

# Cardiac Arrhythmias

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Séminaire  
**Winter Arrhythmia**  
School

*Annual Cardiac Arrhythmia Meeting  
Division of Cardiology, University of Toronto*

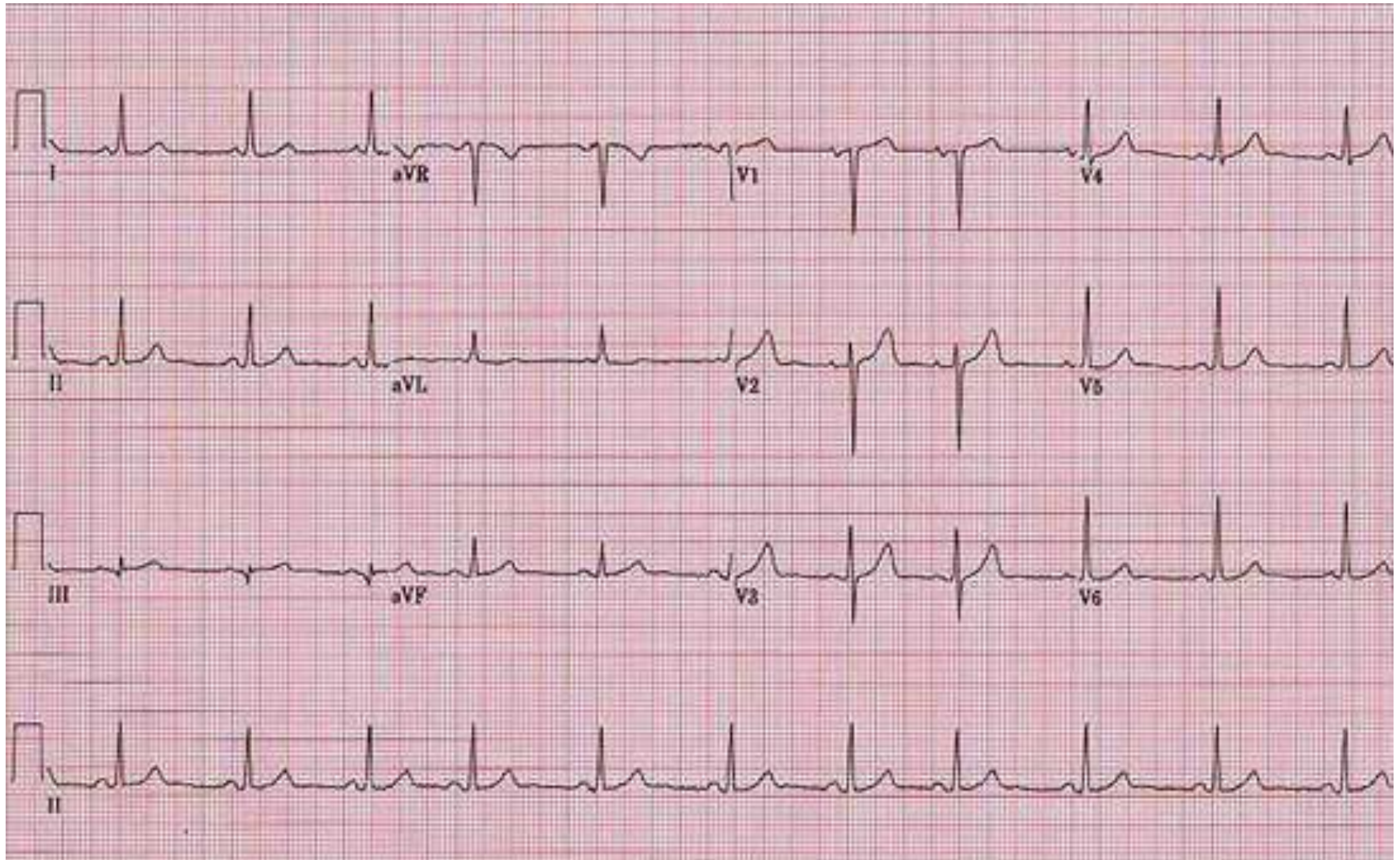
12th Annual  
Collingwood, Ontario  
February 6-8, 2015

# Case 1

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- 27F. Presents with palpitations, anxiety, “sense of dread”, mild dyspnea, pre-syncope
- Has fear of heights and is going for a hot-air balloon ride tonight with her boyfriend
- Fainted once in a hot classroom in high school
- Palpitations have resolved; feel ok now. ECG done in ER:

# Case 1



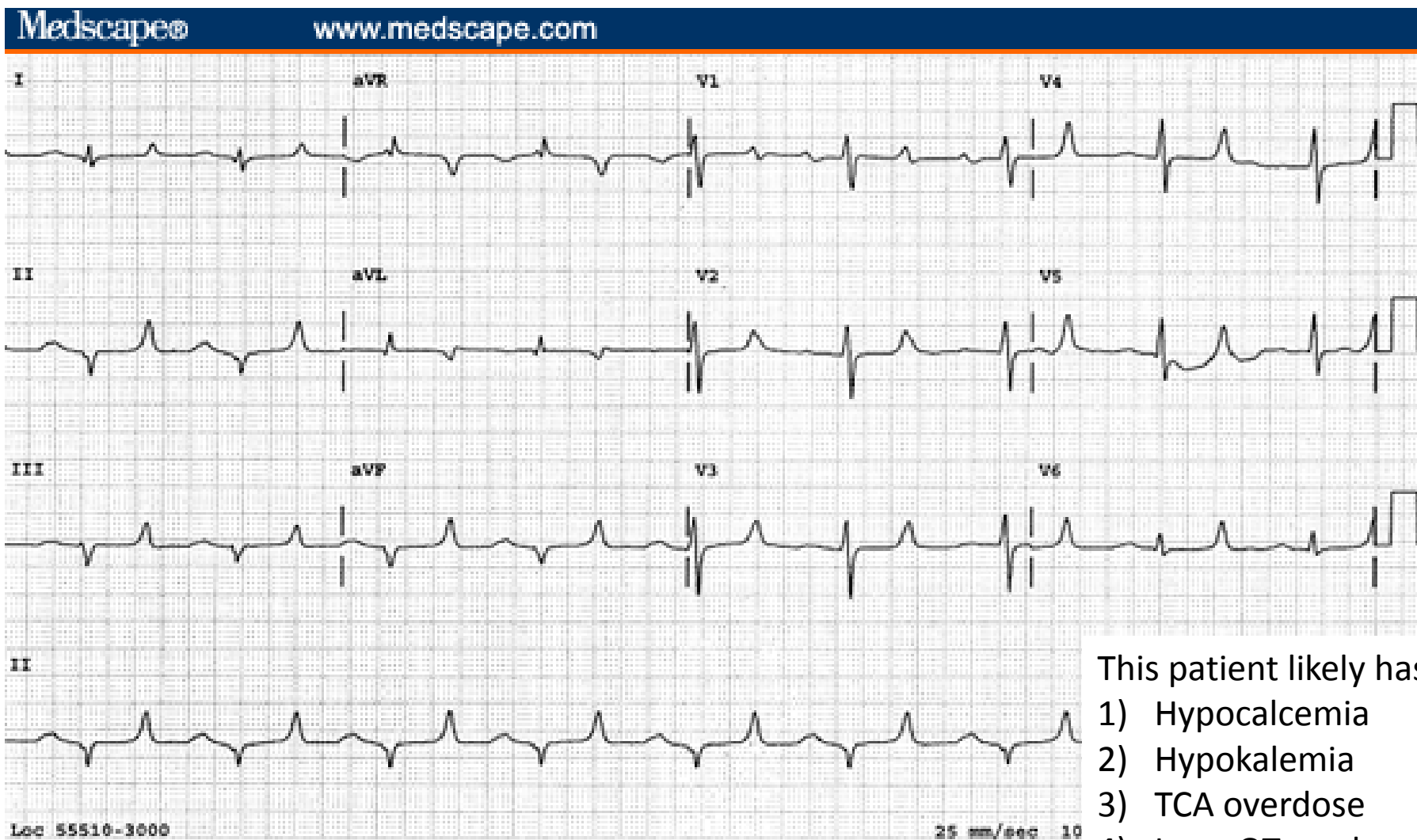
# NORMAL!

