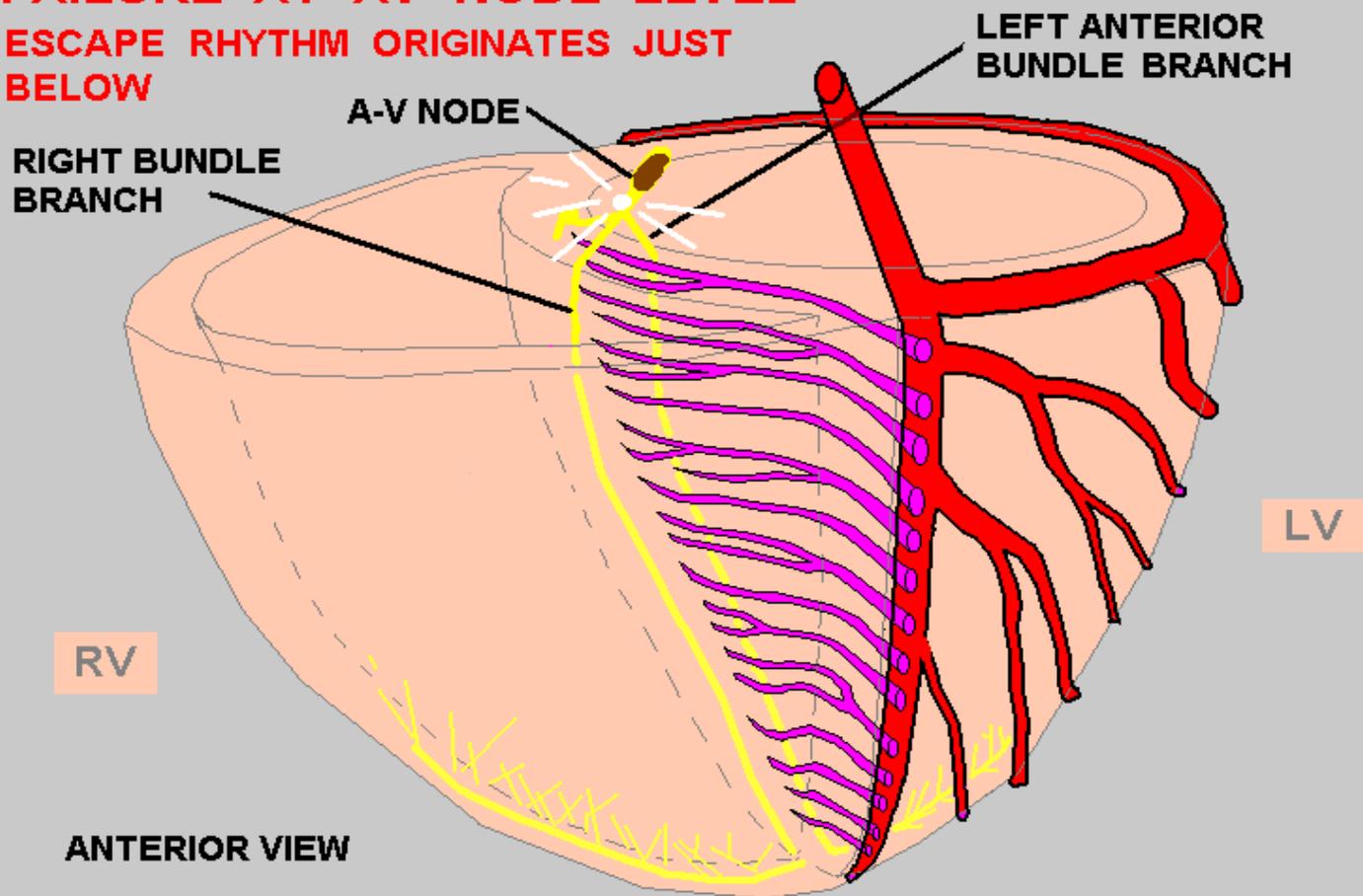
MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **P - R INTERVAL INCONSISTENT, P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR -- NO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES.**

## 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

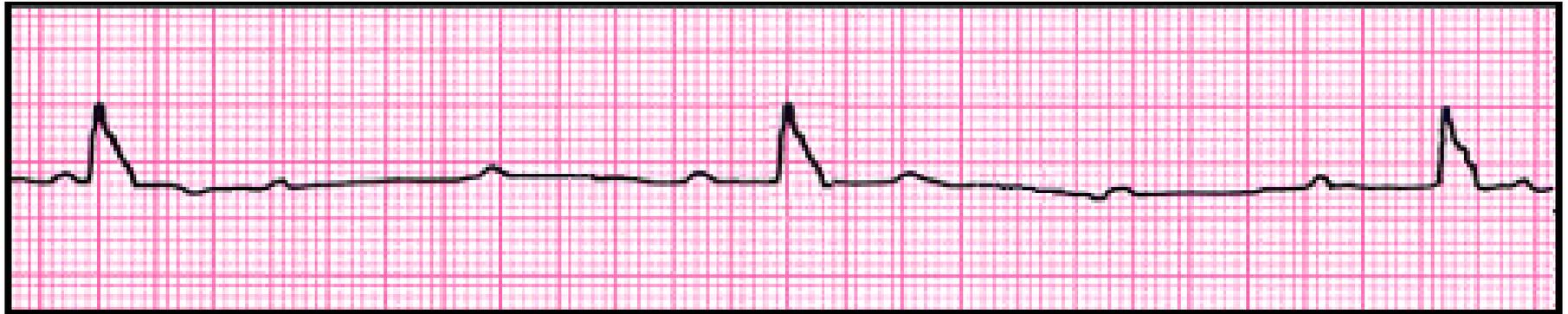
NO.

IT'S 2nd  
TYPE I HB  
( Wenckebach )

YES.

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

# THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd<sup>o</sup> 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 )**

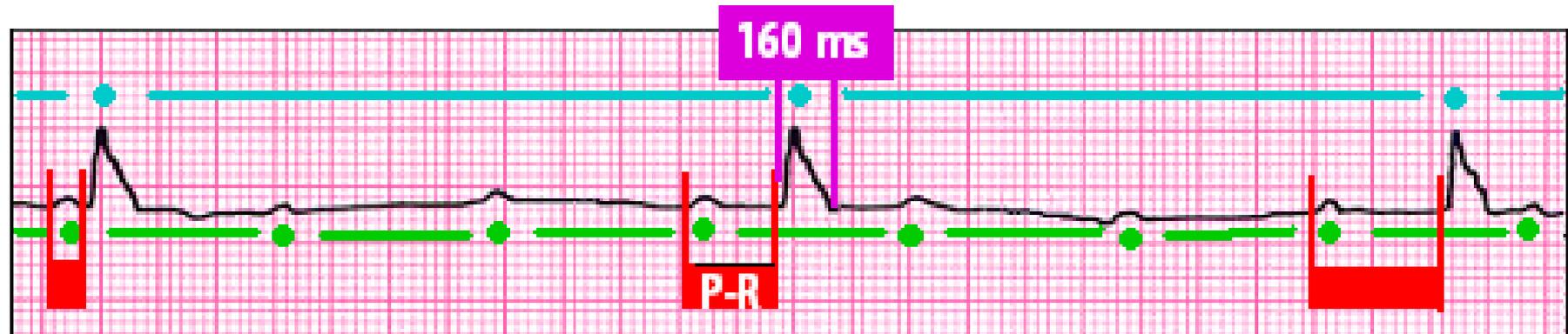
**RHYTHM ----- REGULAR**

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

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

**QRS INTERVAL ---- WIDER THAN 120 ms**

# THIS RHYTHM IS: 3rd<sup>o</sup> HB $\bar{c}$ IDIOVENTRICULAR ESCAPE



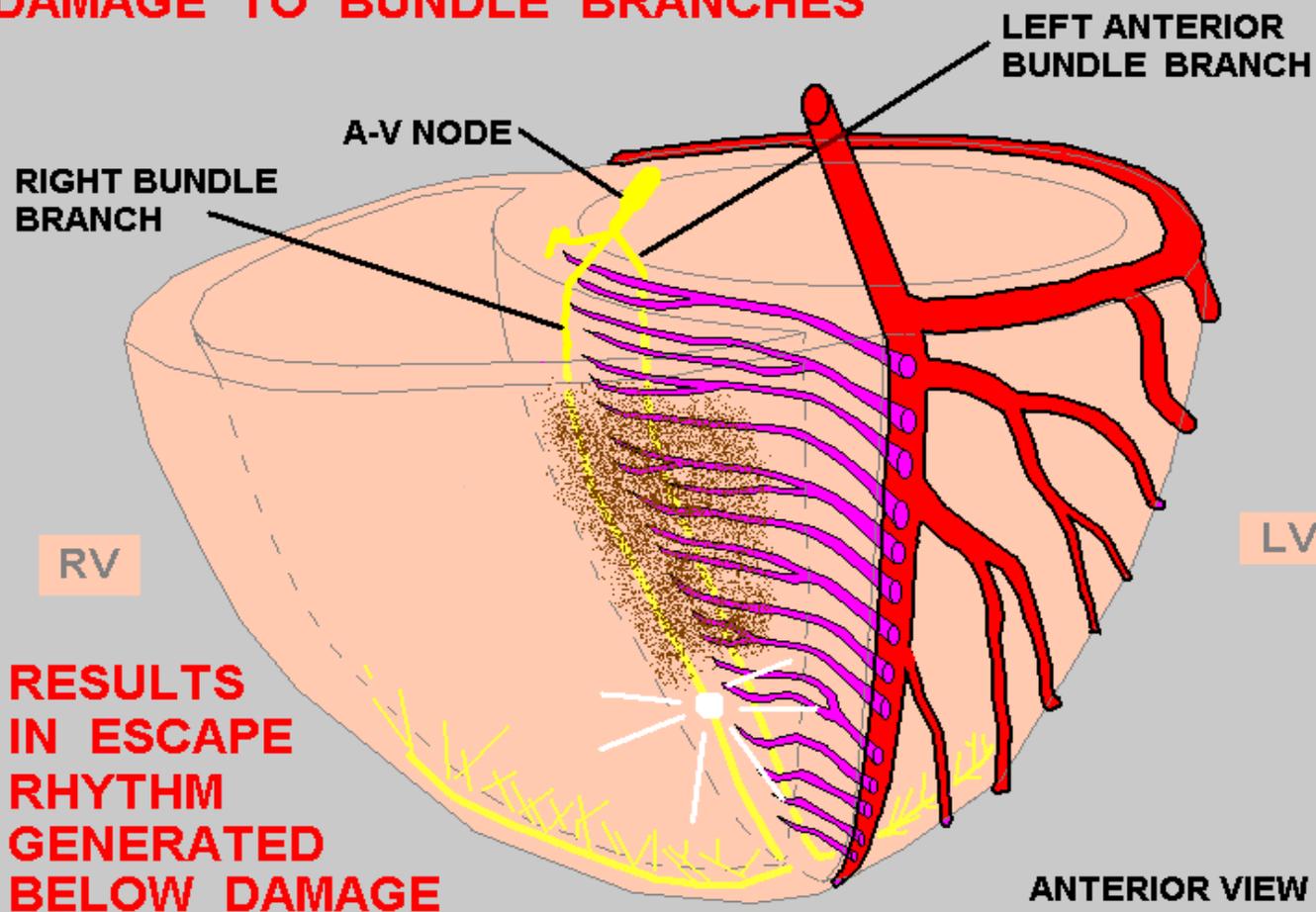
MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **P - R INTERVALS INCONSISTENT**  
**P - P INTERVALS REGULAR, R - R INTERVALS REGULAR. NO**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN P WAVES AND QRS COMPLEXES. QRS**  
**COMPLEXES are WIDER THAN 120ms, AND RATE (usually < 40)**

## 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**

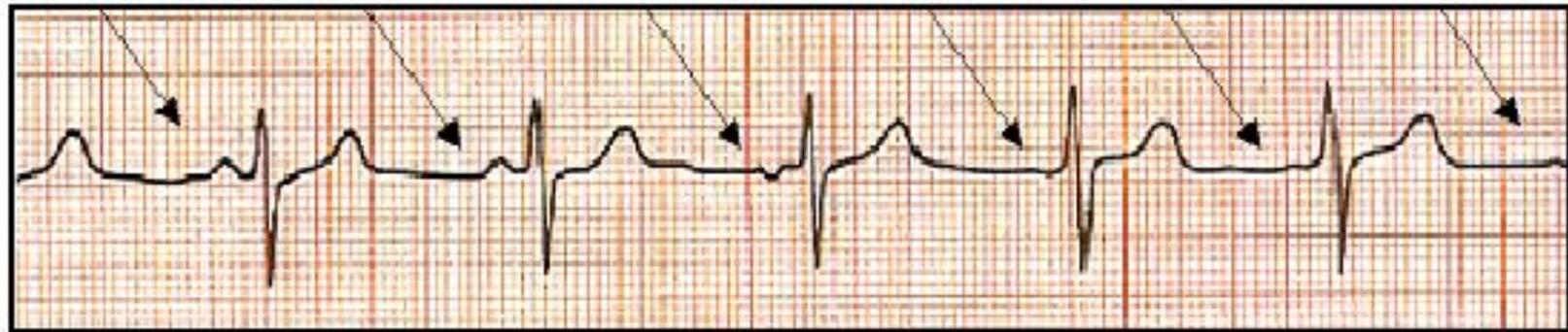
# THIS RHYTHM IS: WANDERING ATRIAL PACEMAKER



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

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

## **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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**

## **ATRIAL FIBRILLATION**

### **CRITICAL CONSIDERATION . . . .**

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



**YES**

IS PATIENT ON  
ANTICOAGULANTS ? \_\_\_\_\_



**NO**



**RULE OUT EMBOLUS IN ATRIA  
WITH ECHO / TEE  
BEFORE CONVERTING TO SINUS  
RHYTHM !**

# LEFT ATRIUM

ANTERIOR VIEW



LEFT ATRIAL  
APPENDAGE

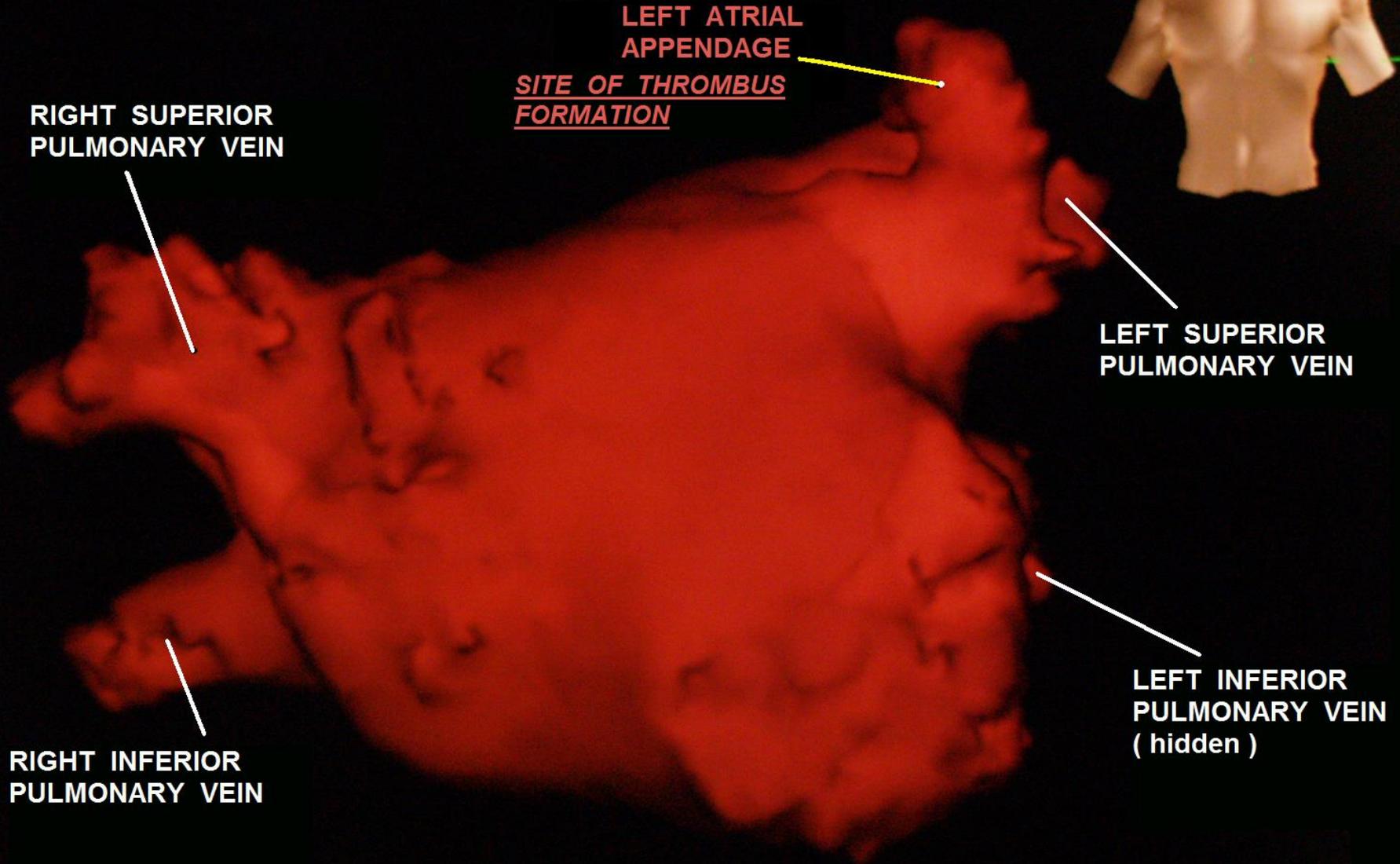
SITE OF THROMBUS  
FORMATION

RIGHT SUPERIOR  
PULMONARY VEIN

LEFT SUPERIOR  
PULMONARY VEIN

RIGHT INFERIOR  
PULMONARY VEIN

LEFT INFERIOR  
PULMONARY VEIN  
( hidden )



