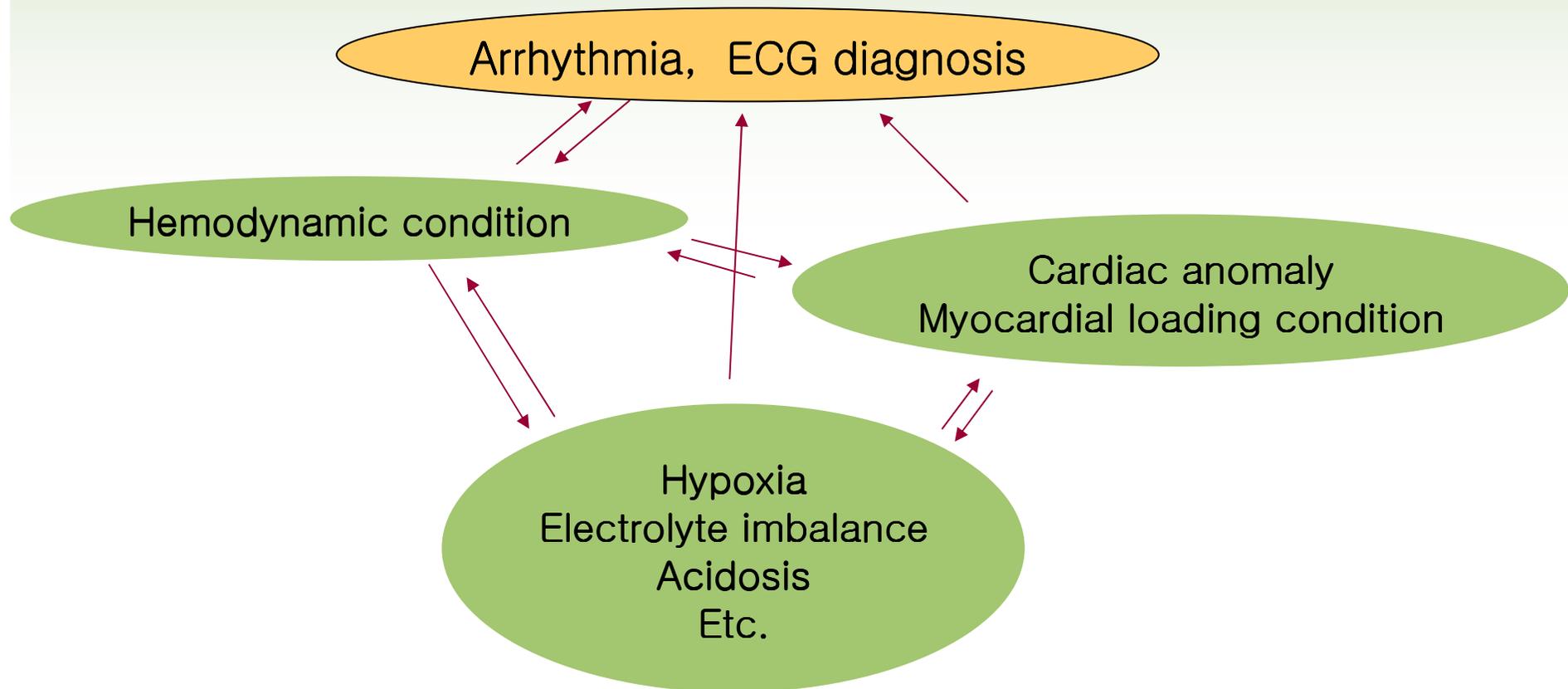


# **Management of Atrial arrhythmia after surgery of congenital heart disease**

Seoul National University Children's Hospital  
Bae Eun-Jung

# Treatment of tachycardia

- Attention to big cardiovascular picture



# Case 1. 6y/F

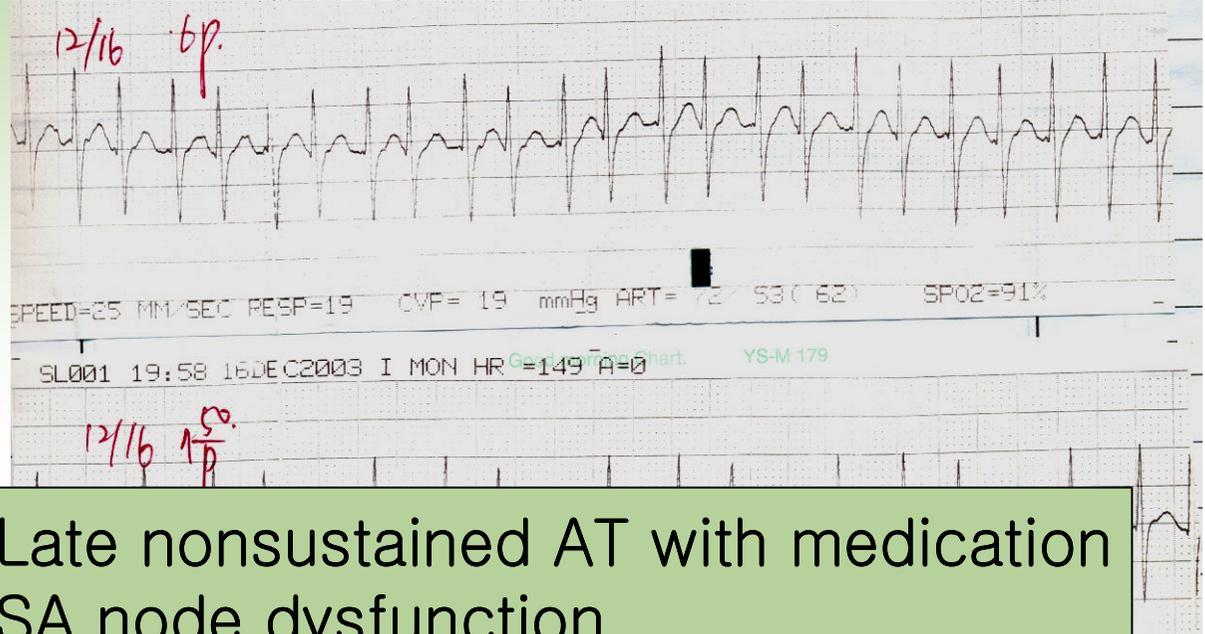
- Initial presentation with cyanosis (11m of age)
- Right isomerism.  
{A.D.D} Left Ao arch.  
Common inlet RV , rudimentary LV  
TAPVR to innominate vein with mild obstruction.  
DORV with PS ,Mild AVVR
- TAPVR repair and BCPS (15m, 6.8 kg)
- progressed AVVR to severe degree
  
- Fenestrated lateral tunnel Fontan op and common AVV repair ( 38m of age , Bwt 10.4kg )

# Postoperative Condition

Intermittent palpitation, Exercise intolerance FC II-III

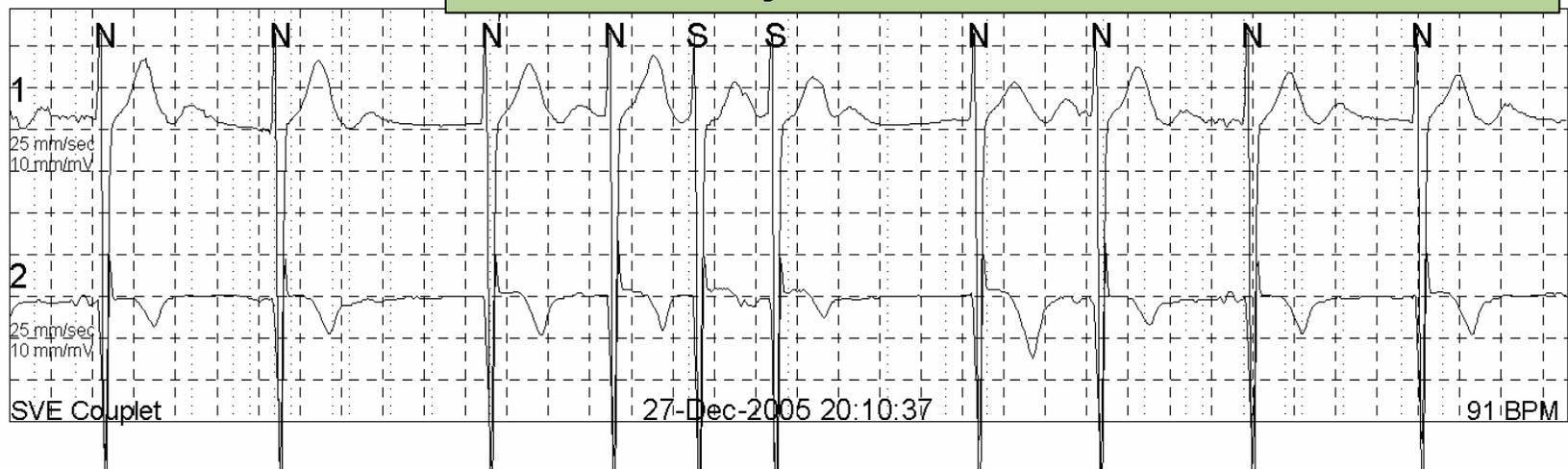
Medication: Sotalol, warfarin, digoxin, diuretics

Early post-Fontan  
2003



Holter, 2005

Late nonsustained AT with medication  
SA node dysfunction



Clinical :

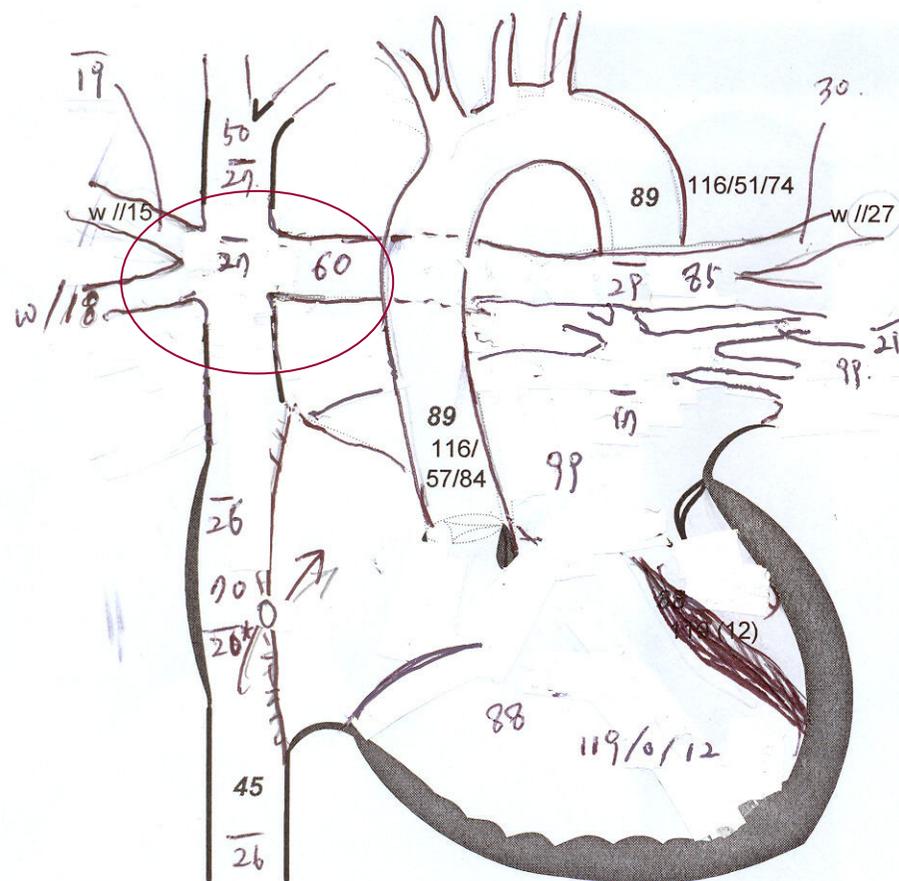
# Cath 2006, 3 y after Fontan op

Comment :

wt: 12.0 kg Ht: 95 cm BSA: 0.57 m<sup>2</sup>

Complication:

Hgb: 12.4 HR: VO2:



\* with oxygen

Fontan pathway mean : 26mmHg  
 with oxygen 20 mmHg  
 distal RPA : 22, RLPA : 18 mmHg  
 LUPA 30 , LUPAW : 27 mmHg  
 RUPA : 19, RUPAW : 15 mmHg  
 LUPV : 21 RLPV : 17 mmHg

Recommendation/Plan

## Diagnosis/Intervention

{A.D.D} left arch.  
 S/P Fontan op. <sup>1/2</sup> TAPVR (supracardiac) type  
 CAVSD, hypoplastic LV at left posterior.

DORV.

No Fontan pathway stenosis.

AVVR : mild,  
 elevated SVC, IVC, Fontan pathway, and both PA pressure

no significant PV stenosis  
 underdeveloped LPA peripheral bed  
 numerous arterial collaterals to LPA bed

Fontan pathway, SVC flow to RPA

RPA: overflow

elevated LVEDP, LAP

PG through fenestration : 8mmHg

EPS>

baseline: mainly sinus node  
 dysfunction with accelerated junctional  
 rhythm

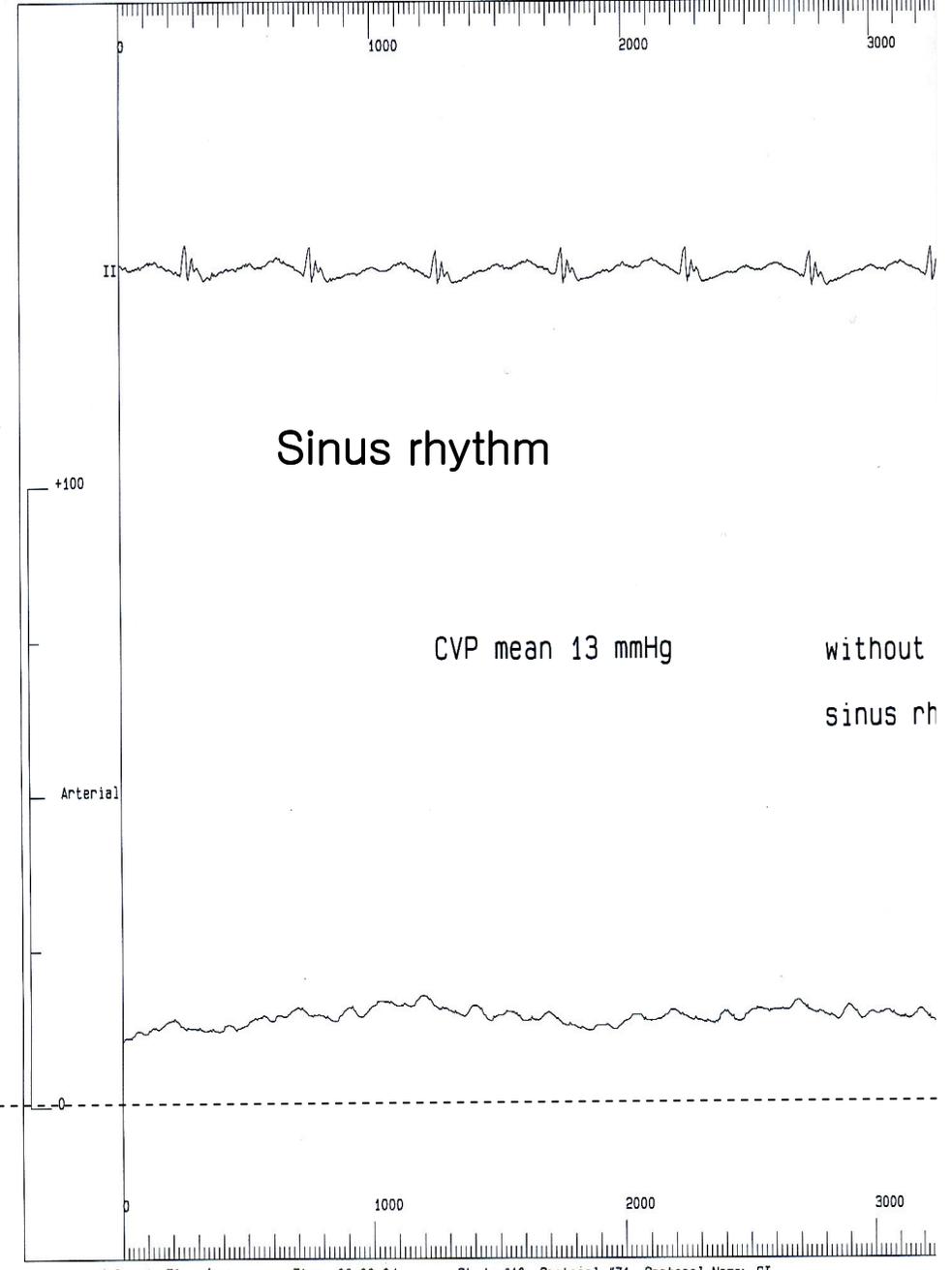
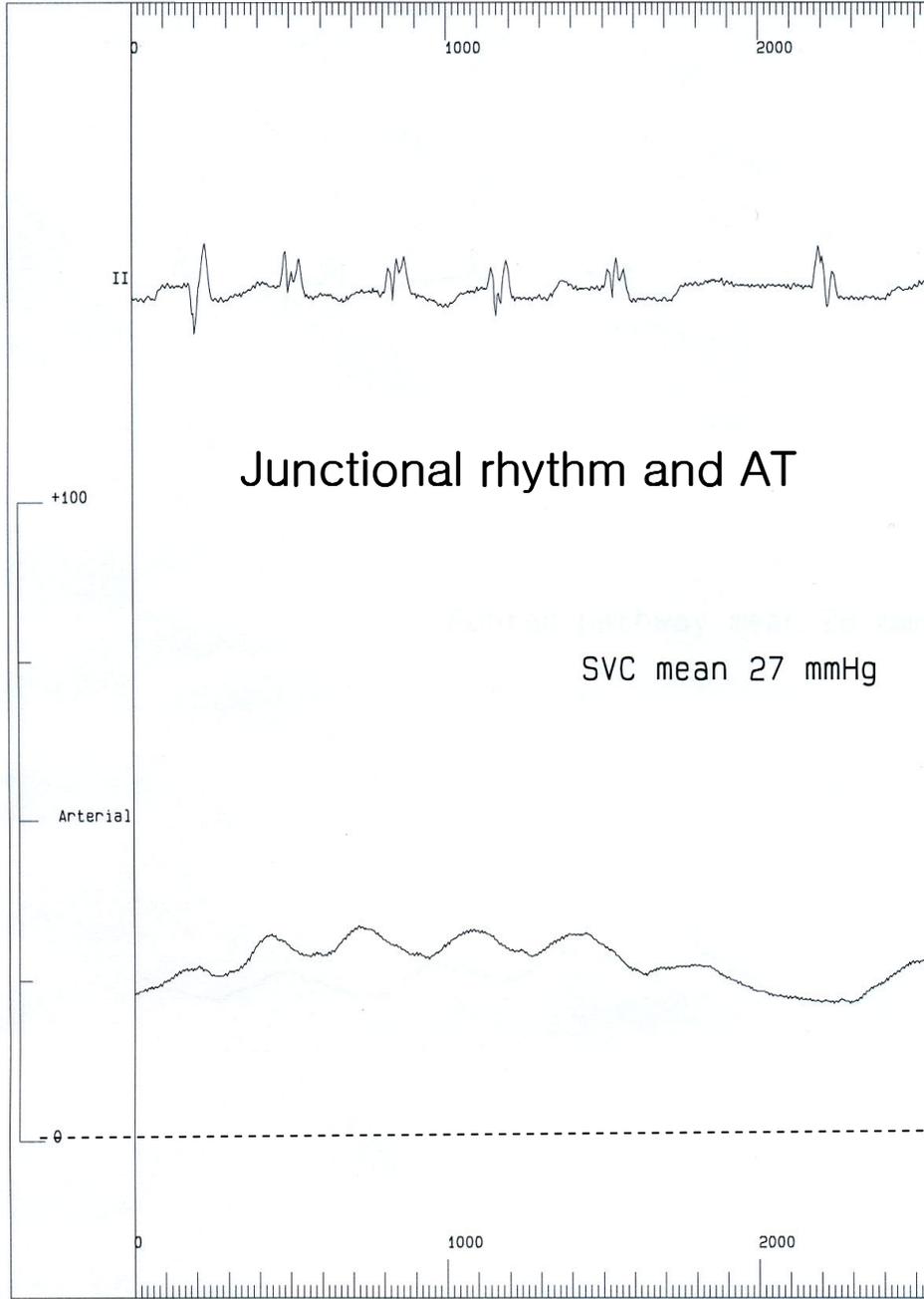
no inducible junctional tachycardia