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- Probably the hardest ECG to read
- This case is from last week's The Bachelor (Britt Nilsson's 1-on-1 date)



# Case 2



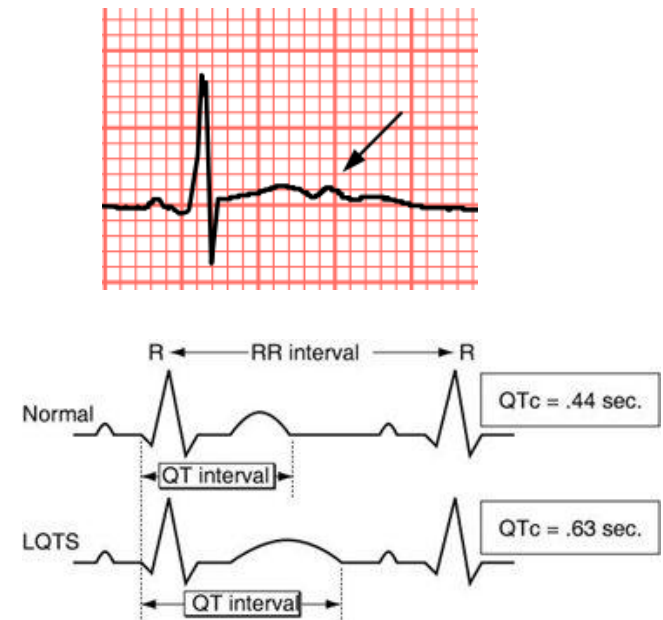
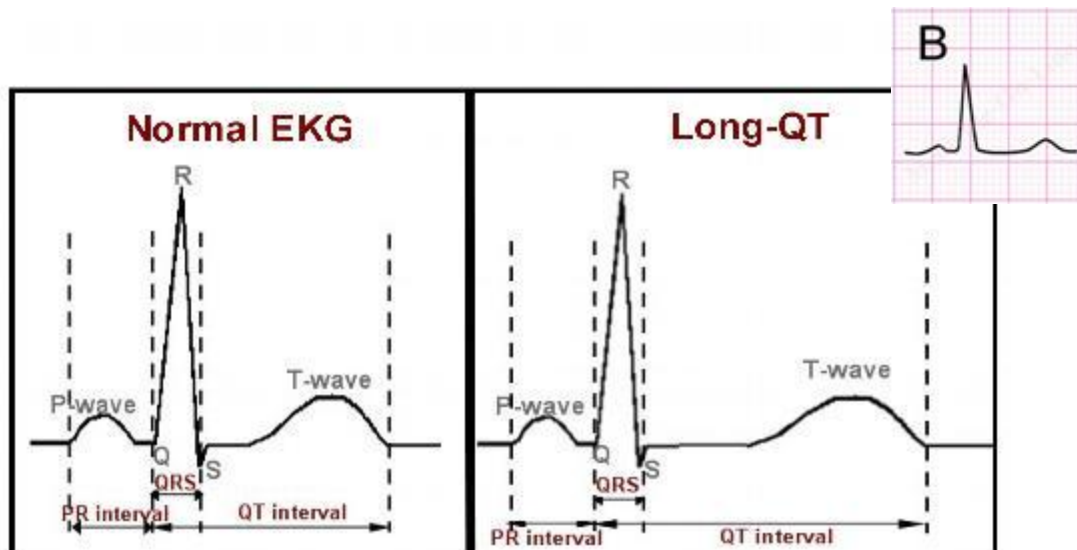
This patient likely has:

- 1) Hypocalcemia
- 2) Hypokalemia
- 3) TCA overdose
- 4) Long QT syndrome

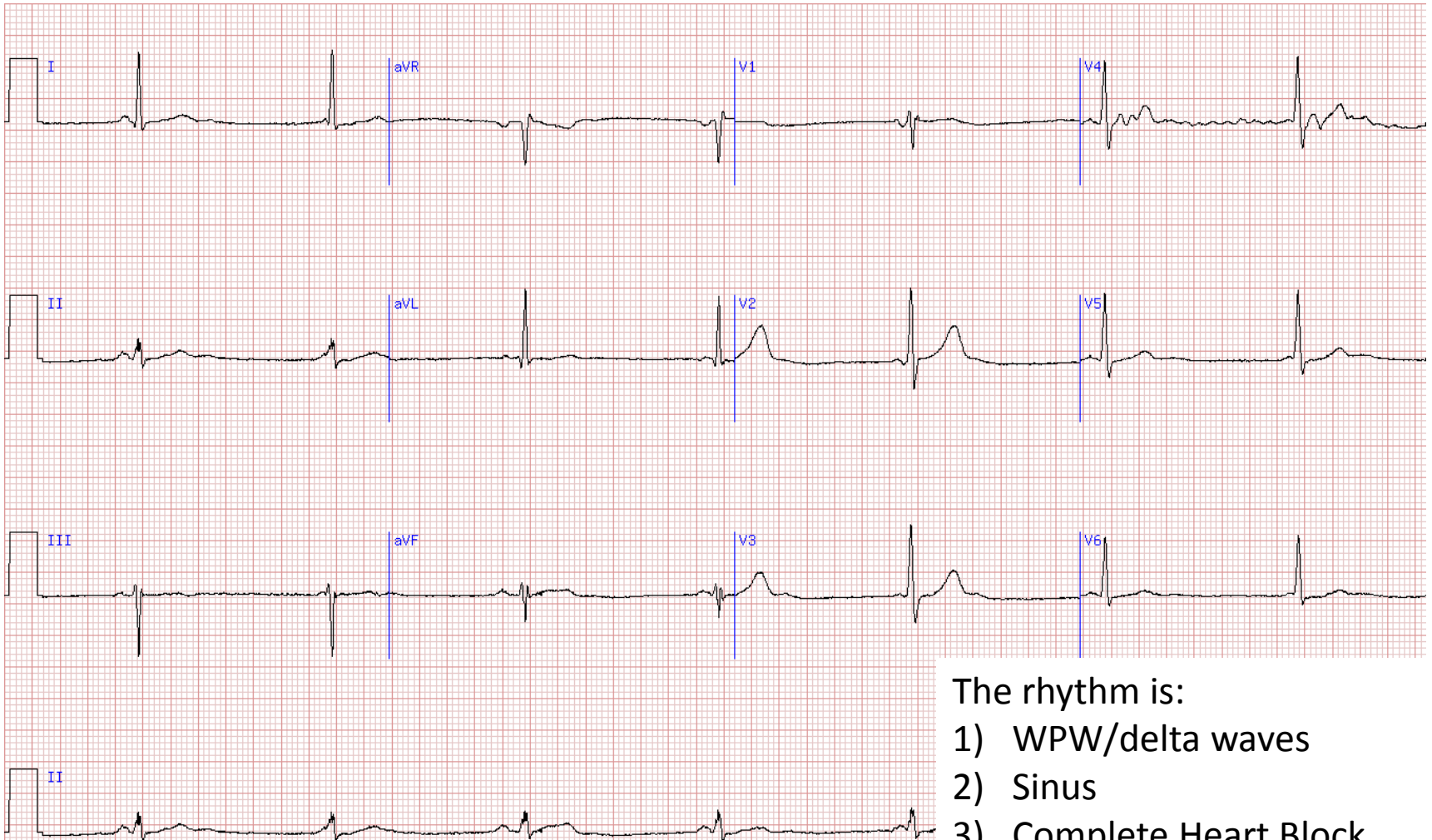


# Case 2

- Hypocalcemia
  - Prolonged QT but not due to longer T waves or U-waves
  - Normal shaped T-wave here, normal ST segment



# Case 3

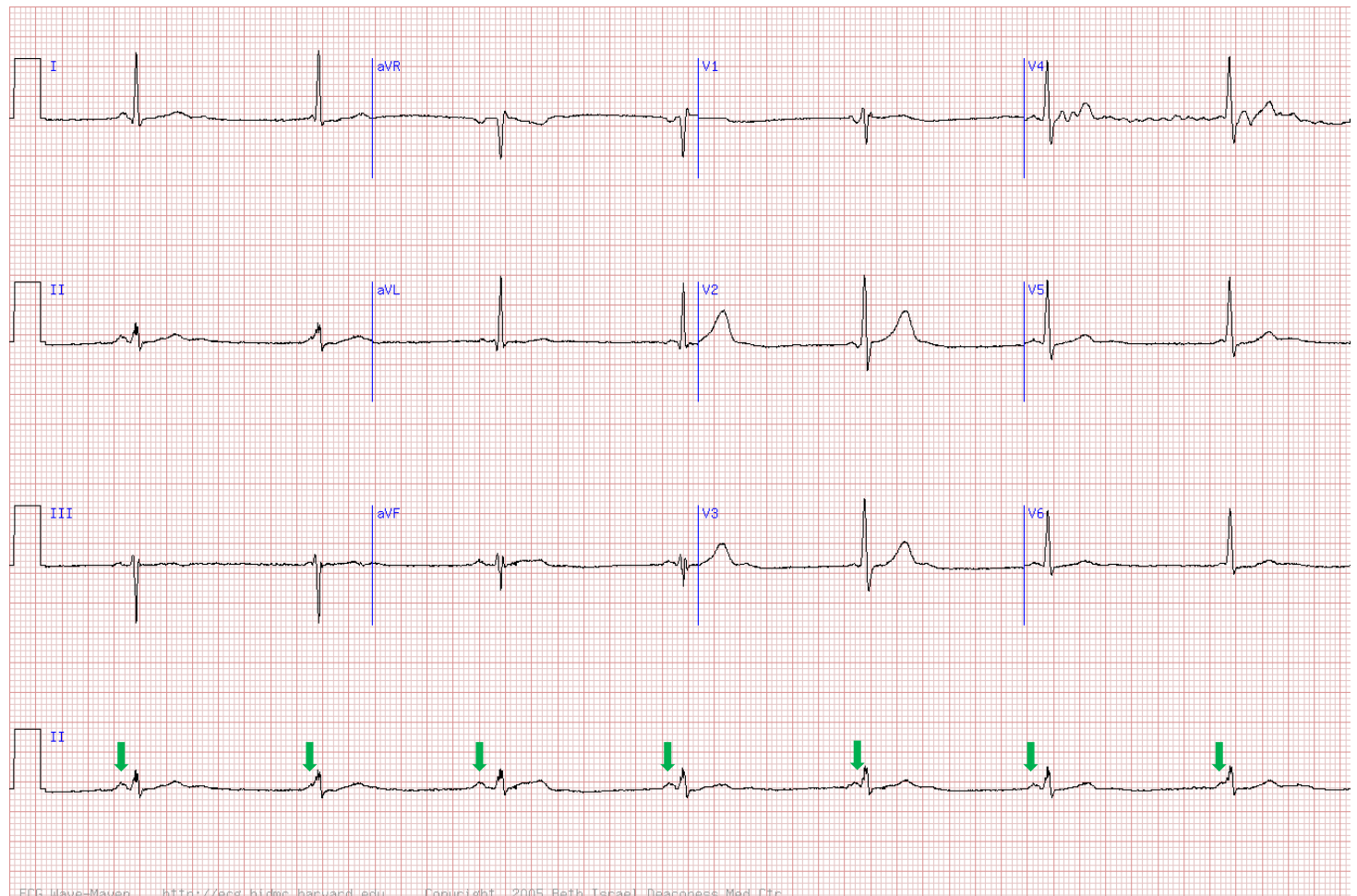


The rhythm is:

