

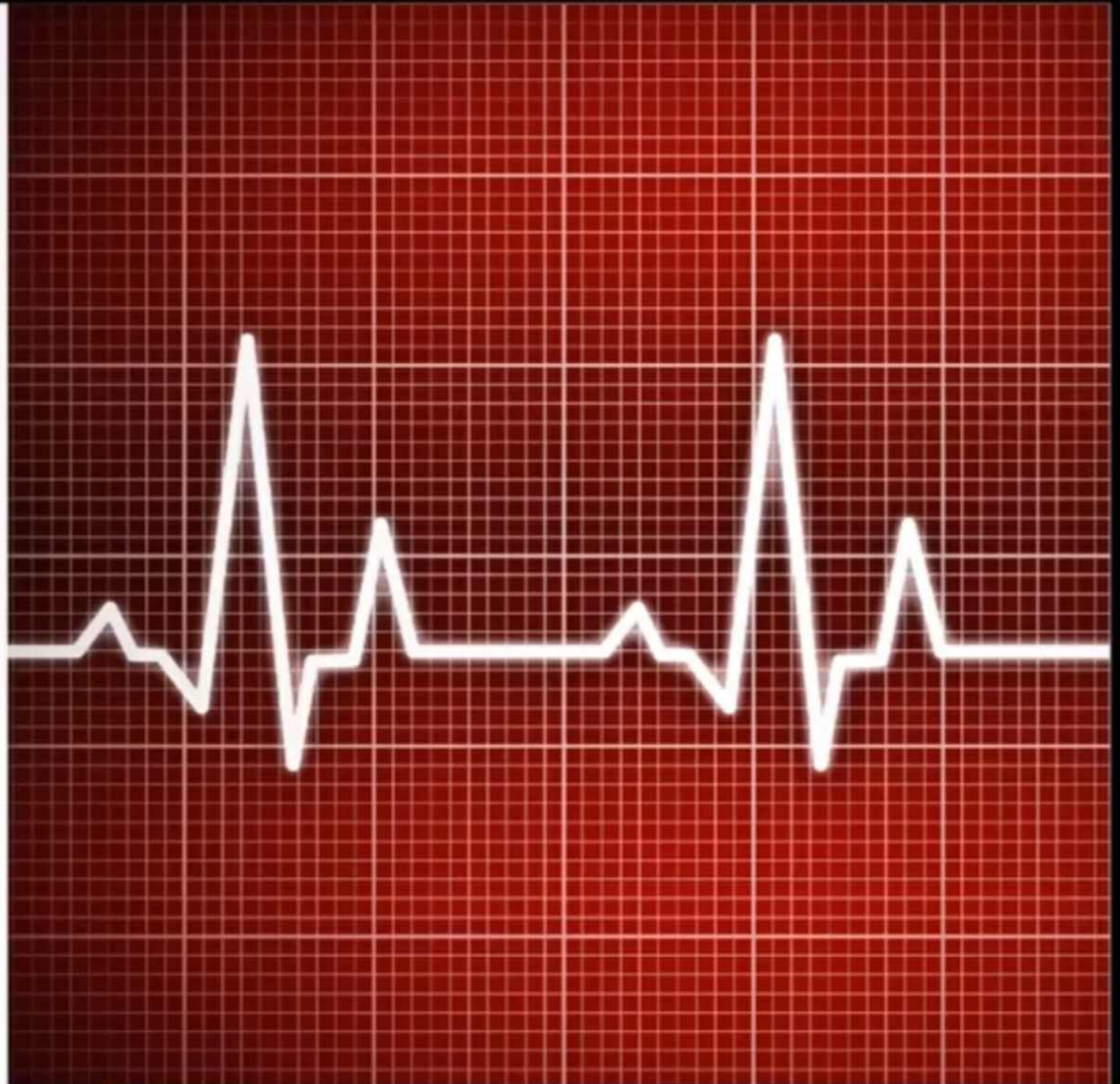


# Cardiac Arrhythmias

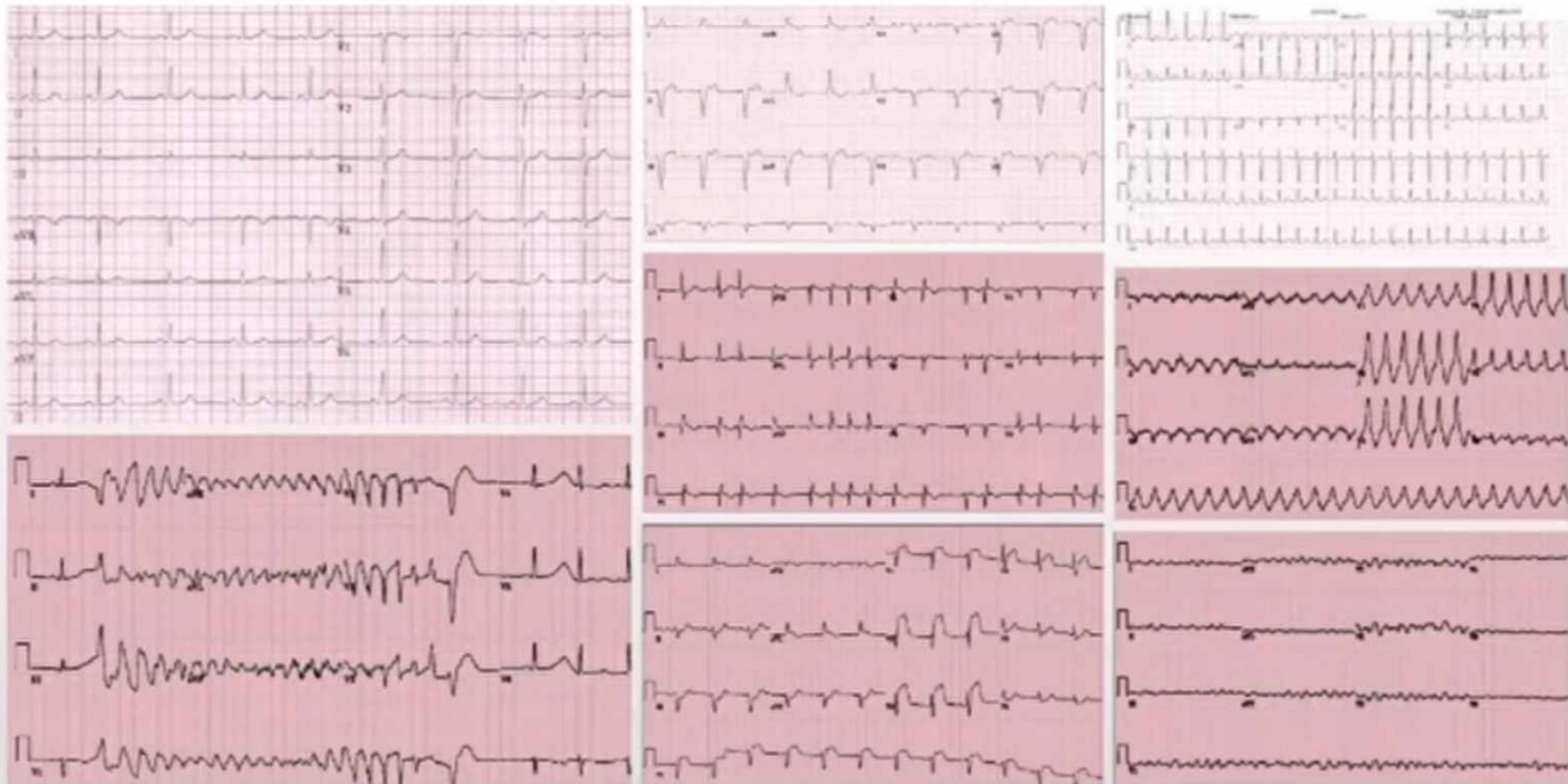
KAIS AL BALBISSI, MD, FACC, FSCAI

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

*Edited by: Ruaa Adeb*



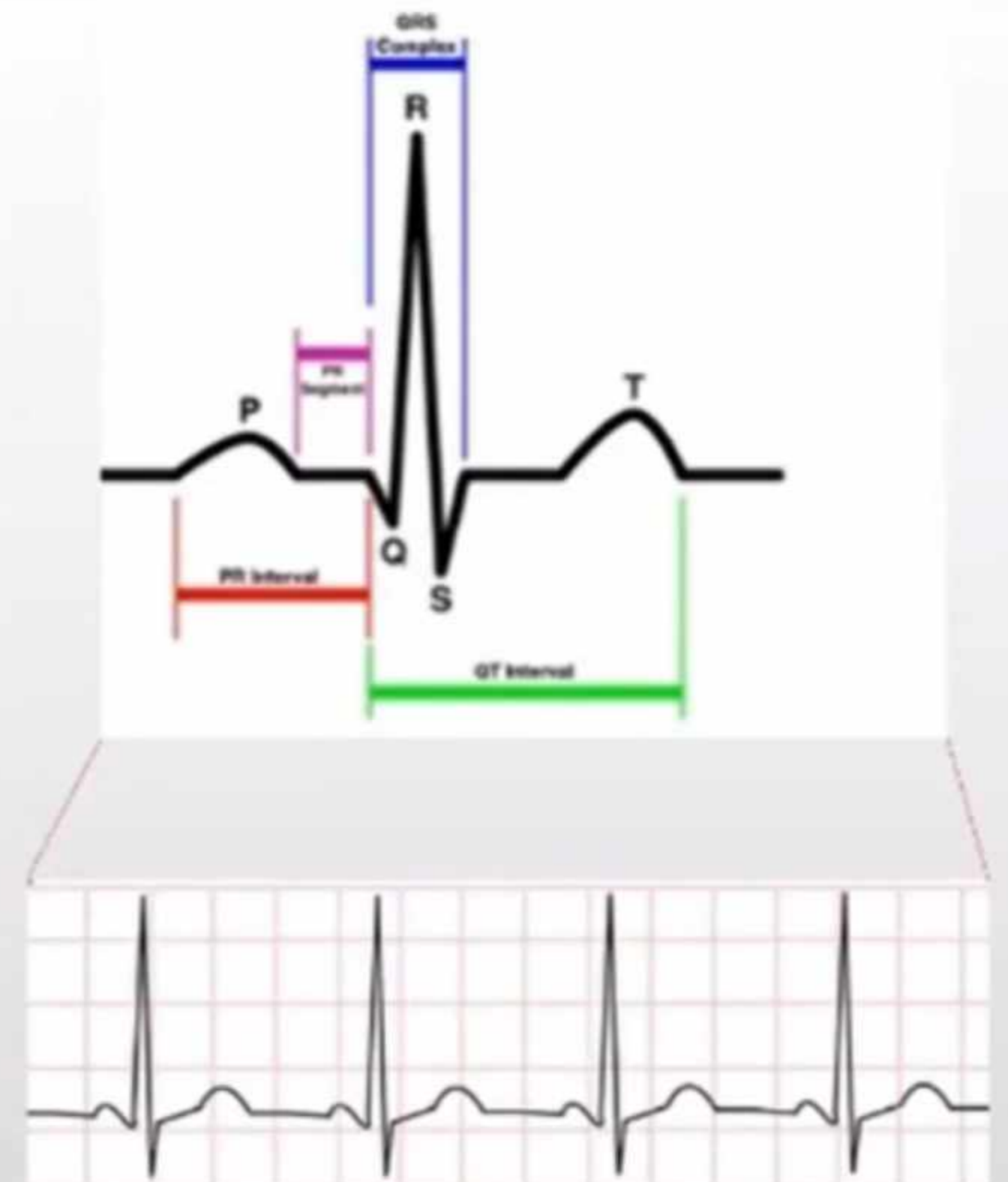
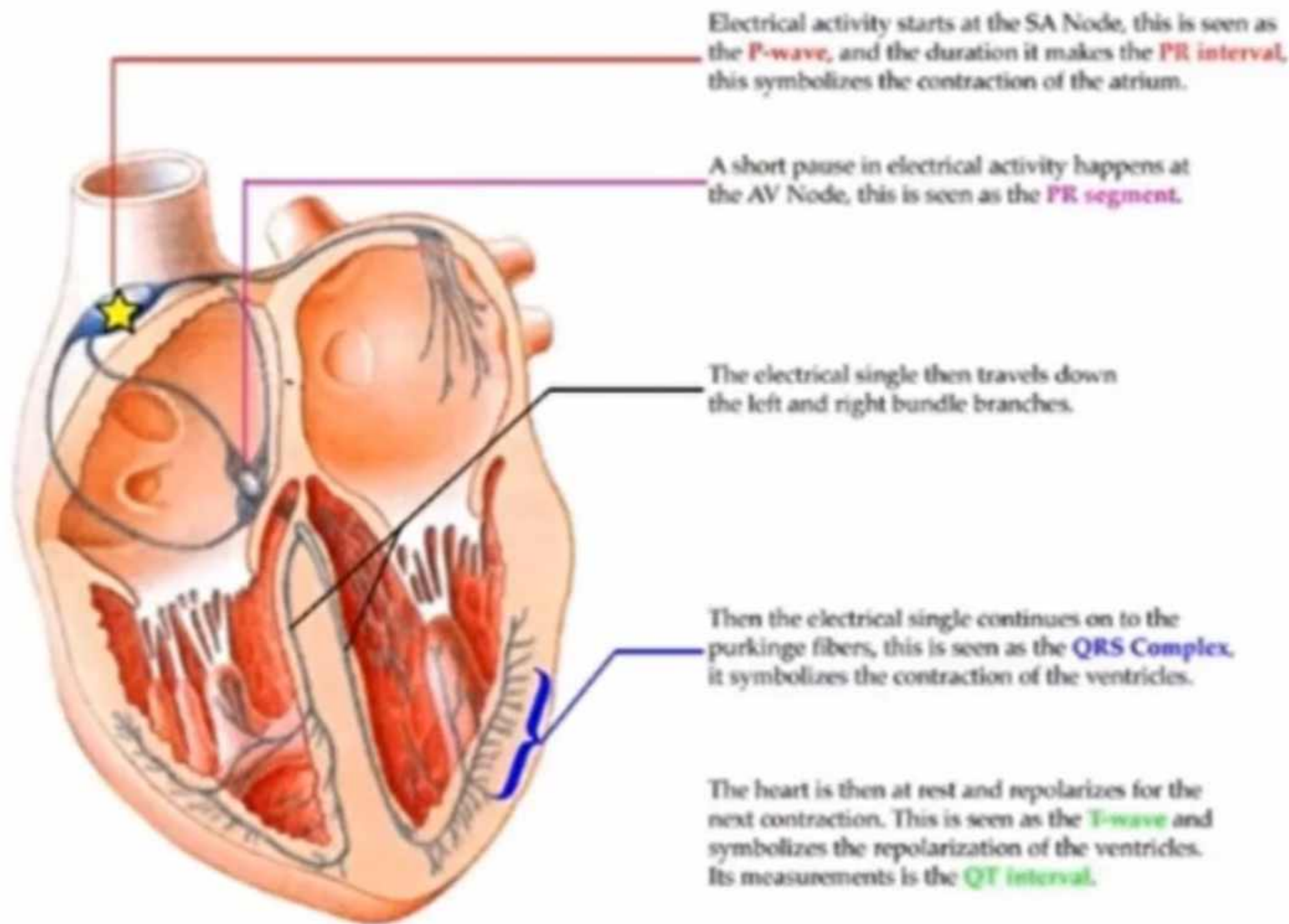
# Cardiac Arrhythmias



# Cardiac Arrhythmias

- ECG Basics
- Approach to Rhythm
- Brady-Arrhythmias
  - Sinus Bradycardia
- Arrhythmias
  - Premature Atrial Contraction
  - Premature Ventricular Contraction
- Tachy-Arrhythmias
  - Sinus Tachycardia
  - Atrial Fibrillation
  - Atrial Flutter
  - Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia
  - Supraventricular Tachycardias
  - Ventricular Tachyarrhythmias

# ECG Basics

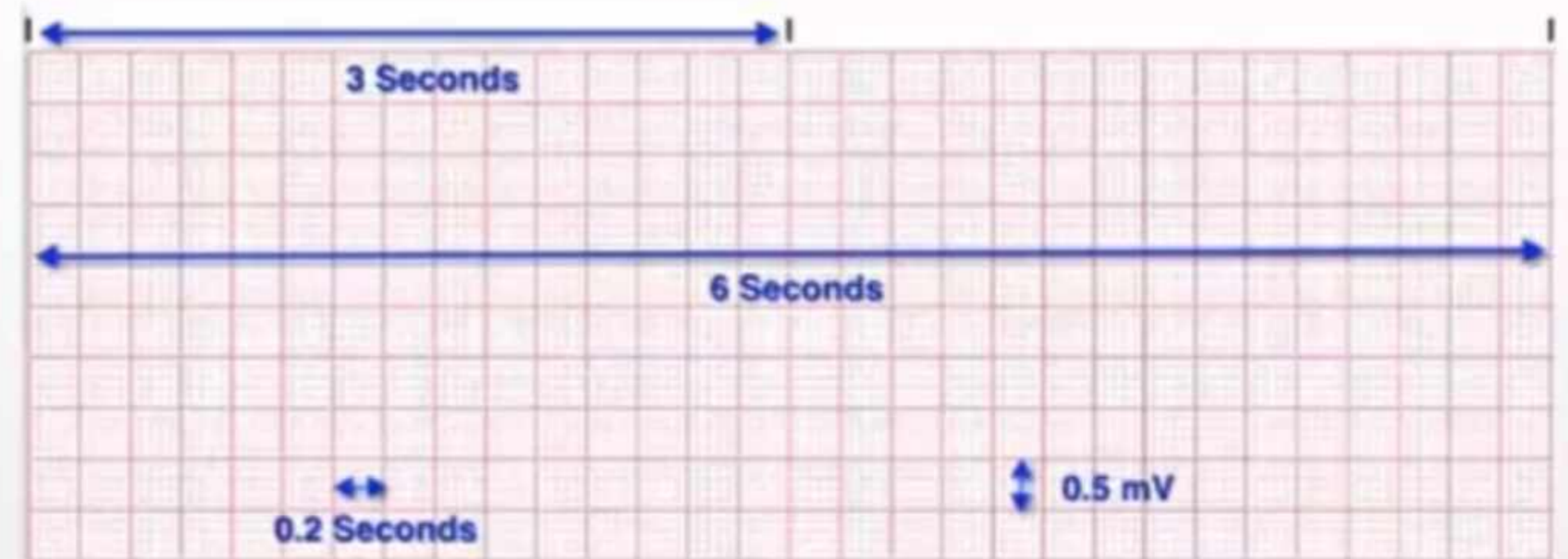
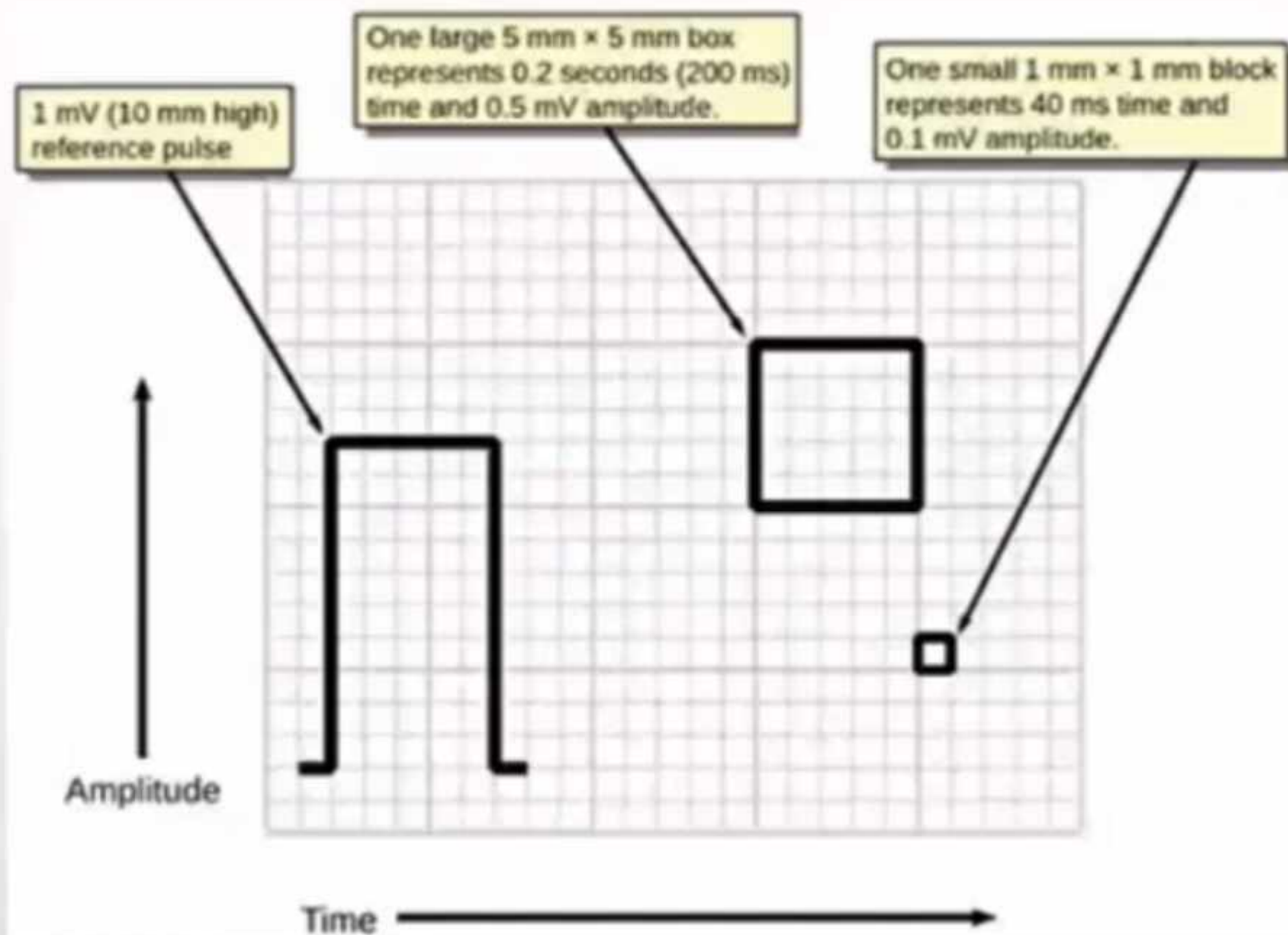


Internet Source: [Amurecek.divinetart.com](http://Amurecek.divinetart.com)

# ECG Basics

- **Approach to Reading ECG:**
  - Verify
  - **R**ate
  - **R**hythm
  - **A**xis
  - **A**mplitude
  - **I**ntervals
  - **I**schemia

# ECG Basics



The whole ECG Strip is 10 seconds

# ECG Basics - Rate

- Heart Rate Calculation Methods:
  - Counts QRS complexes
    - 6 second interval X 10
    - All strip (10 seconds) X 6
  - Distance between QRS-QRS complex
    - Rate =  $300 / \text{Large Boxes}$
    - Rate =  $1500 / \text{Small Boxes}$



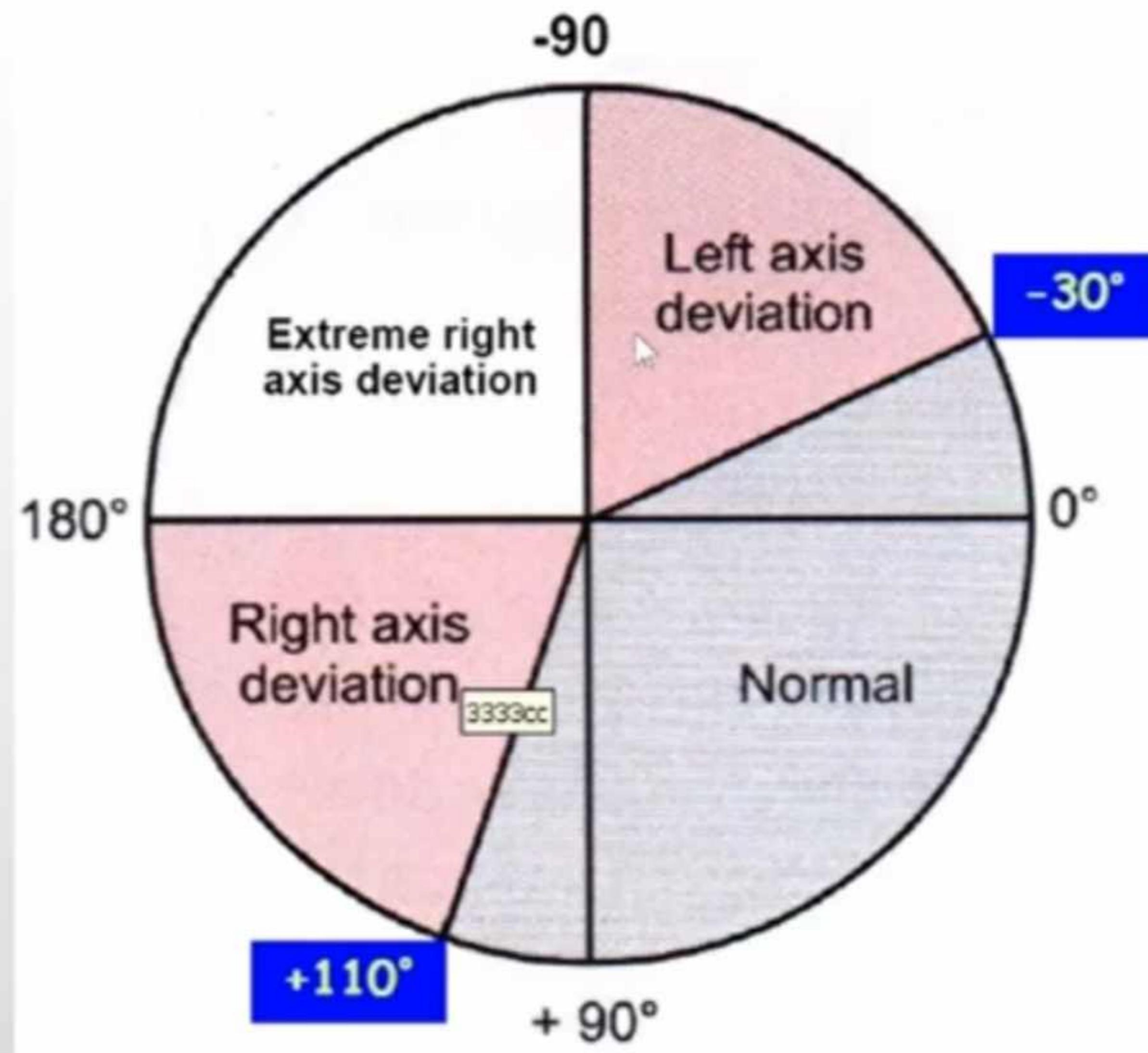
# Large Boxes	HR (BPM)
1	300
2	150
3	100
4	75
5	60
6	50

# ECG Basics - Rhythm

Approach to Rhythm Questions:	Clinical Significance
1. Is it Tachycardia / Normal Rate / Bradycardia?	Rate
2. QRS is it Narrow or Wide?	<u>Narrow</u> : Rhythm from AVN and above & conduction through normal system <u>Wide</u> : Rhythm below AVN OR Abnormal conduction
3a. Narrow QRS - Is it Regular or Irregular	
3b. Wide QRS - What is Morphology?	Pathophysiology of Wide QRS: Vent. Origin or Aberrant conduction?
4. Look for P-wave (Best place in Lead II and V1)	What is the atria doing?
5. Relationship between the P wave and QRS ?	What is the underlying circuit?



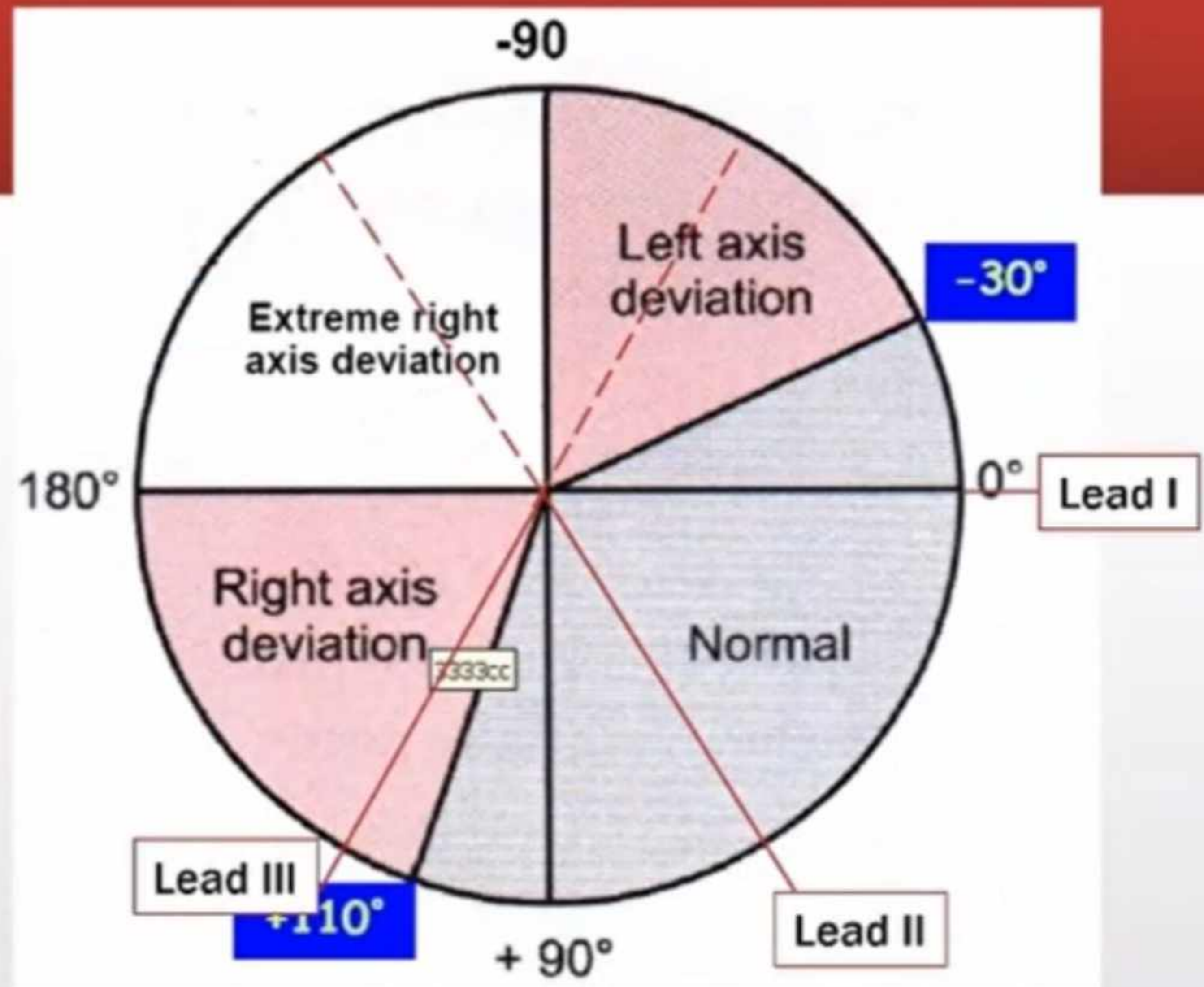
# ECG Basics - Axis



# ECG Basics - Axis

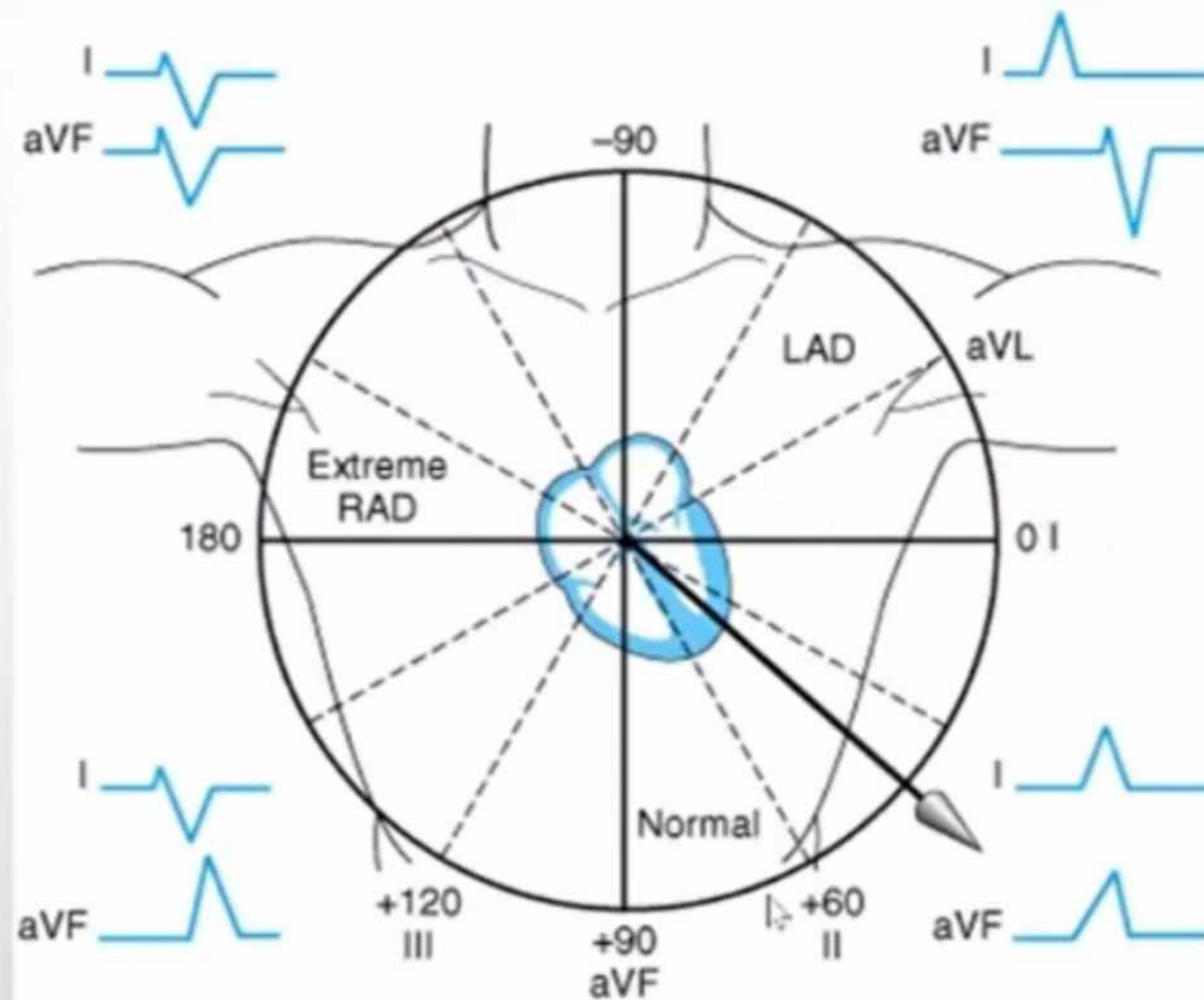
- Heart Axis Calculation Methods:
  - Lead I, II & III

Axis	Lead I	Lead II	Lead III
Normal	Positive	Positive	Positive
LAD	Positive	Negative	Negative
RAD	Negative	Positive	Positive
Extreme Axis	Negative	Negative	Negative



# ECG Basics - Axis

- Heart Axis Calculation Methods:
  - Lead I & Lead AVF



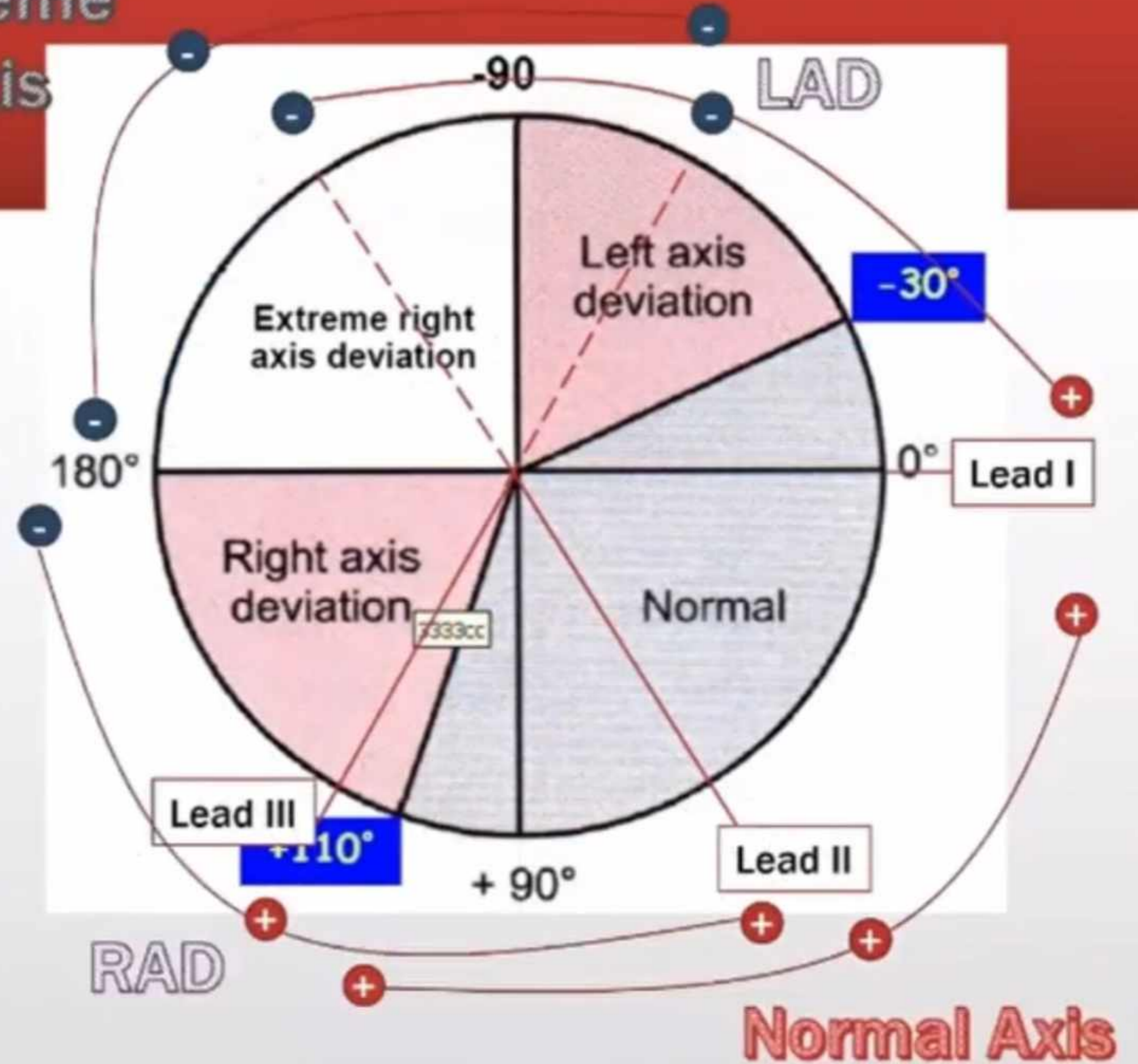
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# ECG Basics - Axis

