

What Should We Do At Re-do Ablation Procedure?

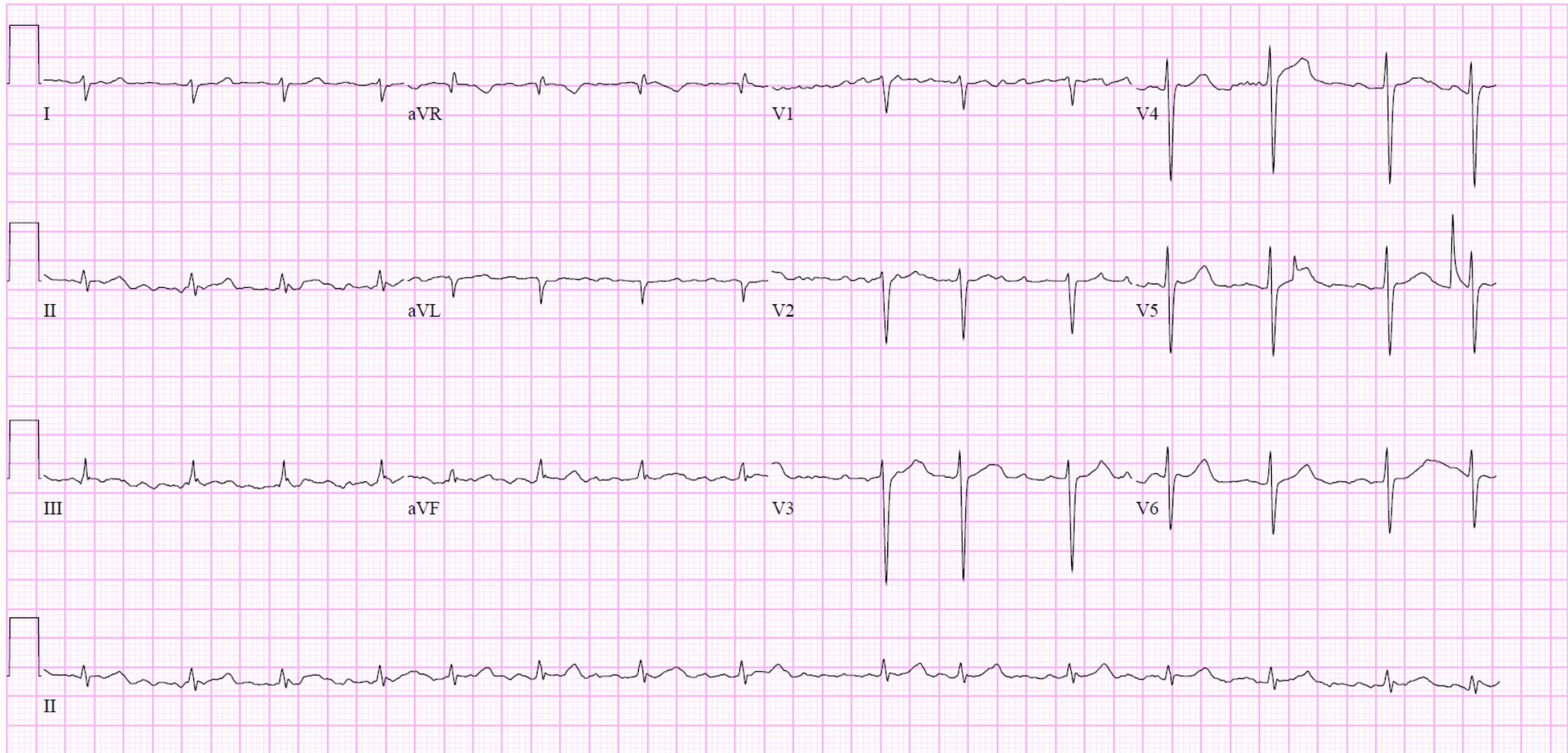
고신의대
차태준

It is contact! Whether Re-do or First