nonsustained atrial flutter fibrillation

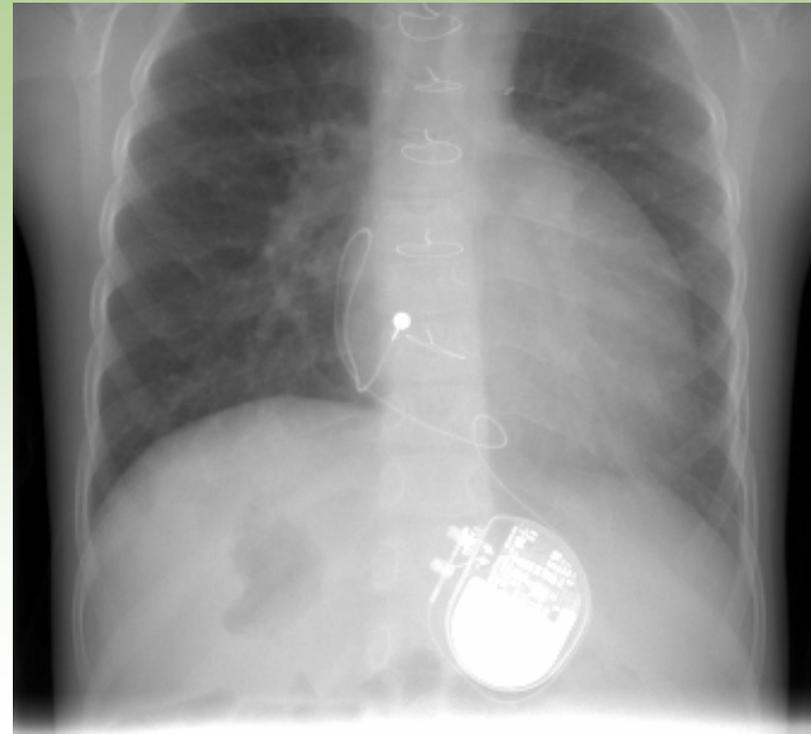
was induced

no VA conduction during V pacing

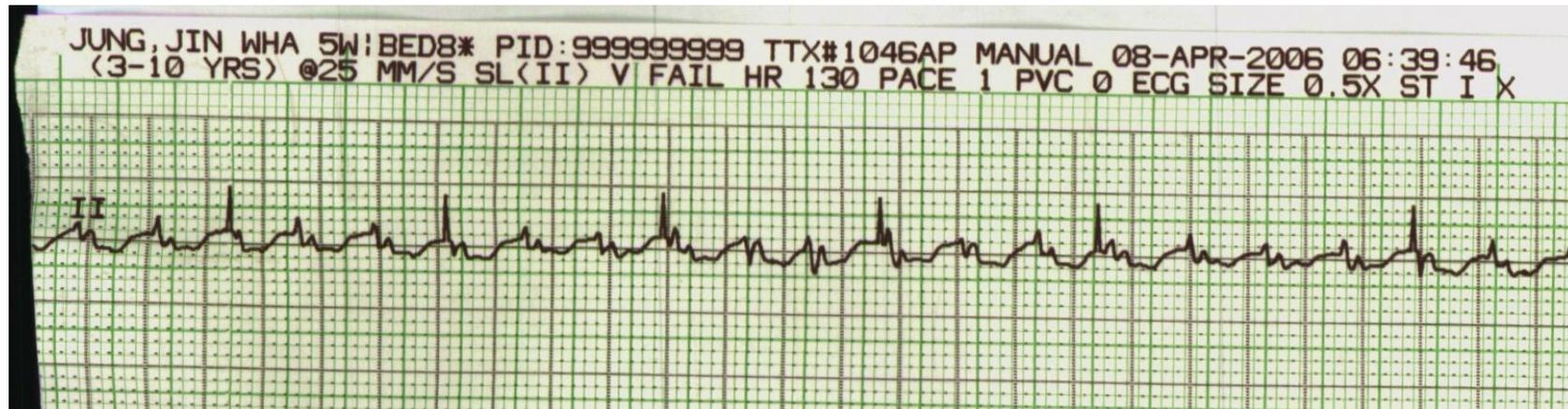
\* mean CVP with sinus rhythm, oxygen:  
 14 mmHg



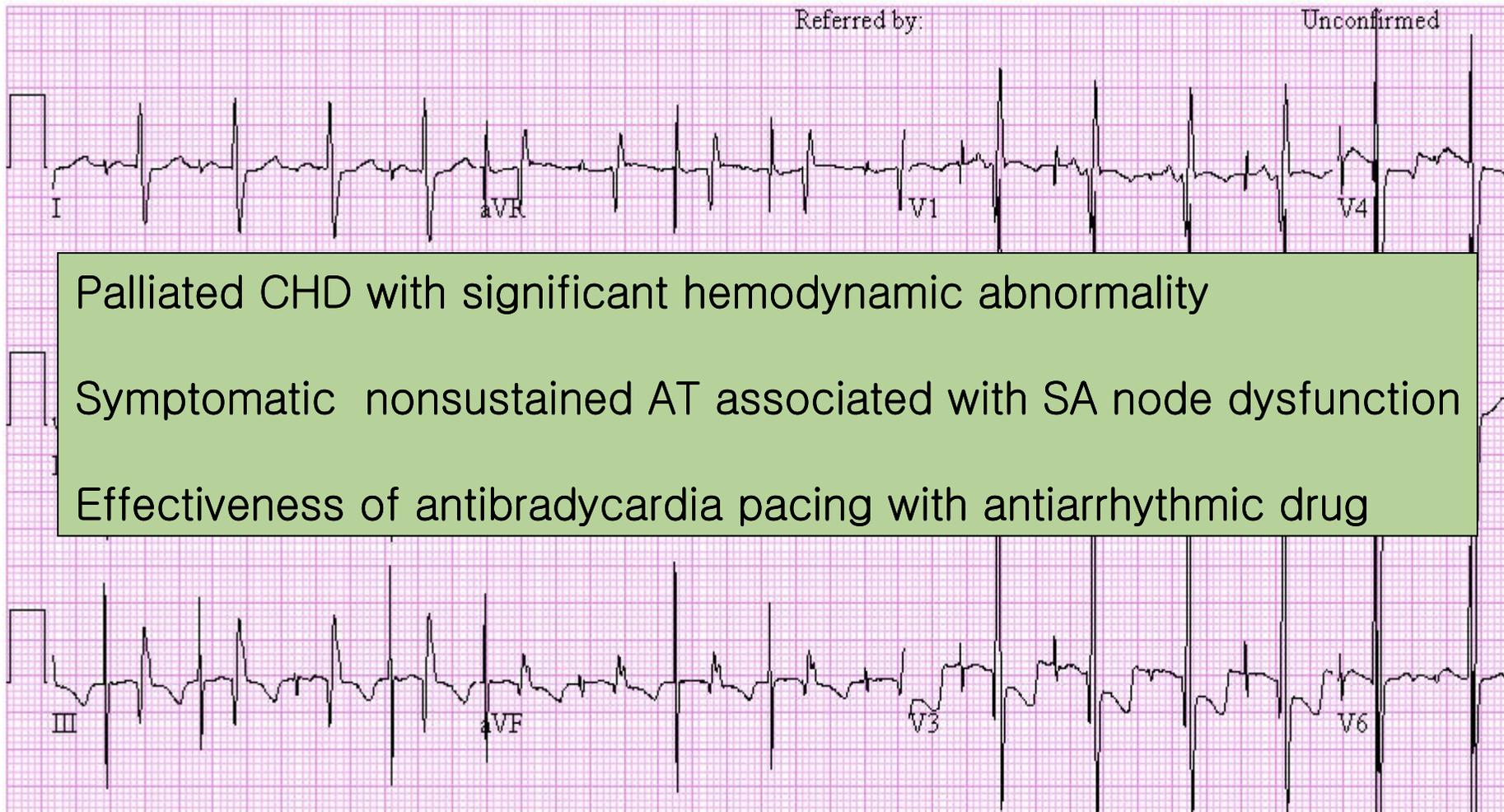
# AAIR pacemaker



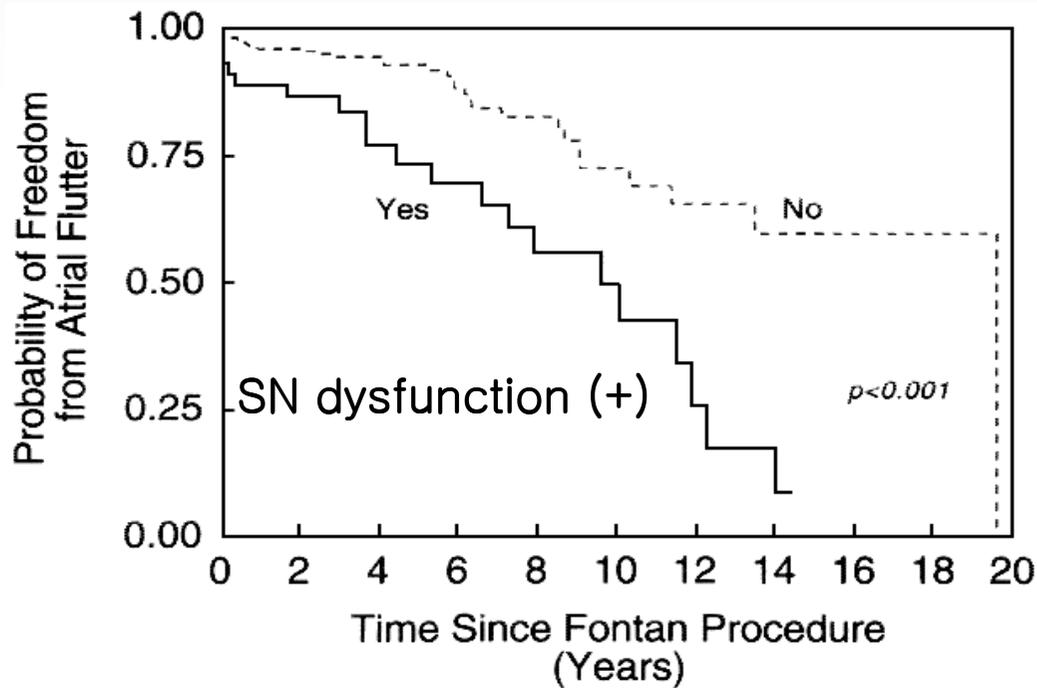
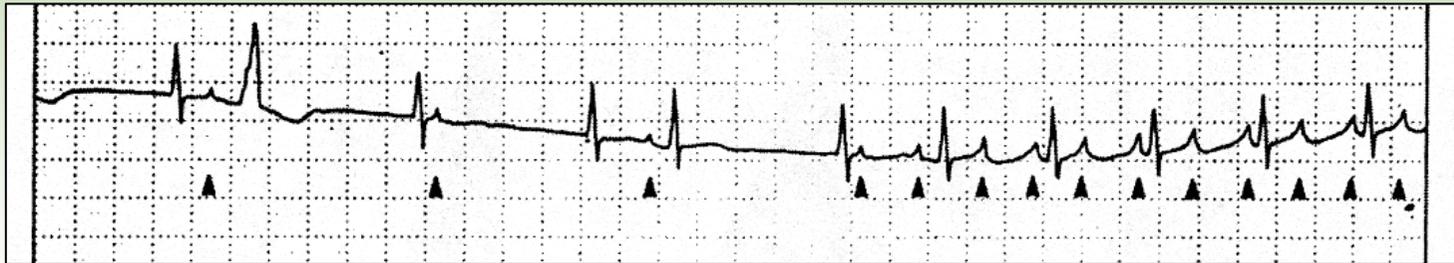
- Postop. tachycardia → sotalolol



AAIR pacemaker; Antibradycardia pacing  
& Solatol 3.5mg/kg/day #3  
→ Nearly absent palpitation for 1 y  
improved exercise tolerance

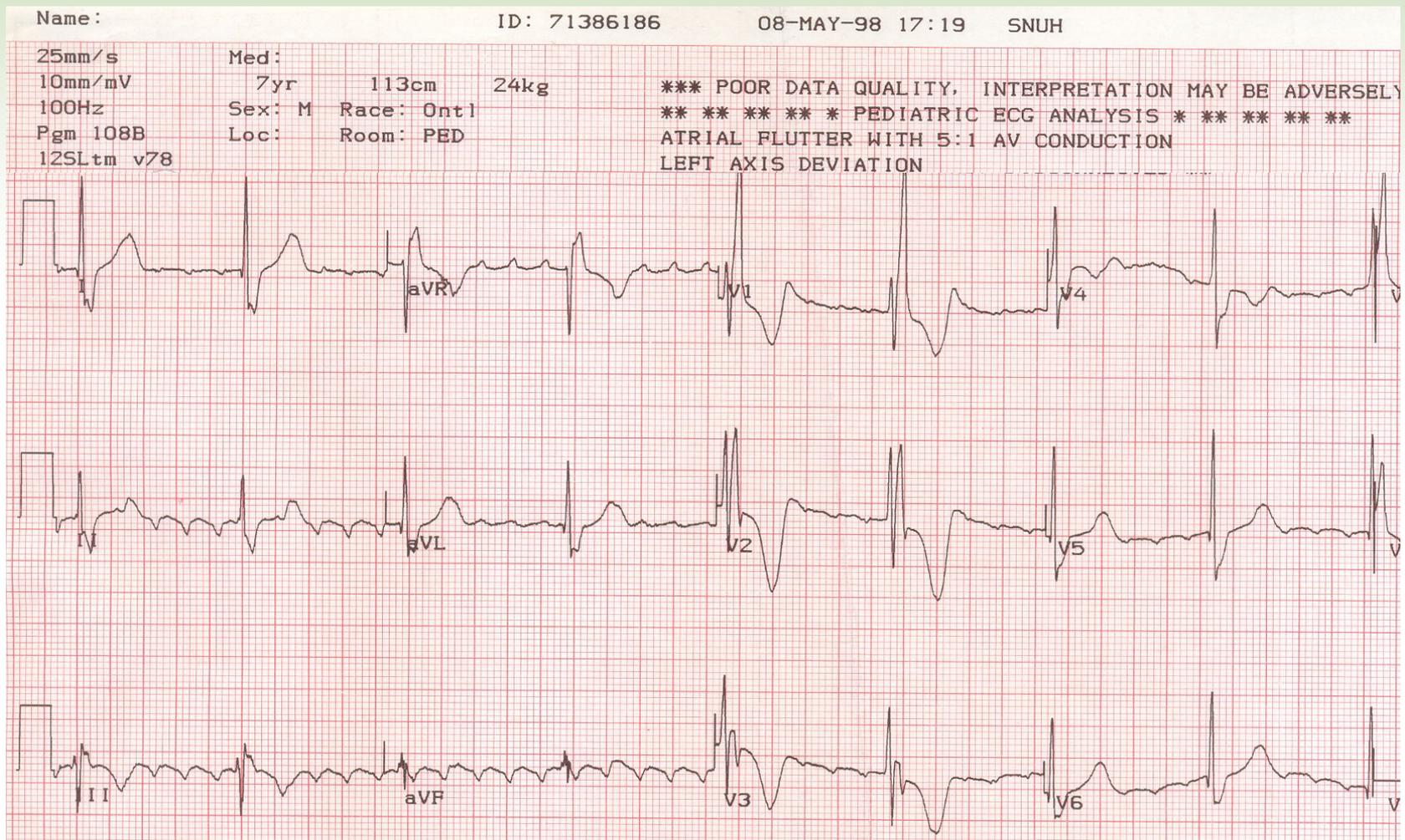


# Sinus node dysfunction increases the incidence of late AT



(Fishberger SB, JTCS 1997)

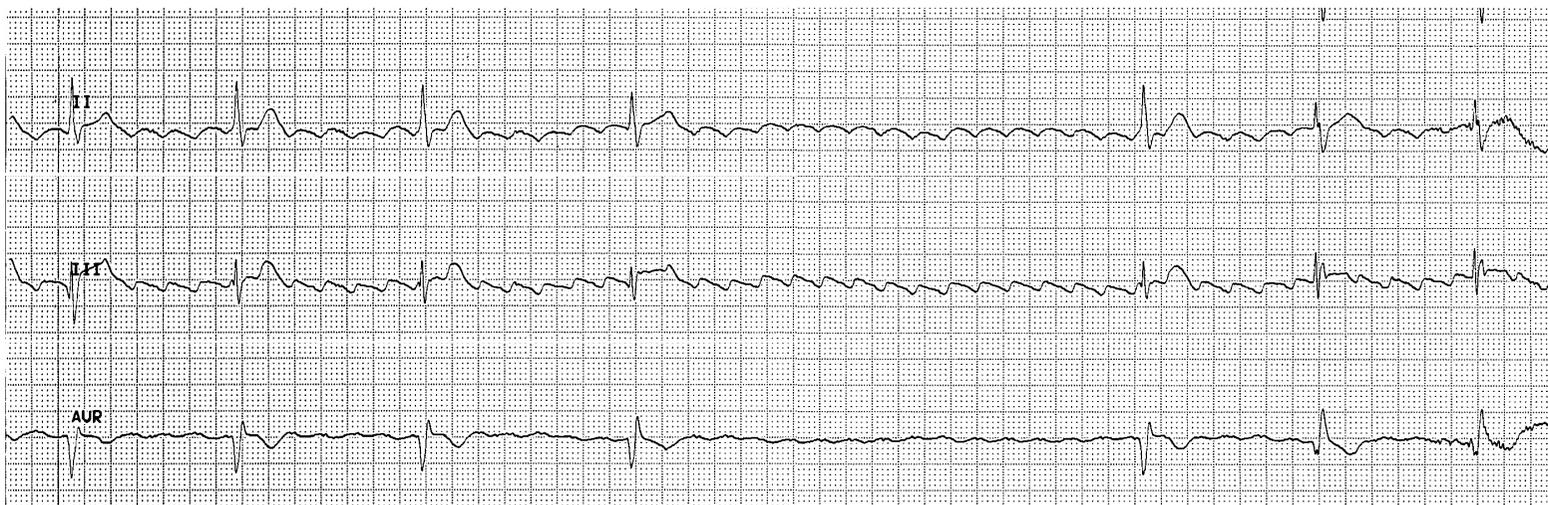
Case 3. S/P VSD closure ('93), Palpitation ('95); atrial flutter  
→ Digoxin for 3 y , recurred AFL ('98)  
→ Add sotalol (1.5-2mg/kg/d) for 3 y  
2002.9& 02.10; Visited ER d/t atrial flutter → DC cardioversion