Extreme Axis

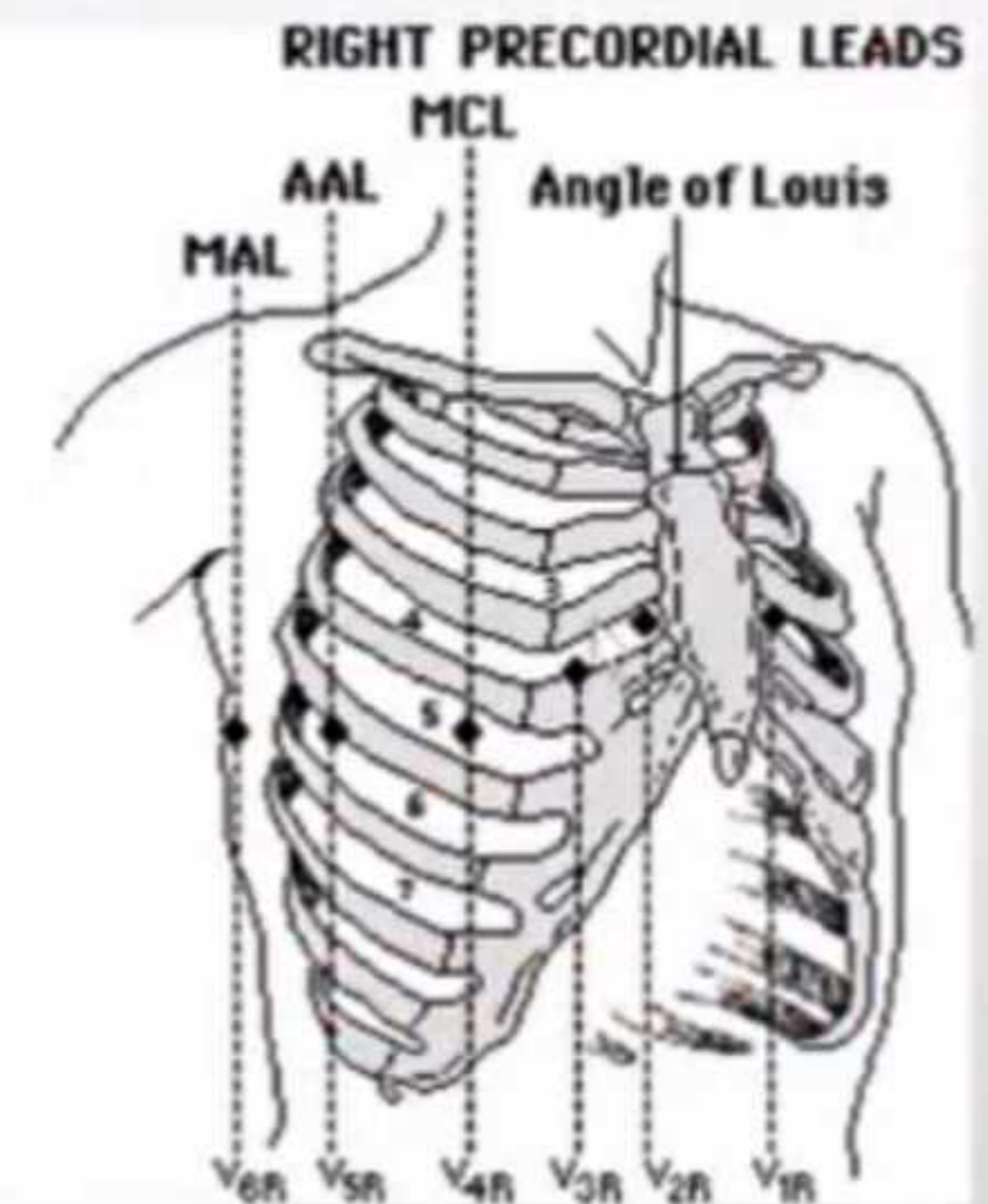
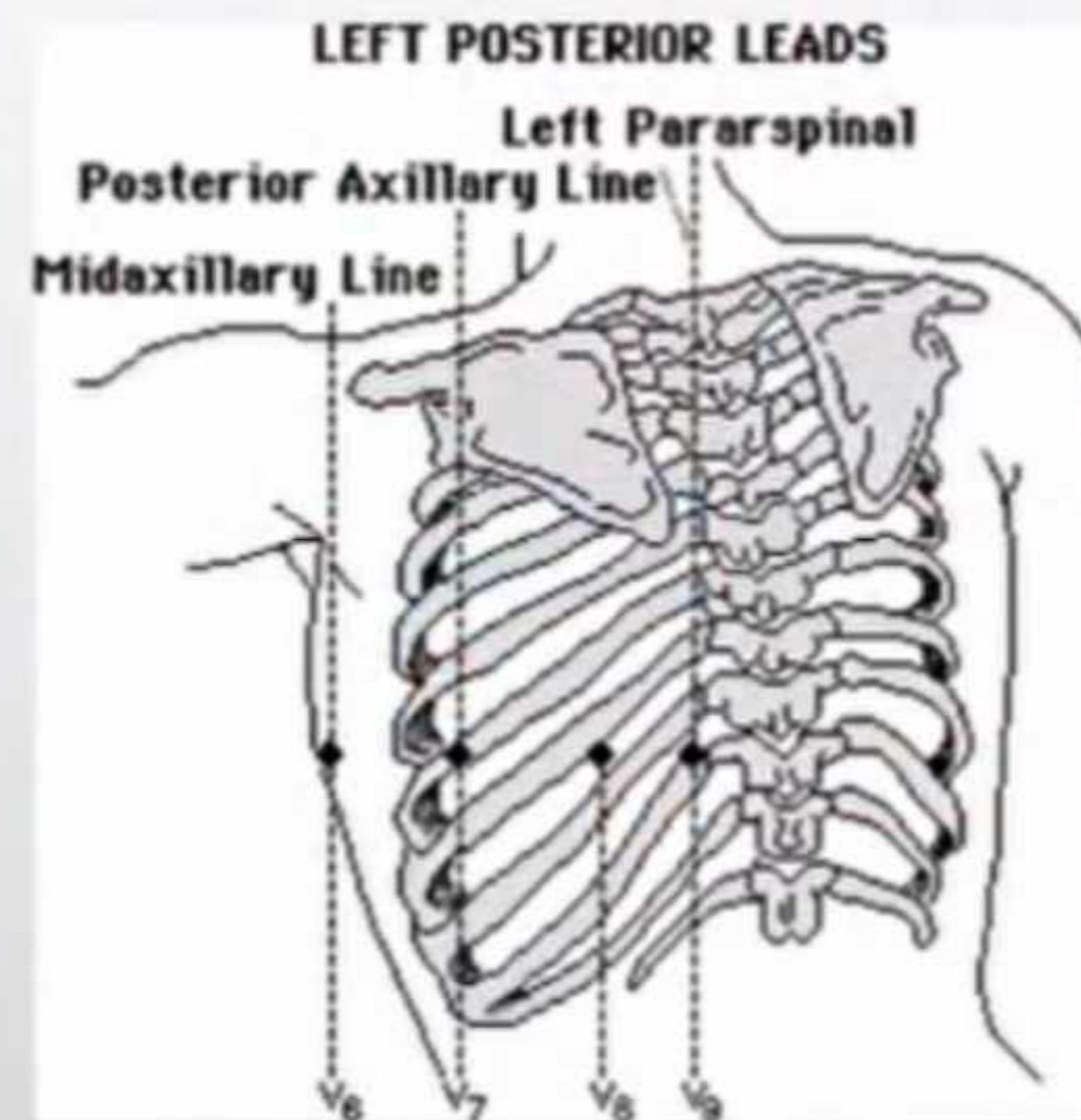
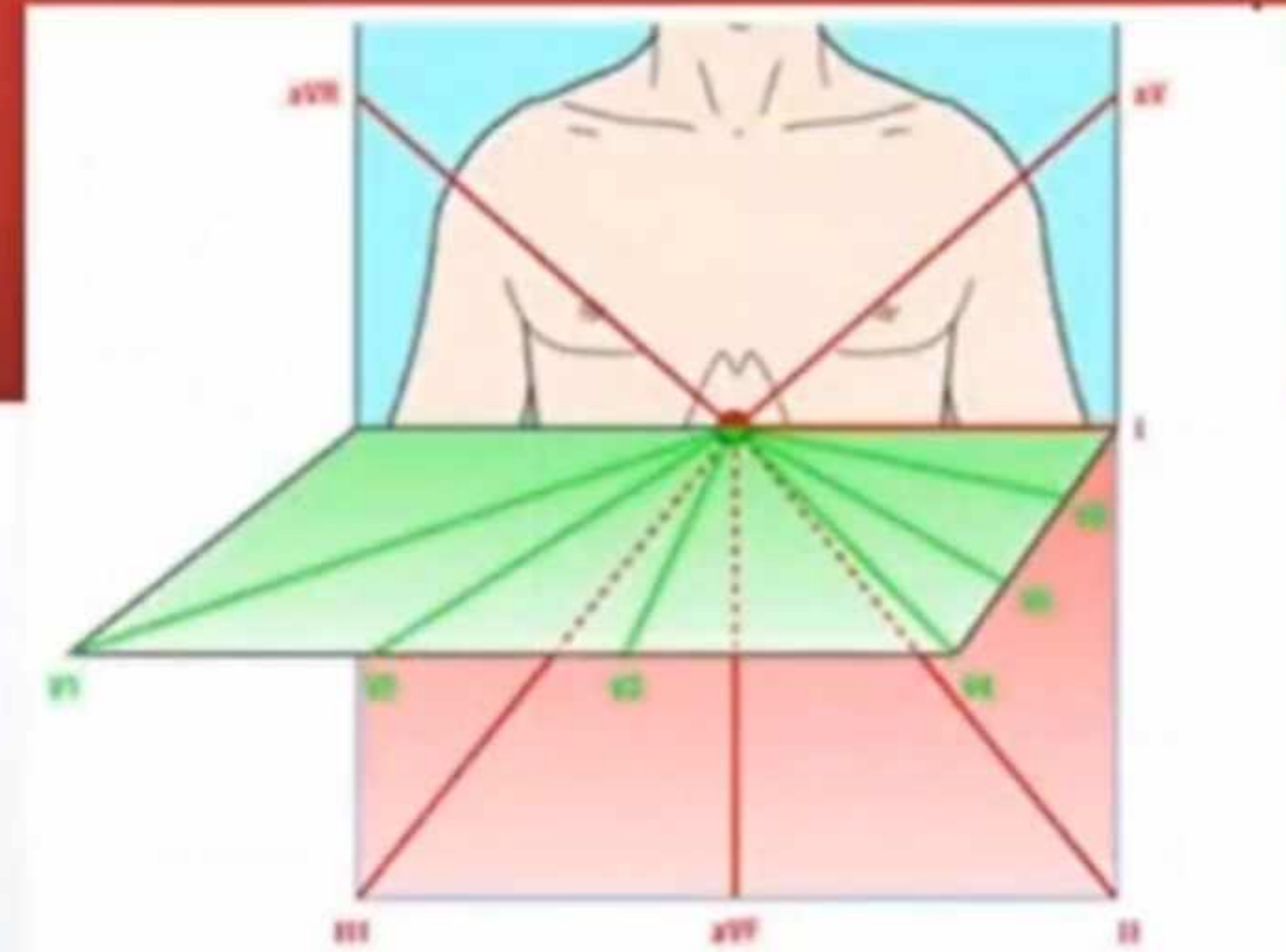
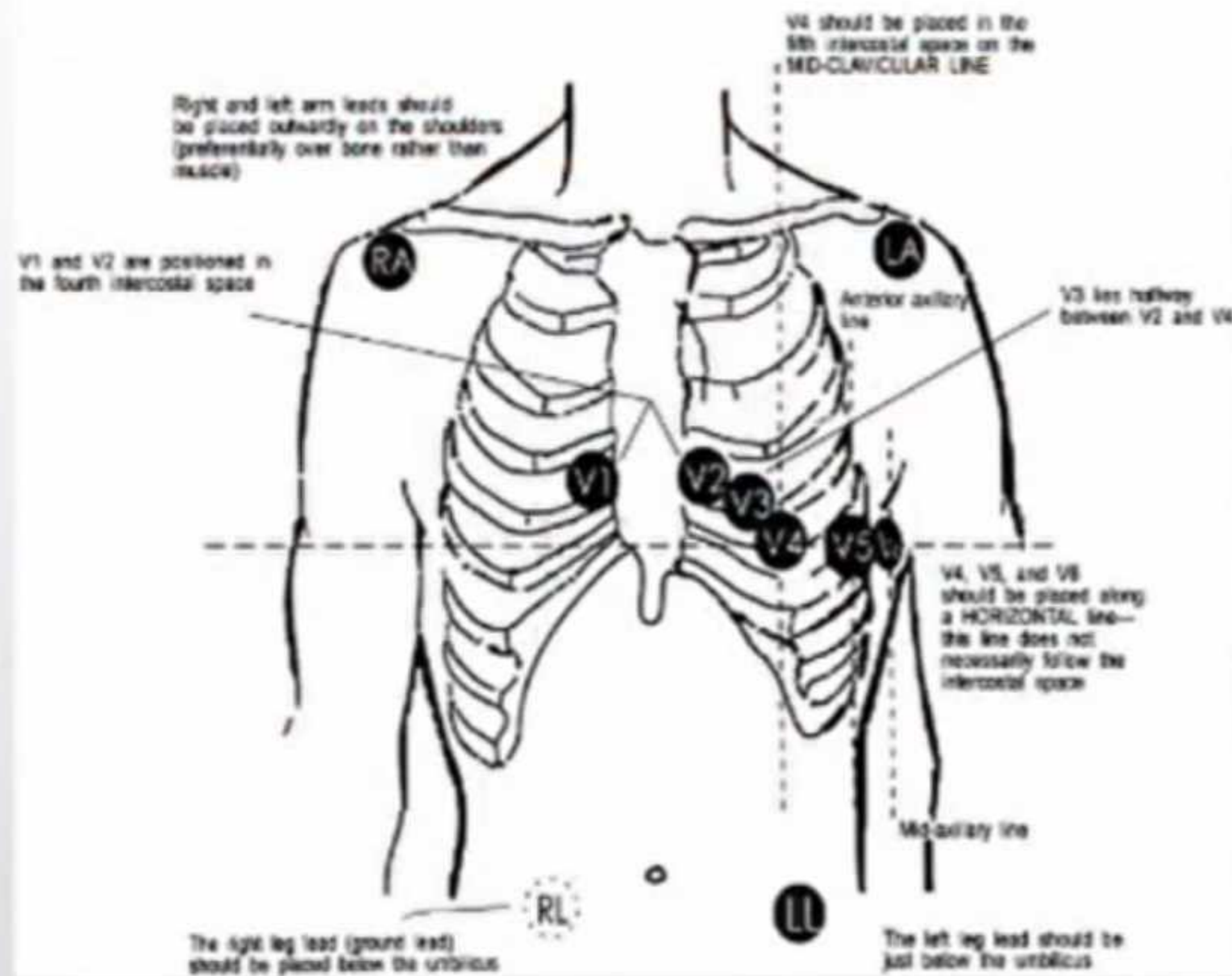
- Heart Axis Calculation Methods:
  - Lead I, II & III

Axis	Lead I	Lead II	Lead III
Normal	Positive	Positive	Positive
LAD	Positive	Negative	Negative
RAD	Negative	Positive	Positive
Extreme Axis	Negative	Negative	Negative



# ECG Basics - Axis

## 12-lead ECG Electrode Placement



Internet Source: [circ.ahajournal.org](http://circ.ahajournal.org)

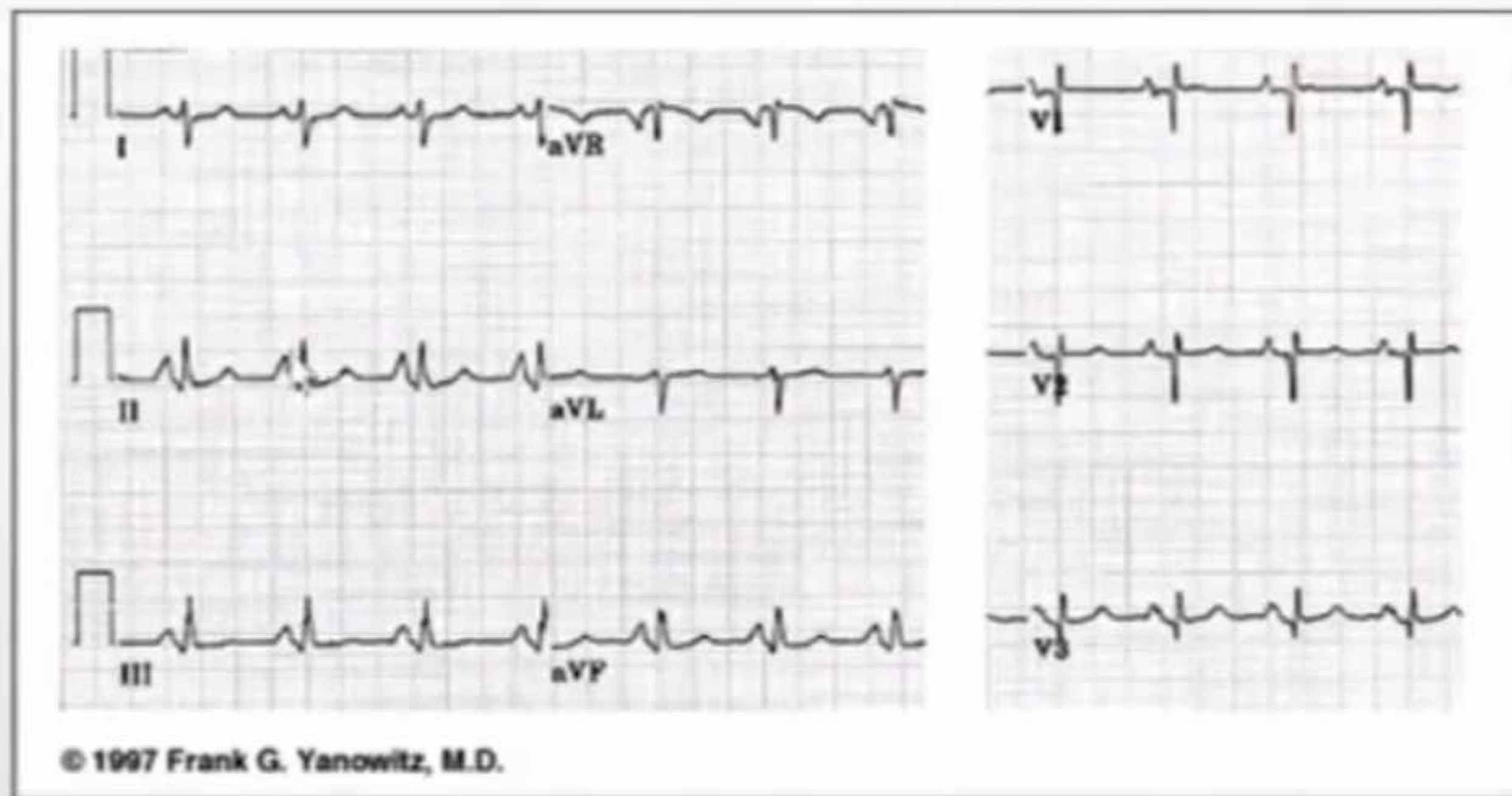
## ECG Basics – Amplitude / Hypertrophy

- Low Amplitude
  - Limb leads < 0.5 mV
  - Precordial leads < 1.0 mV

Component	Amplitude (mV)
P wave	0.2
QRS	1.0
T-wave	0.2 – 0.3

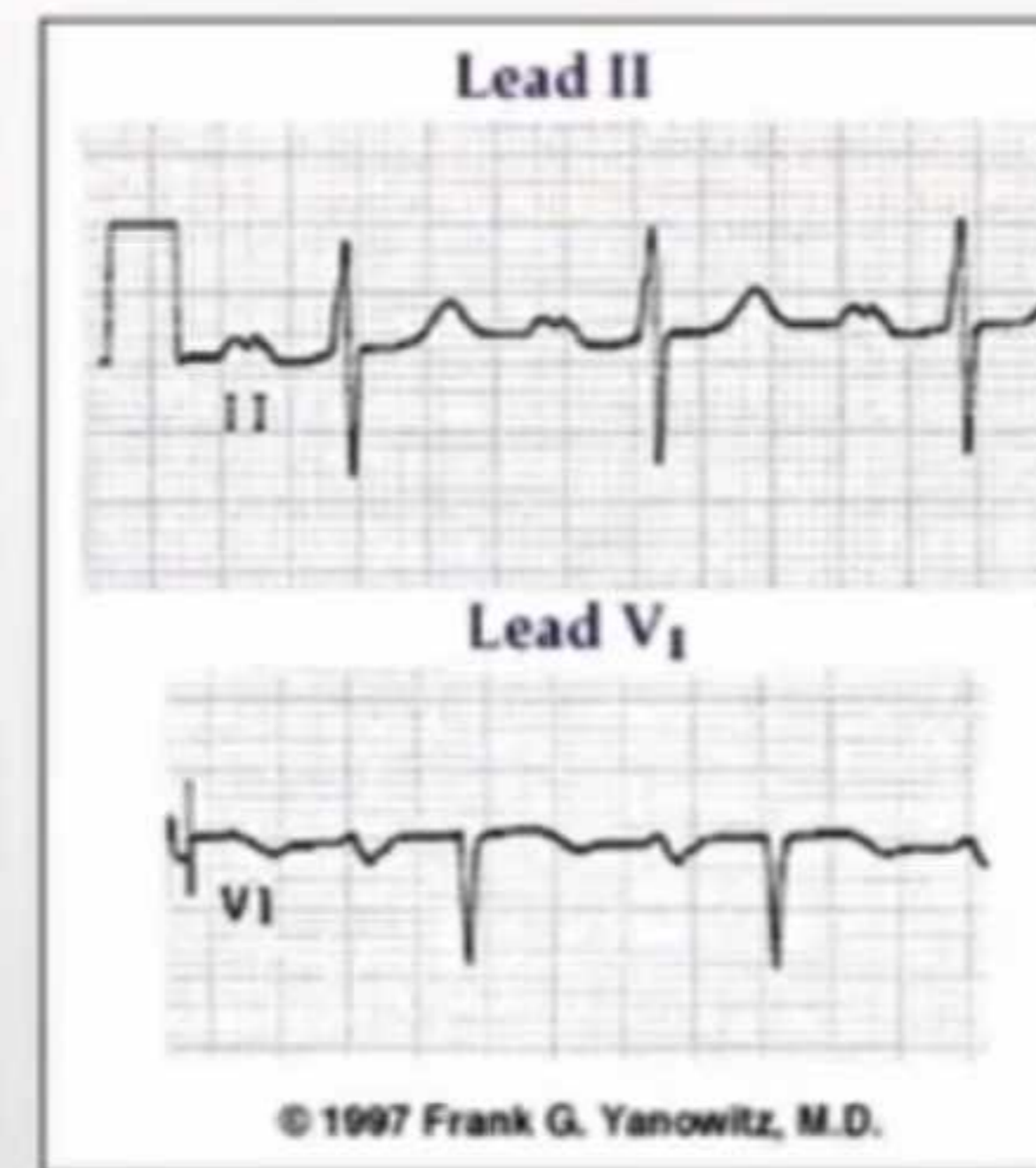
# ECG Basics – Amplitude / Hypertrophy

## RAE



P wave amplitude  $> 2.5$  mm in II and/or  $> 1.5$  mm in V1

## LAE



P wave duration  $\geq 0.12$ s in frontal plane (usually lead II)  
Notched P wave in limb leads with the inter-peak duration  $\geq 0.04$ s  
Terminal P negativity in lead V1 (i.e., "P-terminal force") duration  $\geq 0.04$ s  
& depth  $\geq 1$  mm.

# ECG Basics – Amplitude / Hypertrophy

## LVH

<u>ESTES Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Voltage Criteria (any of): R or S in limb leads <math>\geq 20</math> mm</li> <li>•S in V1 or V2 <math>\geq 30</math> mm</li> <li>•R in V5 or V6 <math>\geq 30</math> mm</li> </ul>	3 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•ST-T Abnormalities: Without digitalis</li> <li>•With digitalis</li> </ul>	3 points 1 point
Left Atrial Enlargement in V1	3 points
Left axis deviation	2 points
QRS duration 0.09 sec	1 point
Delayed intrinsicoid deflection in V5 or V6 ( $>0.05$ sec)	1 point

("diagnostic",  $\geq 5$  points; "probable", 4 points)

### \* CORNELL Voltage Criteria

- S in V3 + R in aVL  $> 24$  mm (men)
- S in V3 + R in aVL  $> 20$  mm (women)

(sensitivity = 22%, specificity = 95%)

### Limb-lead voltage criteria:

- \* R in aVL  $\geq 11$  mm
- R in aVL  $\geq 13$  mm + S in III  $\geq 15$  mm (if LAD)
- R in I + S in III  $> 25$  mm

### Chest-lead voltage criteria:

- S in V1 + R in V5 or V6  $\geq 35$  mm

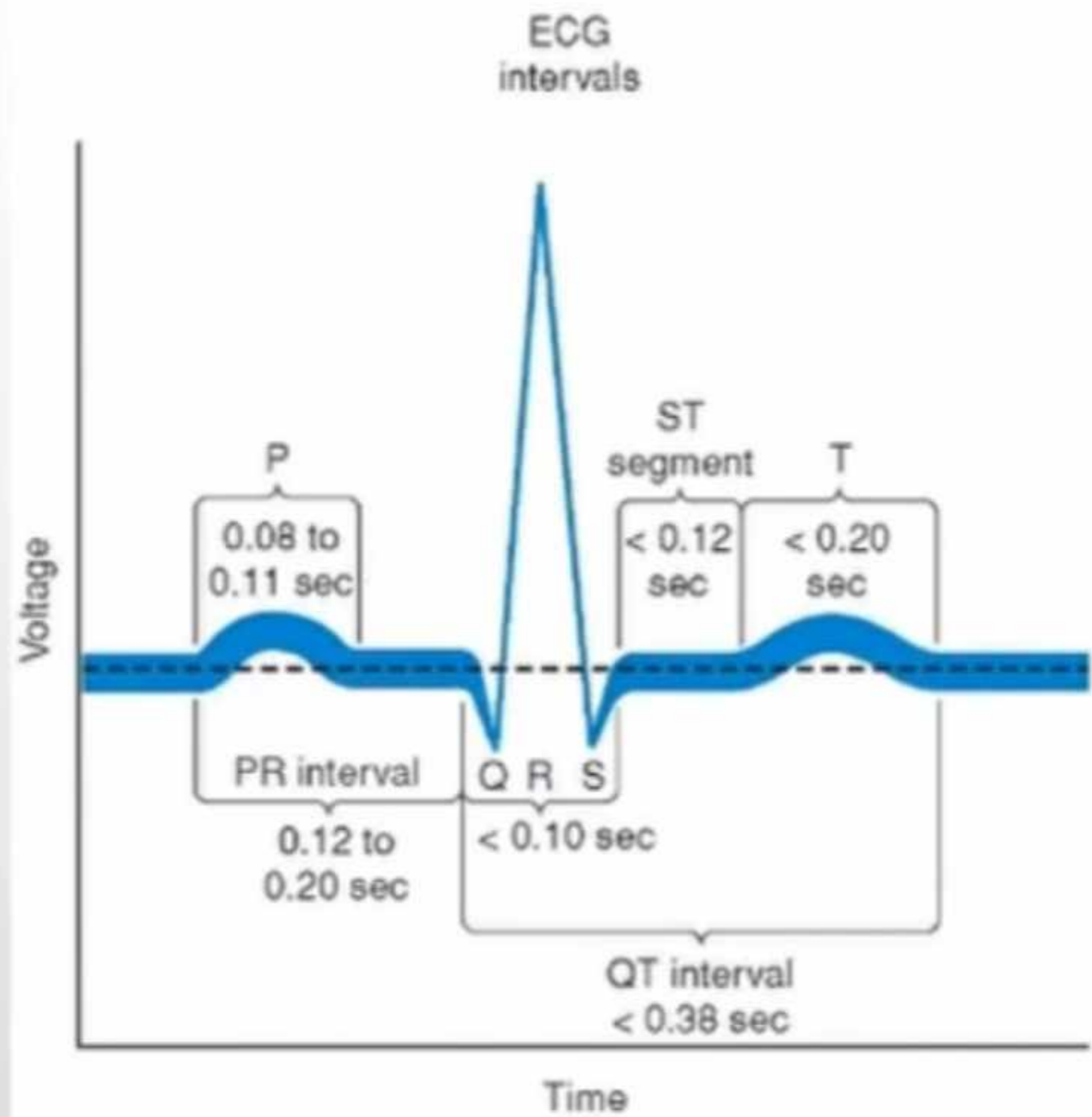


# ECG Basics – Amplitude / Hypertrophy

## RVH

- Any one or more of the following (if QRS duration < 0.12 sec):
  - \* Right axis deviation (> 90 degrees) in presence of disease capable of causing RVH
    - R in aVR  $\geq$  5 mm, or
    - R in aVR > Q in aVR
- Any one of the following in lead V1:
  - \* R/S ratio > 1 and negative T wave
    - qR pattern
  - \* R > 6 mm, or S < 2mm, or rSR' with R' > 10 mm
- Other chest lead criteria:
  - R in V1 + S in V5 (or V6)  $\geq$  10 mm
  - R/S ratio in V5 or V6 < 1
  - R in V5 or V6 < 5 mm
  - S in V5 or V6 > 7 mm

# ECG Basics - Intervals

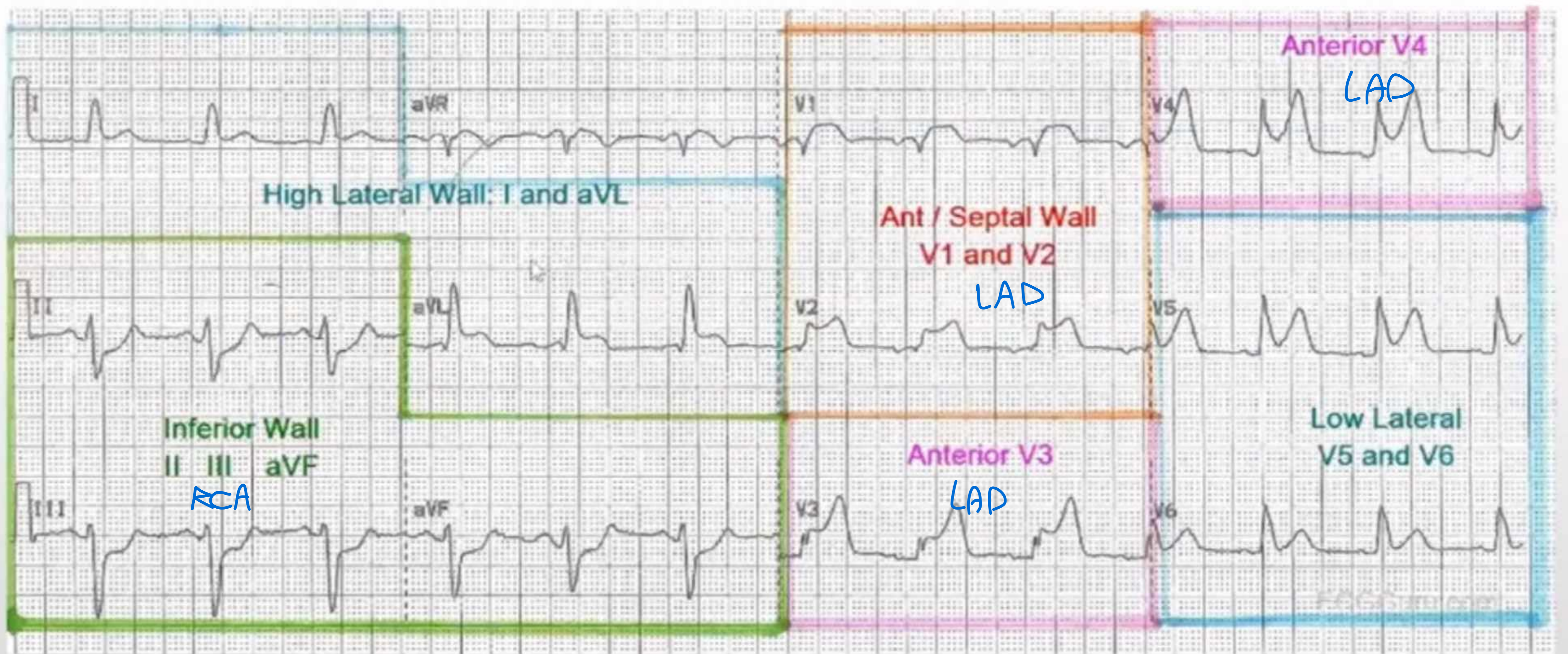


$$QTc = QT \text{ Interval} / \sqrt{RR \text{ Interval}}$$

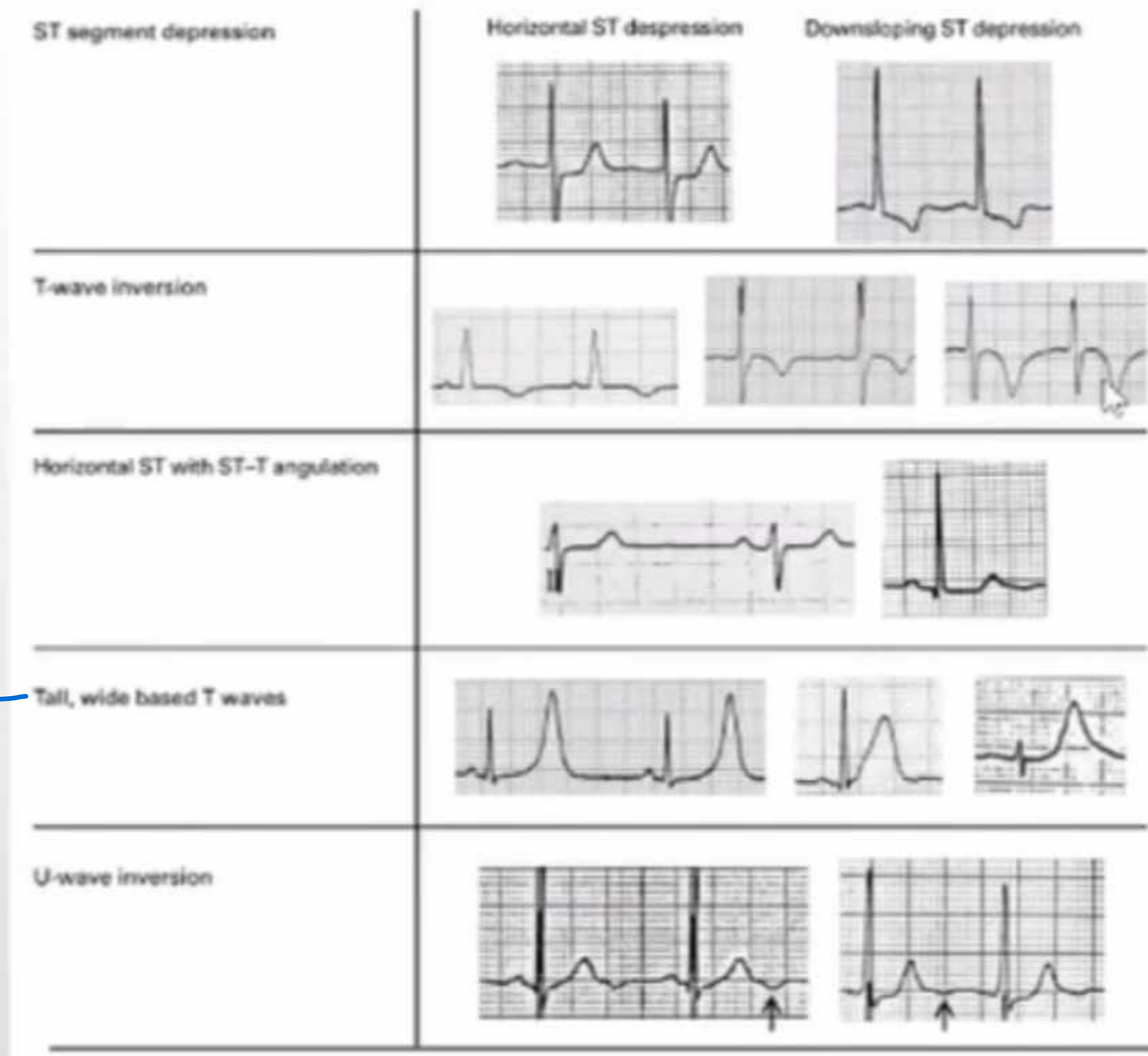
Upper Limit of Normal QTc	ms
Male	> 460 - 470
Female	> 470 - 480

> 500 → QT prolongation

# ECG Basics - Ischemia



# ECG Basics - Ischemia



→ Wellen's sign:  
 ↳ LAD proximal occlusion  
 ↳ Intracranial hemorrhage

\*Hyperacute T-wave:  
 ↳ ischemia  
 ↳ hyperkalemia

# Approach to ECG

## Rate

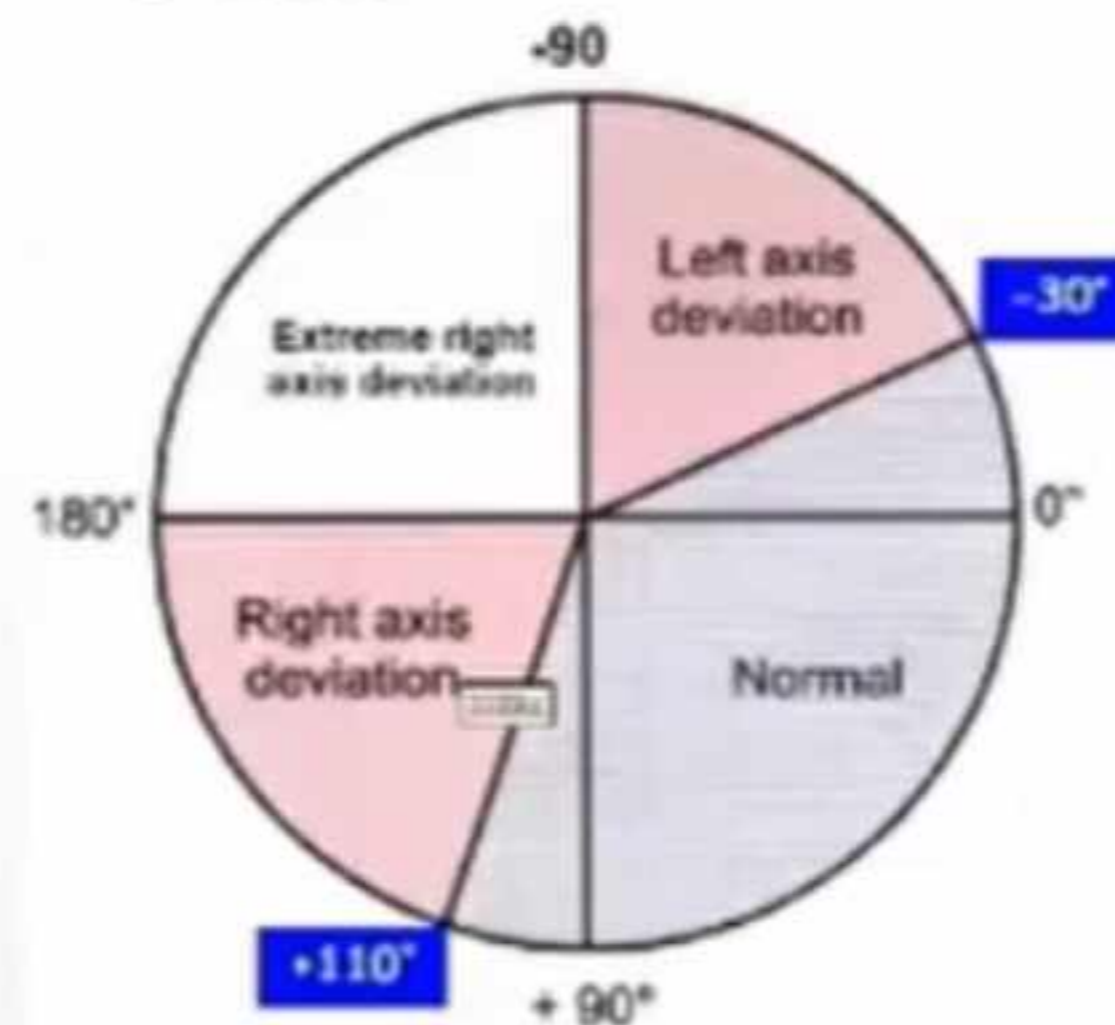
- Regular: Rate = 300 / Large Boxes
- Irregular: Rate = # R in ECG X 6

## Rhythm

### Approach to Rhythm Questions:

1. Is it Tachycardia / Normal Rate / Bradycardia?
2. QRS is it Narrow or Wide?
- 3a. Narrow QRS - Is it Regular or Irregular
- 3b. Wide QRS - What is Morphology?
4. Look for P-wave (Best place in Lead II and V1)
5. Relationship between the P wave and QRS ?