# LEFT ATRIUM

LAO VIEW

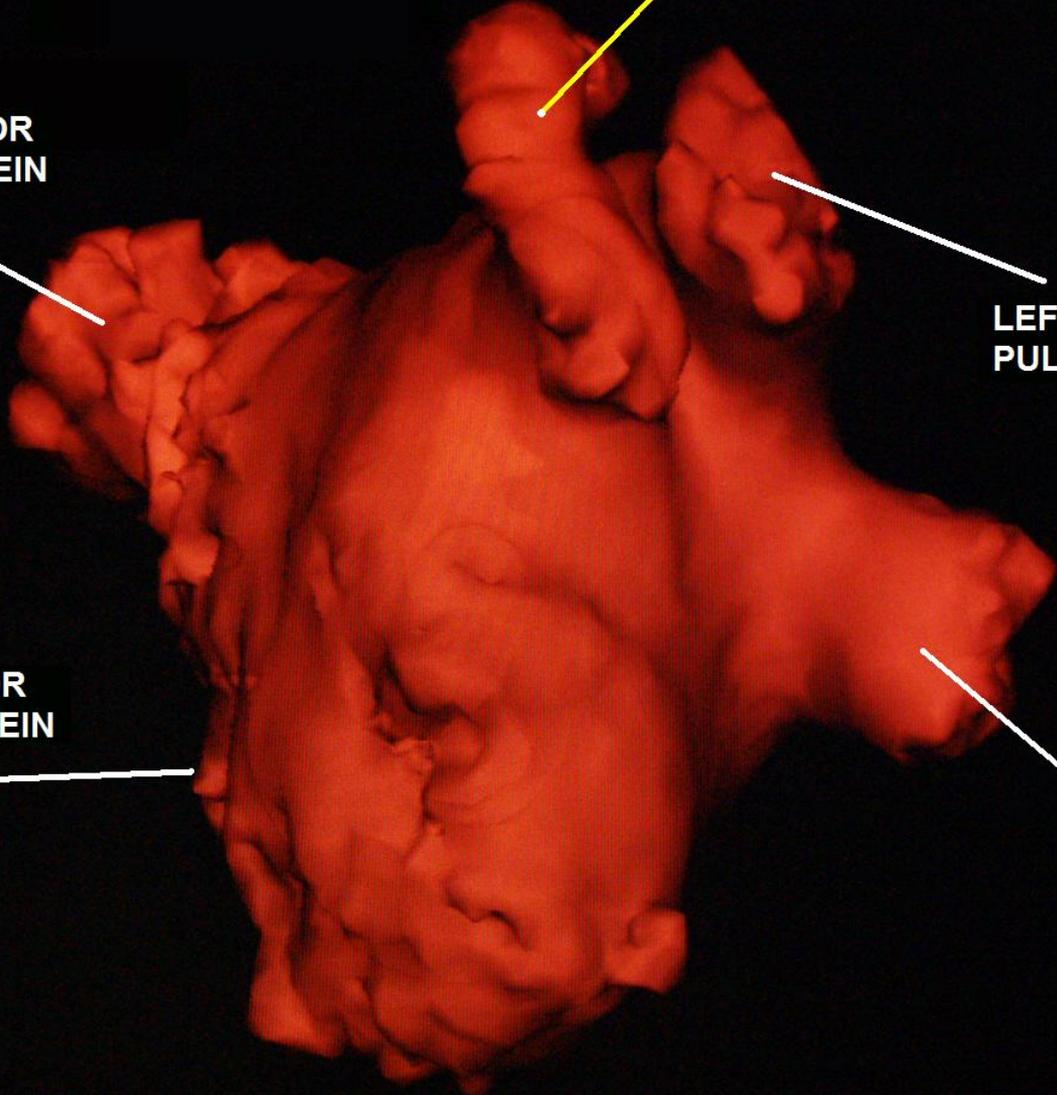
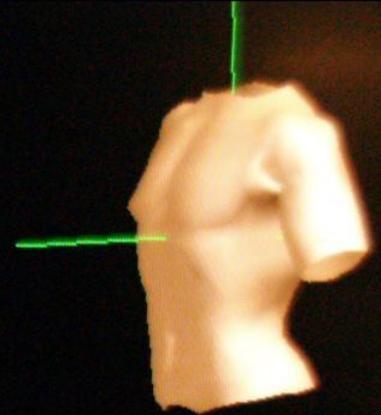
LEFT ATRIAL  
APPENDAGE  
SITE OF THROMBUS  
FORMATION

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

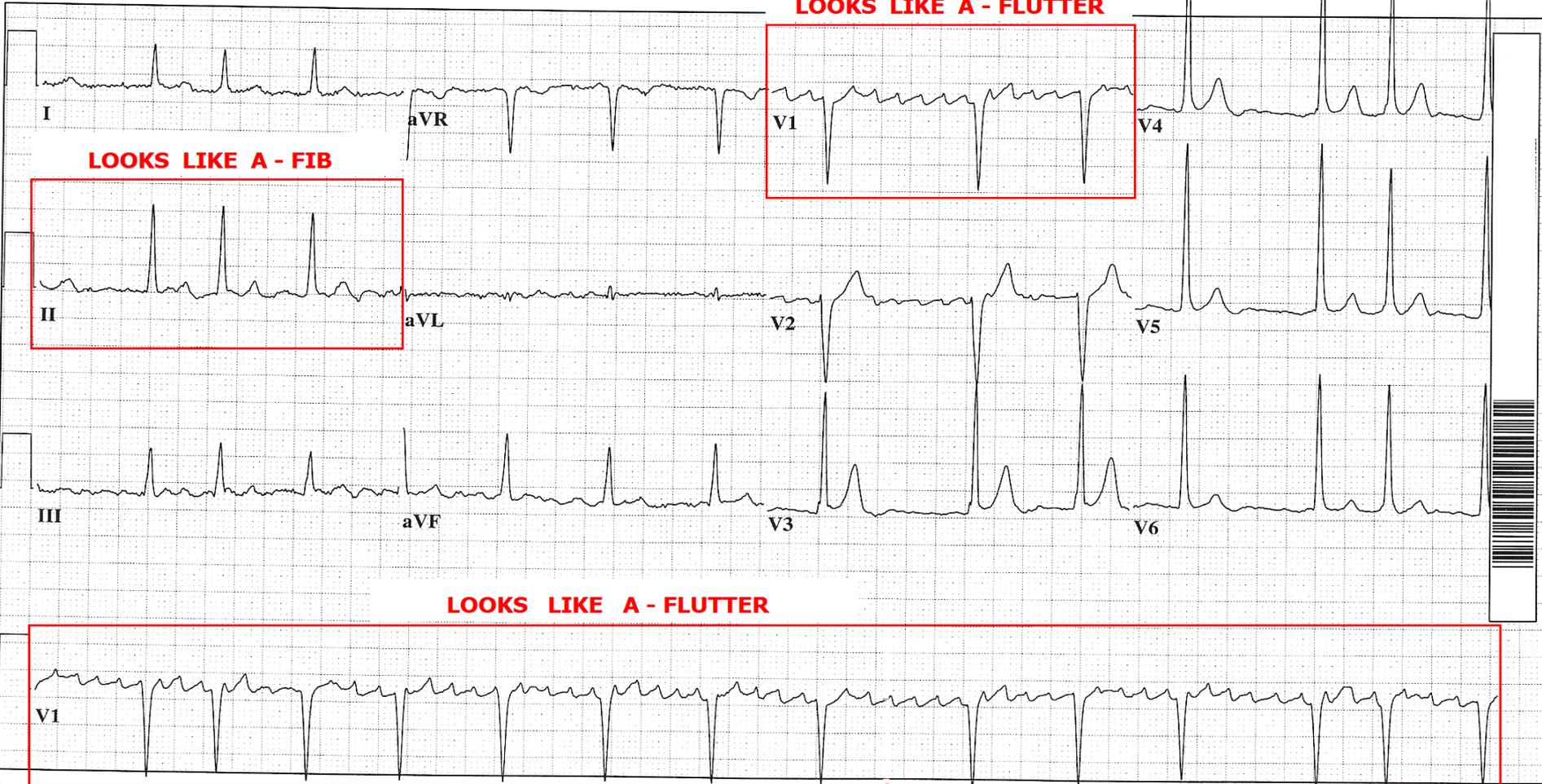
Technician:

Referred by

**LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER**

**LOOKS LIKE A - FIB**

**LOOKS LIKE A - FLUTTER**



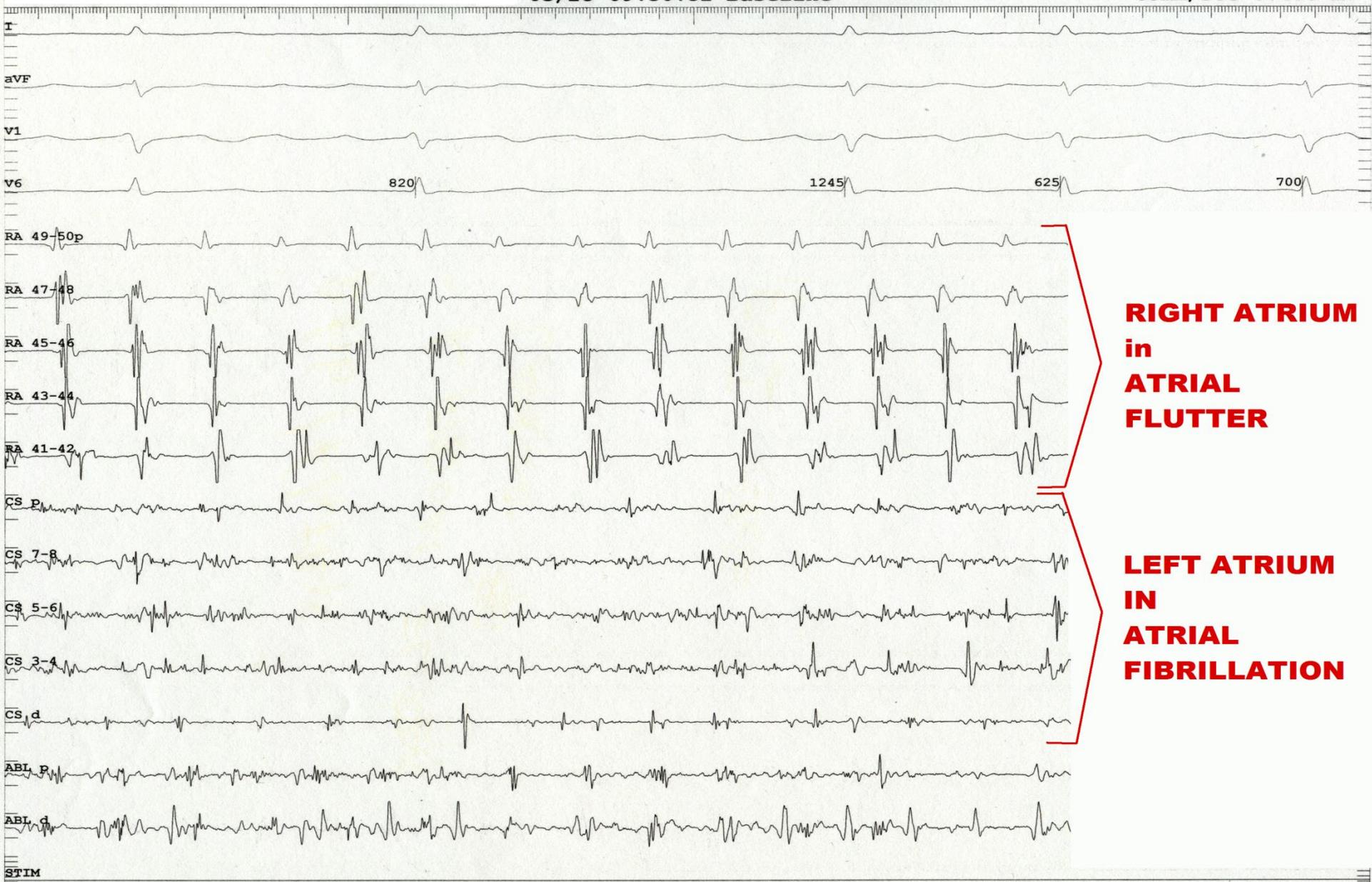
25mm/s 10mm/mV 40Hz 005D 12SL 235 CID: 2

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**

# THIS RHYTHM IS:



## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

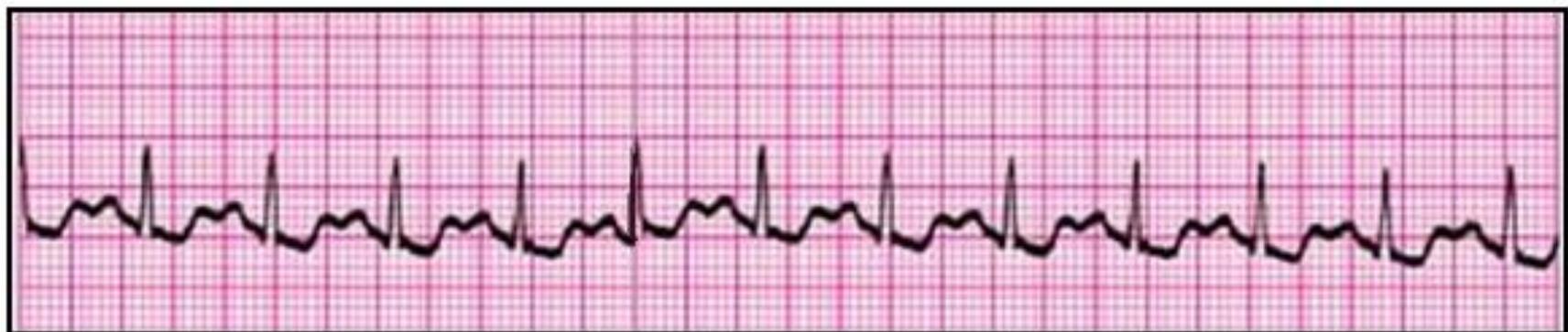
RHYTHM -----

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 )**

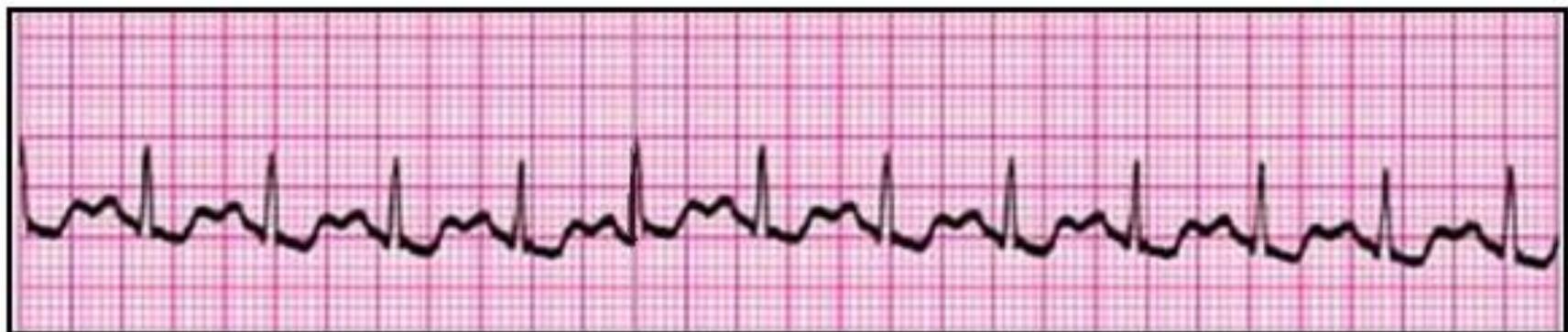
RHYTHM ----- **REGULAR**

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

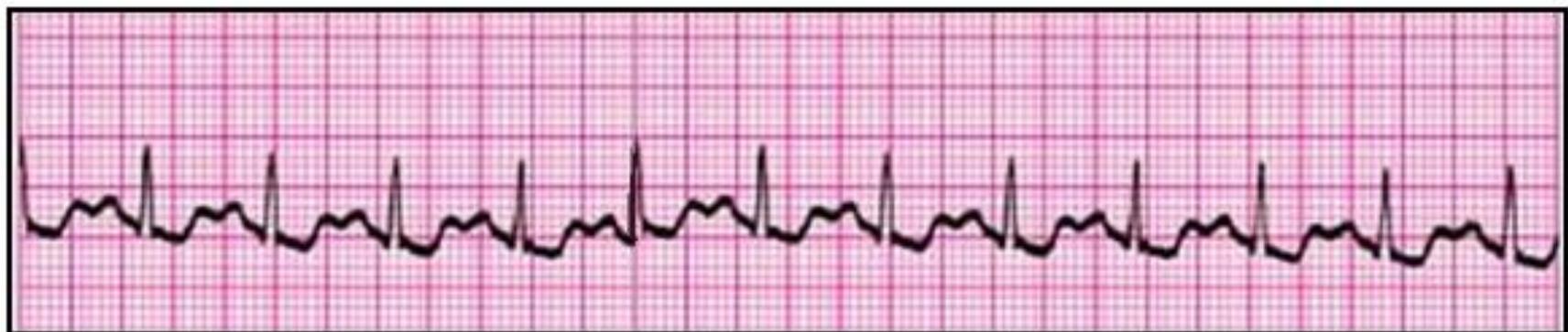


MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): **SINUS RHYTHM, RATE HIGHER THAN 100. (ACLS guidelines: heart rate 100 - 150 )**