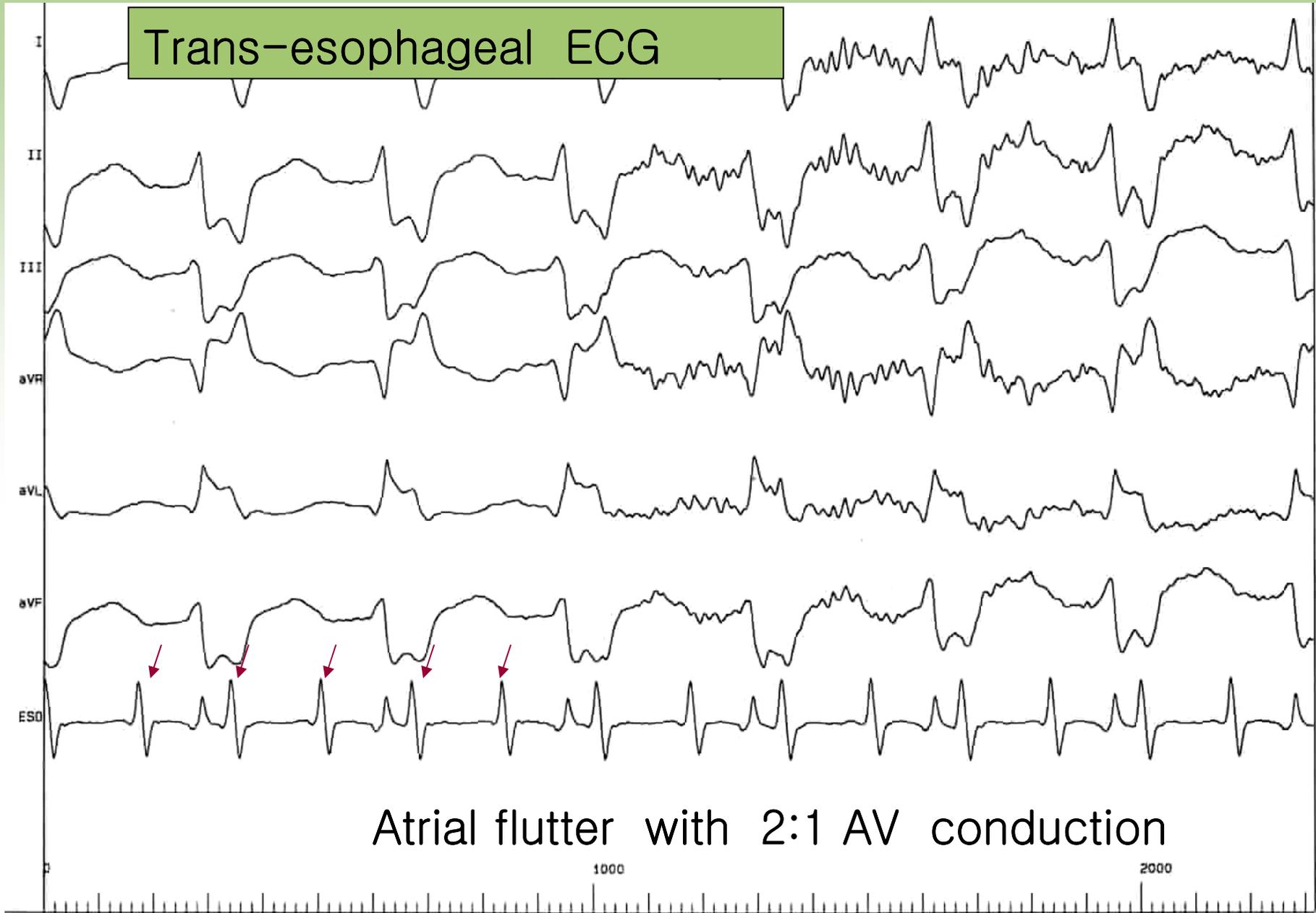


After adenosine injection

Atrial flutter



Trans-esophageal ECG

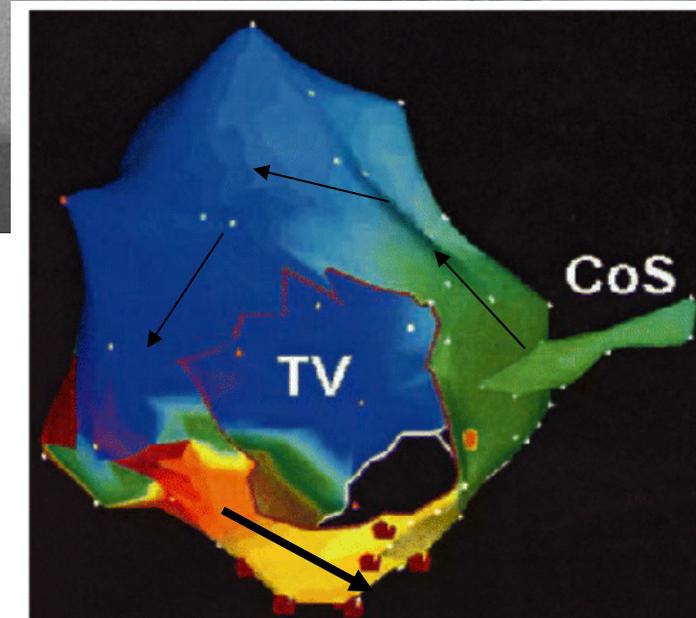
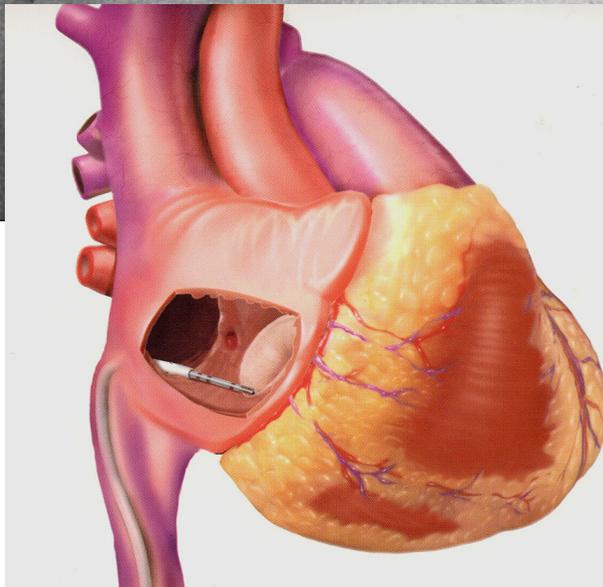
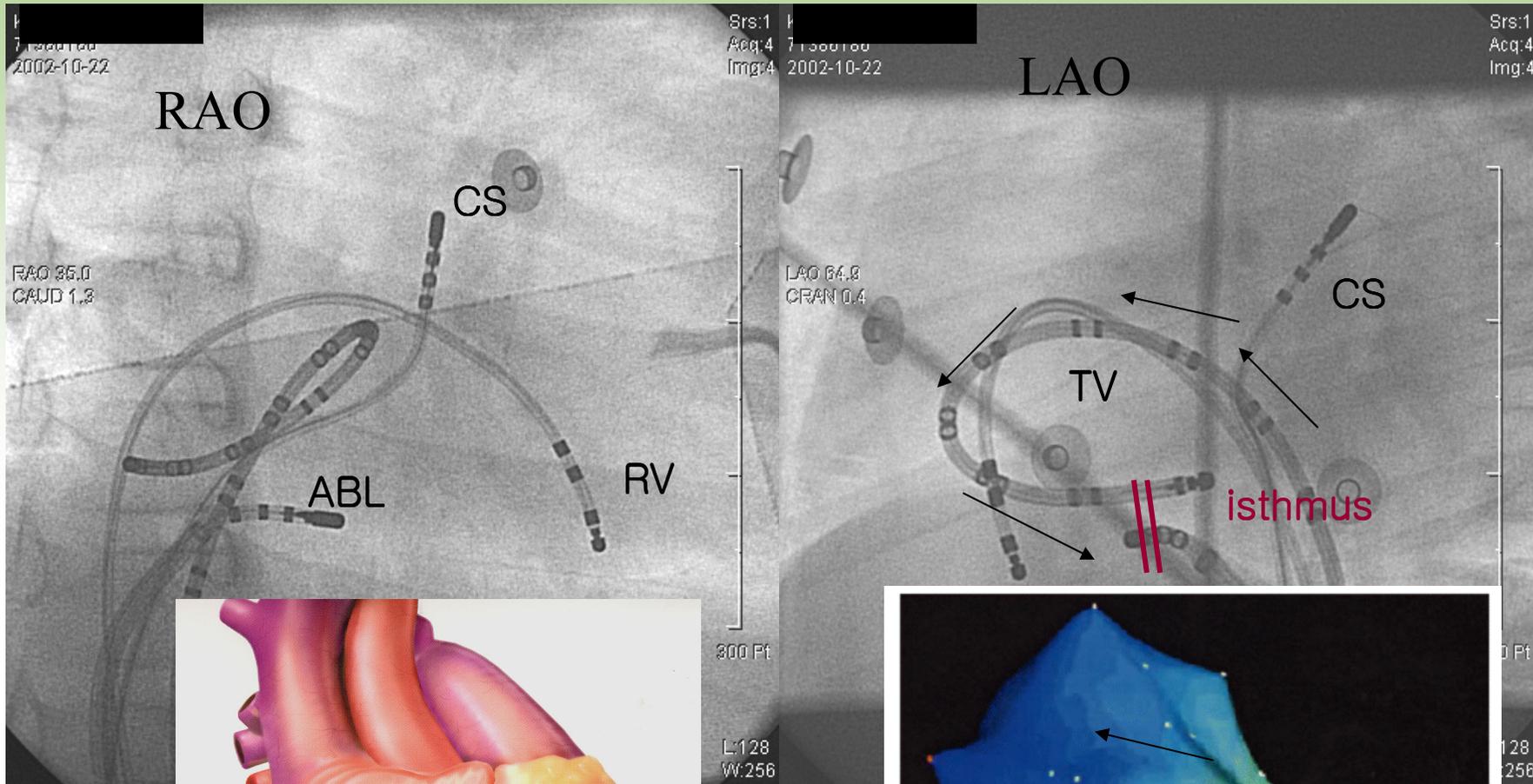


Atrial flutter with 2:1 AV conduction

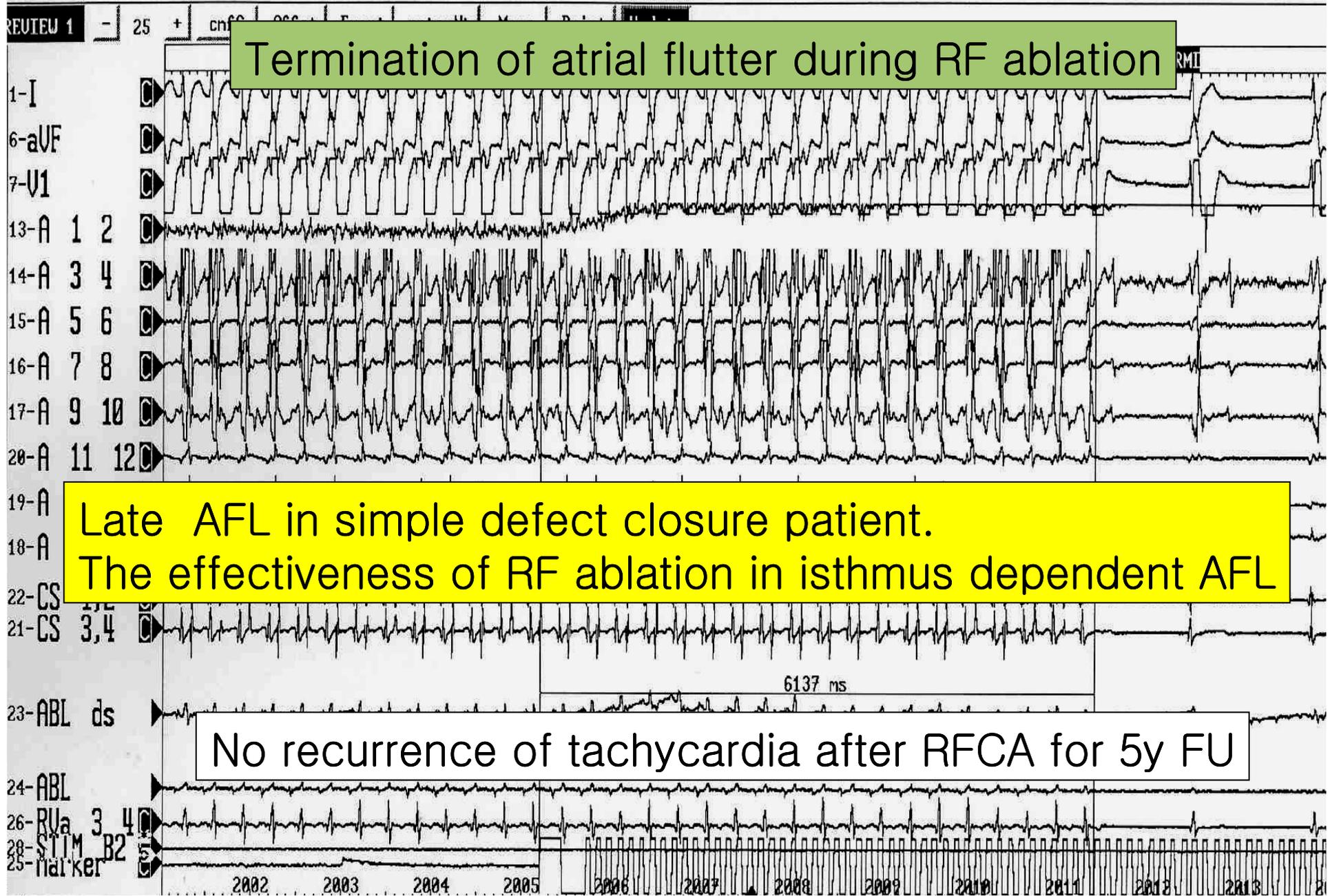


# 2002, Radiofrequency Ablation

# Periannular atrial flutter



Termination of atrial flutter during RF ablation



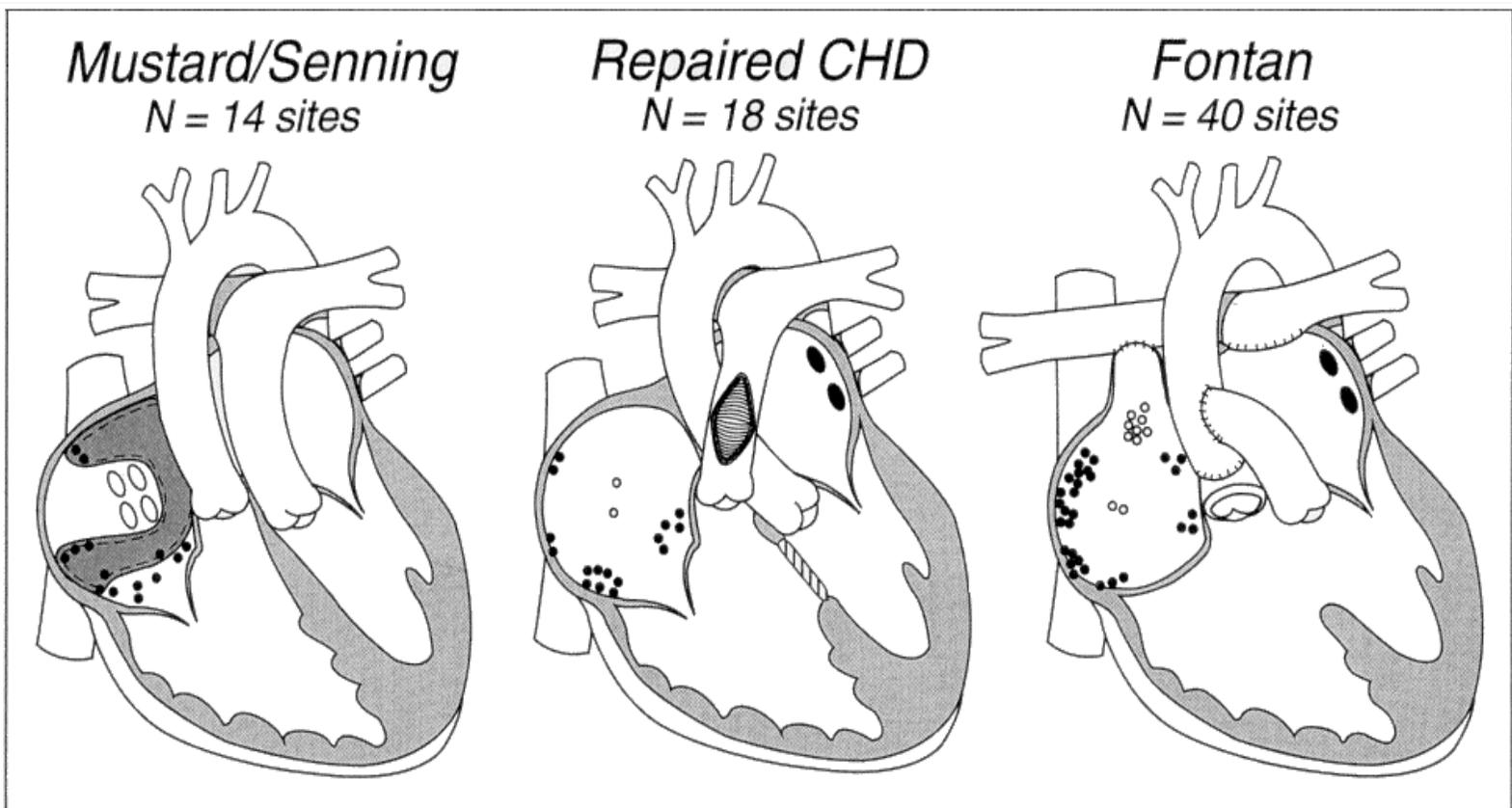
Late AFL in simple defect closure patient.  
The effectiveness of RF ablation in isthmus dependent AFL

No recurrence of tachycardia after RFCA for 5y FU

# Importance of atrial flutter isthmus in postoperative IART

( Van Hare ; circulation 2000)

- 19 postoperative IART cases  
21 IART circuits
- Disease
  - Fontan 1(0/1), TOF 4(3/4), TGA 4(3/4), septal defect 6(5/6)
  - Others 5
- 15/21 ; isthmus dependent IART
  - Success 93.3% isthmus flutters  
90.4% total



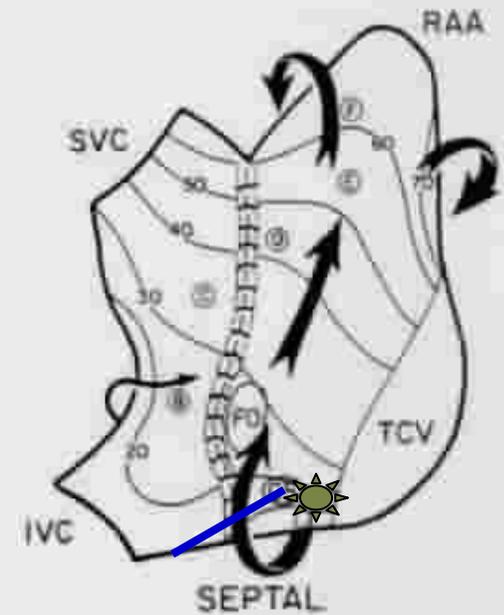
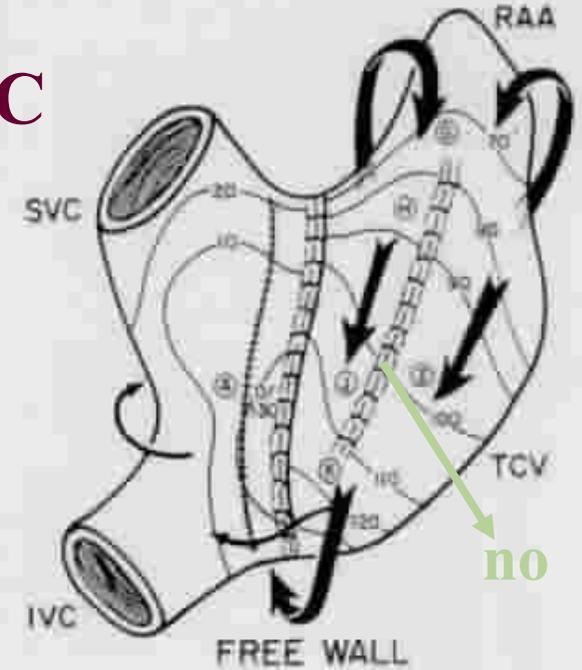
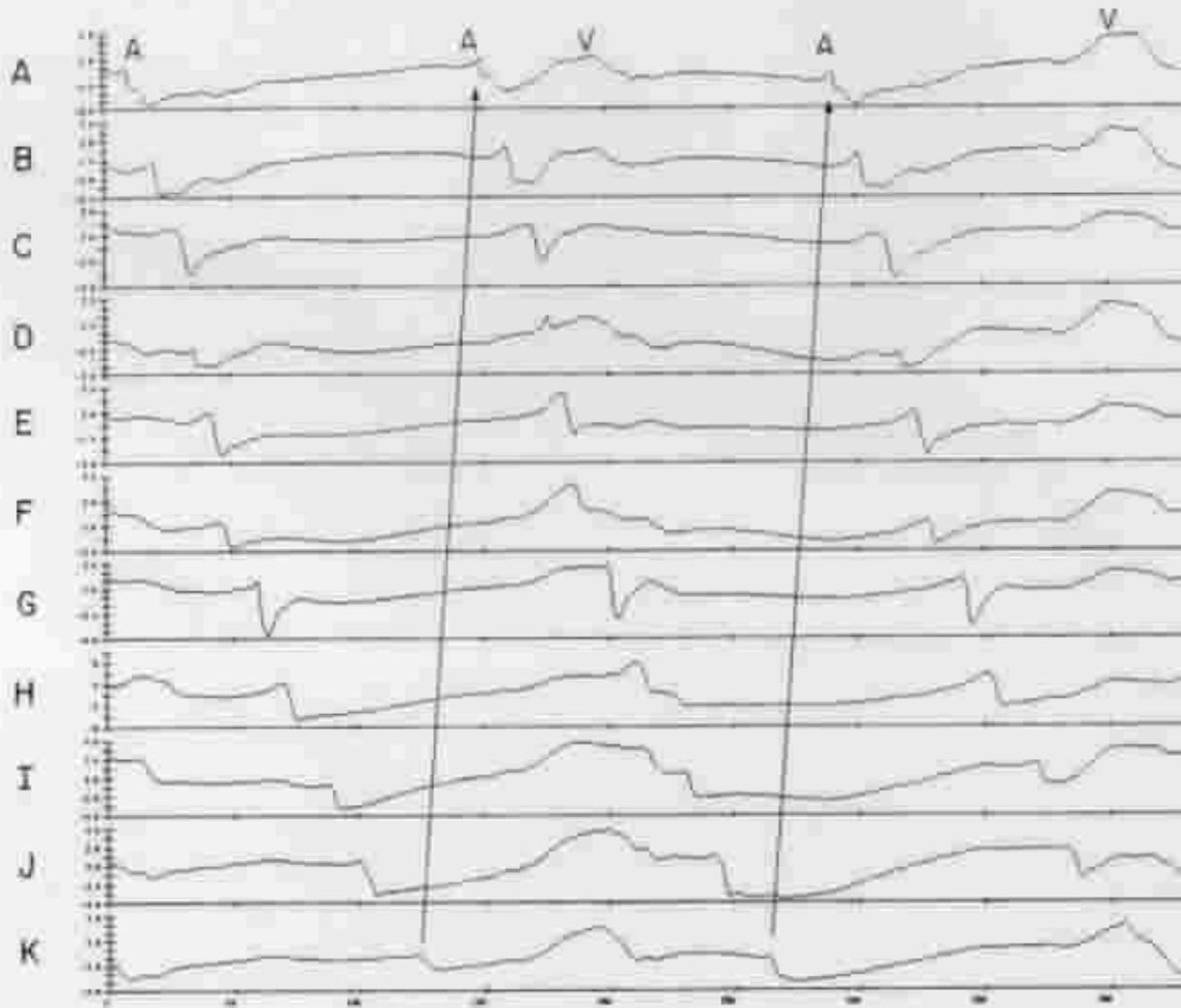
(Collin K.AJC.2000)

	RF Sites	RAVV/IVC Isthmus	Lateral RA Wall	Anterior RA Wall	Atrial Septum	Posterior RA
Mustard/Senning	14	8 (57%)	6 (43%)	0	0	0
Repaired CHD	18	12 (67%)	4 (22%)	2 (11%)	0	0
Fontan*	40	6 (15%)	21 (53%)	10 (25%)	3 (7%)	0

\*Fisher's exact test, significant at p = 0.001.

IVC = inferior vena cava; RA = right atrium; RAVV = right atrioventricular valve.