## Axis



## Amplitude

**Low:**  
Limb < 0.5 mm  
Chest < 1.0 mm

**LAE:**  
P Width > 120ms  
**RAE:**  
P Ht. > 2.5 mm

### LVH : Cornell's Criteria

- S in V3 + R in aVL > 24 mm (men)
  - S in V3 + R in aVL > 20 mm (women)
- LVH: Lead AVL > 11 mm

### RVH : Lead V1

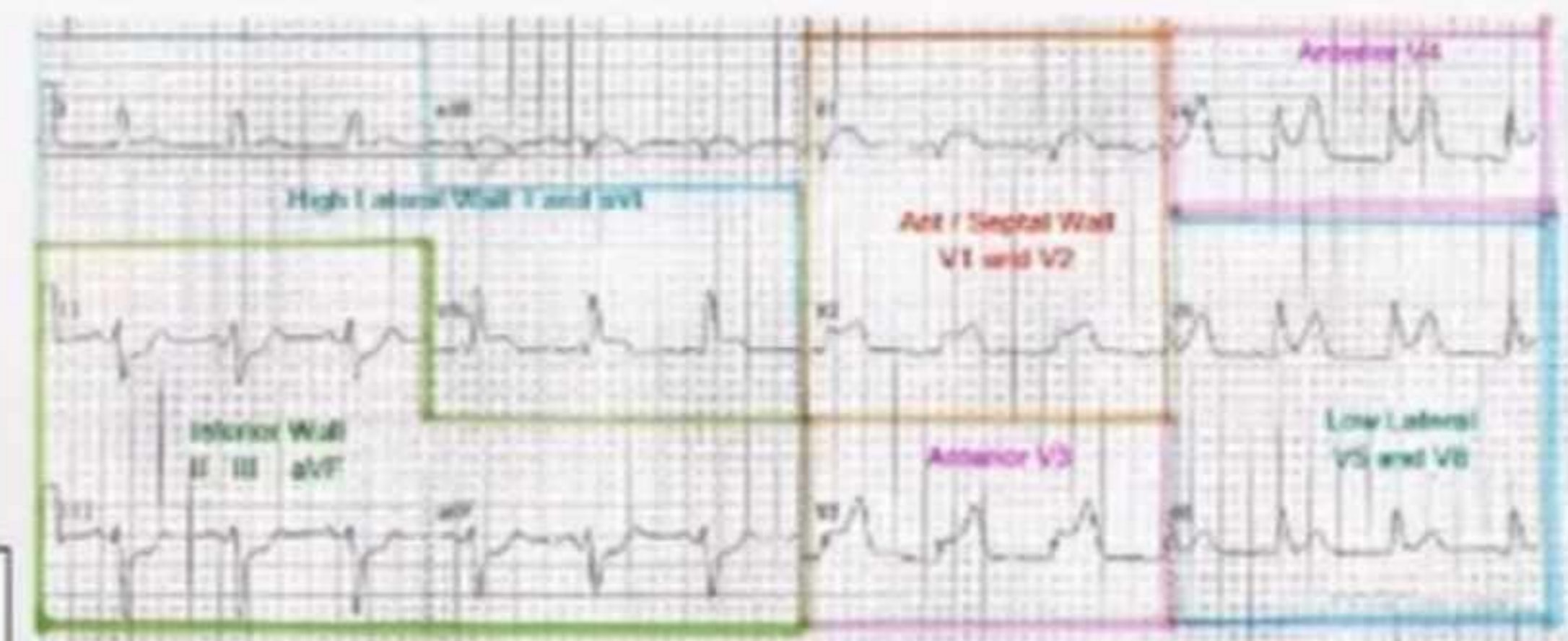
- R/S ratio > 1 and negative T wave
- R > 6 mm / S < 2mm
- rSR' with R' > 10 mm

## Intervals

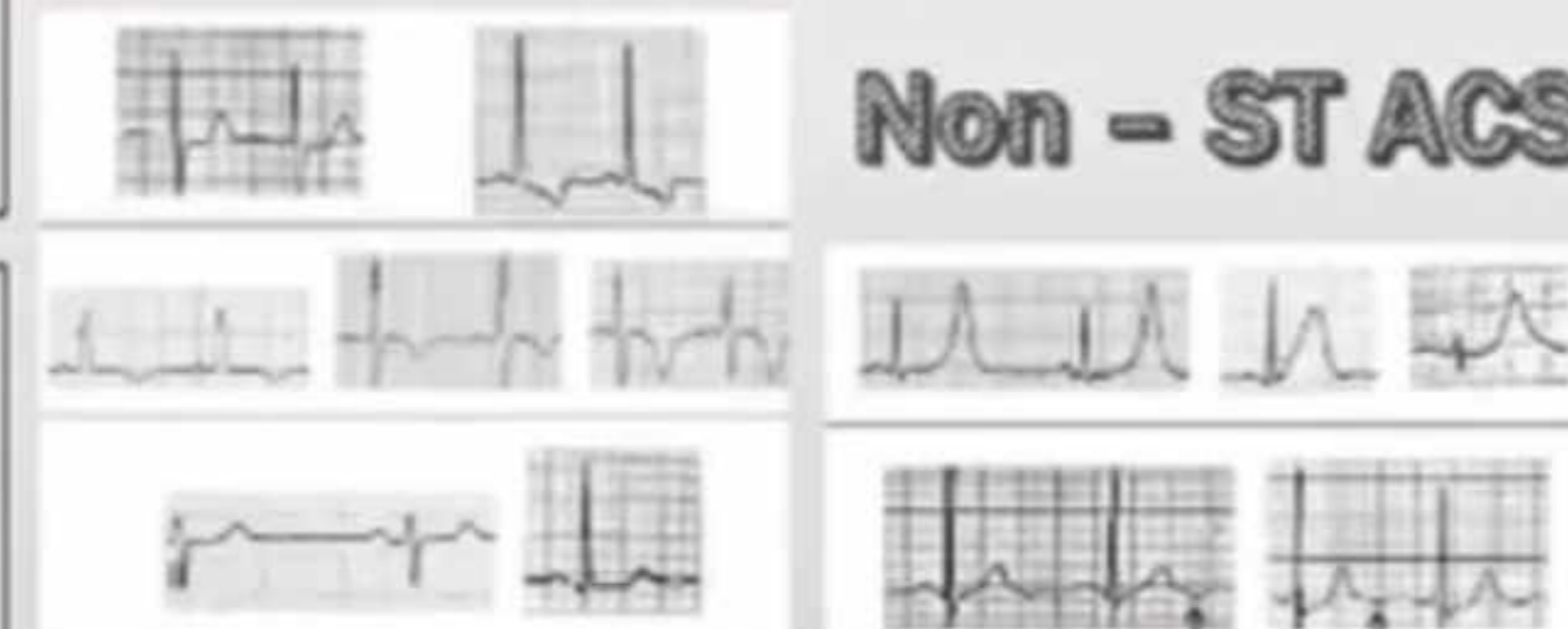
Intervals		# Small sq.
PR	120-200 ms	3-5
QRS	< 110-120 ms	< 3
QT	< 480-500 ms	< 1/2 RR Interval < 12

## Ischemia

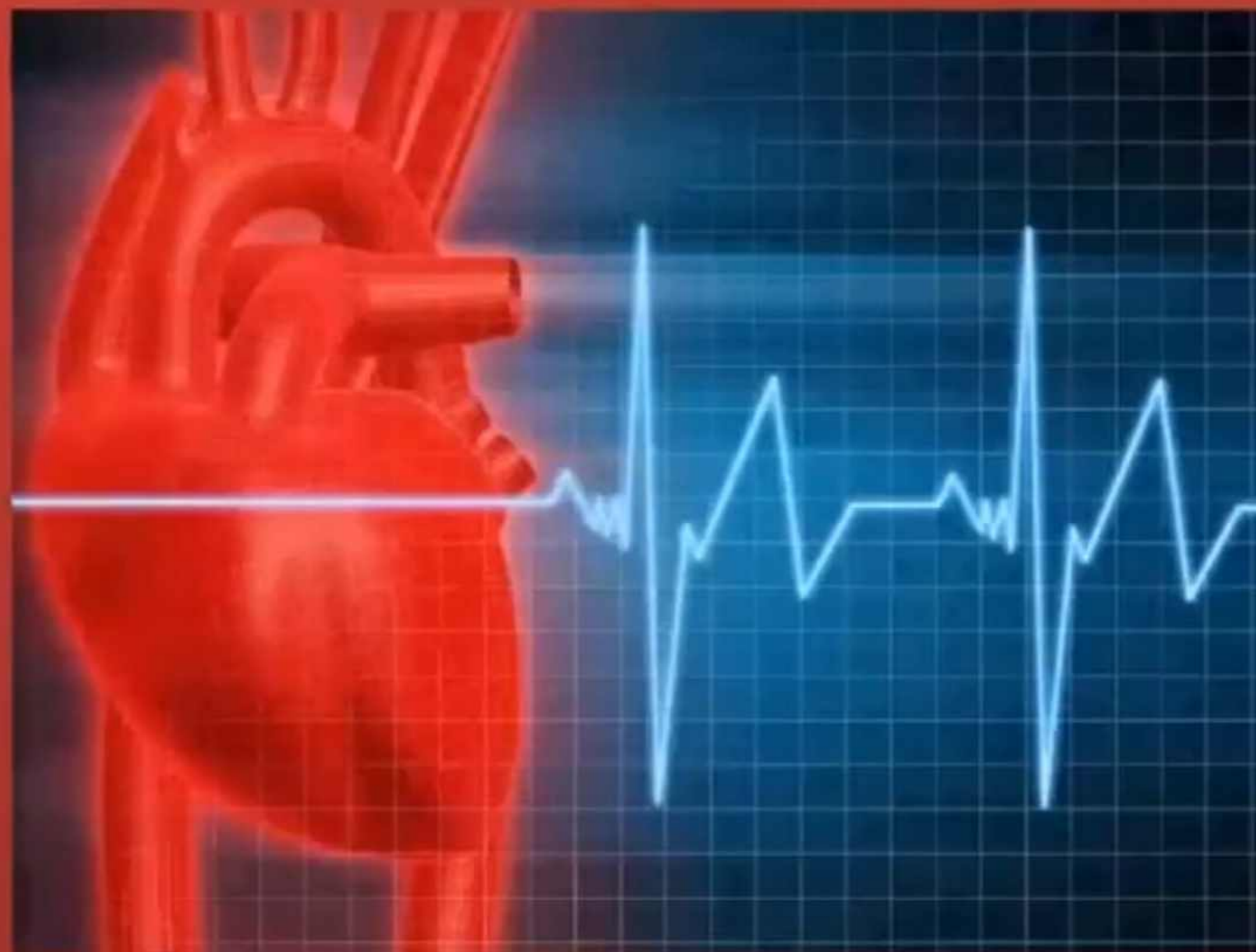
### STEMI



### Non - ST ACS



# Approach to Rhythm



# Approach to Rhythm – Normal Rate

Question	Answer								
1. Rate	Normal Rate								
2. QRS	Narrow						Wide		
3. QRS	Regular				Irregular				
	Morphology								
					Ventricular		Aberrancy		
4. P wave	Present			Absent	Present		Absent	Absent	Present
5. P-QRS Relation	Single	Multiple	Retrograde						
DDx	<b>NSR</b>	A.Flutter	Junctional Rhythm	Junctional Rhythm	SR with PAC	A.Fib	AIVR	Conduction Abnormality	
	Atrial Rhythm	2:1 AV Block			Wandering Pacemaker				
	1 <sup>st</sup> degree AV Block				A.FI with Variable Conduction				

# Approach to Rhythm - Bradycardia

Question	Answer										
1. Rate	Bradycardia										
2. QRS	Narrow								Wide		
3. QRS	Regular						Irregular				
	Morphology										
	Ventricular					Aberrancy					
4. P wave	Present					Absent	Present		Absent	Absent	
5. P-QRS Relation	Single	Multiple	Group Beating	Retrograde	AV Dissociation						
DDx	SB	A.Flutter with SVR	2 <sup>nd</sup> degree AV Block	Junctional Escape Rhythm	Complete AV Block (3 <sup>rd</sup> degree)	Junctional Escape Rhythm	SB with PAC	A.Fib with SVR	Ventricular Escape Rhythm	Conduction Abnormality	
	1st degree AV Block	2:1 AV Block					A.Fl with Slow & Variable Conduction				



# Approach to Rhythm - Tachycardia

- **DDx of SVT**

- **Short RP Tachycardias ( $RP < PR$ ):**

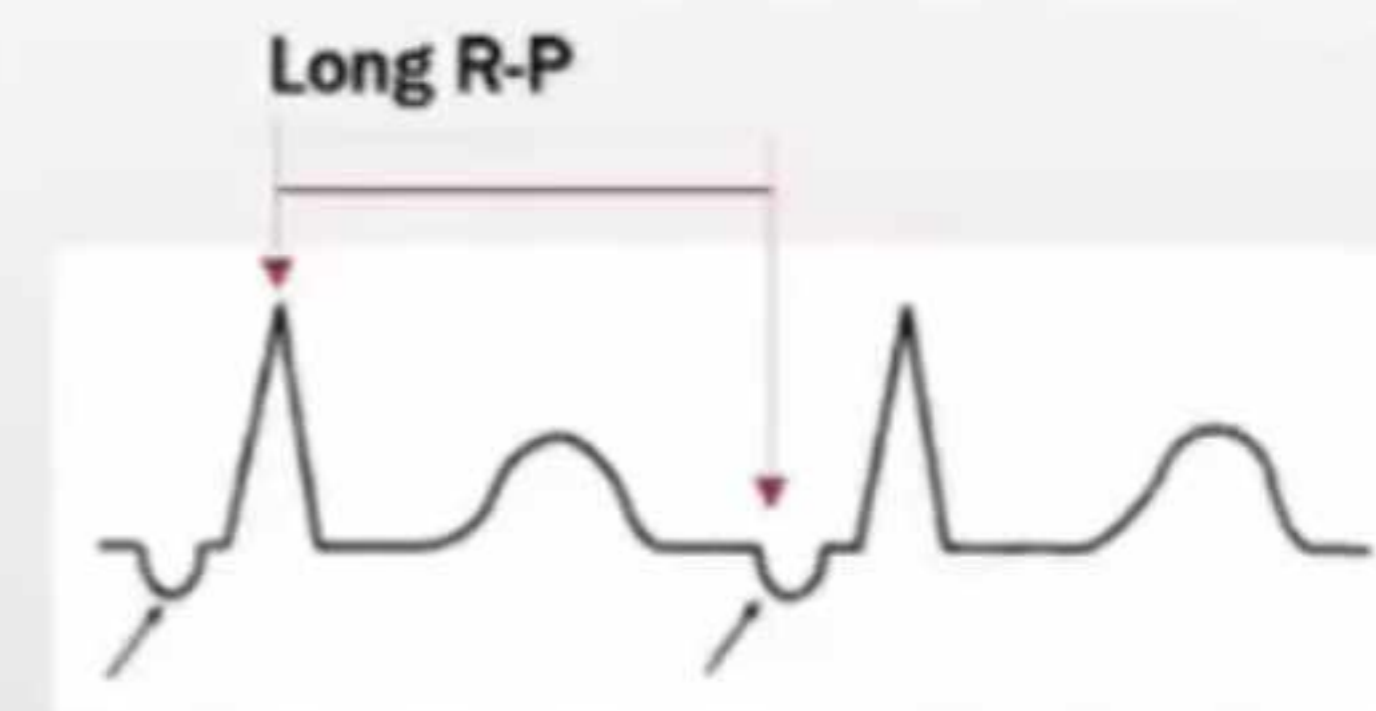
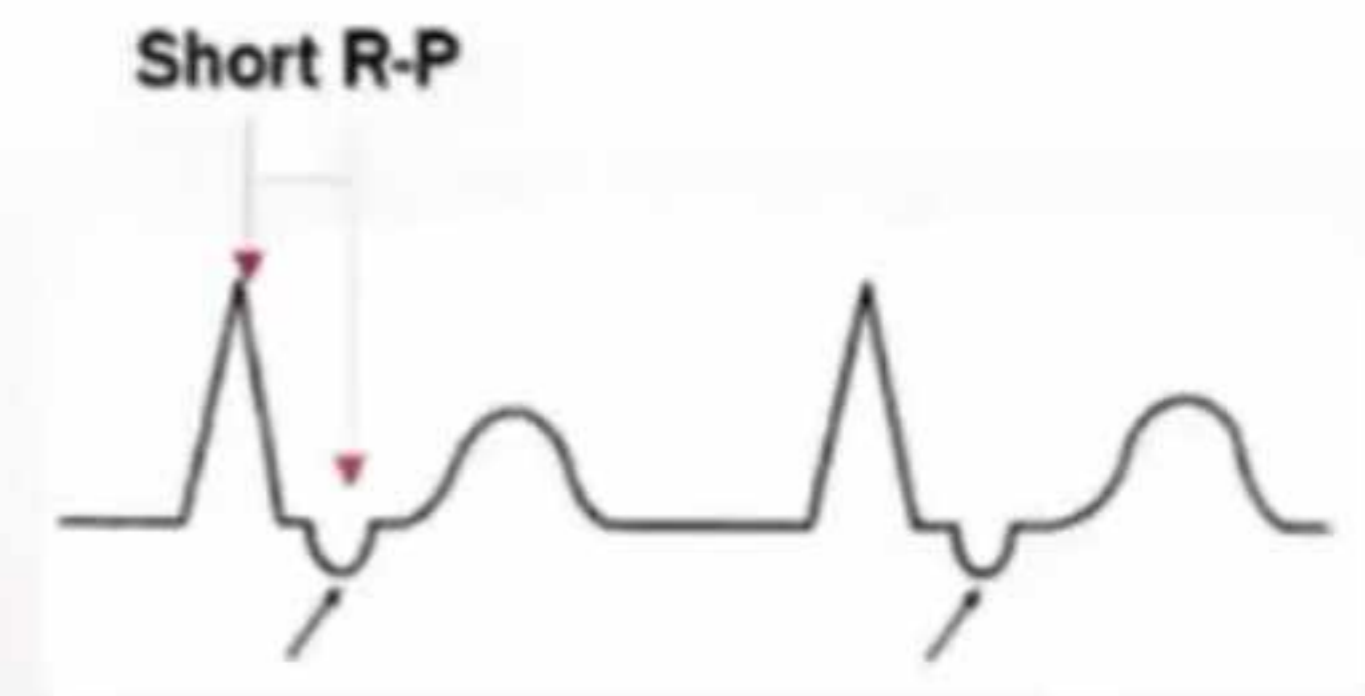
- Typical AV Nodal Re-entry Tachycardia (AVNRT)
- Junctional Tachycardia
- Orthodromic Atrioventricular Tachycardia (OD - AVRT)
- Atrial Tachycardia

- **Long RP Tachycardias ( $RP > PR$ ):**

- Sinus Tachycardia (ST)
- Atrial Tachycardia (AT)
- Atypical Orthodromic Atrioventricular Tachycardia (OD - AVRT)
- Atypical AV Nodal Re-entry Tachycardia (AVNRT)
- Junctional Tachycardia

- **Mimickers:**

- Atrial Flutter with rapid conduction
- A. Fibrillation with very rapid conduction

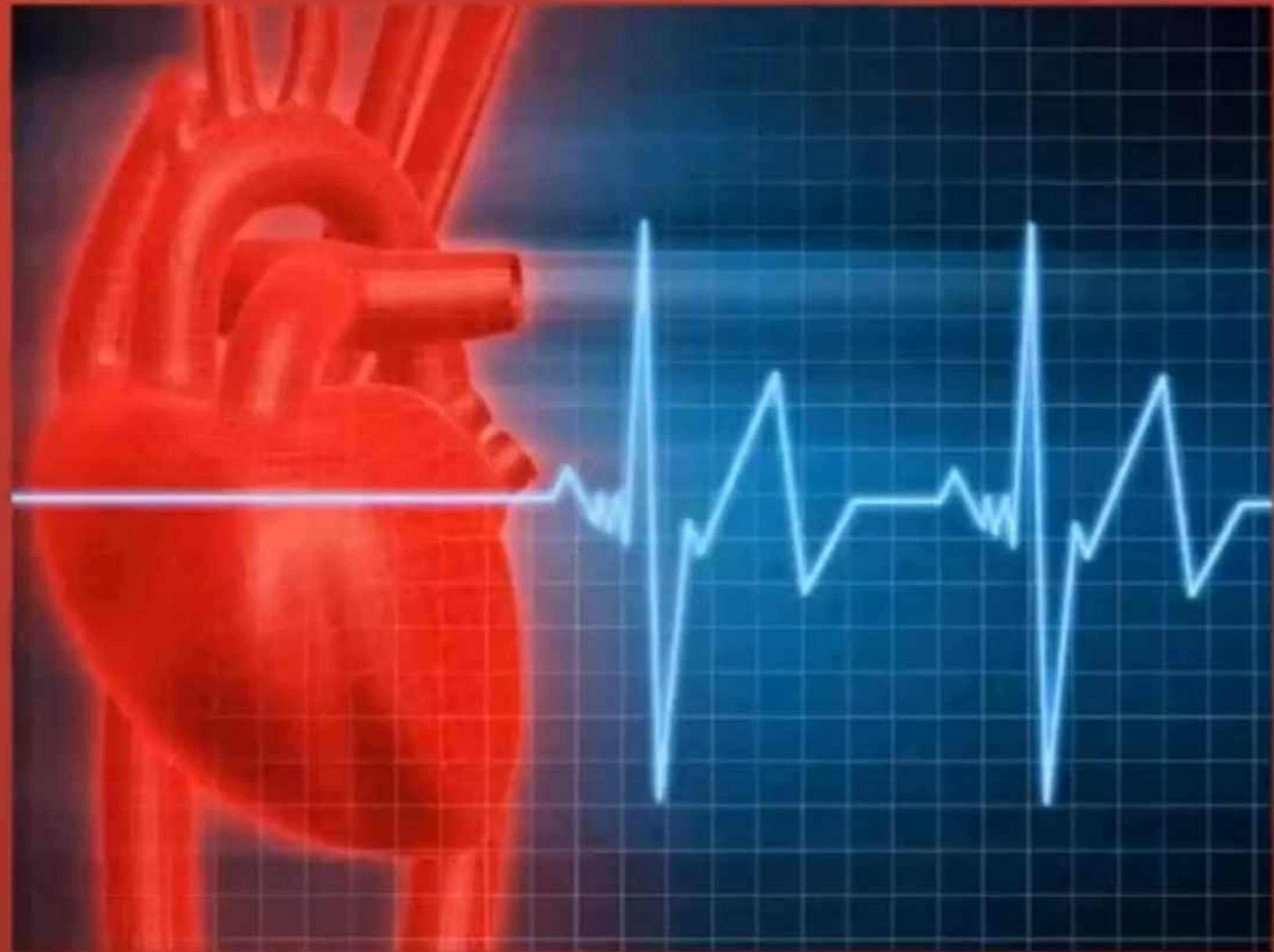


# Approach to Rhythm - Tachycardia

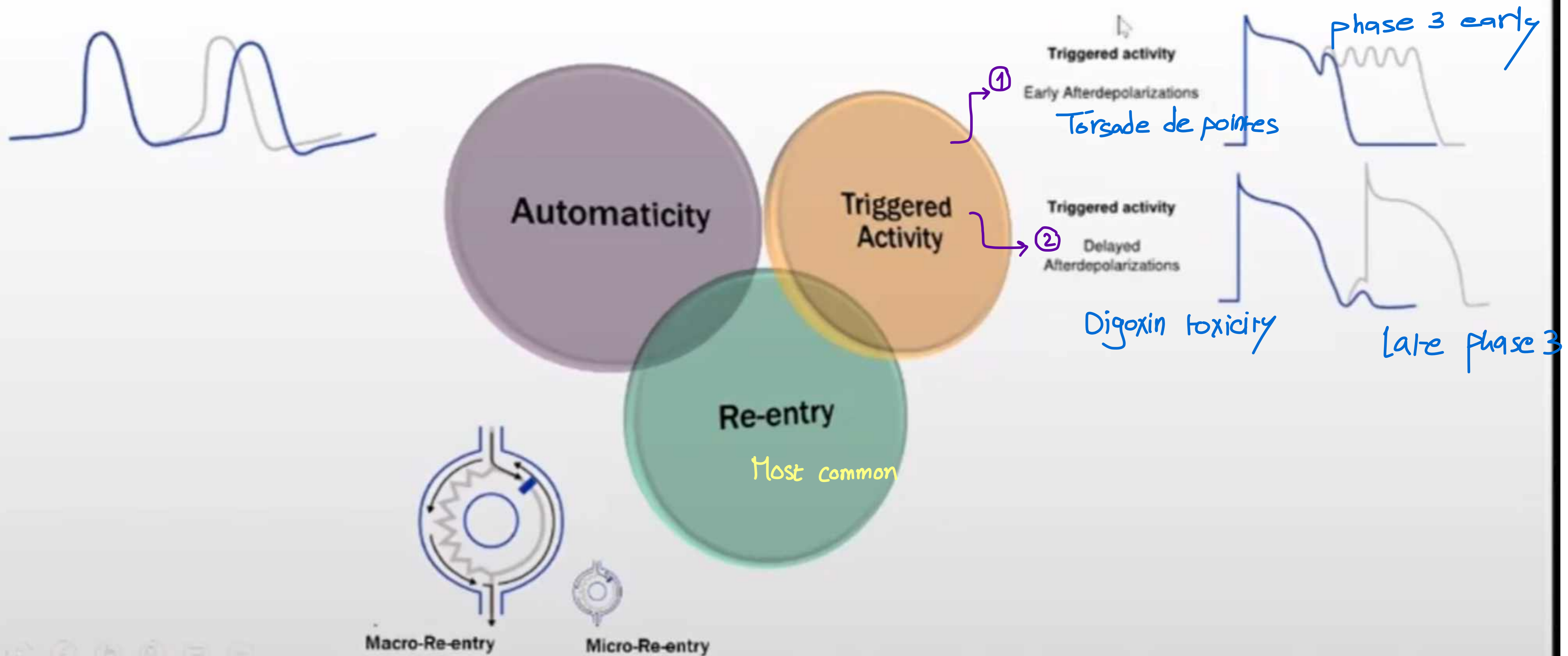
## Tachyarrhythmia Framework

	<u>REGULAR RHYTHM</u>	<u>IRREGULAR RHYTHM</u>
<u>NARROW QRS</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sinus tachycardia</li><li>• AVNRT</li><li>• Orthodromic AVRT</li><li>• Atrial Tachycardia</li><li>• Atrial flutter</li><li>• Junctional tachycardia</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Atrial fibrillation</li><li>• Atrial flutter w/ variable AV block</li><li>• Multifocal atrial tachycardia</li></ul>
<u>WIDE QRS</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ventricular tachycardia</li><li>• SVT with bundle branch block</li><li>• Antidromic AVRT</li><li>• Pre-excited SVT</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Polymorphic ventricular tachycardia</li><li>• Atrial fibrillation with bundle branch block</li><li>• Atrial flutter with variable AV block &amp; bundle branch block</li></ul>

# Arrhythmias



# Mechanisms of Arrhythmias



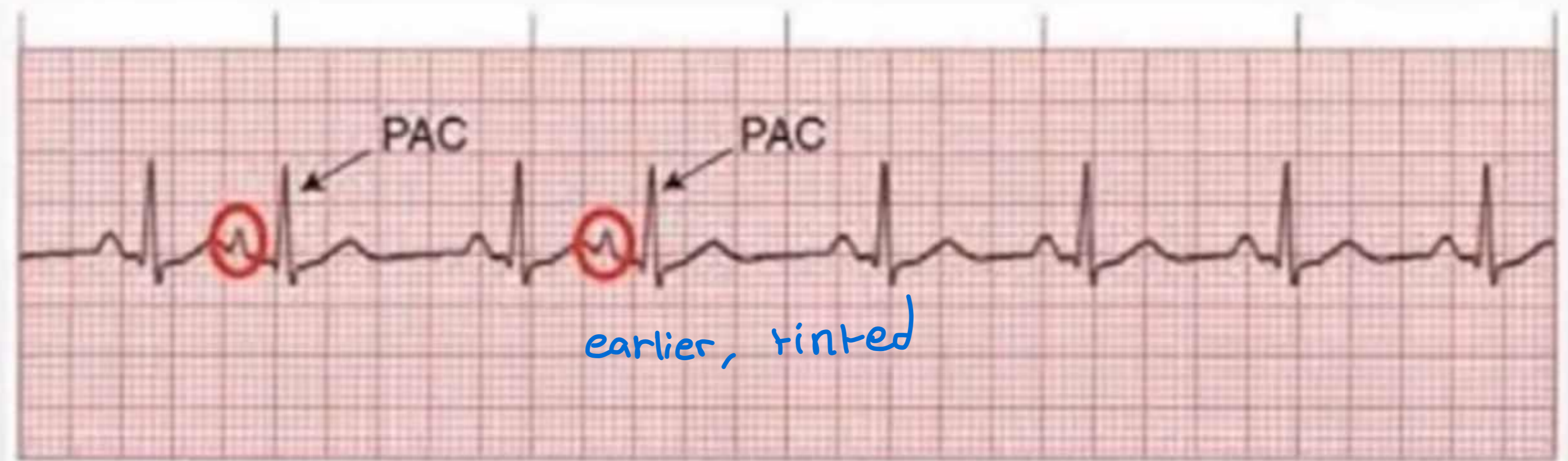
# Arrhythmias

*No tachy, No brady*

- Premature Atrial Contraction / Complex
- Premature Ventricular Contraction / Complex

# Premature Atrial Contractions / Complexes (PAC)

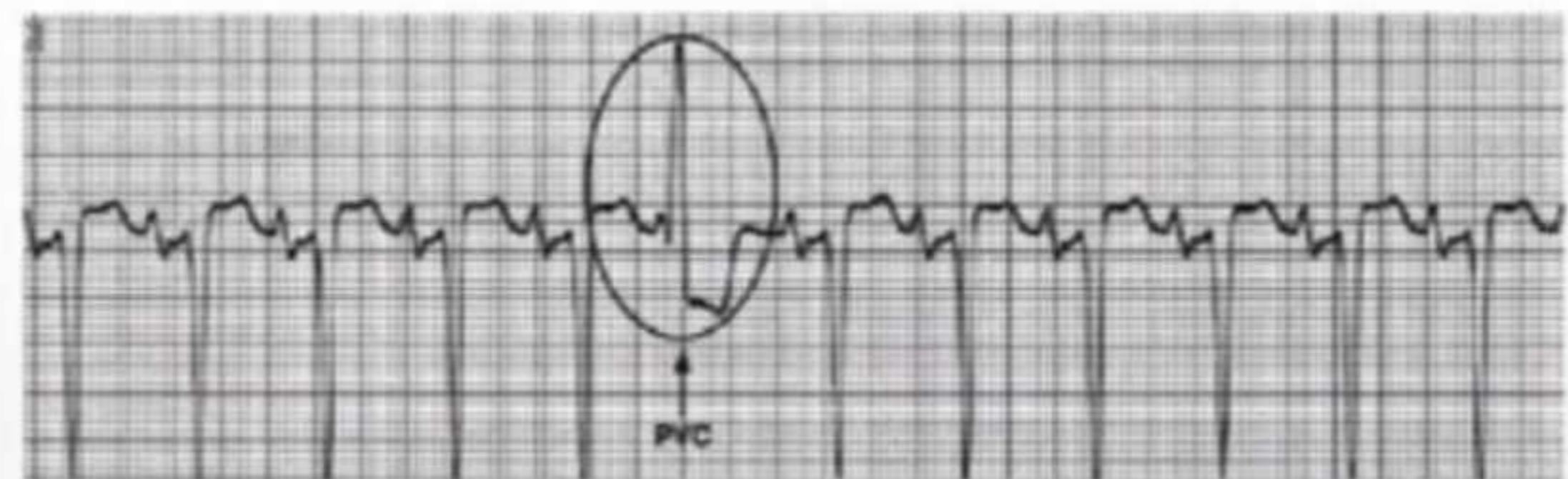
- Very common. May cause Palpitations
- Causes:
  - Adrenergic excess
    - Pharmacological
    - Electrolyte imbalances
    - Ischemia
    - Hypoxia
    - Infection.



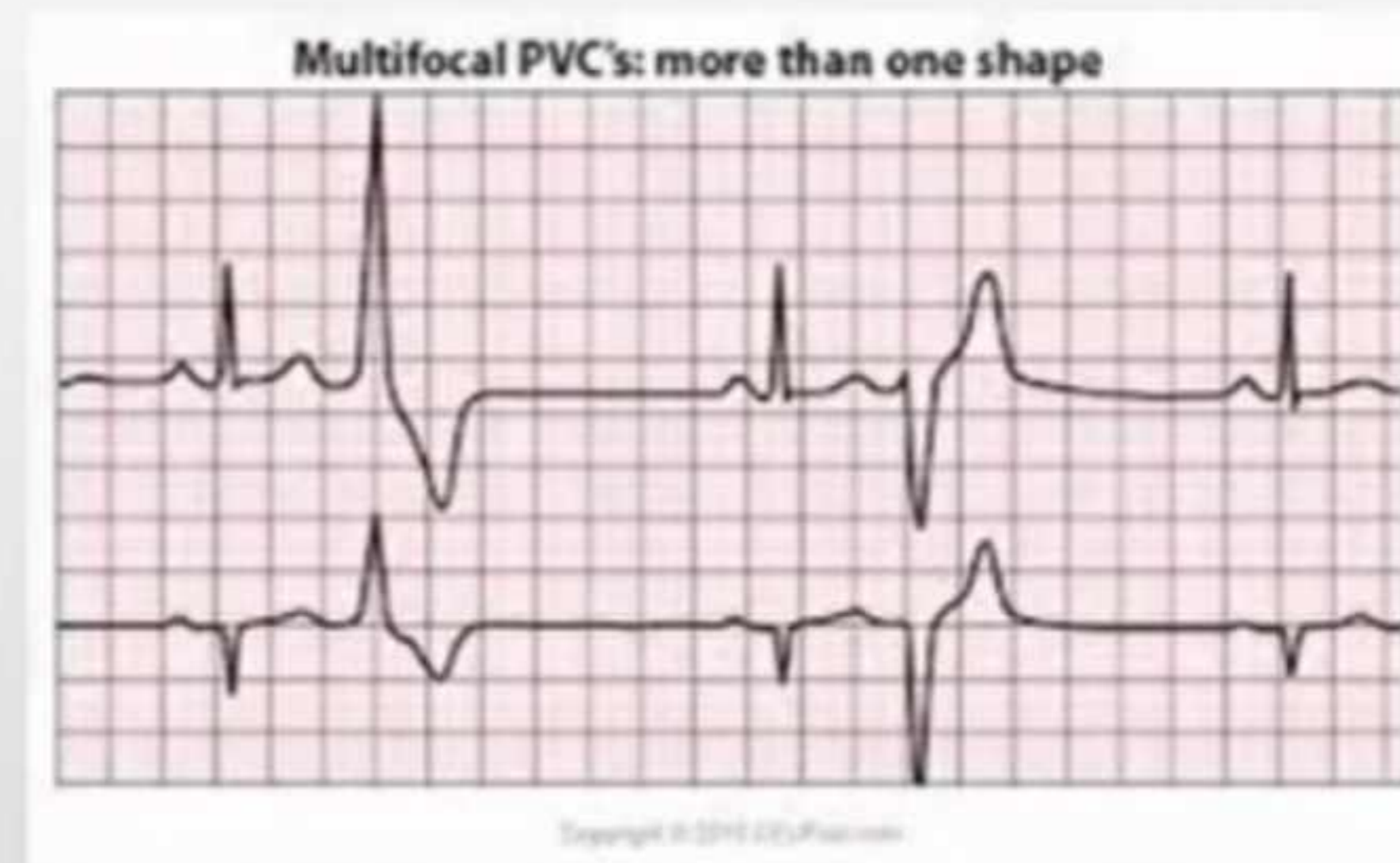
Clinical Status	Management
Asymptomatic	Observation
Symptomatic (Palpitations, Fatigue, Exercise Intolerance, Angina, Dizziness, Syncope)	Rx Cause B-Blockers

# Premature Ventricular Contractions / Complexes (PVC)

- Common. May cause Palpitations.
- Causes:
  - Hypoxia
  - Electrolyte abnormalities
  - Pharmacological
  - Structural heart disease

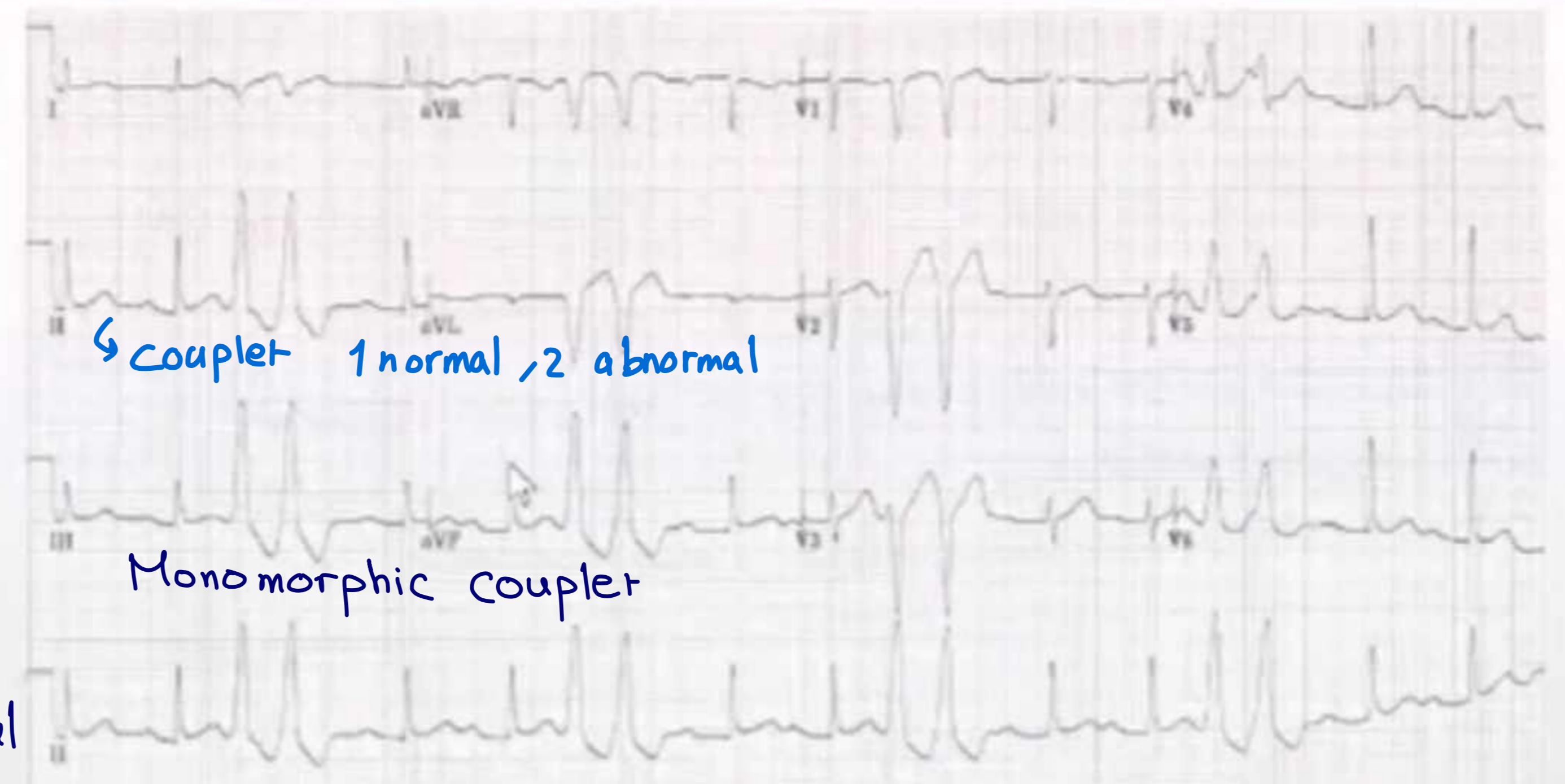
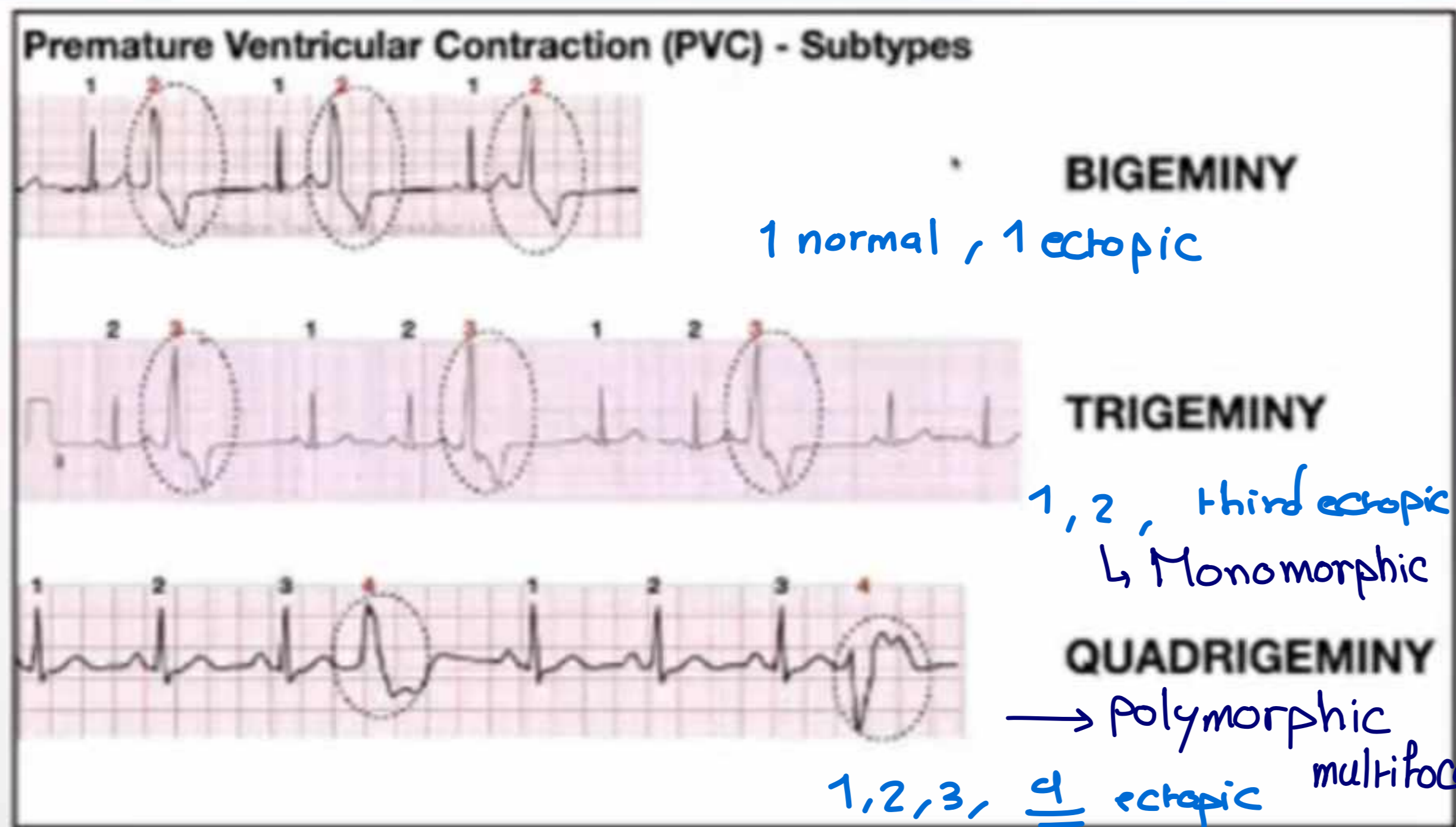


