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Catheter Ablation of Persistent/Permanent AF: CFAE Guided Ablation

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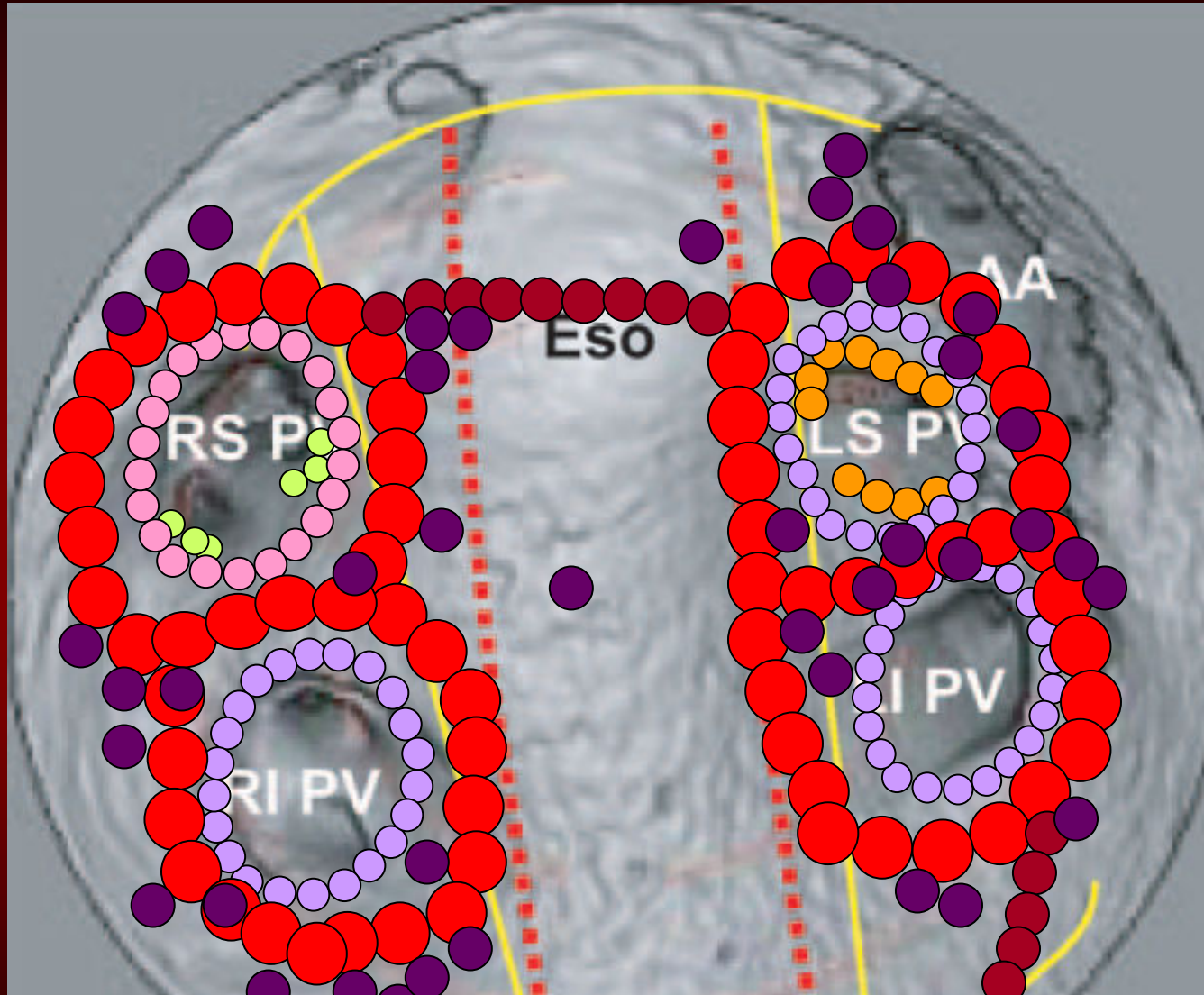
Rationale for Catheter Ablation of Persistent/ Permanent AF

- ✚ Reduce the risk of thromboembolism
- ✚ Symptomatic relief
- ✚ Freedom from toxic AAD or warfarin
- ✚ Improvement of LV function

How to Improve the Success Rate?



Changing of AF Ablation Strategy



Focal Ablation → Critical Mass Reduction
Mother Rotor → Multiple Wavelets

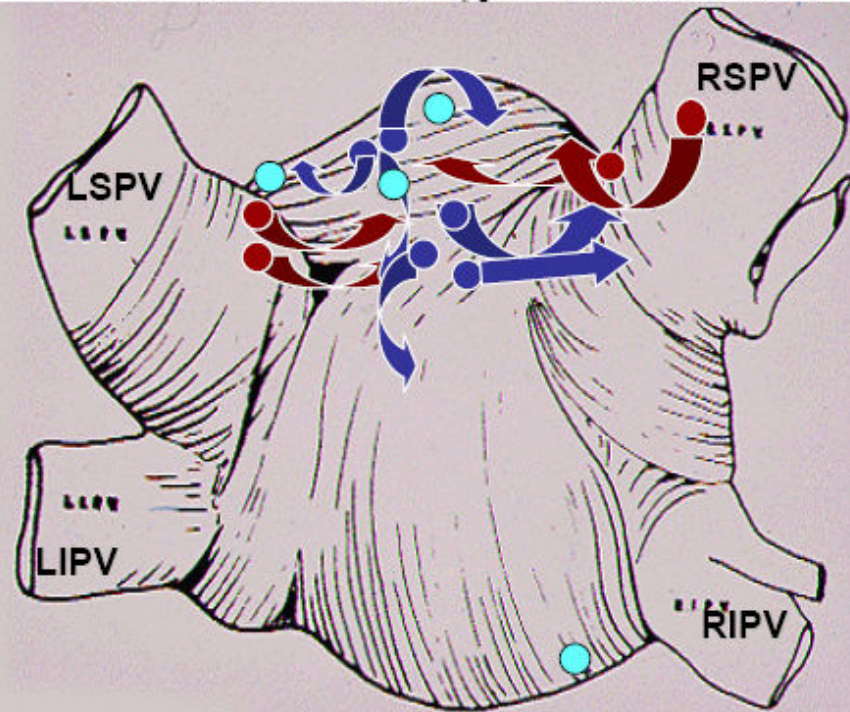
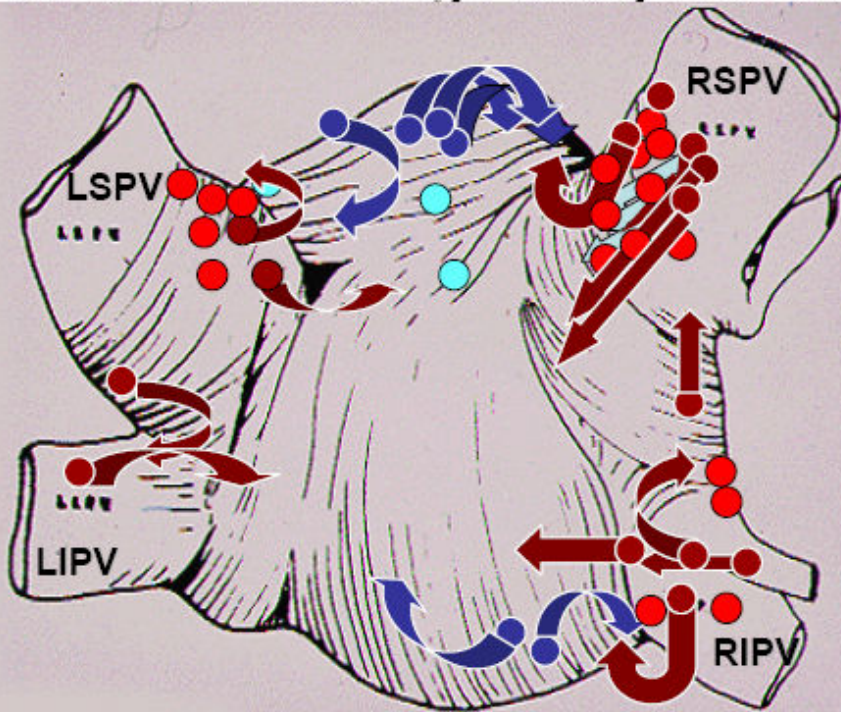


Trigger or Driver of AF

Pak et al. JCE 2006;17:818-824

A. APBs Inducing Paroxysmal AF

B. APBs Inducing Persistent AF



PAF
Inside PV Origin 77.5%

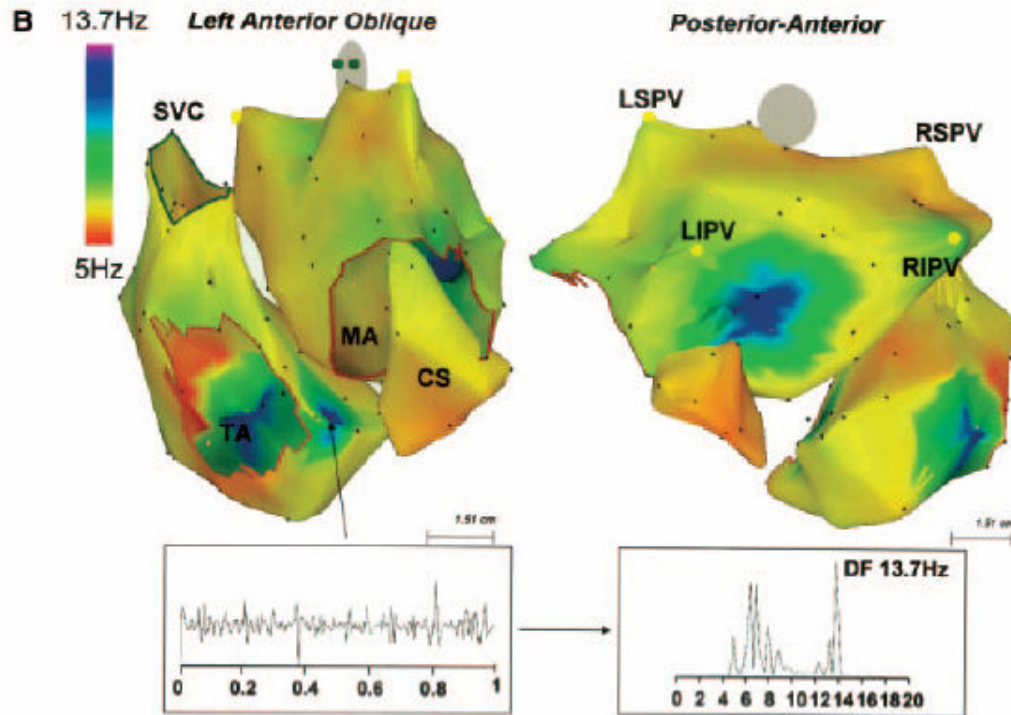
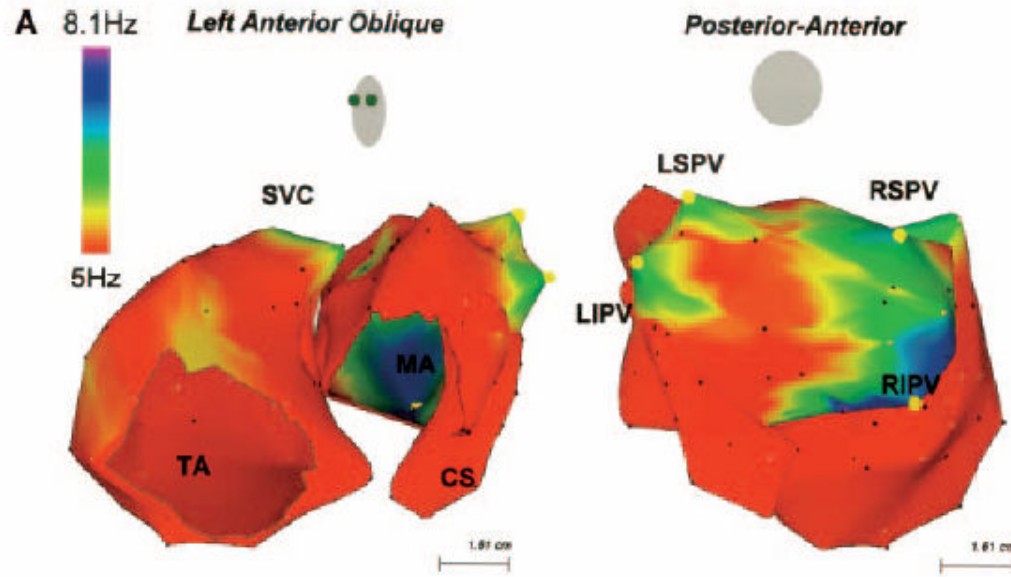
PeAF
Inside PV Origin 38.5%