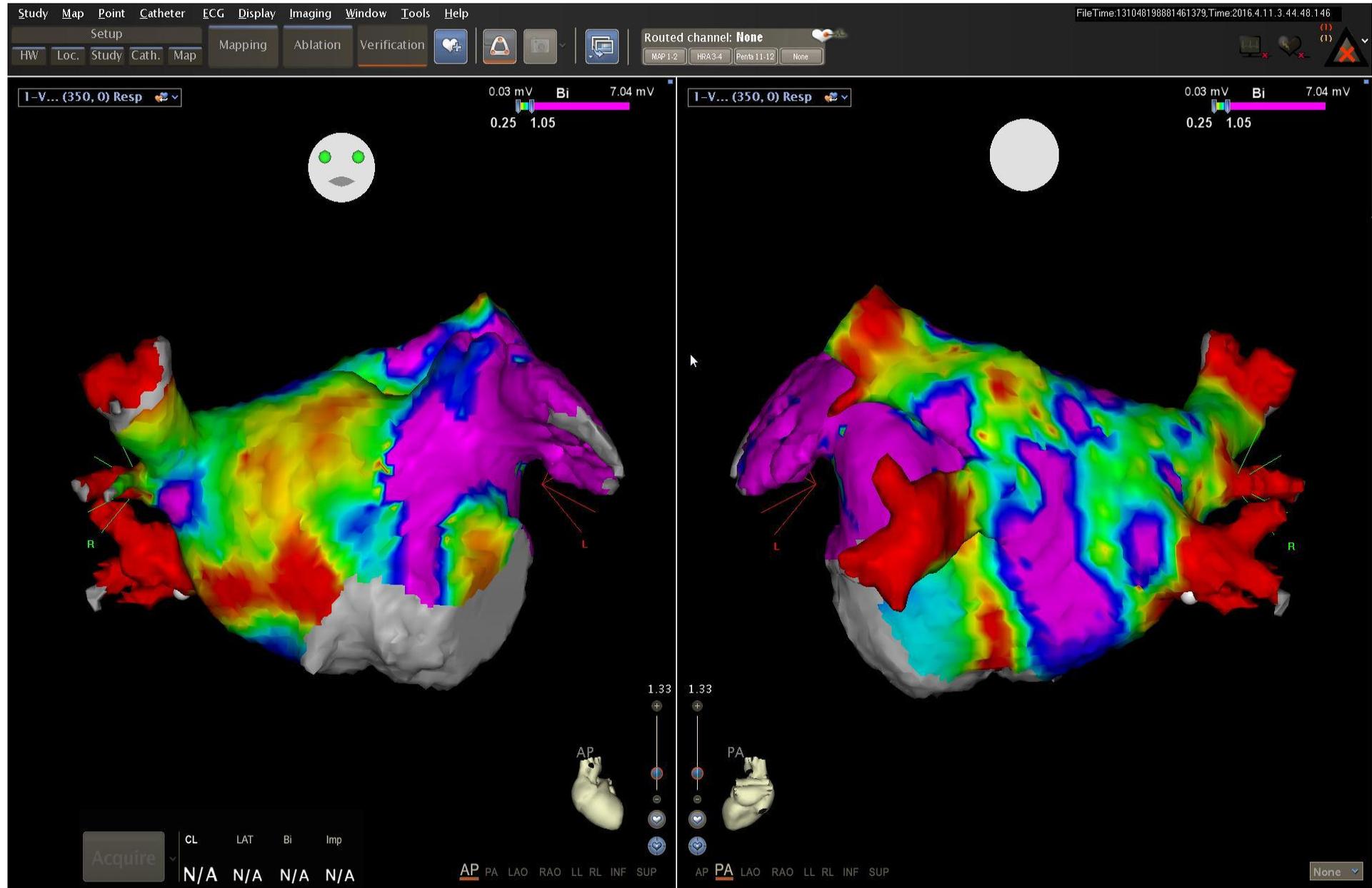
36 years old female patient, intermittent palpitation for 10 years