↳ same shape: Monomorphic



↳ Different shapes: Multifocal  
Polymorphic

# Premature Ventricular Contractions / Complexes (PVC)

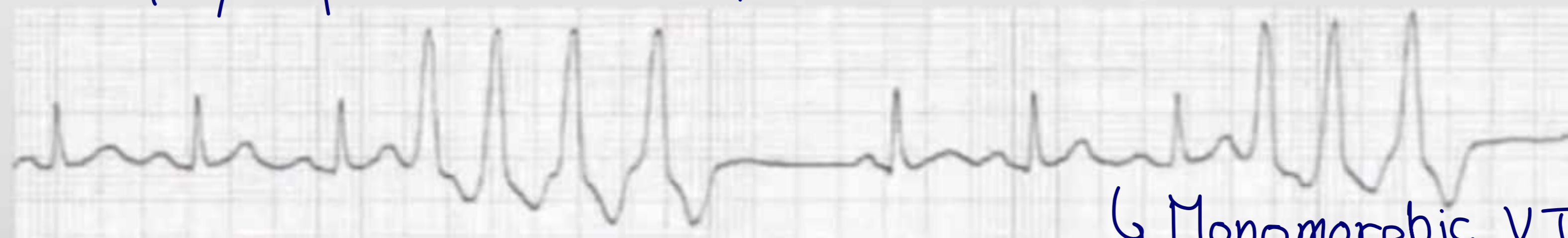


Mono morphic  
Polymorphic

VT :  $\{ \text{زاد كده مدهم} \}$



if 3 abnormal  $\{ \text{درا بريم} \}$



↳ Monomorphic VT

**NSVT**

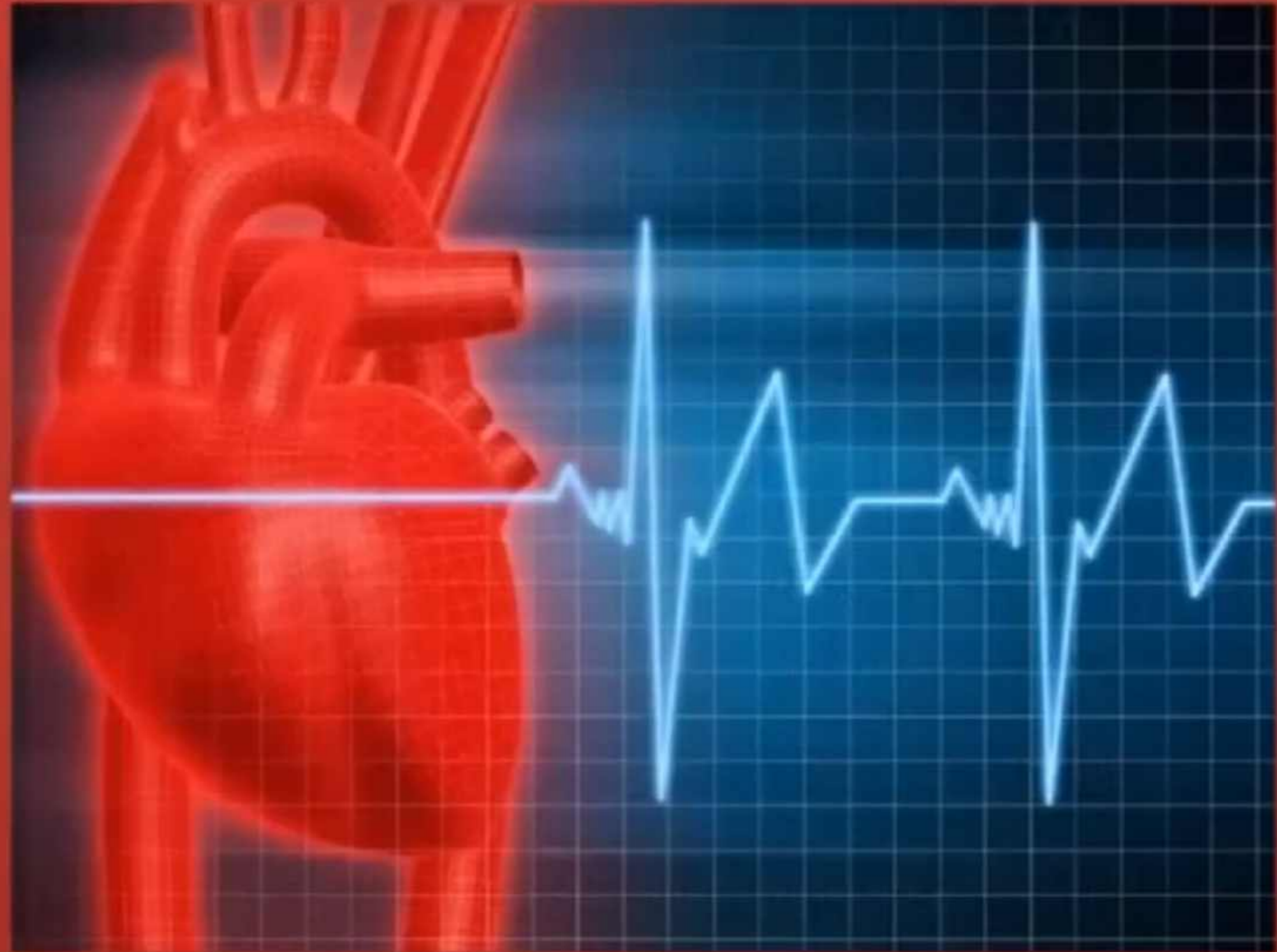
non-sustained  
↳ means < 30 sec



# Premature Ventricular Contractions / Complexes (PVC)

Clinical Status	Management
Asymptomatic - Infrequent	Observation
Asymptomatic - Frequent / Repetitive	R/o Heart Disease B-Blockers EPS +/- ICD/Ablation
Symptomatic (Palpitations, Fatigue, Exercise Intolerance, Angina, Dizziness, Syncope)	Rx Cause B-Blockers

# Tachyarrhythmias

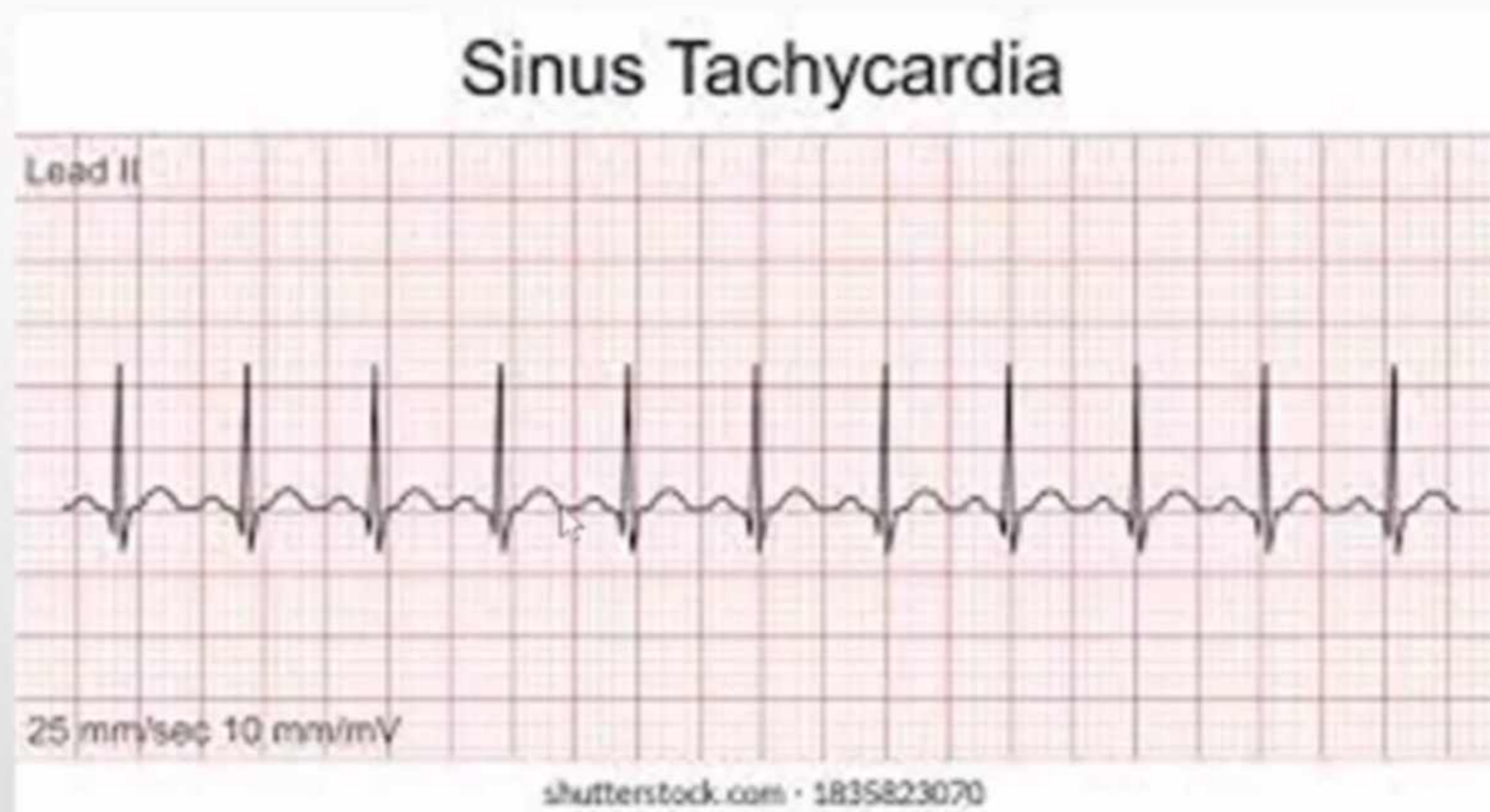


# Tachyarrhythmias

- Sinus Tachycardia
  - Inappropriate Sinus Tachycardia
- Atrial Fibrillation
- Atrial Flutter
- Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia
- Supraventricular Tachycardia
- Ventricular Tachycardia
- Ventricular Fibrillation

# Sinus Tachycardia

- Rate >100 bpm



*Regular*

# Sinus Tachycardia

- Causes:

## Physiological

- Exercise
- Emotion
- Anxiety
- Pain
- Fever
- Pregnancy
- *Volume Depletion*

## Cardiac Conditions

- MI
- Cardiomyopathy / HF
- Acute Valve Disease
- Pericarditis
- *Postural*

## Medical Condition

- Shock
- Hypoxia
- Respiratory Distress
- P.E. → *most commonly with sinus tachy*
- Anemia
- Infection
- *Dehydration*
- Hyperthyroidism
- Pheochromocytoma
- Cushing's
- Hypoglycemia
- Panic Attack

## Pharmacological

- Caffeine
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Catecholamines
- B agonist
- BB Withdrawal
- Vasodilators
- Atropine
- Theophylline
- Decongestants
- Cocaine
- Amphetamines → *weight loss drugs*
- Thyroid Hormones

# Sinus Tachycardia

## ▪ Management:

- Treat the underlying cause
- Treat the underlying cause
- Treat the underlying cause

## ⊙ Inappropriate Sinus Tachycardia

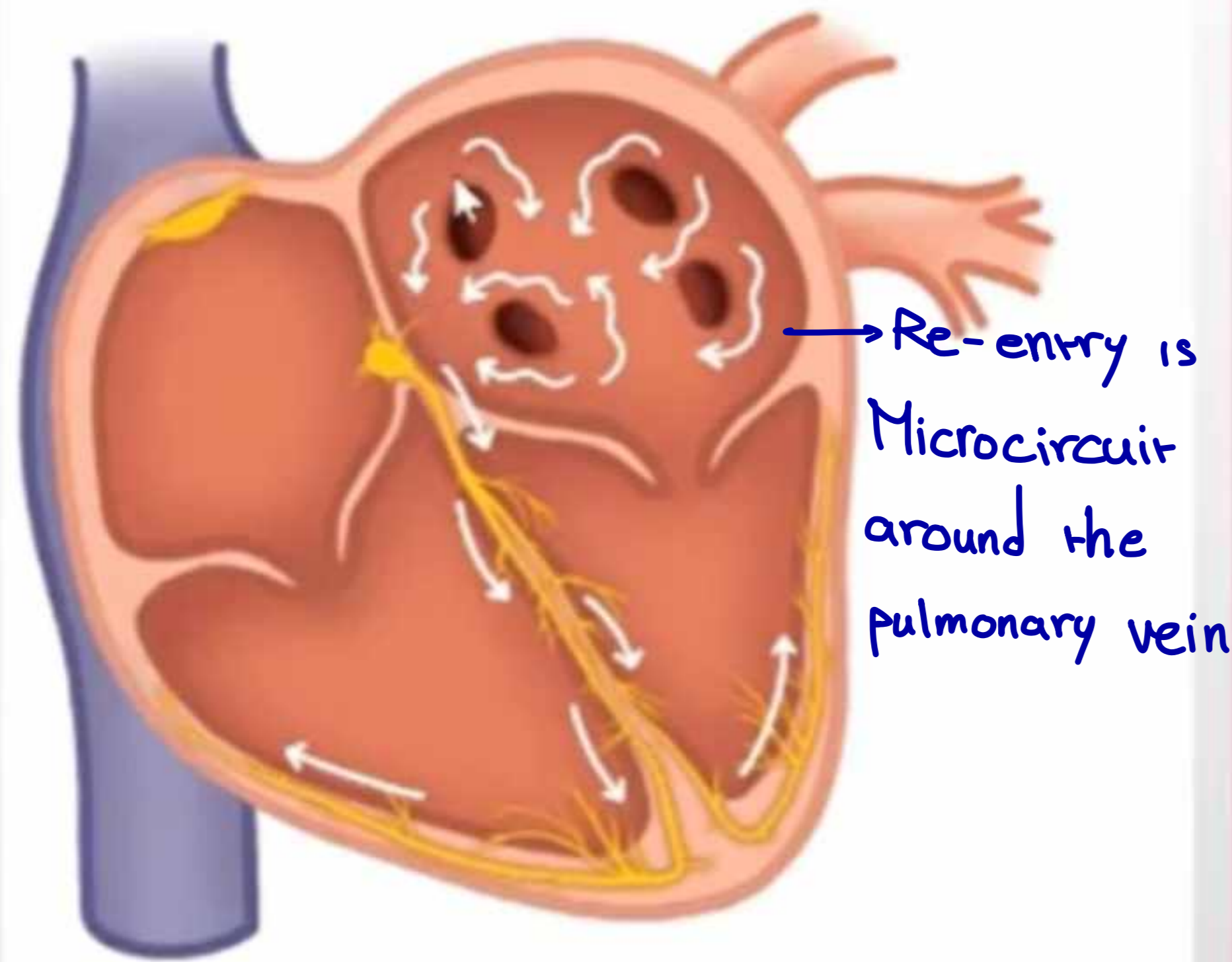
*No cause*

- B-Blockers
- Ivabradine → ↓HR (works on the funny current) → HF drug
- RFA

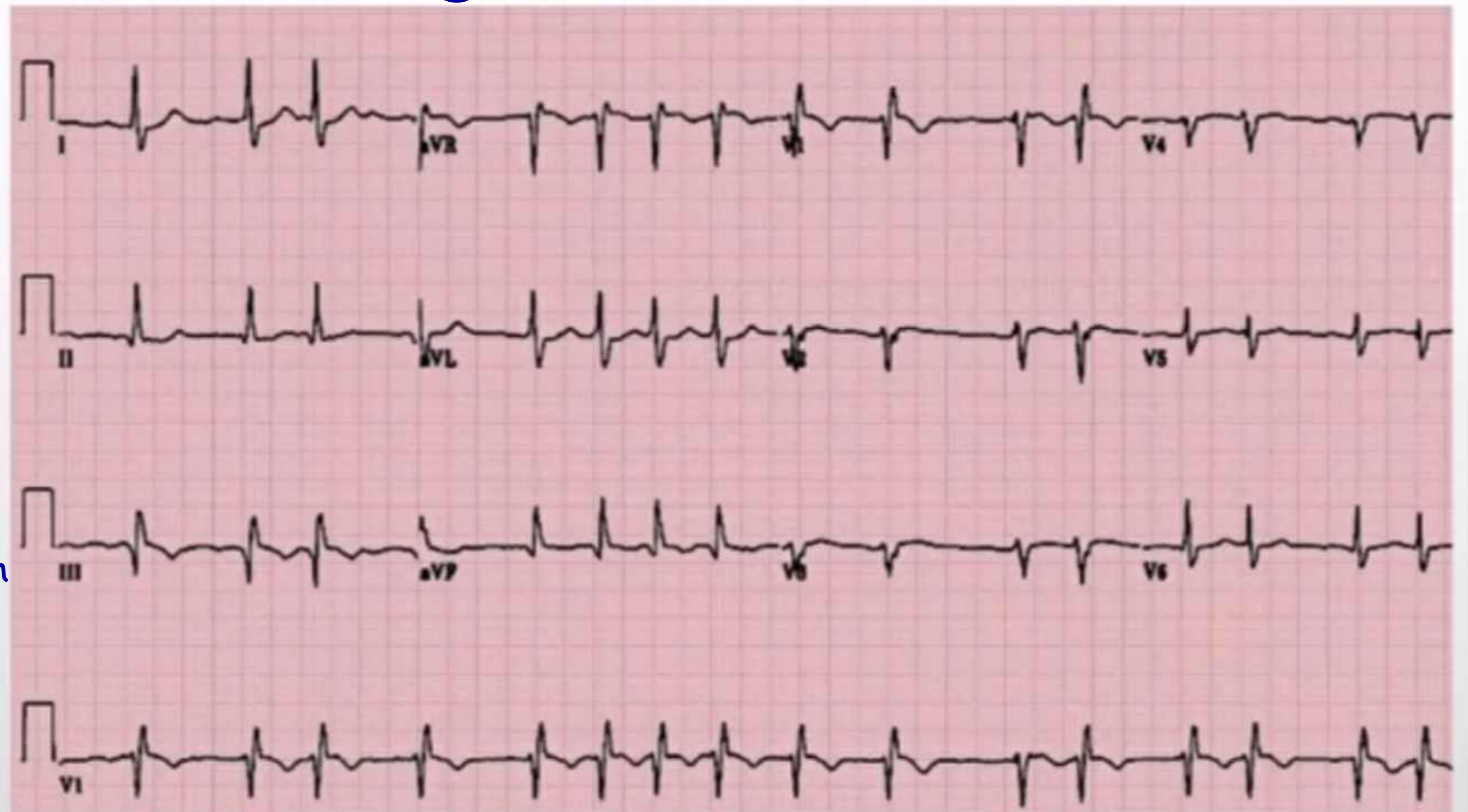
*Ablation → End game*

# Atrial Fibrillation

- Very common



no p wave , irregular , narrow QRS



# Atrial Fibrillation

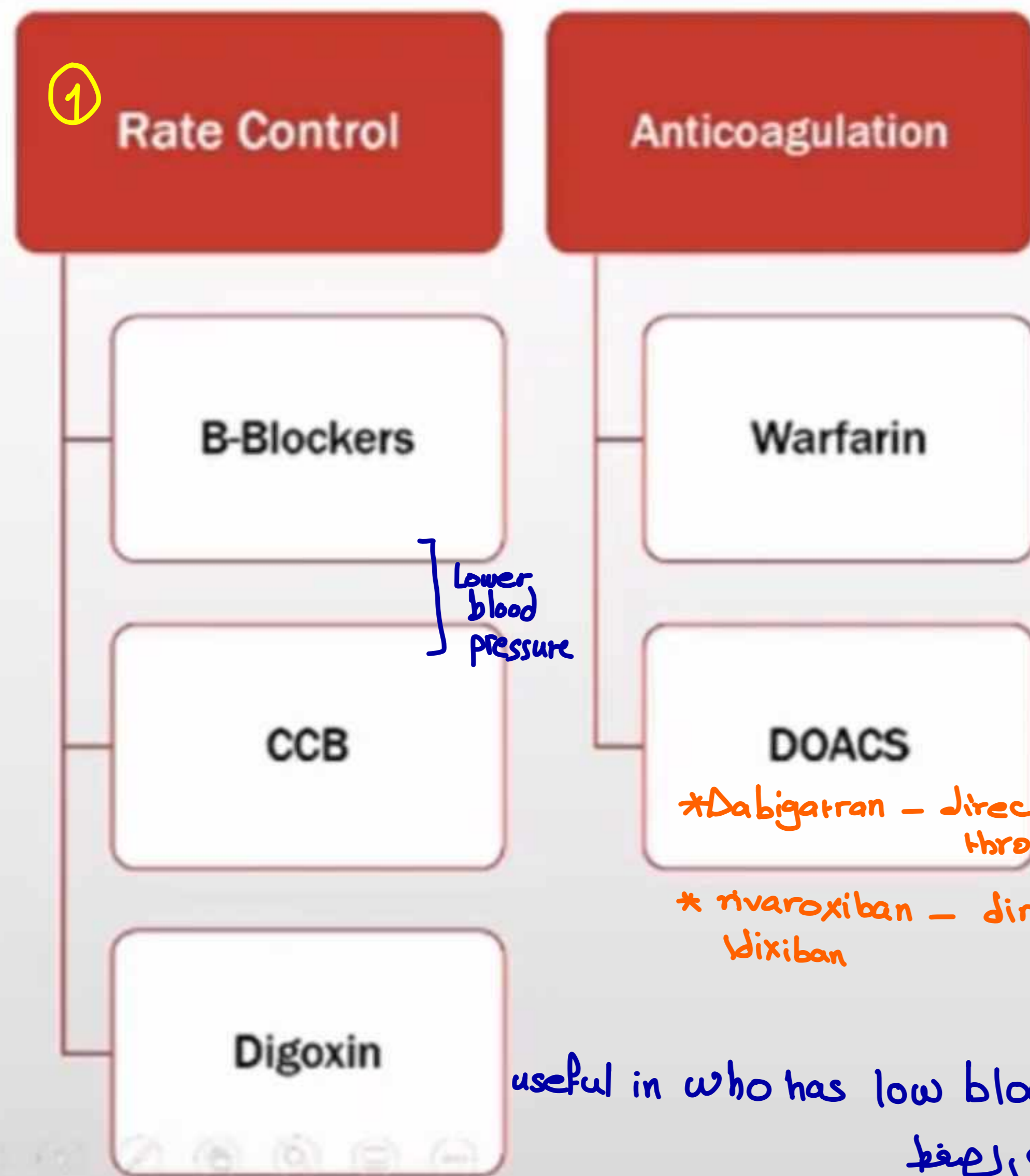
with ageing

- Causes:

- Heart disease: CAD, MI, HTN, mitral valve disease
- History of cardiac surgery
- Pericarditis
- Pulmonary disease (PE, COPD, Hypoxia)
- Thyroid disease *hypo, hyper*
- Pheochromocytoma
- Systemic illness (e.g. Infection,)
- Stress (postoperative, pain, anxiety)
- Hyperadrenergic states
- Cocaine or methamphetamine use
- Extremes of activity (sedentary lifestyle, excess exercise such as marathon running)
- Excessive alcohol intake ("holiday heart syndrome")



# Atrial Fibrillation - Management



To know if they need anticoagulant or no:

CHA2DS2-VASc Score	
CHF or LVEF ≤ 40%	1
HTN	1
Age ≥ 75 <i>advanced age</i>	2
DM	1
CVA/TIA/TE <i>stroke</i>	2
Vascular	1
Age 65-74 <i>mid-age</i>	1
Female <i>sex</i>	1

To know the possibility of bleeding:  
**HAS-BLED score**

Condition	Points
*H - Hypertension	1
A - Abnormal renal or liver function (1 point each)	1 or 2
S - Stroke	1
*B - Bleeding	1
L - Labile INRs	1
*E - Elderly (> 65 years)	1
D - Drugs or alcohol (1 point each)	1 or 2

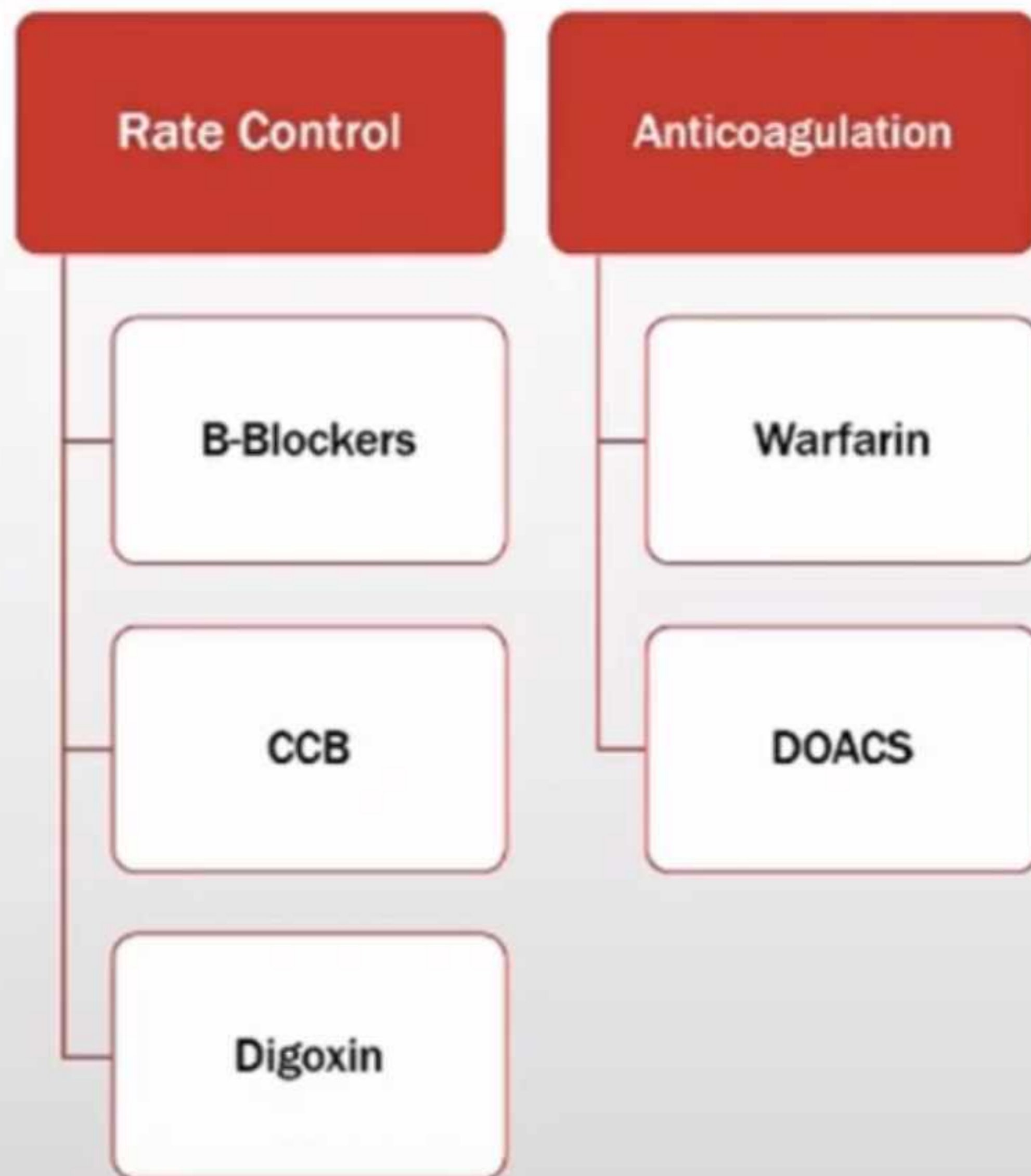
↳ >1 → needs coagulation  
 0 → needs aspirin only [called low AFib]  
 1 → grades on → if the 1 is bcs she is a female, aspirin may be enough  
 if other cause, may consider anti-coag  
 \* \* alert in AKI pts

Valvular A-Fib:

A-Fib with mechanical valve, AFib with severe mitral stenosis, AFib with LVAD  
 ↳ INR = 2.5 - 3.5  
 ↳ INR = 2-3

you have to use warfarin  
 DOACs are not approved for this

# Atrial Fibrillation - Management



## CHA2DS2-VASc Score

CHF or LVEF ≤ 40%	1
Hypertension	1
Age	1
Stroke	2
Vascular disease	1
Age	1
Females	1
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>1-9</b>

CHA2DS2-VASc Score	CVA Risk
0	0
1	1.3
2	2.2
3	3.2
4	4
5	6.7
6	9.8
7	9.6
8	6.7
9	15.2

## HAS-BLED score

Condition	Points
H - Hypertension	1
A - Abnormal renal or liver function (1 point each)	1 or 2
S - Stroke	1
B - Bleeding history	1
L - Labile INR	1
E - Elderly (>65)	1
D - Drug interactions	1

HAS-BLED score	Bleeds per 100 patient-years
0	1.13
1	1.02
2	1.88
3	3.74
4	8.70
5	12.5



# Atrial Fibrillation - Pearls

Discuss with the pt. and his family

**Calculate Risk** | Review Therapy

Stroke Risk: CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc  
Renal Function: 30 Cr mg/dL, 61.1 CrCl mL/min

Calculate Risk Reset All

**Patient Information**  
Required to derive therapy options

Age:  Yrs

Sex:

**CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc**  
Select all that apply

CHF/LV dysfunction ⓘ

**Calculate Risk** | Review Therapy

3 CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc | 1.2 Cr mg/dL, 61.1 CrCl mL/min

**2 Select Therapy Option**

**3 Evaluate Therapy**

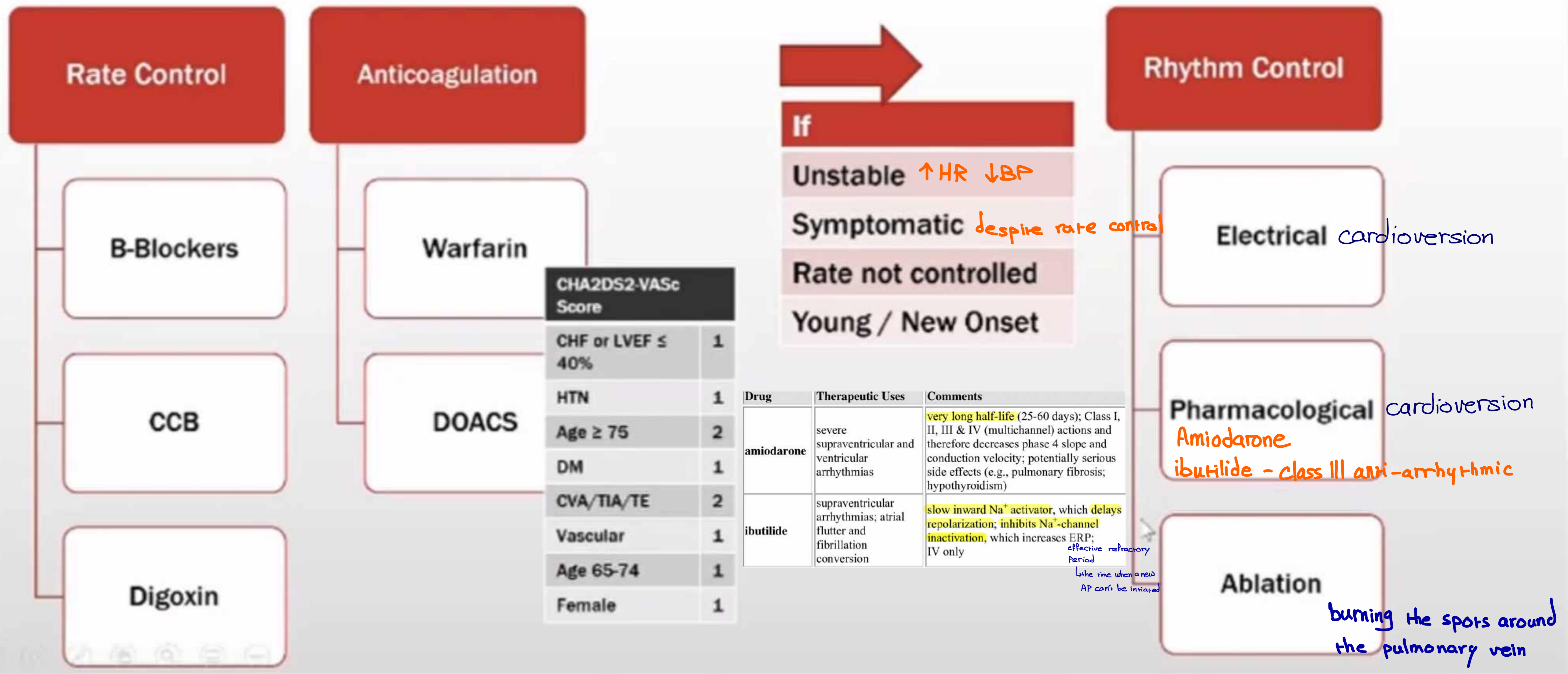
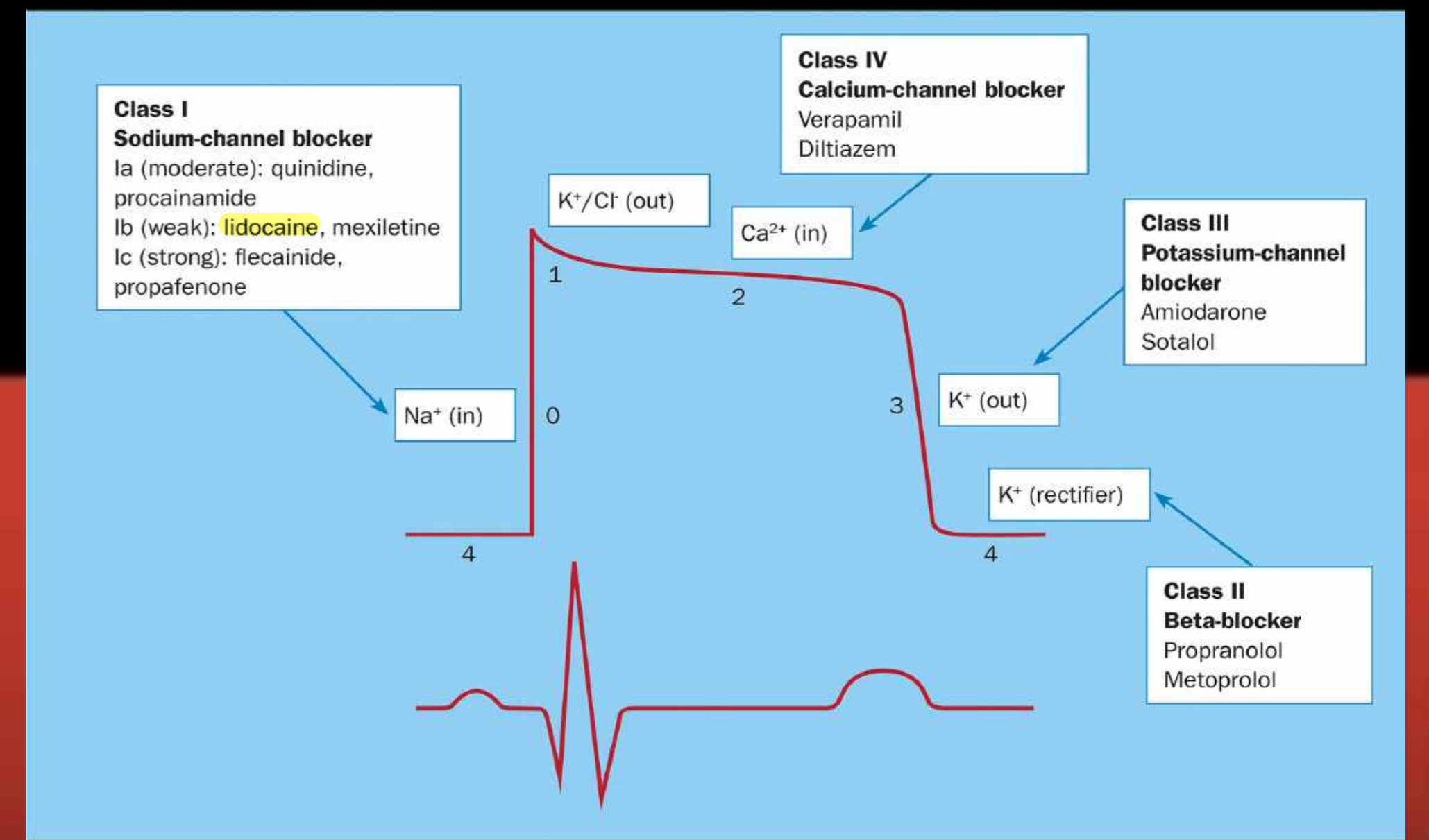
**Standard Dose** (Clinical trials): 150 mg twice daily

**Stroke Risk/Benefit** | **Blood Risk** | **Safety Info**

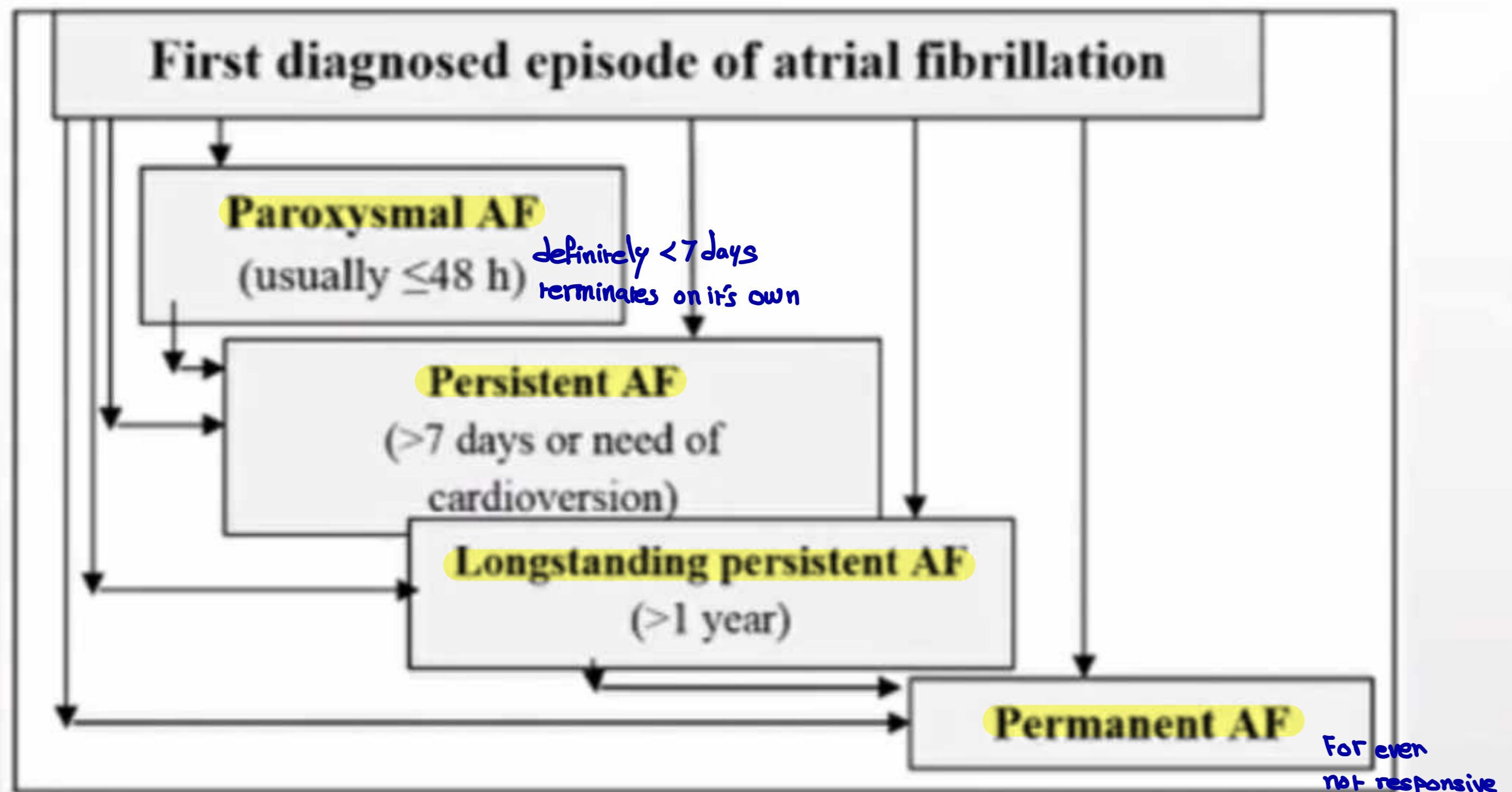
**Risk/Benefit Information\***

Patient's ANNUAL risk of stroke + thromboembolism with Dabigatran	0.9%
Relative risk reduction	79%
Absolute risk reduction	3.4%
Chance of benefit per year	1 in 30