● : APB from non-PV with PC



PAF
5.5±0.6 Hz

PeAF
6.4±0.6 Hz



Sanders P, et al. Circulation 2005;112:789-797



Ablation Target in PeAF/ PtAF

- Elimination of Multiple Extra-PV Triggers
- Elimination of AF Driving Substrates
(high wavebreak points / focal firing foci)

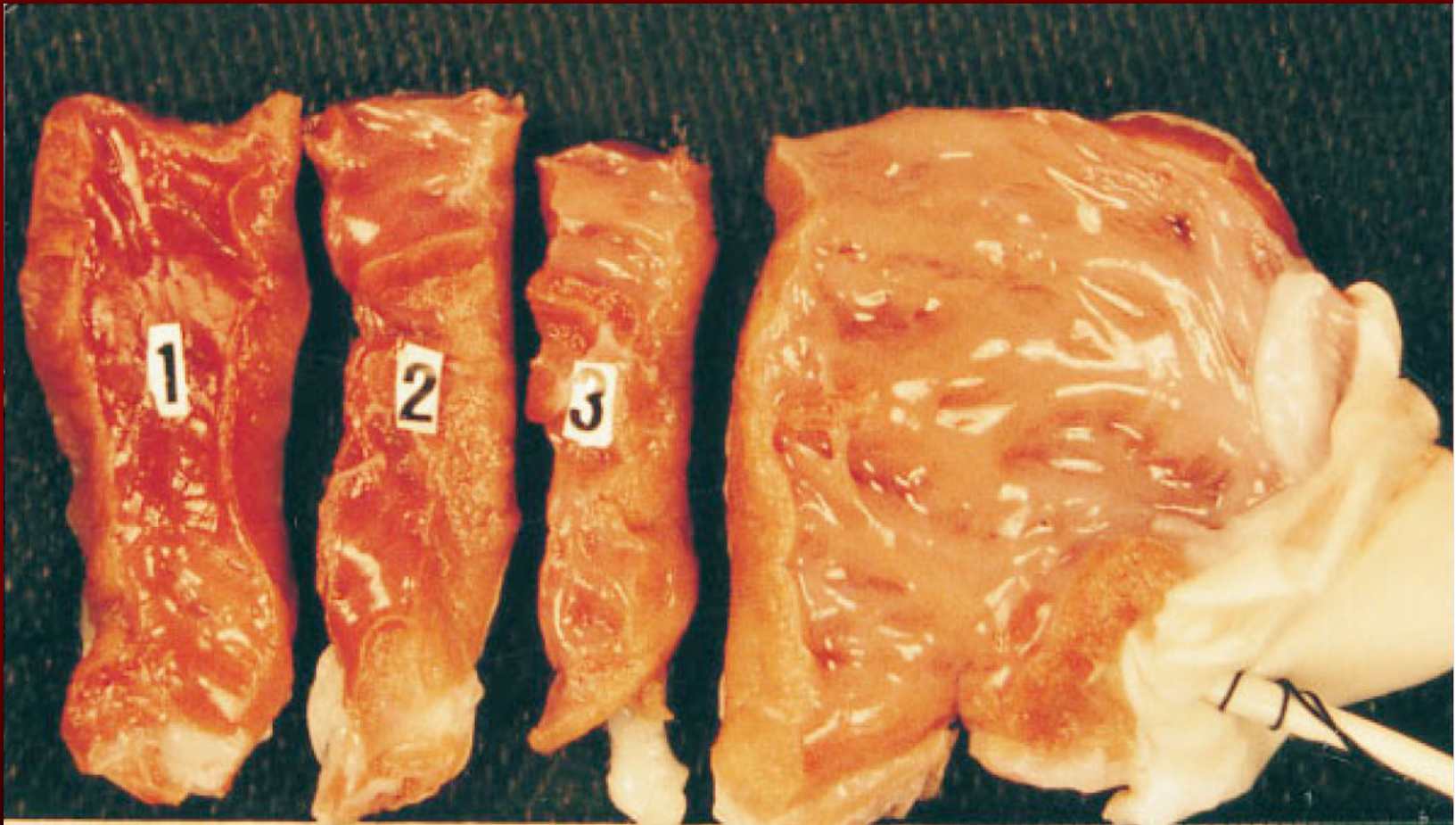
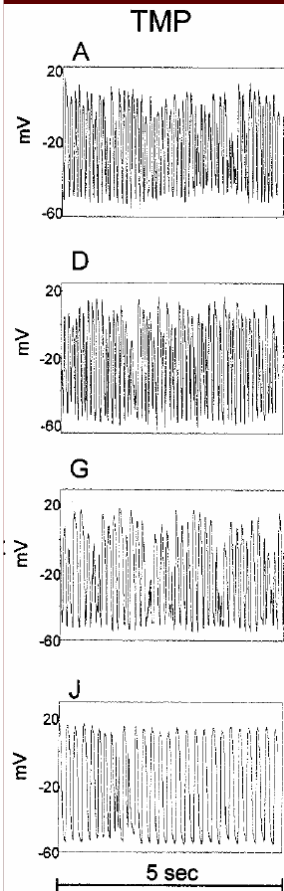
=> **Linear Ablation** (Critical Mass Reduction)
AF substrate modification

=> **Electrogram Guided Ablation** (high frequency domain)
Elimination of AF Trigger and Driver



Critical Mass Reduction by Linear Ablation?

Kim YH et. al. JCI 1997;100:2486-2500



$$\lambda \text{ (wavelength)} = CV \times \text{refractoriness}$$

Is it Possible to Make Complete Block Reducing Critical Mass during AF Ablation?

Achieving Bidirectional Peri-mital Block

without CS ablation 19.0%

Inside CS ablation 78.1% (p<0.001)

Korea Univ. Data (2007 unpublished)



Linear Ablation in PeAF/PtAF

 When?

Surgeon's view point

 Where?

Every Isthmus in the Atrium?
“No Atrium, No AF?”

 How?

Ablation? or Painting?



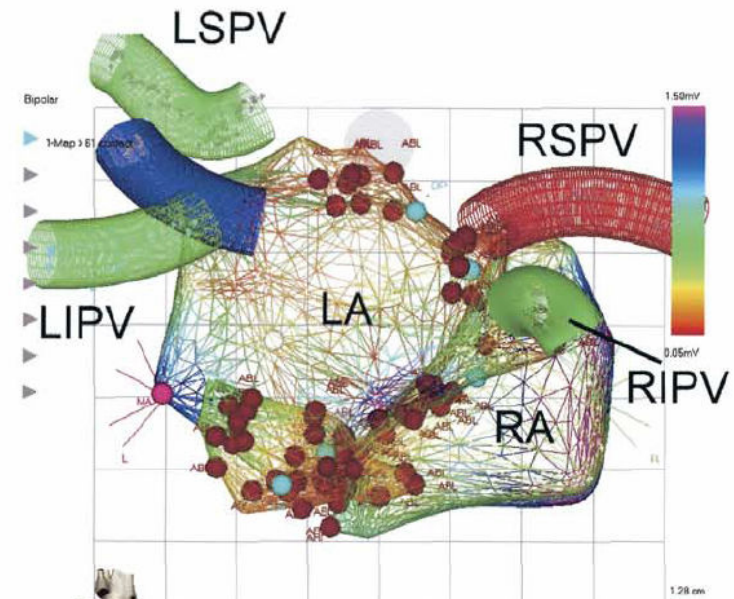
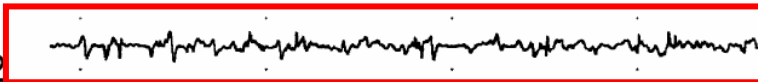
Electrogram Guided Ablation (CFAE guided Ablation)

 **CFAE** (complex fractionated atrial electrograms)

1. Fractionated egm composed of 2 deflections or more and/or have a perturbation of the baseline from a prolonged activation complex
2. Atrial egm with a very short CL (<120ms) with or without multiple potentials



Posterior
septum 1-2



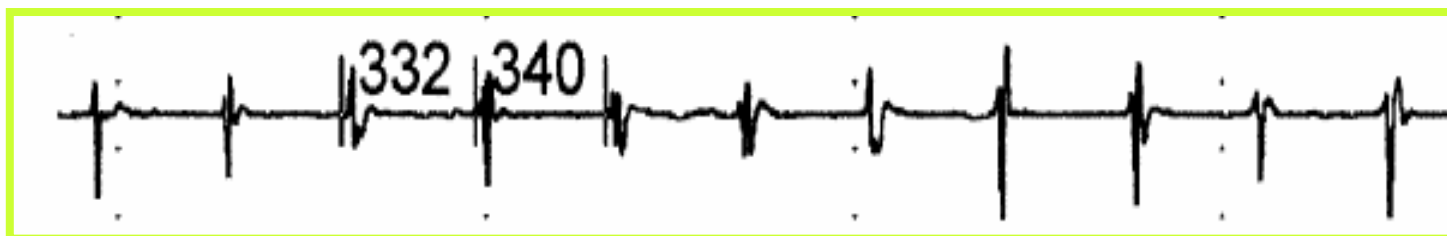
Nademanee et al. JACC 2004;43:2044

A.

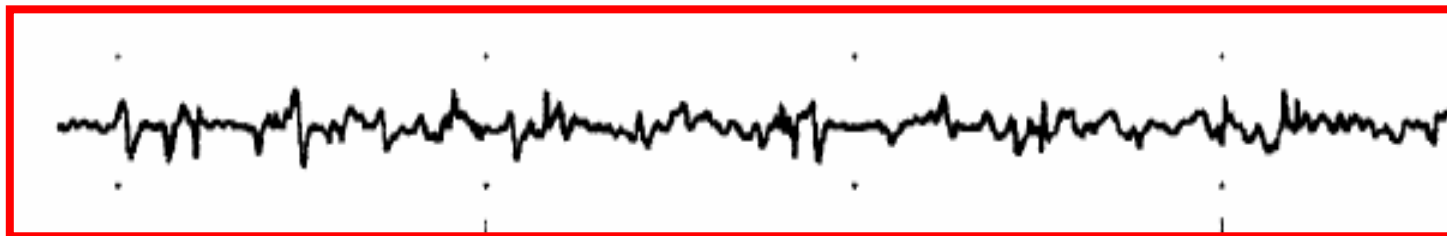
CFAE

B.

