

Department of Anesthesia Techniques Electrocardiogram



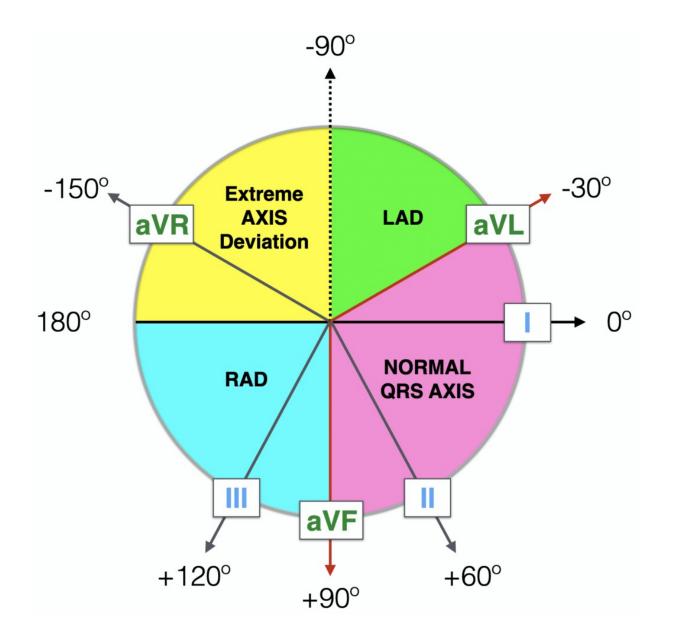
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Axis

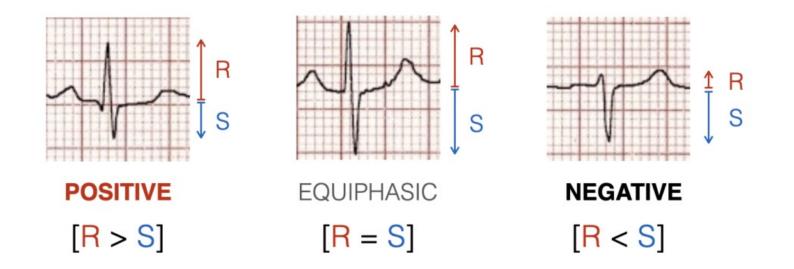
- **ORS complex axis:** s the general direction of the ventricular depolarization
- three types:
- normal
- left deviated
- right deviated.

Population data shows that normal QRS axis is from –30° to 105° with 0° 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:



Lead 1	Lead aVF	Quadrant	Axis
POSITIVE	POSITIVE	-90° 180° 0° +90°	Normal Axis (0 to +90°)
POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	-90° 180° 0° +90°	**Possible LAD (0 to -90°)
NEGATIVE	POSITIVE	-90° 180° +90°	RAD (+90° to 180°)
NEGATIVE	NEGATIVE	-90° 180° 0° +90°	Extreme Axis (-90° to 180°)

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.

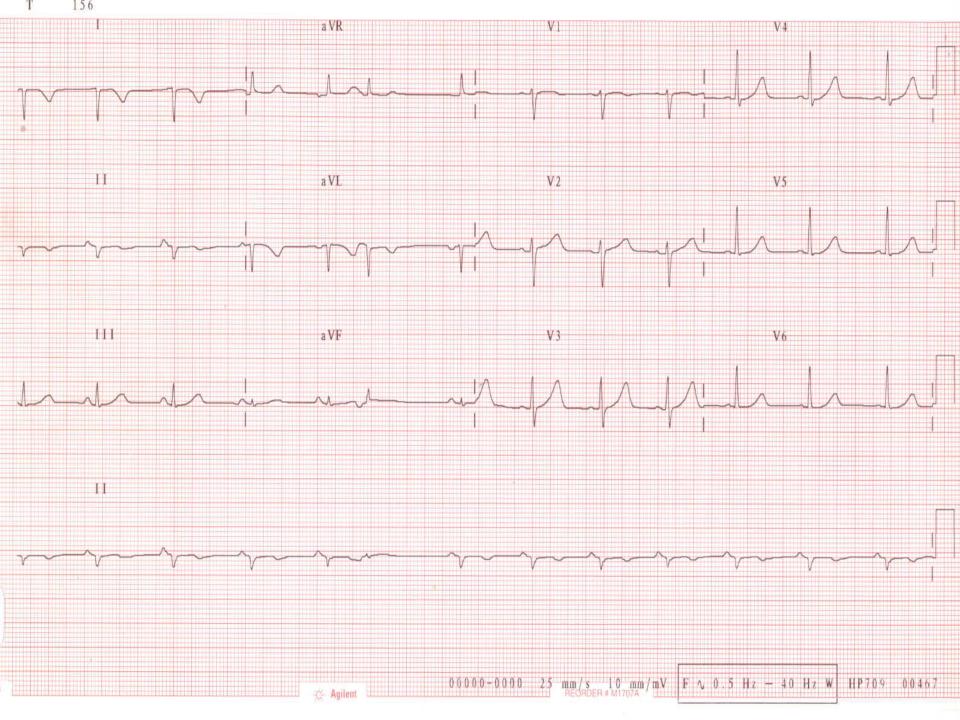
IS the ECG SET UP CORRECTLY?