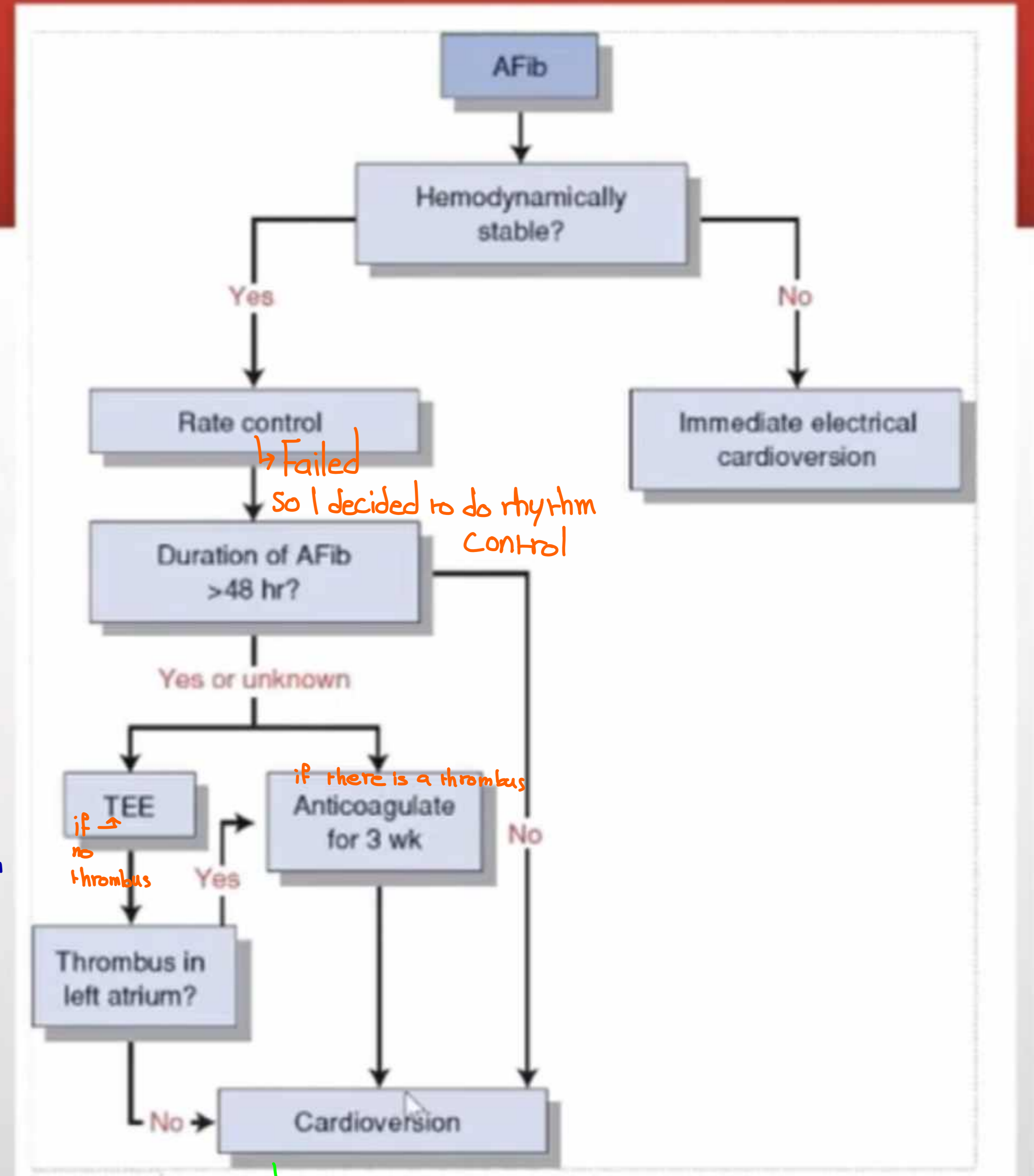
# Atrial Fibrillation - Management



# Atrial Fibrillation - Pearls



\* Same control

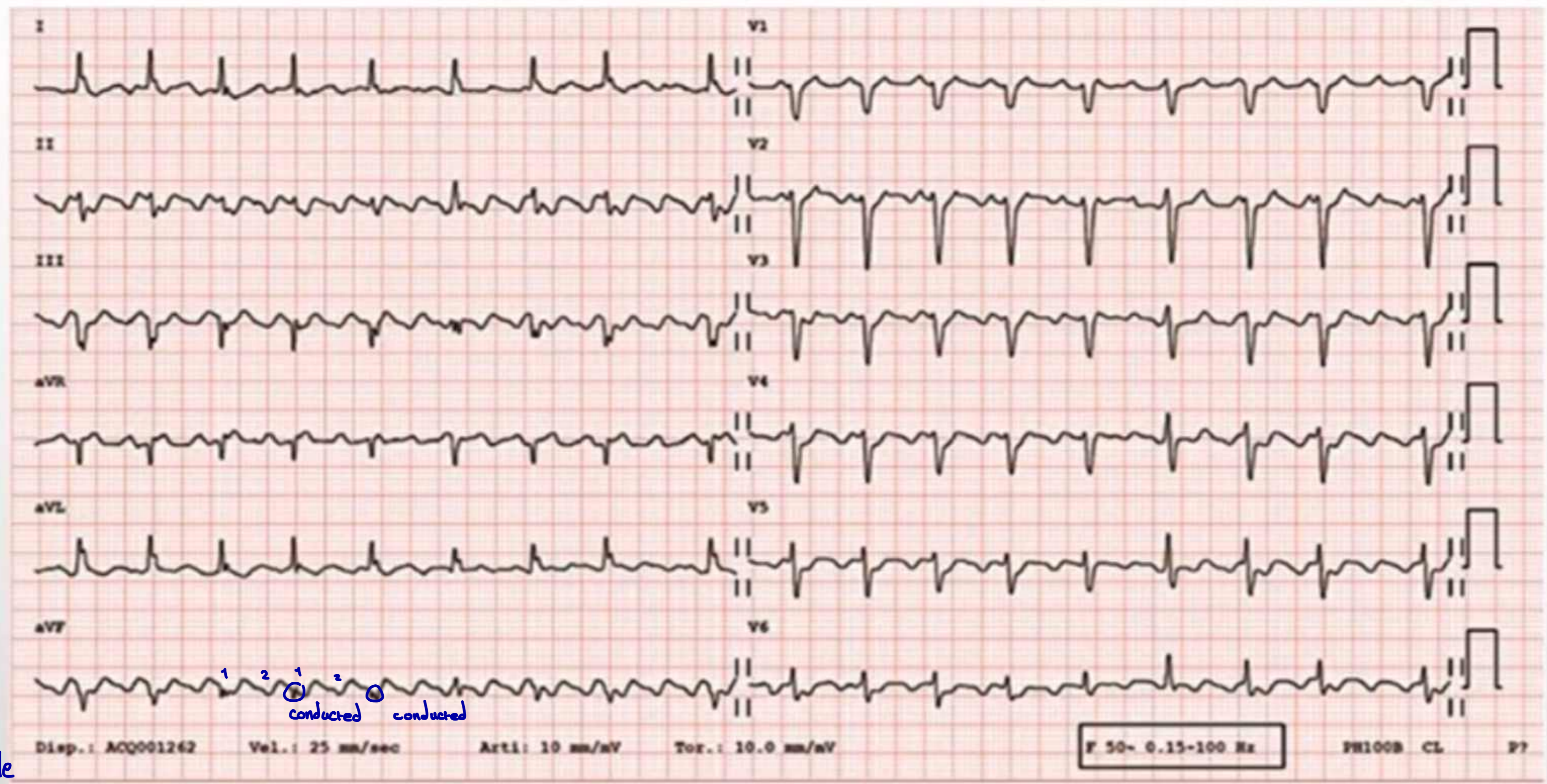


*very low probability that there is a thrombus*

# Atrial Flutter

\* Flutter wave is more organized than AFib → saw tooth appearance. ① no normal baseline (go against sinus tachy at 150)  
② not irregular like AFib

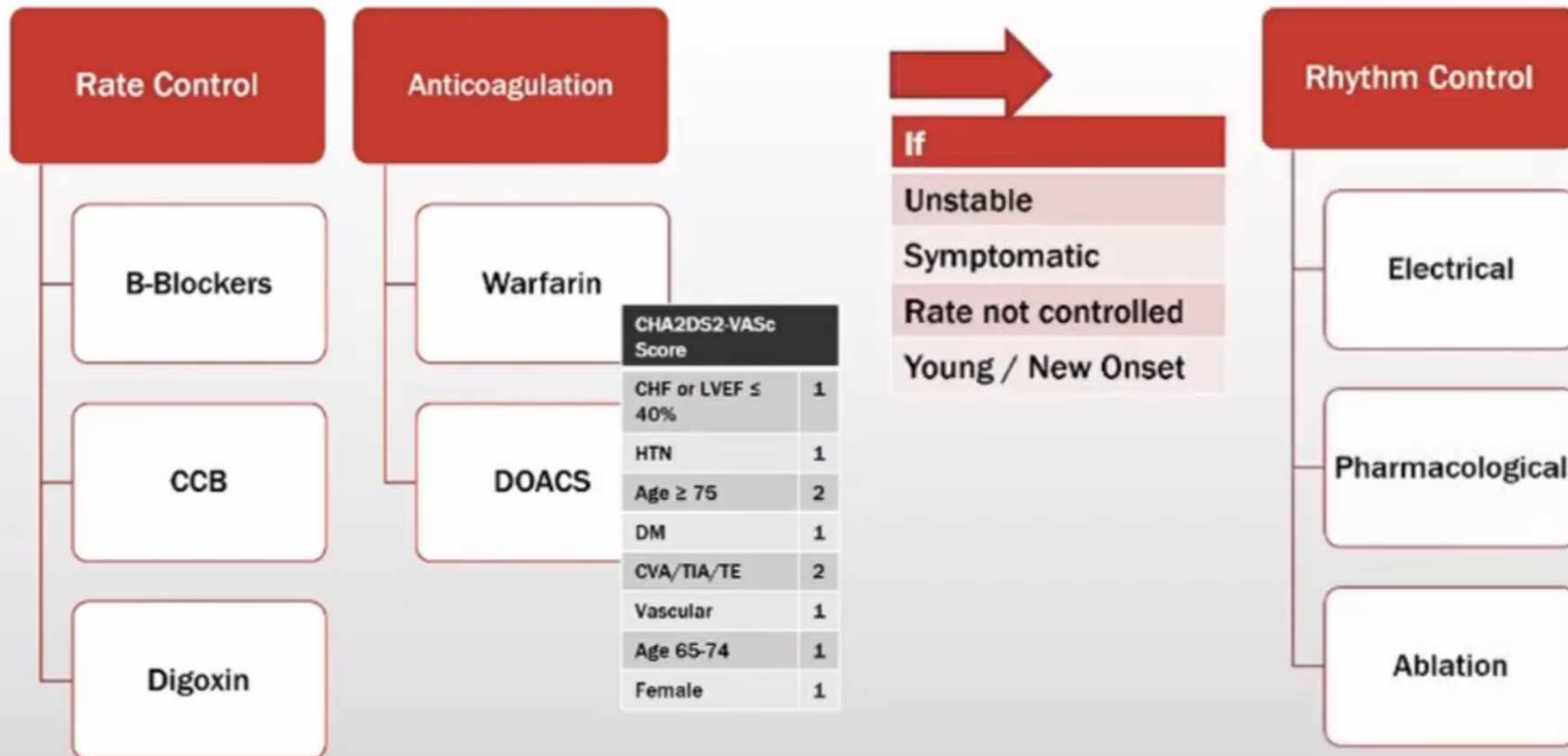
• Common



2:1 conduction →  
could be 3:1, 4:1 or variable  
↳ irregular ⚡

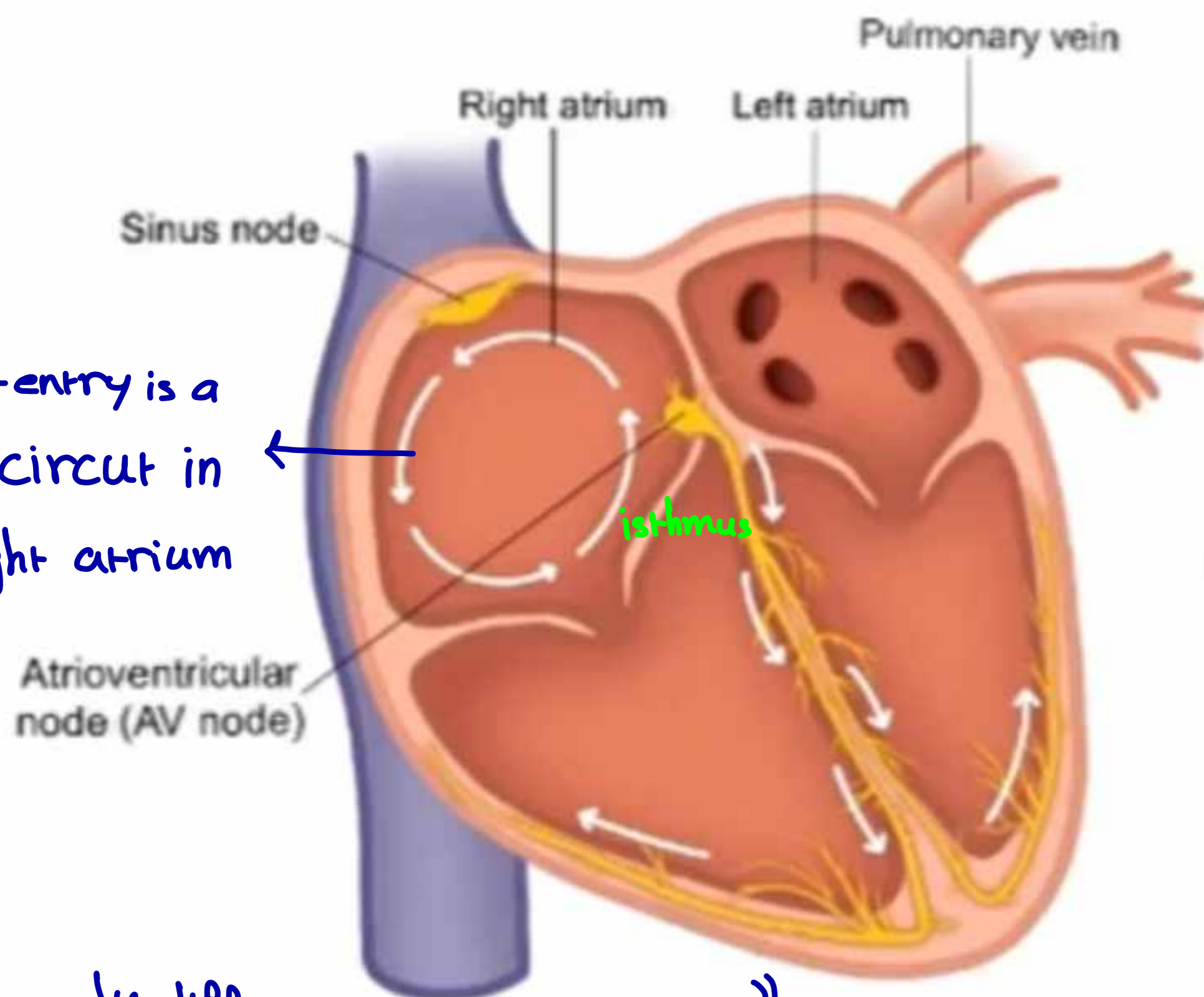
# Atrial Flutter - Management

Managed exactly as AFib

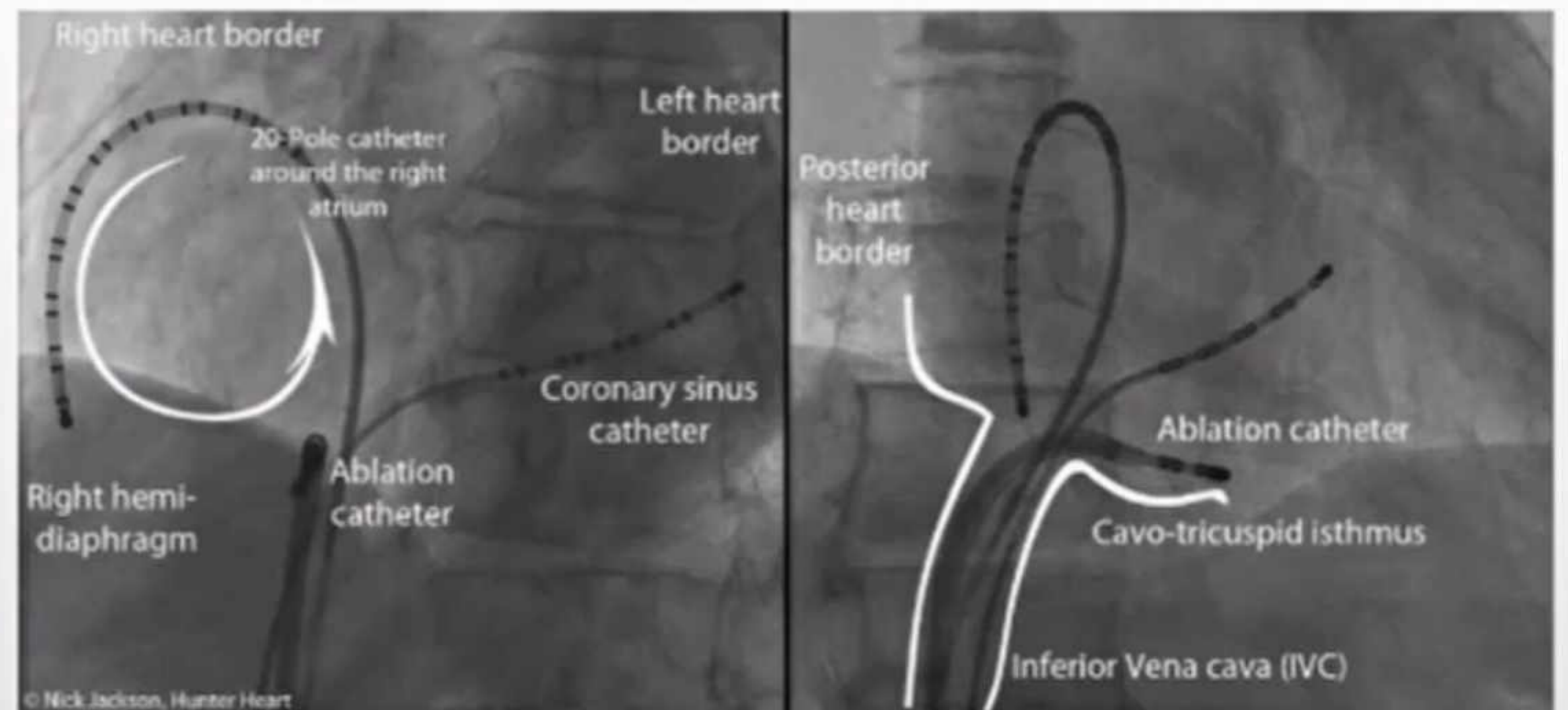


# Atrial Flutter - Pearls

## Atrial Flutter



The re-entry is a Macro circuit in the right atrium



“The only difference in management:”

\* It's ablation: 1. easy 2. efficient 3. Lower risk than AFib



# Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia (MAT)

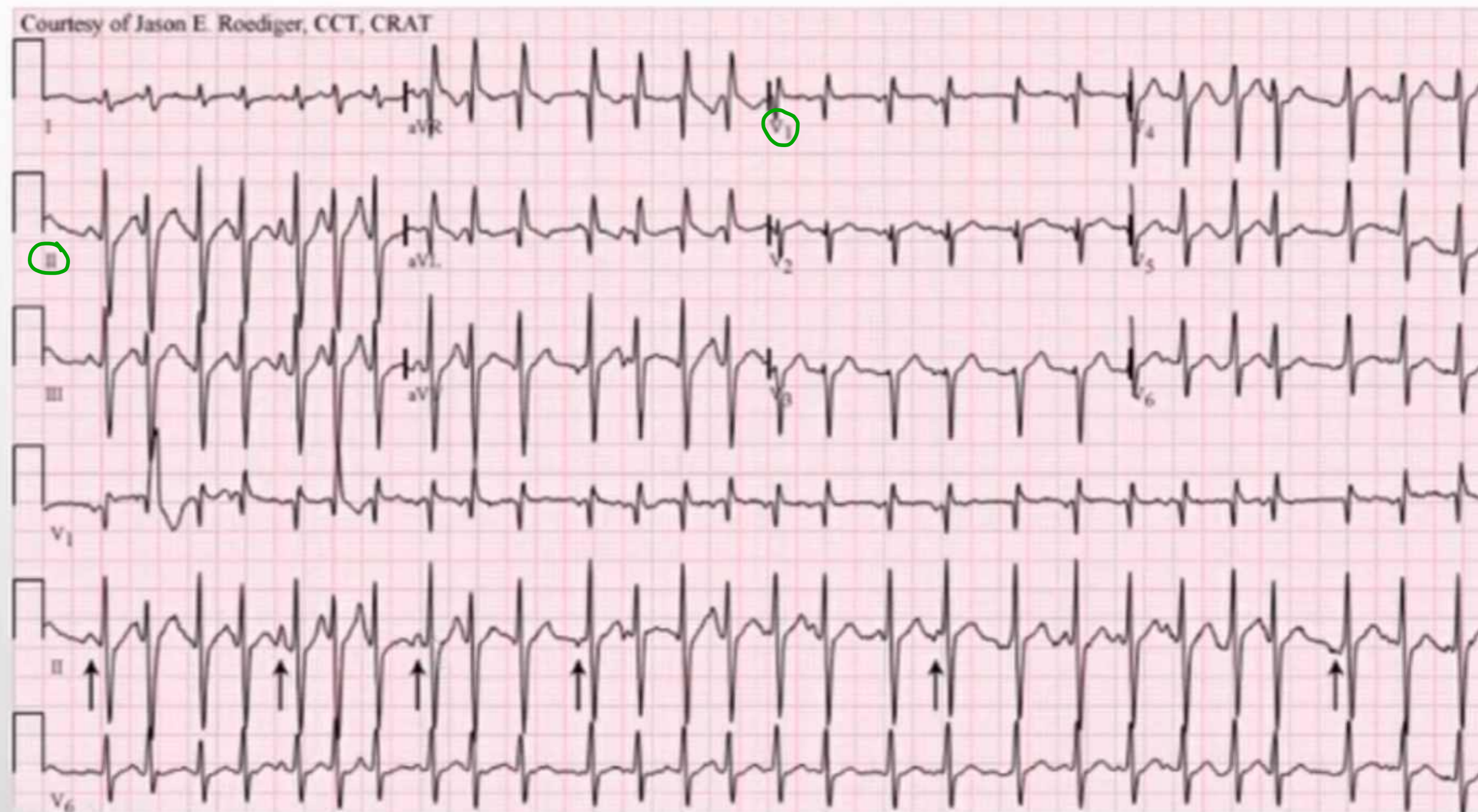
\* Very common in pts. with severe COPD

\* Managed the same as COPD

- Common in patients with severe pulmonary disease (e.g., COPD)

\* Looks like an AFib  
that it's: ① irregular  
② narrow QRS  
③ tachycardic

But there are P-waves



# Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia (MAT)

\* even if not stable we don't do cardioversion

هي الوحيدة

- Treatment:

- Improve oxygenation and ventilation

then use other things:

- ↳ Medications: CCBs,  $\beta$ -blockers, digoxin, amiodarone

- \* Electrical cardioversion is ineffective<sup>\*</sup> and should not be used

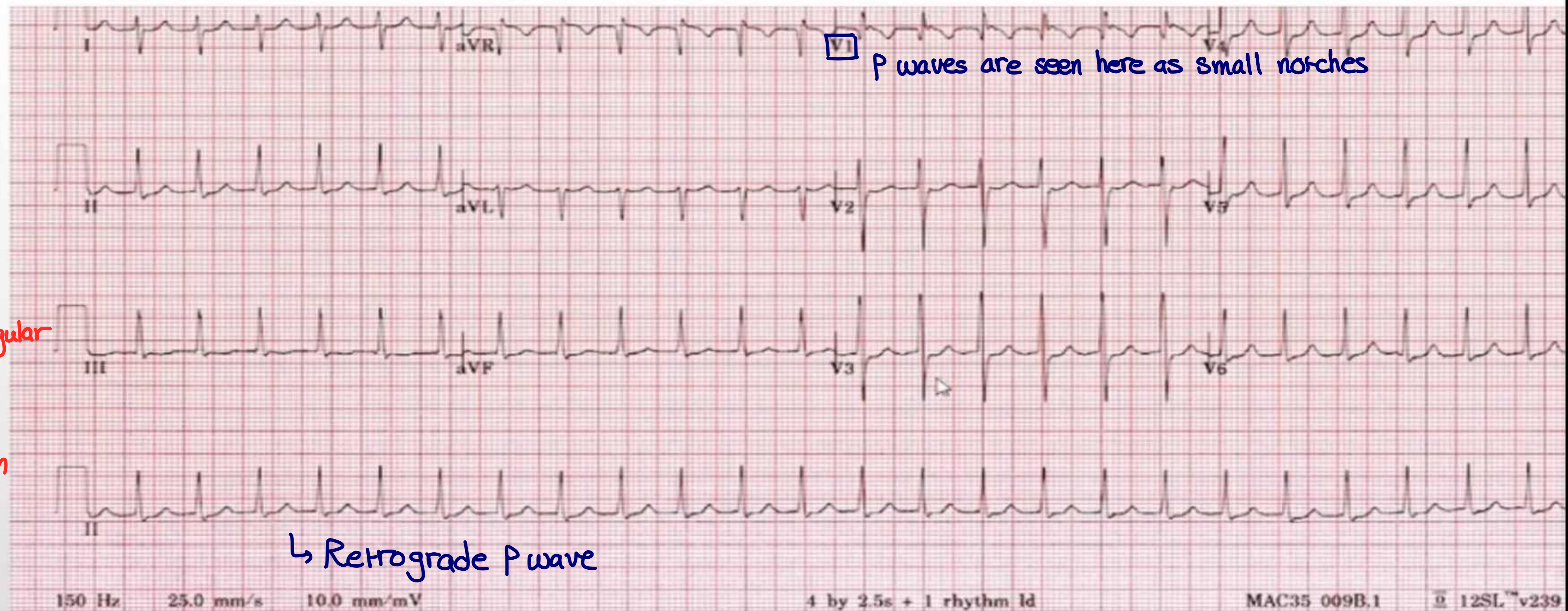
↳ bcs the cause is the pulmonary disease not the heart

# Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT)

- Tachycardic
- Narrow QRS complexes

Regular  
\* AFib isn't regular

↳ if no sawtooth appearance, then it is SVT



P waves are seen here as small notches

↳ Retrograde P wave

# Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT)

2 types:

## ▪ DDx of SVT

### ① Short RP Tachycardias (RP < PR):

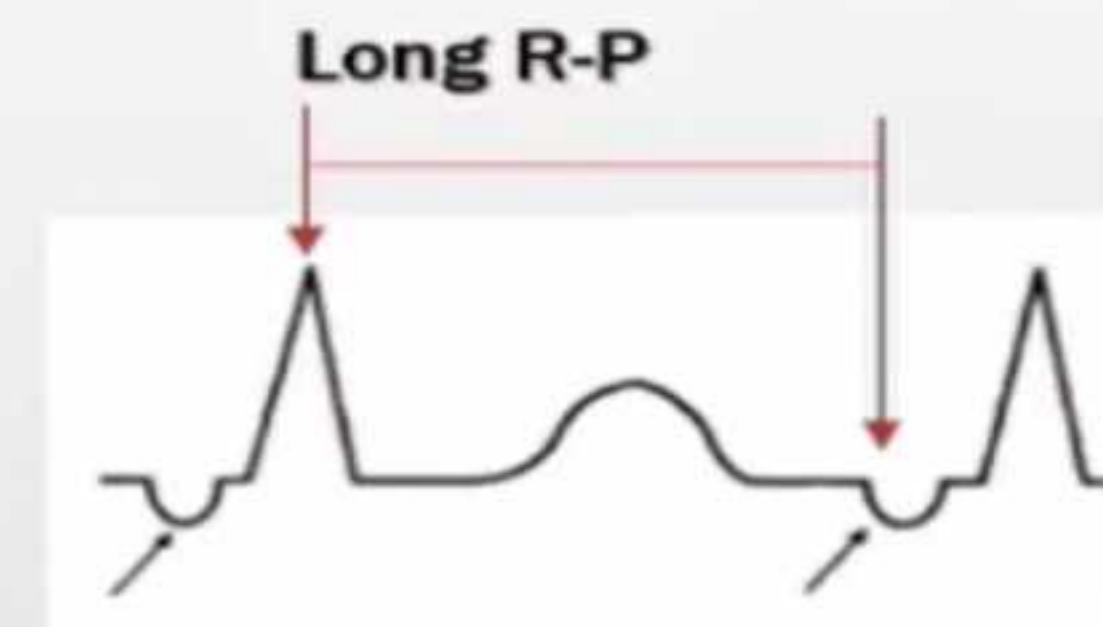
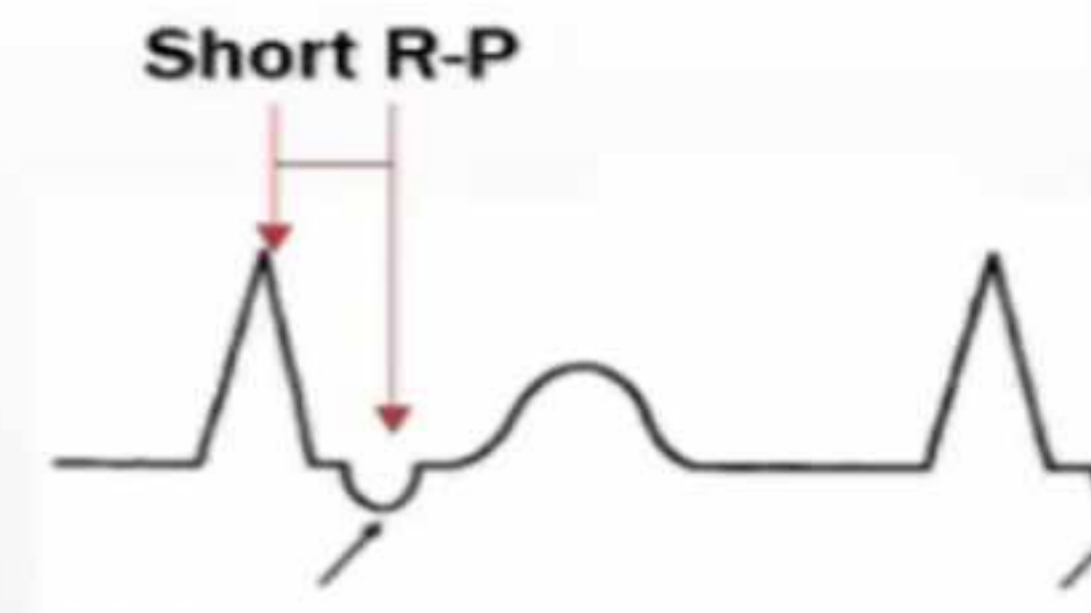
- Typical AV ~~Nodal~~ Re-entry Tachycardia (AVNRT)
- Junctional Tachycardia
- Orthodromic Atrioventricular Tachycardia (OD - AVRT)
- Atrial Tachycardia

### ② Long RP Tachycardias (RP > PR):

- Sinus Tachycardia (ST)
- Atrial Tachycardia (AT)
- Atypical Orthodromic Atrioventricular Tachycardia (OD - AVRT)
- Atypical AV Nodal Re-entry Tachycardia (AVNRT)
- Junctional Tachycardia

### ▪ Mimickers:

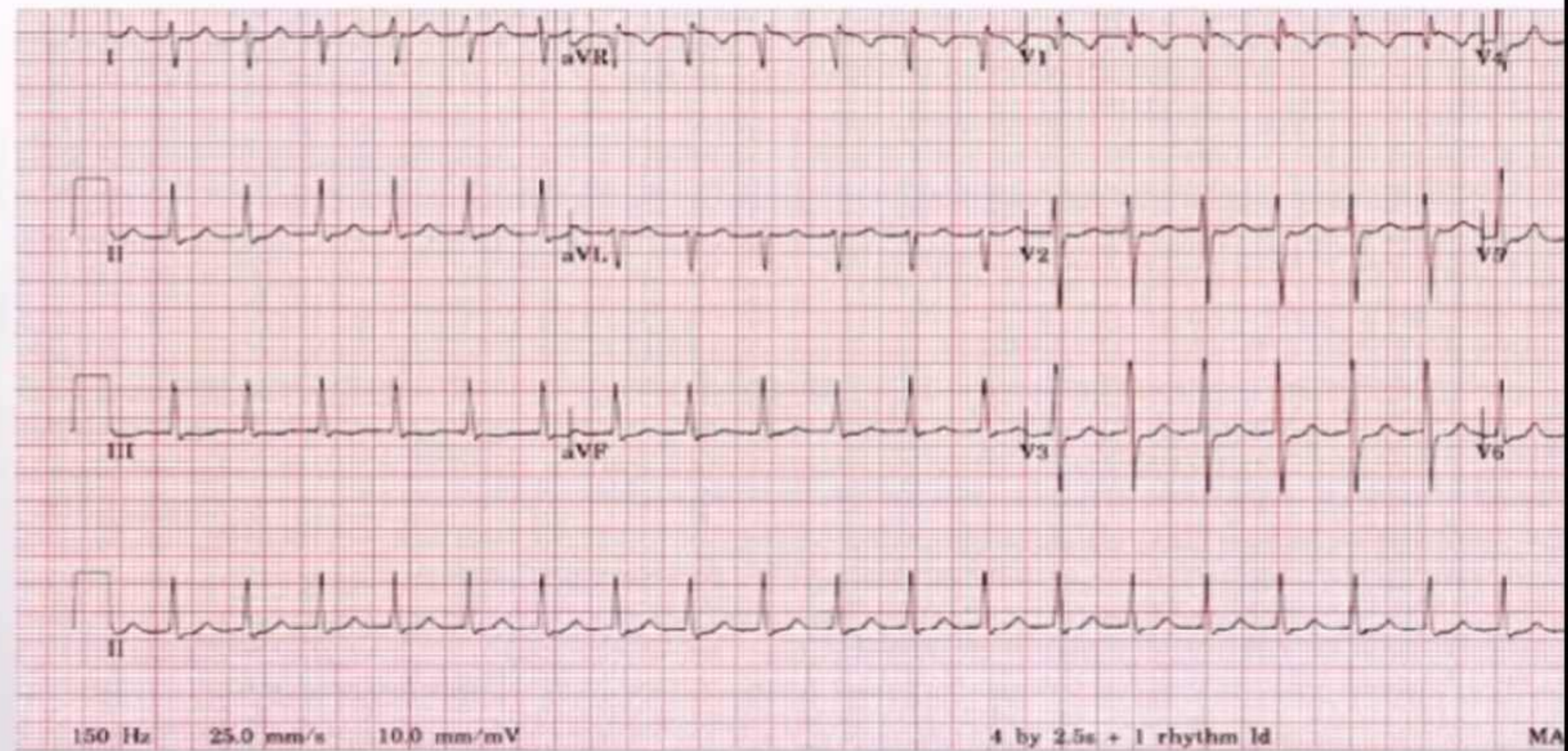
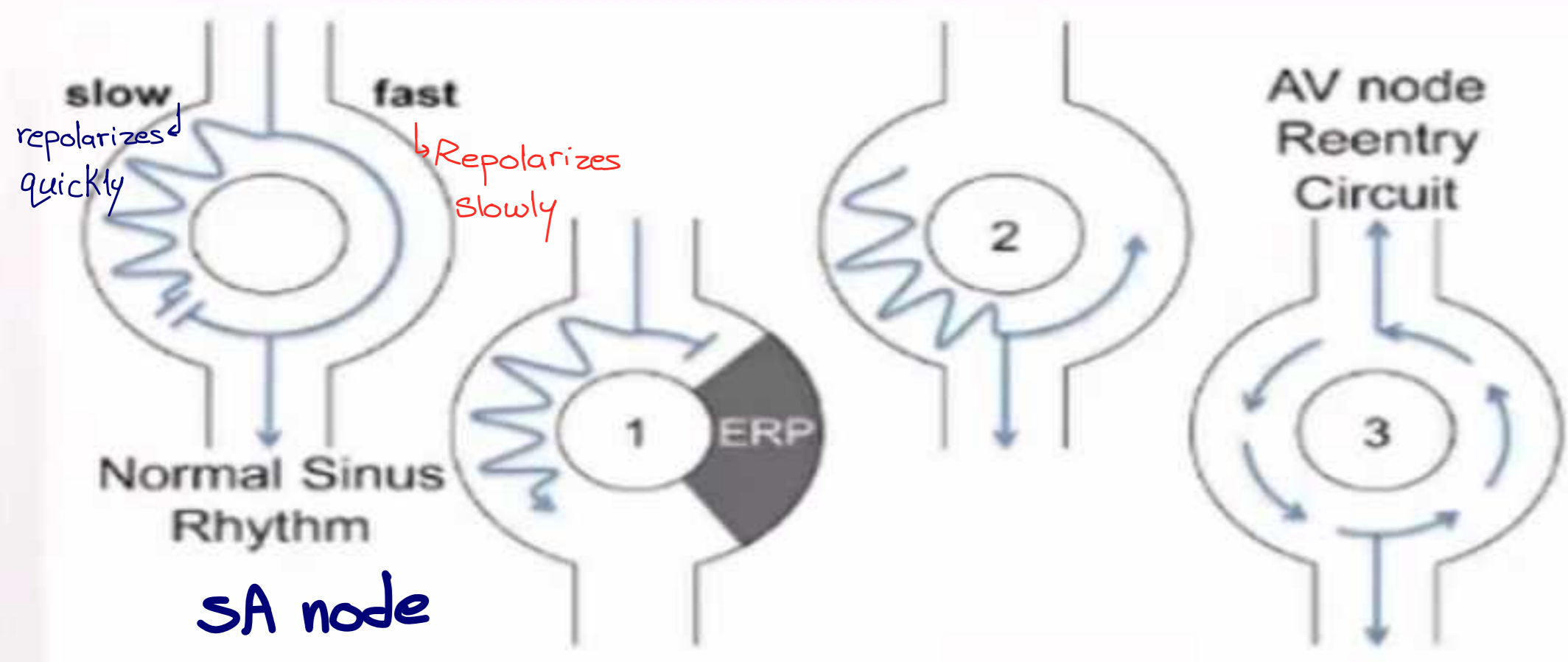
- Atrial Flutter with rapid conduction
- A. Fibrillation with very rapid conduction