- 1) WPW/delta waves
- 2) Sinus
- 3) Complete Heart Block
- 4) None of the above

# Case 3

- Isorhythmic dissociation



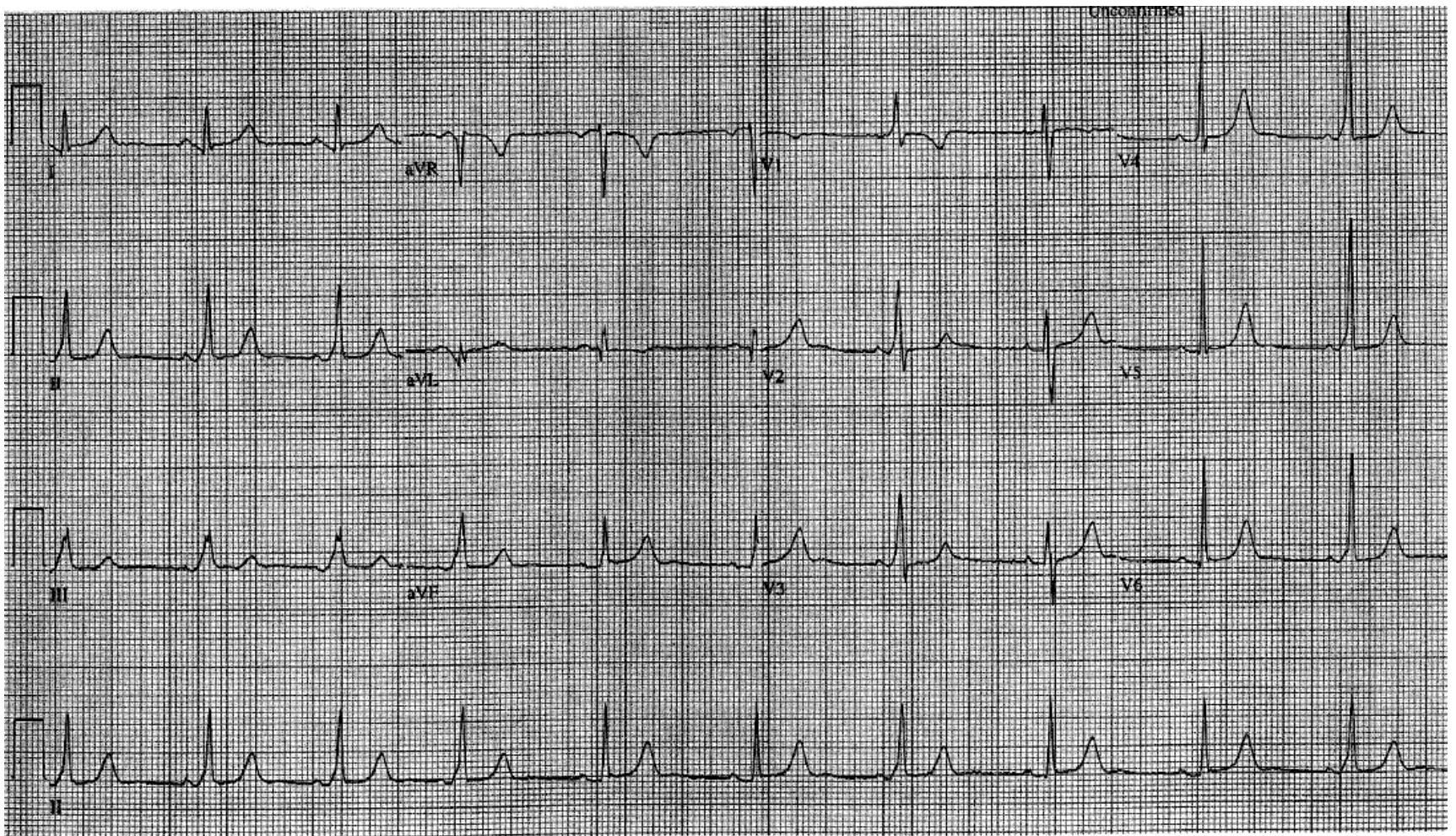


# Case 3

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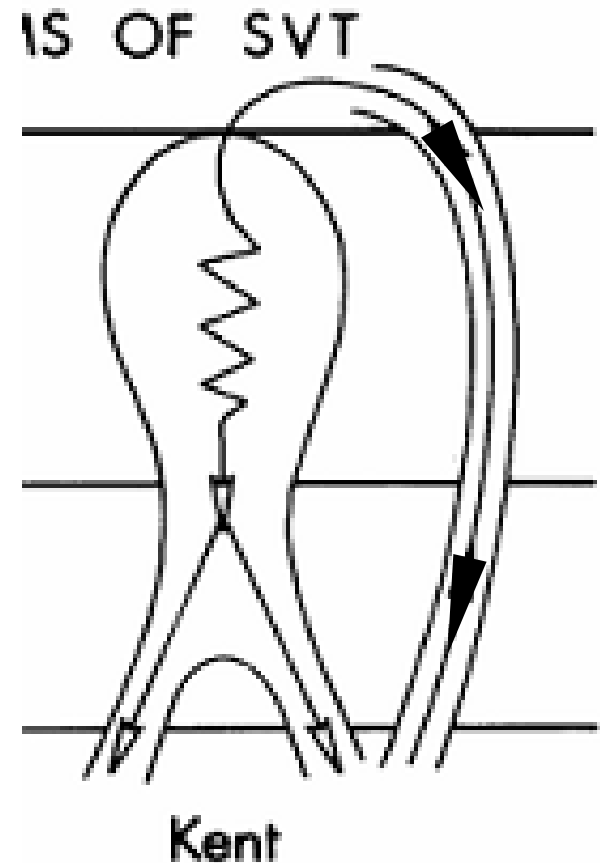
- Isorhythmic dissociation vs. heart block
  - Heart block implies A dissociated from V because of AVN/His block
  - Isorhythmic dissociation is when A rate slower than V rate
    - Extreme example: VT
    - Another example: sinus bradycardia with accelerated junctional escape

# Case 4



# Case 4

- Intermittent pre-excitation
- Differing amount of antegrade conduction via AVN results in changing amounts of pre-excitation
  - Affected by vagal tone, etc



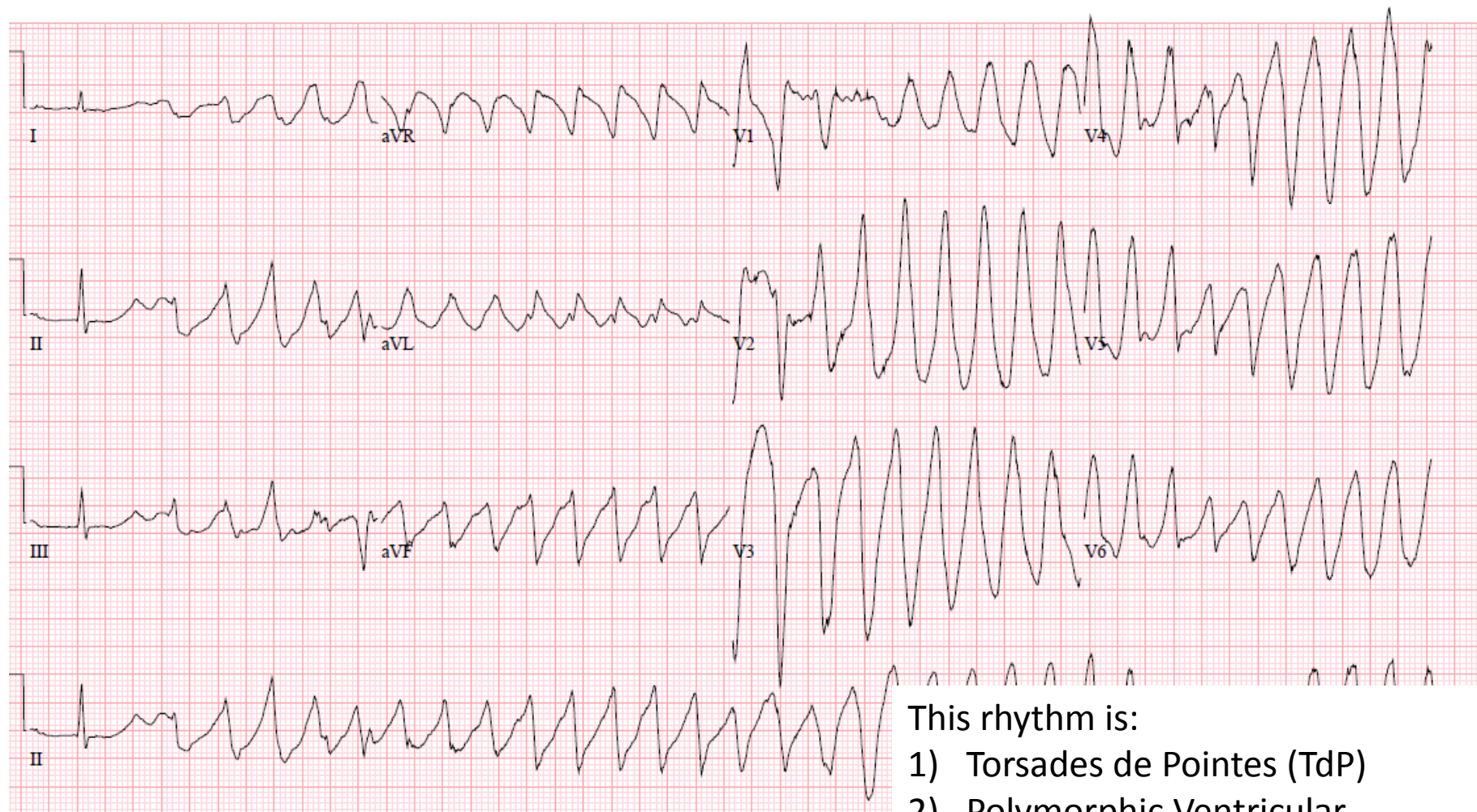
# Case 5

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- 78F. History of “epilepsy”
- Comes to ER with recurrent seizures



