TACHYARRHYTHMIAS

SupraVentricular Tachycardia

- Atrial Extra Systole
- Sinus Tachycardia
- Focal A. Tachycardia
- AVRT
- AVNRT
- Atrial Flutter
- Atrial Fibrillation



Ventricular Tachycardia

- Ventricular Extra systole
- VT (reentry)
- Ventricular Flutter
- Ventricular Fibrillation



The Conduction System





Diagram of Atrio-Ventricular (AV) Nodal Reentry



AV-Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia



Regular
Narrow QRS
"No" P-waves

AVNRT ECG



AV-Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia Clinical Aspects

- Palpitations
- Tachycardia of sudden onset and end
- "Heart beats to the neck"
- Rarely cause of syncope
- Typically 4 10 episodes per year
- Duration: minutes to hours

AV-Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia Therapy

- □ Acute treatment:
 - Vagal maneuvers
 - Adenosine
 - Verapamil
- Chronic treatment
 - catheter ablation
 - (Verapamil, β-blockers)





Slow pathway fibers travel from the region of the coronary sinus os toward the more anterior and superior AV node.

Fast pathway fibers are closer to the His bundle.





AV Anatomy



AV-Reentrant Tachycardia

RegularNarrow QRSPR>RP



ECG of Accessory Pathway

Concealed



Concealed AV connection (no antegrade conduction)

Ventricles activated by normal H-P system (QRS narrow)

More pre-excited

More of ventricle activated via the AV connection (QRS even wider)

Tachycardia circuits utilizing an accessory pathway



A Orthodromic tachycardia



 $_{v_1} \mathcal{M}$

B Antidromic tachycardia

ECG - Right Accessory Pathway



IC - Right Accessory Pathway



ECG - Orthodromic Tachycardia



IC - Orthodromic Tachycardia

Retrograde conduction over the AP

Normal HV

HRA activation before LA (CS) => right AP.



Wolf-Parkinson-White syndrome

1930 - WPW syndrome was defined as a combination of: BBB, short PR, Tachycardia. (without proving the mechanism)

Short PR interval, less than (120 ms) (in SR)
 Slurred upstroke to the QRS indicating pre-excitation (delta wave)
 Broad QRS



Left Accessory Pathway



AV-Reentrant Tachycardia Clinical Aspects

Palpitations

- Tachycardia of sudden onset and end
- May cause syncope (overt pathways)
 - risk of sudden death
- Typically 4 10 episodes per year
- Duration: minutes to hours

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Klinika Kardiologii AM W-WA



Persunflicht: HR HR238BPM





probably acute MI (anterior) left anterior hemiblock ventricular couplet atrial fibrillation sinoatrial arrest tachycardia left axis deviation ST-segment elevation (inferior)

Raport niezaakceptowahy.









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AV-Reentrant Tachycardia

A

Therapy

Acute treatment:

- Vagal manoeuvres
- Adenosine
- class lc-drugs (e.g. flecainide)

Chronic treatment

- catheter ablation
- (class lc-drugs)

- Verapamil and digoxin-!!!



Ablation of left Accessory Pathways

Trans-septal approach



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Typical Atrial Flutter

atrial CL 200 - 250 ms
 often 2:1 conduction

 ventricular rate 150

 narrow QRS or BBB



Atrial Flutter





GE Medical Systems

Atrial Flutter - 2:1 AV

conduction

- The sawtooth can usually be seen in the leads II, III and aVF if one looks closely. Sometimes in V1.
- Suspect 2:1 flutter when you see a rate of about 150 bpm.



Typical Atrial Flutter

A characteristic 'sawtooth' or 'picket-fence' waveform of an intra-atrial re-entry circuit usually at about 300 bpm.

This patient was taking rather too much digoxin and has a very slow ventricular response.



Atrial Flutter

Clinical Aspects

- Palpitations
- Tachycardia (2:1 conduction)
- Dyspnoea
- Angina pectoris
- Rarely asymptomatic
- Symptoms related to severity of underlying heart disease
Atrial Flutter

Therapy

- Electrical cardioversion
- Catheter ablation
- Antiarrhymic drugs
 - risk of 1:1 conduction
- Amiodarone, sotalol, flecainide



Mechanism of operation

Reentry

- After atrial surgical intervention
- May involve reentry around the scar or use the usual isthmus region
- May be caused by the slow pathway within the scar, but circulate around an anatomical landmark (i.e. TCA)
- May sometimes be confused with Flutter

Atypical AFI





Atrial Fibrillation

No P-waves
Variable RR-intervals
Narrow QRS or BBB



Atrial Fibrillation



Atrial Fibrillation +LBBB



Atrial Fibrillation

- Most frequent supraventricular tachycardia
- Age-dependent increase
 - 1% of total population
 - 3-4% > 60 years.
 - 7% > 70 years.
- Often related to cardiovascular diseases
 - hypertension
 - organic heart disease

Atrial Fibrillation

- **Clinical Aspects**
- Paroxysmal, permanent, persistent,long standing AF
- Absolute arrhythmia
- Bradycardia or tachycardia
- Palpitations
- Dyspnoea and/or angina
- Very rarely syncope
- Frequently asymptomatic
- Significant risk of thromboembolic complications



Angll = angiotensin II;TF = tissue factor; FXII = factor XII; IL-6 = interleukin 6; PAI-I = plasminogen activator inhibitor I; VCAM-I = vascular cell adhesion molecule I.