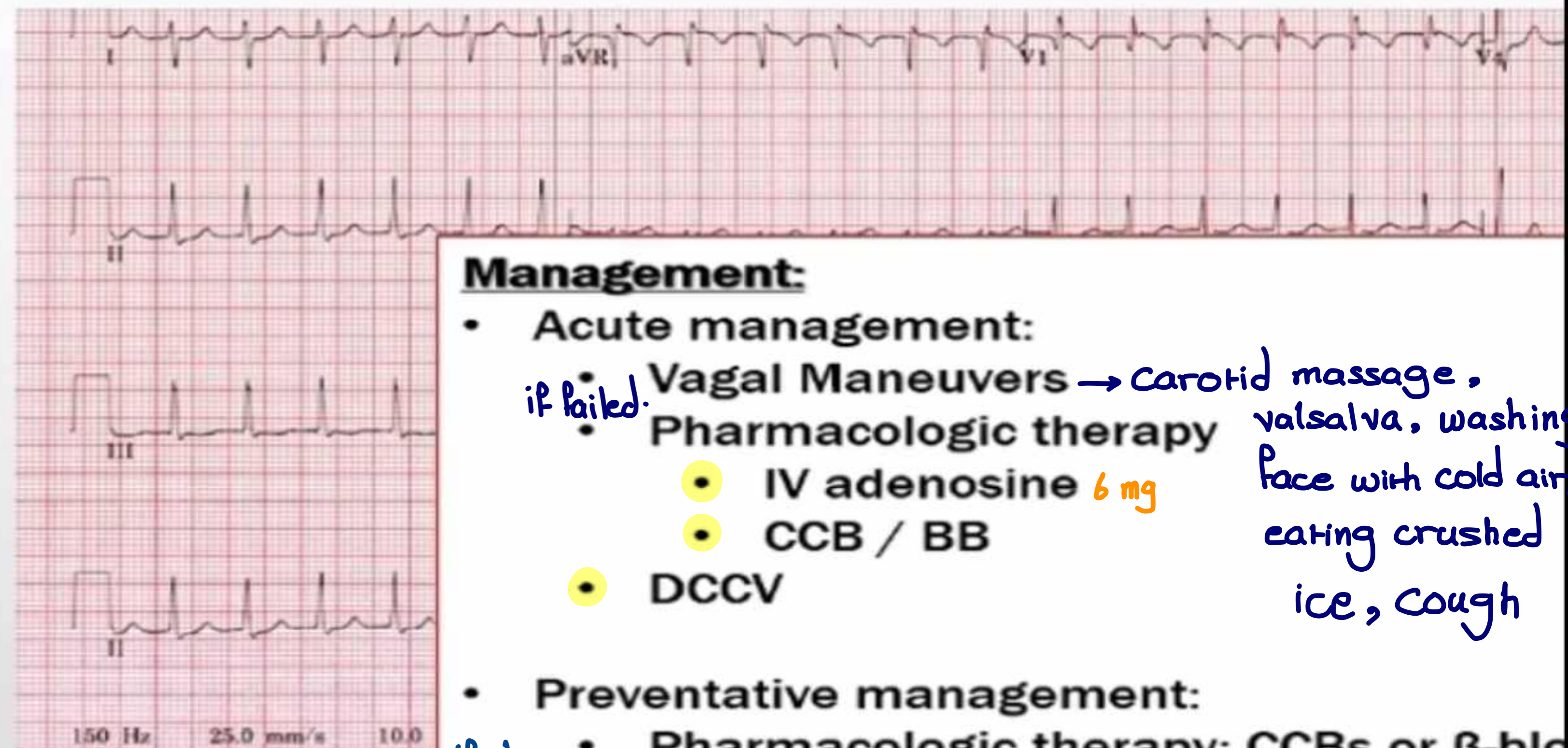
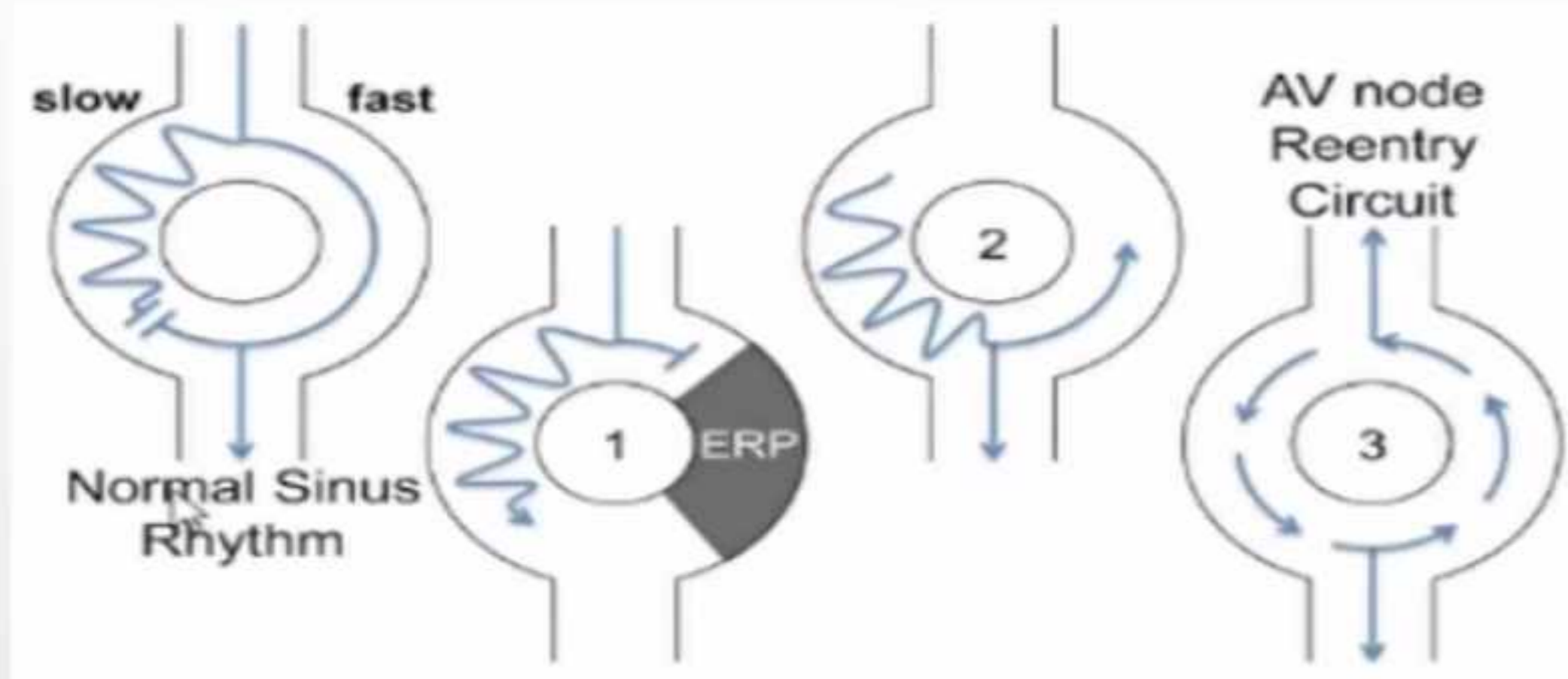
①

# SVT: AV Nodal Re-entrant Tachycardia (AVNRT)

short RP



# SVT: AV Nodal Re-entrant Tachycardia (AVNRT)

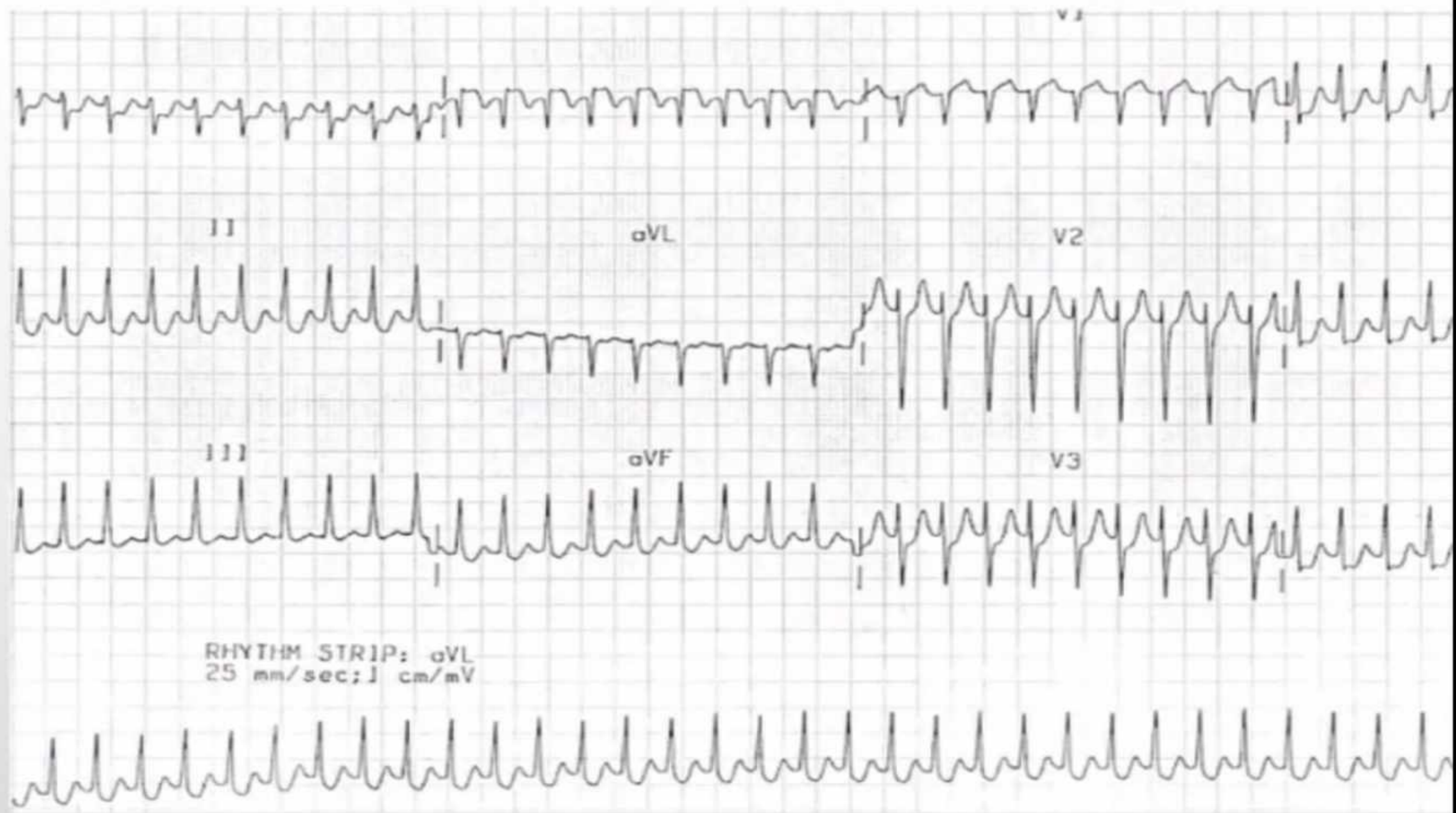
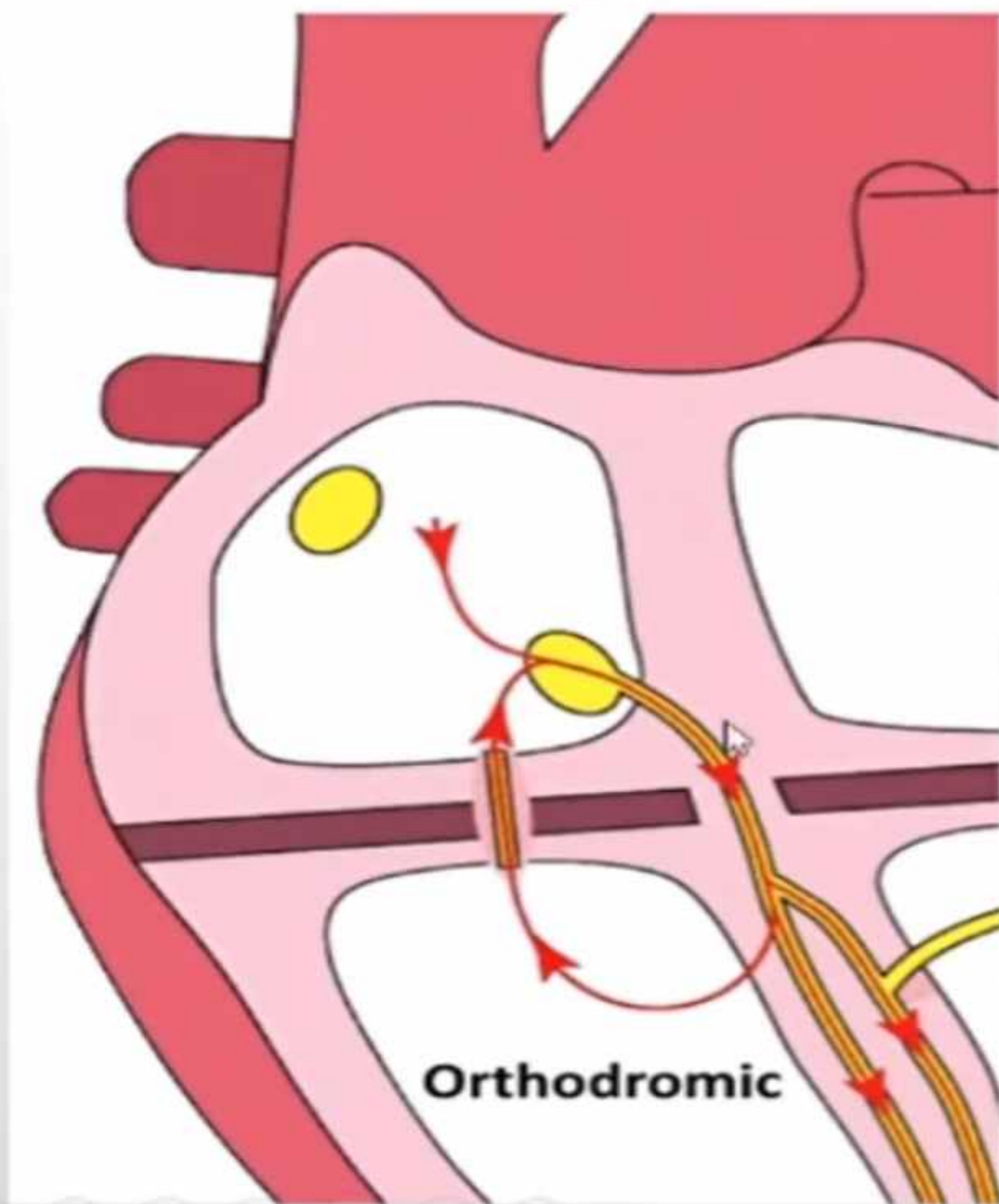


## Management:

- **Acute management:**
  - *if failed.* Vagal Maneuvers → carotid massage, valsalva, washing face with cold air, eating crushed ice, cough
  - Pharmacologic therapy
    - IV adenosine 6 mg
    - CCB / BB
    - DCCV
- **Preventative management:**
  - *if doesn't work.* Pharmacologic therapy: CCBs or  $\beta$ -blo
  - Ablation → we ablate one of the abnormal pathways

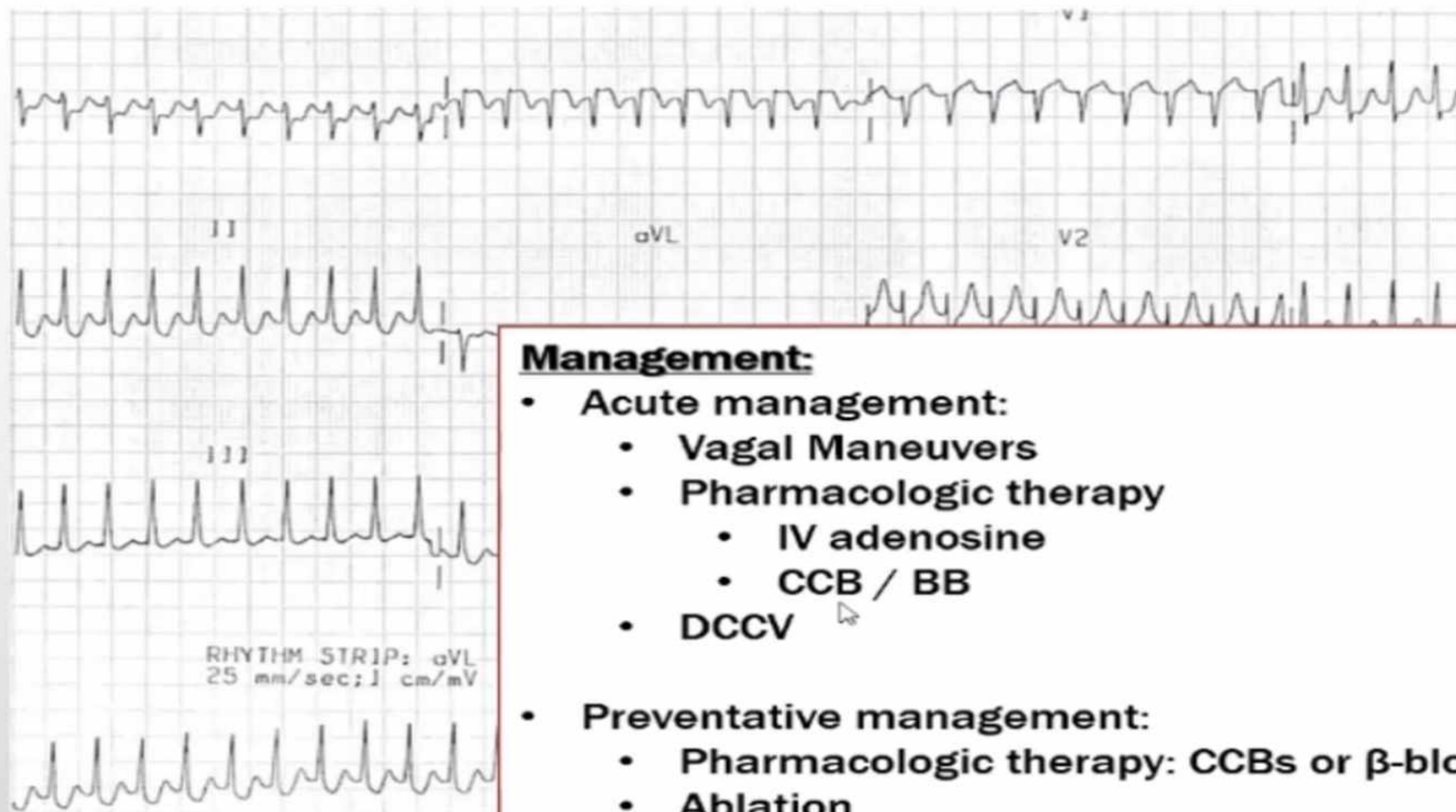
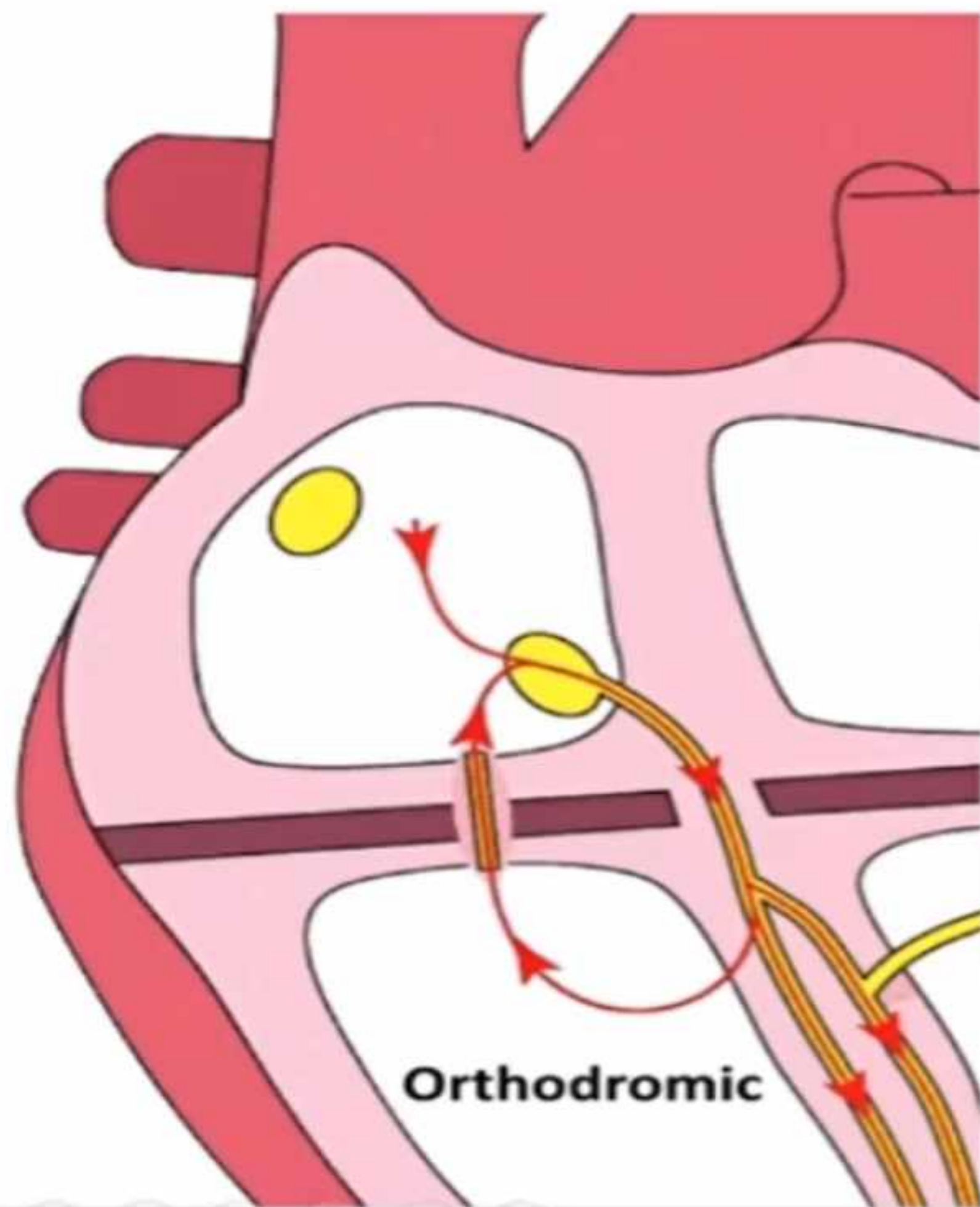
② → bcs the conduction is through the normal conduction system & it back retrograde in the accessory pathway  
**SVT: Orthodromic AV Re-entrant Tachycardia (AV)**

short RP



Macro re-entrery (sometimes it's hidden → called concealed)

# SVT: Orthodromic AV Re-entrant Tachycardia (AV)



## Management:

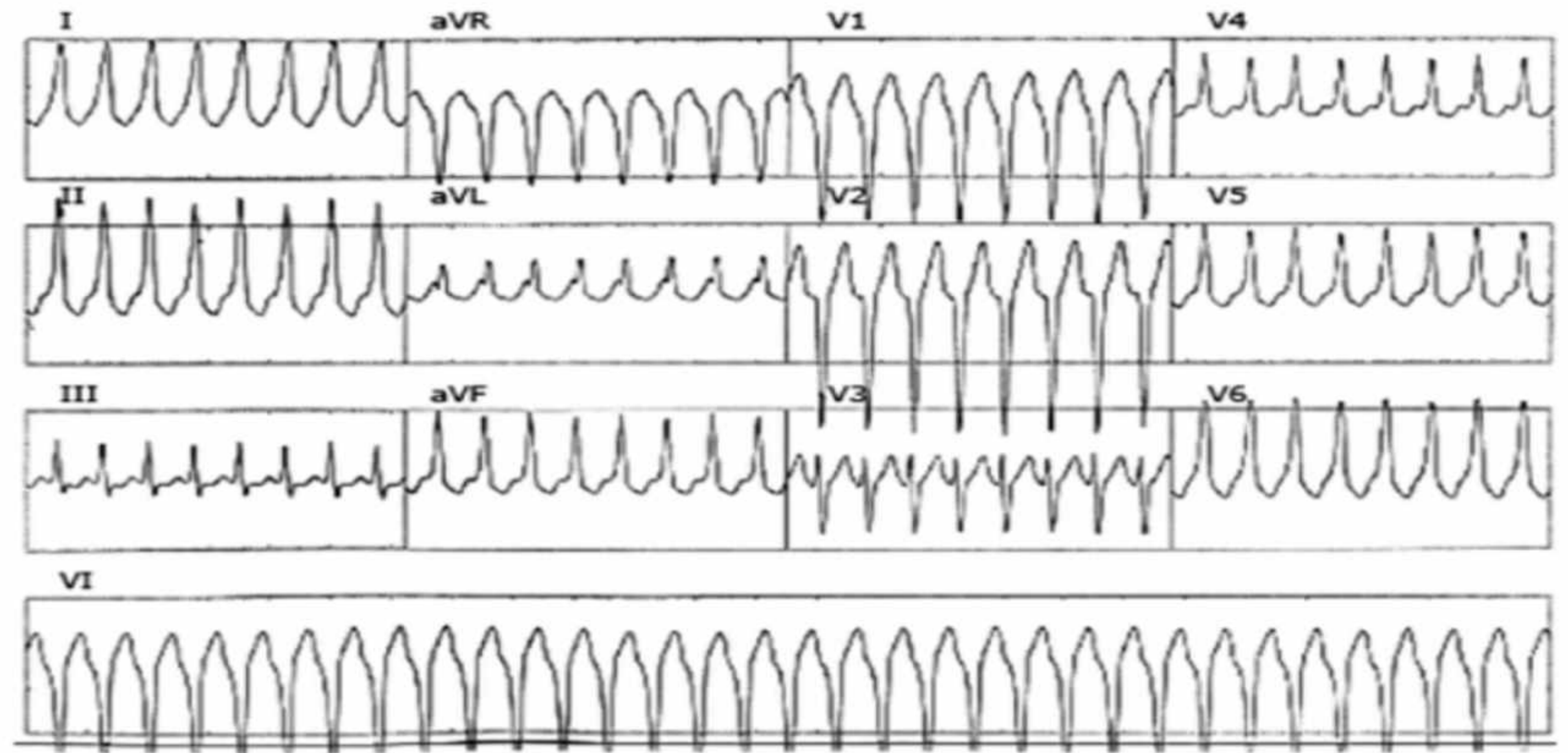
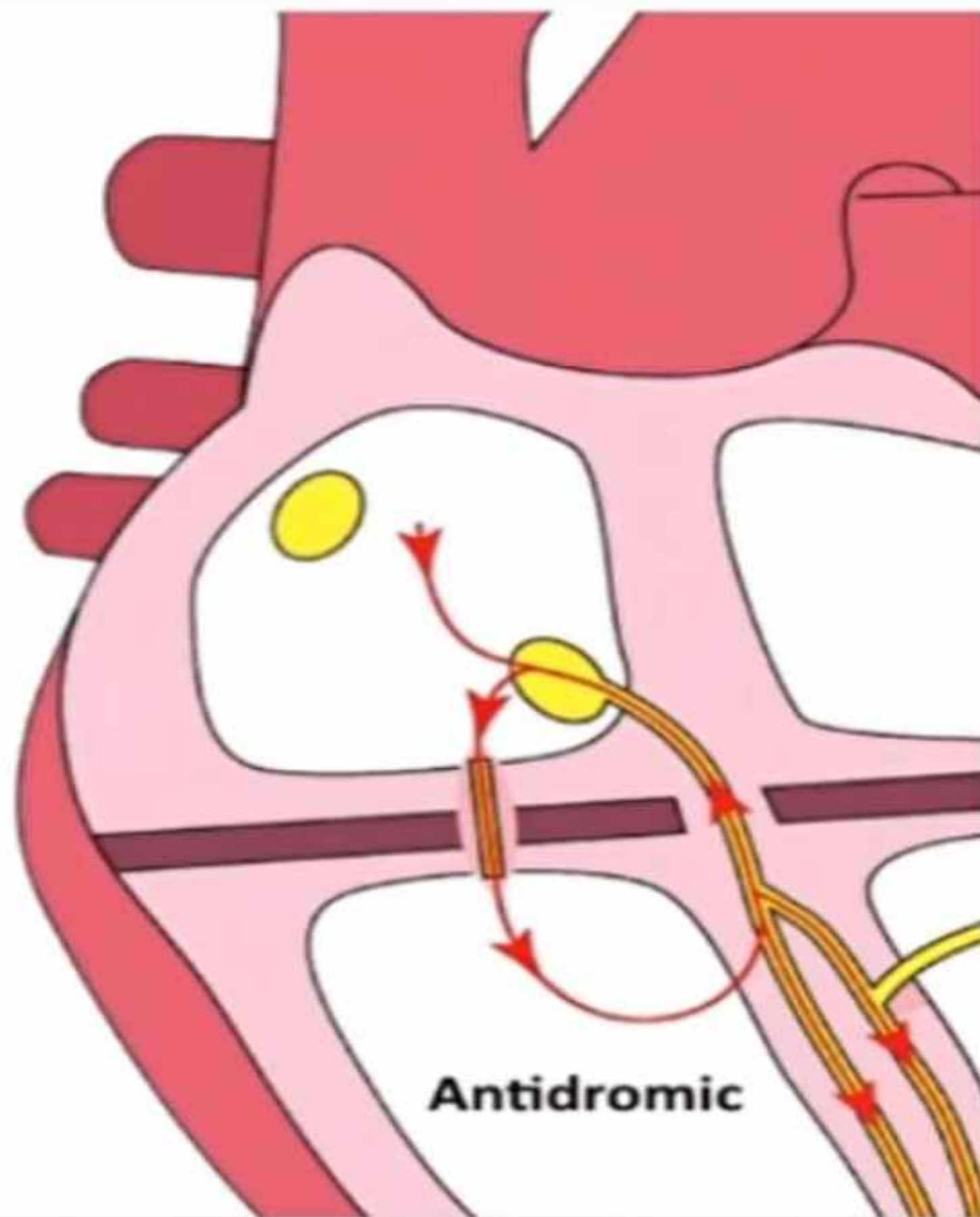
- Acute management:
  - Vagal Maneuvers
  - Pharmacologic therapy
    - IV adenosine
    - CCB / BB
  - DCCV
- Preventative management:
  - Pharmacologic therapy: CCBs or  $\beta$ -blo
  - Ablation



→ the conduction goes through the accessory pathway (antegrade) and then back up through the normal conduction system

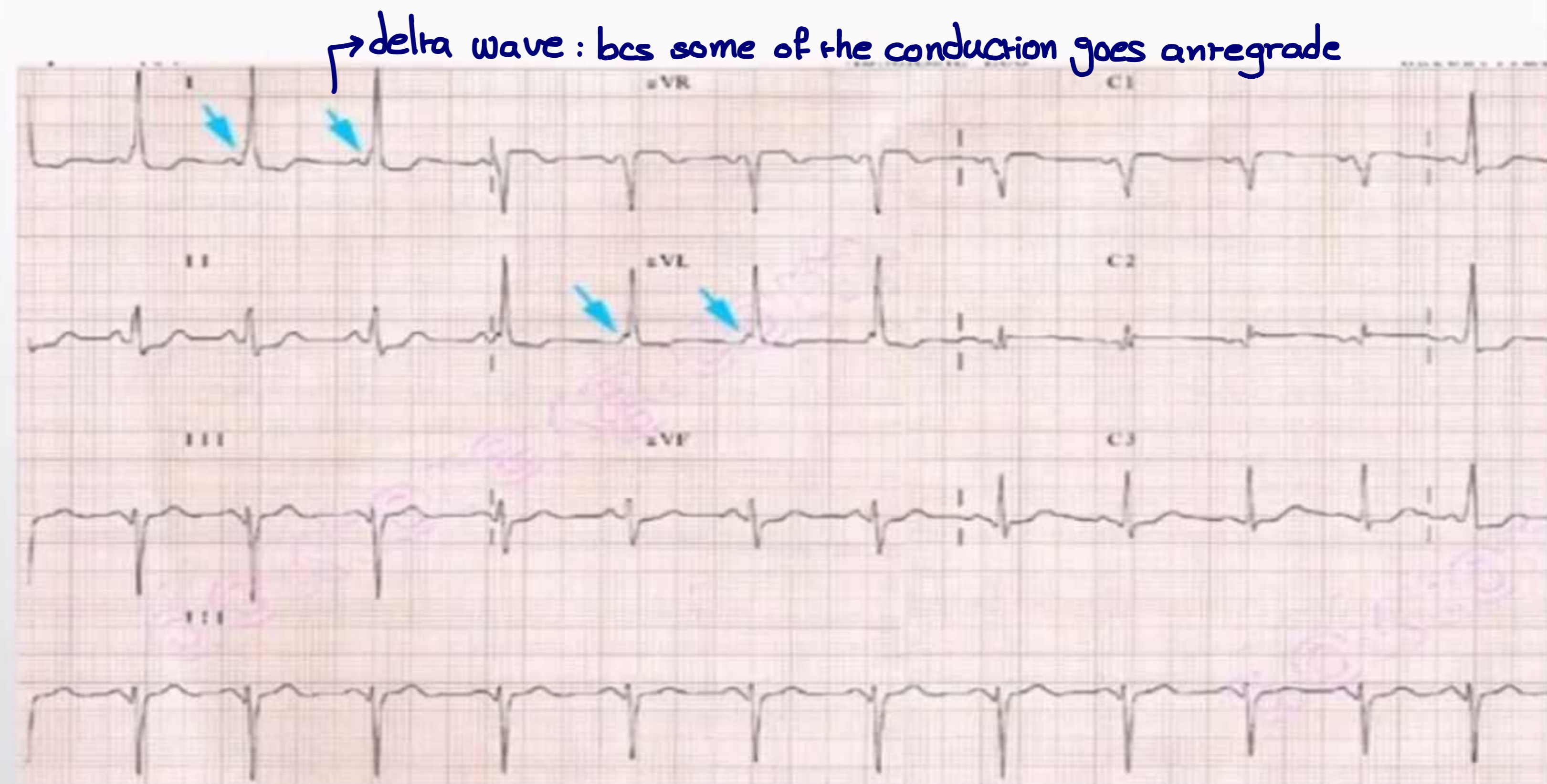
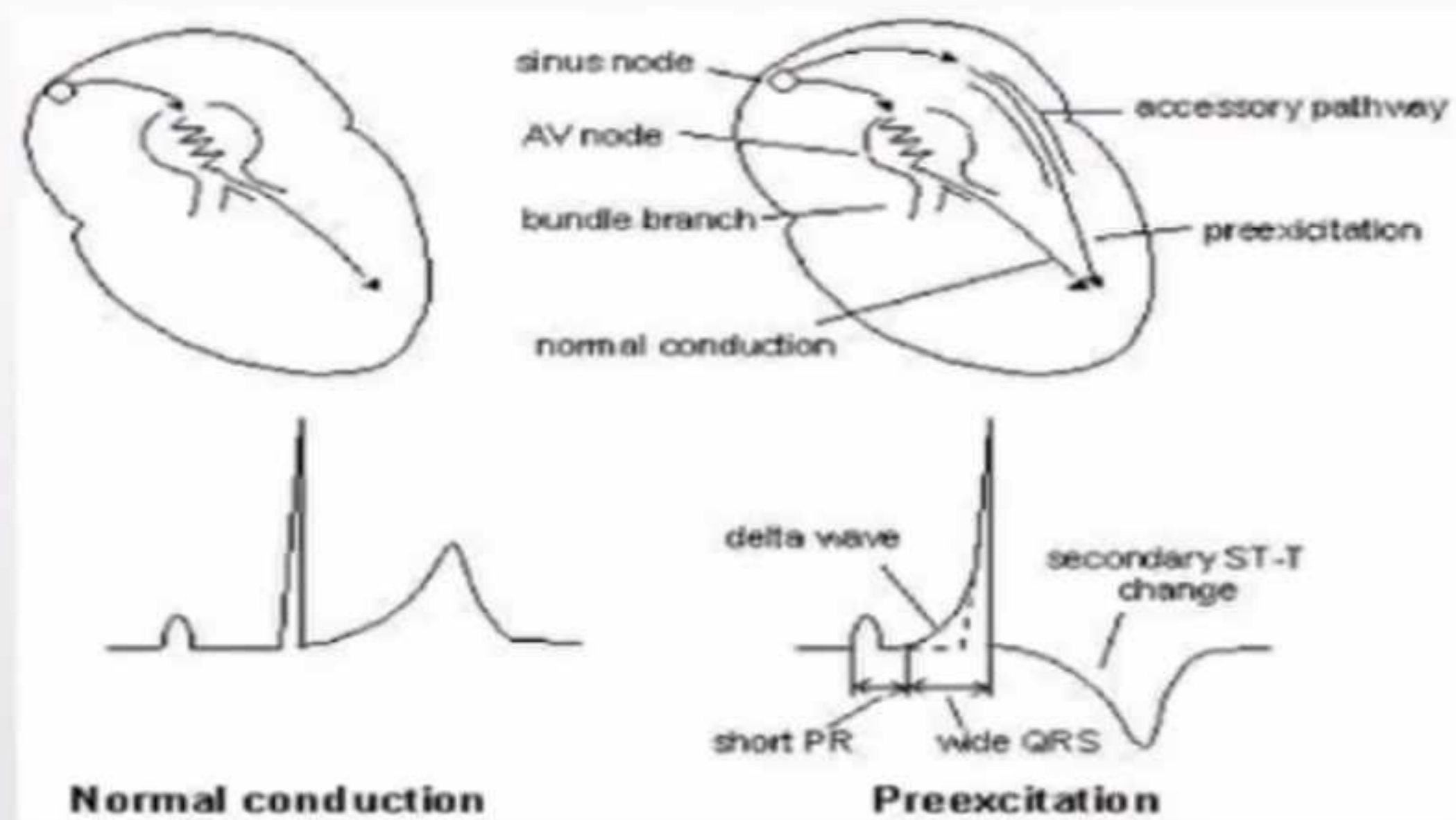
## SVT: Antidromic AV Re-entrant Tachycardia (AVRT)

↳ Wide complex tachycardia



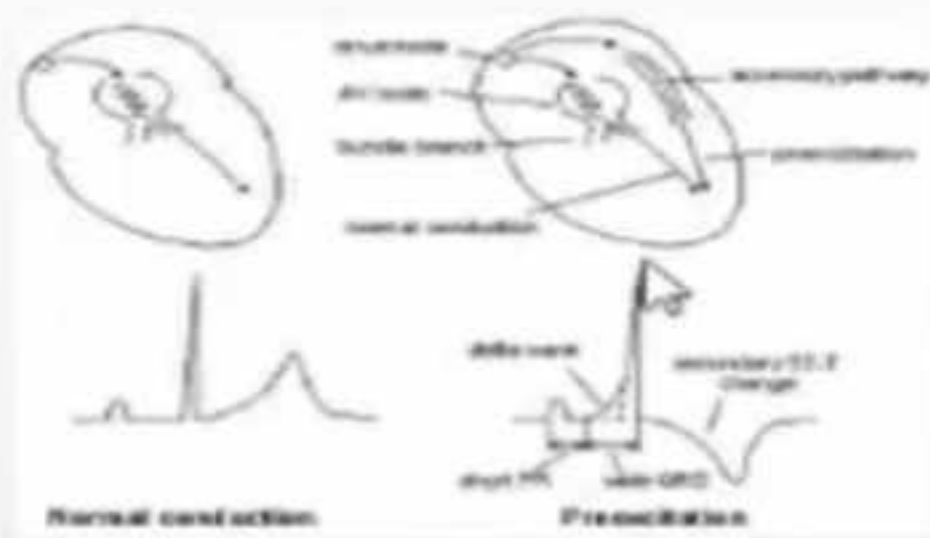
# SVT: Wolf Parkinson White Syndrome (WPW)

## Pre-excitation

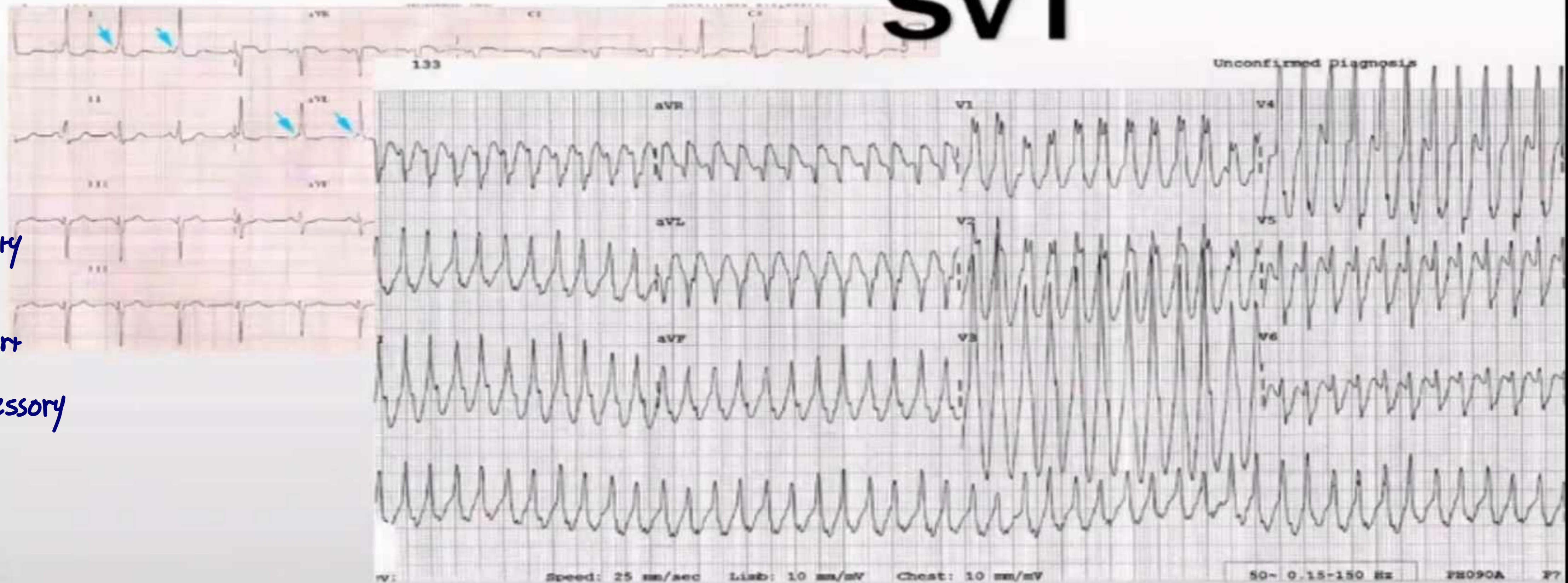


# SVT: Wolf Parkinson White Syndrome (WPW)

**Pre-excitation + SVT = WPW**

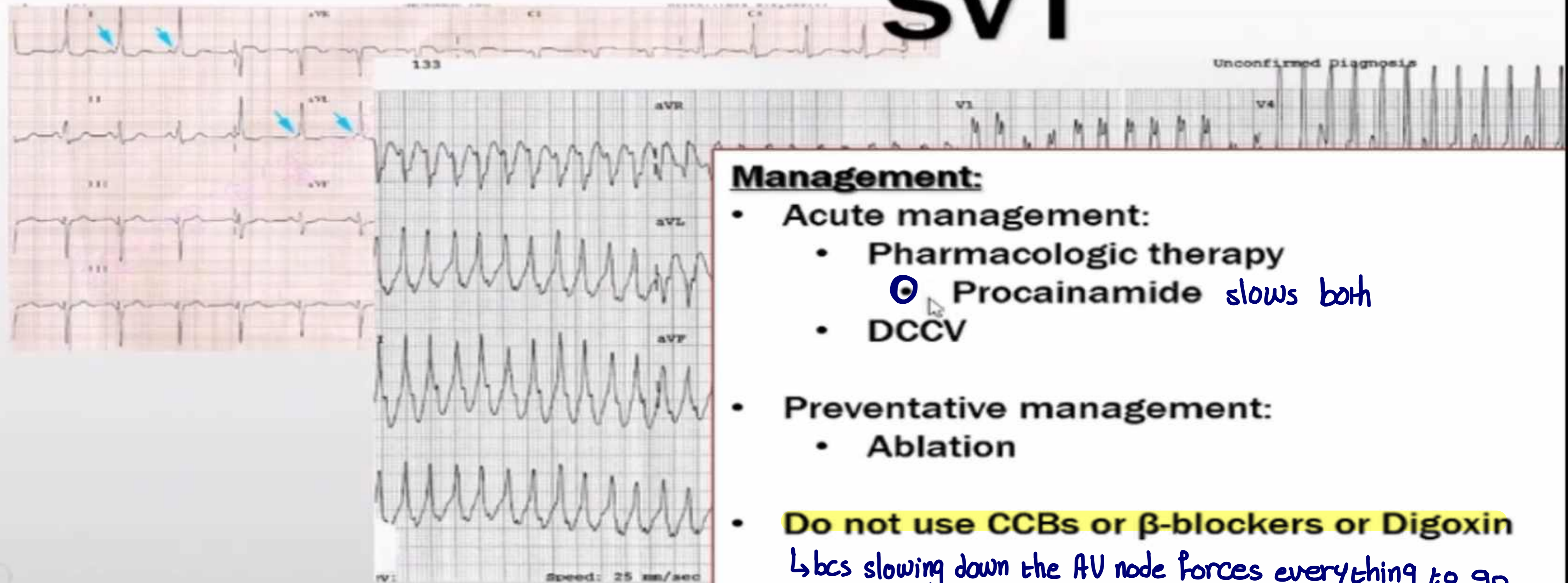
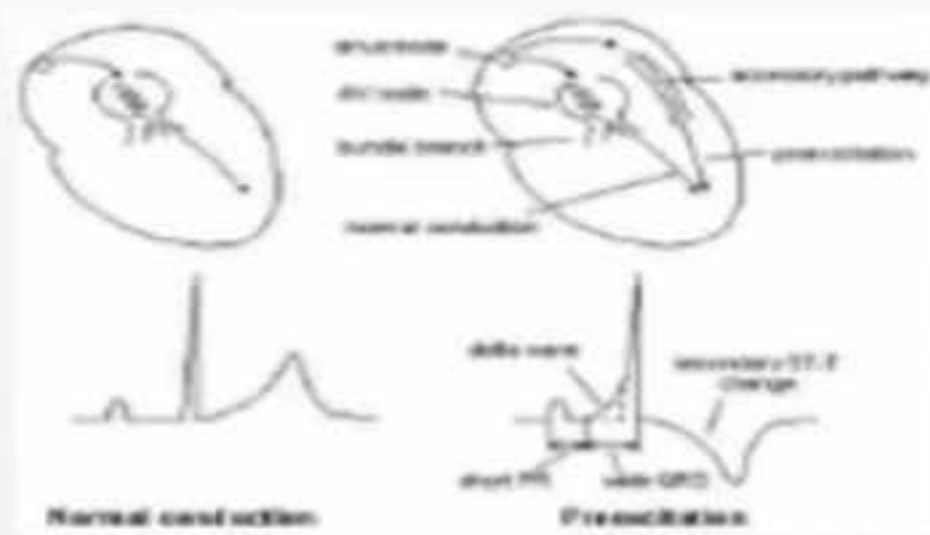