# Atrial reentrant tachycardia in TCPC



RIGHT ATRIUM

# The effect of preventive isthmus cryoablation during lateral tunnel Fontan operation

## - SNUCH experience (Kwon BS et al, 1<sup>st</sup> PCCS)

-From Feb. 1997 to Dec. 2003

Elective isthmus cryoablation

16 patients (M:F = 9:7)

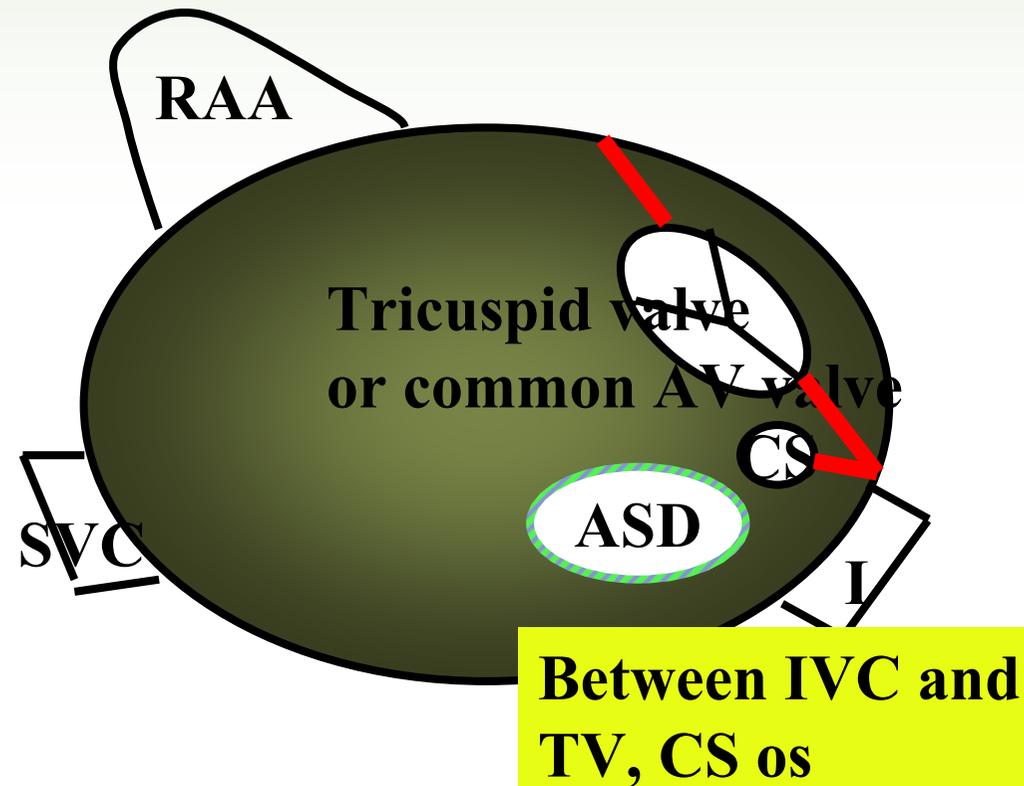
-EP study

From 2001 to 2006

59 patients s/p Fontan

M : F = 40 : 19

10.5 ± 5.0 (range:3-26) yrs



## Comparison of Inducible AFL with no AFL (II)

	No AFL (%)	AFL (%)	P-value
BDG	19/ 36 (53)	10 /23(44)	0.430
Other IC repair	23 /36 (64)	15 /23 (65)	0.970
<b>Fontan op</b>			<b>0.032</b>
LT	23 /36 (64)	16 /23 (70)	0.712
APC	1 /36 (2.8)	4/23 (17)	0.070
ECC	10/36 (28)	2/23 (8.7)	0.103
<b>Cryoablation</b>	<b>15/36 (42)</b>	<b>1/23 (4.3)</b>	<b>0.002</b>
Age at BDG	1.07 ± 0.64	1.36 ± 0.92	0.378
Age at Fontan	3.17 ± 4.15	3.99 ± 2.47	0.395
ASD	17/36 (47)	7/23 (30)	0.279
Atrial septectomy	14/36 (39)	9/23 (39)	0.985
ASD repair	0/36 (0)	4/23 (17)	0.019
PAB	6/36 (17)	2/23 (9)	0.464
Pul a. reconstruction	15/36 (42)	7/23 (30)	0.422

# Risk Factor of Inducible AFL

	No. (%)	OR	95% C.I.	P-value	
<b>Cryoablation (-)</b>		<b>15.71</b>	<b>.90-129</b>	<b>0.011</b>	
Other IC repair		1.06	0.36-3.17	0.917	
BDG		0.61	0.21-1.77	0.367	
Age at BDG		1.72	0.53-5.54	0.367	
Fontan op	ECC	1.00		0.070	
	<b>APC</b>	<b>5 (8)</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>1.65-136.17</b>	<b>0.016</b>
	LT	42 (71)	3.22	0.60-16.27	0.176
Age at Fontan		1.07	0.92-1.24	0.403	
ASD	34 (58)	0.489	0.16-1.74	0.204	
Septectomy	23 (39)	1.01	0.35-2.95	0.985	
ASD repair	4 (6.8)	-	-	NS	
PA banding	8 (14)	0.476	0.87-2.59	0.391	
PA recon	22 (37)	0.61	0.20-1.86	0.386	

# Multivariate Analysis of Risk Factors

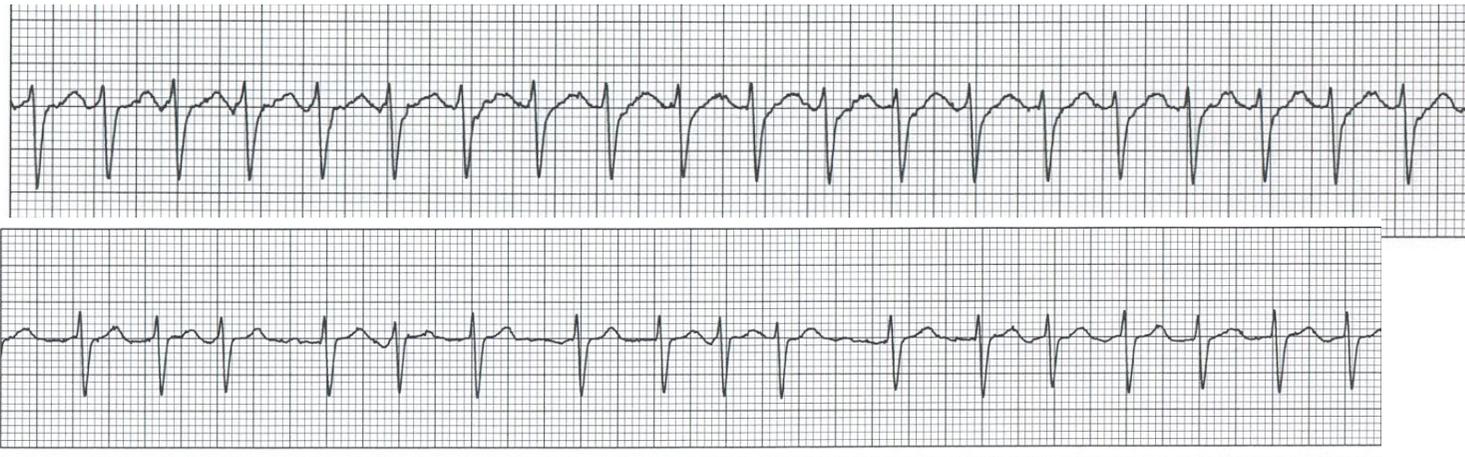
	No. (%)	OR	95% C.I.	P-value
<b>Cryoablation</b>	<b>16/59(27)</b>	<b>2.90</b>	<b>0.27-31.09</b>	<b>0.380</b>
<b>F/u duration</b>		<b>1.43</b>	<b>1.04-1.95</b>	<b>0.026</b>
<b>Age</b>		<b>2.09</b>	<b>1.11-3.92</b>	<b>0.022</b>
<b>Age at EPS</b>		<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.27-1.05</b>	<b>0.069</b>

# IART (intraatrial reentrant tachycardia ) AFL (atrial flutter)

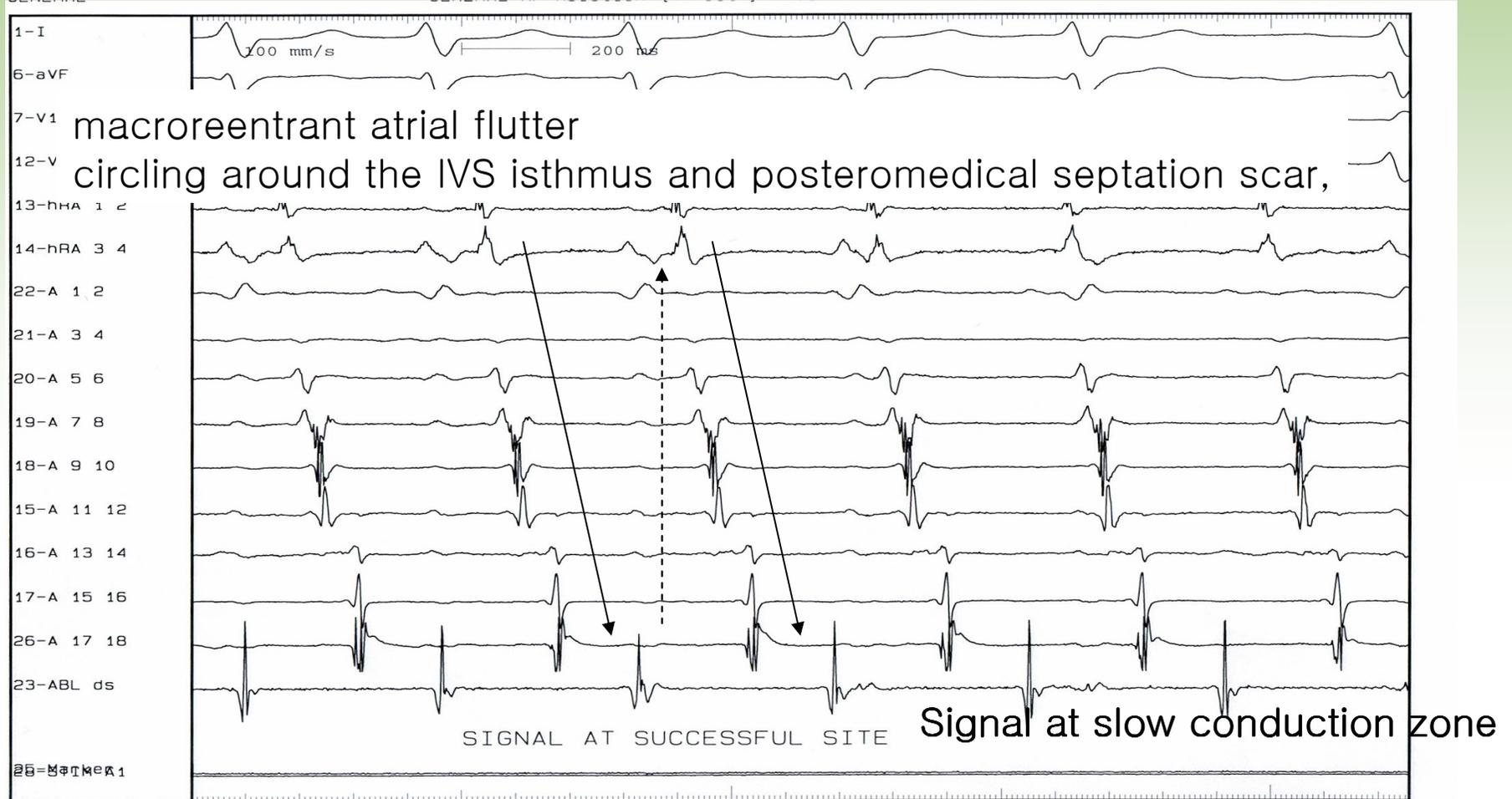
- ◎ 14-29% after Fontan type repair
- ◎ 10-15% after Mustard or Senning op.  
( Gewilling circulation 1991, Garson , JACC 1985)
  - Mortality ; 17%, sudden death 10%  
380 AFL , mean FU 6.5 y ( JACC 1985, Garson)
  - Risk of thromboembolism
  - Hemodynamic deterioration
  - Myocardial damage

## Case 4. 20 y/ F

- {S.D.D} double inlet RV , DORV , PS
- s/p atriopulmonary connection Fontan op (1989)
- Recurrent symptomatic tachycardia for 4 years in spite of antiarrhythmic medications  
(digoxin, beta blocker → sotalol,)  
admitted monthly



# Radiofrequency catheter ablation



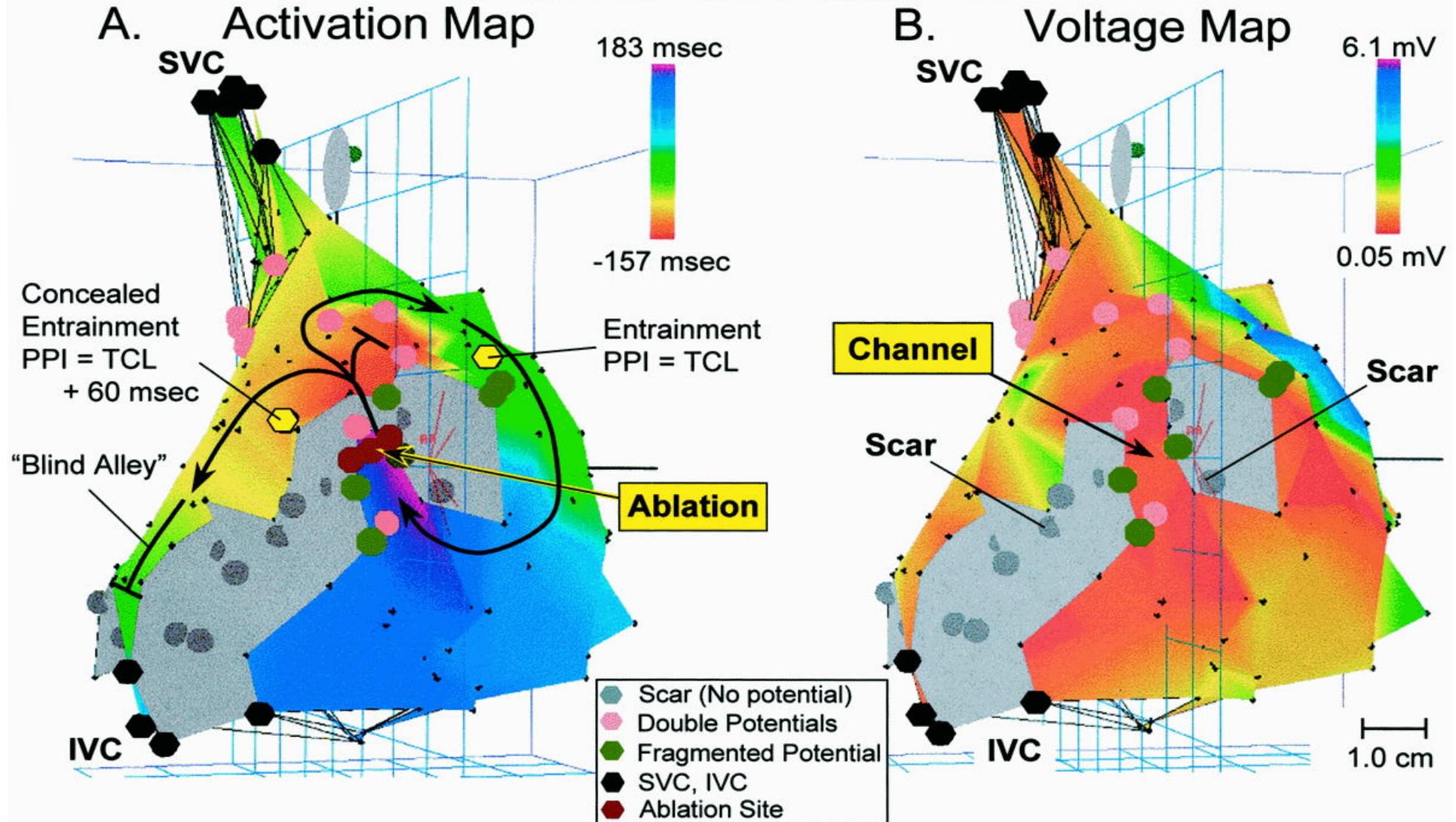
Initial acute success

Recurred 2 m later ,

on sotalol currently , self limited palpitation 0-2/yr for 3 y FU

# Advanced spatial referencing technique CARTO system

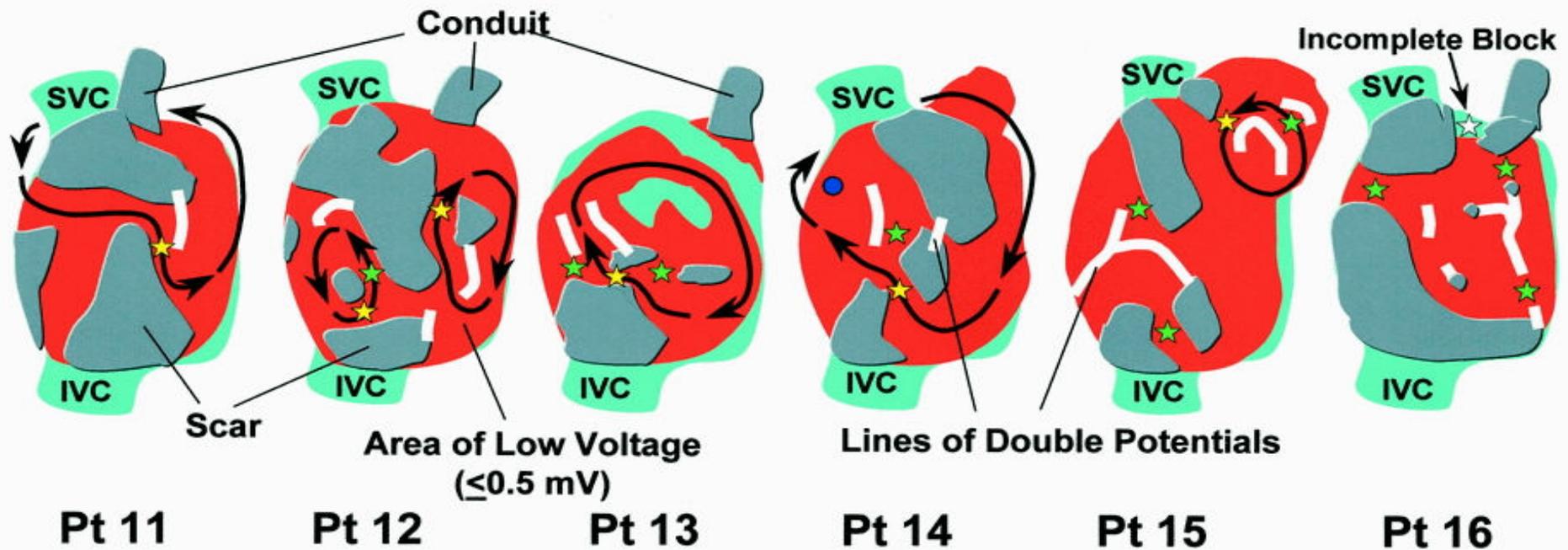
Right Posterior Oblique Projection



# Heterogeneous scars and circuits

(Nakagawa H et al. Circulation 2001)

## c Fontan Procedure

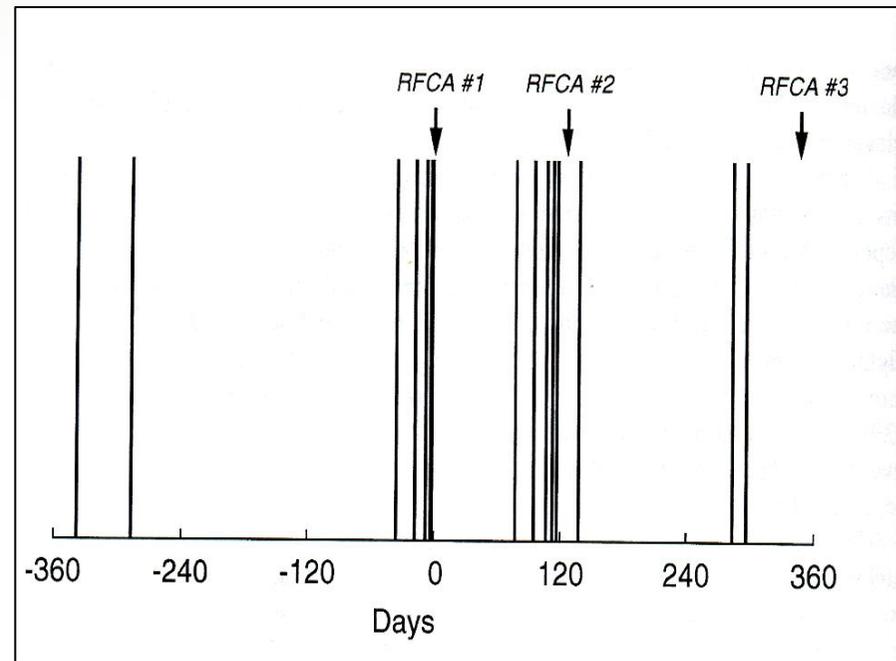
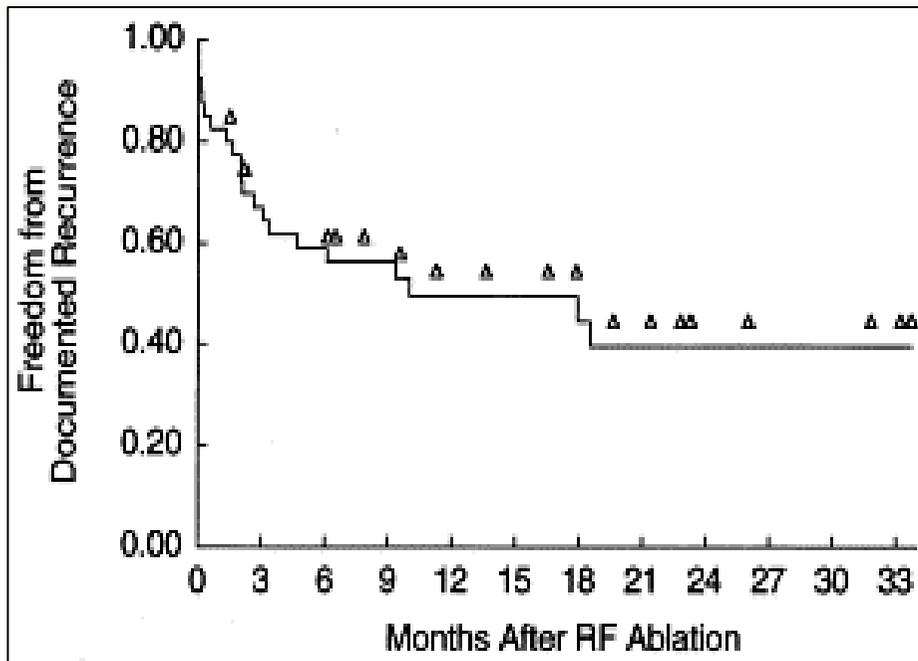