# Case 5



This rhythm is:

- 1) Torsades de Pointes (TdP)
- 2) Polymorphic Ventricular tachycardia
- 3) Pre-excited atrial fibrillation

# Case 5

- Technically can only say polymorphic VT
- Torsades de Pointes:
  - Classically, looking for short-long-short initiation

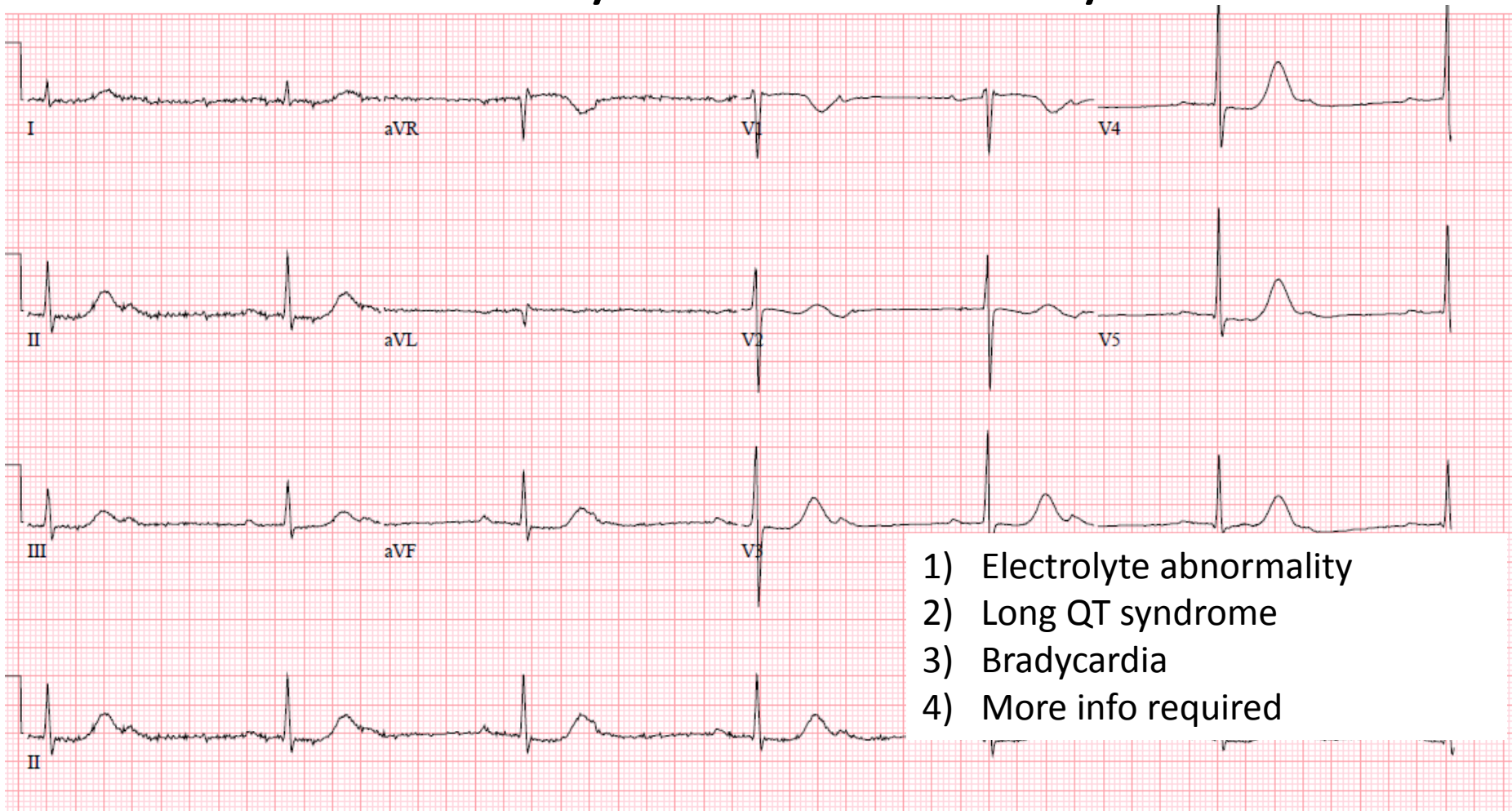


- Causes for polymorphic VT?
  - Ischemia
  - Long QT
    - Acquired: drugs, bradycardia, lytes, etc.
    - Congenital



# Case 5

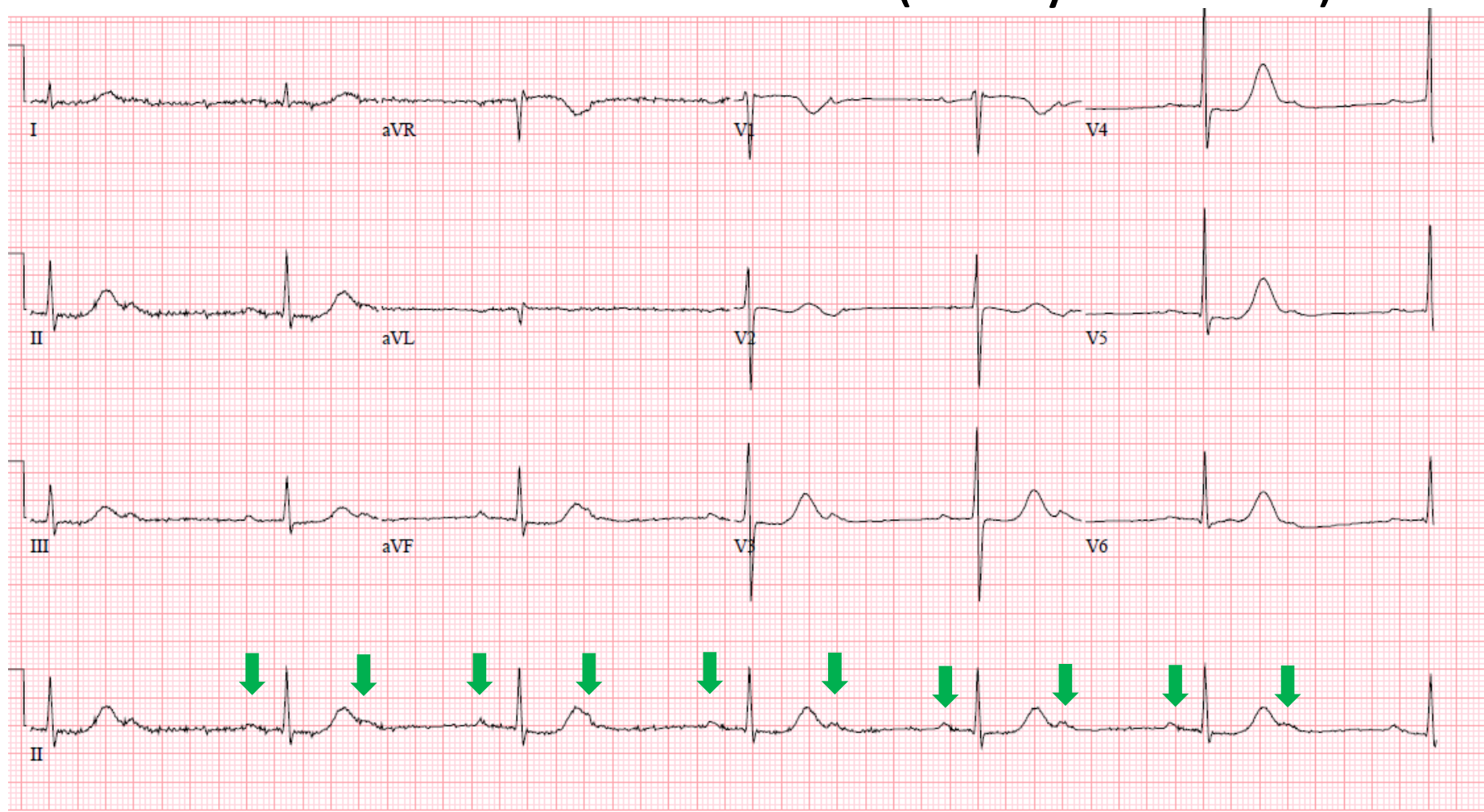
- What is the likely cause in our lady?