↳ part of the atrial activity goes down the normal conduction system & part of it goes down the accessory pathway



# SVT: Wolf Parkinson White Syndrome (WPW)

Pre-excitation + SVT = WPW



## Management:

- Acute management:
  - Pharmacologic therapy
    - Procainamide slows both
  - DCCV
- Preventative management:
  - Ablation
- Do not use CCBs or  $\beta$ -blockers or Digoxin
  - ↳ bcs slowing down the AV node forces everything to go down the accessory which will increase the arrhythmia

# Ventricular Tachycardia (VT)

- **Causes:**

- Ischemia
- CAD with prior MI is the most common cause
- Cardiomyopathies
- Ventricular scar tissue had MI before , underwent surgery
- Congenital defects
- Long QT syndrome Congenital (problem in repolarization)
- Electrolyte Abnormalities
- Drug toxicity (antiemetics, antipsychotics, SSRIs, TCAs, **macrolide** and **fluoroquinolone** antibiotics)

\* Mostly they are  
Causes of monomorphic

↳ Levofloxacin

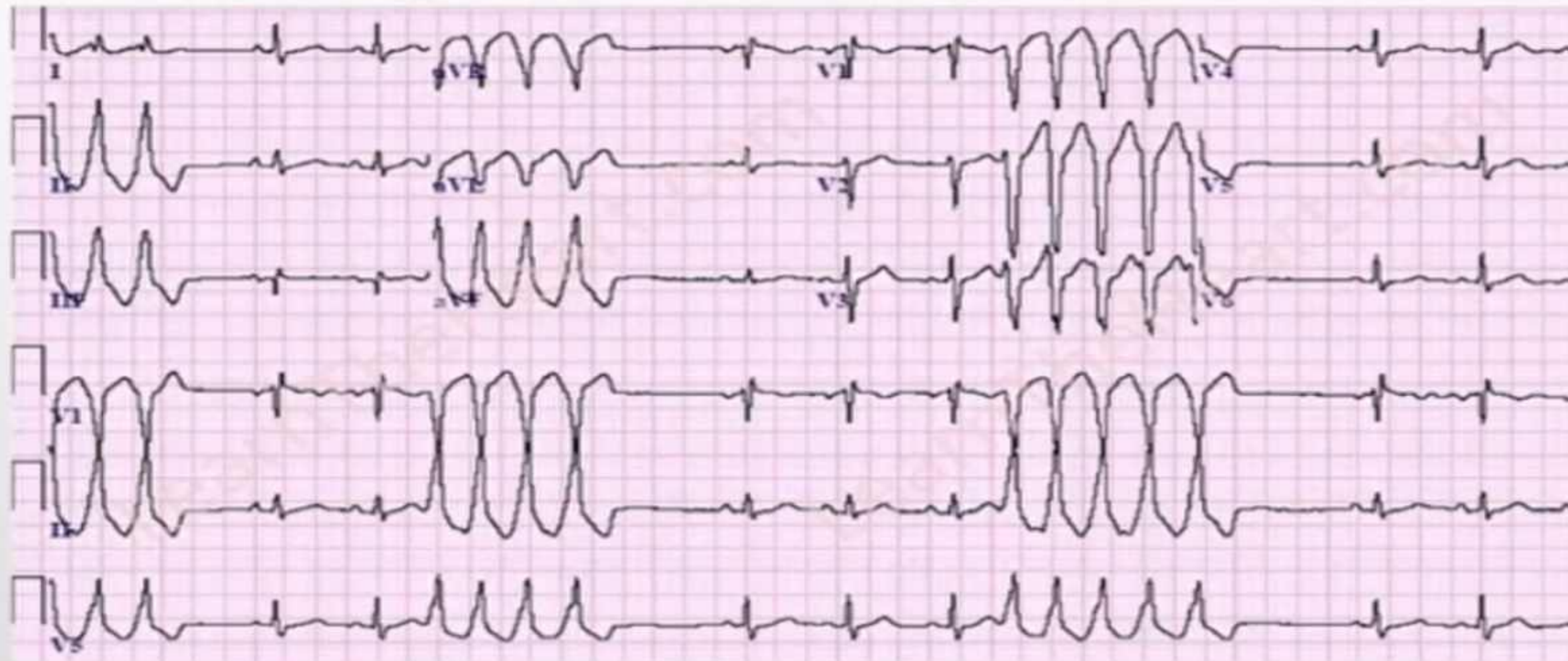
↳ Azithromycin

# Ventricular Tachycardia (VT)

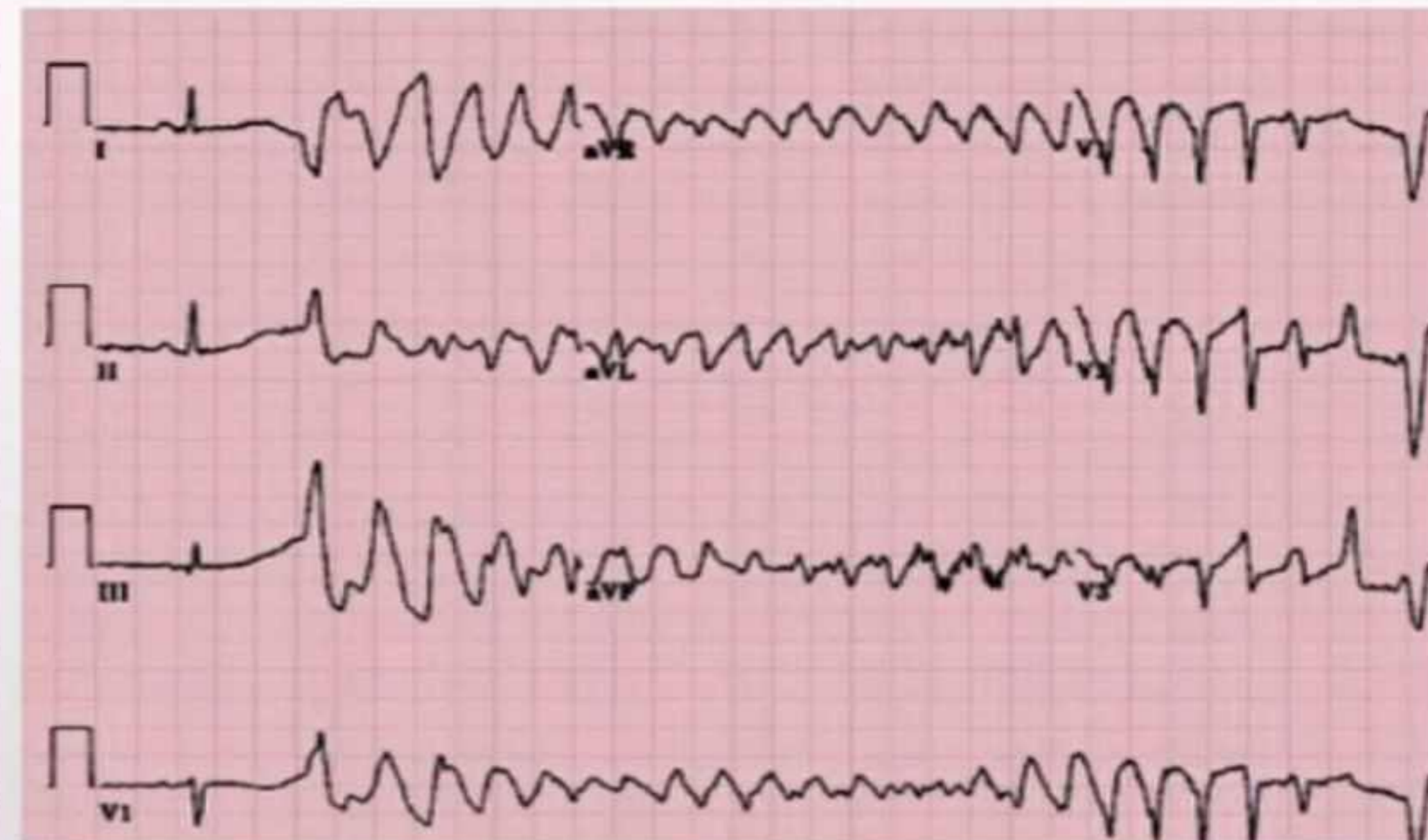
- Non-Sustained Ventricular Tachycardia (NSVT): < 30 seconds

if >30 seconds → sustained

## Monomorphic



## Polymorphic



↳ Causes: \*prolonged QT issues

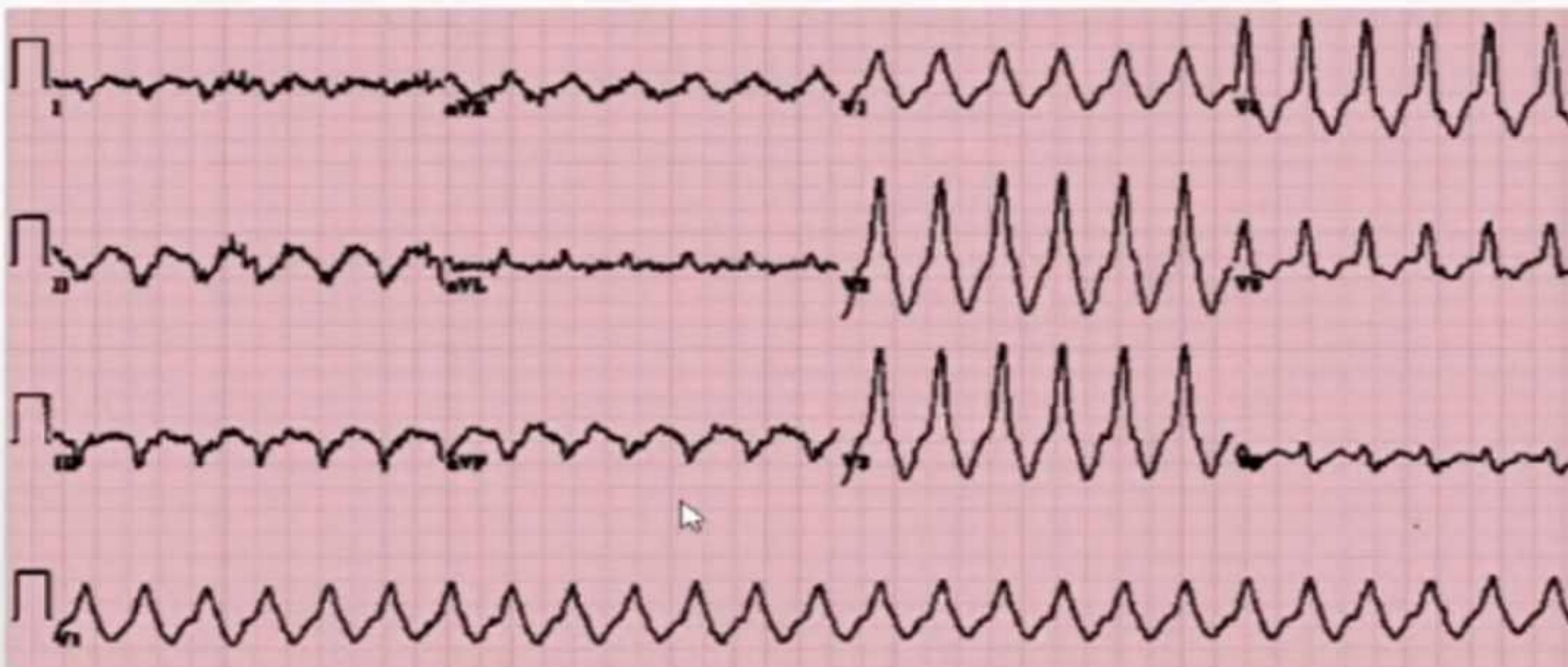
\*Hypomagnisemia

↳ if >30 seconds + polymorphic → Torsades de pointes

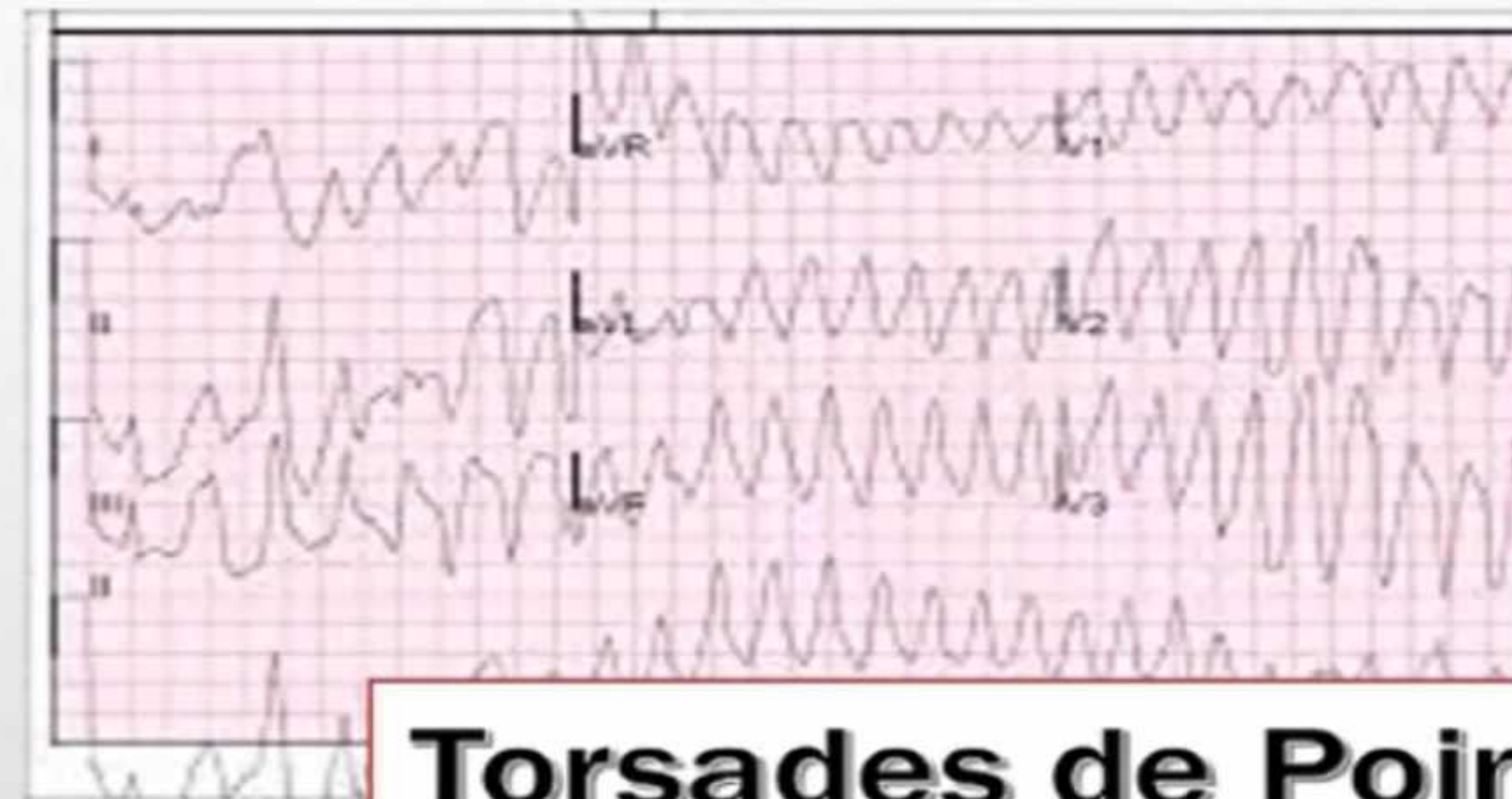
# Ventricular Tachycardia (VT)

- Sustained Ventricular Tachycardia (NSVT): > 30 seconds

## Monomorphic



## Polymorphic



**Stable vs. Unstable?**

# Ventricular Tachycardia (VT) - Stable

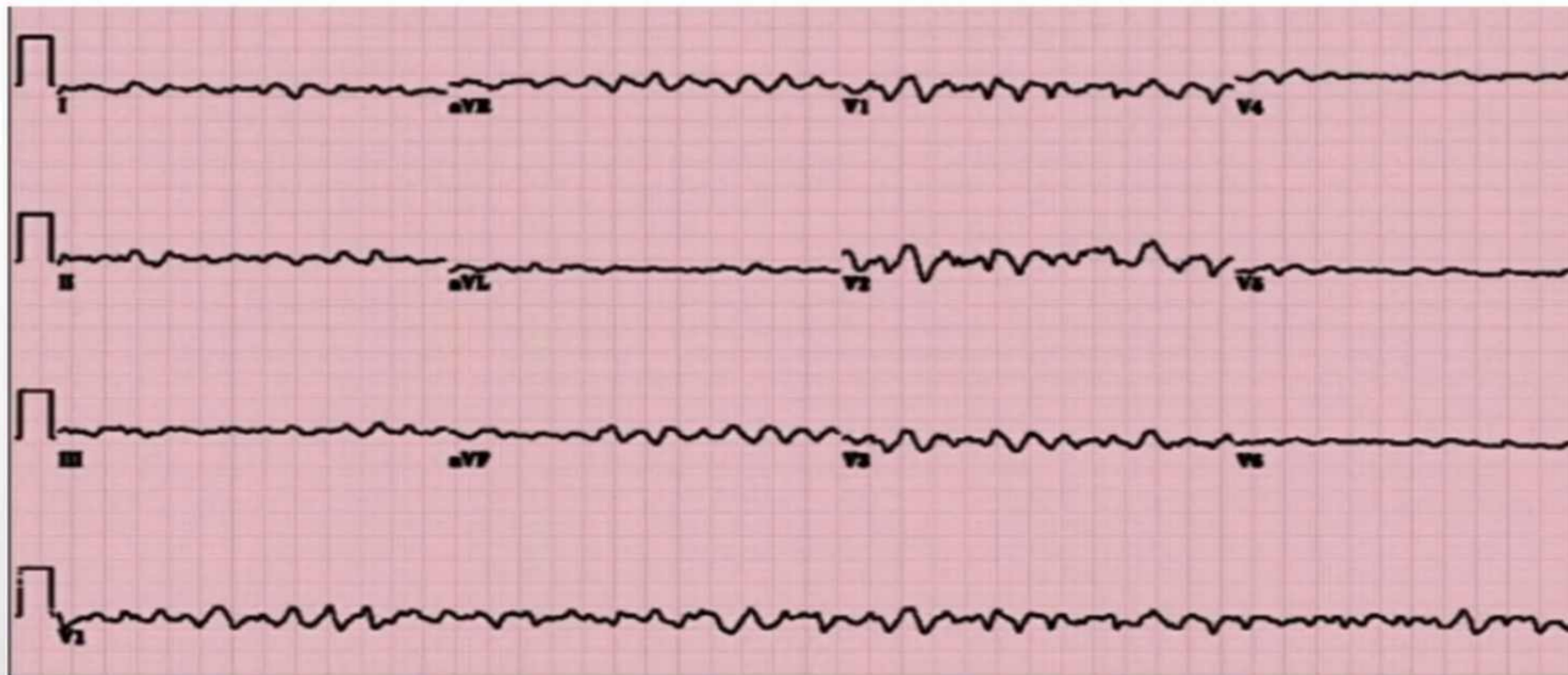
## Management:

- Acute management:
  - Treat the underlying cause:
    - Ischemia
    - Correct Electrolyte Abnormalities
    - Remove Drug +/- Antidote
  - Pharmacological Therapy:
    - IV Amiodarone
  - DCCV
- Preventative management:
  - Consider ICD
  - Consider EPS → to ablate the area of tachycardia



# Ventricular Vibrilation (VF)

Medical emergency  
Code blue  
Defibrillate immediately



**Code**  
**Defibrill**

-is the pt. awake?  
if yes make sure it's not an  
artifact

**& Unstable Sustained V**

# Bradyarrhythmias



# Bradycardia

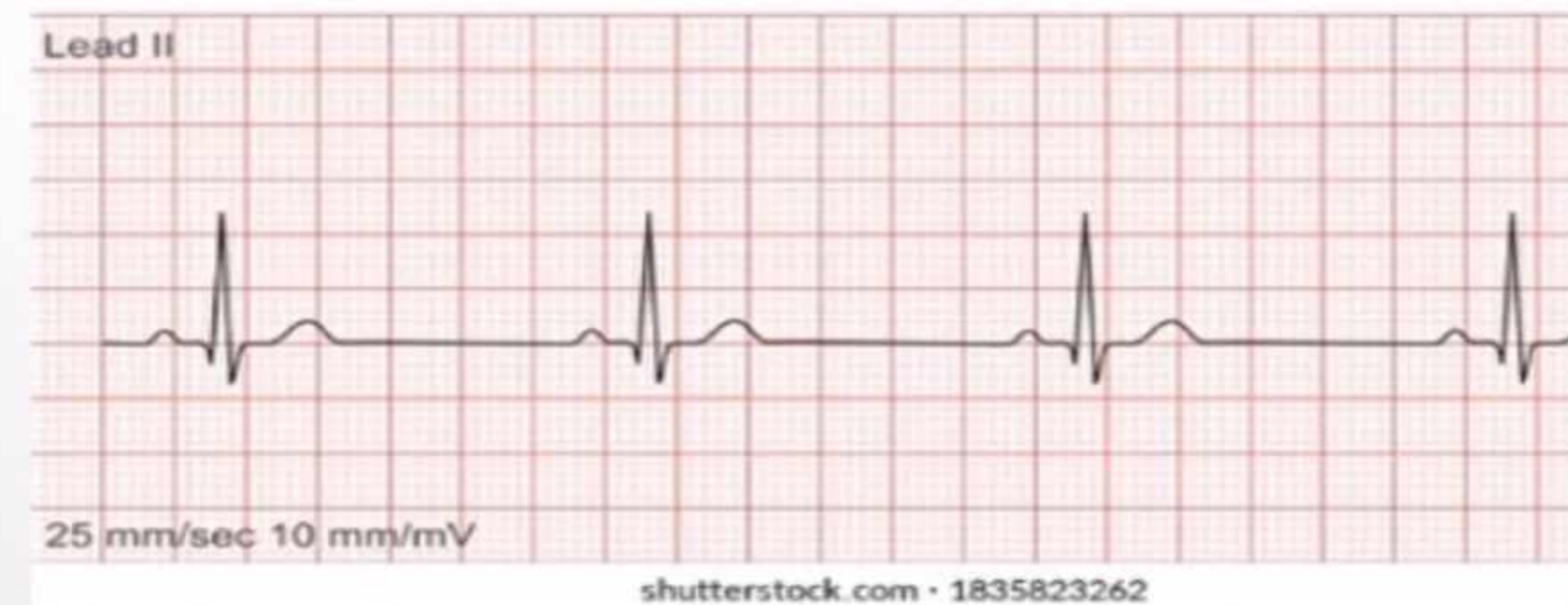
- Sinus Bradycardia
- Sick Sinus Syndrome (SSS)
- Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree
    - Mobitz Type I (Wenckebach)
    - Mobitz Type II
    - 2:1 Block
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree (Complete)
- Pacemakers & Cardiac Devices

# Sinus Bradycardia

- Rate < 60 bpm
- Causes:
  - Ischemia
  - Increased Vagal tone *could be due to stress, pain*
  - **Structural Heart Disease (Infiltrative, IE, ACHD)**
  - Medications  $\beta$ -blockers, CCBs, digoxin
  - Athletes

*300 / 6 = 50*

## Sinus Bradycardia



Clinical Status	Management
Asymptomatic	Observation
Symptomatic (Fatigue, Exercise Intolerance, Angina, Dizziness, Syncope)	Rx Cause Acute: Atropine / B Agonist (Acute Pacemaker) ↳ Like vasopressor: dopamine, isoproterenol ↳ old people/ consistent

# Sick Sinus Syndrome (SSS) Electrical system olding

↳ Tachy-Brady syndrome ↳ SA pauses blocks ↳ advanced age ↳ usually they have marked sinus bradycardia

## ▪ SA Dysfunction



## ▪ Management:

- Pacemaker placement

**Occurs with advanced age**  
**Marked Persistent Sinus Bradycardia**  
**SA Pauses and Blocks**  
**Frequently associated with Tachy-Br**  
**Usually co-exists with AV nodal disea**

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

Above the AV node, very innocent

- 1<sup>st</sup> Degree AV Block *Almost normal looking*
  - Prolonged PR Interval > 0.2 second *> 1 big square*
  - No dropped beats (No P without QRS)

- Causes:**
- Ischemia
  - Increased Vagal tone
  - Structural Heart Disease (Infiltration)
  - Medications



Management:

Clinical Status	Management
Asymptomatic	Observation
Symptomatic (Fatigue, Exercise Intolerance, Angina, Dizziness, Syncope)	Rx Cause Atropine / B Agonist (Acu) Pacemaker

First degree AV Block → missed

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree AV Block – Mobitz Type I (Wenckebach)
  - Progressive PR Prolongation followed by a dropped QRS

### Causes:

- Ischemia
- Increased
- Structural
- Medicatio



- Management:

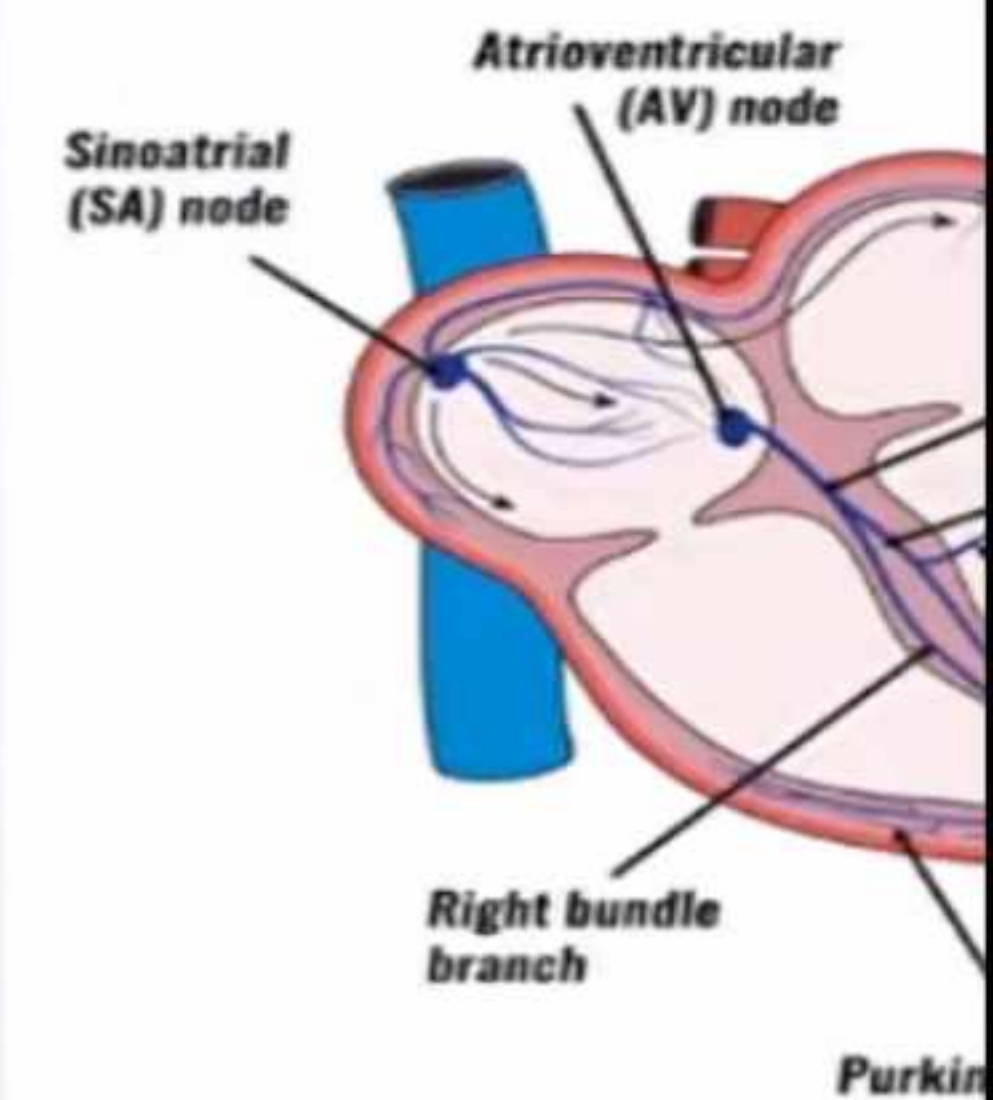
Clinical Status	Management
Asymptomatic	Observation
Symptomatic (Fatigue, Exercise Intolerance, Angina, Dizziness, Syncope)	Rx Cause Atropine / B Agonist (Acu Pacemaker

↳ last thing to do

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

High risk

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree AV Block – Mobitz Type II
  - <sup>Not</sup> Progressive PR Prolongation followed by a dropped QRS
    - ↳ It's Fixed Prolonged PR and then dropped QRS



- Management:
  - Pacemaker placement indicated
    - ↳ early, whether symptomatic or not



# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Degree AV Block (2:1 Block)** *I can't determine if it's type I or II*
  - Alternating conducted QRS followed by a dropped QRS



- **Management:**
  - Needs further evaluation
    - ↳ *More prolonged monitoring*

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

↳ Complete heart block      ↳ Complete dissociation btw the p waves & QRSs

↳ narrow (if from the junction, bundle of his)  
↳ Wide (if from the ventricle)

$P_s > QRS_s$

in V tachy →  $QRS > P$

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree AV Block

- P > QRS
- AV Dissociation

- Management:

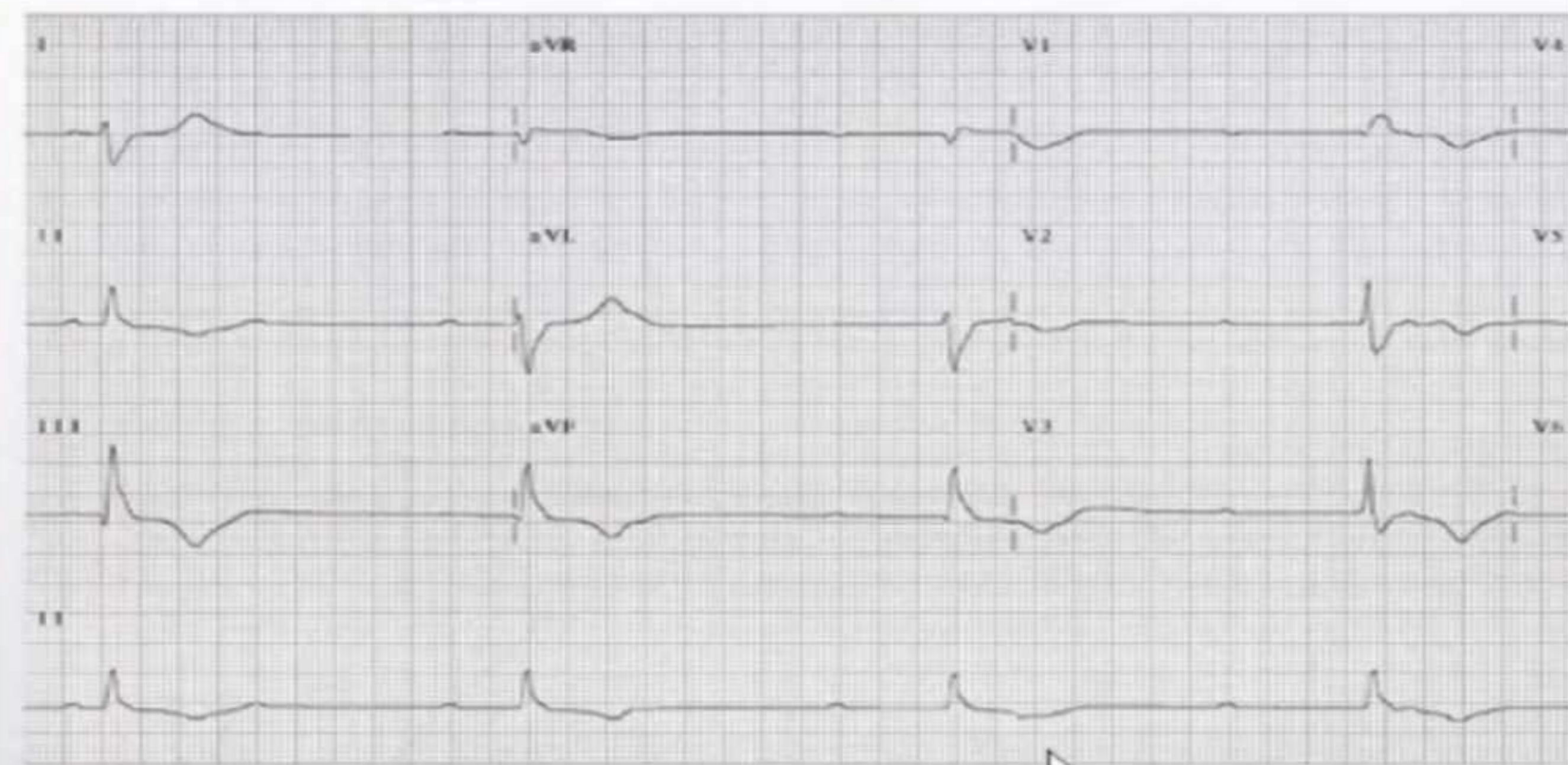
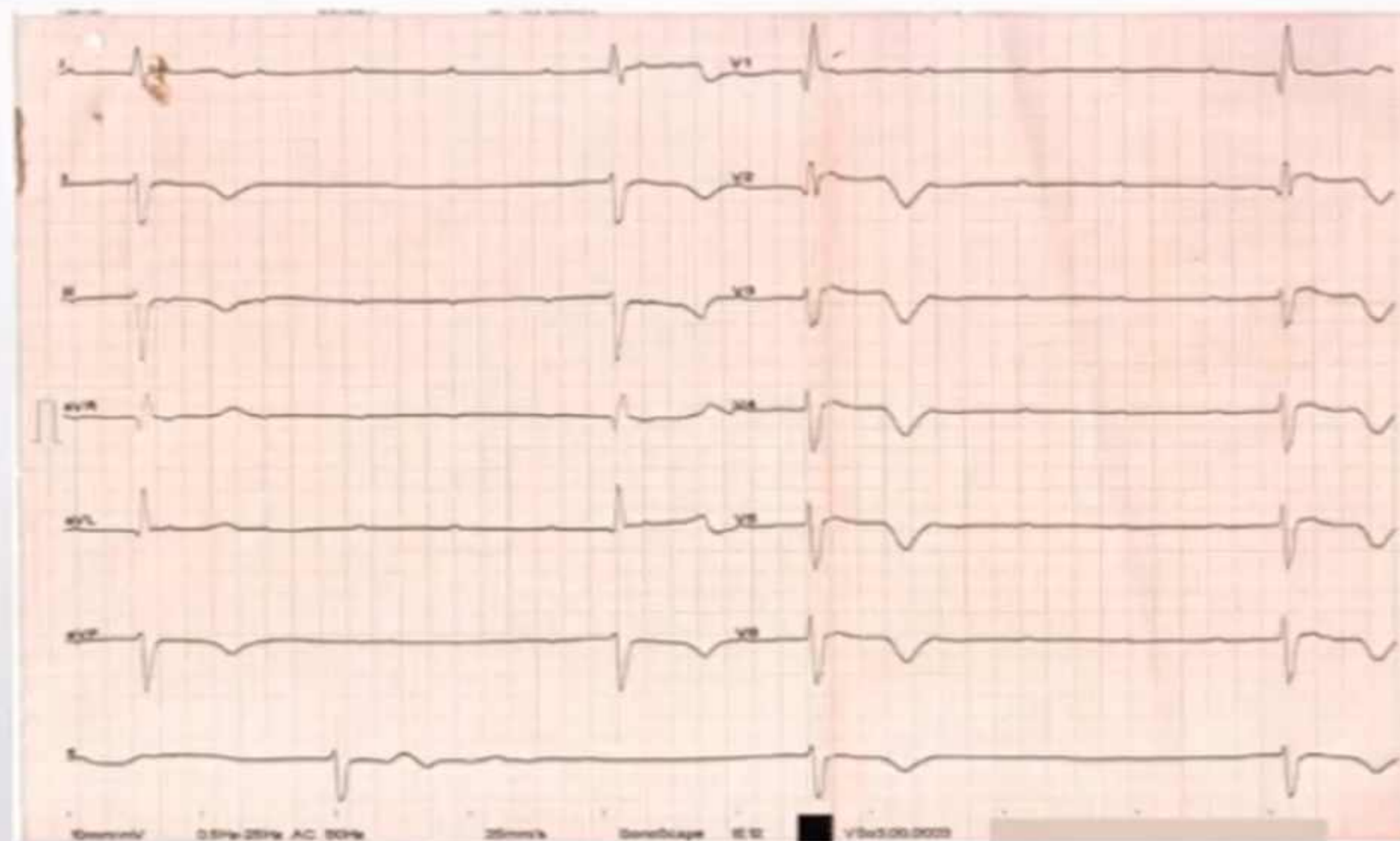
- Medical Emergency
- ↳ Emergent Pacer placement



↳ narrow QRS

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree AV Block



↳ Wide QRS

# Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Block

## ▪ 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree AV Block

↳ no p waves → mostly an artifact

↳ here, QRSs are regular in a patient who has baseline AFib (it was irregular and then changed to regular) → he developed a complete heart block on top of his AFib which caused a junctional escape.