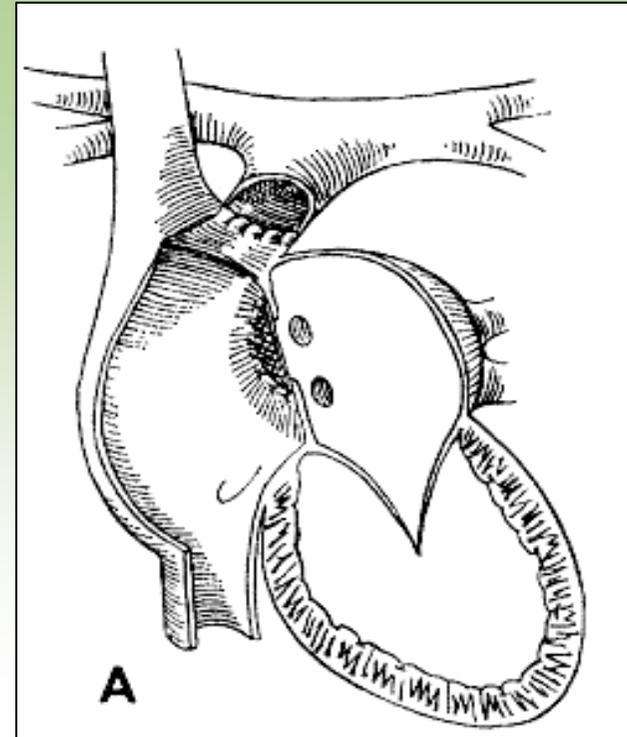
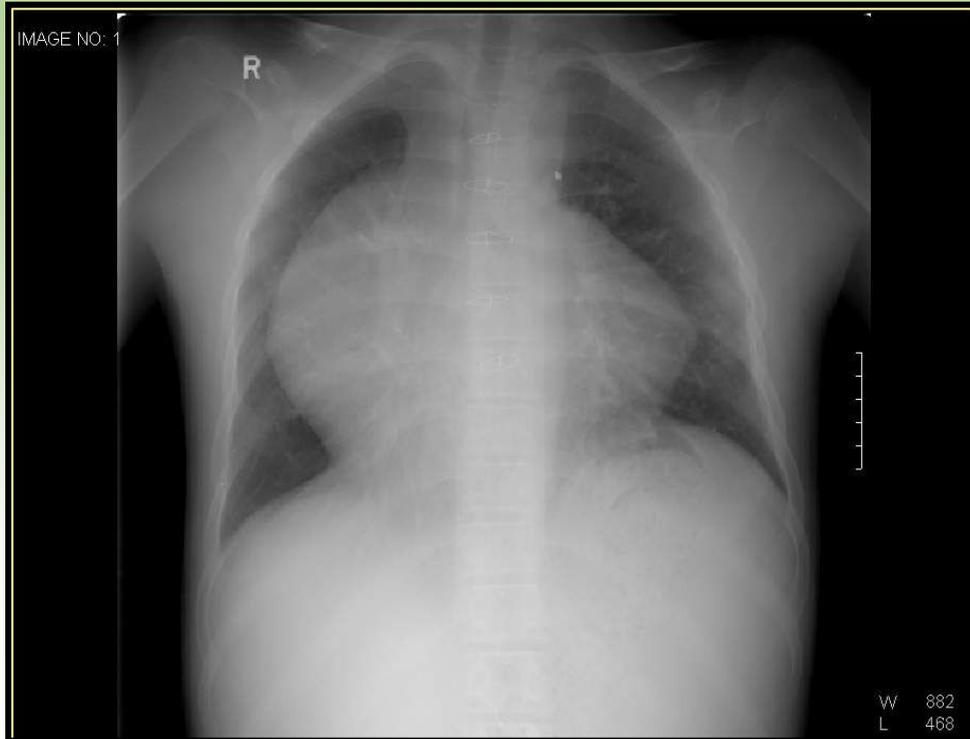
# Radiofrequency catheter ablation

Overall success rate; 50-85%

Recurrence rate; 40-50% in a year

(Triedman JK, JACC 1997)





Case 6. 16y/m, Tricuspid atresia

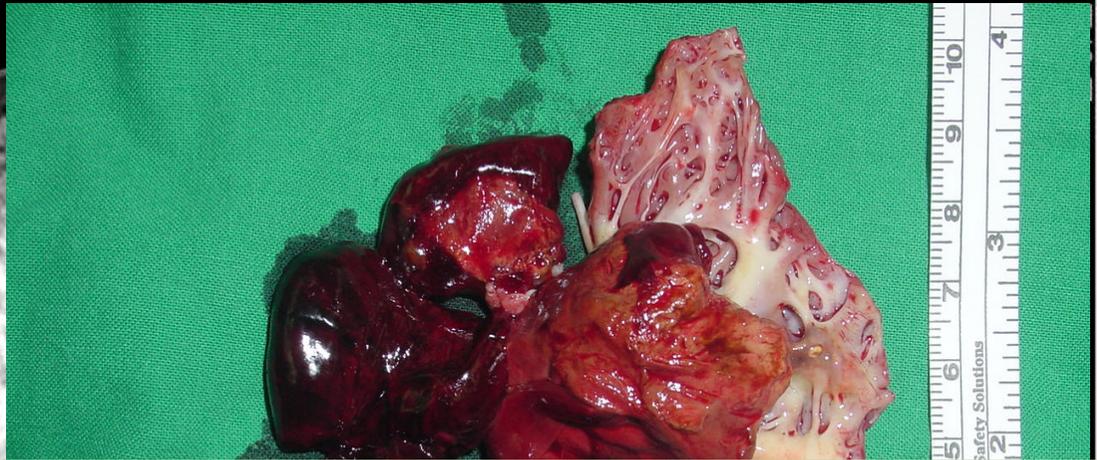
S/p Atriopulmonary connection

lost FU for 10 y and visited ER

- tachycardia ( atrial flutter ), progressive edema, dyspnea

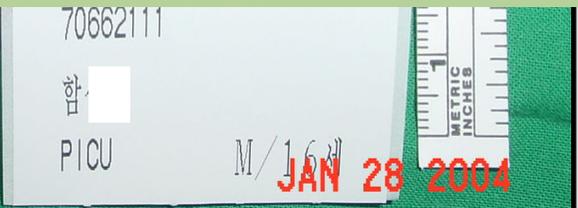
IMAGE NO: 235  
LightSpeed Ultra  
NO^JEONG IL

FFS  
Se 2  
Im 234  
1.3thk



No recurrence of atrial flutter for 3 y  
Warfarin, enalapril, low dose of diuretics  
NYHA FCII, full time job , mild liver dysfunction

Fontan con  
RA reducti  
RA maze o



TP -153.7  
TI 446  
kVp 100  
mAs 688  
GT 0  
2004-01-05  
11:28  
Chest CT (Pulmonary ar

50mm

W 350  
L 40

# Atrial flutter, thrombosis, hemodynamic outcome

systemic AVVR, biatrial enlargement

RA thrombosis, heart failure

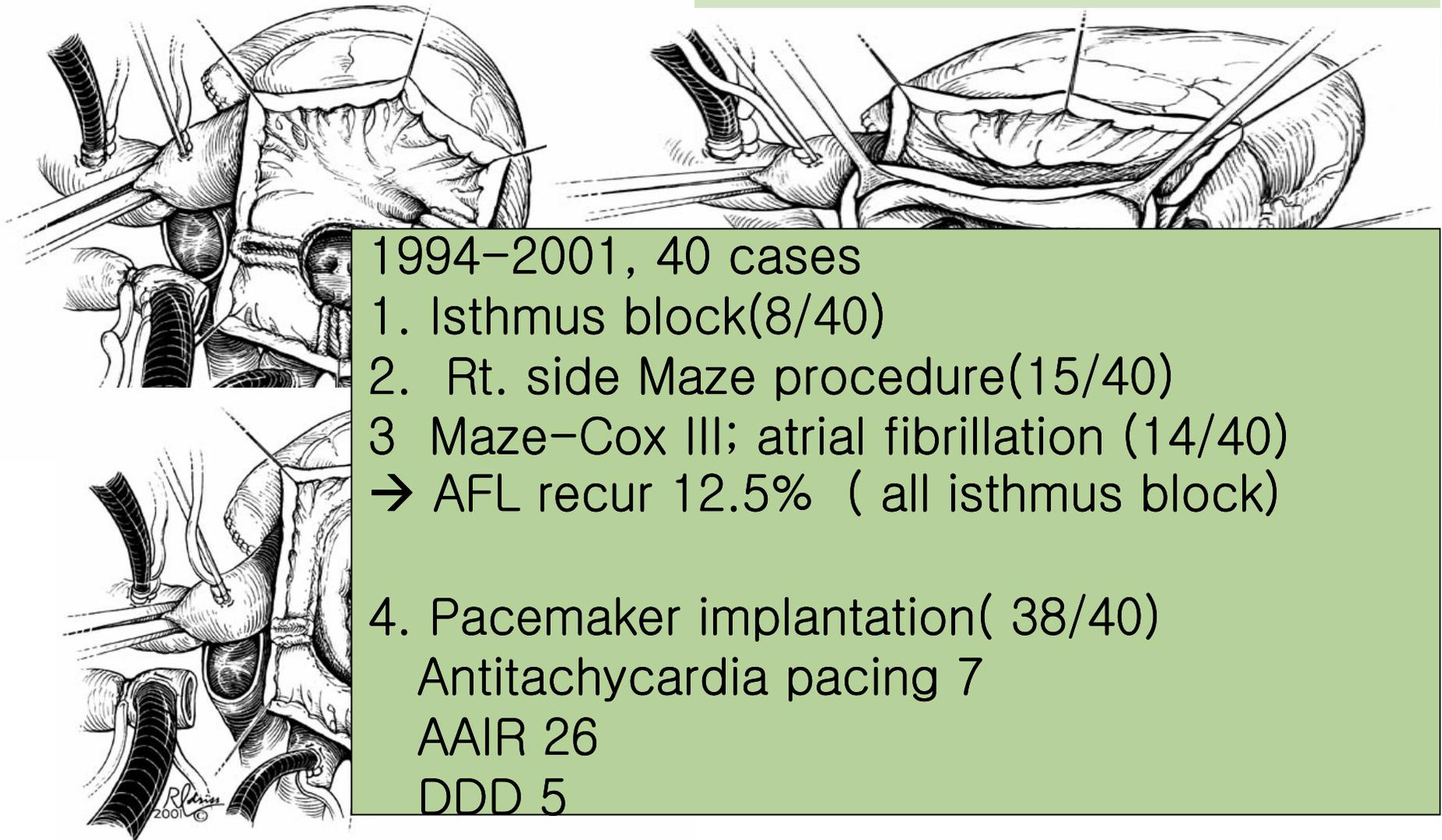
(Ghai et al., JACC 2001)

Clinical Outcome	Arrhythmia Group	Arrhythmia-Free Group	p Value
Heart failure	18 (46)	7 (13)	0.0036
Right atrial thrombus	12 (31)	2 (4)	0.0062
Pulmonary embolus	2 (5)	5 (9)	0.37

Chamber Dimension	Arrhythmia Group		Arrhythmia-Free Group		p Value
	n	Dimension or Volume (mean $\pm$ SD)	n	Dimension or Volume (mean $\pm$ SD)	
RA-ML	29	59 $\pm$ 19 mm	35	49 $\pm$ 13 mm	0.019
RA-SI	29	60 $\pm$ 18 mm	35	51 $\pm$ 15 mm	0.037
RA Volume	29	139 $\pm$ 149 ml	35	76 $\pm$ 54 ml	0.040
LA size	32	44 $\pm$ 10 mm	44	37 $\pm$ 9 mm	0.002

# Conversion Fontan and arrhythmia surgery

Mavroudis C, Deal BJ et al. JTCS 1998 , JTCS, 2001, Circulation 2002



1994–2001, 40 cases

1. Isthmus block(8/40)

2. Rt. side Maze procedure(15/40)

3 Maze–Cox III; atrial fibrillation (14/40)

→ AFL recur 12.5% ( all isthmus block)

4. Pacemaker implantation( 38/40)

Antitachycardia pacing 7

AAIR 26

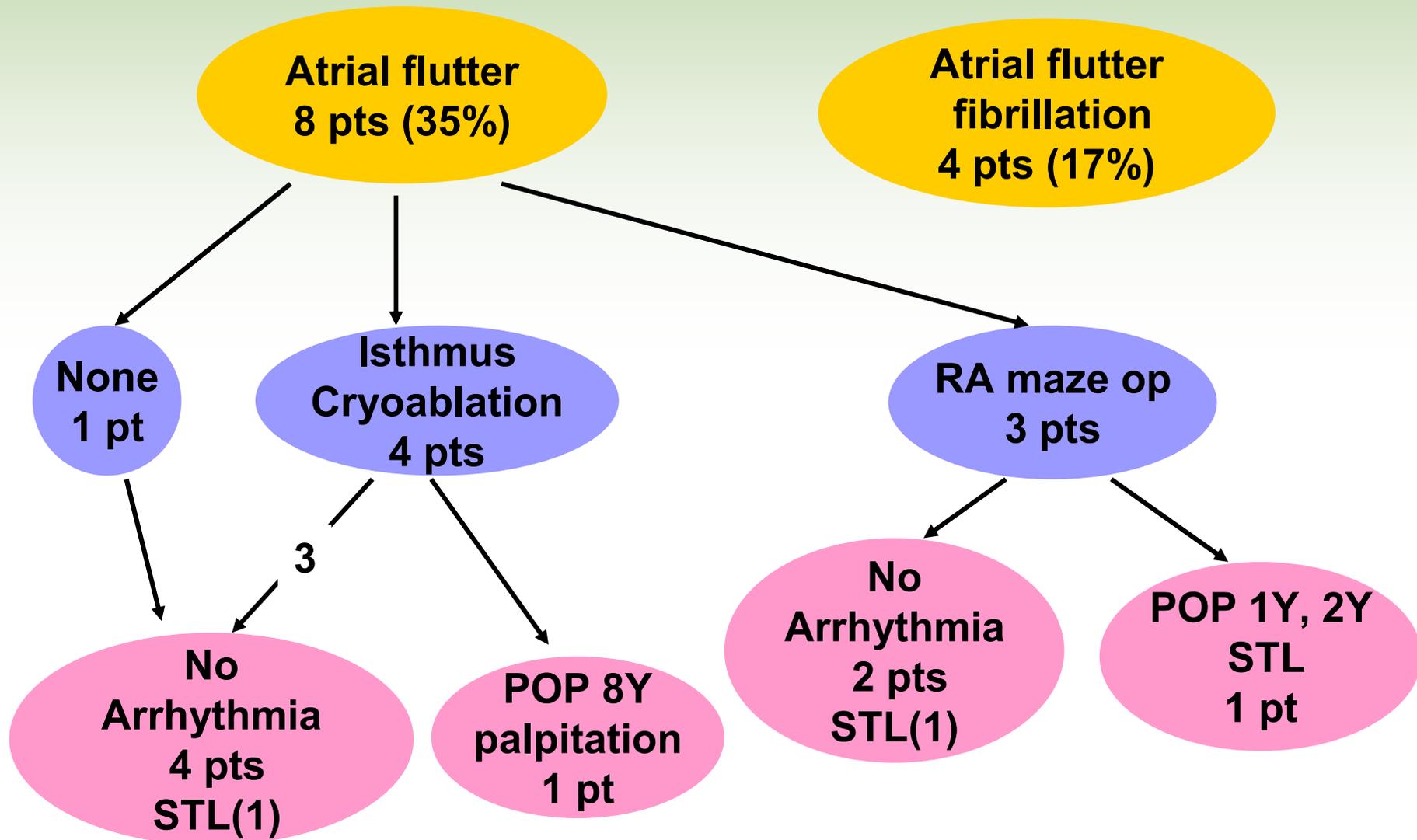
DDD 5

# Fontan conversion and arrhythmia surgery

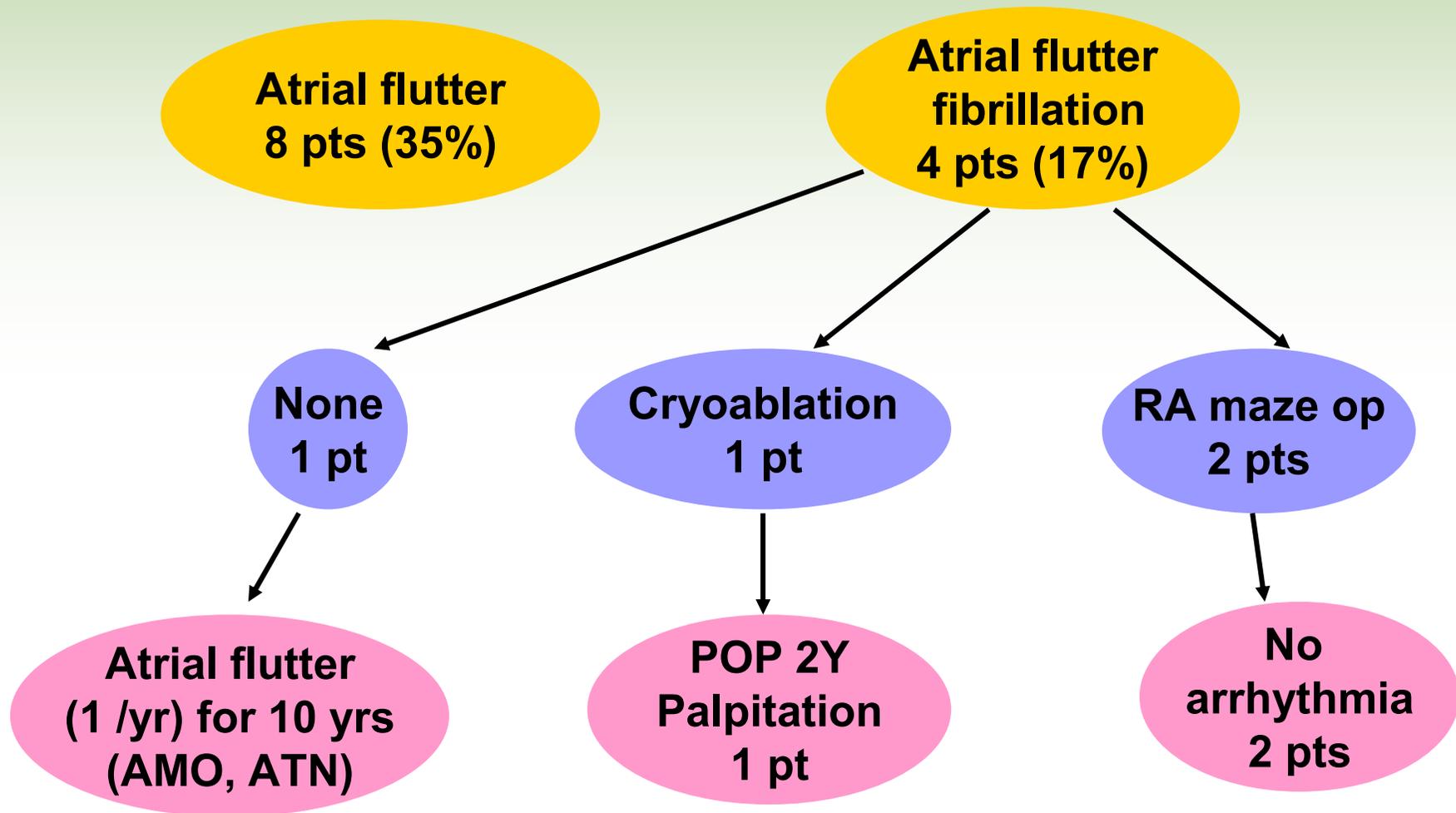
## SNUCH experience (Kim WH, 2005 EJCS )