CS1-2

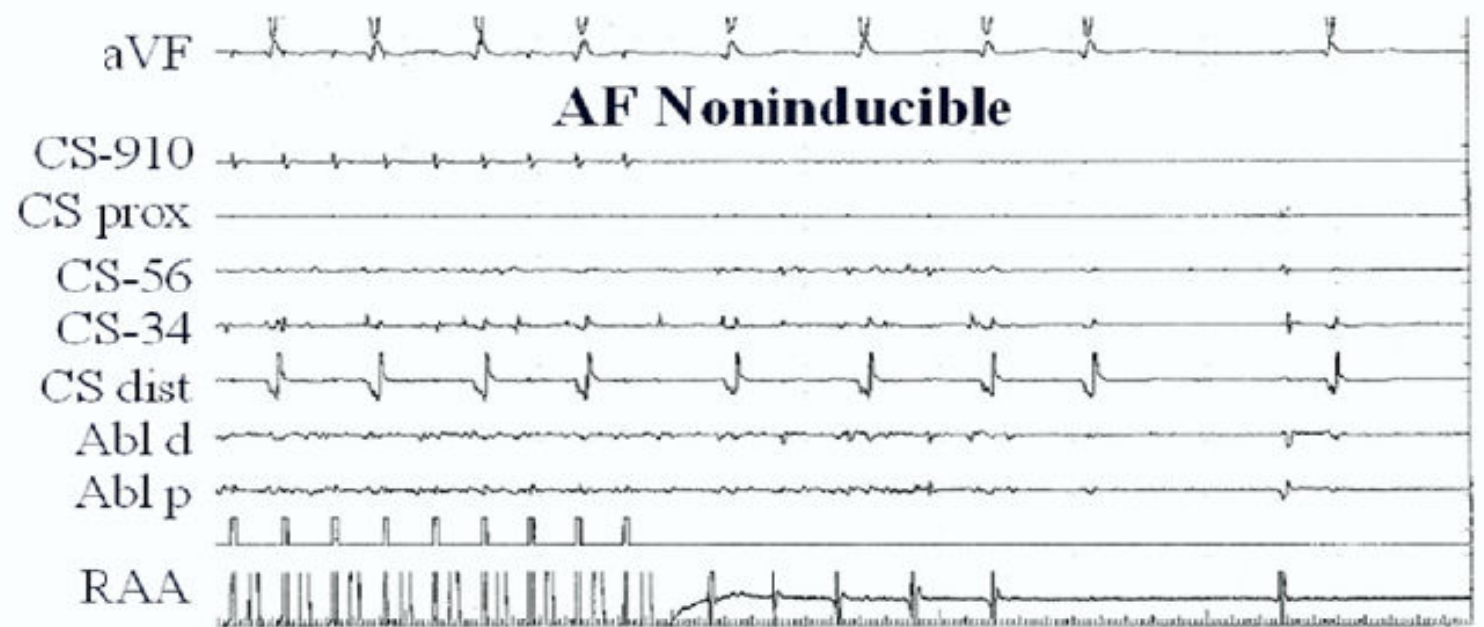
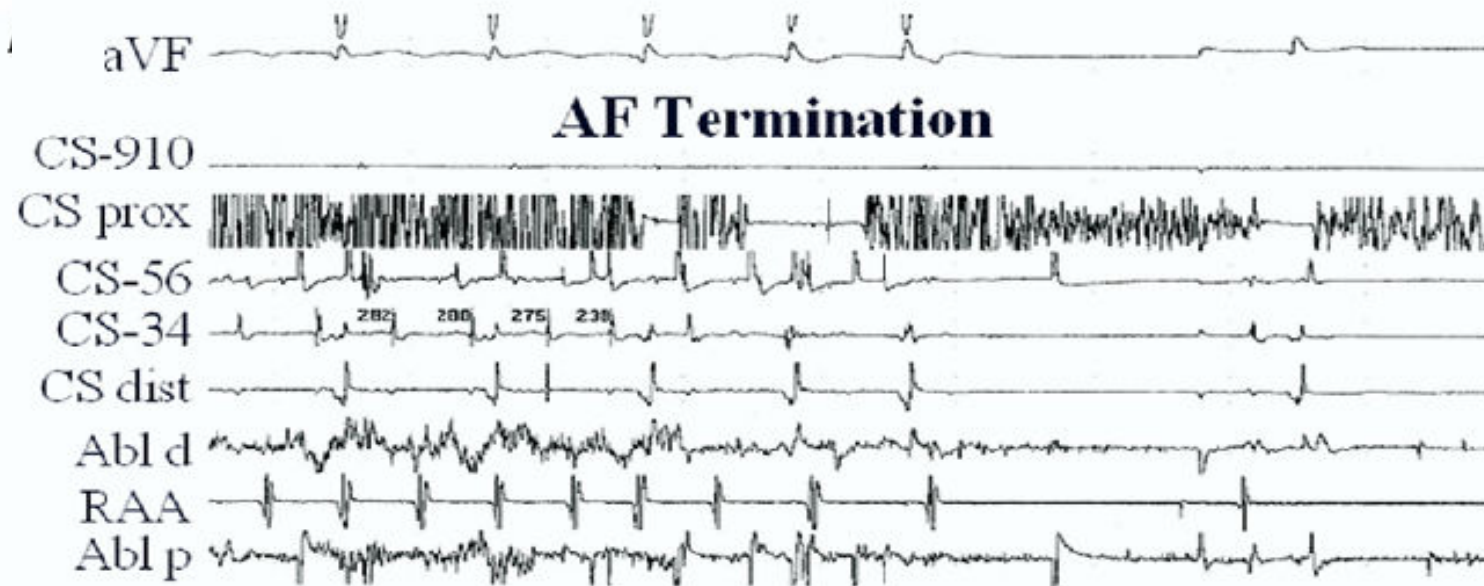


Posterior
septum 1-2



Nademanee et al. JACC 2004;43:2044

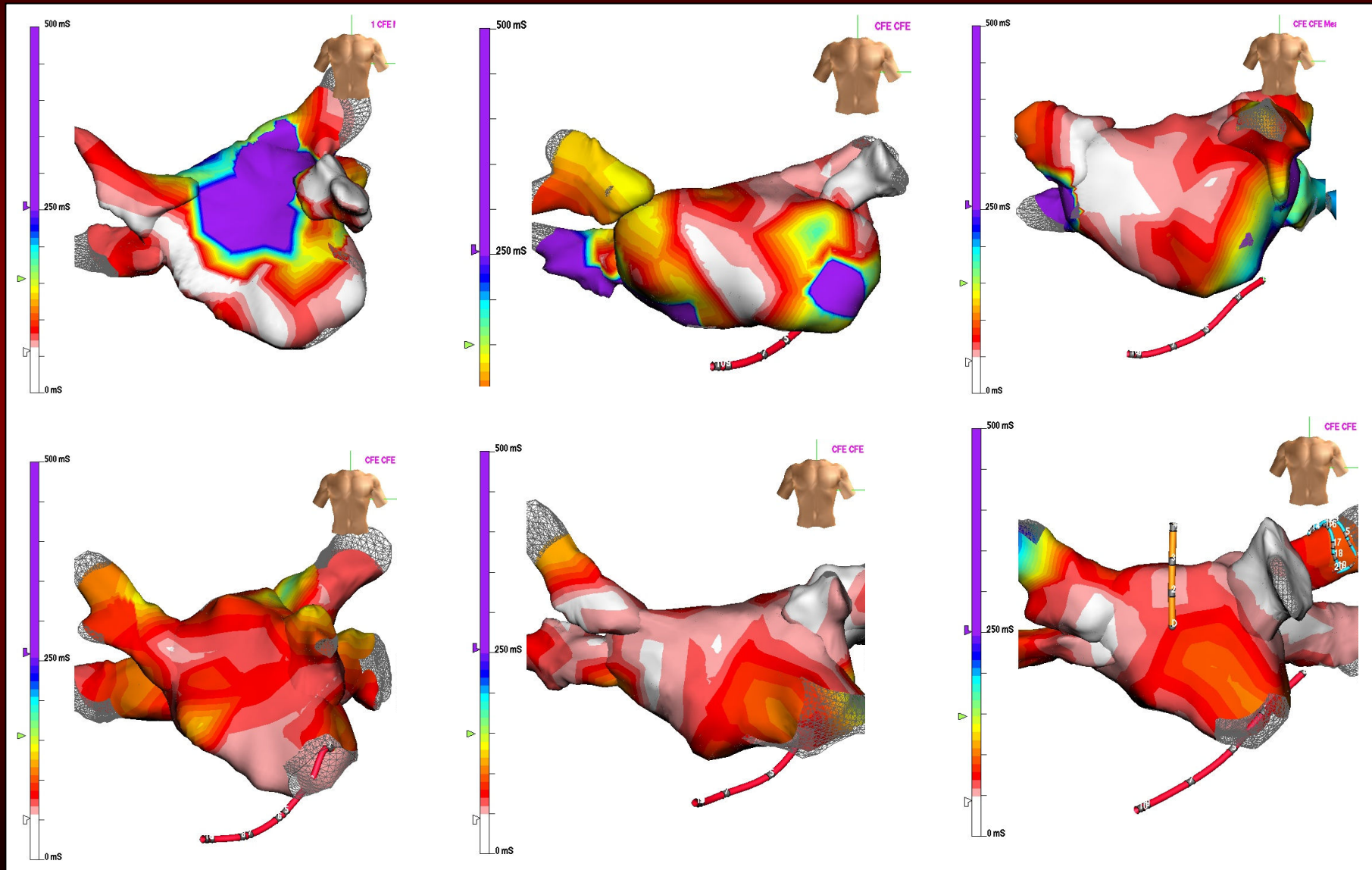




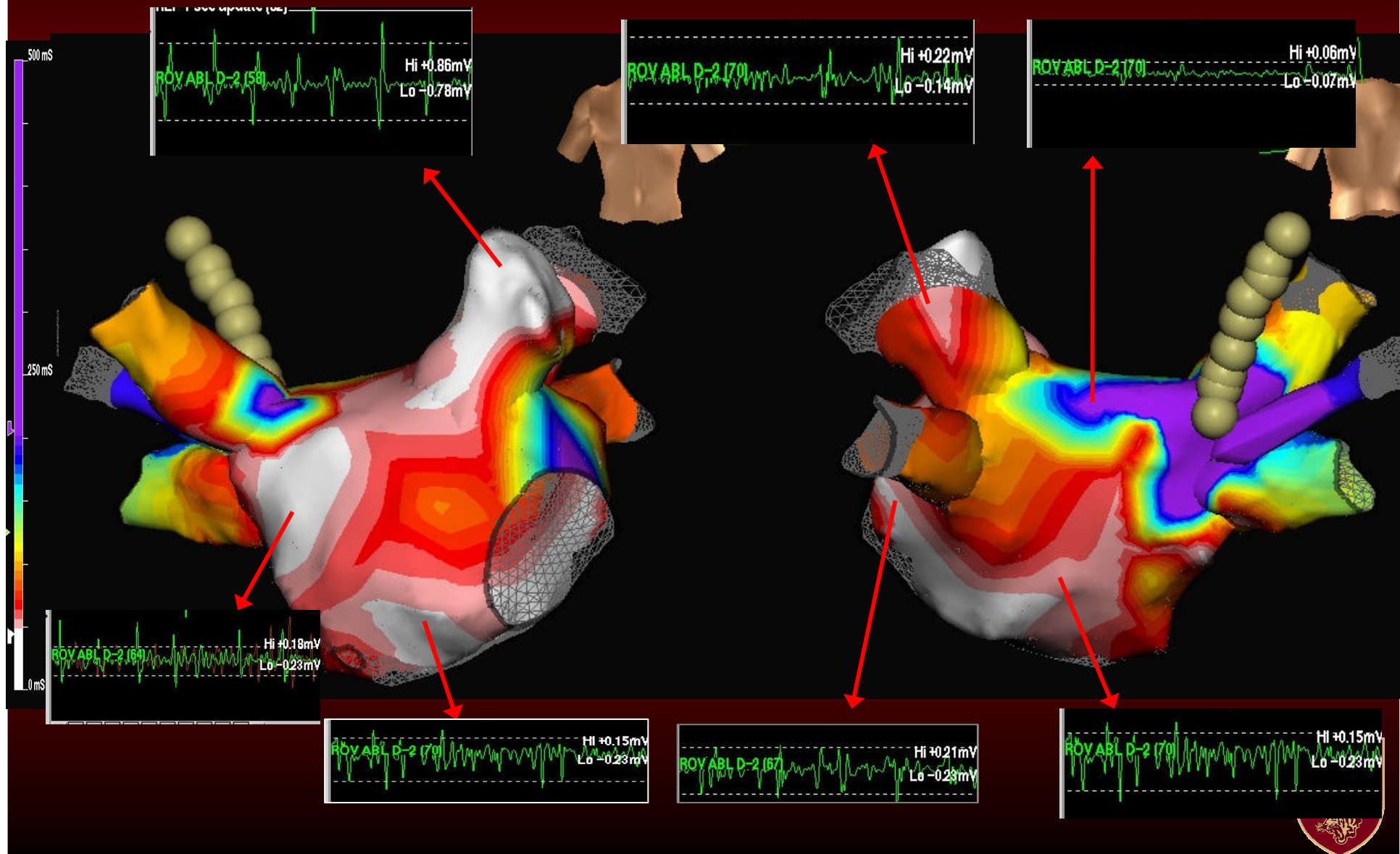
2



Why Does CFAE Ablation Works?