LIMB LEADS

- aVR always negative
- Lead I always positive

CHEST LEADS

- R wave progression
- Small to Tall



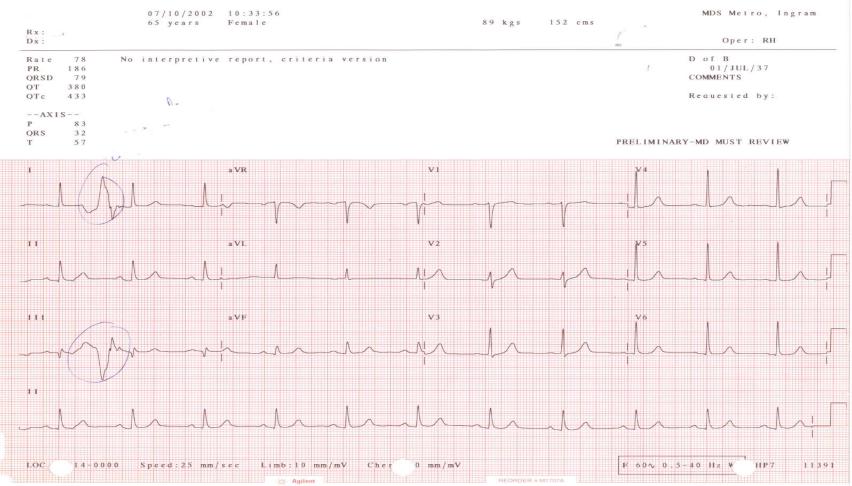
PROBLEMS WITH THE ECG

- Artifact
- •Electrical interference
- Muscle tremor
- Wandering baseline

artifacts

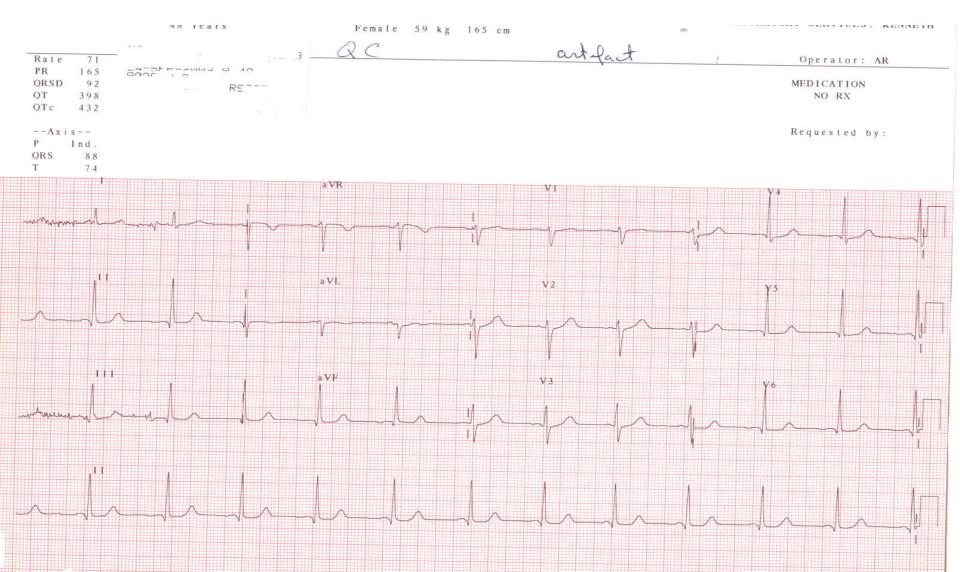
- •ECG alterations, not related to cardiac electrical activity.
- the components of the (ECG) such as the baseline and waves can be distorted.
- Motion artifacts are due to movement.

