# Department of Anesthesia Techniques Electrocardiogram 



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## Axis

- QRS complex axis: s the general direction of the ventricular depolarization
- three types:
- normal
- left deviated
- right deviated.

Population data shows that normal QRS axis is from $-30^{\circ}$ to $105^{\circ}$ with $0^{\circ}$ being along lead I and positive being inferior and negative being superior


## Axis estimation

- look at LEAD I and LEAD aVF.
- Examine the QRS complex in each lead and determine if it is Positive, Isoelectric or Negative:


POSITIVE

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[R>S]
$$



EQUIPHASIC
[ $\mathrm{R}=\mathrm{S}$ ]

nEGATIVE
[ $\mathrm{R}<\mathrm{S}$ ]

## Axis

| POSITIVE | POSITIVE | Normal Axis |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## WHAT YOU NEED TO LOOK FOR

- Are the limb leads set up correctly?
- Are the chest leads set up correctly?
- Is the ECG free of artifact.


## IS the ECG SET UP CORRECTLY?

## LIMB LEADS

- aVR - always negative
- Lead I - always positive


## CHEST LEADS

- R wave progression
- Small to Tall

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V_{2}
$$

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## III

$a \mathrm{VF}$


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\& Agilent

## PROBLEMS WITH THE ECG

- Artifact
-Electrical interference
- Muscle tremor
-Wandering baseline


## artifacts

- ECG alterations, not related to cardiac electrical activity.
- the components of the (ECG) such as the baseline and waves can be distorted.
- Motion artifacts are due to movement.


## FIND THE ARTEFACT



## MUSCLE TREMOR



## ELECTRICAL INTERFERANCE





## BASIC OBSERVATIONS

- Heart Rate
- Rhythm: regular? sinus?
- Intervals: PR, QRS
- ST segment


## Ectopic beat

- "Ectopic" means something that is in an odd place or position
- Types of Ectopic Beats

Premature atrial contractions (PACs)

- Premature ventricular contractions

ECTOPIC BEATS

Multifocal PVC's: more than one shape


## The PR interval

- The PR interval is measured between the start of the P wave to the start of the QRS complex
- (therefore if there is a $Q$ wave before the $R$ wave the PR interval is measured from the start of the P wave to the start of the $Q$ wave, not the start of the R wave)


## The $Q$ wave

## Are there any pathological Q

 waves?- A Q wave can be pathological if it is:
- Deeper than 2 small squares (0.2mV)
and/or
- Wider than 1 small square (0.04s)



## The QRS height

- If the complexes in the chest leads look very tall, consider left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH)
- If the depth of the $S$ wave in $V_{1}$ added to the height of the R wave in $\mathrm{V}_{6}$ comes to more than 35 mm , LVH is present


## QRS width

- The width of the QRS complex should be less than 0.12 seconds ( 3 small squares)
- Some texts say less than 0.10 seconds (2.5 small squares)
- If the QRS is wider than this, it suggests a ventricular conduction problem - usually right or left bundle branch block (RBBB or LBBB)