## 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



## WE MUST CONSIDER UNDERLYING CAUSES:

**ANXIETY / FEAR**



**HYPOVOLEMIA**

DEHYDRATION



BLOOD LOSS



**MEDICATION EFFECTS**



**OTHER ILLNESS**



## AND TREAT THEM:

**CALM PATIENT**

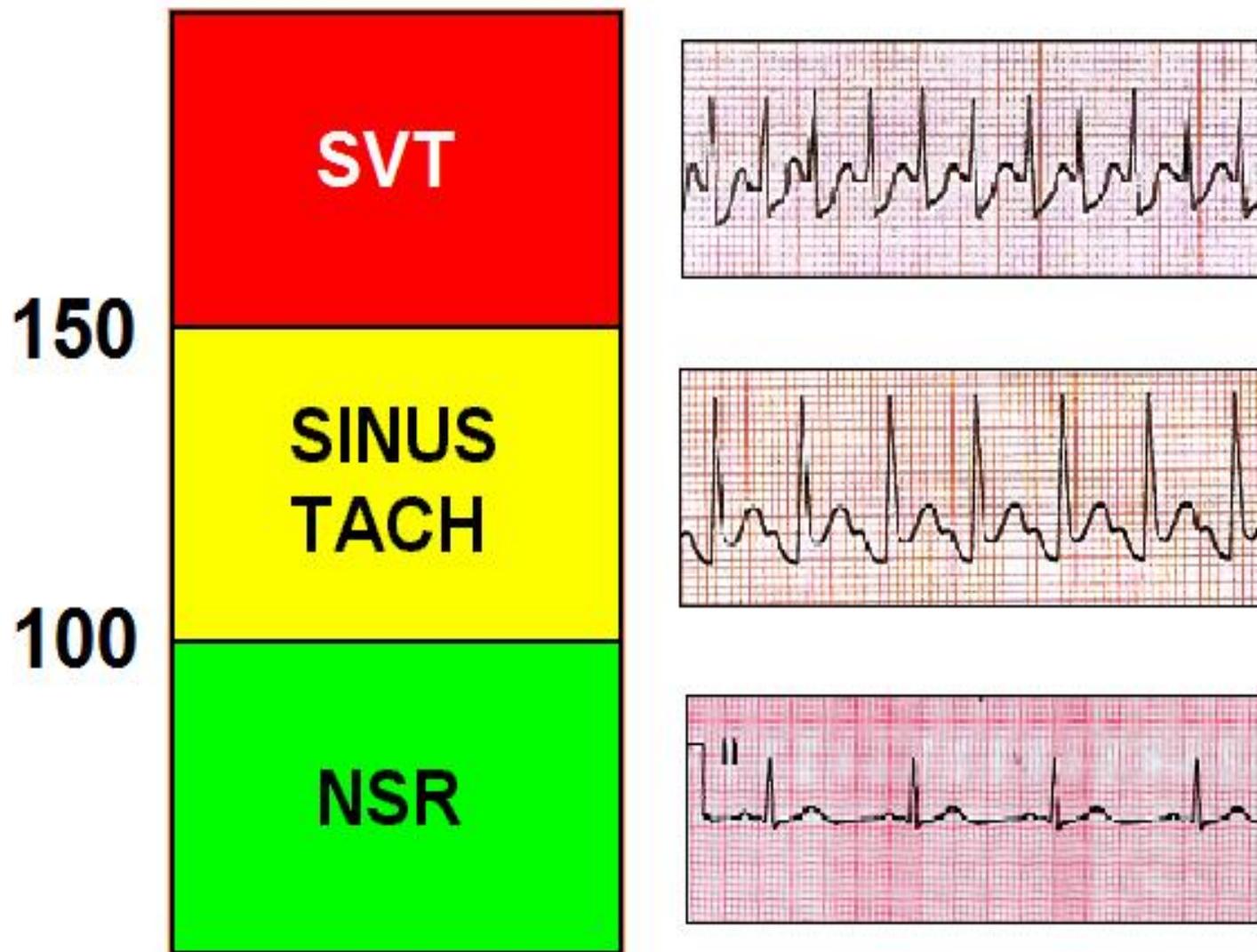
**FLUIDS**

**STOP BLEEDING**

**CONSIDER MEDICAL Tx**

**IDENTIFY & Tx DISORDER**

# ACLS TACHYCARDIA GUIDELINES



## RHYTHM CLUES . . . .

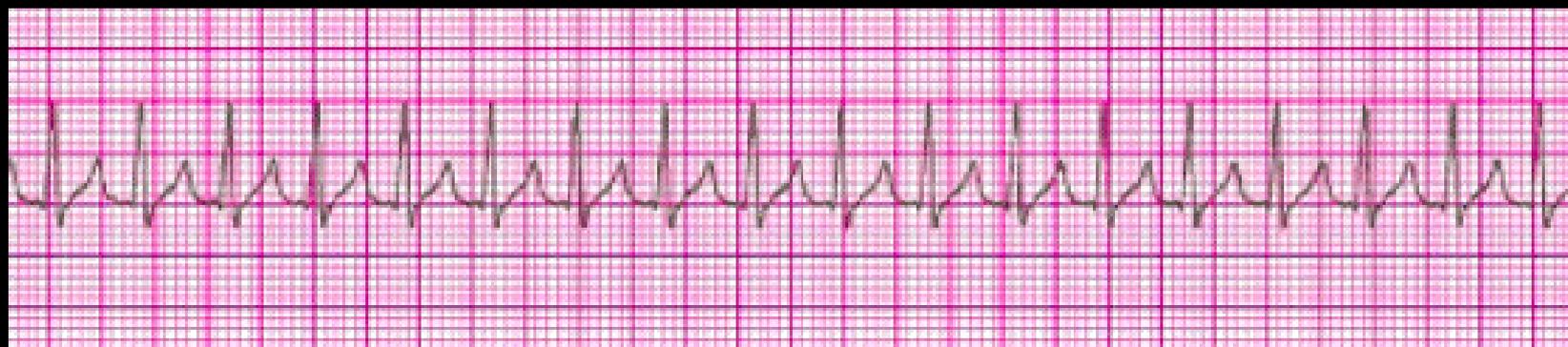


**SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA**

**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 -----

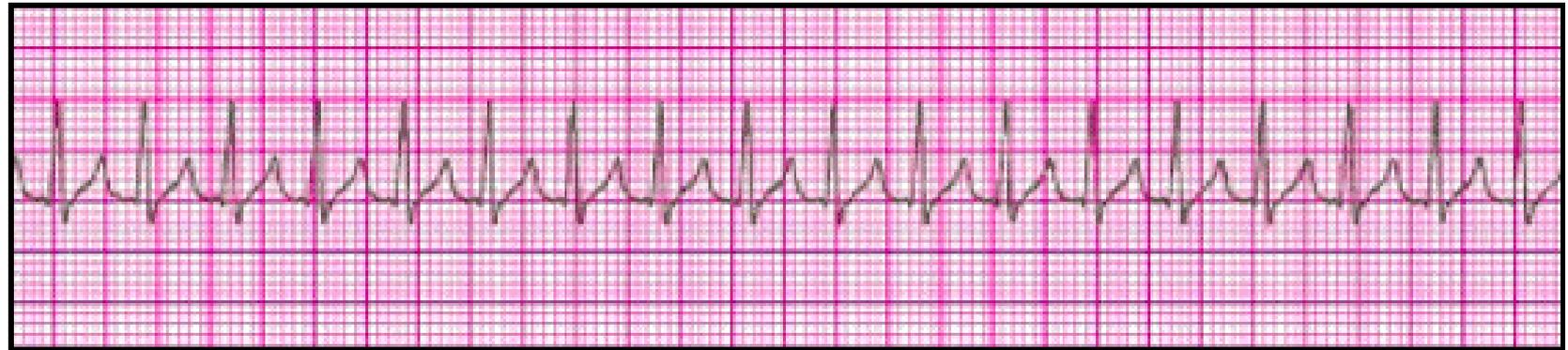
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

QRS INTERVAL -----

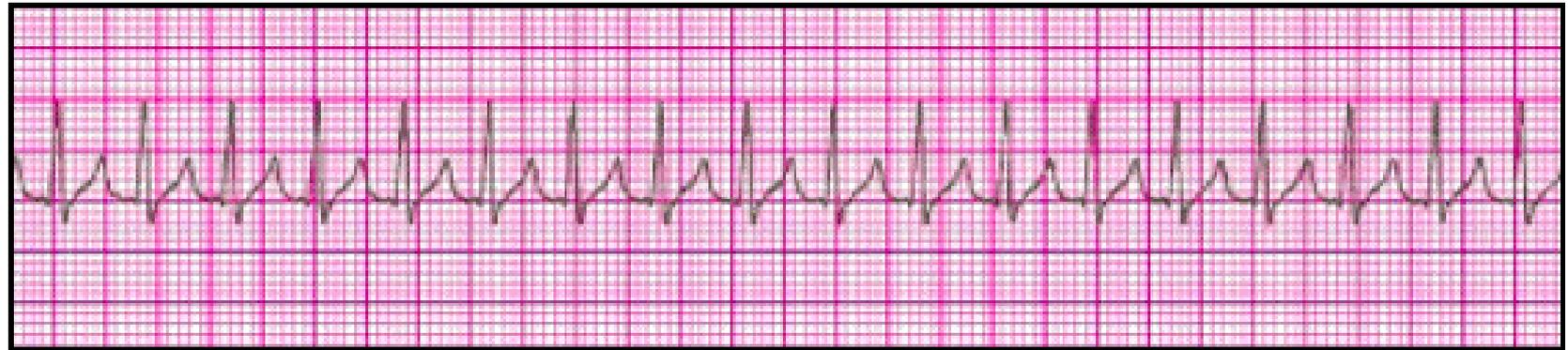
# THIS RHYTHM IS: SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT)



**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."**

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

# THIS RHYTHM IS: SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT)

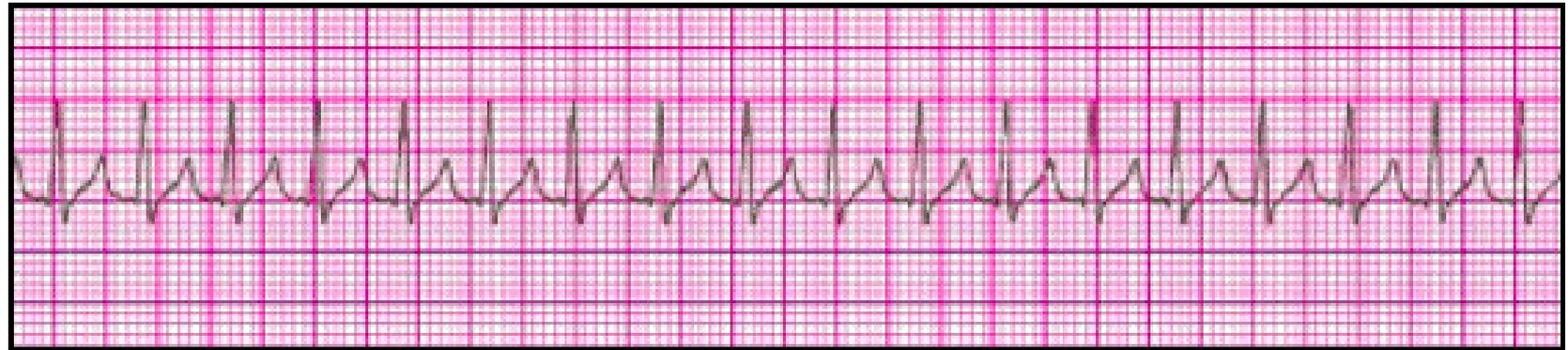


**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): HEART RATE TOO FAST, USUALLY > 150. P WAVES MAY BE "BURIED" IN THE PRECEDING T WAVES. Pt USUALLY C/O "SUDDEN ONSET of HEART RACING," or "PALPITATIONS."**

## 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)

## **ABCs + GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE**

### **REGULAR RHYTHM**

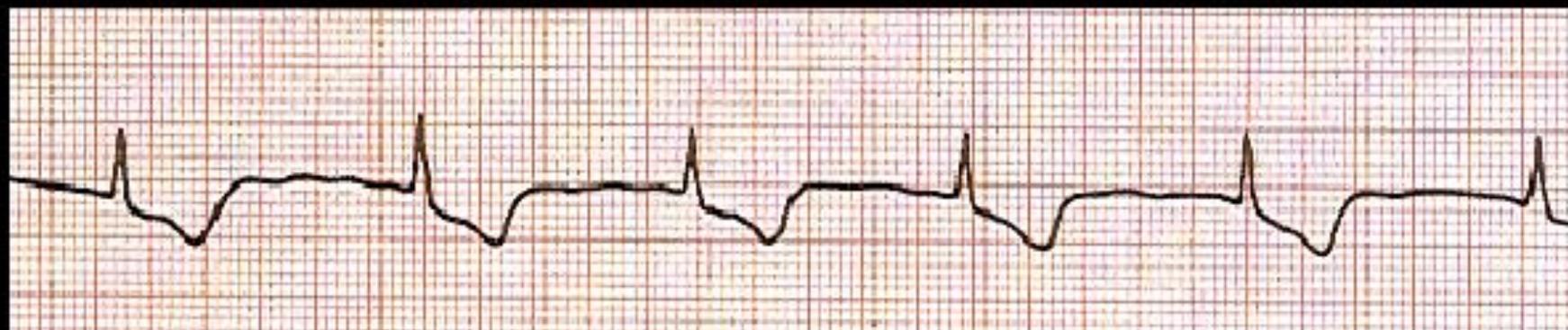
- VAGAL MANEUVERS
- ADENOSINE 6 mg / 12 mg

### **IRREGULAR RHYTHM**

POSSIBLE ATRIAL FIB or  
MULTIFOCAL ATRIAL TACH

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

# 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).**

**RATE ----- 40 - 60**

**- HR USUALLY 40 - 60**

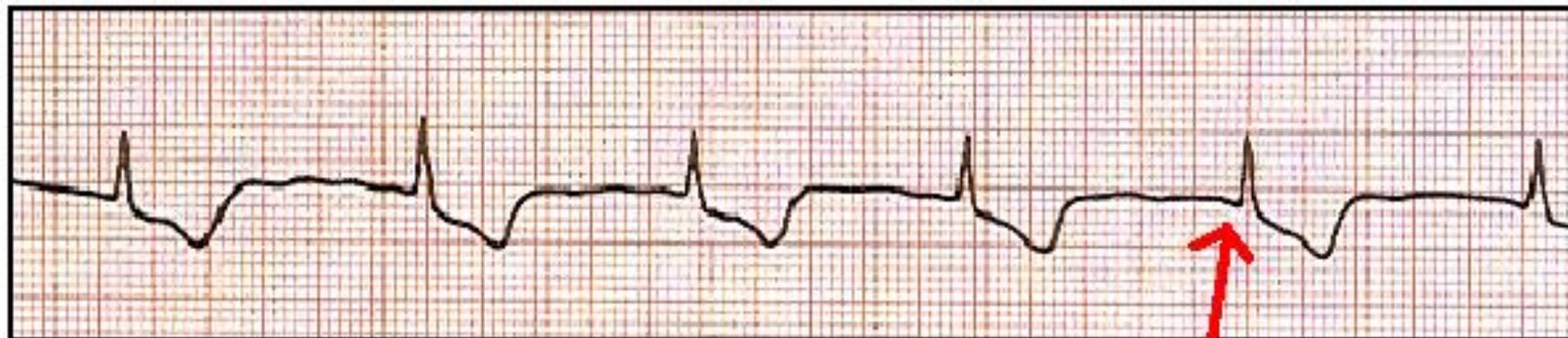
**RHYTHM ----- REGULAR**

**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

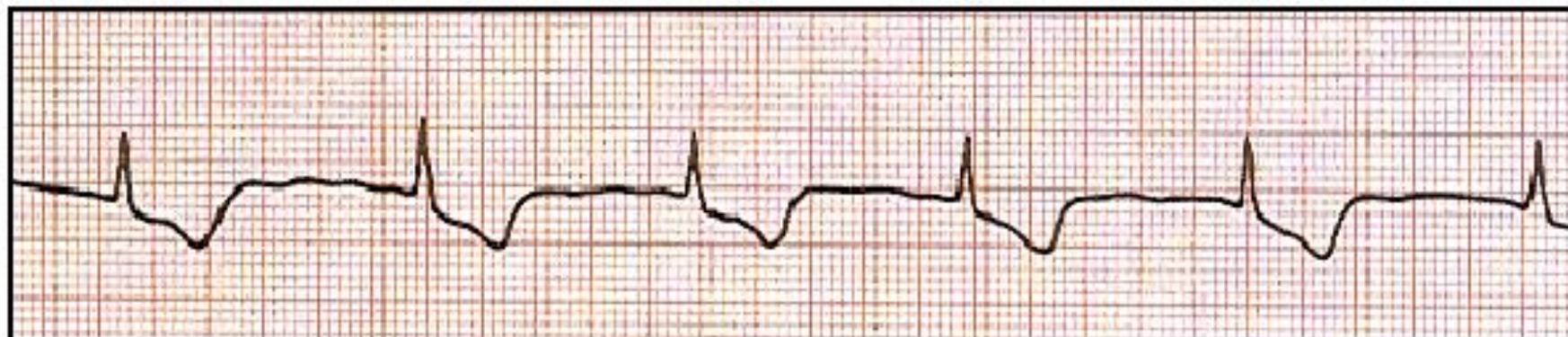


**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S): P WAVES ABSENT, or LOCATED JUST AFTER QRS (in S-Tseg) or JUST BEFORE QRS (short P-R). WHEN P wave seen, it is INVERTED (upside-down).**  
- HR USUALLY 40 -60

## 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 SLOW . . . .

**WE MUST CONSIDER  
UNDERLYING CAUSES:**

INCREASED VAGAL TONE →

BLOCKED SA NODAL ARTERY →  
(ACUTE INFERIOR MI ?)

ELECTROLYTE IMBAL. (K+) →

**AND TREAT THEM:**

ATROPINE

CARDIAC CATH - PTCA / STENT  
THROMBOLYTICS

CORRECT ELECTROLYTES

# 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

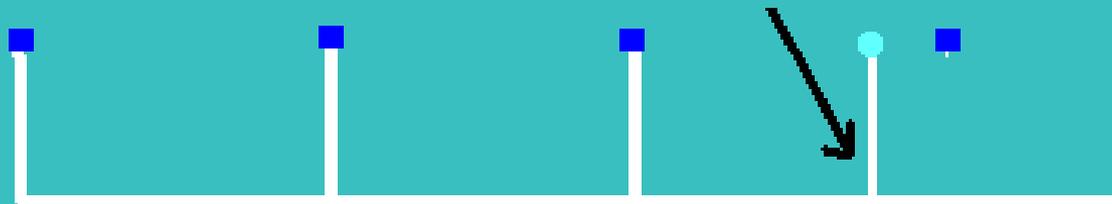
# ECTOPY

- ATRIAL
- JUNCTIONAL
- VENTRICULAR

# CLASSIFICATIONS OF ECTOPY

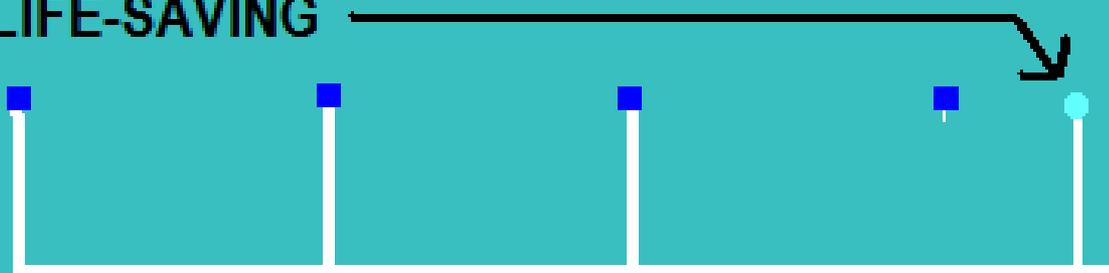
## 1. PREMATURE

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

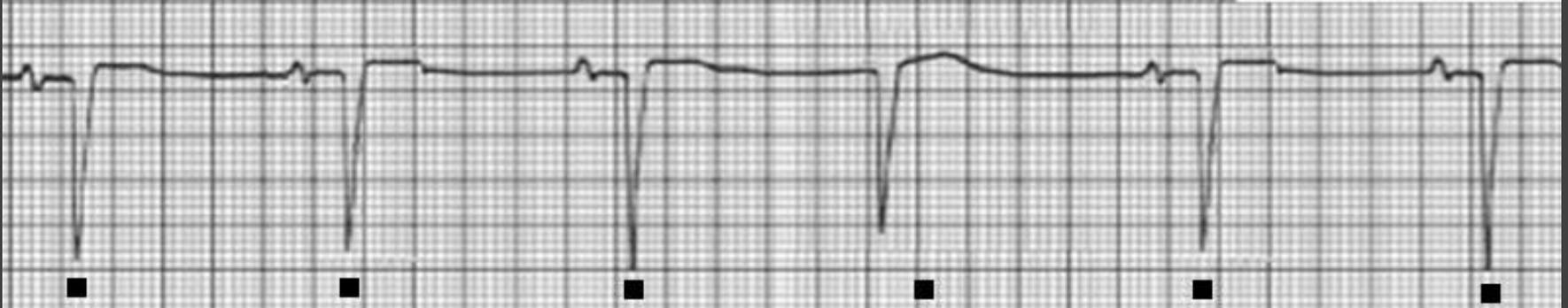
## 2. END-DIASTOLIC or ESCAPE BEATS ----