- 1) Electrolyte abnormality
- 2) Long QT syndrome
- 3) Bradycardia
- 4) More info required

# Case 5

- 2:1 Heart block at baseline (brady-induced)



# Case 5

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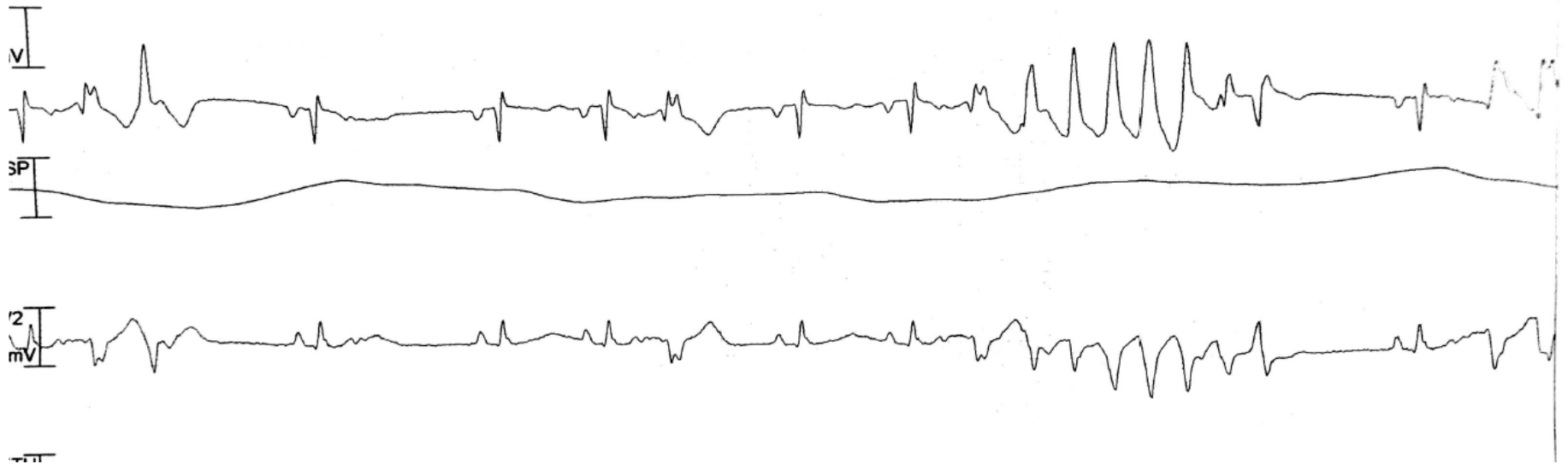
- Management (acute): cardiovert, isuprel, Mg/K, temporary wire
- Long term: dual chamber pacemaker; DDD 70

# Case 5

- Another example (52M; ?EtOH withdrawal and seizures).

015 02:49:25 \*\*\* V-TACH

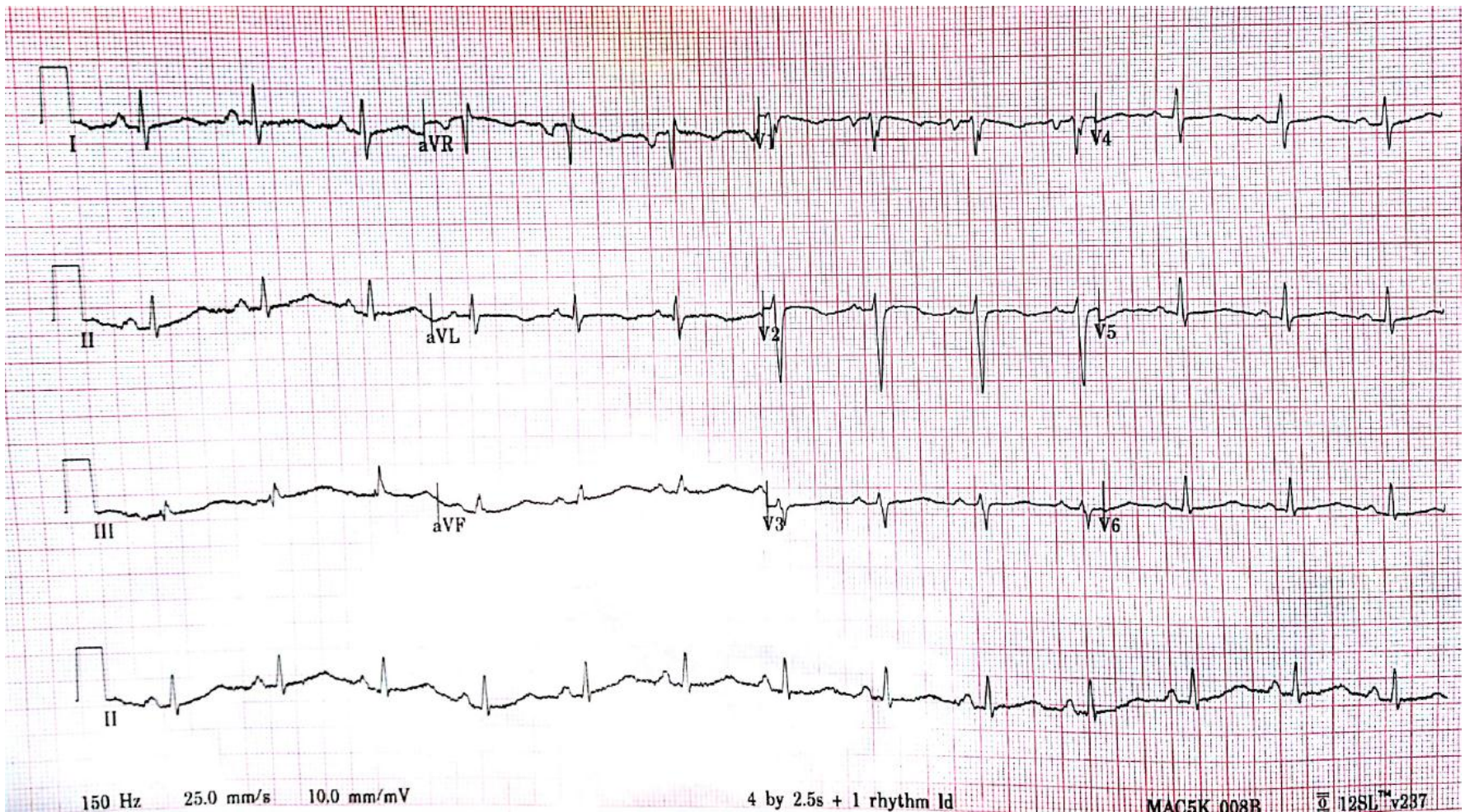
3 PVC 20 NBP 132/72( 89) RESP 22





# Case 5

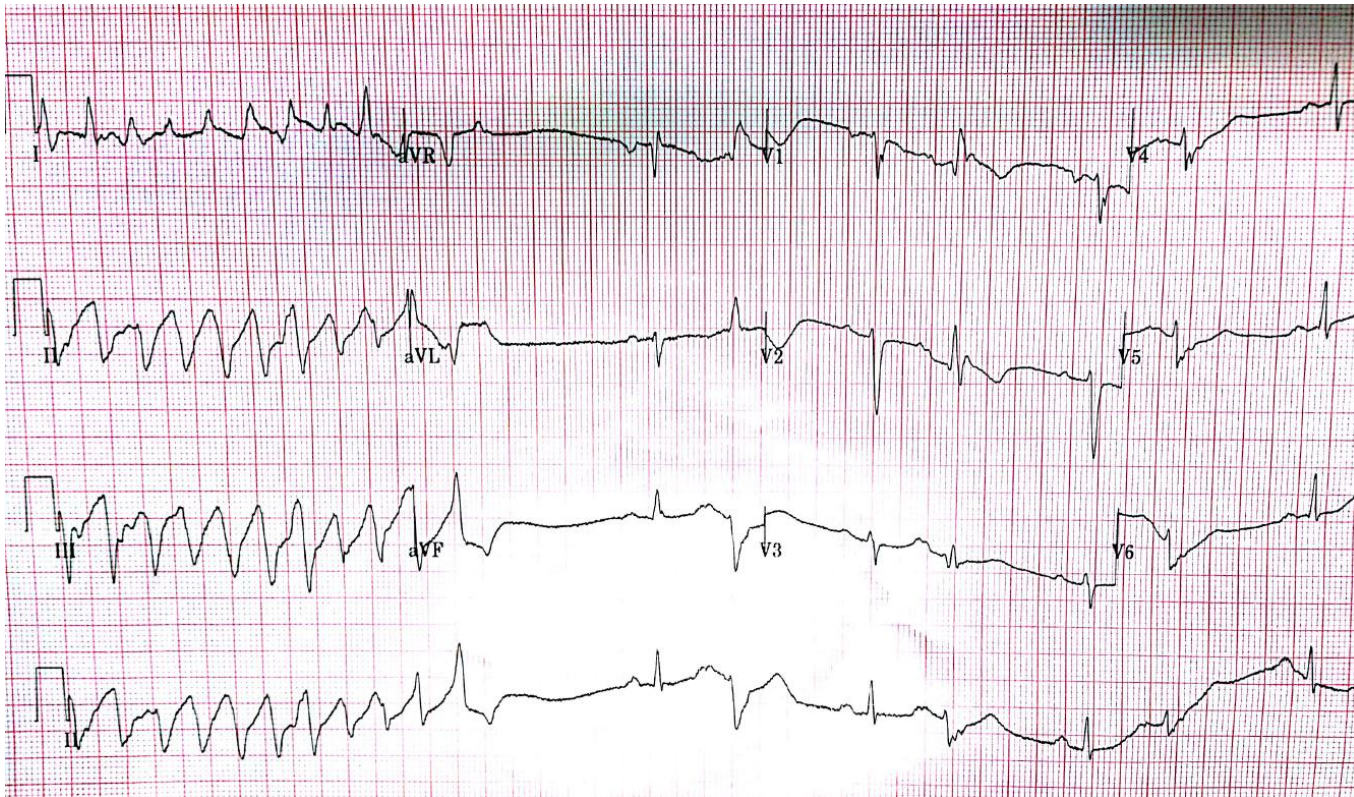
- Baseline ECG





# Case 5

- Frequent runs of non-sustained and sustained PMVT
- ++ ventricular ectopy likely playing a role