- Fontan conversion ; 23 / 392 patients
  - Fontan failure 11
  - Intractable Arrhythmia ; 13
- Atrial flutter : 12/23 (52%)  
Atrial fibrillation: 4/23 (17%)  
Sinus node dysfunction : 13 /23 (57%)
- Arrhythmia surgery:
  - Isthmus cryoablation :13/23 (57%)
  - Right-sided maze : 5/23 (22%)
- Permanent pacemaker insertion :14/23 (61%)
- OP mortality; 2 (severe PLE)

# Arrhythmia

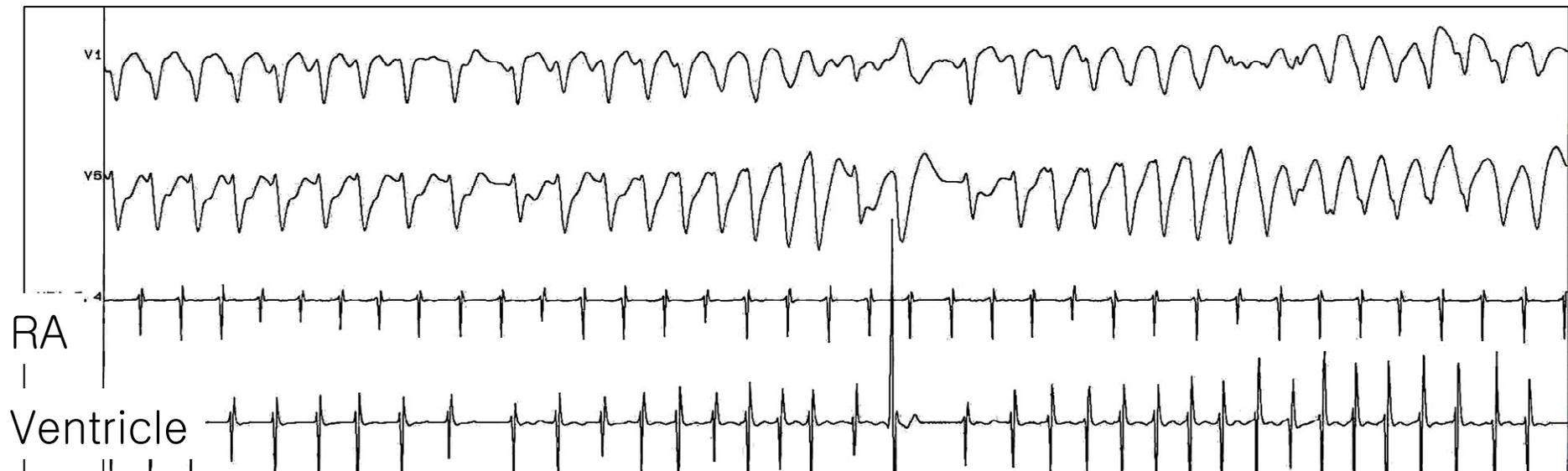


Atrial flutter → RA maze  
Atrial fibrillation → Cox –Maze III



# Case7. 22/F

- Dx> Single inlet RV, Dextrocardia,
- s/p 90.6 APC Fontan op. & AV valvuloplasty
- Lost FU for 6 y
- Visted ER d/t seizure-like episode
- EPS; induced atrial flutter with rapid ventricular conduction



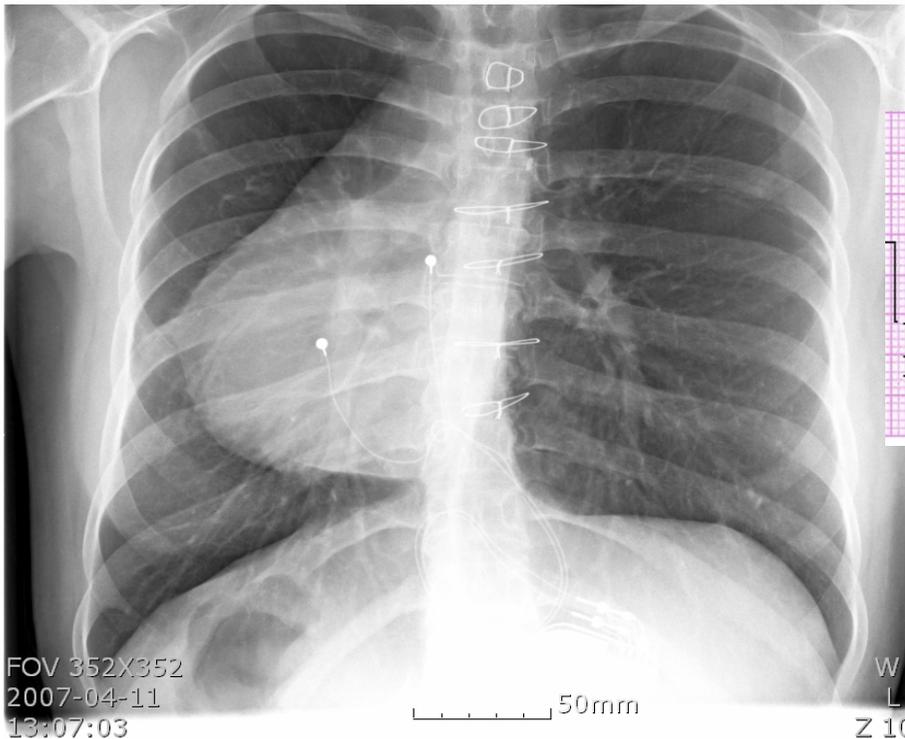
AFL → degenerated to polymorphic VT, VF

Sotalol for 6m

FU EPS ; still induced AFL with 1:1 AV conduction

→. Redo Fontan. Rt. side Maze op.

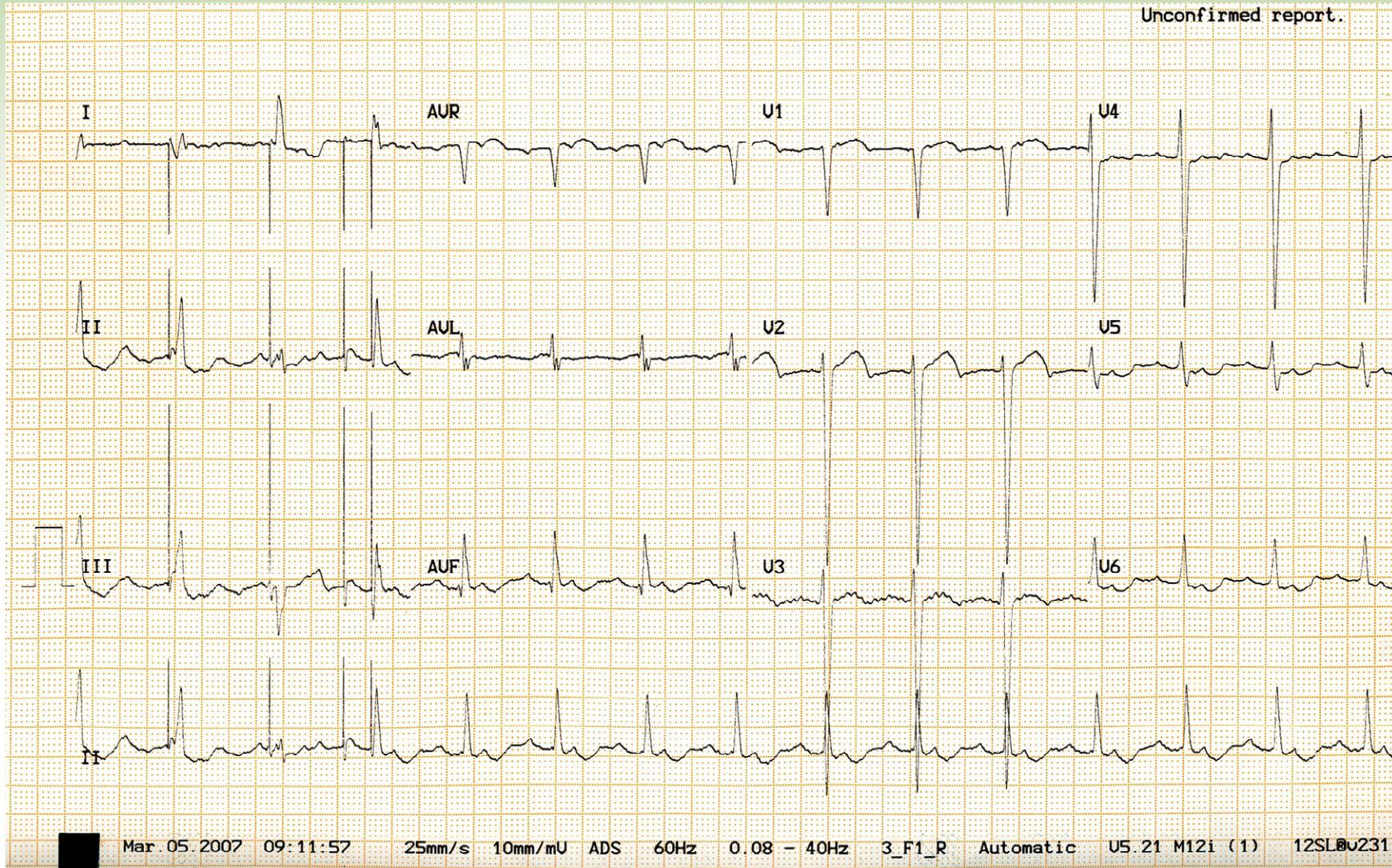
- Fontan conversion : Extracardiac conduit TCPS
  - Arrhythmia surgery : Rt. side maze (cryoablation)
- Single AV valve valvuloplasty & annuloplasty
- Permanent pacemaker (DDDR epicardial),  
basal rate 90–80/min



First degree AV block

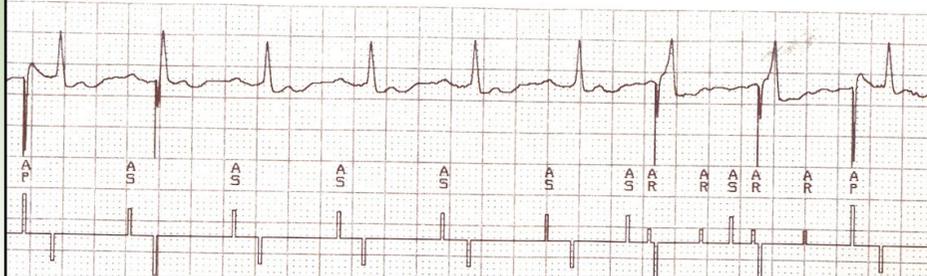
W 812  
L 573  
Z 100%

Recurred atrial flutter, slower rate, 2:1 AV conduction  
Mild palpitation



# Antitachycardia pacing via telemetry

Burst A 210 msec



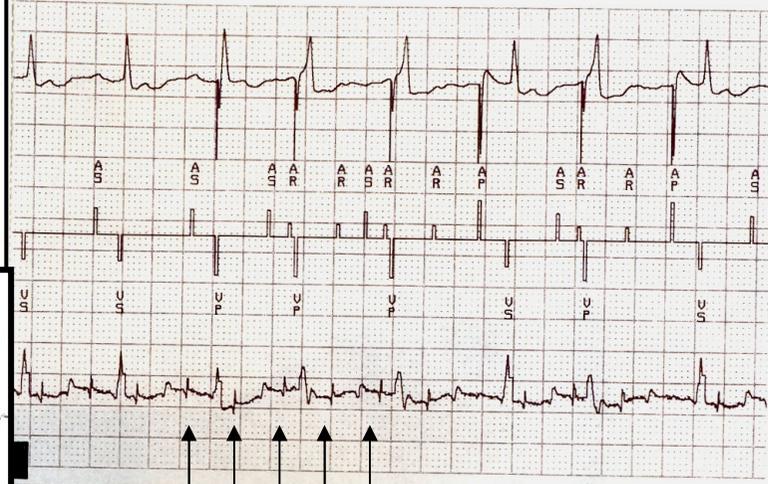
V1

4 APB's/200 msec

AA - 310 msec



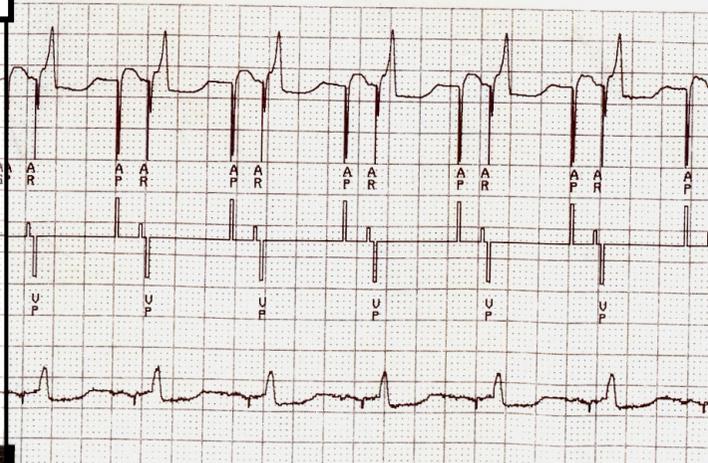
Burst A 240 msec



Terminated AFL

TCL 300 msec

Burst A 210 msec (via A00 pacing)

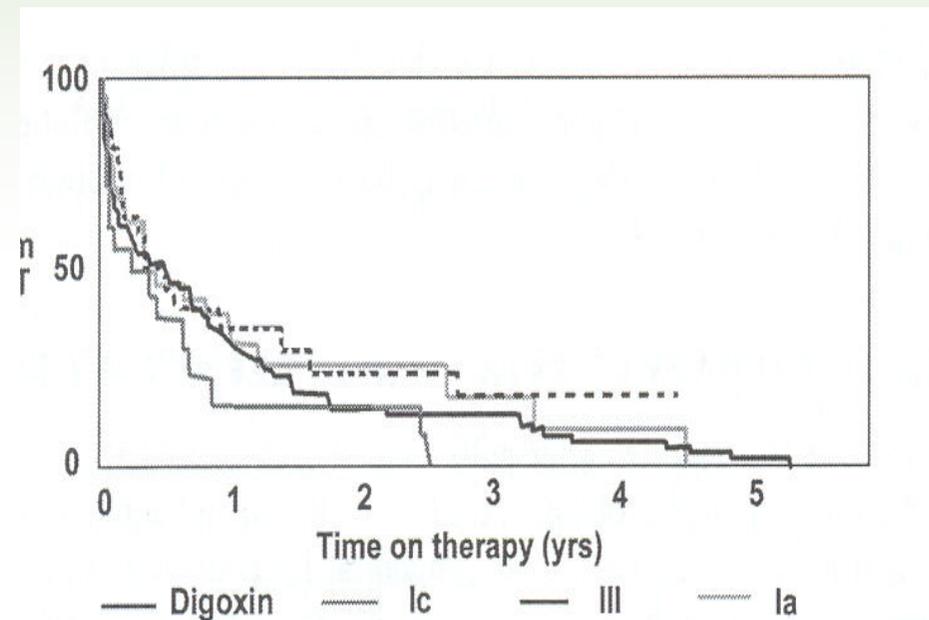


# Tx of intraatrial reentrant arrhythmia

- Antiarrhythmic medication ;class III, Ia
- antibradycardia pacing  $\pm$  permanent overdrive pacing
- antitachycardia pacing
- RF ablation
- operation : conversion of atriopulmonary connection to TCPC; atriectomy; Maze operation in RA
- drugs (anticoagulation, DGX, diuretics, ACE inhibitor)

# Chronic Mx of IART

- Antiarrhythmic medication
  - class III; sotalol, amiodarone, ibutilide
  - beta blocker, digoxin
  - procainamide



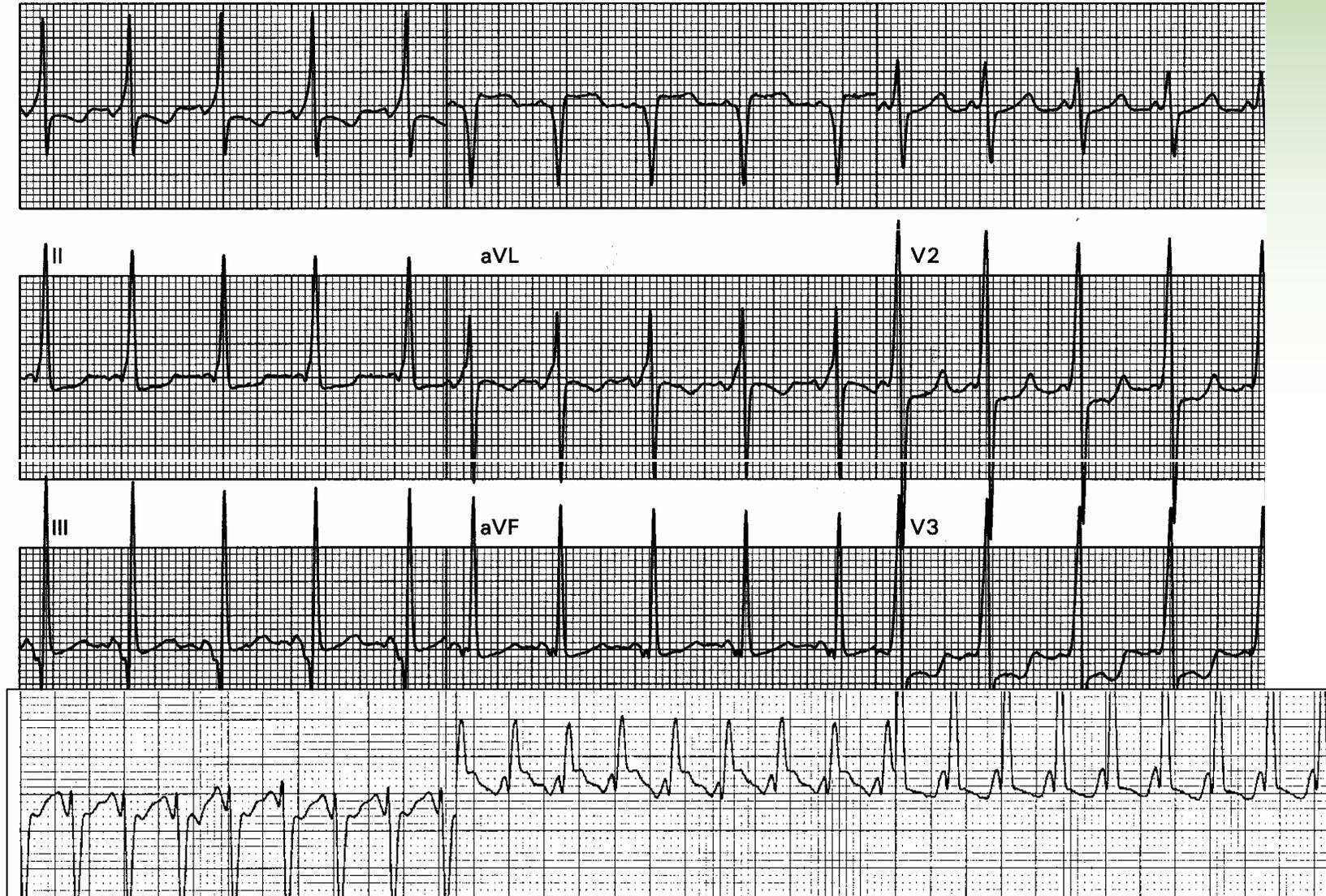
## adverse effect;

- aggravation of SN dysfunction,
- paradoxical inc of ventricular conduction
- Other side effect of drug itself