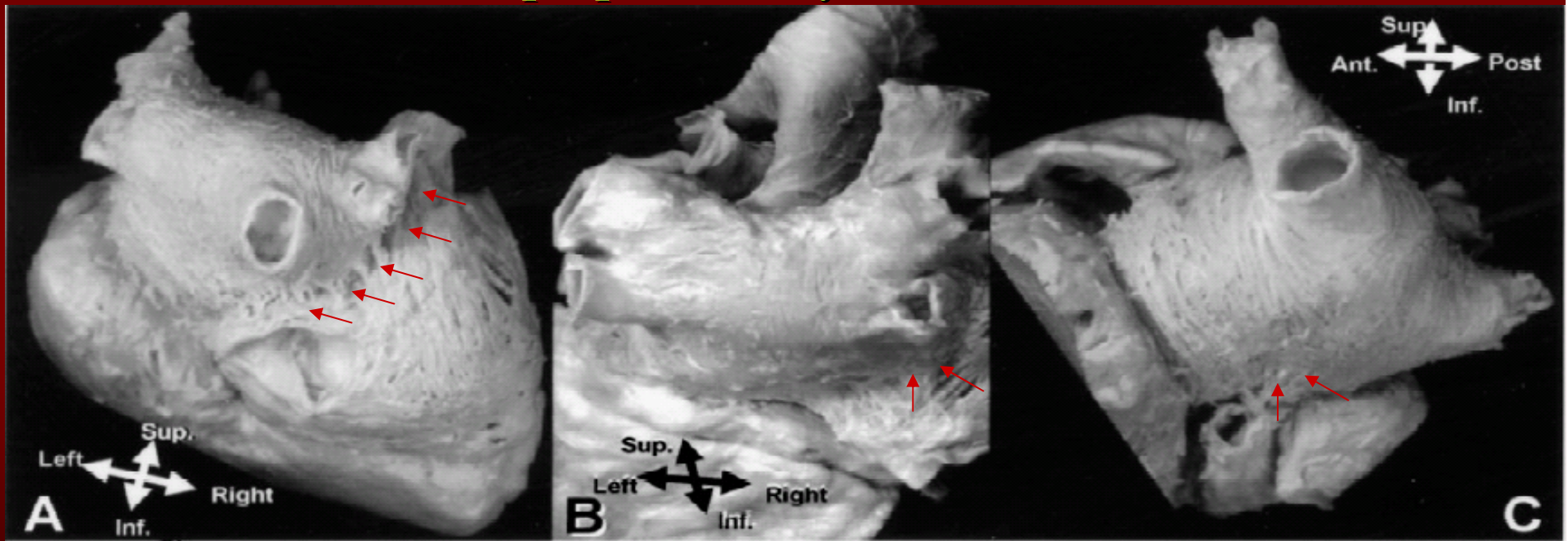


Complex Fractionated Electrograms (CFE) During AF



CFAE: Complex Fiber Orientation and Driver of Wavebreak

Septopulmonary Bundle

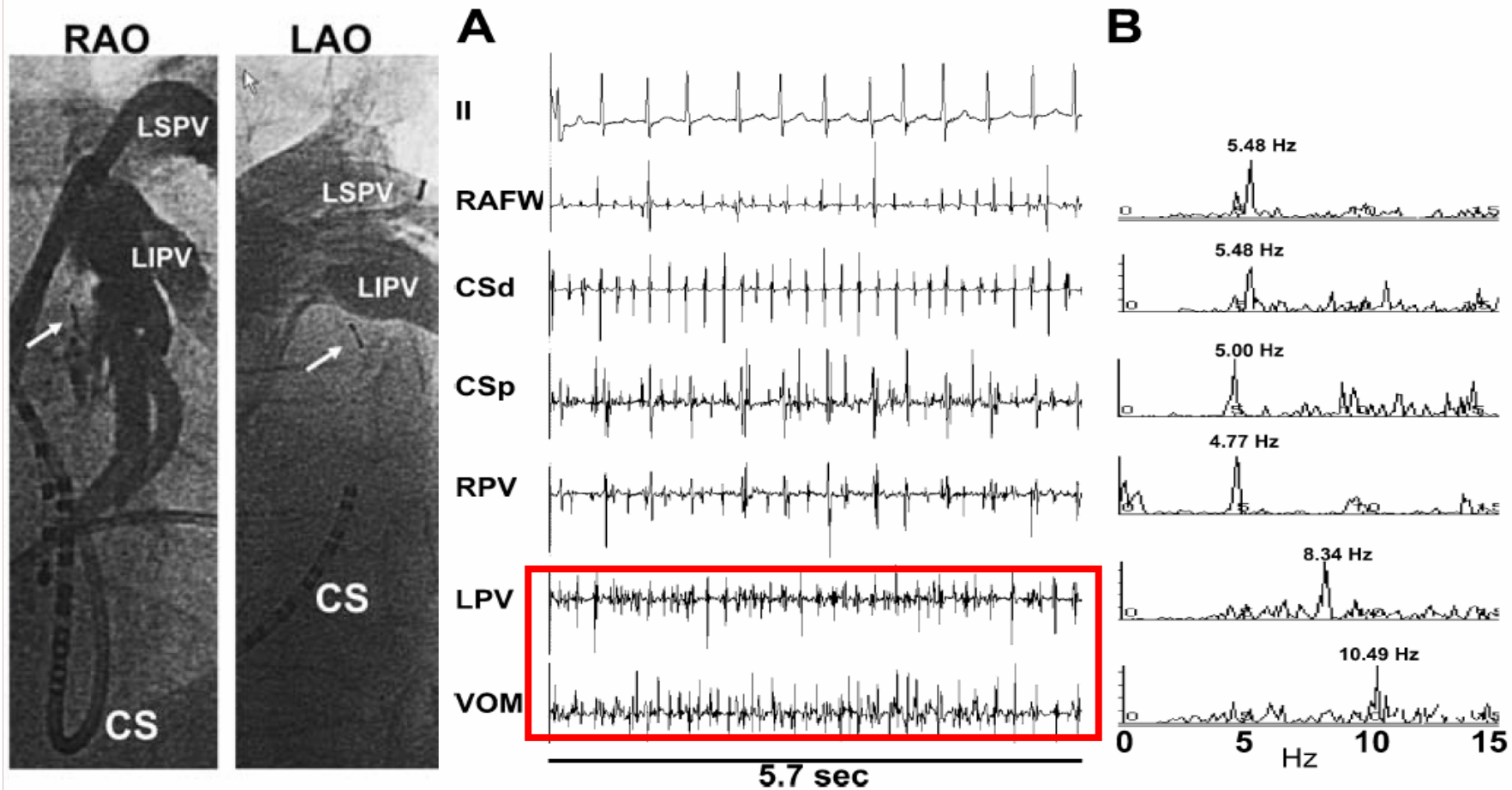


Ho et al. Cardiovasc Res. 2002;54:325, Papez et al. Am J Anat. 1920;27:255-277

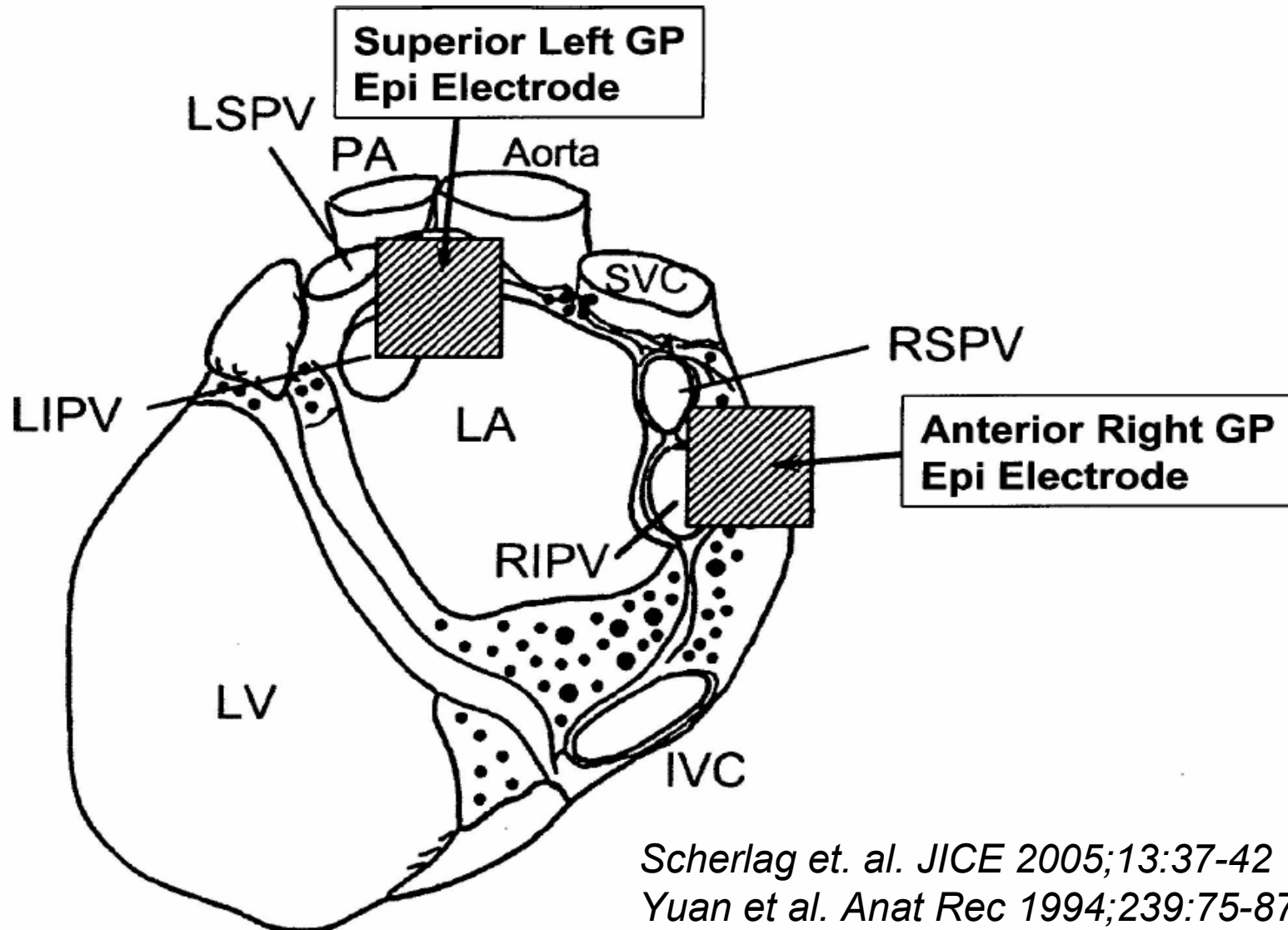


CFAE at AF Trigger or Driver : VOM Activity during AF

Kamanu, Hwang C et. al. JCE 2006;17:839-846



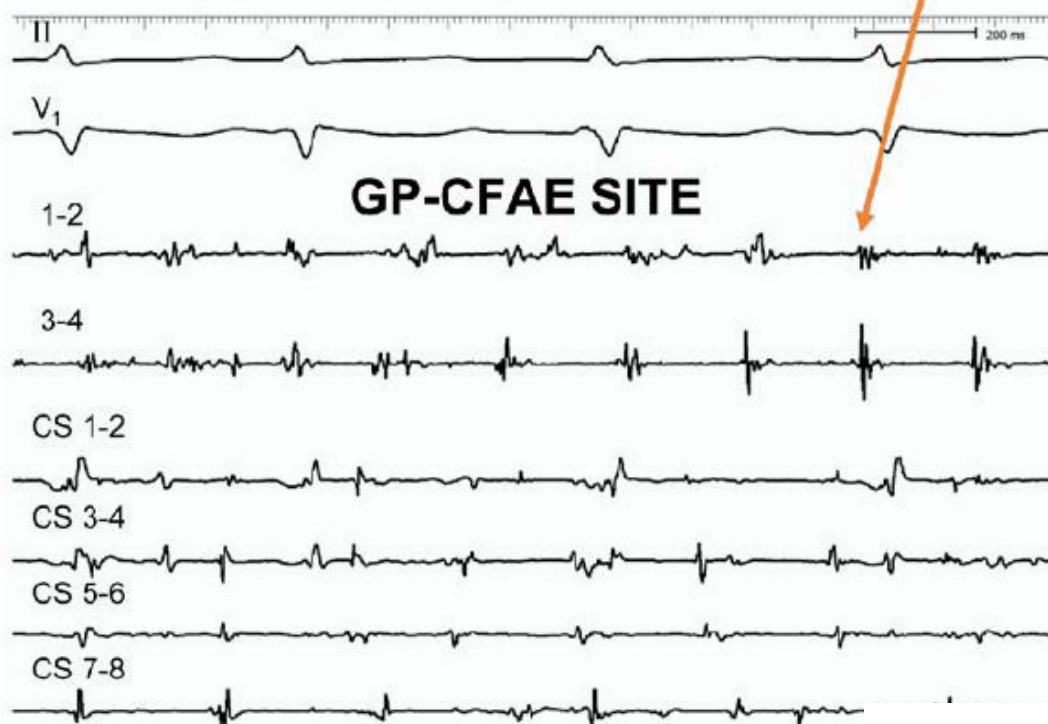
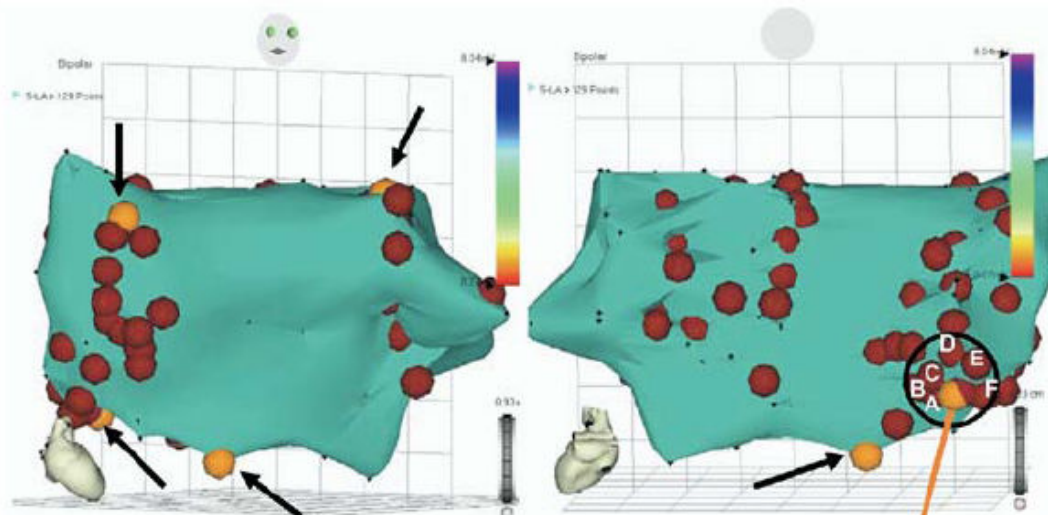
CFAE: Co-localized with Ganglionic Plexi