Atrial Fibrillation

AF pattern	Definition
First diagnosed AF	AF that has not been diagnosed before, irrespective of the duration of the arrhythmia or the presence and severity of AF-related symptoms.
Paroxysmal AF	Self-terminating, in most cases within 48 hours. Some AF paroxysms may continue for up to 7 days. ^a AF episodes that are cardioverted within 7 days should be considered paroxysmal. ^a
Persistent AF	AF that lasts longer than 7 days, including episodes that are terminated by cardioversion, either with drugs or by direct current cardioversion, after 7 days or more.
Long-standing persistent AF	Continuous AF lasting for $\geq I$ year when it is decided to adopt a rhythm control strategy.
Permanent AF	AF that is accepted by the patient (and physician). Hence, rhythm control interventions are, by definition, not pursued in patients with permanent AF. Should a rhythm control strategy be adopted, the arrhythmia would be re-classified as 'long-standing persistent AF'.

AF - 'natural' time course



EHRA score of AF-related

symptoms

Modified EHRA score	Symptoms	Description
I	None	AF does not cause any symptoms
2a	Mild	Normal daily activity not affected by symptoms related to AF ^a
2b	Moderate	Normal daily activity not affected by symptoms related to AF, but patient troubled by symptoms ^a
3	Severe	Normal daily activity affected by symptoms related to AF
4	Disabling	Normal daily activity discontinued

Atrial Fibrillation Therapy

- Rate control
- Rhythm control
- Prevention of thromboembolism

CHADS2-VASC

(a) Risk factors for stroke and thrombo-embolism in non-valvular AF				
'Major' risk factors	'Clinically relevant non-major' risk factors			
Previous stroke,TIA, or systemic embolism Age ≥75 years Heart failure of severe LV system (e.g. LV E Hypertension - Female sex - A Vascular		or moderate to olic dysfunction F ≤40%) Diabetes mellitus ge 65–74 years disease ^a		
(b) Risk factor-based approach expressed as a point based scoring system, with the acronym CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc (Note: maximum score is 9 since age may contribute 0, 1, or 2 points)				
Risk factor		Score		
Risk factor Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunc	tion	Score		
Risk factor Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunc Hypertension	tion	Score I		
Risk factor Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunc Hypertension Age ≥75	tion	Score I I 2		
Risk factor Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunc Hypertension Age ≥75 Diabetes mellitus	tion	Score I 2 I		
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Safety and efficacy of VKA



Hylek et al. 1994 and 1996

ACEI = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB = angiotensin-receptor blocker; HHD = hypertensive heart disease; CHD = coronary heart disease; HF = heart failure; LVH = left ventricular hypertrophy, NYHA = New York Heart Association. Antiarrhythmic agents are listed in alphabetical order within each treatment box.

AF = atrial fibrillation; HF = heart failure. ^aUsually pulmonary vein isolation is appropriate. ^bMore extensive left atrial ablation may be needed. ^cCaution with coronary heart disease. ^dNot recommended with left ventricular hypertrophy. Heart failure due to AF = tachycardiomyopathy.

Ventricular Extrasystole

PrematureNo P waveWide QRS

Ventricular premature beats

(VPBs)

Ventricular bigeminy

A ventricular premature beat follows each normal beat

Ventricular Extrasystole Clinical Aspects

- Often no symptoms
- Palpitations
- Symptoms depend on incidence
- May induce other arrhythmias
 - ventricular tachycardia

Ventricular Extrasystole

Often no therapy necessary
 Antiarrhythmic drugs

 Cave: CAST-data
 (catheter ablation)

Ventricular Tachycardia

wide QRS
no P waves
no typical BBB

Ventricular Tachycardia

70 yrs, previous myocardial infarction, on a beta-blocker, after a shock, sinus rhythm.

VT Overview

Ischemic (Post MI)

- Scar related
- Slow conduction pathways
- Re-entry mechanism

Idiopathic VT

- Not associated with detectable structural heart disease.
- Usually Focal mechanism
- RVOT

Ventricular Tachycardia

Clinical Aspects

Tachycardia
Palpitations
Dyspnoea
Angina pectoris
(Pre)syncope
Sudden death

Ventricular Tachycardia

Therapy

- Sustained VT "always" requires patients evaluation (and therapy)
- Antiarrhythmic drugs
- Catheter ablation
- Antitachycardia surgery
- Implantable cardioverter/defibrillator

Ischemic VT

The basic treatment approach is to block the conduction through the critical slow pathway.

Scar related VT

no QRS detectable



Ventricular Fibrillation



Background and Aetiology

- Patients with organic heart disease
 - coronary artery disease,
 - acute MI or
 - post MI
 - cardiomyopathies
- Rarely in healthy subjects
 - idiopathic VF
- Rarely in pts. with WPW-syndrome
- Degeneration of ventricular tachycardia

Clinical Aspects

- Syncope within seconds
- Dramatical drop of blood pressure
- Generalised ischemia
- Asystole within minutes
- Sudden cardiac death

Therapy

- Immediate resuscitation
- Defibrillation as soon as possible
- After survival careful examination
 - Heart catheterization
 - Electrophysiologic study

Therapy of 1st choice: ICD-implantation





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III	mmm	MMM	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	vwww
aVL	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		~~~~~
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V4		MMMMM			MMM
V5			www.www		MMM
V6	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	MMM	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		///////

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PEI CardioEP