- **Previous medication propafenone 300 mg tid.**
- **Concor 2.5 mg qd**

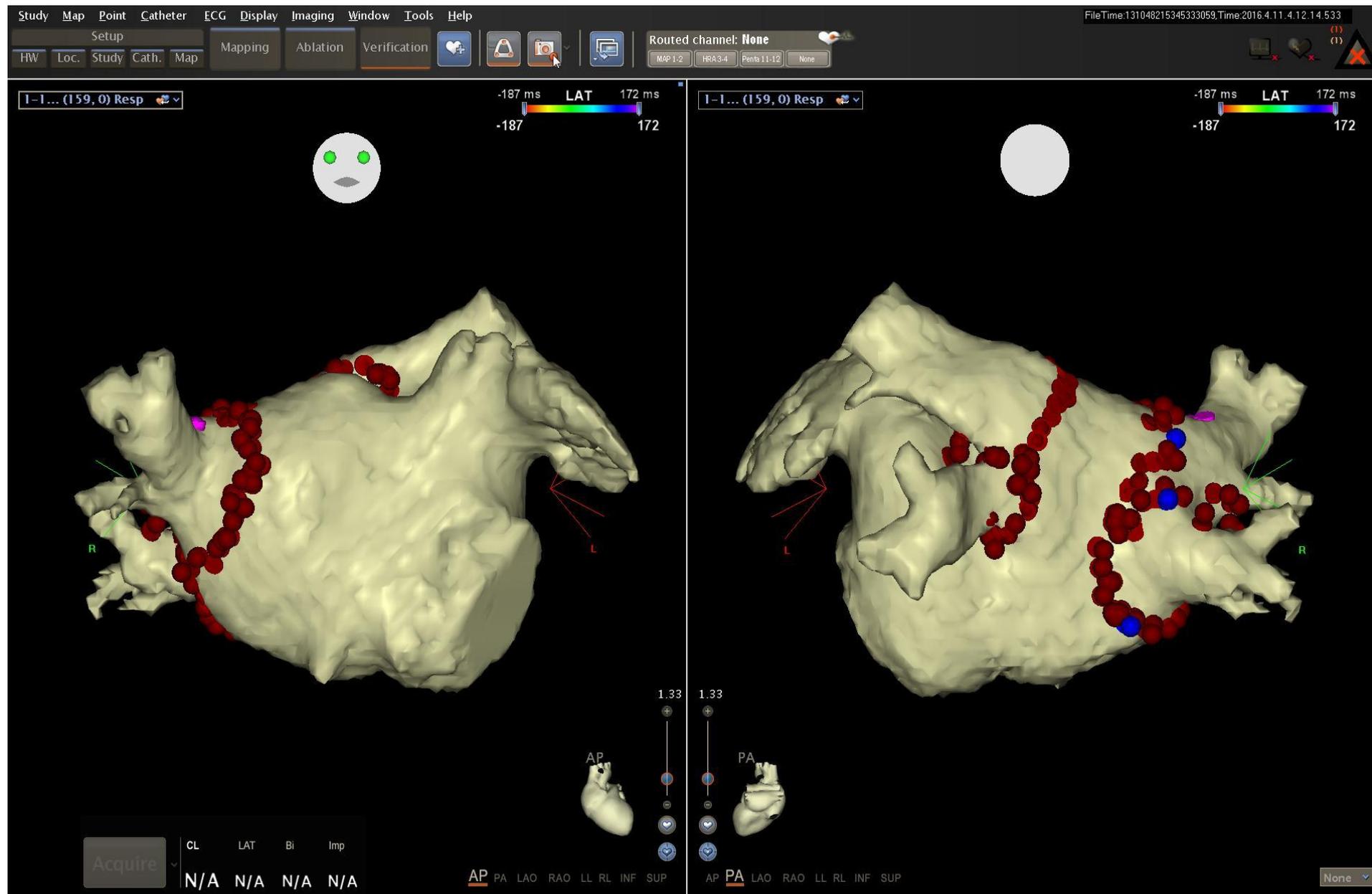