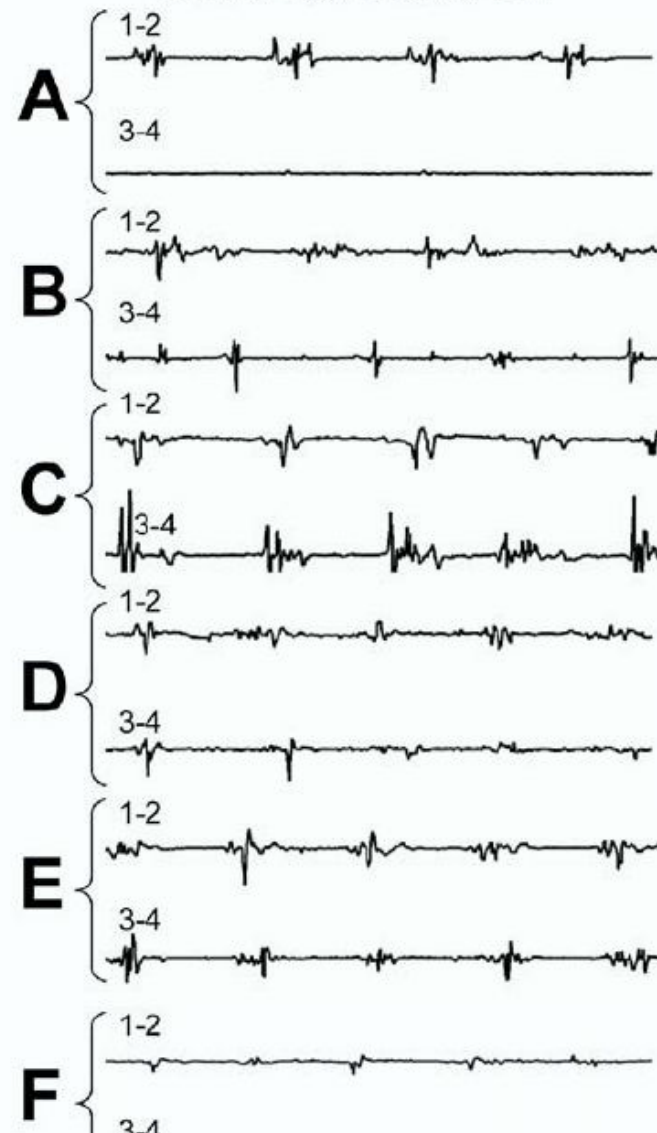
Scherlag et. al. *JICE* 2005;13:37-42
Yuan et al. *Anat Rec* 1994;239:75-87



CFAE vs. Vagal Ganglionic Plexi



CFAE around GP



CFAE as a Driver of PeAF

1. Complex fiber orientation and wavebreak
2. Trigger and Driver of AF
3. Co-localization of Autonomic ganglionic plexi

 **Single shot hits three targets!**

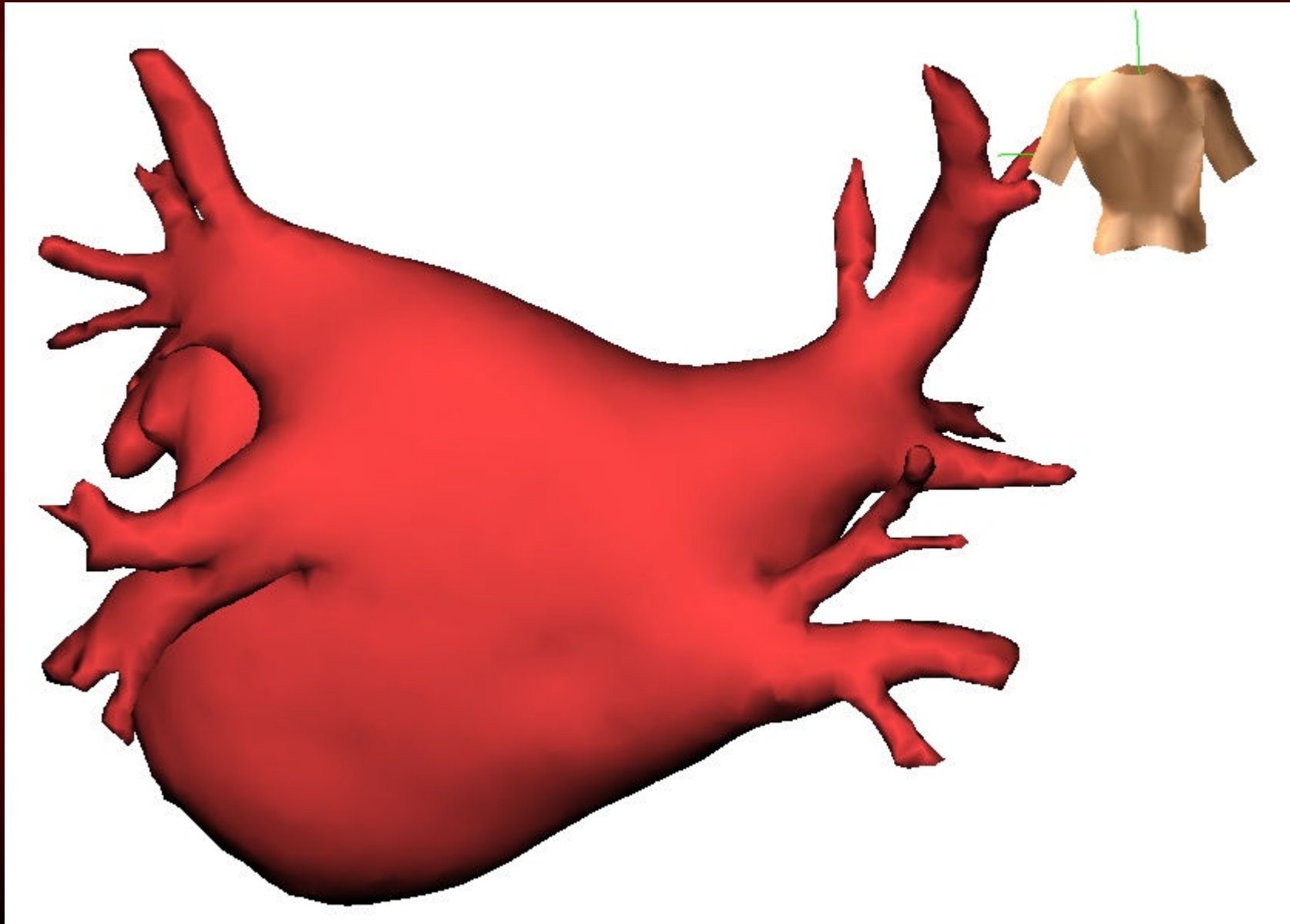
 Not a organized method, and hard to prove the effects.



Case

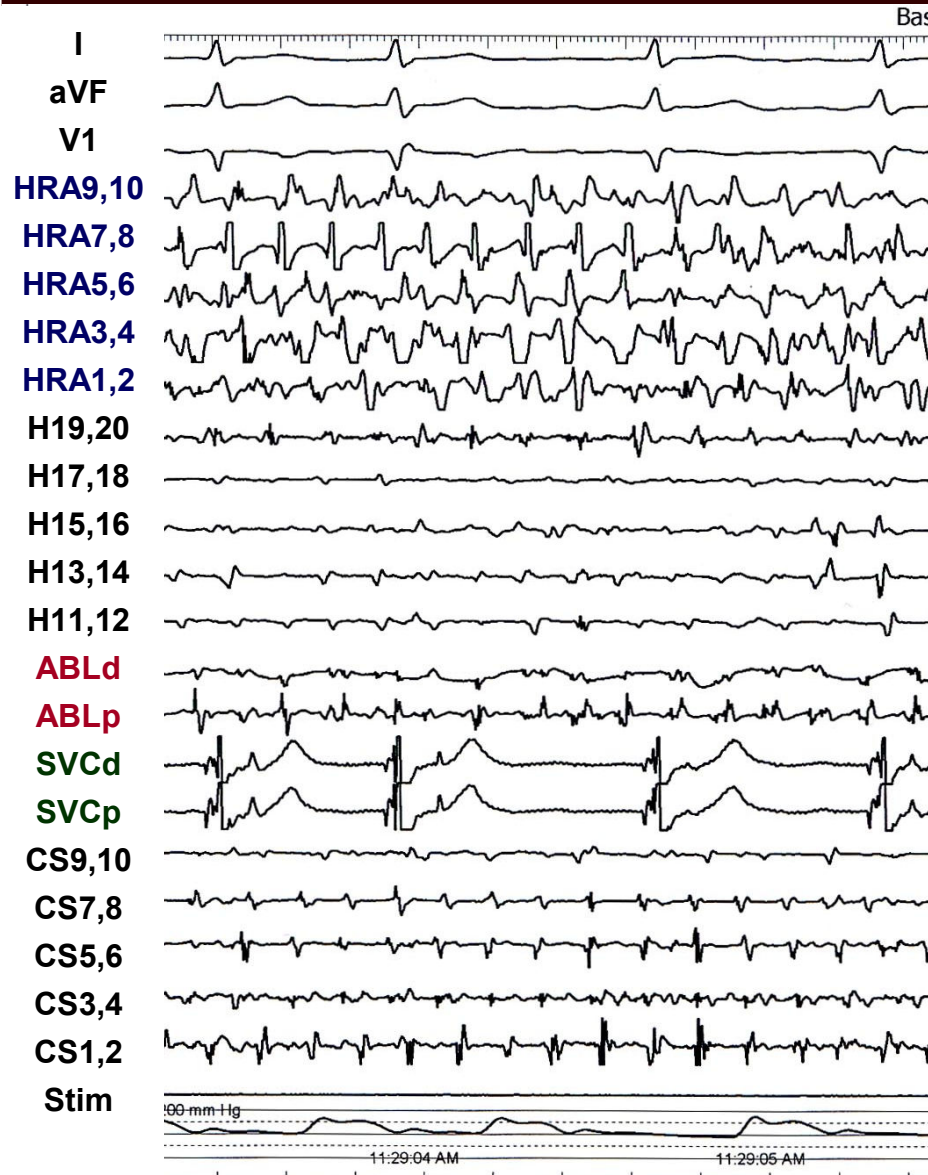
Kim, HK. M/56 Permanent AF (IRAF after Cardioversion x2)
LA 46mm, EF 55%, AF duration > 3years