**GOOD**

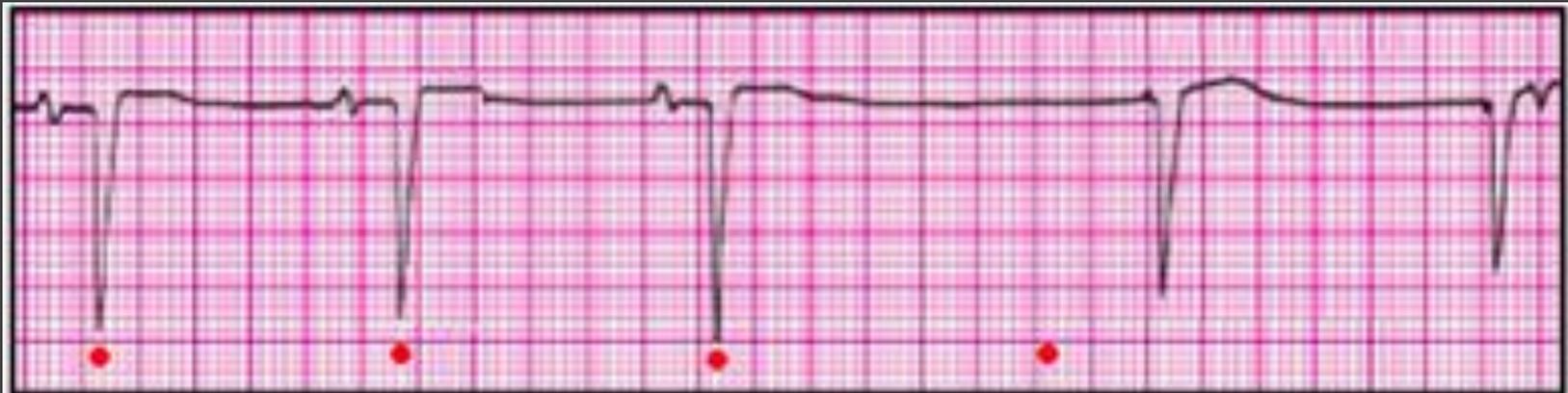


ELIMINATION OF END-DIASTOLIC BEATS COULD BE DEADLY

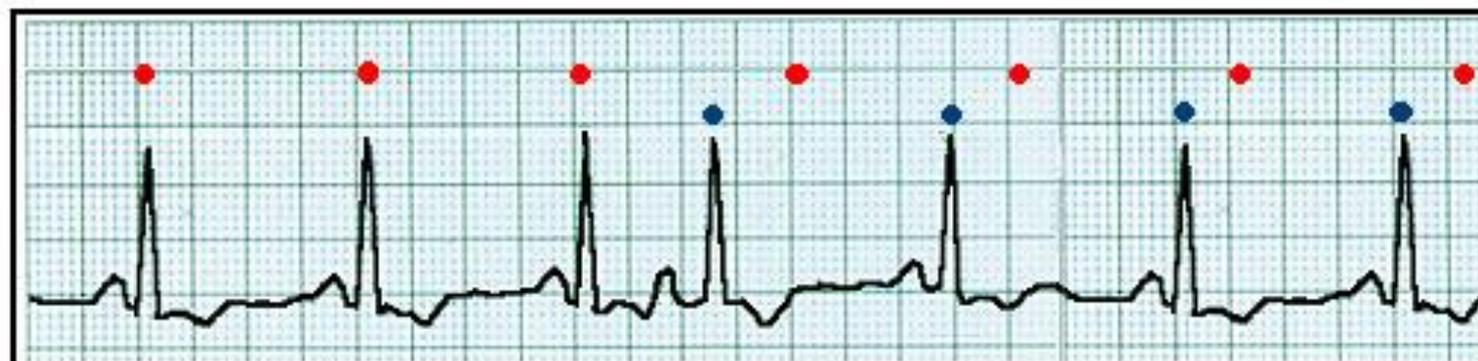
# Premature



# 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:



## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

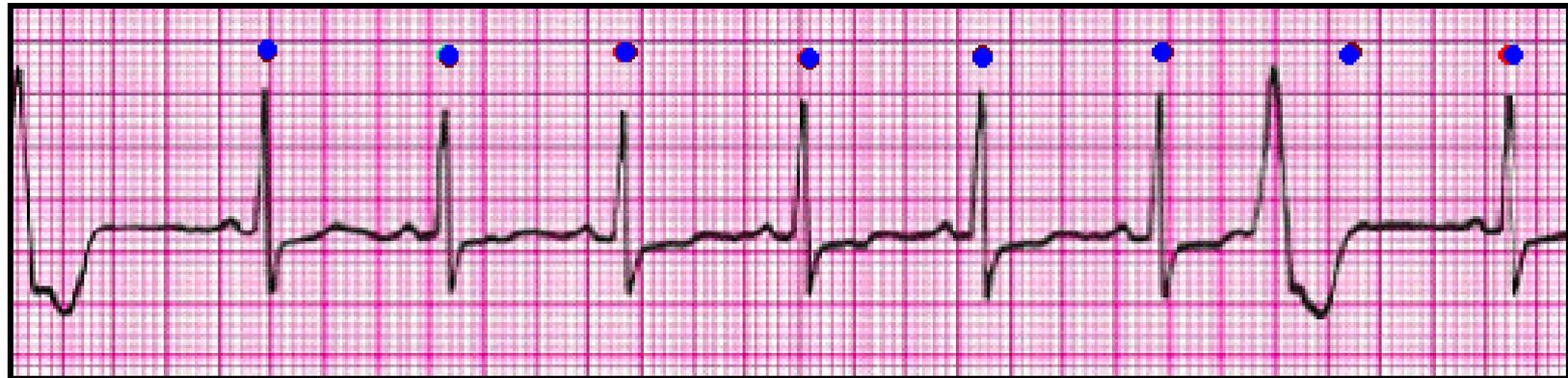
RHYTHM -----

P-R INTERVAL -----

P:QRS RATIO -----

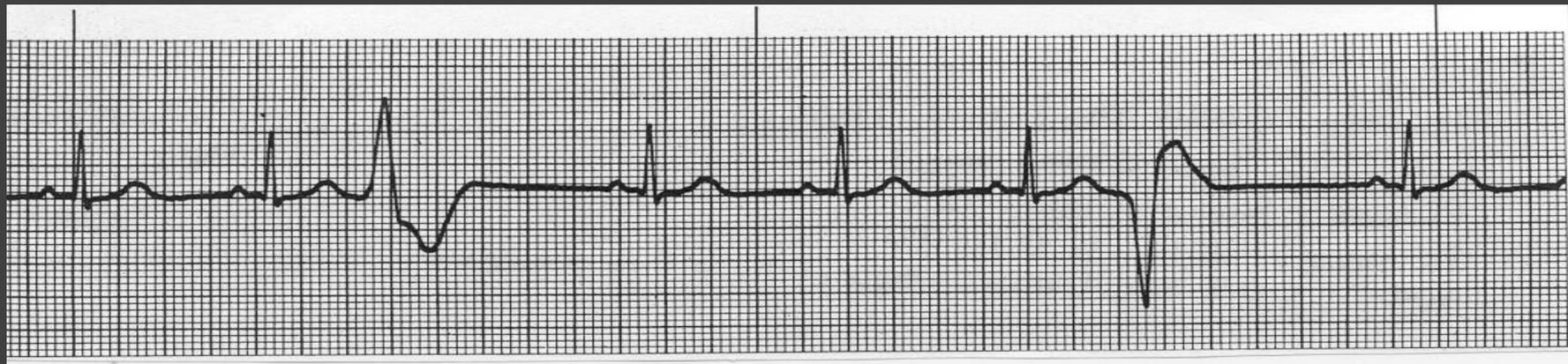
QRS INTERVAL -----

# THIS RHYTHM IS: NSR with UNIFOCAL PVCs

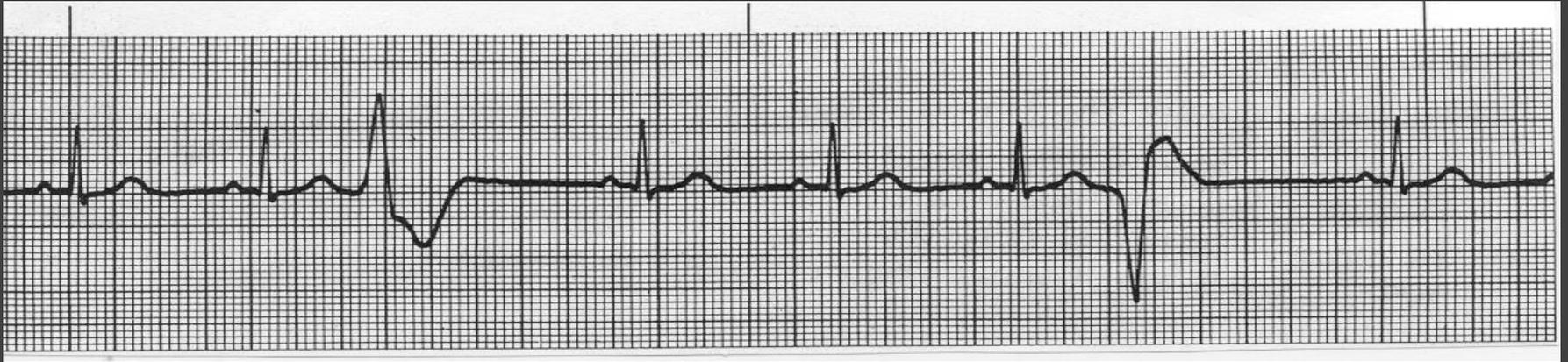


**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):** ECTOPIC BEATS ARE PREMATURE, AND WIDE ( $> 120$  ms); COMPLEXES MAY BE OF ANY SHAPE or DEFLECTION, BUT ALL HAVE SAME APPEARANCE; THERE IS A COMPENSATORY PAUSE

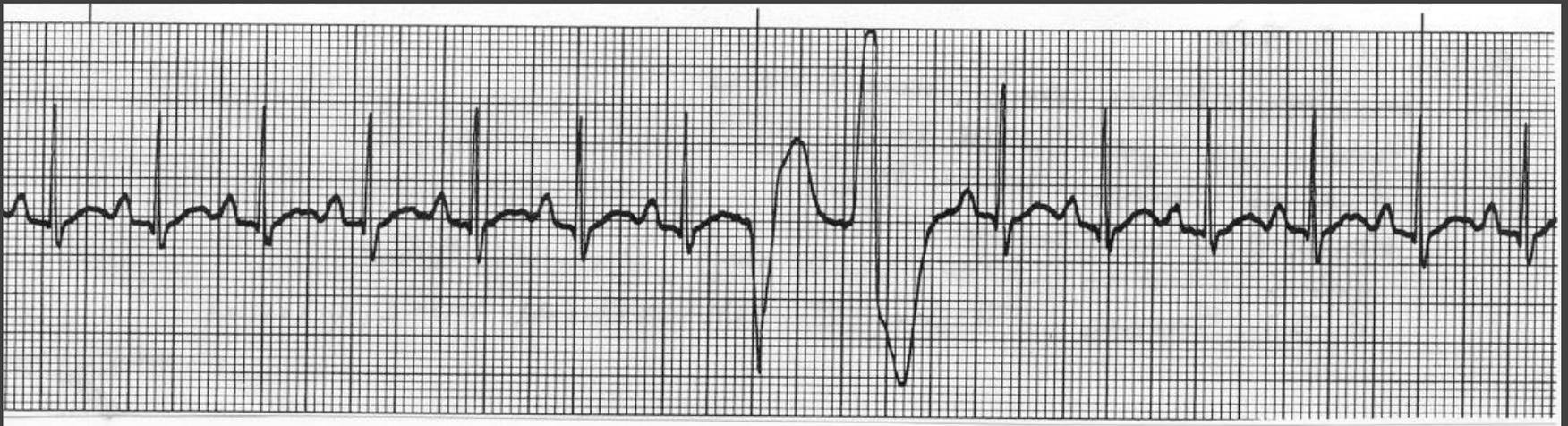
RATE -----	NORMAL
RHYTHM -----	IRREGULAR (due to PVCs)
P-R INTERVAL ----	NSR BEATS - NORMAL (120 - 200 ms)    PVCs - N/A
P:QRS RATIO ----	NSR BEATS - 1:1    PVCs - N/A
QRS INTERVAL ----	NSR BEATS $< 120$ ms    PVCs $> 120$ ms



## 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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,**

Pat ID [REDACTED] 04/06/2020 14:09:13

[REDACTED]  
Male  
Account # [REDACTED]

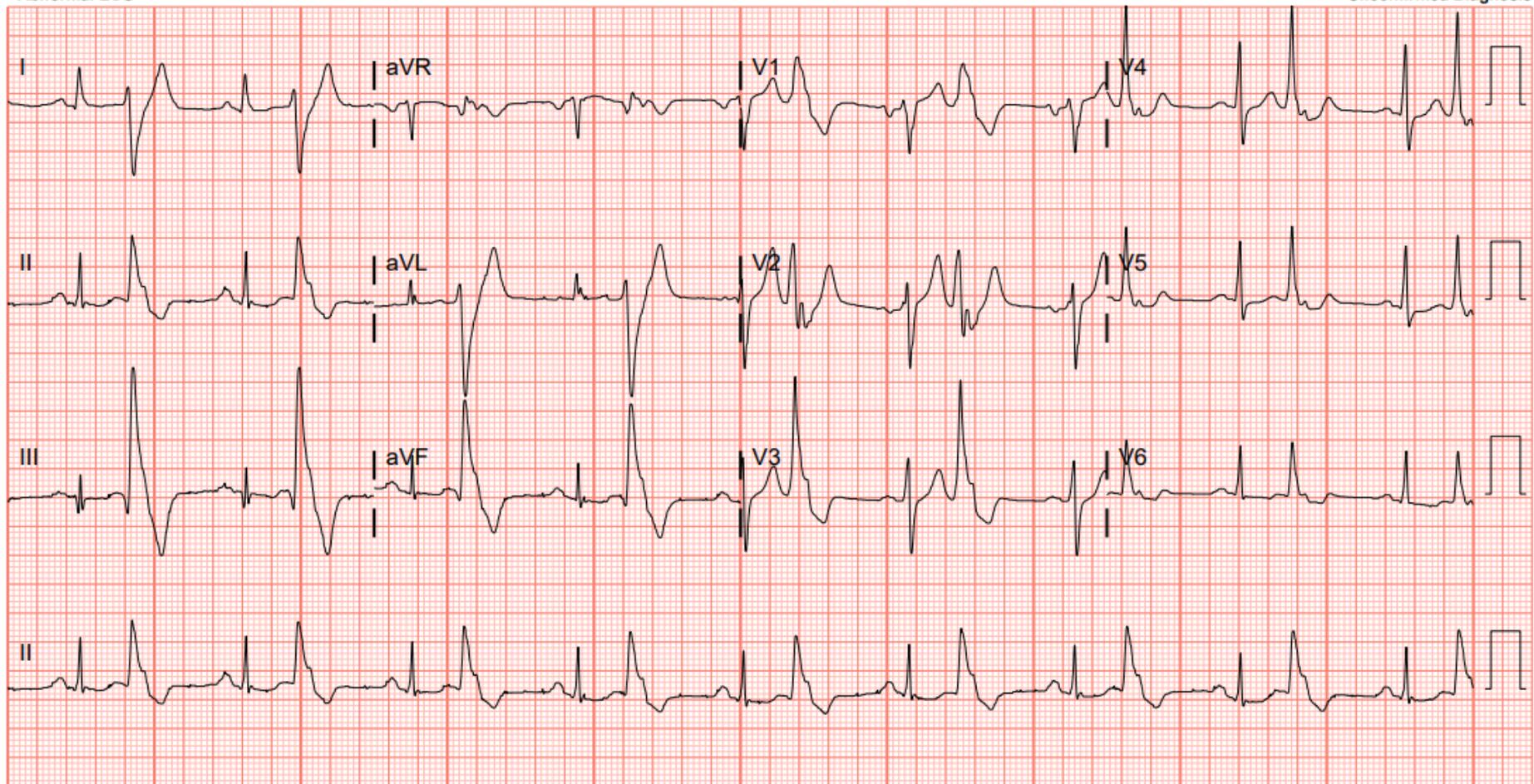
Bayfront Health Seven Rivers ED  
Dept ED  
Room ED01  
Tech sw

RX		
DX		
Rate	123	Sinus tachycardia
PR	143	Ventricular bigeminy
QRSd	114	Probable left atrial enlargement
QT	306	Borderline intraventricular conduction delay
QTc	438	Borderline repolarization abnormality
--Axis--		NO PREVIOUS ECG AVAILABLE FOR COMPARISON
P	65	
QRS	15	
T	256	

Req Provider: Mary Martin

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis



Pat ID [REDACTED]

04/06/2020 14:09:52

Account # [REDACTED]

Bayfront Health Seven Rivers ED  
Dept ED  
Room ED01  
Tech sw

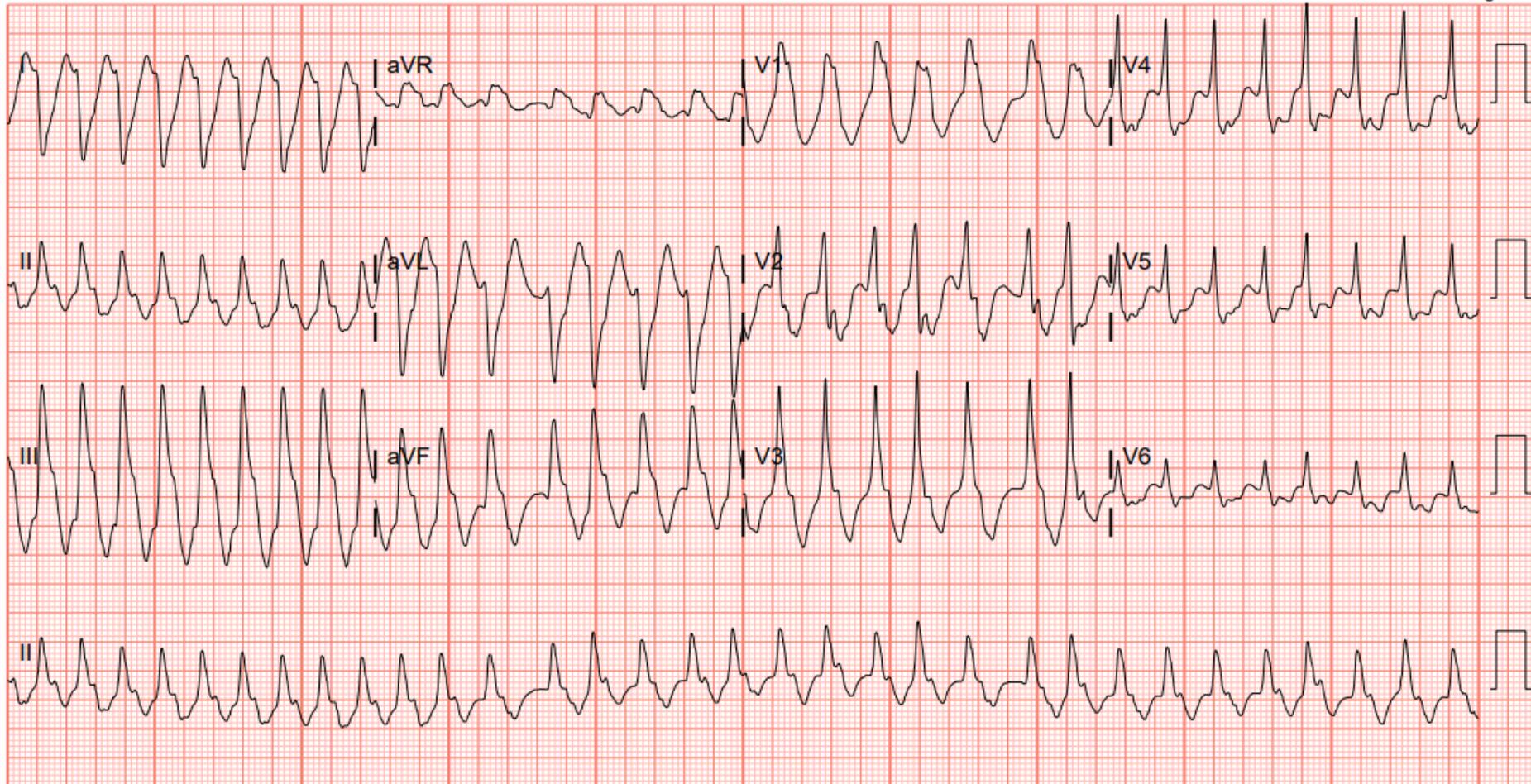
RX  
DX

Rate 197 Extreme tachycardia with wide complex, no further rhythm analysis attempted  
 PR 58 COMPARED TO ECG 04/06/2020 14:09:13  
 QRSd 157 NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES  
 QT 276  
 QTc 500  
 --Axis--  
 P -86  
 QRS 133  
 T -57