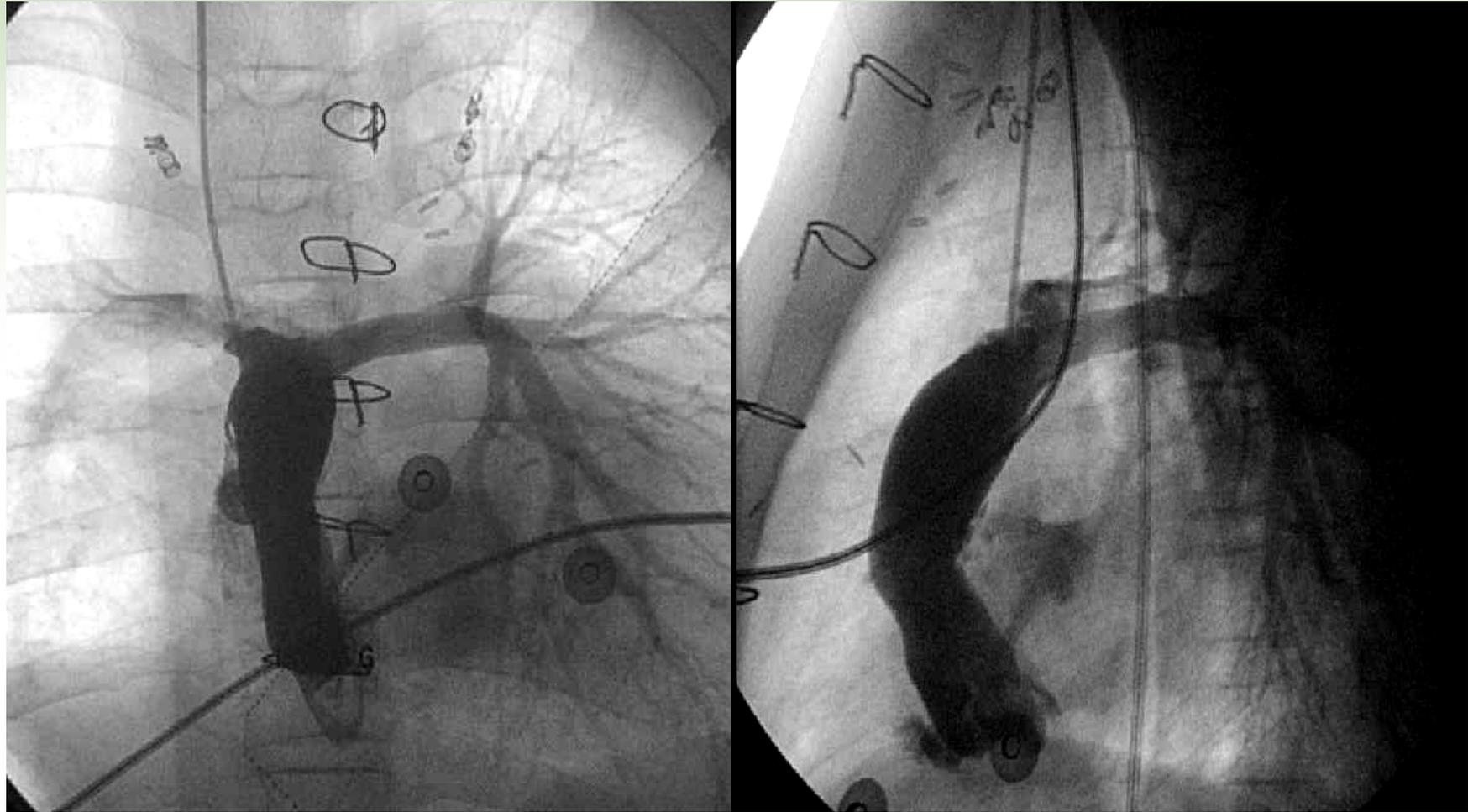
# Other supraventricular tachycardias

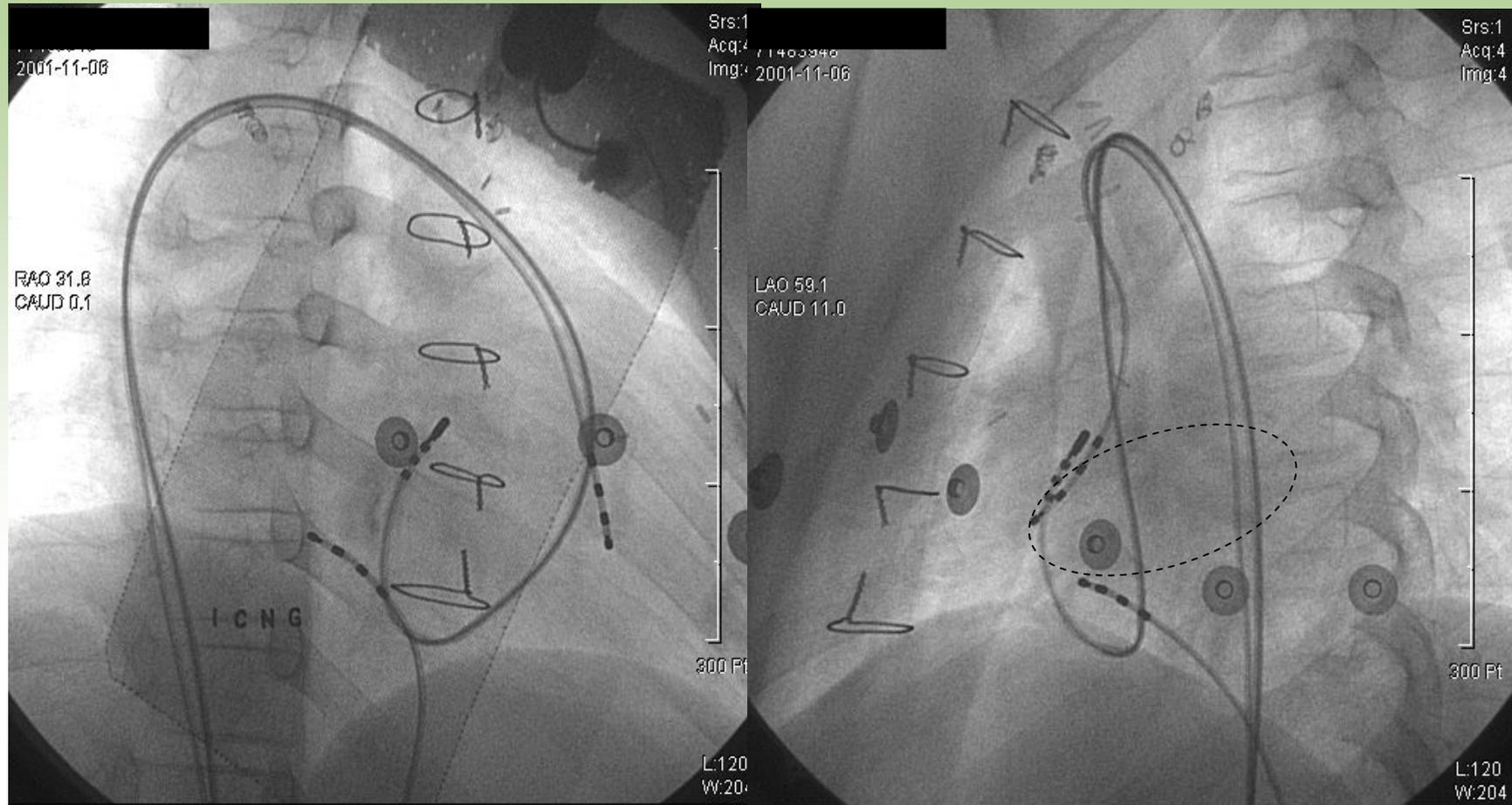
- Atrioventricular accessory pathway  
WPW syndrome
  - Rare spontaneous resolution of WPW in congenital heart anomaly
- Twin AV node related tachycardia
- Focal junctional tachycardia
- AV nodal reentrant tachycardia

# Case. 11y/F, s/p Fontan common inlet RV, DORV



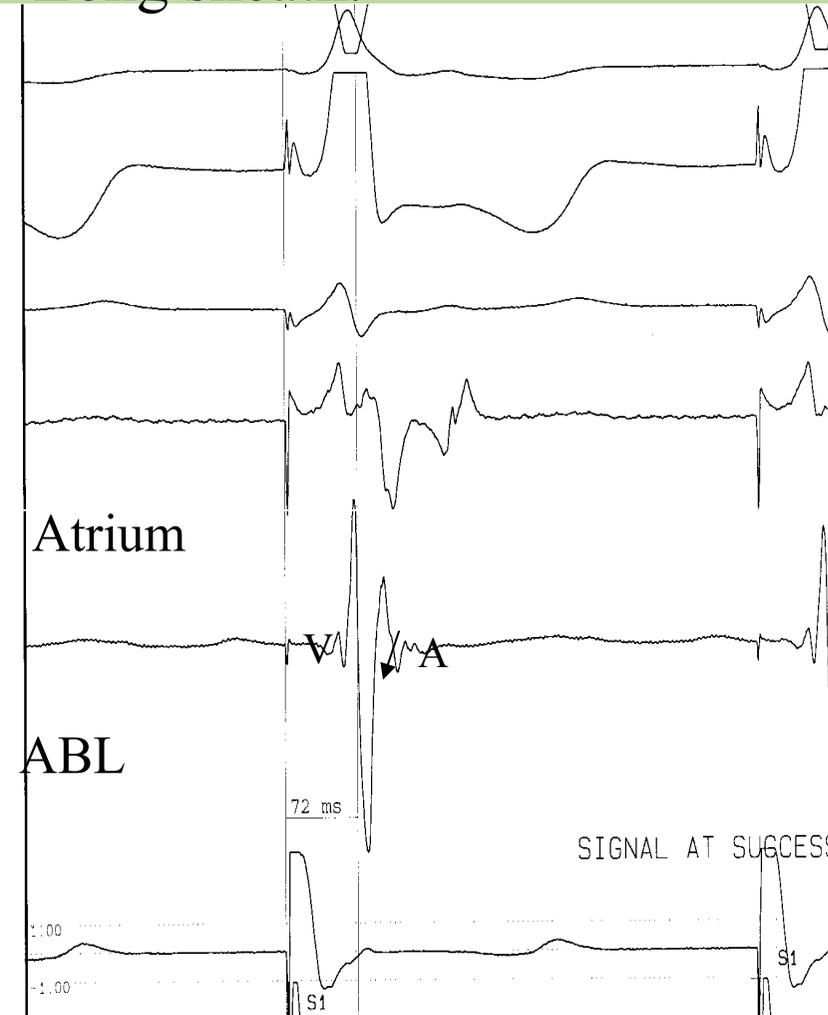
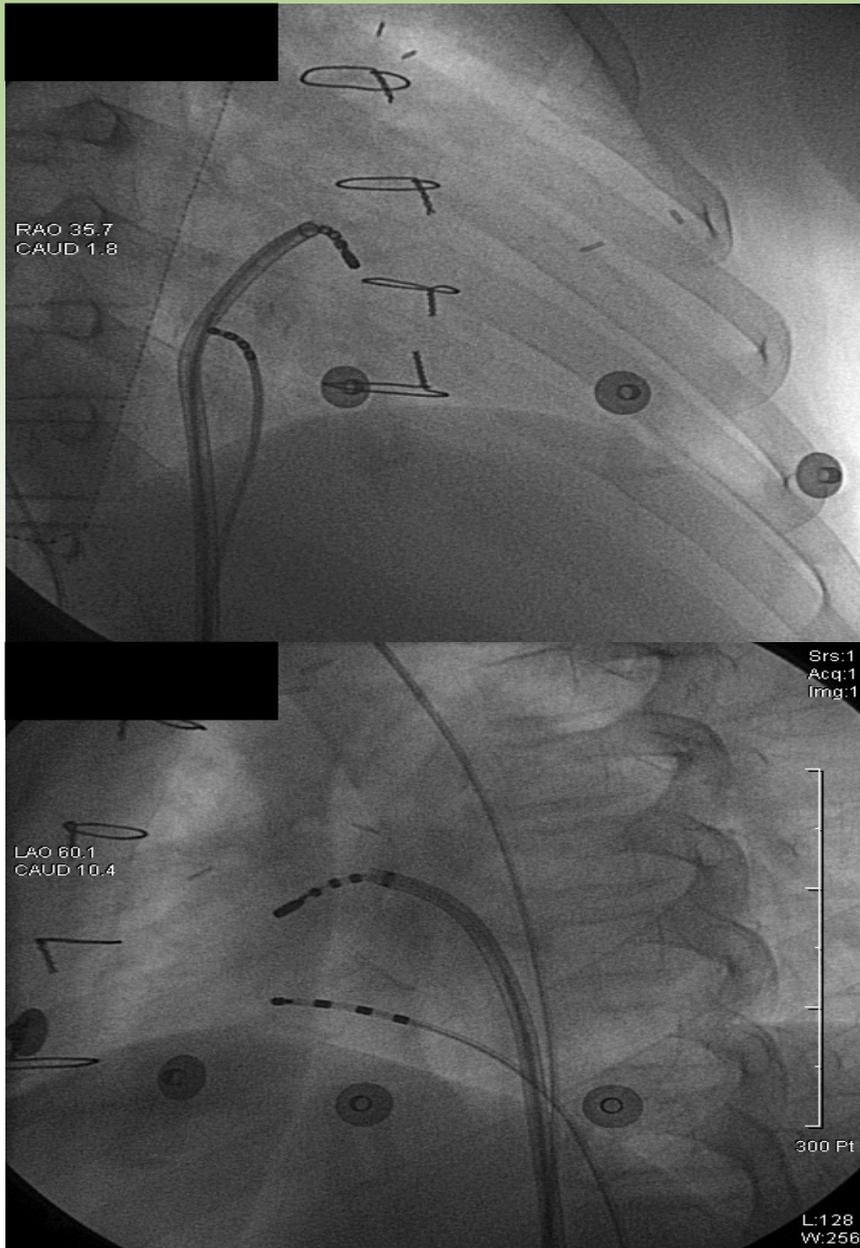
## S/p Lateral tunnel Fontan operation





Retrograde atrial approach, 2 arterial accesses  
Poor ablation catheter stabilization  
Unstable V pacing through retrograde V pacing

### 3rd session, antegrade approach Long sheath.

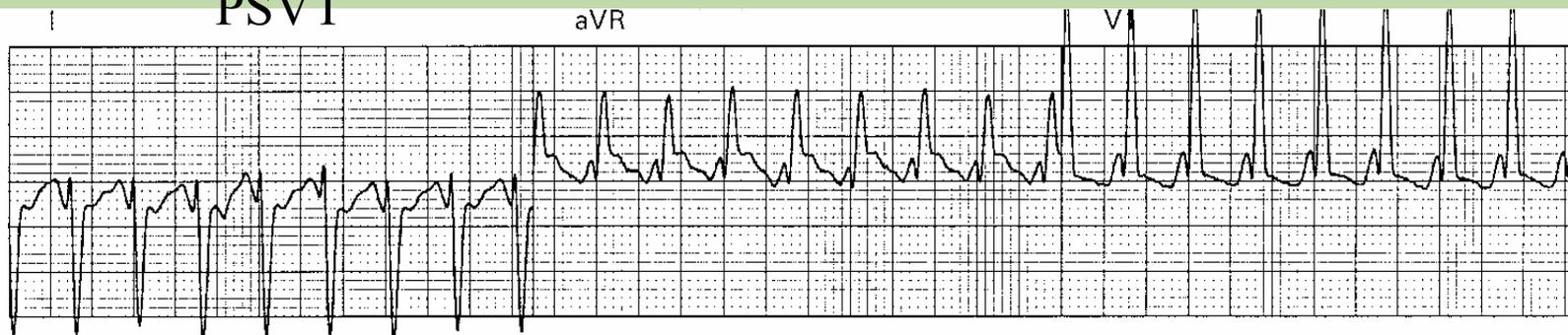


Symptomatic tachycardia or delta wave  
→ EPS before Fontan completion  
Accessory pathway → RF ablation before Fontan completion

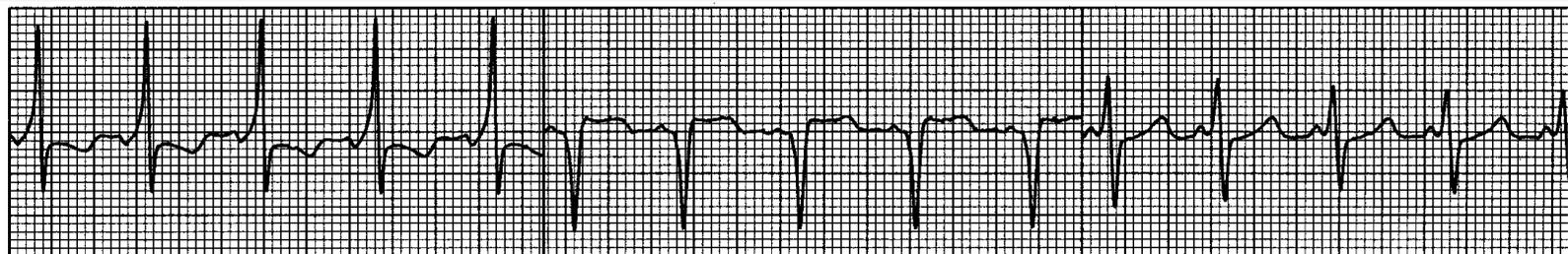
**PSVT**

aVR

V1



**Before RFCA**



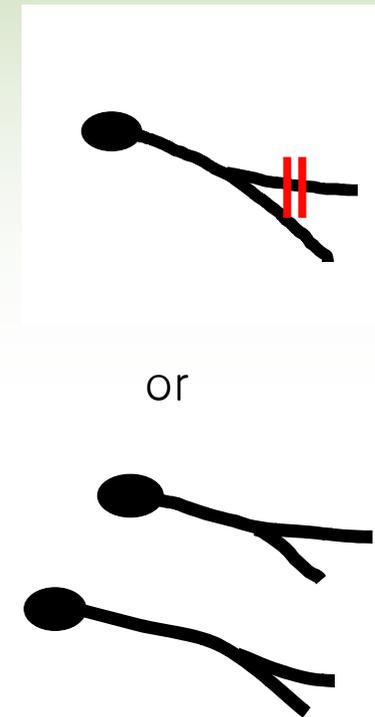
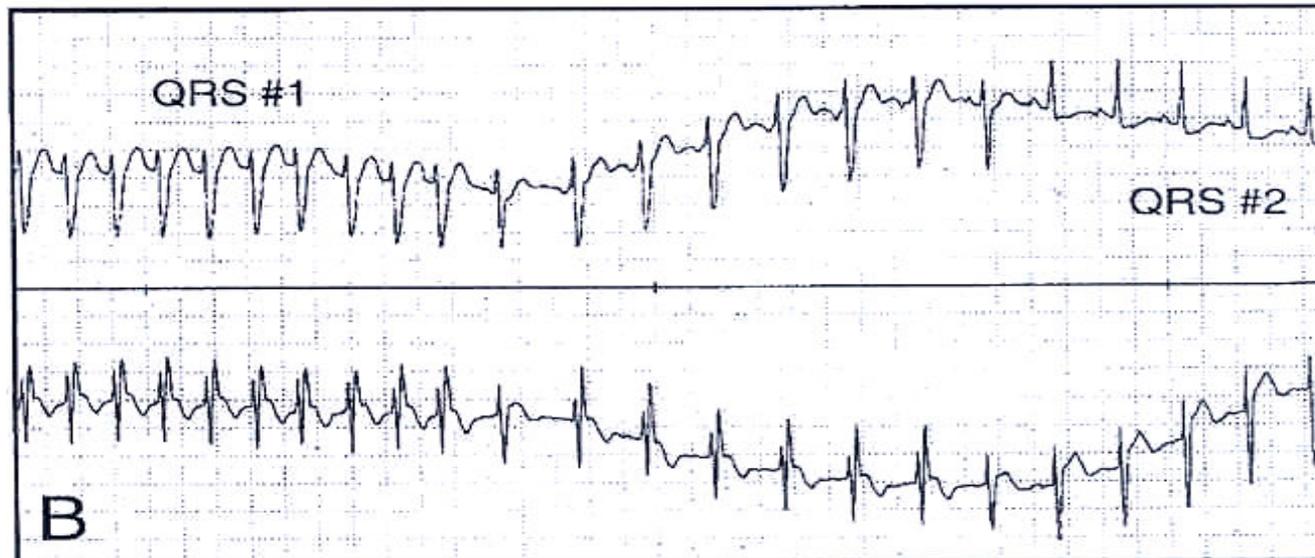
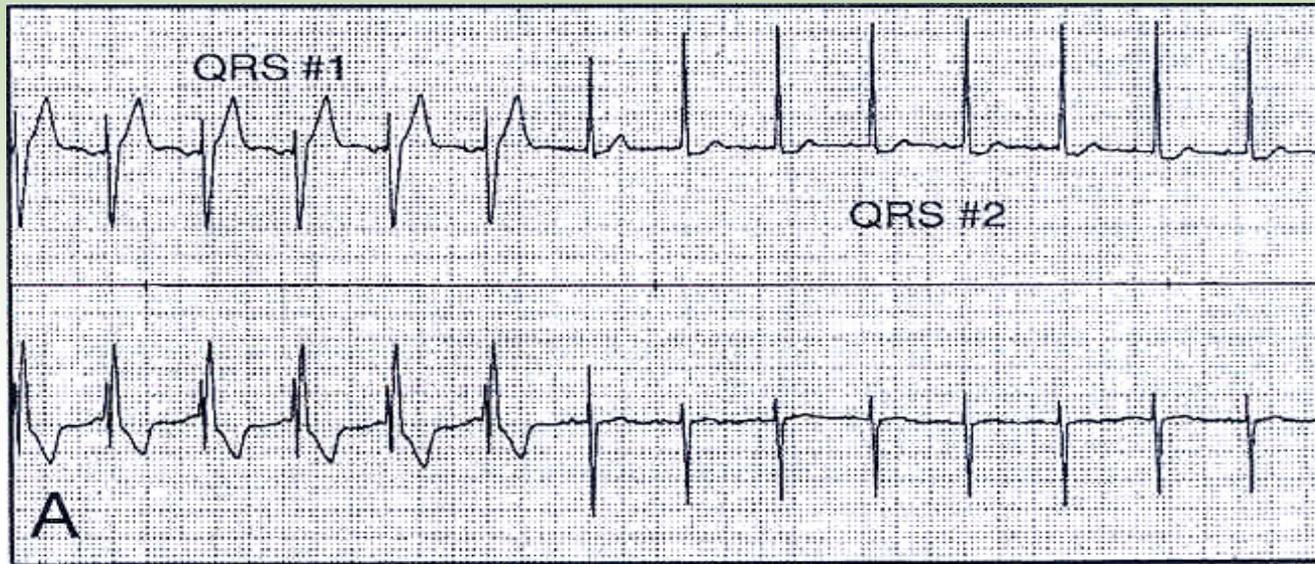
**After RFCA**

aVR

V1

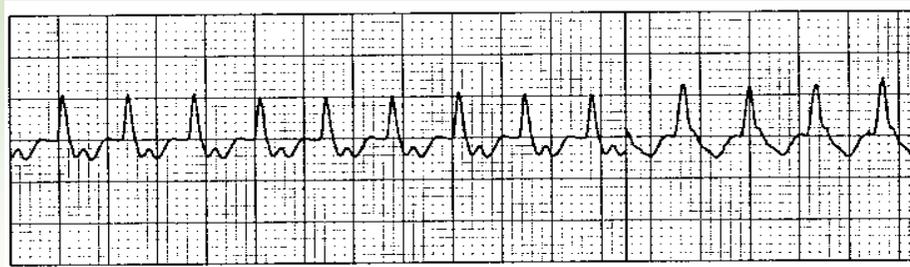


# Changed QRS without delta wave In complex congenital heart disease



(Epstein M et al, 2001)