ID1320748



Baseline AF

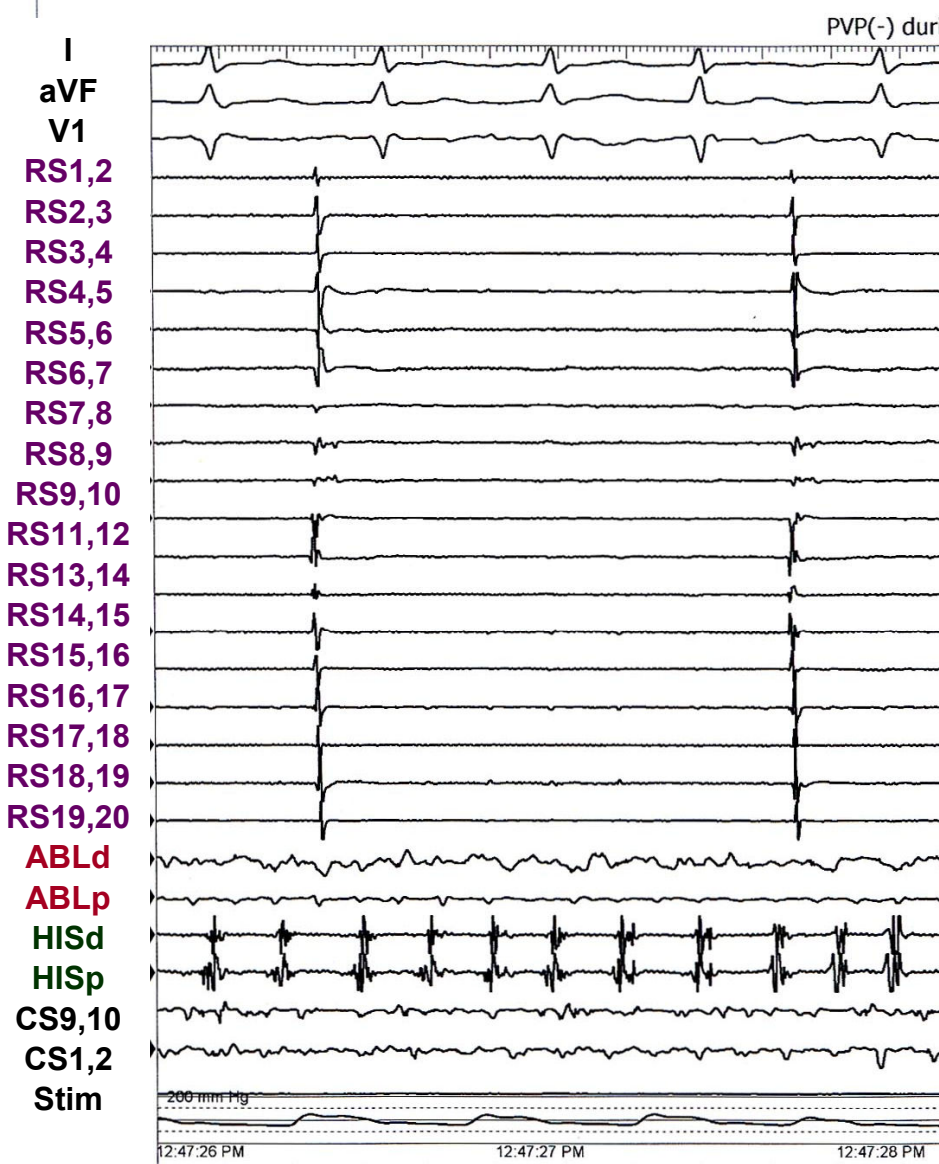
Cardioversion 5J-10J-12J : Failure



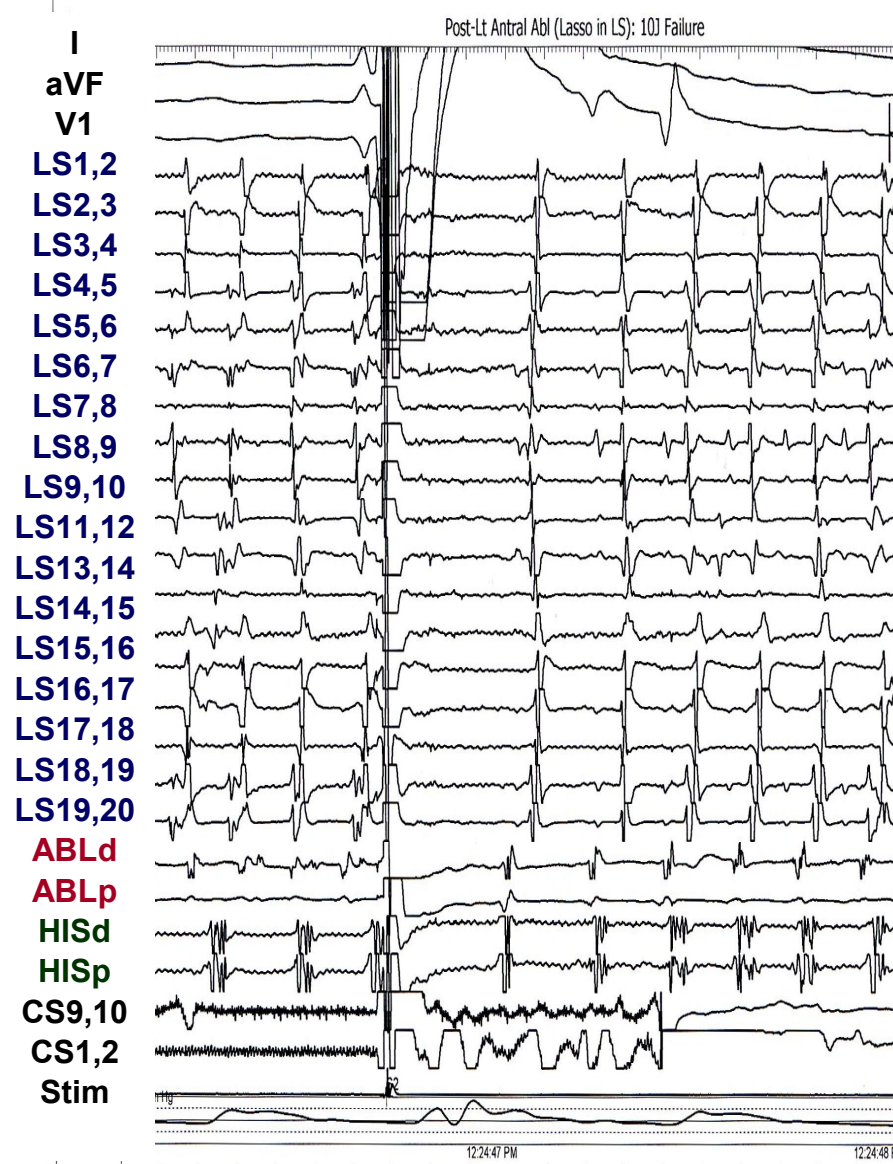
Baseline RSPV Potentials



After Right Antral Ablation: Persisting AF



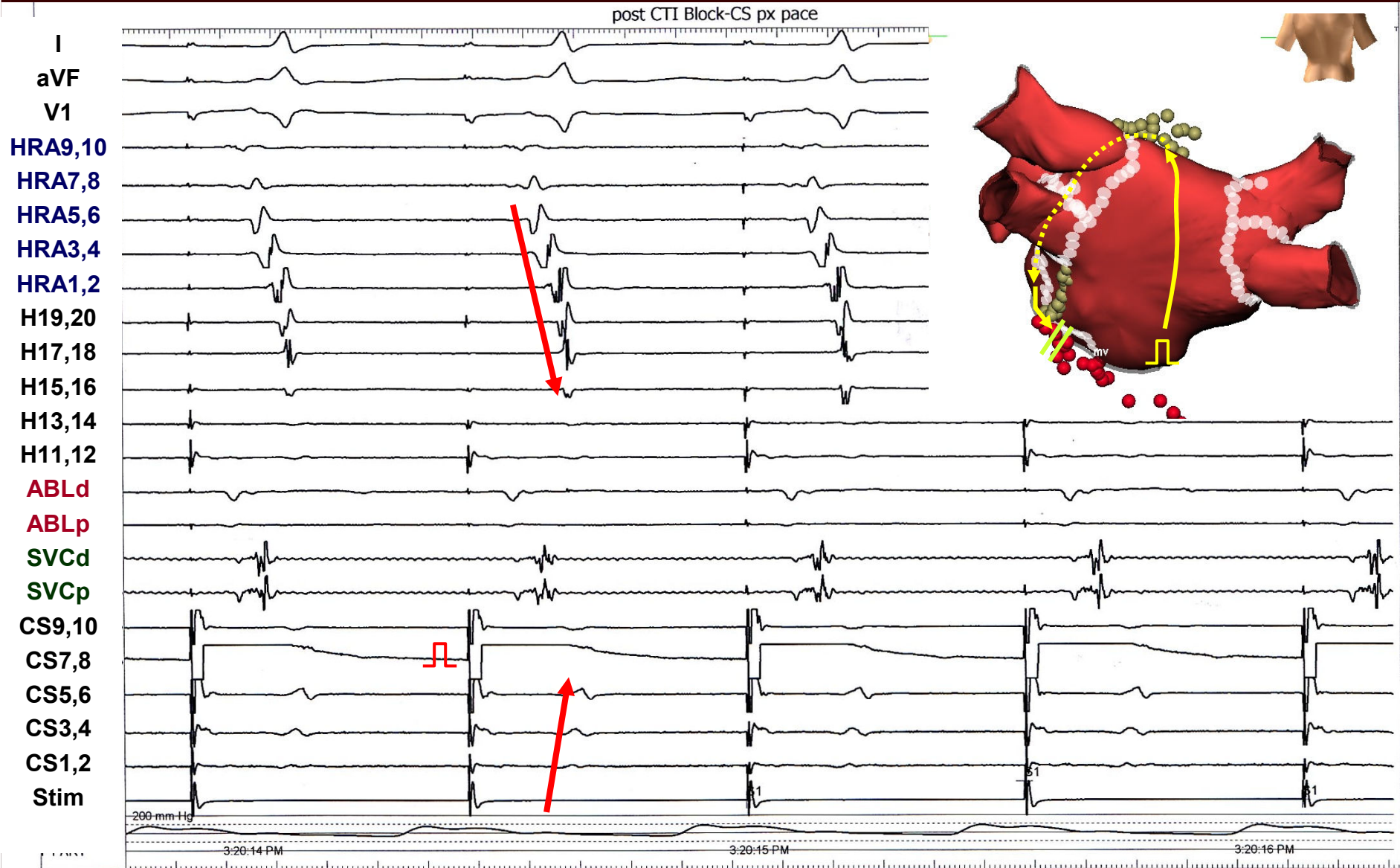
After Left Antral Ablation: Cardioversion 10J : Failure



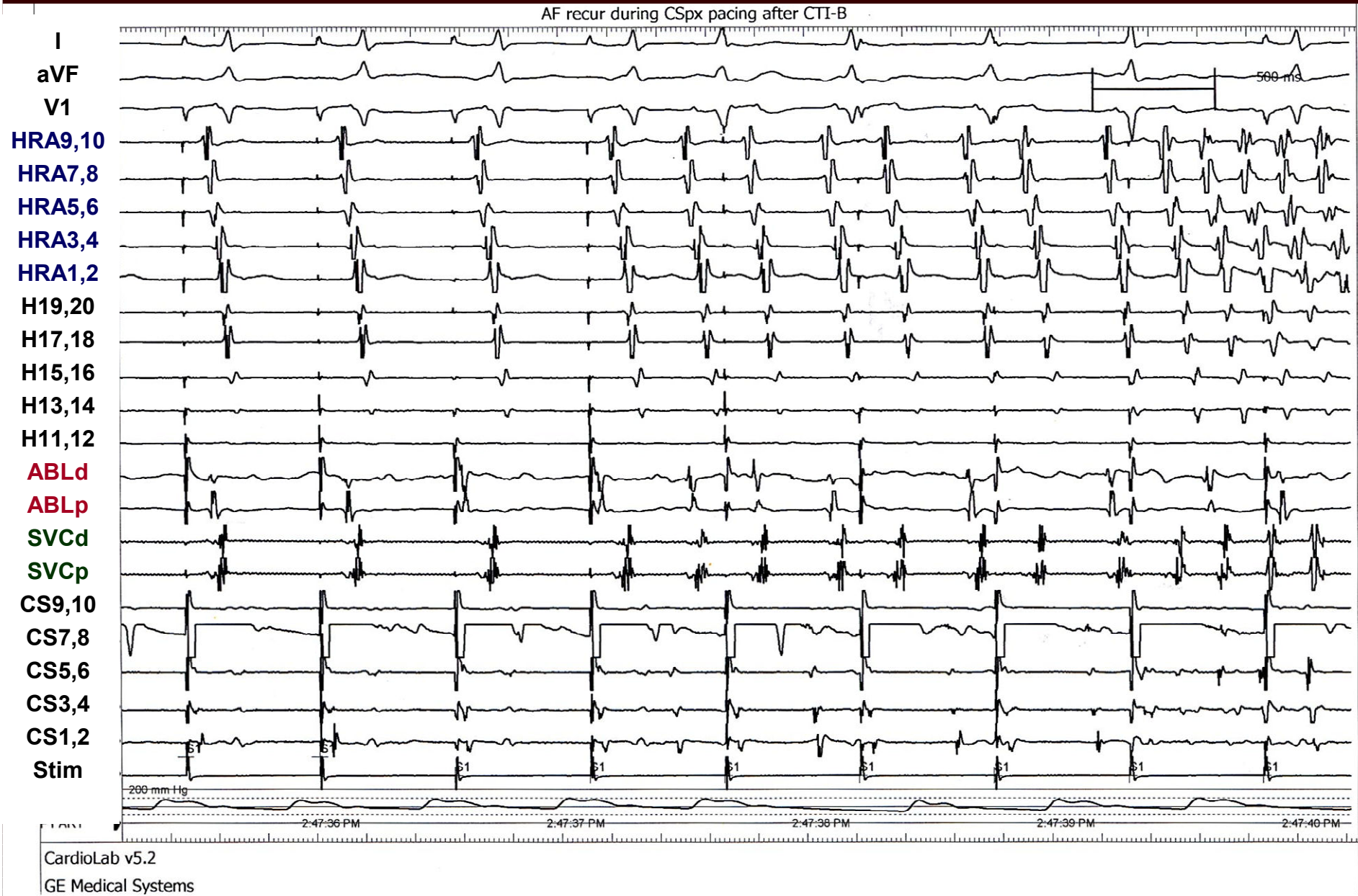
EPI Linear ABL: From Roof to Peri-Mitral Area