Req Provider: Mary Martin

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagnosis



Pat ID

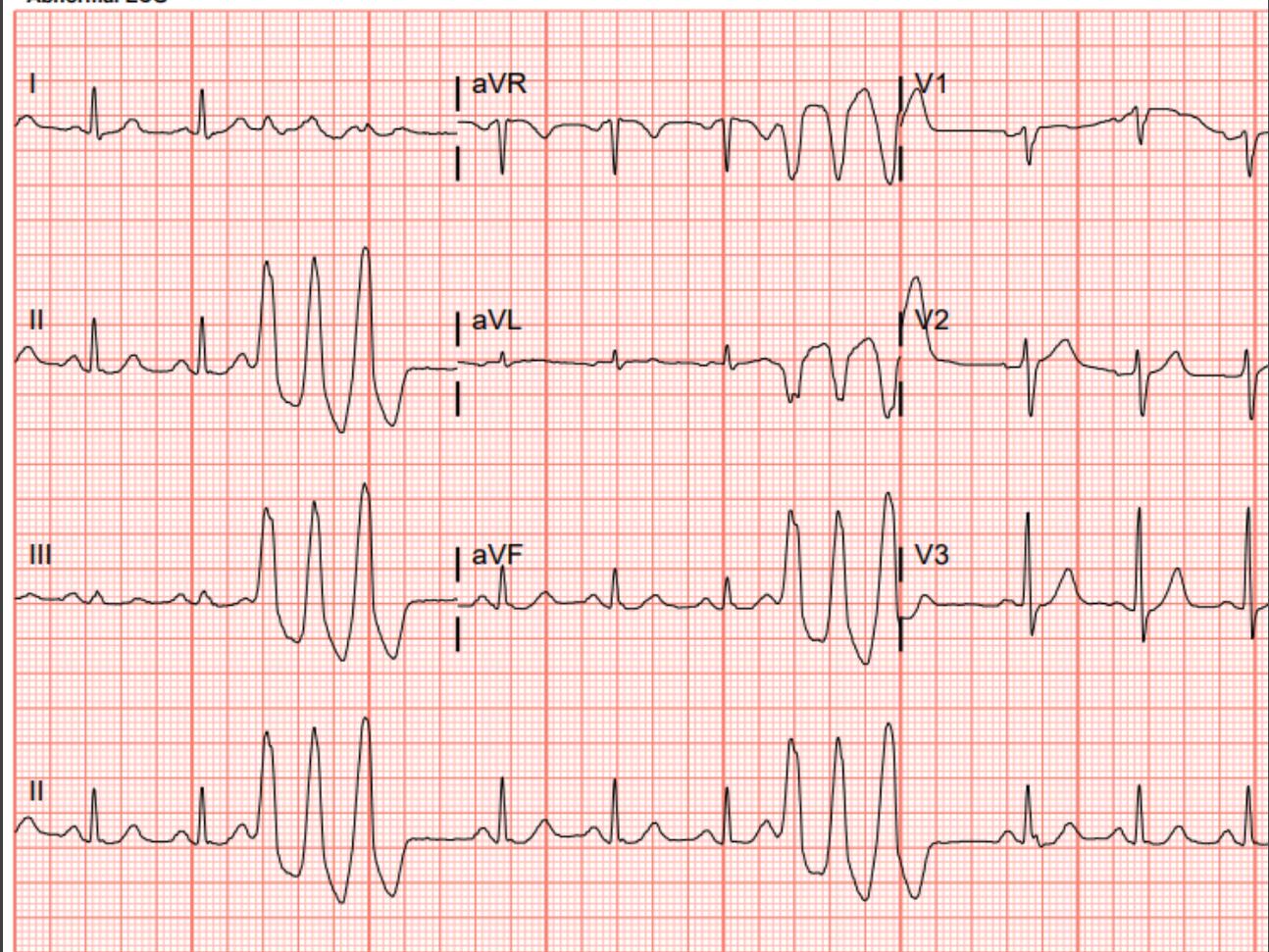
04/12/2020 19:41:39  
10/25/1955 64 yrs

Account #

RX  
DX

Rate	153	Sinus tachycardia
PR	128	Ventricular tachycardia, unsustained
QRSd	105	Nonspecific T abnormalities, inferior leads
QT	342	COMPARED TO ECG 04/12/2020 19:35:48
QTc	546	SINUS TACHYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
--Axis--		VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
P	71	T-WAVE ABNORMALITY NOW PRESENT
QRS	55	
T	-61	

- Abnormal ECG -



Pat ID [REDACTED]

04/12/2020 19:41:39  
10/25/1955 64 yrs

Account # [REDACTED]

Bayfront Health Seven Rivers  
Dept  
Room  
Tech leila

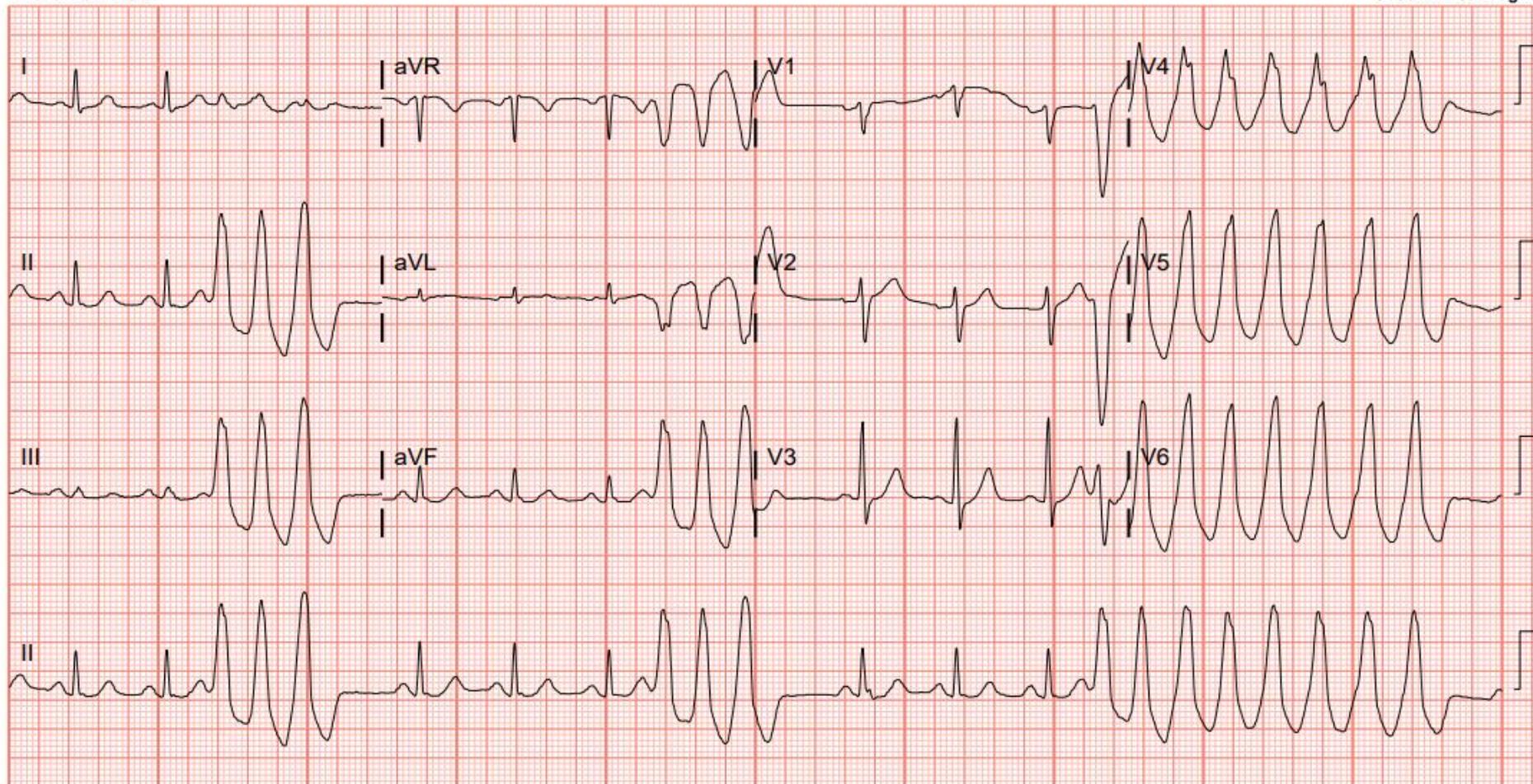
RX  
DX

Req Provider:

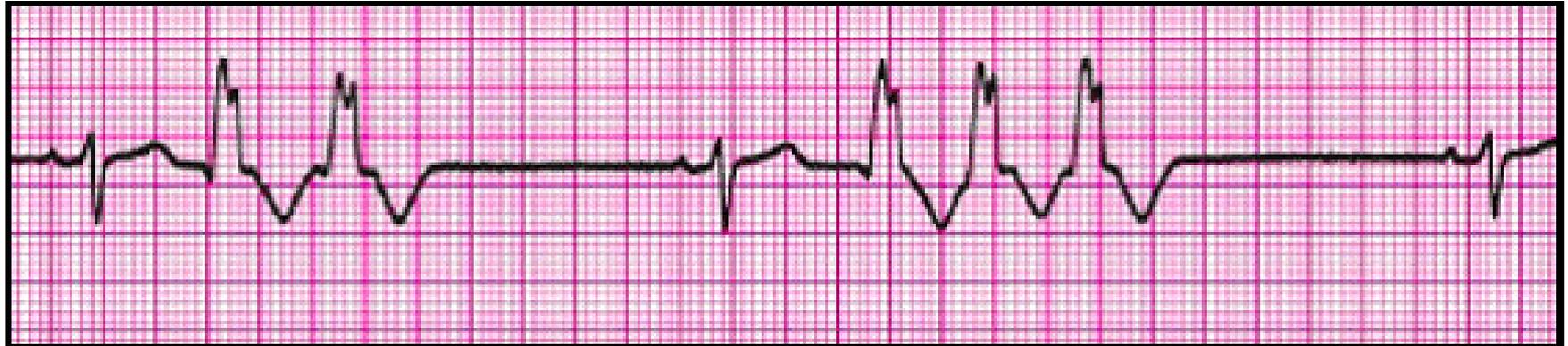
Rate	153	Sinus tachycardia
PR	128	Ventricular tachycardia, unsustained
QRSd	105	Nonspecific T abnormalities, inferior leads
QT	342	COMPARED TO ECG 04/12/2020 19:35:48
QTc	546	SINUS TACHYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
--Axis--		VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA NOW PRESENT
P	71	T-WAVE ABNORMALITY NOW PRESENT
QRS	55	
T	-61	

- Abnormal ECG -

Unconfirmed Diagno



# 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:



## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

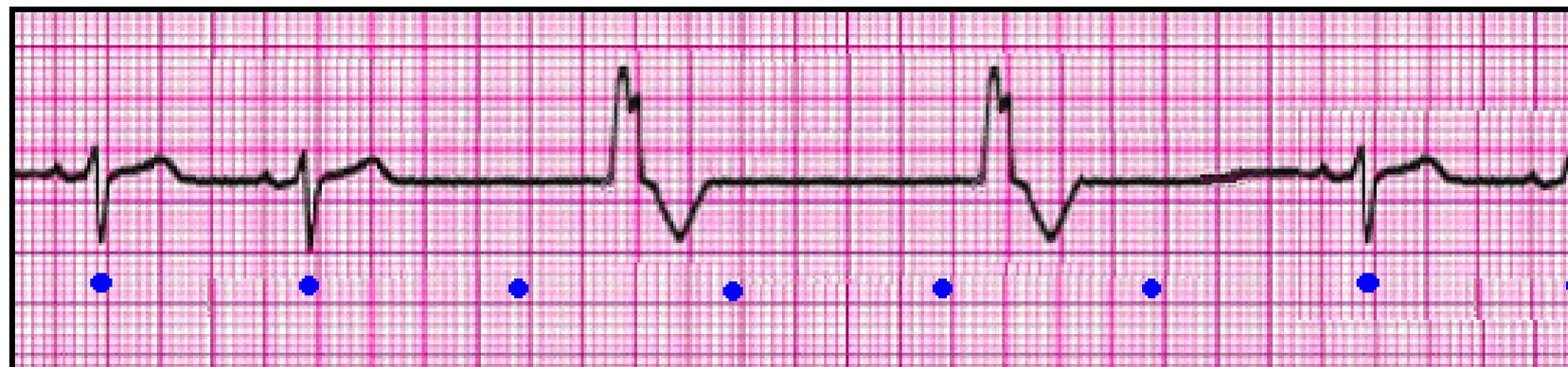
RHYTHM -----

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

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

# 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):

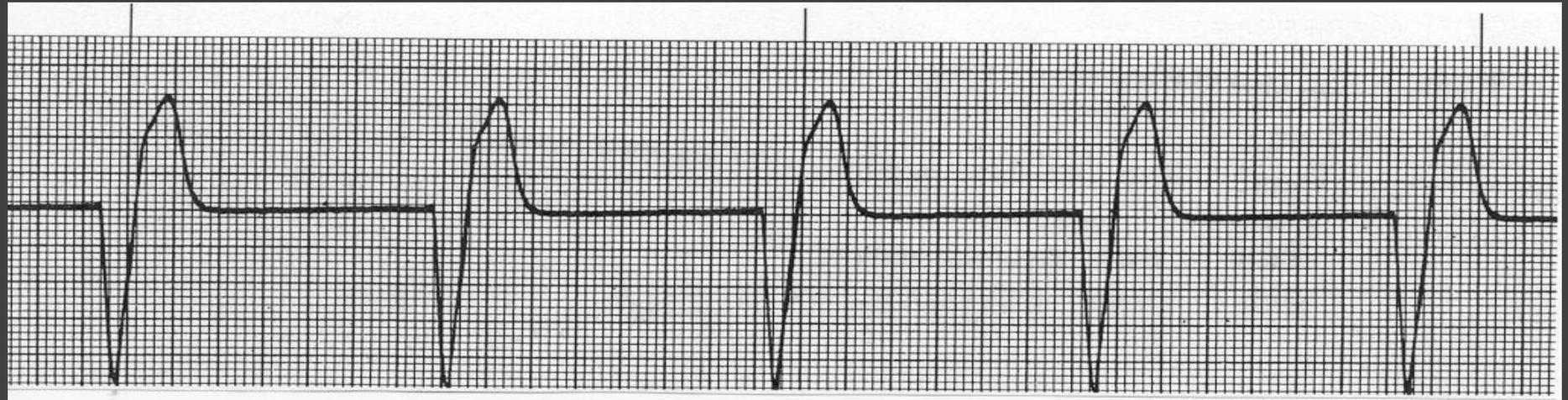
- PROBLEM IS WITH UNDERLYING REASON WHY SINUS NODE and AV NODE HAVING PERIODS OF ARREST.
- THE VENTRICULAR ESCAPE COMPLEXES MAY BE VERY SLOW, BUT MAY BE ONLY THING KEEPING PATIENT PERFUSED DURING PERIODS OF SINUS/AV ARREST.