FIND THE ARTEFACT

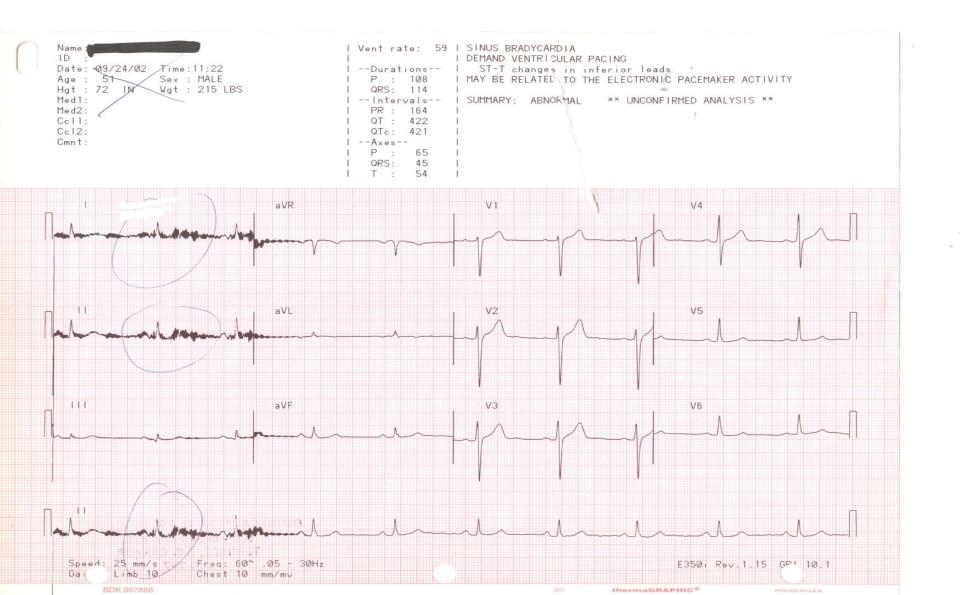


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MUSCLE TREMOR



ELECTRICAL INTERFERANCE



BASIC OBSERVATIONS

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

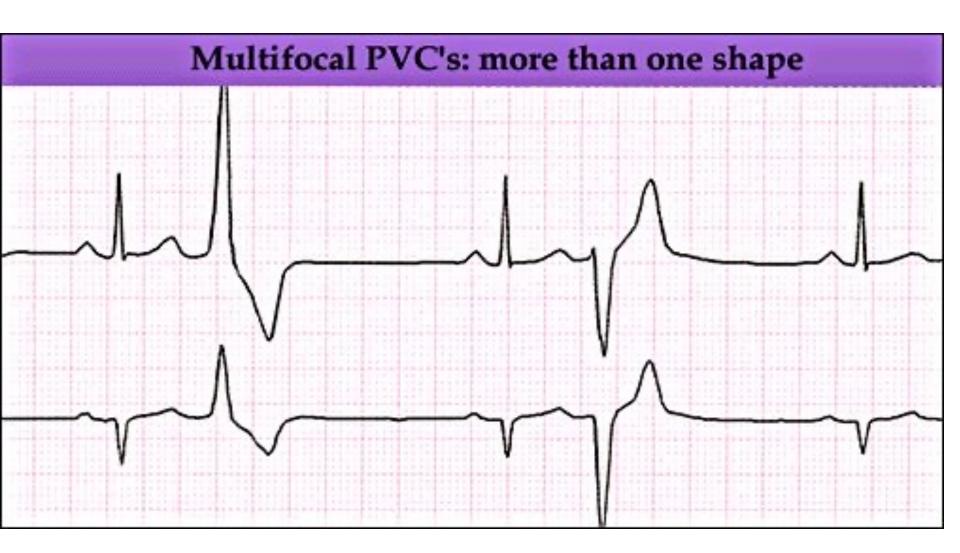
Ectopic beat

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

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- Premature atrial contractions (PACs)
- Premature ventricular contractions

ECTOPIC BEATS



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)

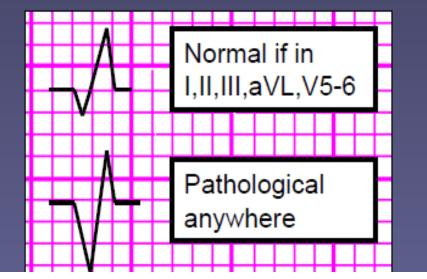
The Q wave

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 V₁ added to the height of the R wave in V₆ comes to more than 35mm, 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 – <u>usually</u> right or left bundle branch block (RBBB or LBBB)