CTI Block: CSpx Pace

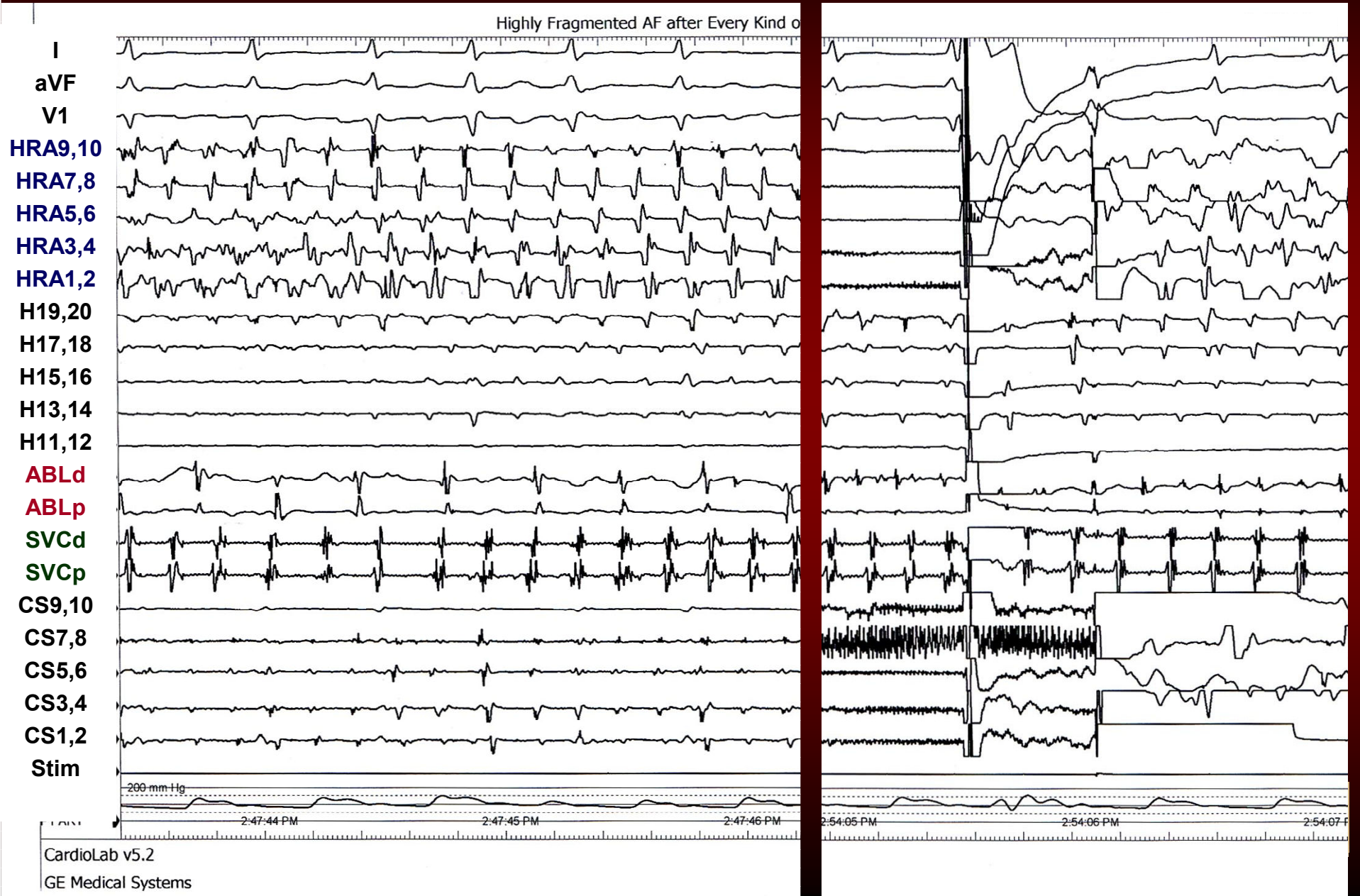


Spont' AF Recurrence during CSpx Pace

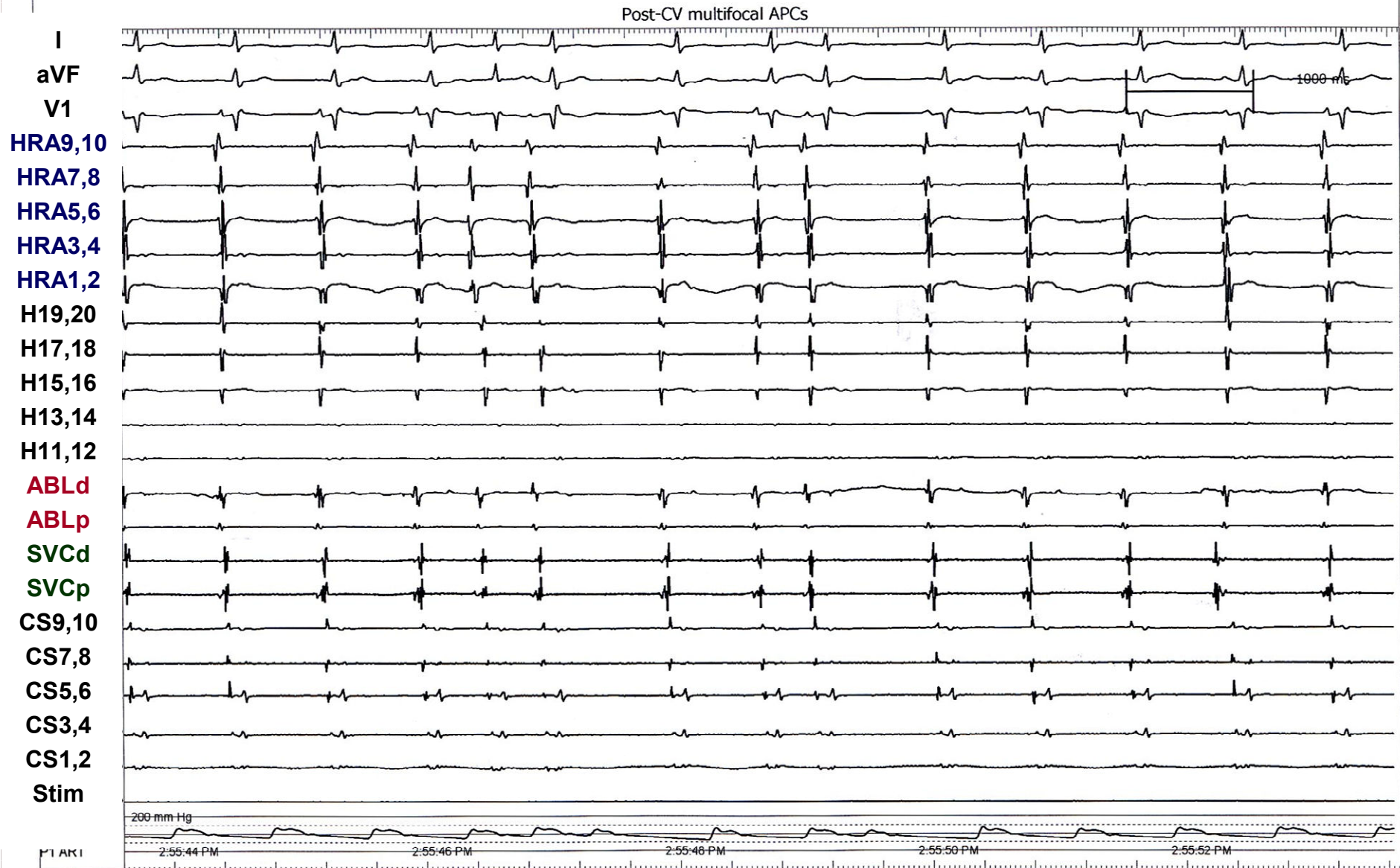


Recurrent Highly Disorganized AF after CPVI+Linear ABL

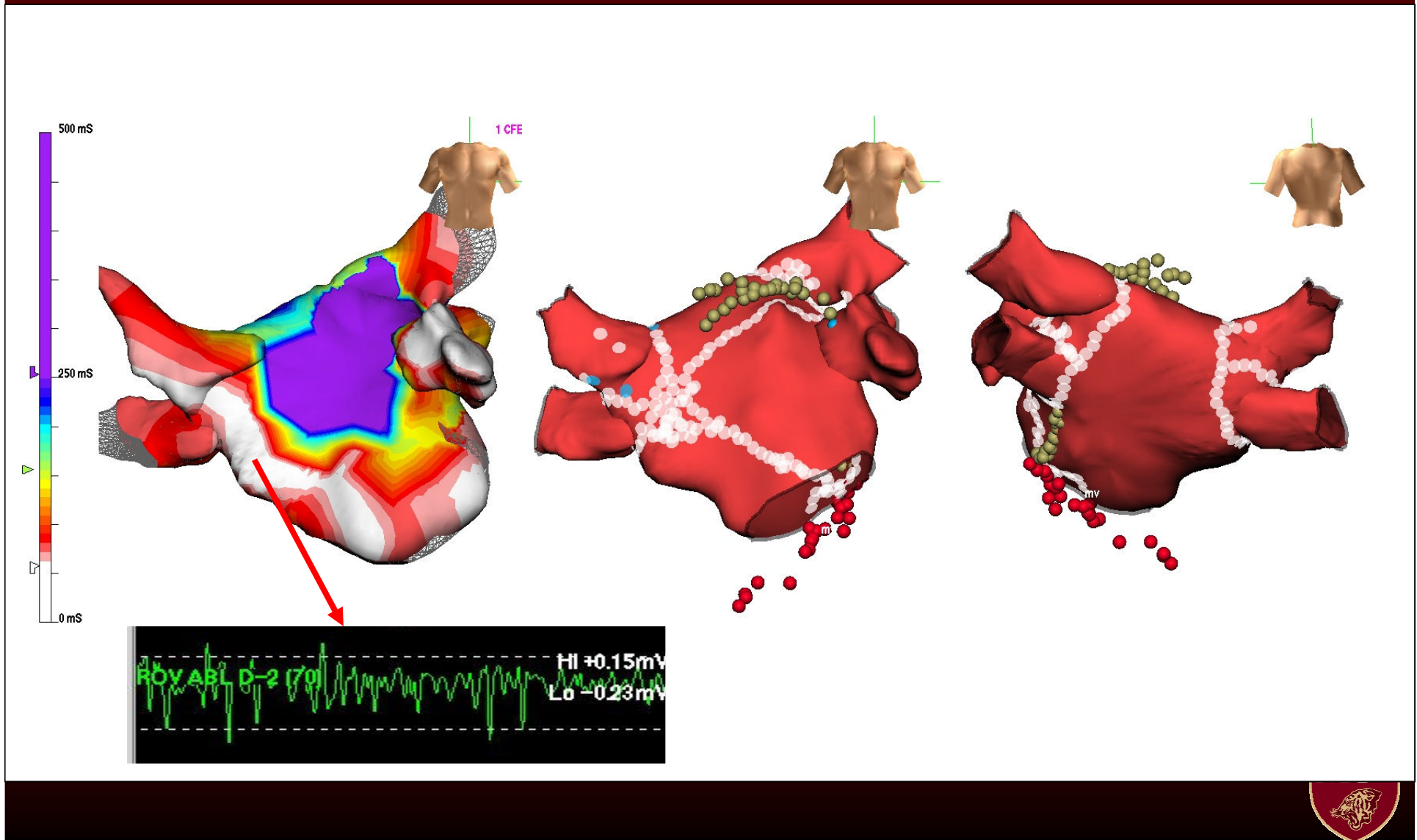
Post-AF ABL: CV 3J-5J-10J - Failure



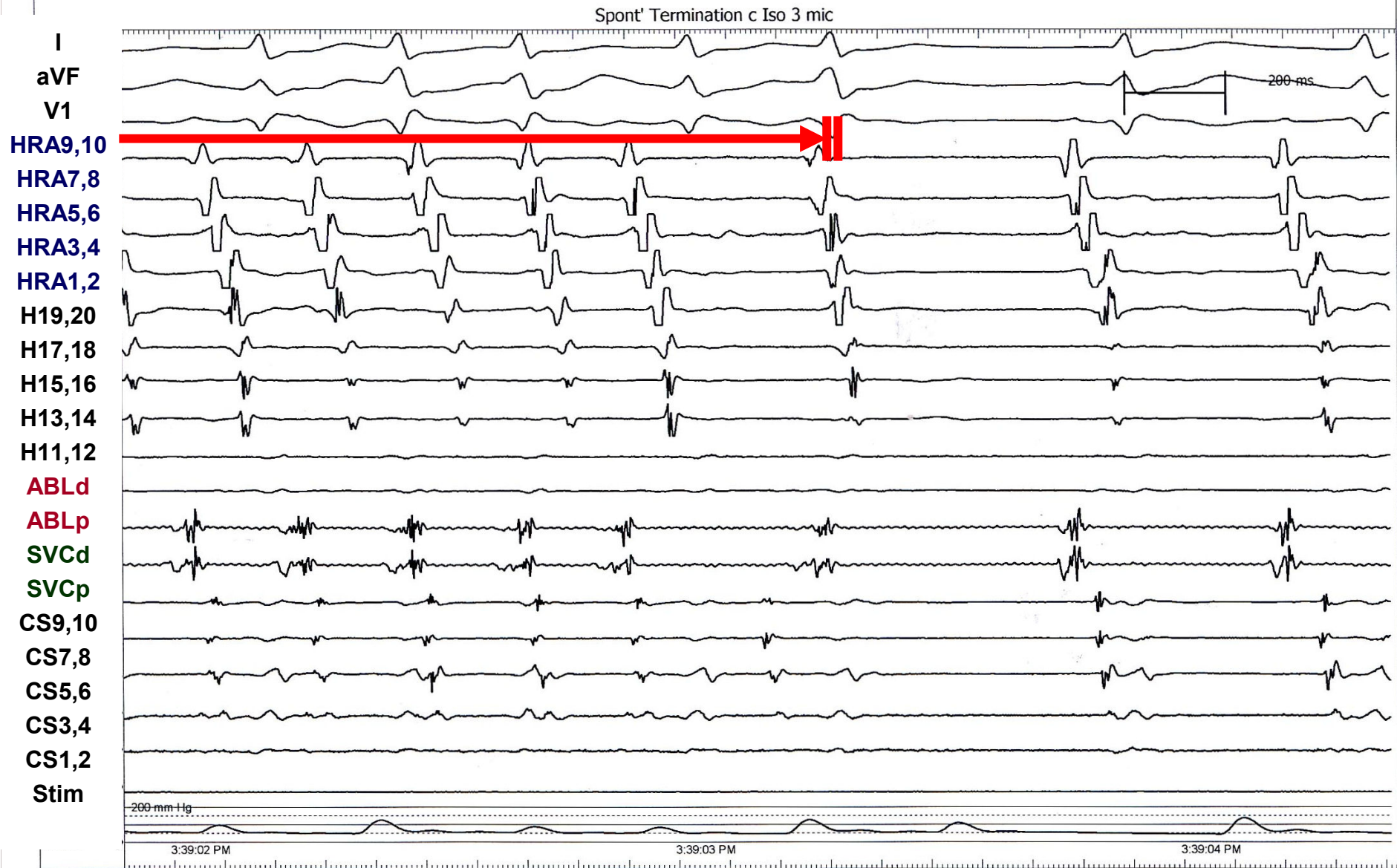
Post-CV Multifocal APCs



CFAE Guided Linear Septal Ablation



Spont' Termination of Induced AF with Iso 3 mic/min



Which One Will You Choose?

Critical Mass Reduction
By **Linear Ablation**



CFAE Elimination
By EGM Guided Ablation



Take-Home Message

- PeAF/ Pt AF can be treated by RFCA.
- Elimination of both trigger and driver is essential for RFCA of PeAF.
- Linear ablation has critical mass reduction effects, and electrogram guided ablation eliminates both trigger and driver.
- Both techniques still has limitations, and the pathophysiology of PeAF has to be elucidated more.



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Sook Kyung Kim
Jae Hyung Kim
Chang Hee Kim
Hye Jin Seo

Sun Mee Lee
Do Hyung You

21C Frontier
Research Foundation