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

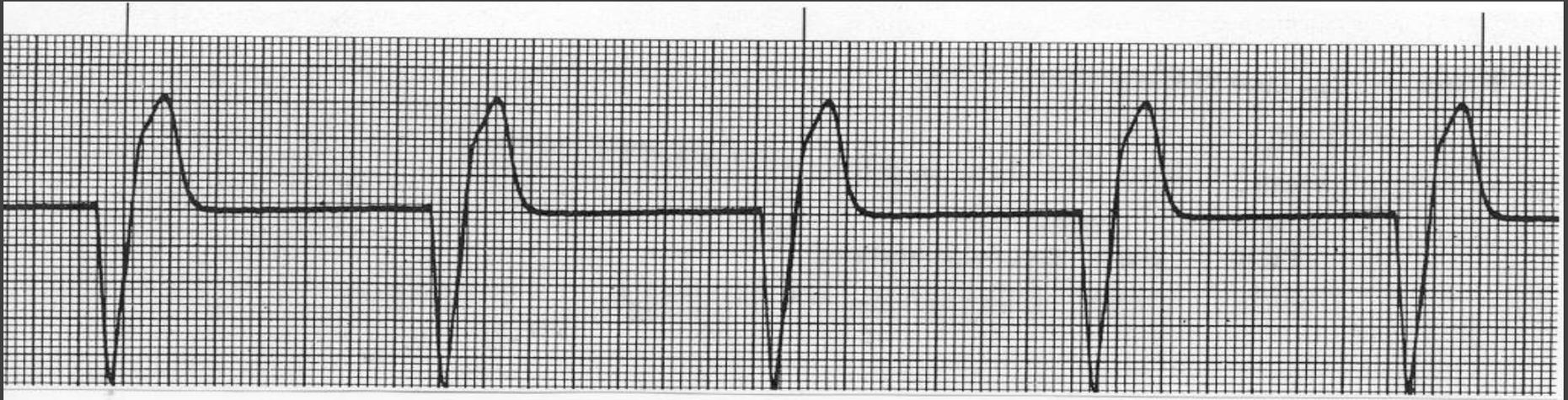


### TREATMENT / INTERVENTION (S):

- 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)



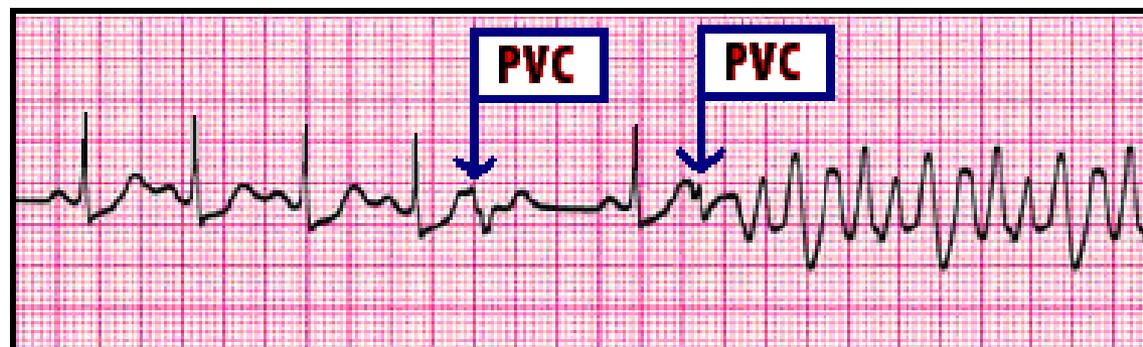
**No P waves**

**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

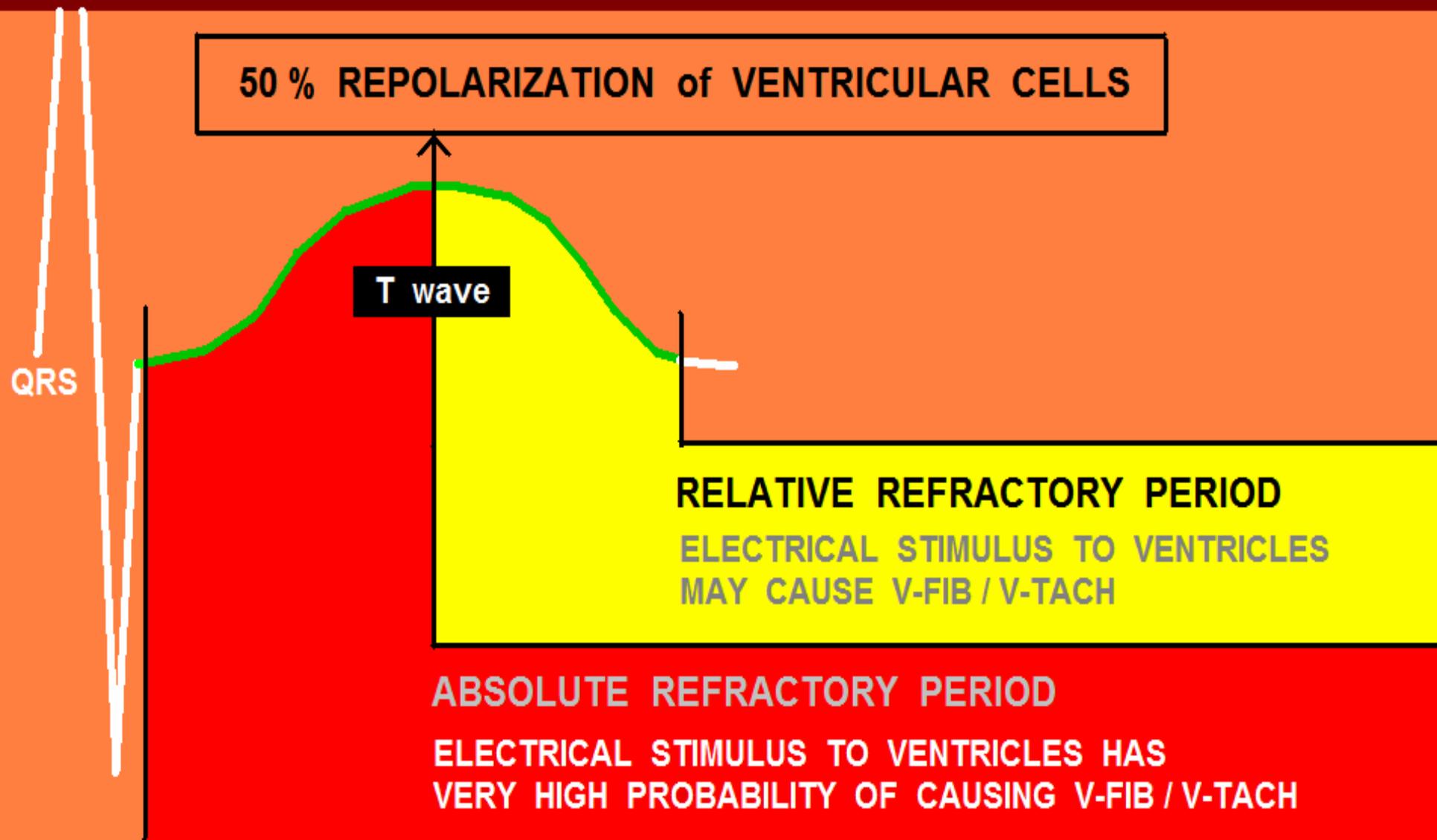


**MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):** ECTOPIC BEATS ARE WIDE (> 120 ms); ALL APPEAR TO HAVE SAME SHAPE and DEFLECTION; THERE IS A COMPENSATORY PAUSE

## 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:



## MAIN IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC(S):

RATE -----

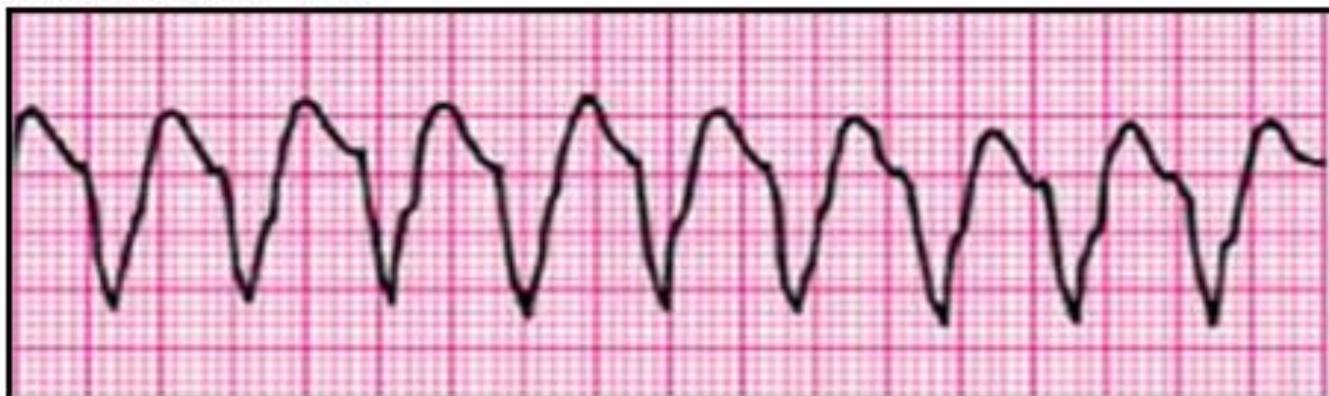
RHYTHM -----

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 -----	<b><math>&gt; 100</math> (usually 150 - 200)</b>
RHYTHM -----	<b>REGULAR</b>
P-R INTERVAL -----	<b>N/A</b>
P: QRS RATIO -----	<b>N/A</b>
QRS INTERVAL -----	<b><math>&gt; 120</math> ms</b>

# **-- 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 !

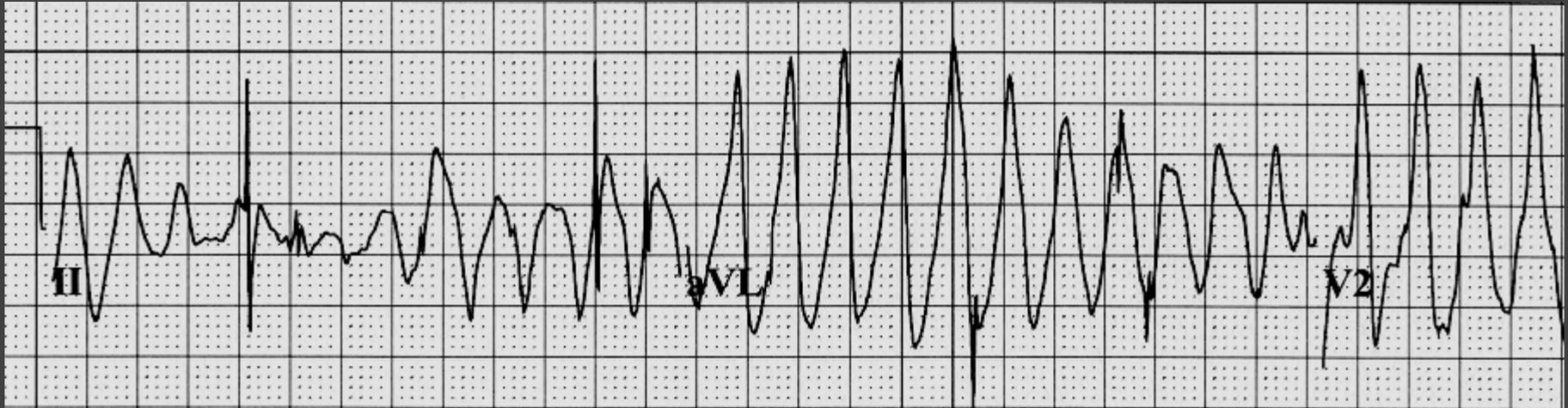
## PULSE - UNSTABLE

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

## PULSE - STABLE

- O<sub>2</sub>, 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 --**

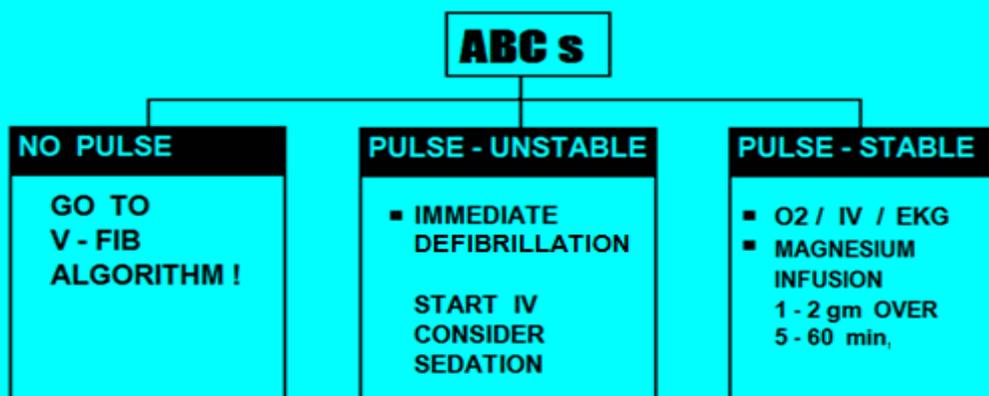
**-Immediately check patient**

**-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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 )



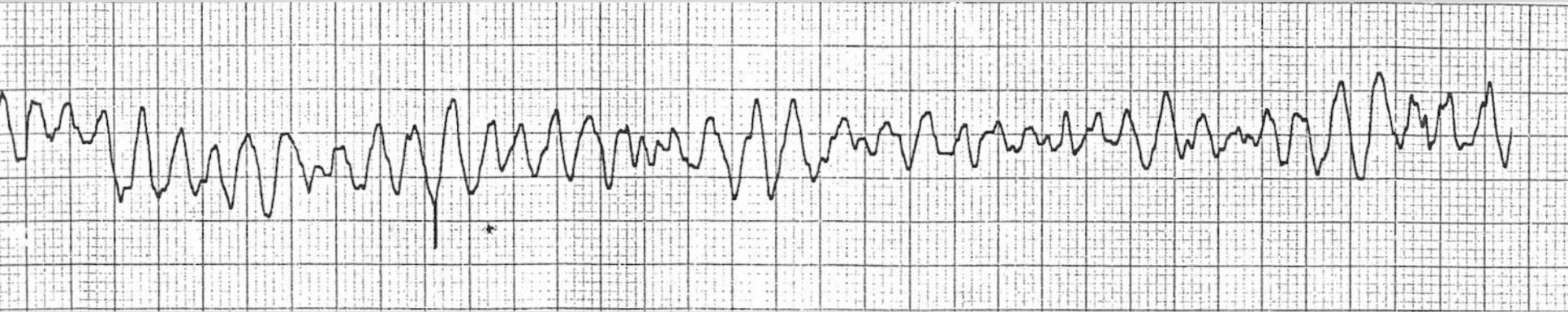
***DO NOT give PROCAINAMIDE, AMIODARONE, or SOTALOL  
to patients with TORSADES or POLYMORPHIC VT !!!***

## 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

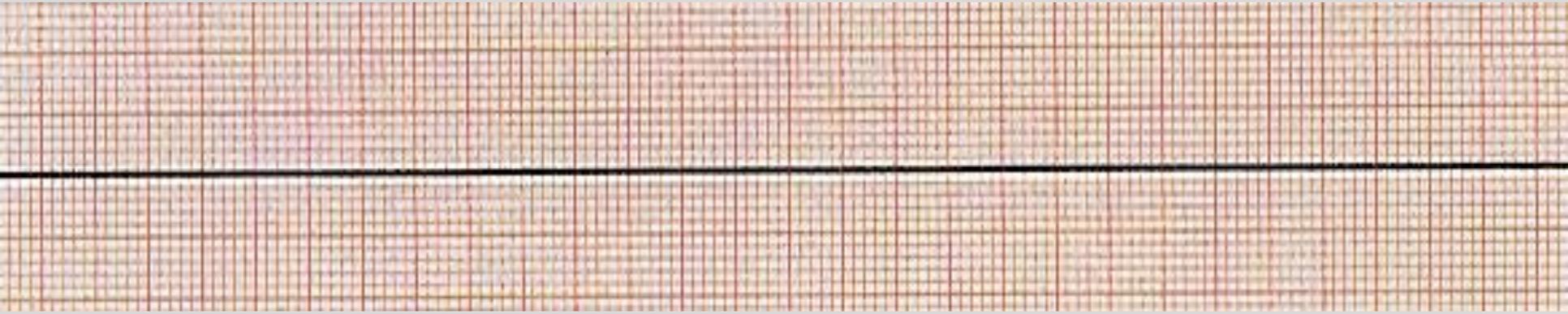
REPORT ANY ABNORMAL FINDINGS TO PHYSICIAN.

# VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION



***CARDIAC ARREST RHYTHM***

# Ventricular Asystole



***CARDIAC ARREST RHYTHM***

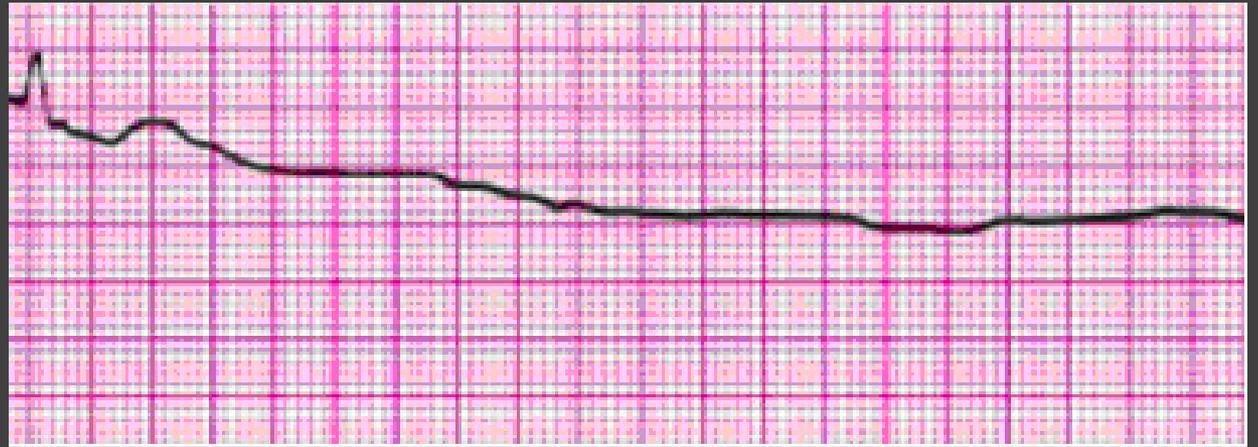
# **-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --**

**-Immediately check patient**

**-Notify next “higher up” in chain of command**

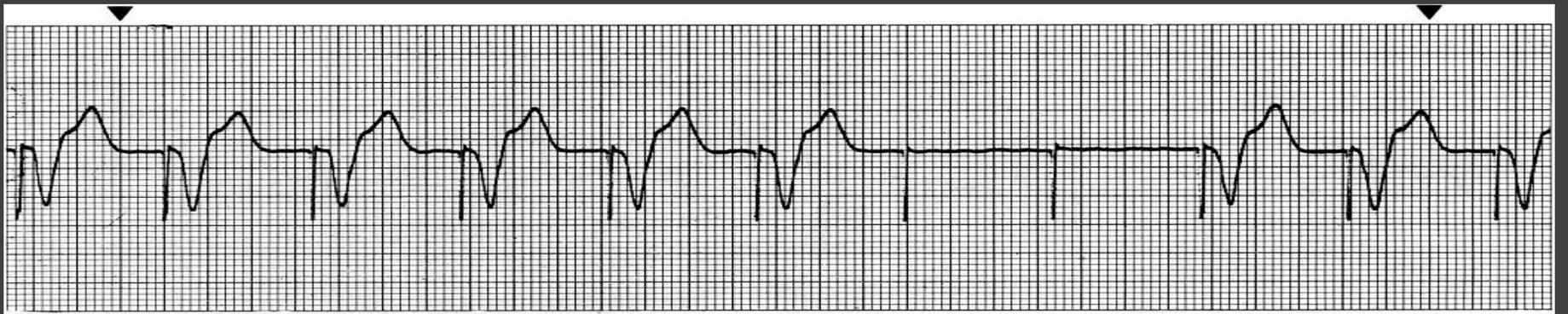
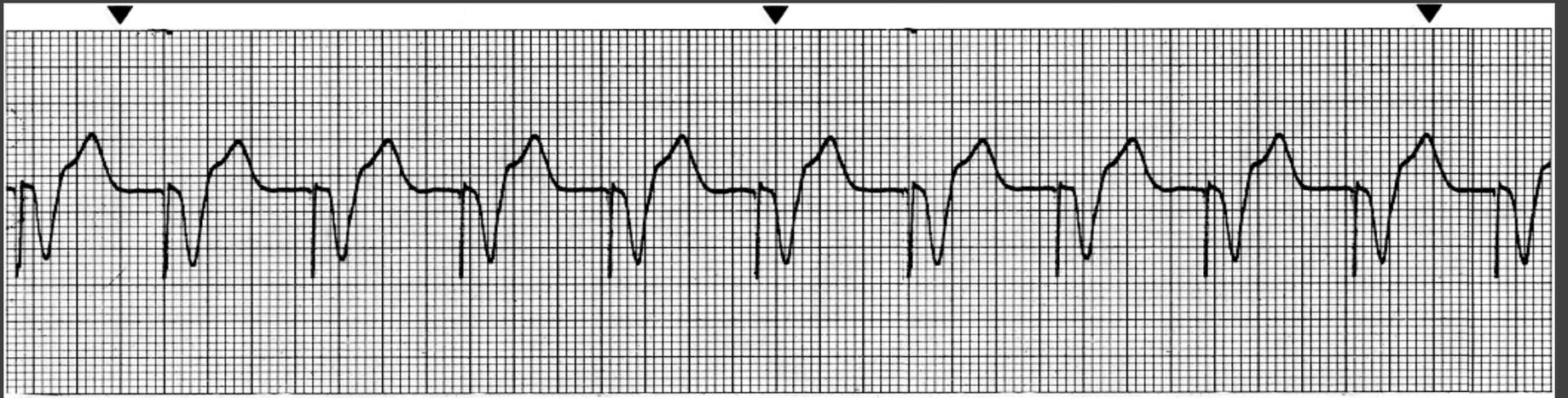
- 1. Heart rate LESS THAN 50 or GREATER THAN 150**
- 2. QT INTERVAL prolonged (usually not emergent but let Dr. know)**
- 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree HEART BLOCK**
- 4. SINUS ARREST with periods of ASYSTOLE**
- 5. NEW ONSET of any DYSRHYTHMIA**
- 6. PVCs that are MULTIFOCAL, 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**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**