↳ but he didn't convert bcs there is no p wave

↳ very important sign of digoxin toxicity which is given to treat AFib → could develop renal failure → become dig. toxic → change from irregular to regular

# Pacemakers & Cardiac Device

## فترة قصيرة Temporary

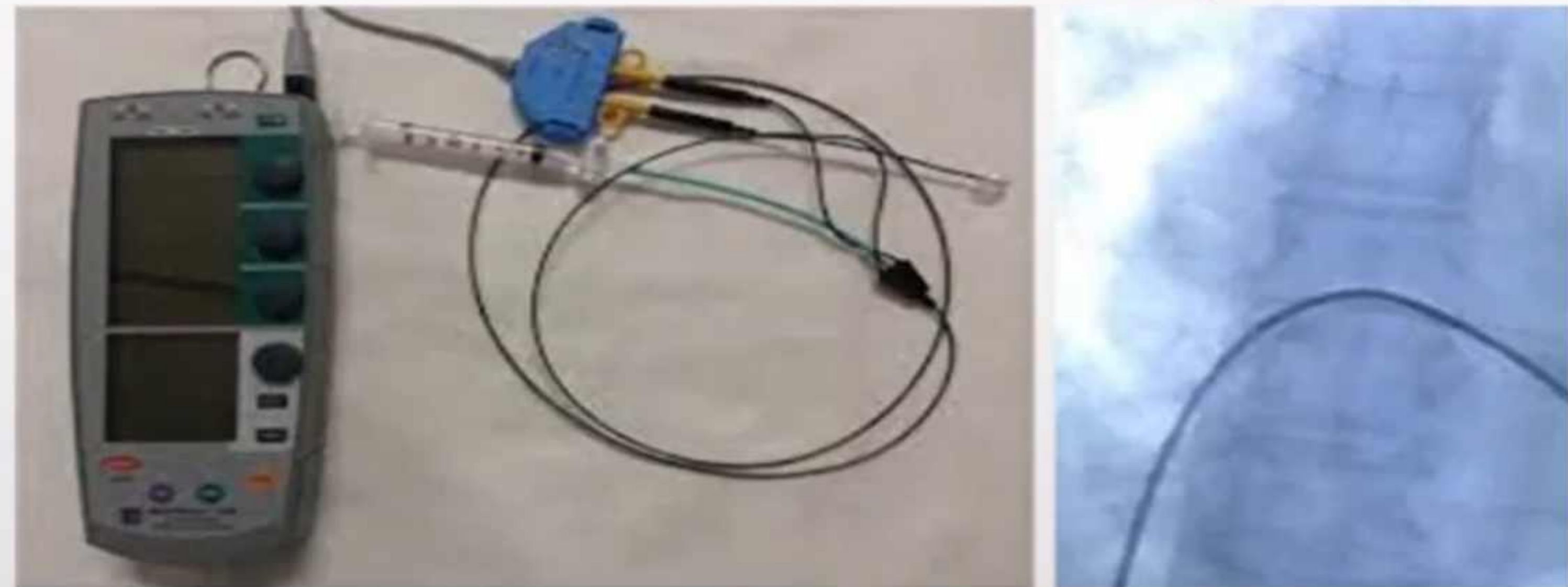
### Transcutaneous



- ↳ for extreme emergency
- ↳ very painful
- ↳ not reliable

life saving  
until you  
get →

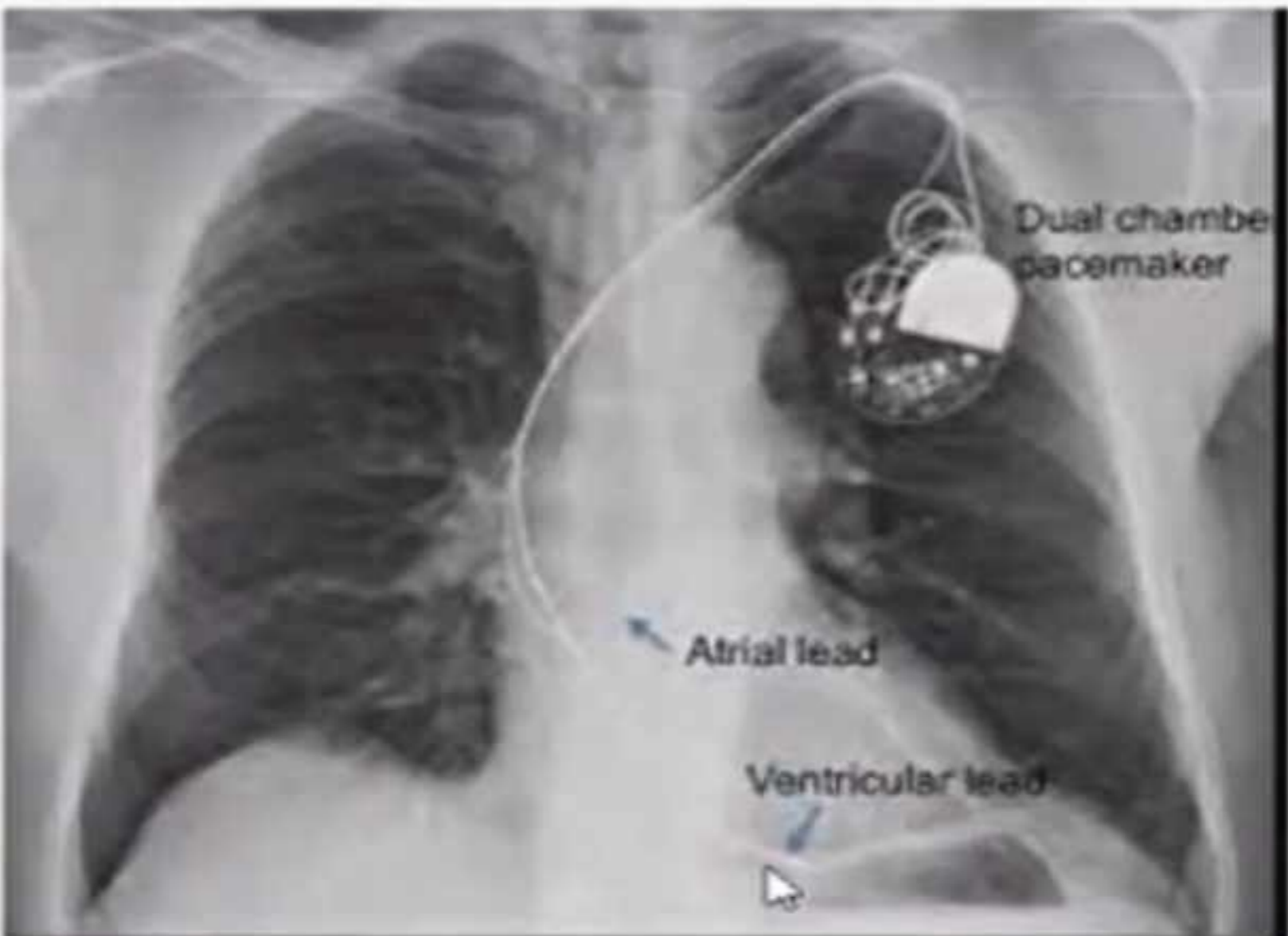
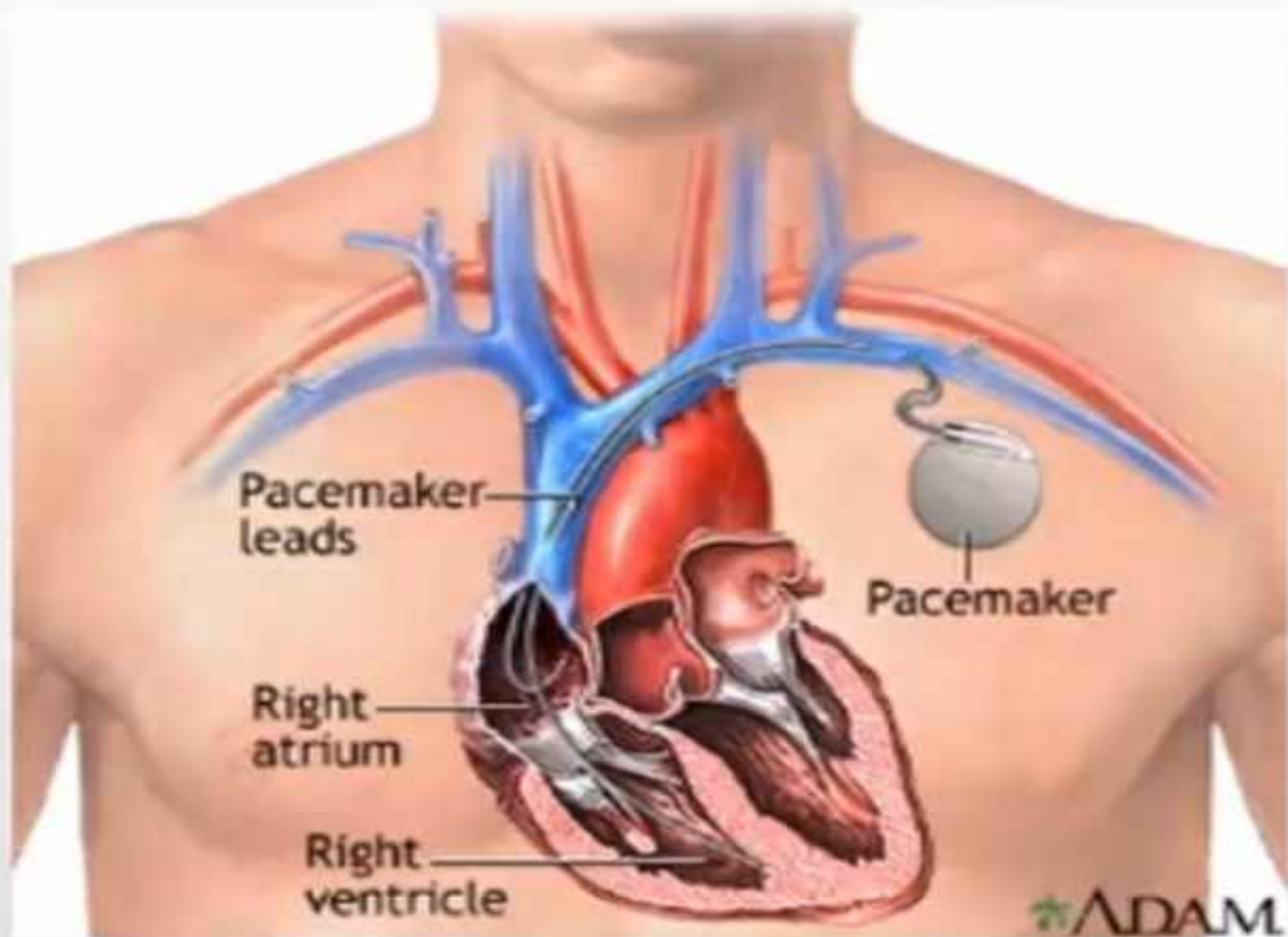
### Transvenous (TVP)



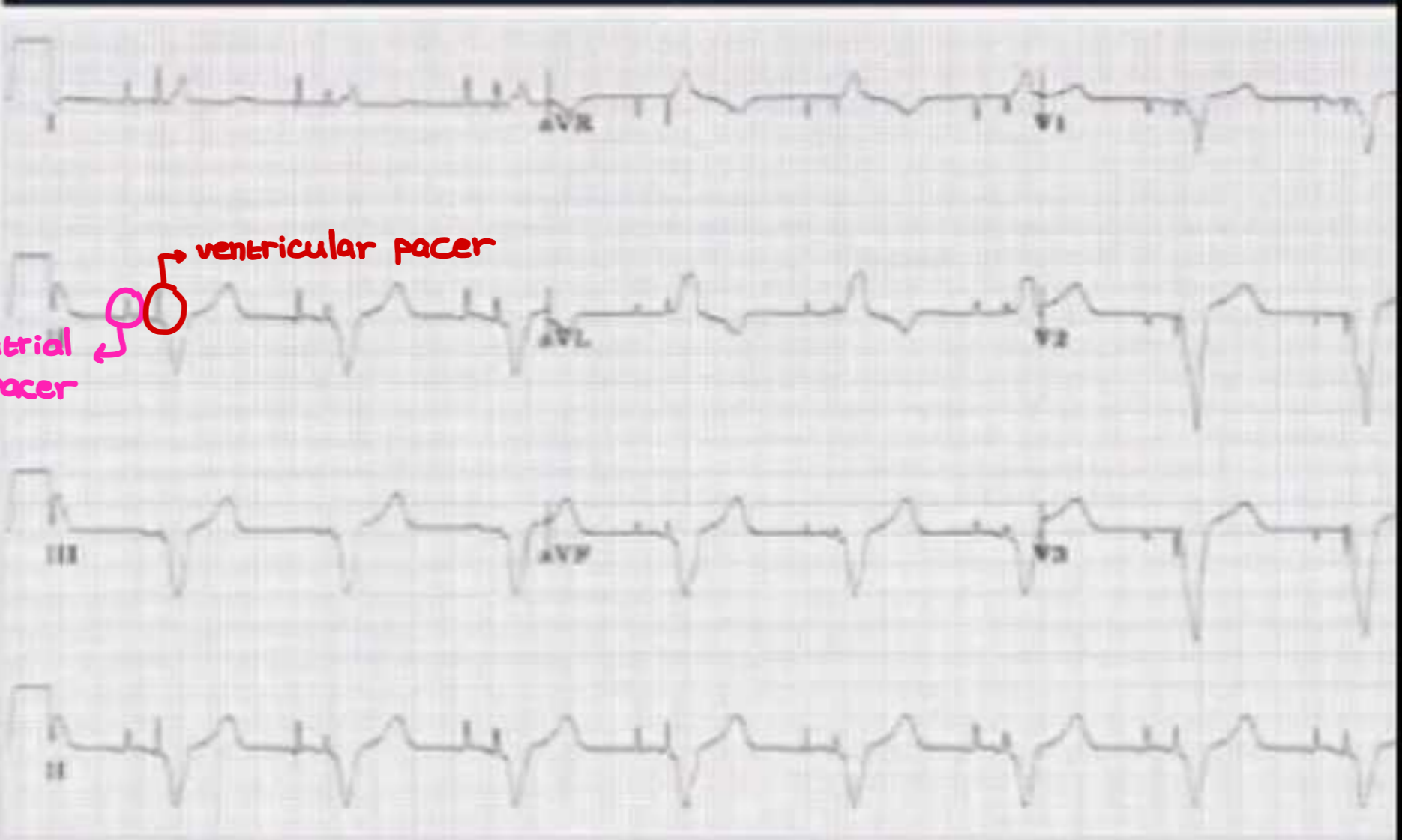
- ↳ used especially if there is a reversible cause

# Pacemakers & Cardiac Devices

## Permanent Pacemaker (PPM)



Letter 1	Letter 2	Letter 3	Letter 4
Chamber Paced	Chamber Sensed	Sensing Response	Programm
A = Atrium	A = Atrium	T = Triggered	P = Sim
V = Ventricle	V = Ventricle	I = Inhibited	M = Multiprogram
D = Dual	D = Dual	D = Dual (Inhibits Both the Atrium & Ventricle)	R = Rate Ad
O = None	O = None	O = None	O = No



↳ Could be single / dual chamber  
 ↳ Mostly used in bradyarrhythmias

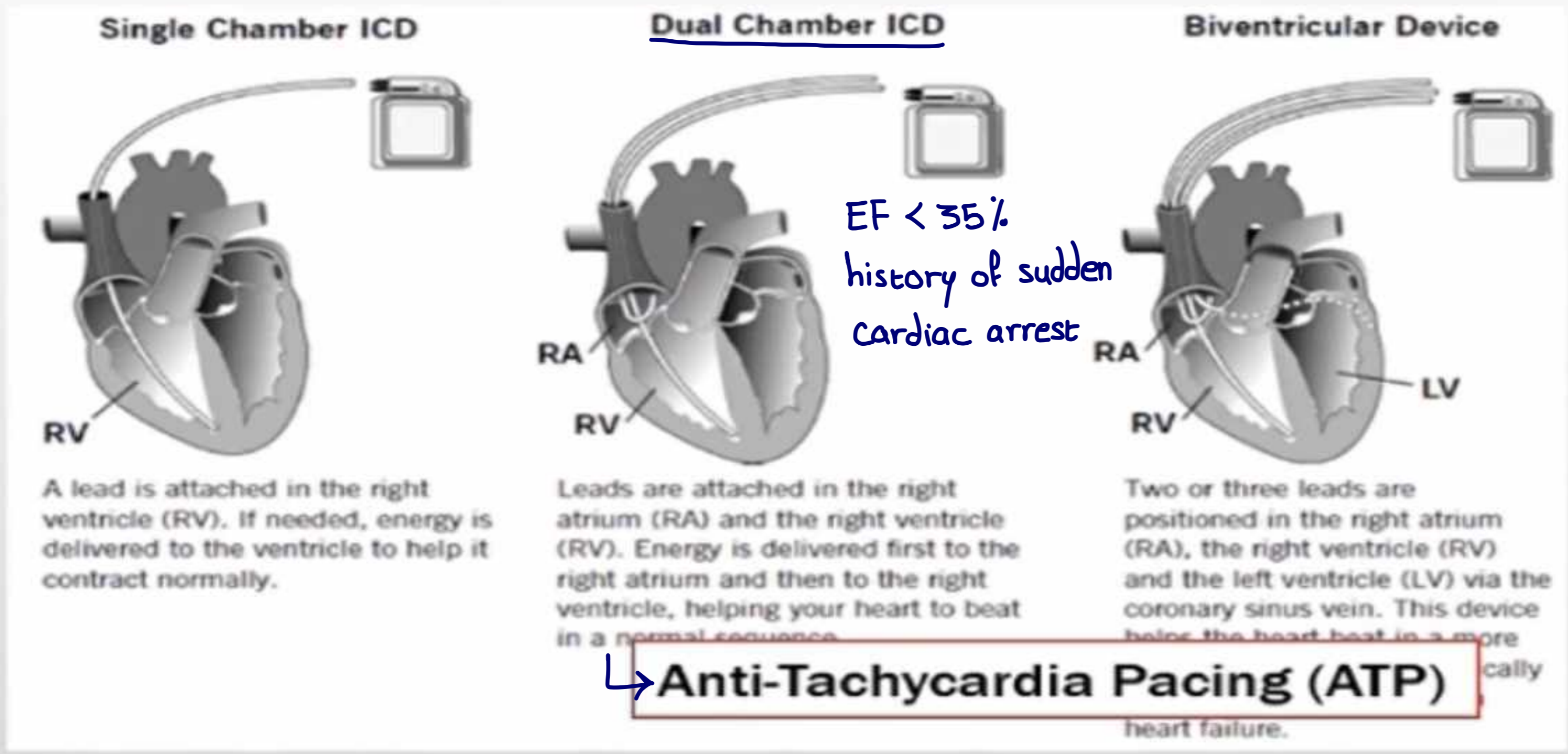
↳ A paced rhythm = wide rhythm

# Pacemakers & Cardiac Devices

↳ have the pacemaker function

↳ Mostly used for ventricular tachycardias

## Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator (ICD)



# Pacemakers & Cardiac Devices

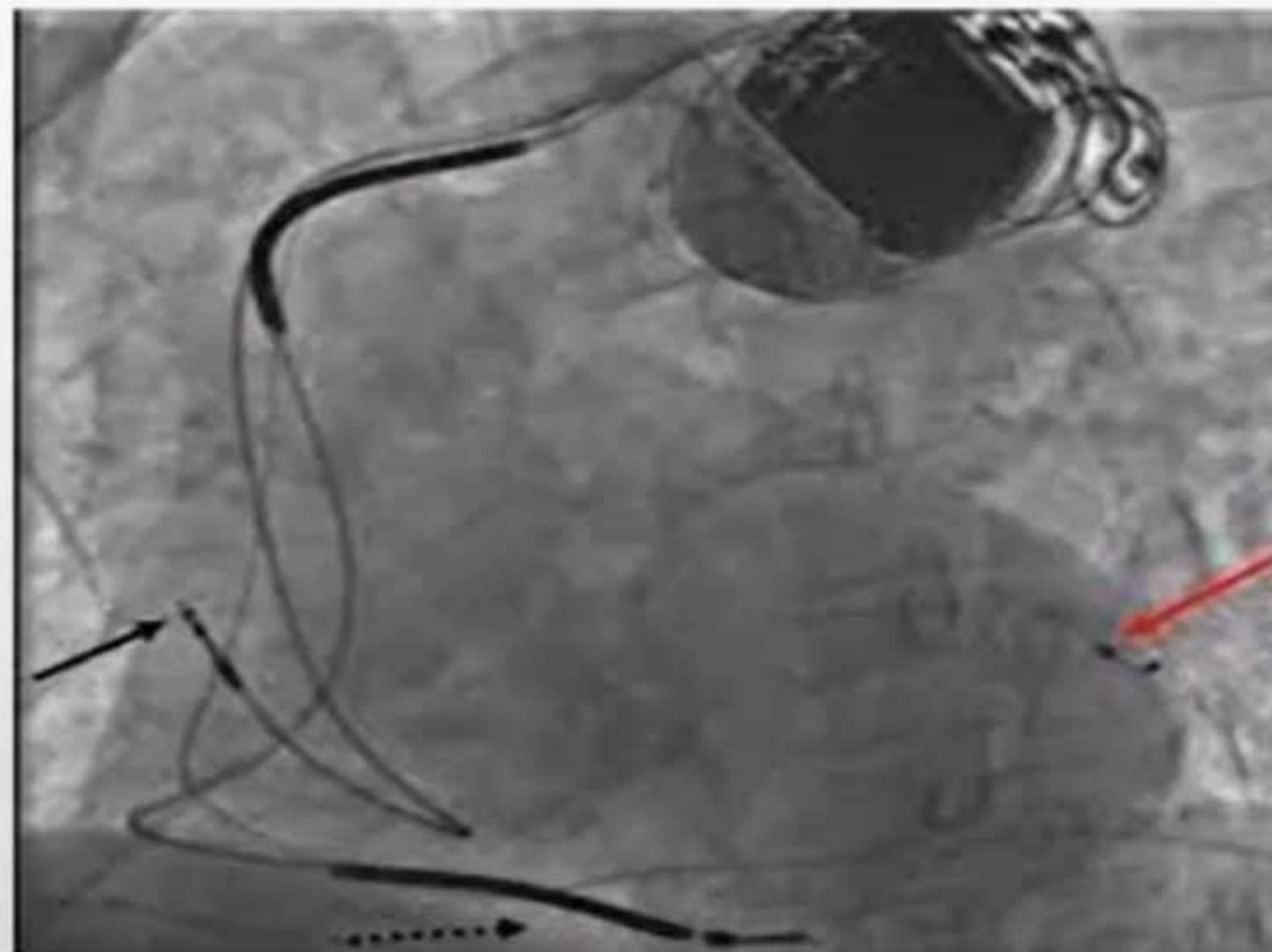
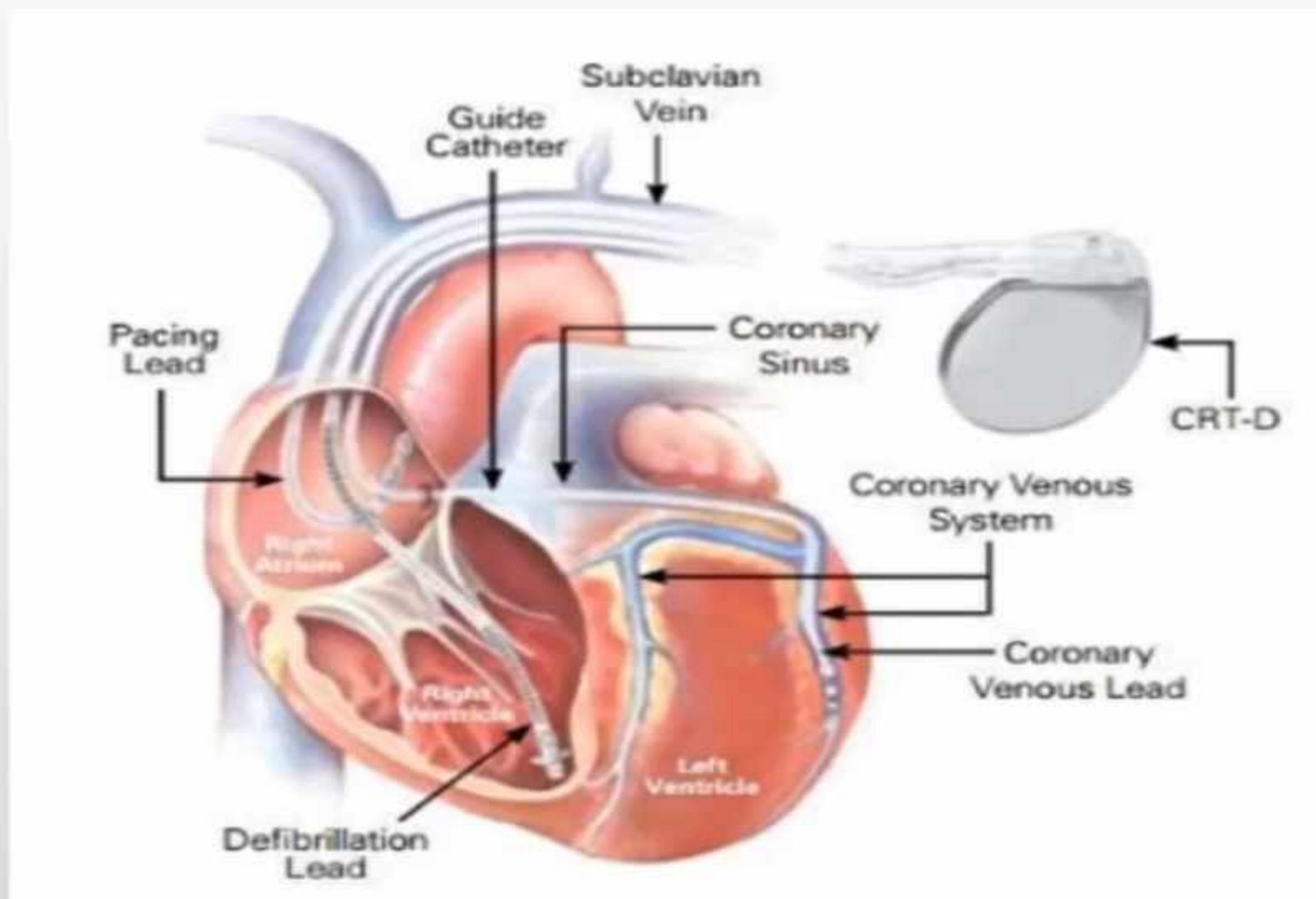
## Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (CRT)

↳ used in severe HF

↳ 3 leads: ① in right ventricle

② in right atrium

③ through the coronary sinus down the cardiac vein to reach the lateral left ventricle wall



AKA  
Bi Ventricular  
(BiV P)

Type
CRT - P
CRT only



# Pacemakers & Cardiac Devices



Figure 1: 174105-2 Magnet

## Magnet Mode

بتجيب مغناطيس وبتحطه فوقه ال pacemaker بتجيب يعمل  
→ pacing continuously without looking at any electricity around it

	Magnet Mode ON
Pacemaker	Asynchronous Pacing
ICD	Defibrillator OFF

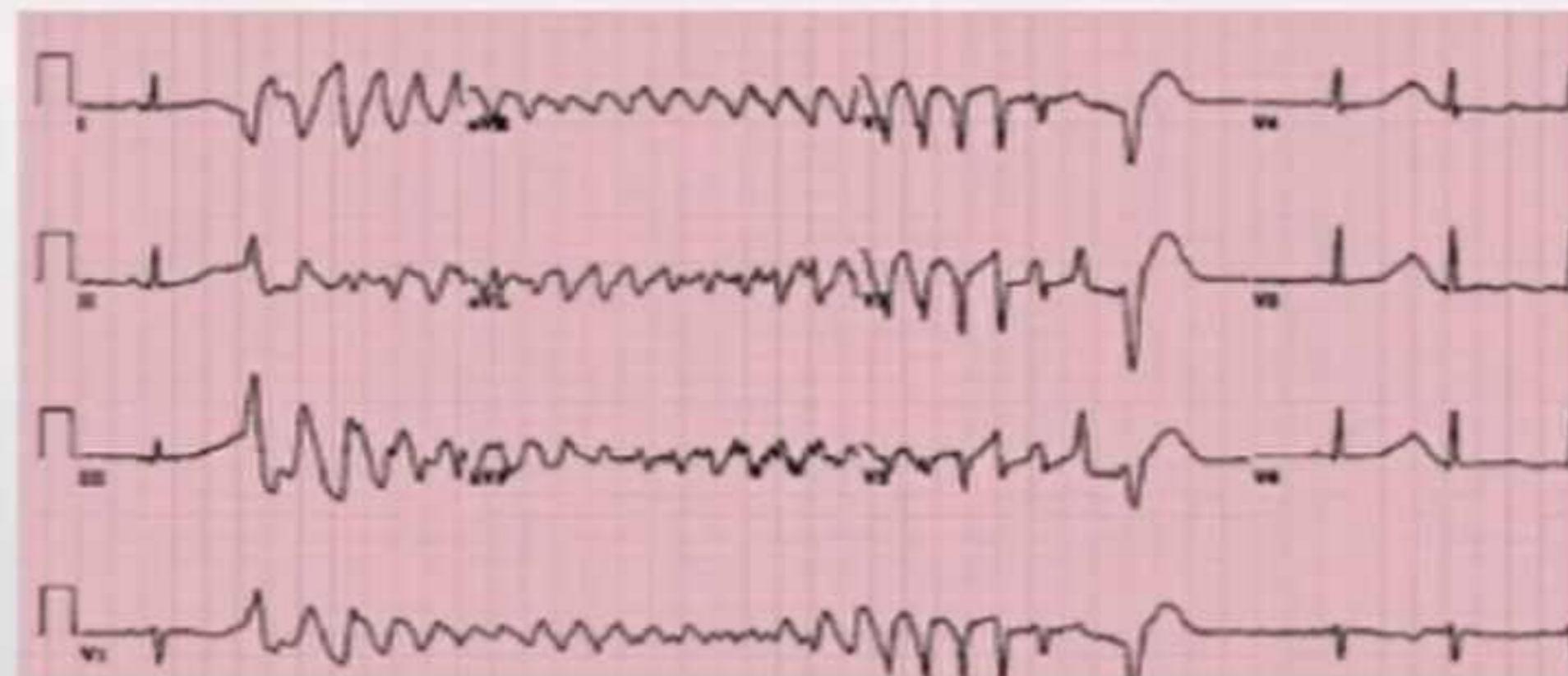
Indications:

↳ in surgeries, you sometimes may use electrocauteries which can confuse the pacemaker and cause arrhythmias

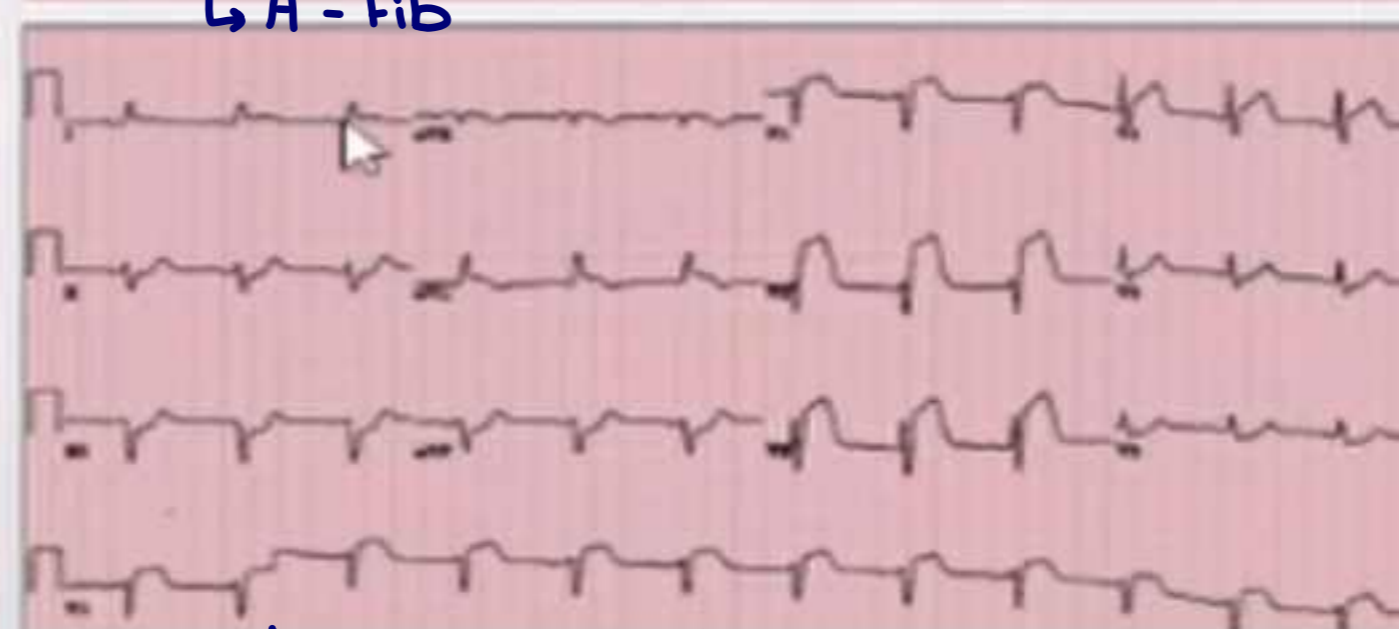
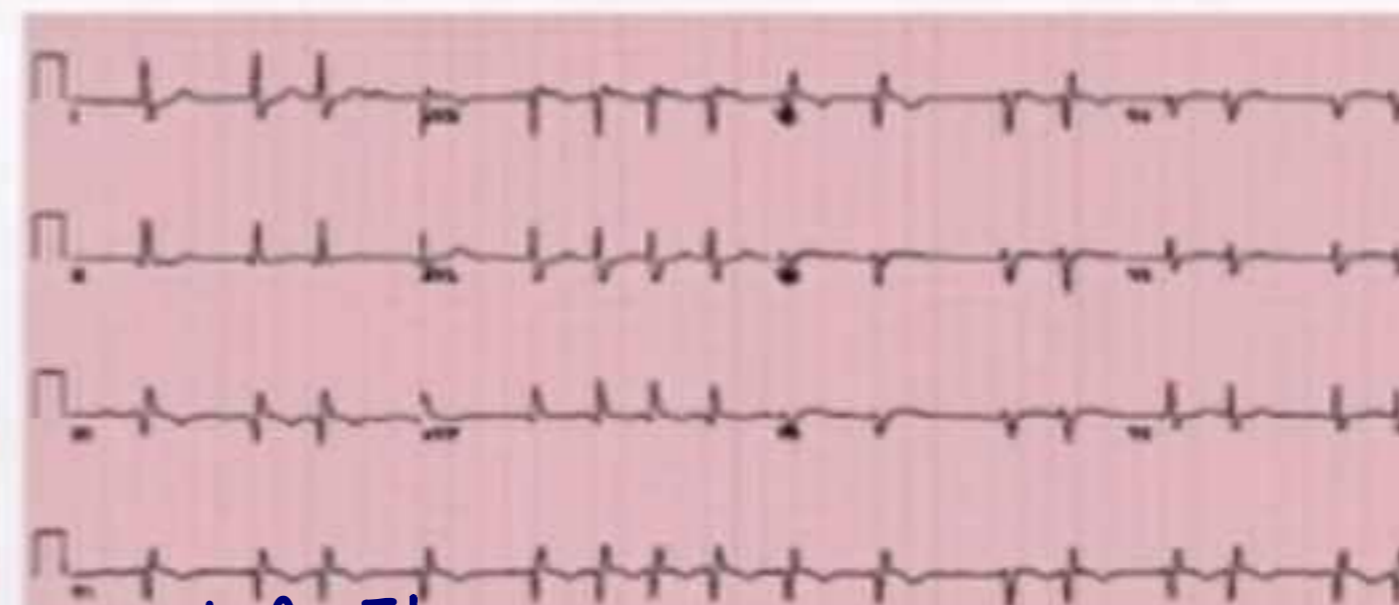
↳ ICD → Cardiac arrest pt. needs a shock

↳ Until you done, you move the magnet so the pacemaker gets back to it's normal program

# Cardiac Arrhythmias

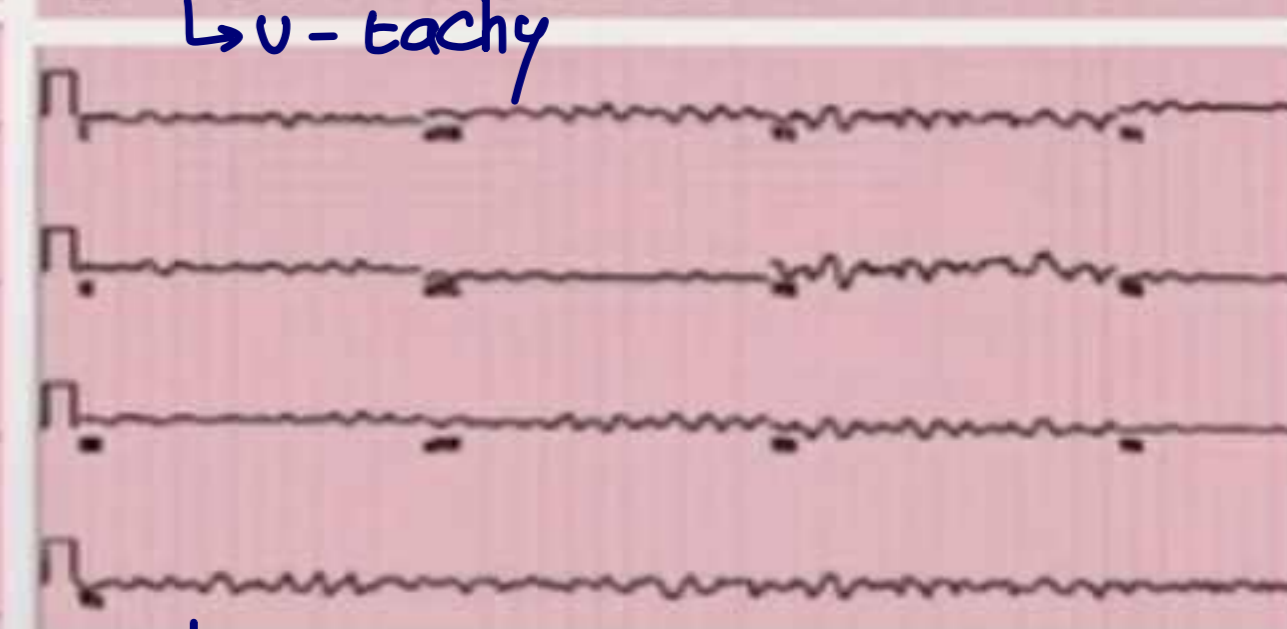
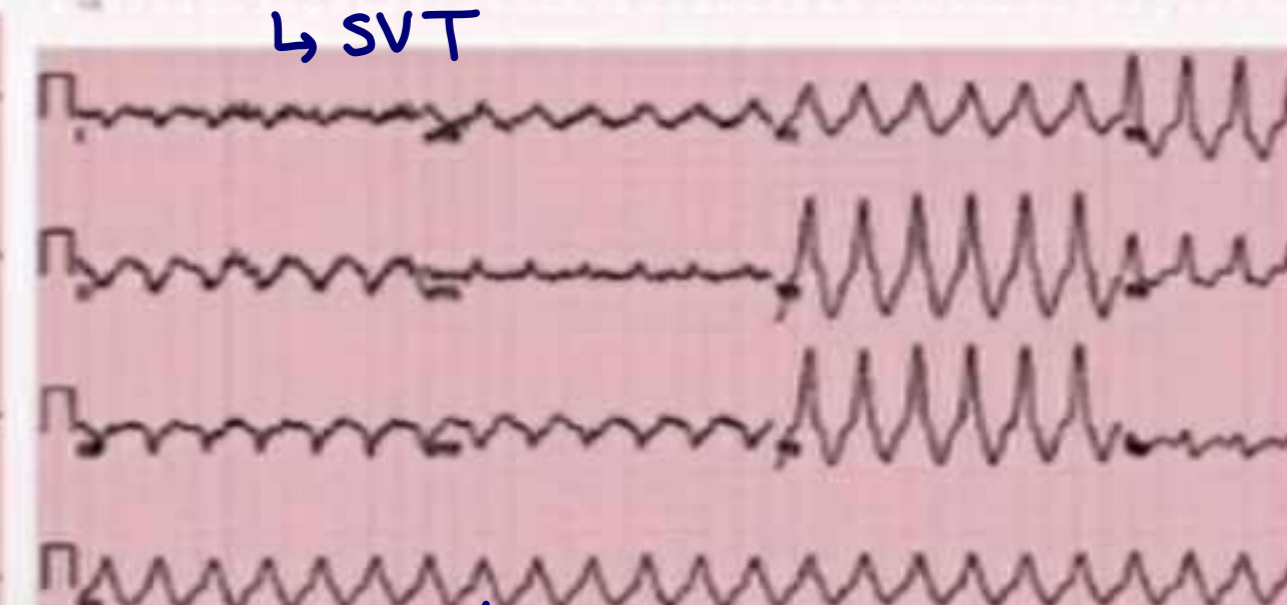


↳ Torsades de pointes



↳ A - Fib

↳ ST - elevation



↳ SVT

↳ V - tachy

↳ V - Fib