CAFÉ & LATTE

Rebuttal

 **When?**

Stepwise Approach (Inducibility/ IRAF)

 **Where?**

**Where the CFAE or Trigger Exist
Especially on the Septum**

 **How?**

**Complete Conduction Block
Thorough Mapping of Non-PV Foci**

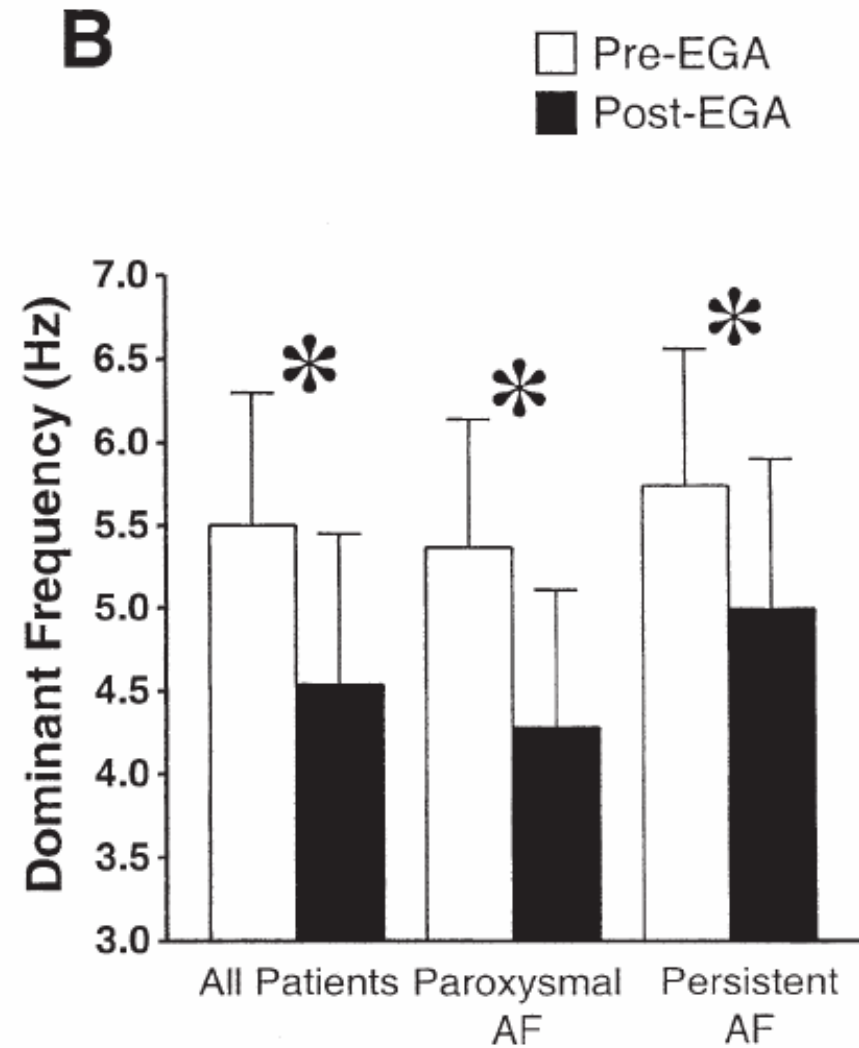
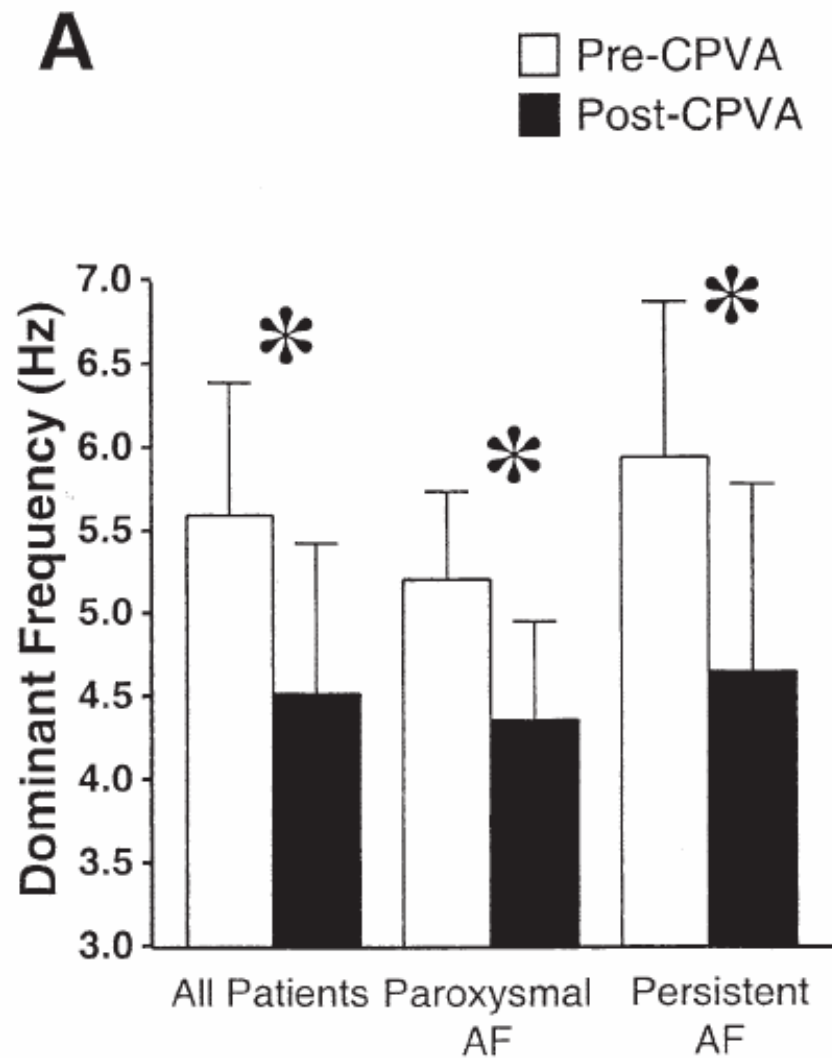
Limitations:

- 1. Which CFAE is real and consistent CAFE?**
- 2. How to Organize the Ablation Strategy?**
- 3. Learning by Burning?**



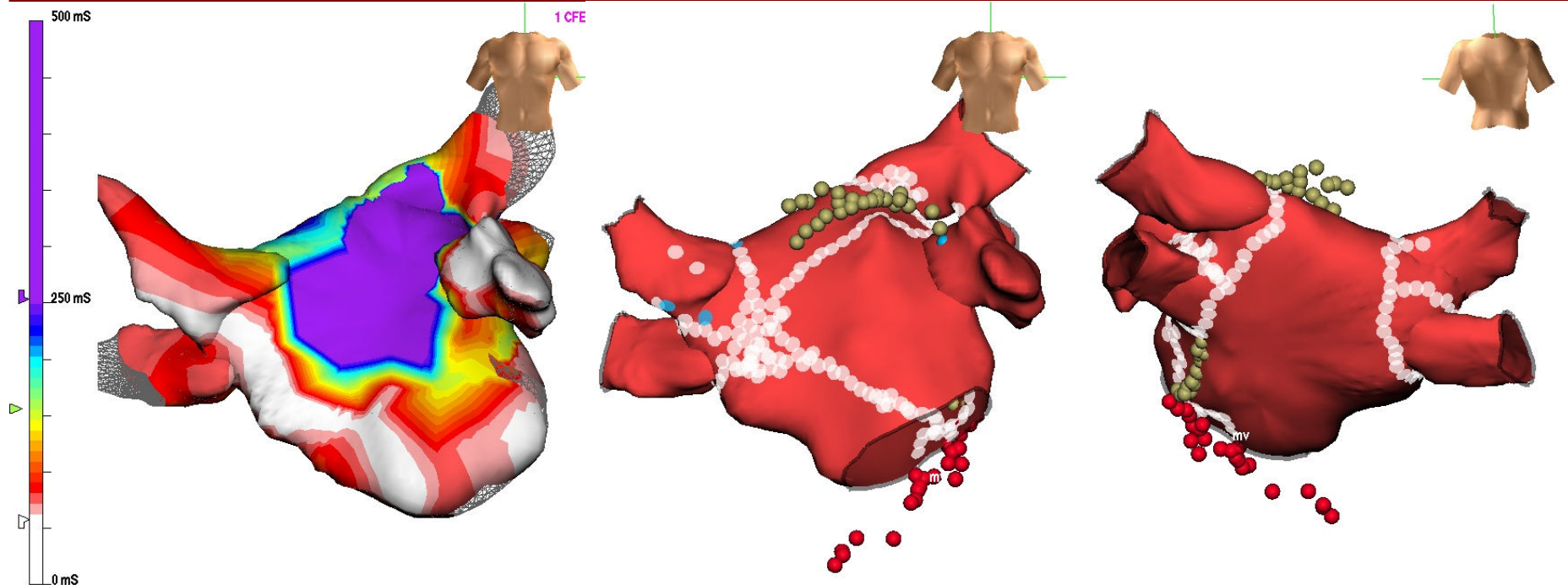
CPVA vs. EGA

Lemola et al. JACC 2006;48:340-8



Summary of RFCA

1. PtAF can be managed by RFCA
2. Both substrate modification and trigger elimination is important to control PeAF/PtAF
3. SPB ablation guided by CFAE or potential may increase the efficacy of RFCA for CAF



Is it Possible to Make Complete Block Reducing Critical Mass during AF Ablation?

Korea Univ. Data (2007 unpublished)
Achieving Bidirectional Peri-mital Block
without CS ablation xx%
with CS ablation xx%
(p<0.01)



Which One Will You Choose?

Critical Mass Reduction
By **Linear Ablation**



CFAE Elimination
By EGM Guided Ablation