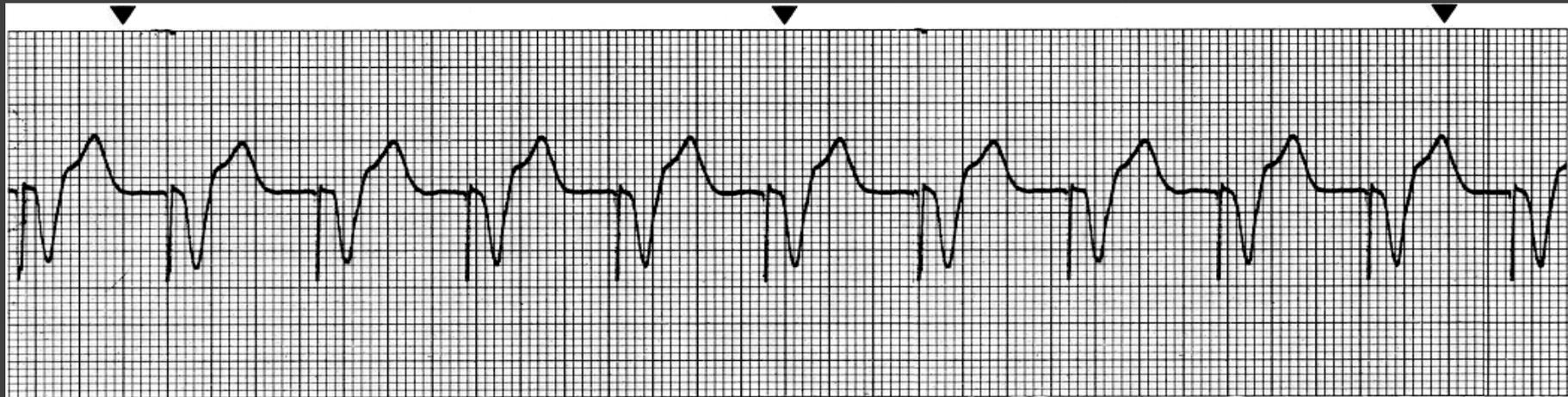
If QRS complexes have a PULSE then apply



**PACEMAKER !!**

CPR  
|  
IV / AIRWAY  
|  
EPI 1 mg  
|





# **-- CRITICAL ECG ALERT --**

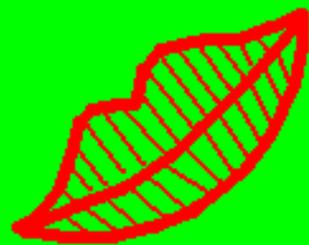
**-Immediately check patient**

**-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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**
- 10. PACER SPIKES WITHOUT QRS – “FAILURE TO CAPTURE”**

# THE QRS COMPLEX

## DIAGNOSING BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK



K.I.S.S.

THEORY

# Simple "Turn Signal Method"

## THE "TURN SIGNAL METHOD" for identifying BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

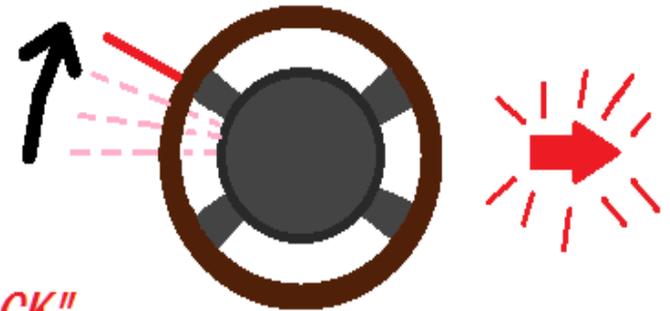
V1

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"

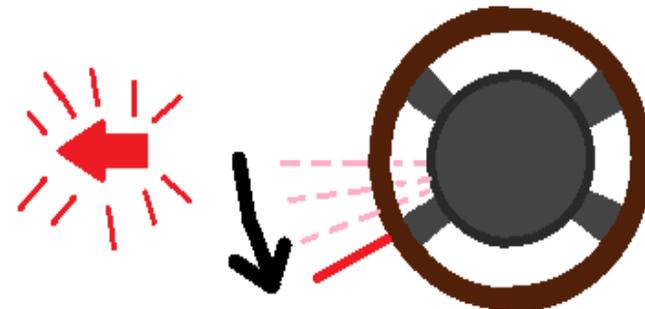


V1

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

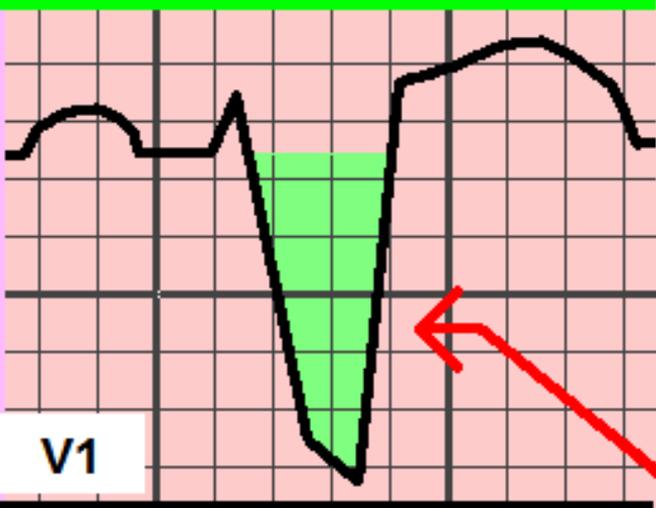
THINK:

"QRS points DOWN = LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK"



# DIAGNOSING BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

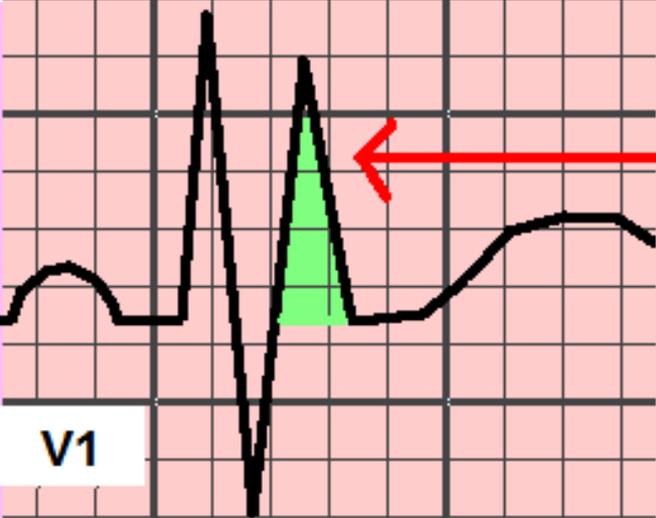
## L.B.B.B.



## USING LEAD V1

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

## R.B.B.B.

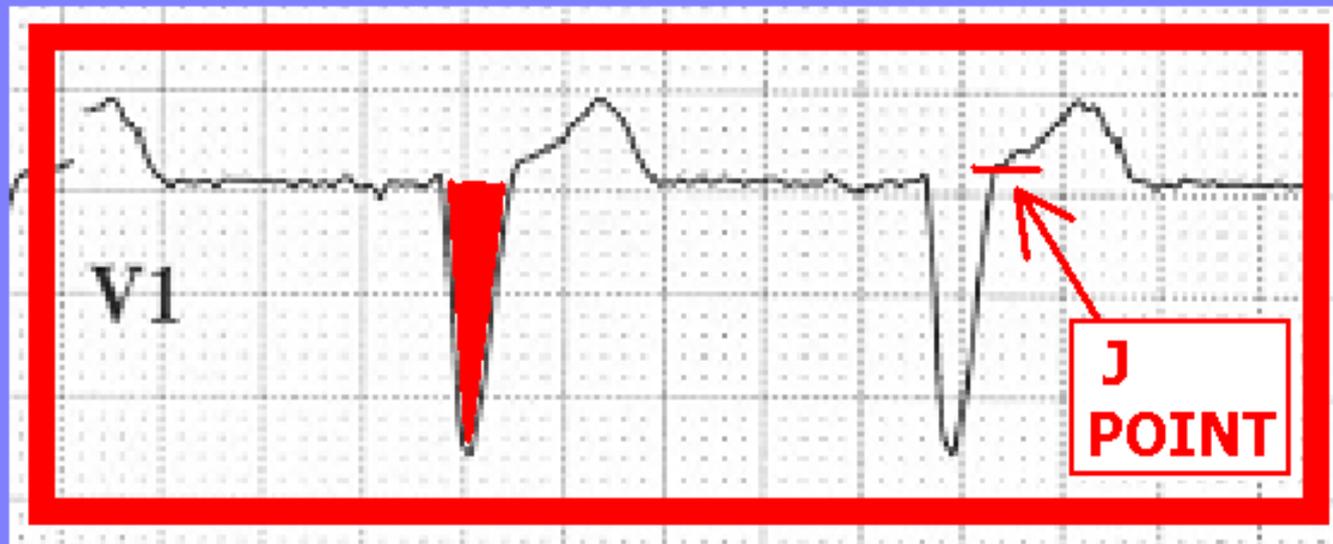


NEGATIVE = LEFT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK

POSITIVE = RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK



**TERMINAL PHASE OF QRS IS  
NEGATIVE**



**= LEFT BUNDLE  
BRANCH BLOCK**



**TERMINAL PHASE OF QRS IS**  
**POSITIVE**



**= RIGHT BUNDLE  
BRANCH 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**
- 10. PACER SPIKES WITHOUT QRS – “FAILURE TO CAPTURE”**
- 11. CHANGES in the QRS width (new onset Bundle Branch Block)**

**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**

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

**12 Lead ECG “mapping” of  
the ischemic region of  
myocardium with continuous  
ST Segment Monitoring . . .  
Coming up in the next level  
ECG monitoring course.**

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)

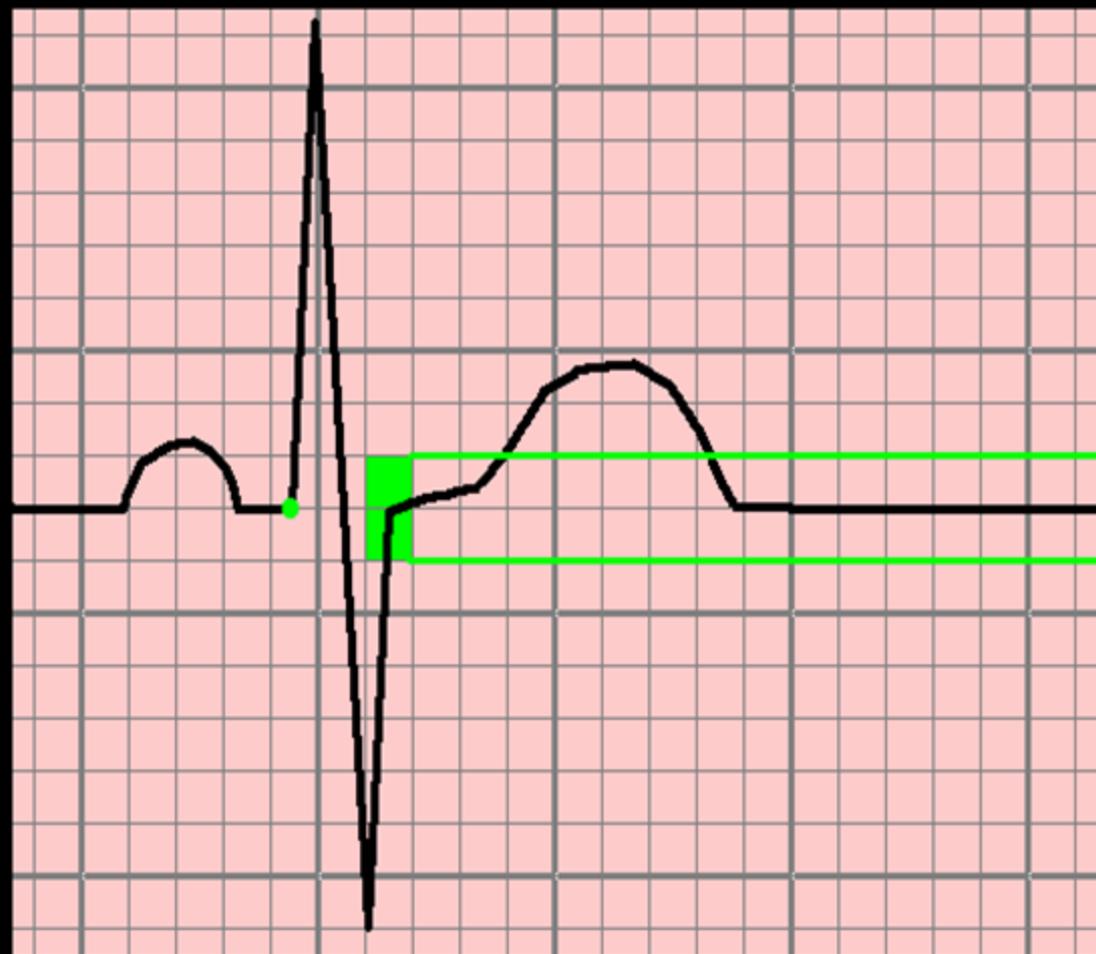
## ASSESS:

- 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

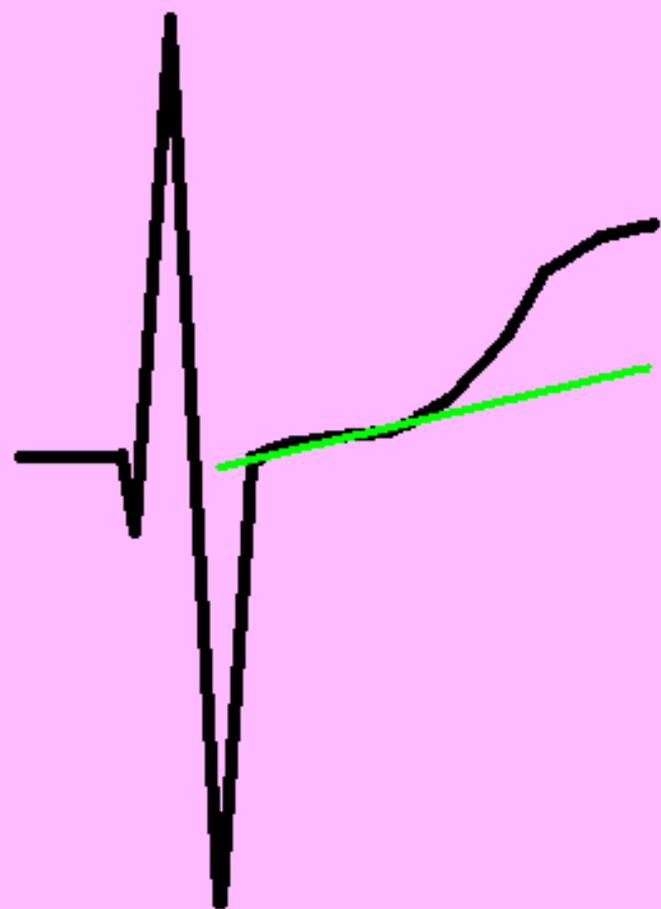
BELOW

the

ISOELECTRIC  
LINE

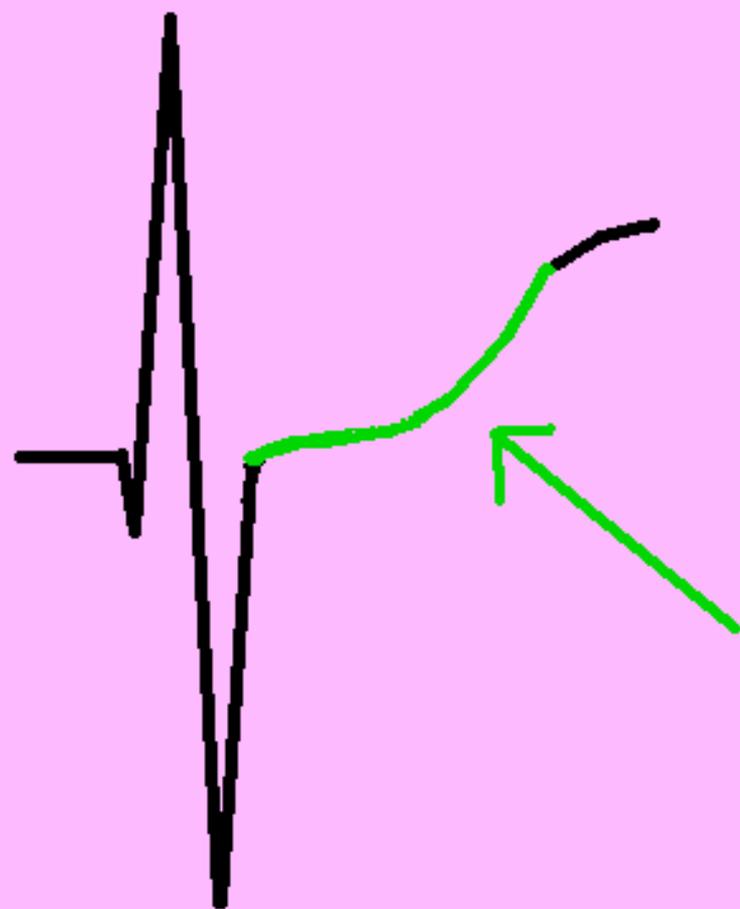
or the P-Q JUNCTION.