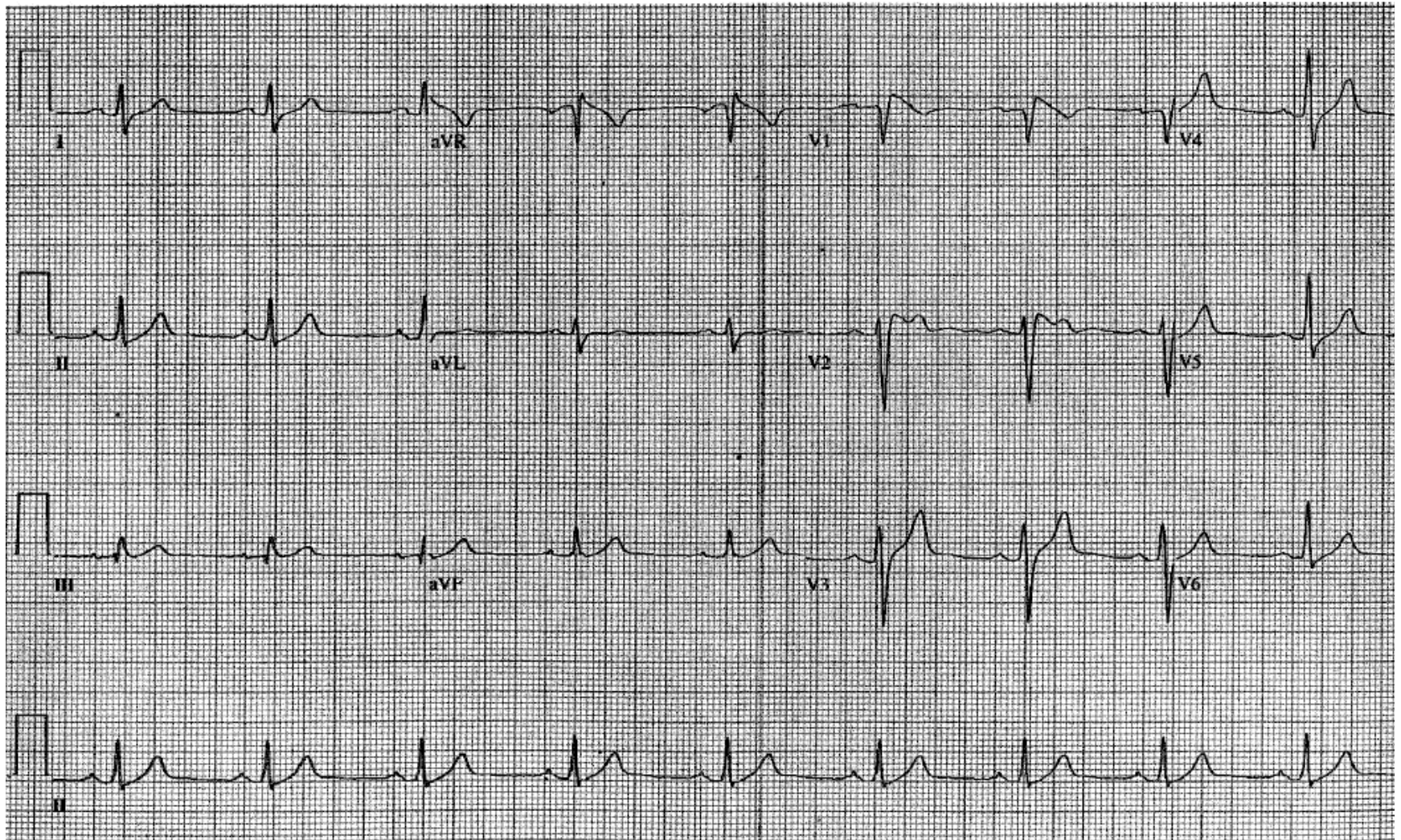


# Case 5

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- Causes of LQT in this patient:
  - Possibly congenital (no history; no baseline ECG prior to all this)
  - K was 2.9 (?related to EtOH abuse, diet)
- Acute management:
  - Replace Mg/K
  - Cardiovert as necessary
  - Amiodarone, AVN blockers to try and suppress PVCs
  - Overdrive pacing
  - Sedation/intubation – remove sympathetic stimulation