# Case, 4y/m



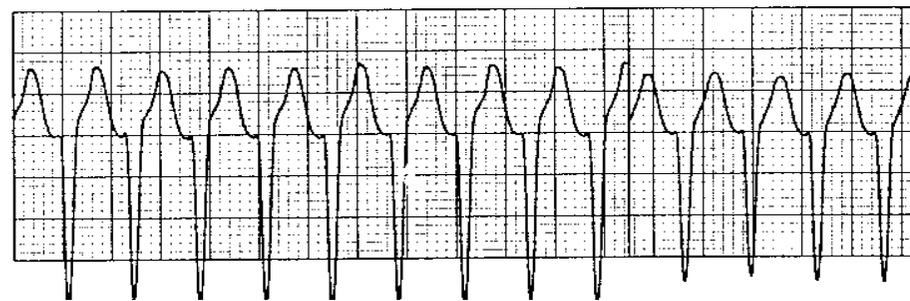
II

aVL



III

aVF



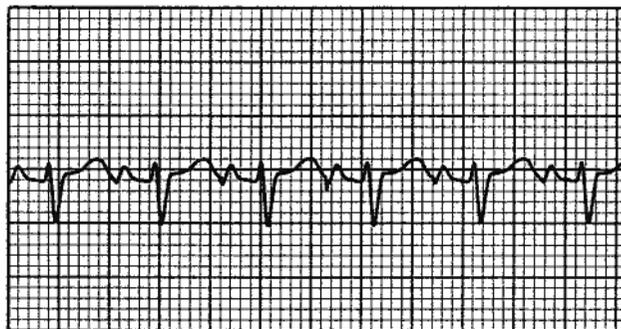
Right isomerism  
**Common inlet RV**  
**DORV PS**  
S/p BCPS,

**Adenosine sensitive PSVT for 3 y**

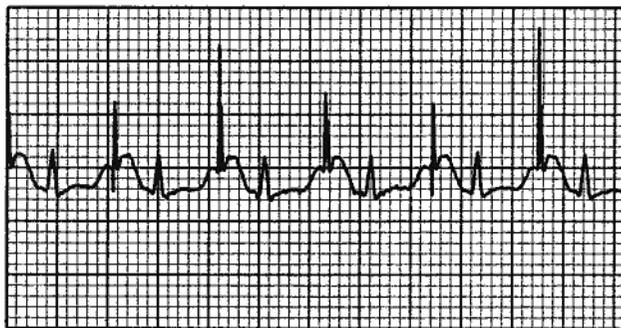
EPS

No preexcitation  
decremental VA conduction  
VA conduction was blocked by  
adenosine  
Induced SVT by V pacing

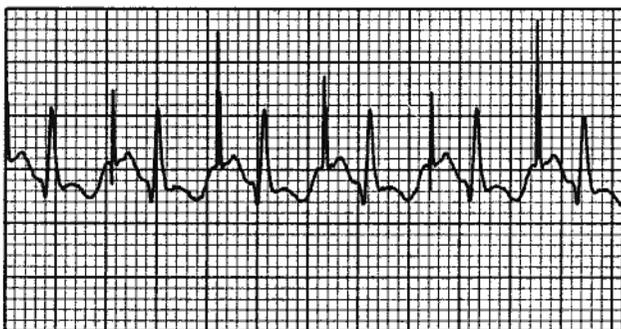
I High atrial pacing



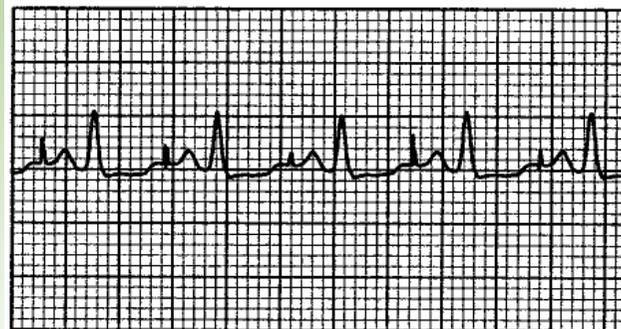
II



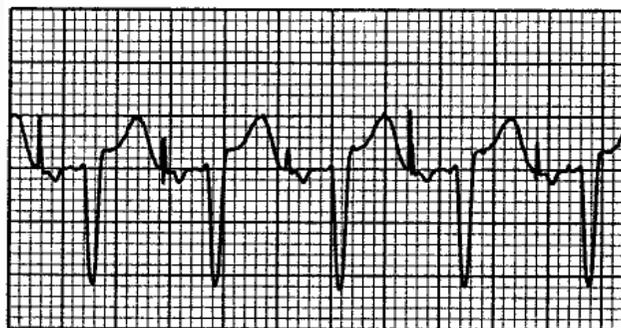
III



I Low atrial pacing



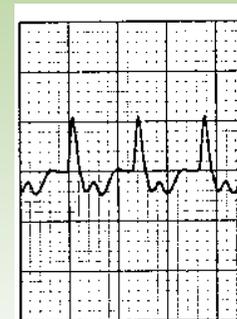
II



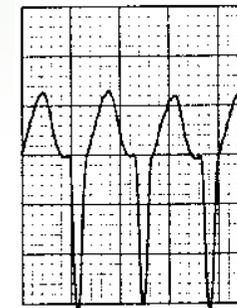
III



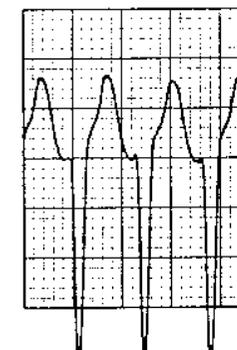
PSVT



II



III



600 J00 HOE (M)  
7335745-6  
2001-07-26

RAO 18.5  
CRAN 15.7

Srs:1  
Acq:9  
Img:9

GENERAL RF Ablation [4+ cath] 4.1!

0.0 mm/s

1.00 ms

300 Pt

L:120  
VV:204

ant. node

80 ms

32 ms

23-ABL ds

24-ABL

26-RVa 3 4

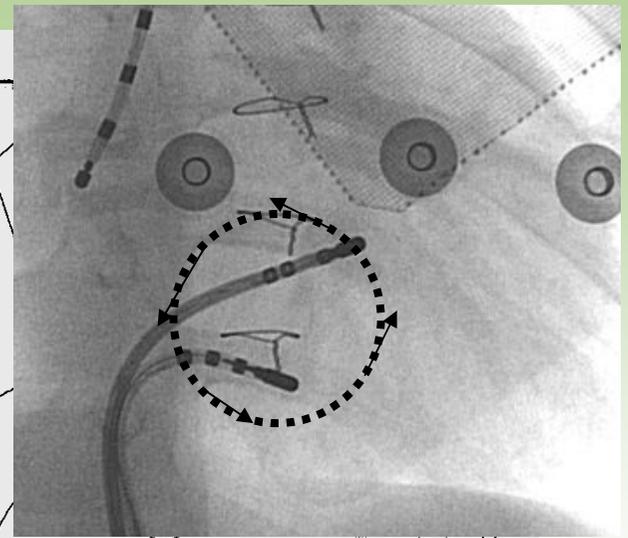
28-STIM A1

300 Pt

L:120  
VV:204

posterior node

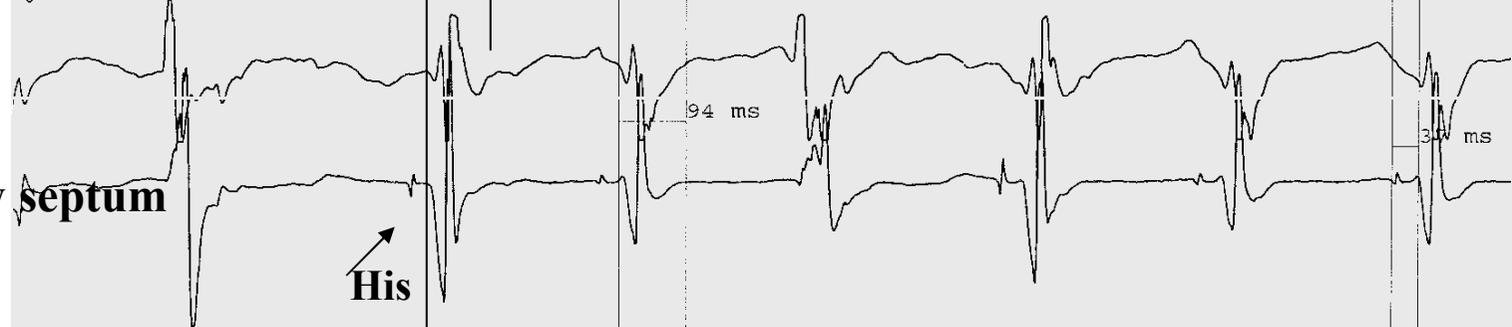
GENERAL RF Ablation [4+ cath] 4.1!



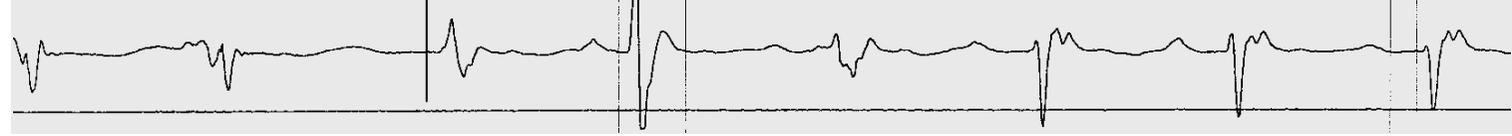
**High atrium**



**Low septum**



SVT, antegrade thru post.His. ABL is at posterior His

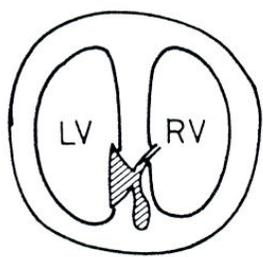


# The cardiac conduction system in situs ambiguus

(Dickinson et al. circulation 1979;59:879)

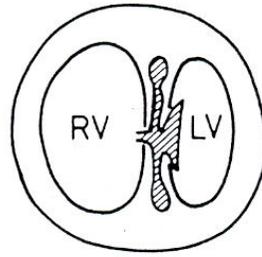
**Mönkeberg's sling**

13 cases of situs ambiguus



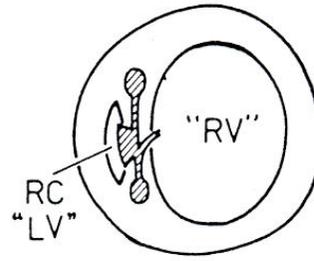
3 cases

Left Isomerism

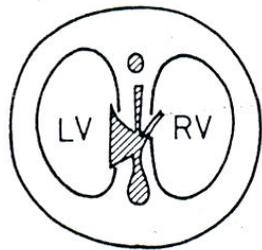


5 cases

**L-loop**

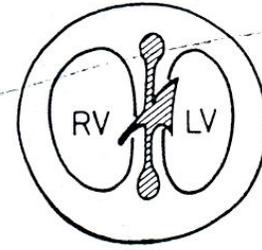


1 case

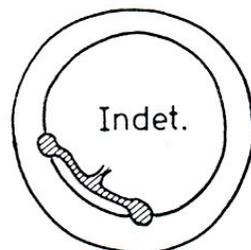


1 case

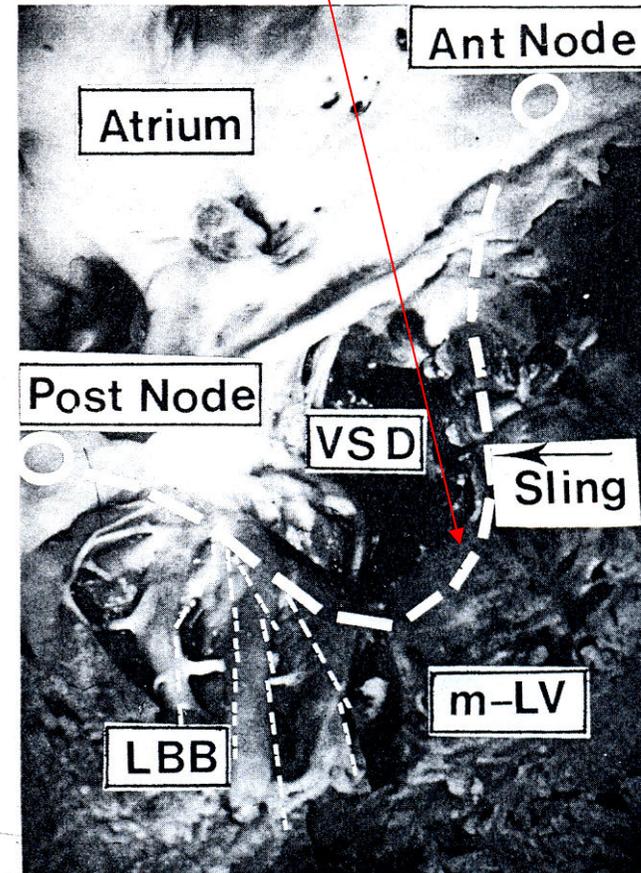
Right Isomerism



1 case

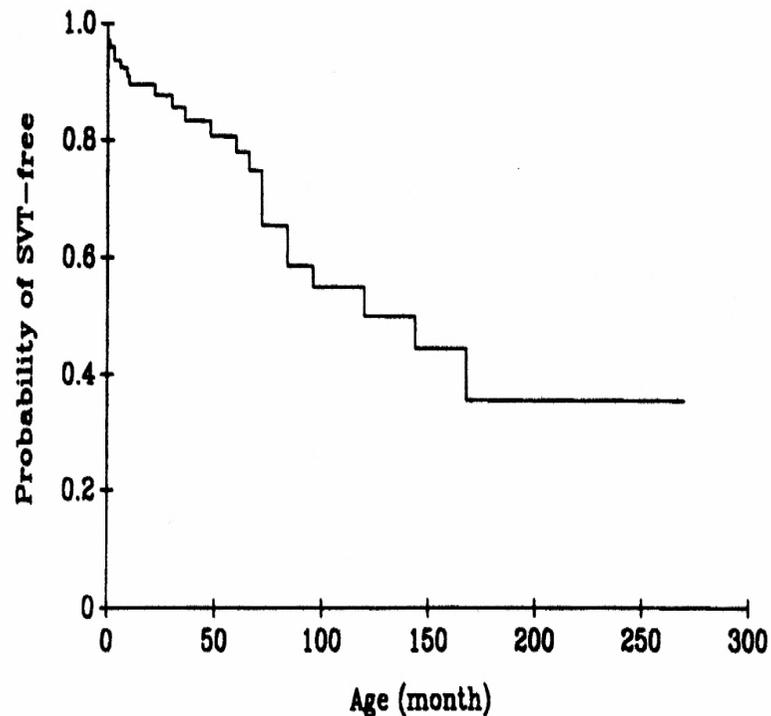


2 cases



# SVT in right isomerism

- Very high incidence (24.8%) of SVT in right isomerism (Wu MH et al 1998, JACC)



1987–1996

Total 101 right isomerism patients  
(Fontan survivors 7/19)

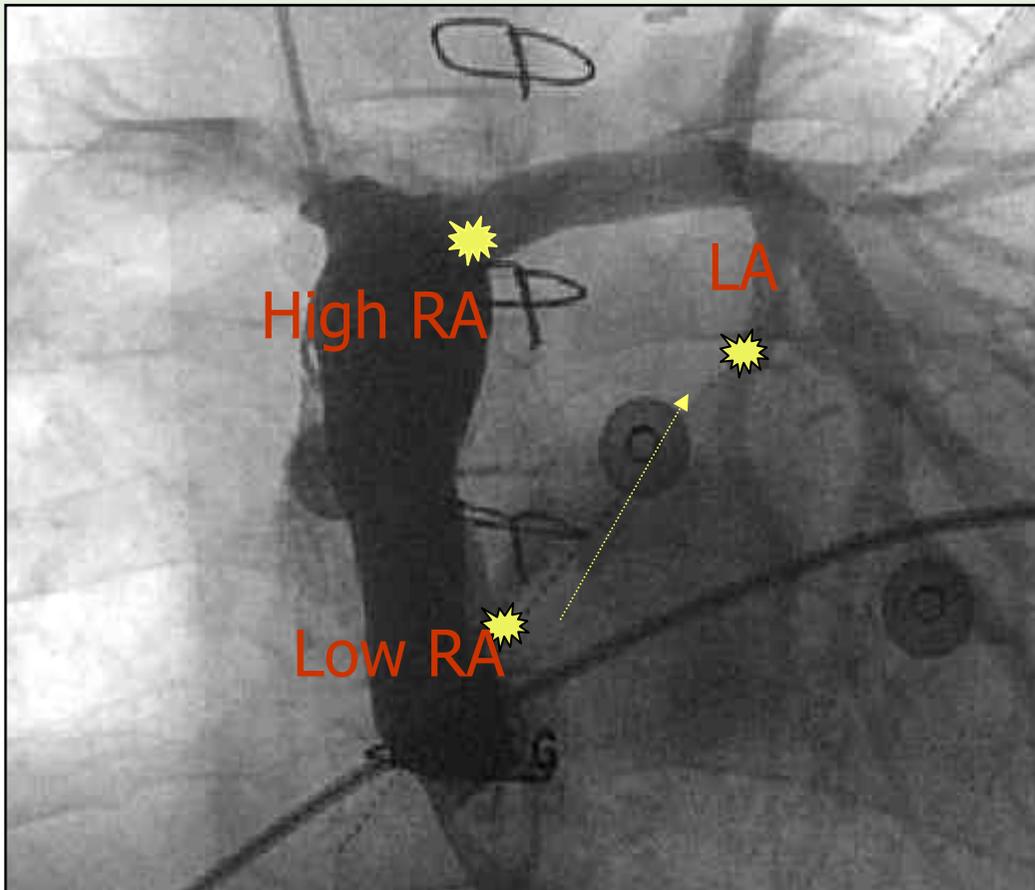
Median FU ; 38mo

Documented SVT(not AFL); 24.8 %  
7 EPS; twin node tachycardia  
Unknown exact mechanism of SVT

Actuarial curve for the probability  
of being free from SVT

# Twin AV Node and Induced Supraventricular Tachycardia in Fontan Palliation Patients ( Bae et al , PACE 2005)

3 or more different atrial sites pacing



EPS on 52 patients  
s/p Fontan op.  
(Jan 2001–Oct 2003)

high RA and low RA directly  
high LA and low LA  
via fenestration, CS  
or esophagus

# Changes of QRS complexes as an evidence of a twin AV node

- Multisite atrial pacing

QRS change; 10/52 (19%)

**Right isomerism; 9/20(45%)**

**AV discordance ; 1/8(13%)**

**Other functionally univentricular heart ;  
0/22(0%)**

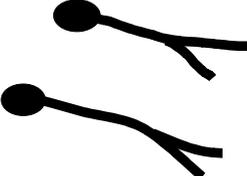
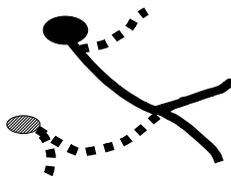
- Risk factor for twin AV node

- **heterotaxy syndrome(p<0.001)**

- **complex AVSD (p=0.007)**

( Bae et al , PACE 2005)

# Categorization of AV node in complex univentricular heart

	2QRS paced	2QRS ECG	Two HBE	Presented in this study	HBE-retro, preceding V during AVRT	AVRT	JT with AV dissociation
	-	-	-	+	-	-	possible
	+	+	+	+	+	possible	possible
	+	+	+	+	-	possible	possible
	-	-	+	-	+	possible	possible
	+	±	±	+	+	possible	possible
Mahaim-like							

( Bae et al , PACE 2005)

# Arrhythmia in post CHD surgery

Careful FU is needed

Surgical scar –related

RA dilatation ;

- s/p Fontan, valve or ventricular dysfunction
- atrial flutter ( intraatrial reentry)
- non-reentrant atrial tachycardia

Preventive

Modification of surgery;

less scar, less corridor, less distension,  
sinus node preservation.

Pacemaker implantation ; control bradycardia

## Therapeutic

- Antiarrhythmic medication
- Catheter ablation with considerable effect
- Surgical correction;  
arrhythmia surgery, Fontan conversion

## Heterotaxy syndrome

- High incidence of bradyarrhythmia and tachyarrhythmia
- More important in Asian population
- Associated with  
inherent anomaly of SA node,  
AV node and conduction system

**Twin AV node** may be an important cause of tachyarrhythmia  
– For SVT in Fontan patients,  
we need to think of basic anomaly again.