# THE S-T SEGMENT



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

# THE S-T SEGMENT

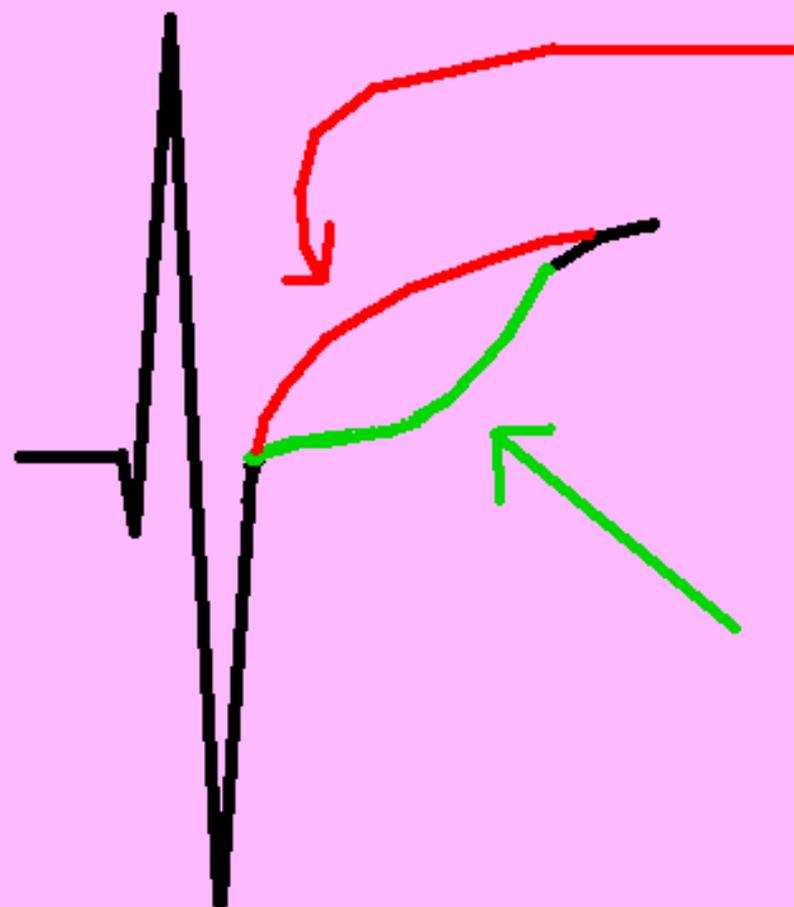


SHOULD BE  
"CONCAVE" IN  
SHAPE . . .

# THE S-T SEGMENT

AS OPPOSED TO  
"CONVEX" IN  
SHAPE

SHOULD BE  
"CONCAVE" IN  
SHAPE . . .



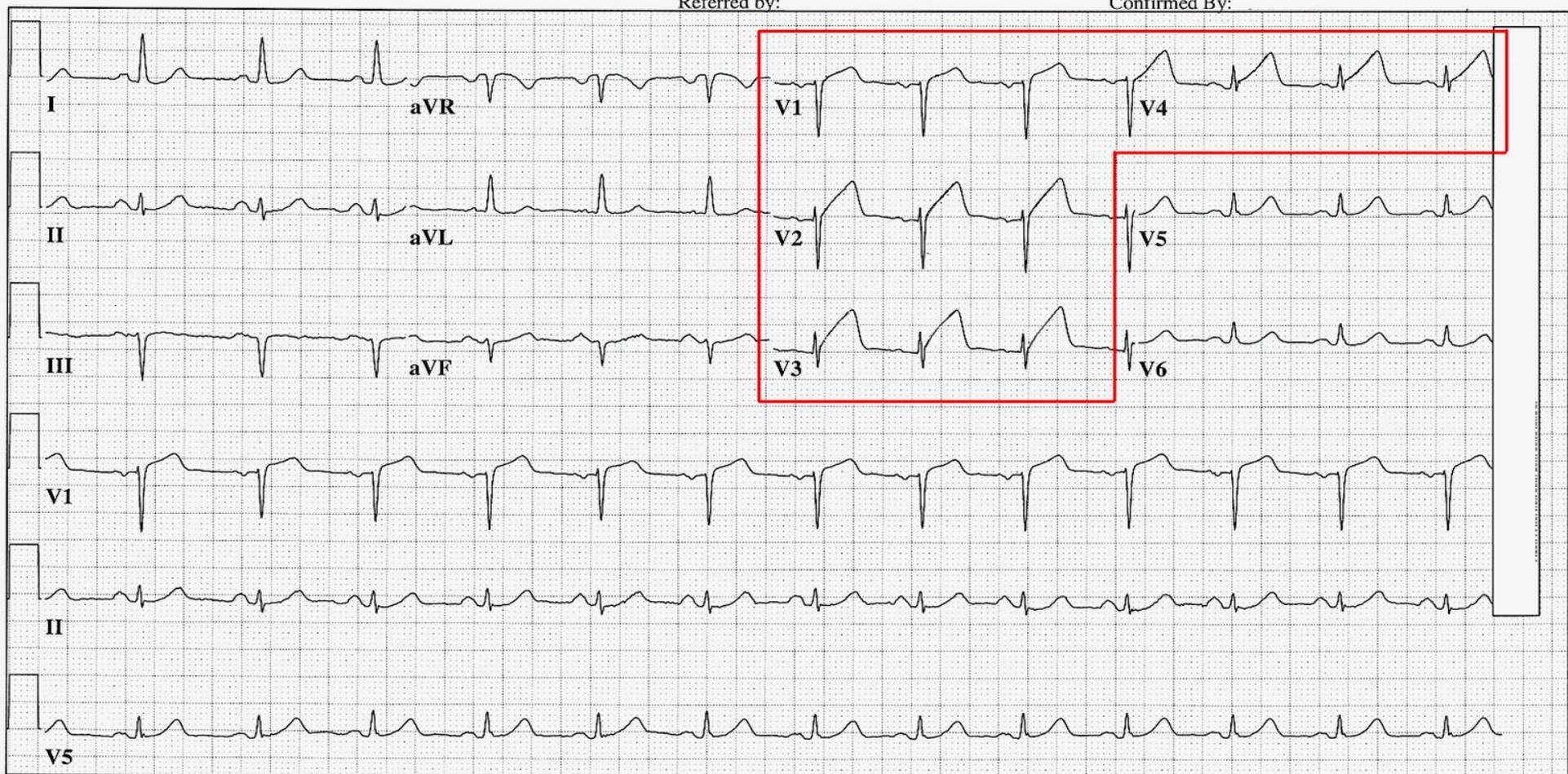
36 yr Male Caucasian  
Room: A9 Loc: 3 Option: 23  
Vent. rate 80 BPM  
PR interval 154 ms  
QRS duration 78 ms  
QT/QTc 380/438 ms  
P-R-T axes 51 -24 38

**\*\*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:

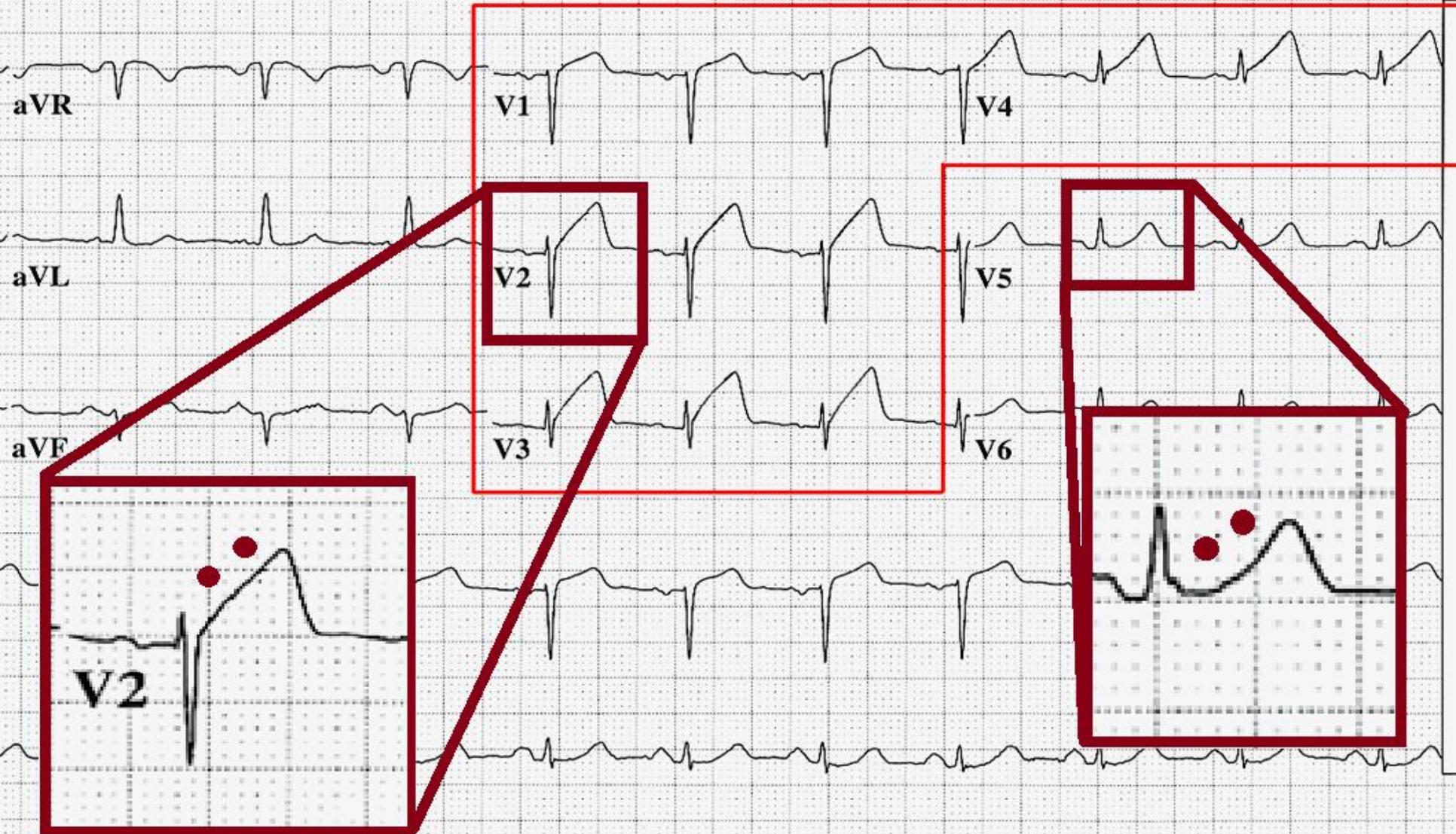
**ECG COMPUTER DOES NOT NOTICE THE CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENTS !**

380/438 ms  
51 -24 38

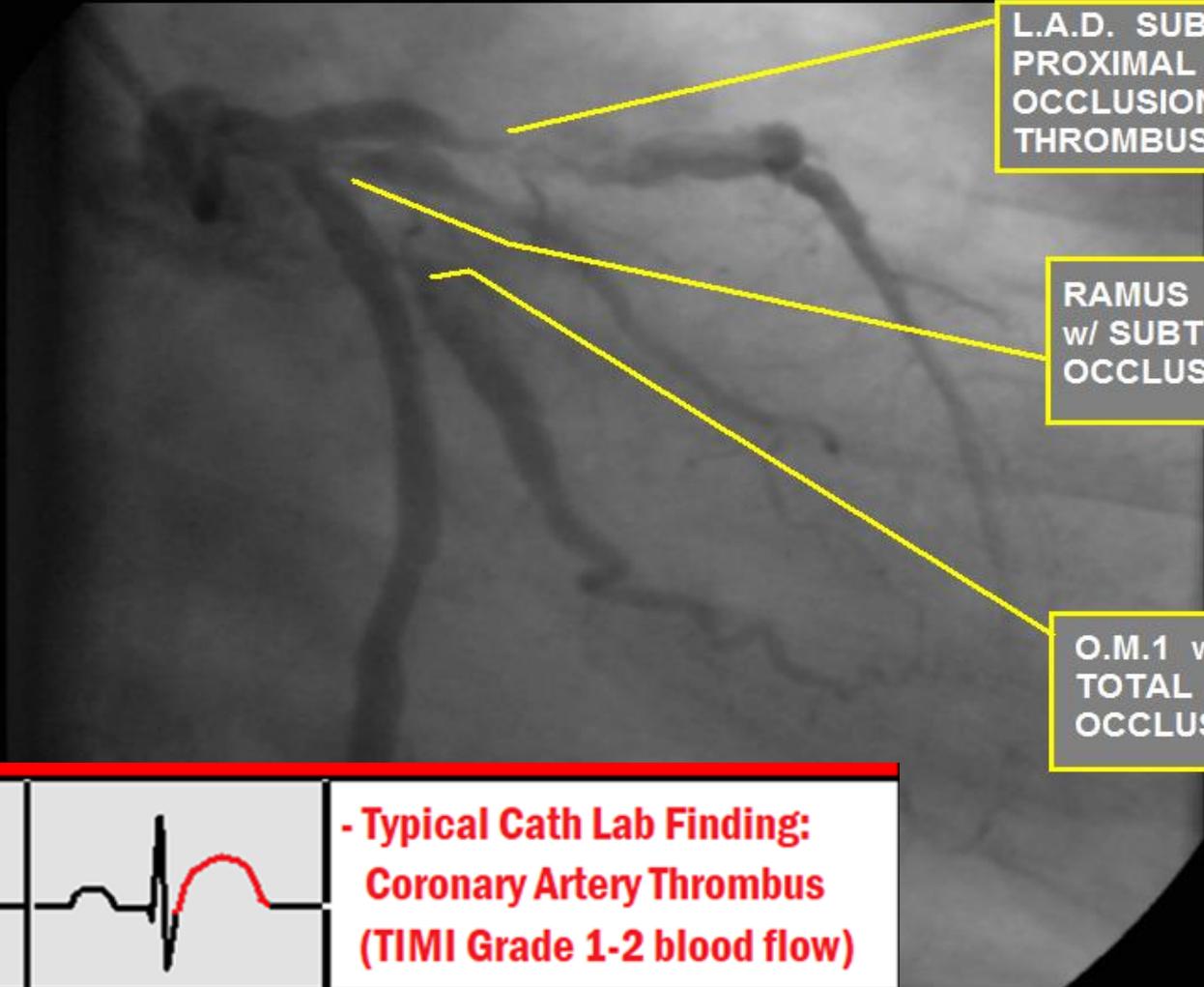
Normal sinus rhythm  
No previous ECGs available

Referred by:

Confirmed By:



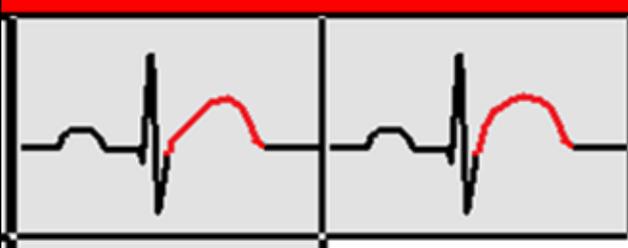
# CASE STUDY: 56 y/o male with INTERMITTENT "CHEST HEAVINESS" . . . .



L.A.D. SUBTOTAL PROXIMAL OCCLUSION WITH THROMBUS

RAMUS ARTERY w/ SUBTOTAL OCCLUSION

O.M.1 w/ SUBTOTAL OCCLUSION

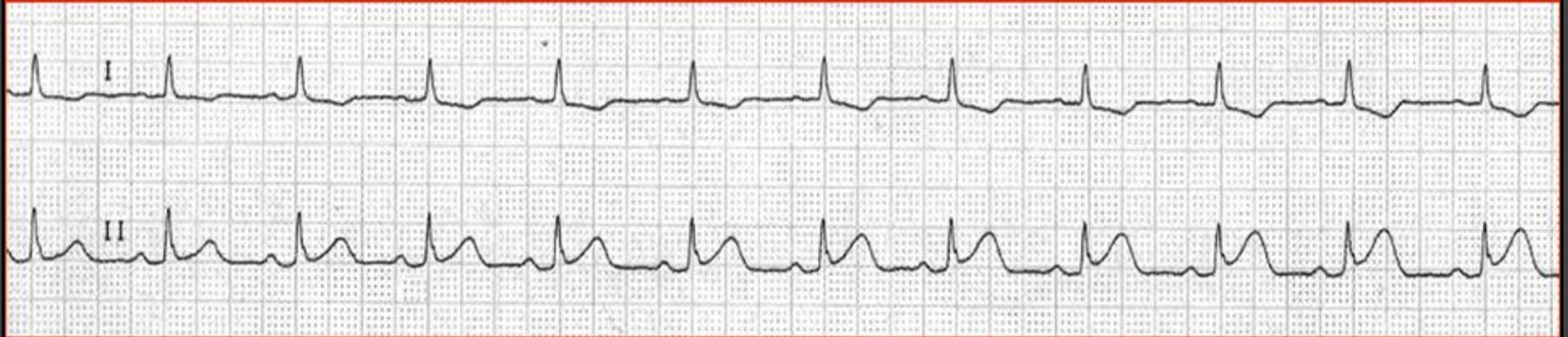


- Typical Cath Lab Finding: Coronary Artery Thrombus (TIMI Grade 1-2 blood flow)

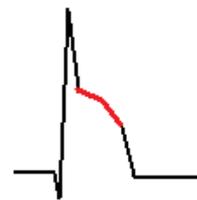
**TREATMENT PLAN : EMERGENCY CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY ( 4 VESSEL )**

# ***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**



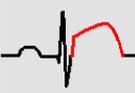
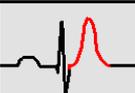
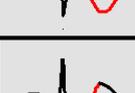
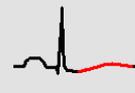
**FLAT  
S-T SEGMENT**



**UPSLOPING  
S-T SEGMENT**

# EKG PATTERNS of ACS & ISCHEMIA

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

!	S-T SEGMENT ELEVATION at J POINT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACUTE MI</li> <li>- ACUTE PERICARDITIS / MYOCARDITIS</li> <li>- EARLY REPOLARIZATION</li> </ul>
!	FLAT or CONVEX J-T APEX SEGMENT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACUTE MI</li> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
!	HYPER-ACUTE T WAVE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HYPERKALEMIA</li> <li>- TRANSMURAL ISCHEMIA</li> <li>- ACUTE MI</li> <li>- HYPERTROPHY</li> </ul>
!	DEPRESSED J pt. DOWNSLOPING ST and INVERTED T		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACUTE (NON-Q WAVE) MI</li> <li>- ACUTE MI - (RECIPROCAL CHANGES)</li> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
	INVERTED T WAVE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MYOCARDITIS</li> <li>- ELECTROLYTE IMBAL.</li> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
	SHARP S-T T ANGLE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACUTE MI (NOT COMMON)</li> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
	BI-PHASIC T WAVE (WELLEN'S)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SUB-TOTAL LAD LESION</li> <li>- VASOSPASM</li> <li>- HYPERTROPHY</li> </ul>
	DEPRESSED J POINT with UPSLOPING ST		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
	DOWNSLOPING S-T SEGMENT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
?	FLAT S-T SEGMENT > 120 ms		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
?	LOW VOLTAGE T WAVE WITH NORMAL QRS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>
?	U WAVE POLARITY OPPOSITE THAT OF T WAVE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ISCHEMIA</li> </ul>

# **-- 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**
- 10. PACER SPIKES WITHOUT QRS – “FAILURE TO CAPTURE”**
- 11. CHANGES in the QRS width (new onset Bundle Branch Block)**
- 12. CHANGES to J Point, ST Segment, and/or T Waves**

**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 ?



## Immediately:

notify Charge RN

check patient

obtain 12 Lead ECG

Notify physician / Cardiologist

Activate STEMI protocol

# **-- 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> degree type II or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**
- 9. VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION or ASYSTOLE**
- 10. PACER SPIKES WITHOUT QRS – “FAILURE TO CAPTURE”**
- 11. CHANGES in the QRS width (new onset Bundle Branch Block)**
- 12. CHANGES to J Point, ST Segment, and/or T Waves**



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