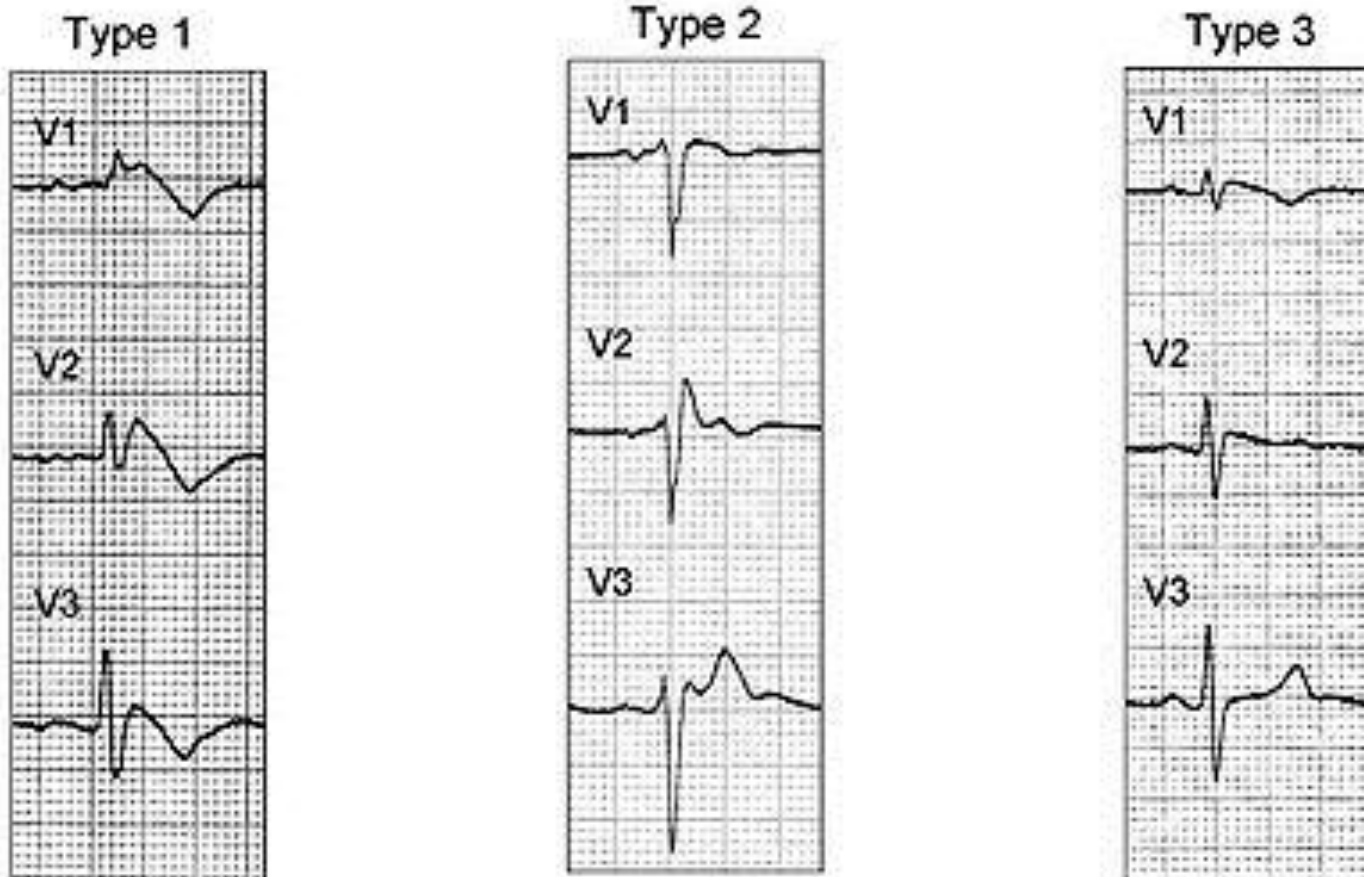
# Case 6





# Case 6

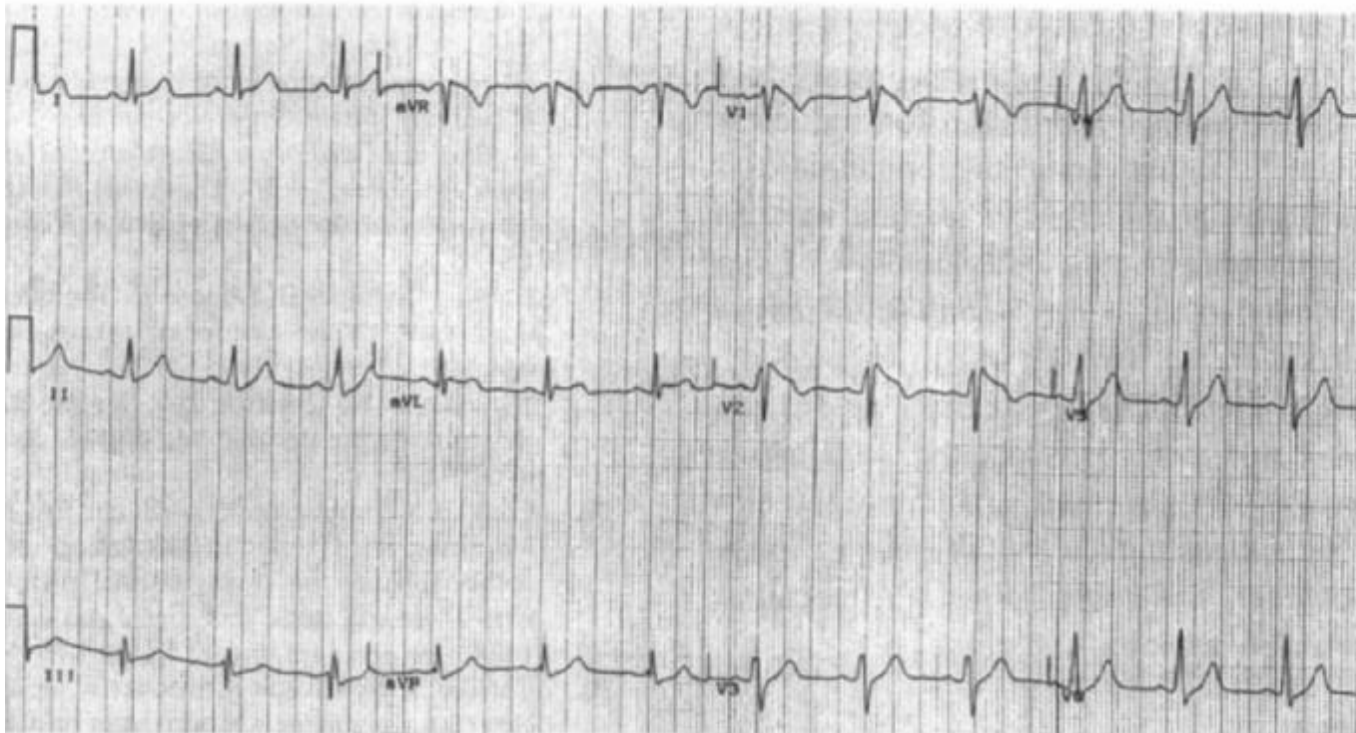
- Brugada



# Case 6

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- Other causes of Brugada pattern?



# Case 6

- Sodium channel blockers
  - Class I agents (procainamide, etc)
  - Also, in theory, cocaine!

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## Case Report



### Brugada-Type Electrocardiographic Pattern Induced by Cocaine

LASZLO LITTMANN, MD; MICHAEL H. MONROE, MD; AND ROBERT H. SVENSON, MD

Right bundle branch block with coved ST-segment elevation in leads  $V_1$  through  $V_3$  is the electrocardiographic (ECG) marker of the Brugada syndrome. We describe a healthy young man with a normal baseline ECG in whom a transient Brugada pattern was observed repeatedly after recreational cocaine use. Intravenous administration of procainamide and subsequent intravenous propranolol followed by noradrenaline failed to reproduce the Brugada sign. An electrophysiologic study performed in

the presence of the Brugada ECG pattern showed no inducible arrhythmias. This case illustrates that, in susceptible individuals, cocaine may provoke the Brugada sign. The clinical importance of this cocaine-induced ECG abnormality is currently unknown.

*Mayo Clin Proc.* 2000;75:845-849

ECG = electrocardiogram; RBBB = right bundle branch block

# Case 6

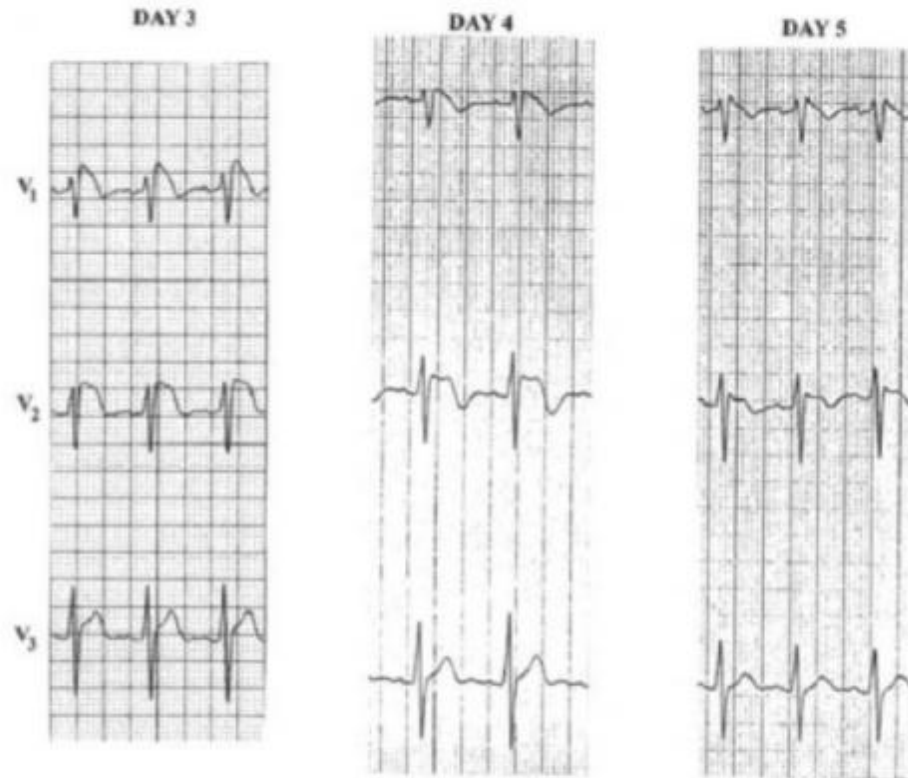
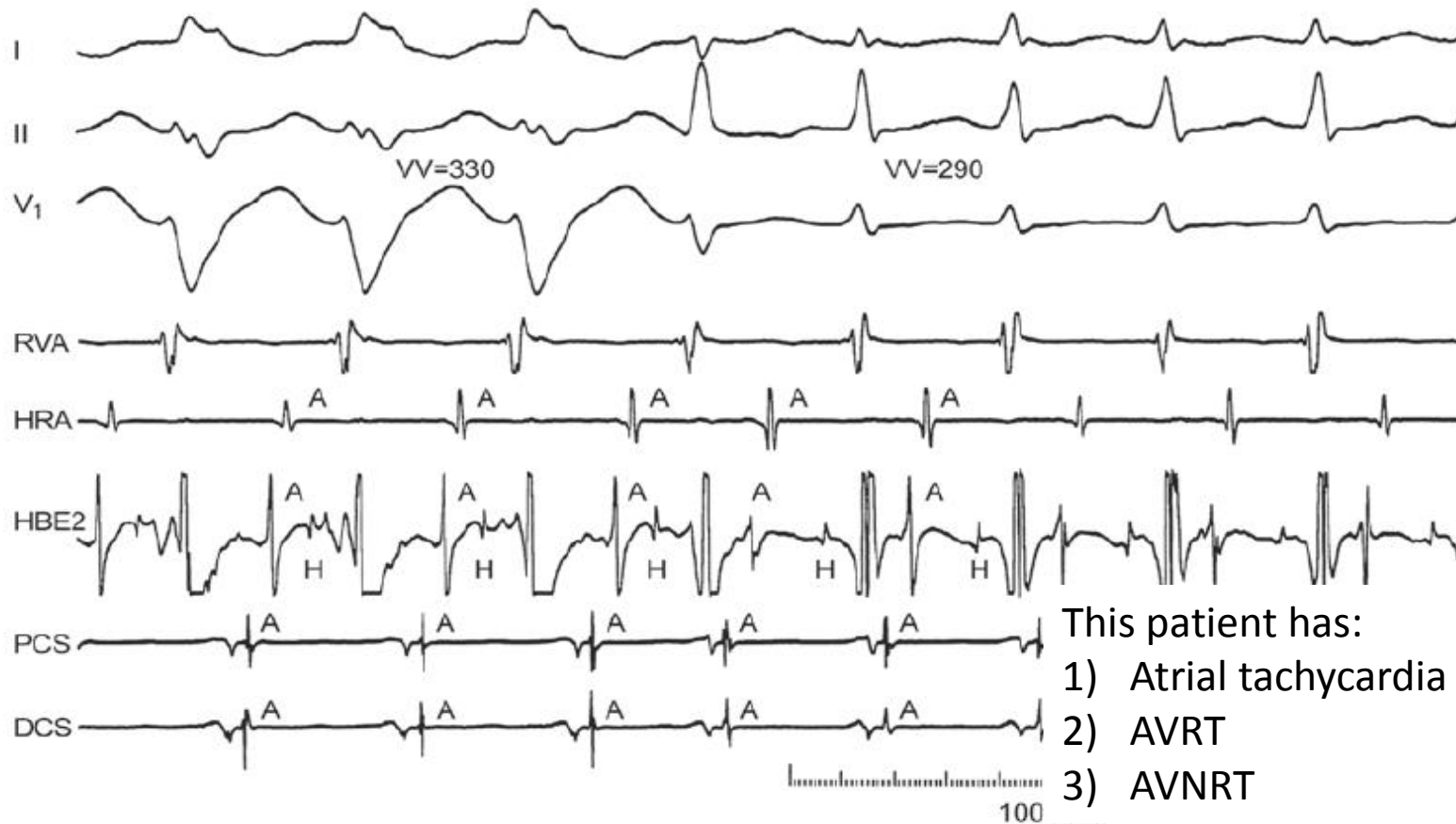


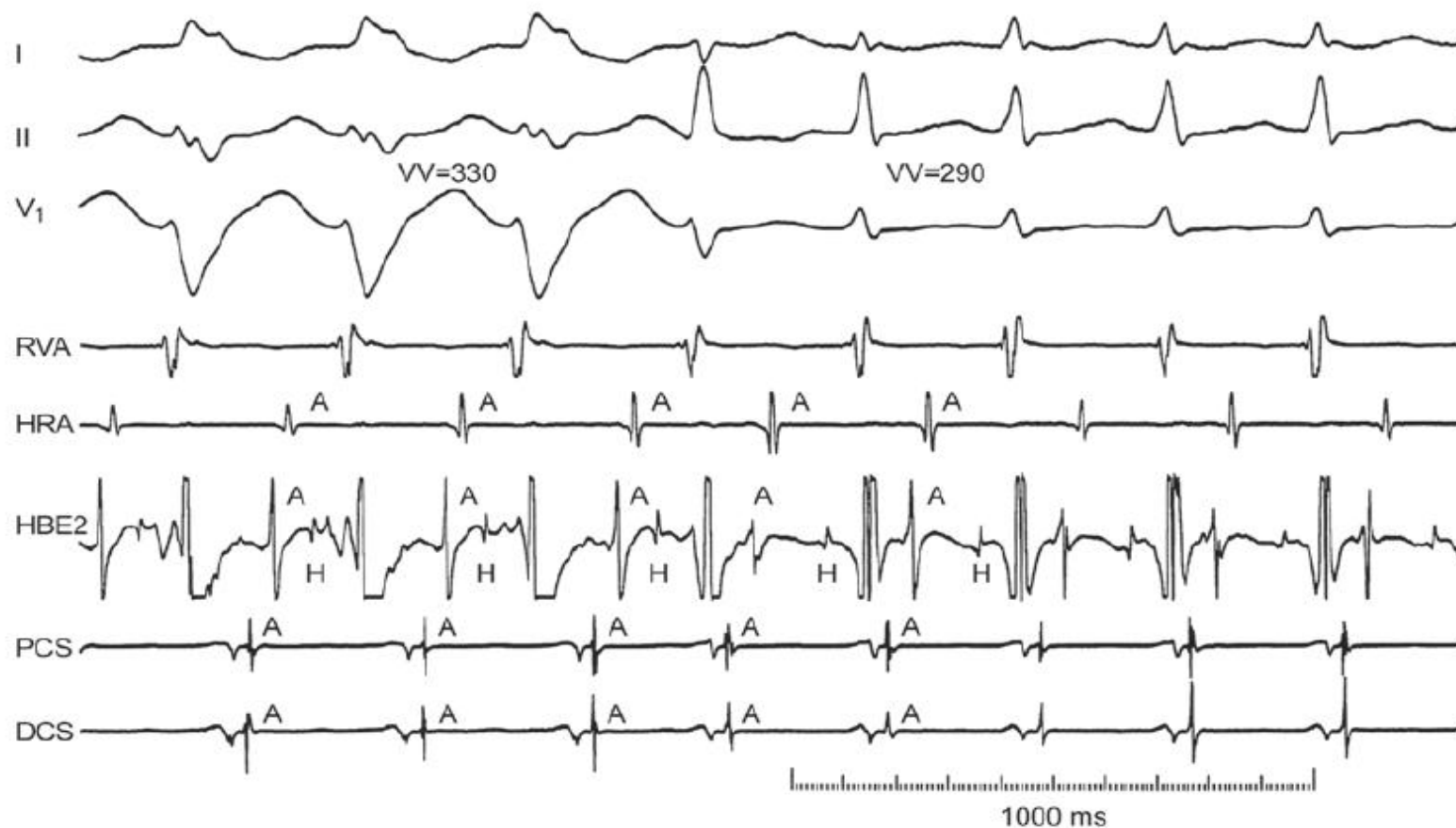
Figure 2. Gradual resolution of the Brugada pattern over several days after cocaine use. Recording on day 3 is the same as that in Figure 1.



# Case 8



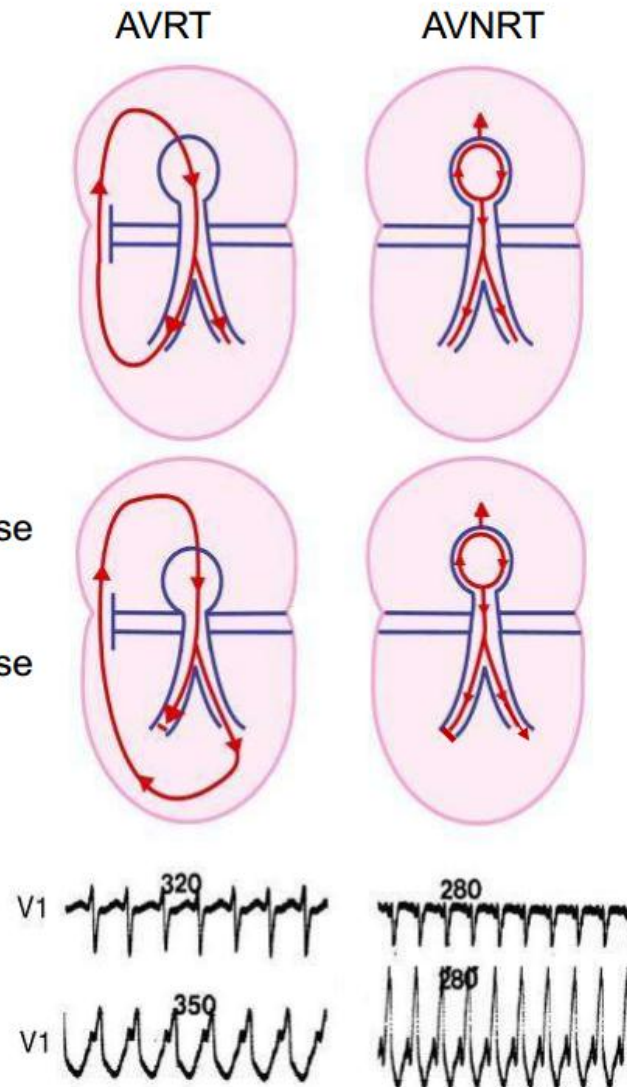
# Case 8



# Case 8

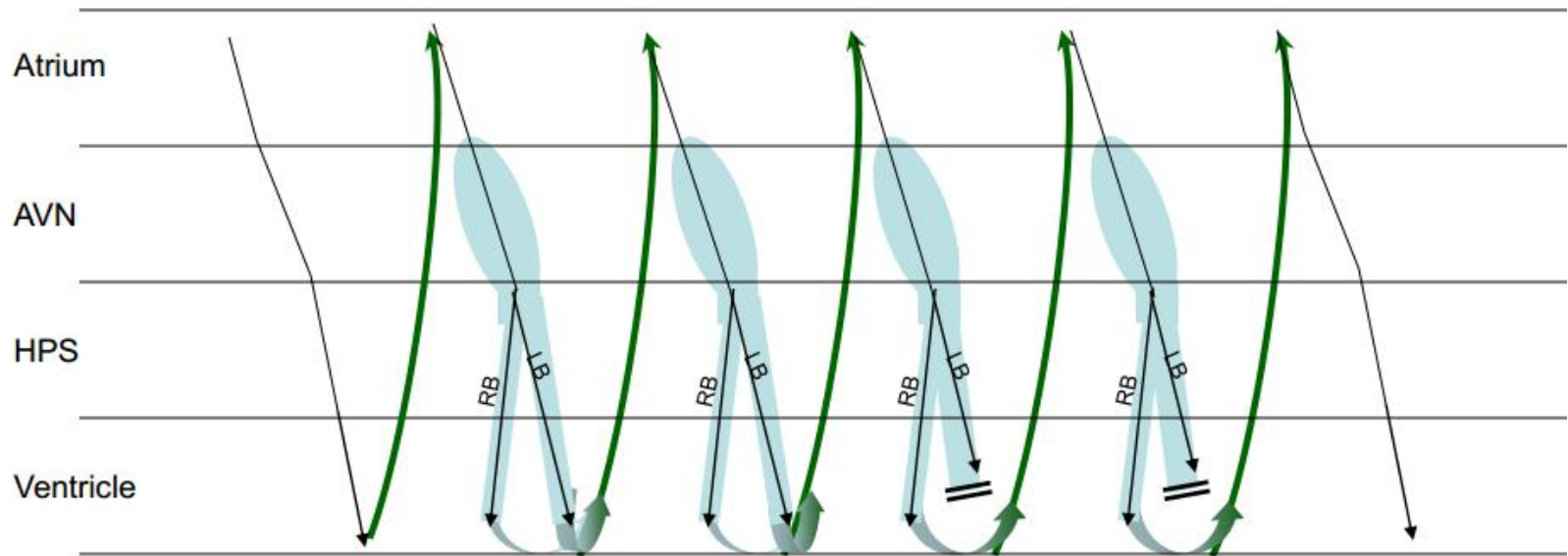
- Answer: AVRT

**Coumel's Law**  
If Right AP and RBBB:  
Then VA and TCL increase  
  
If Left AP and LBBB  
Then VA and TCL increase



# Case 8

## AVRT with Left-Sided AP and LBBB



- When an a bundle branch block develops ipsilateral to the site of an AP (in this case a left bundle [LB] branch block in the presence of a left-sided AP) the VA interval increases with or without an increase in the SVT rate

# Case 8