05/Apr/2016



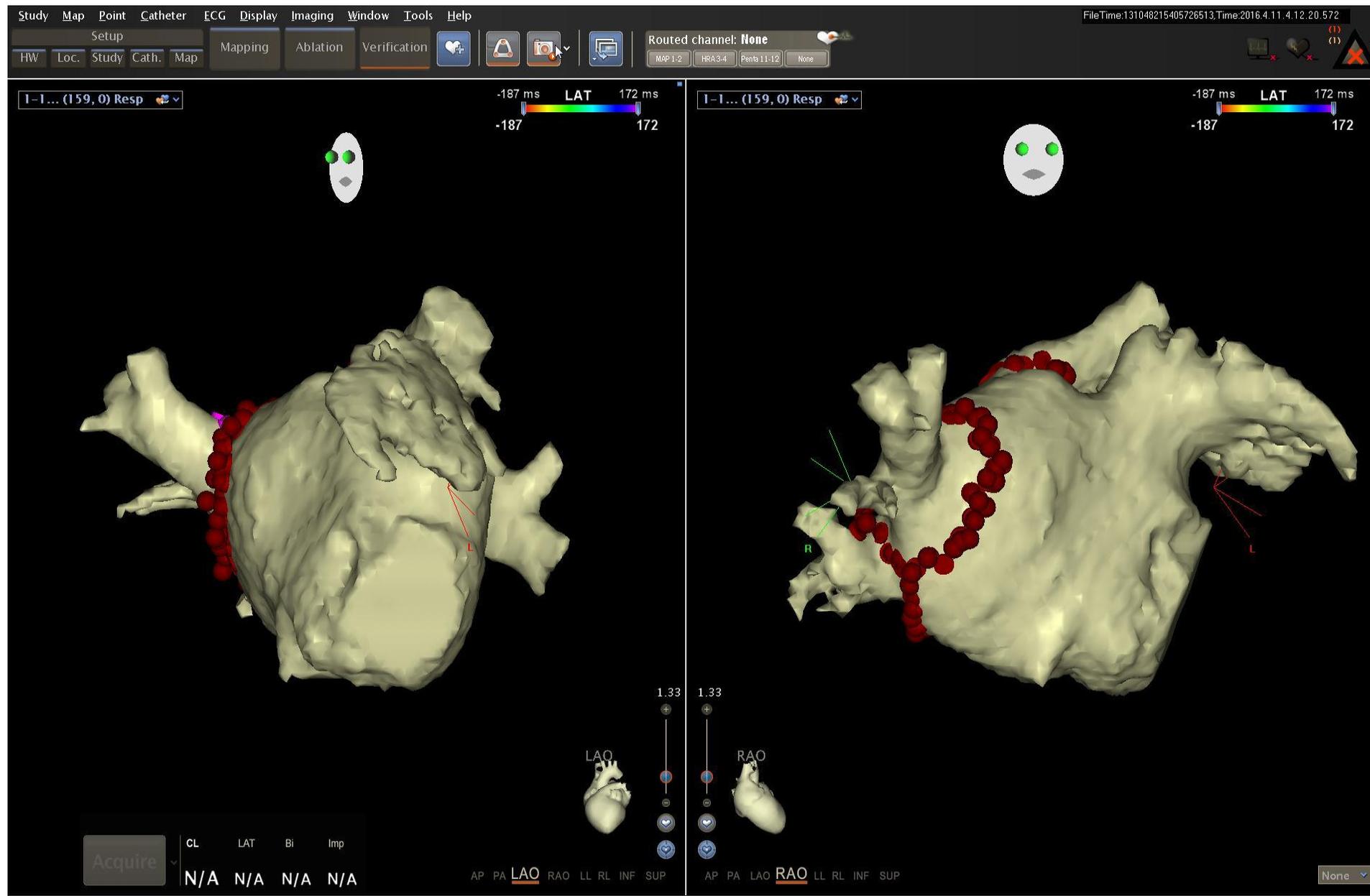
Initial Voltage map



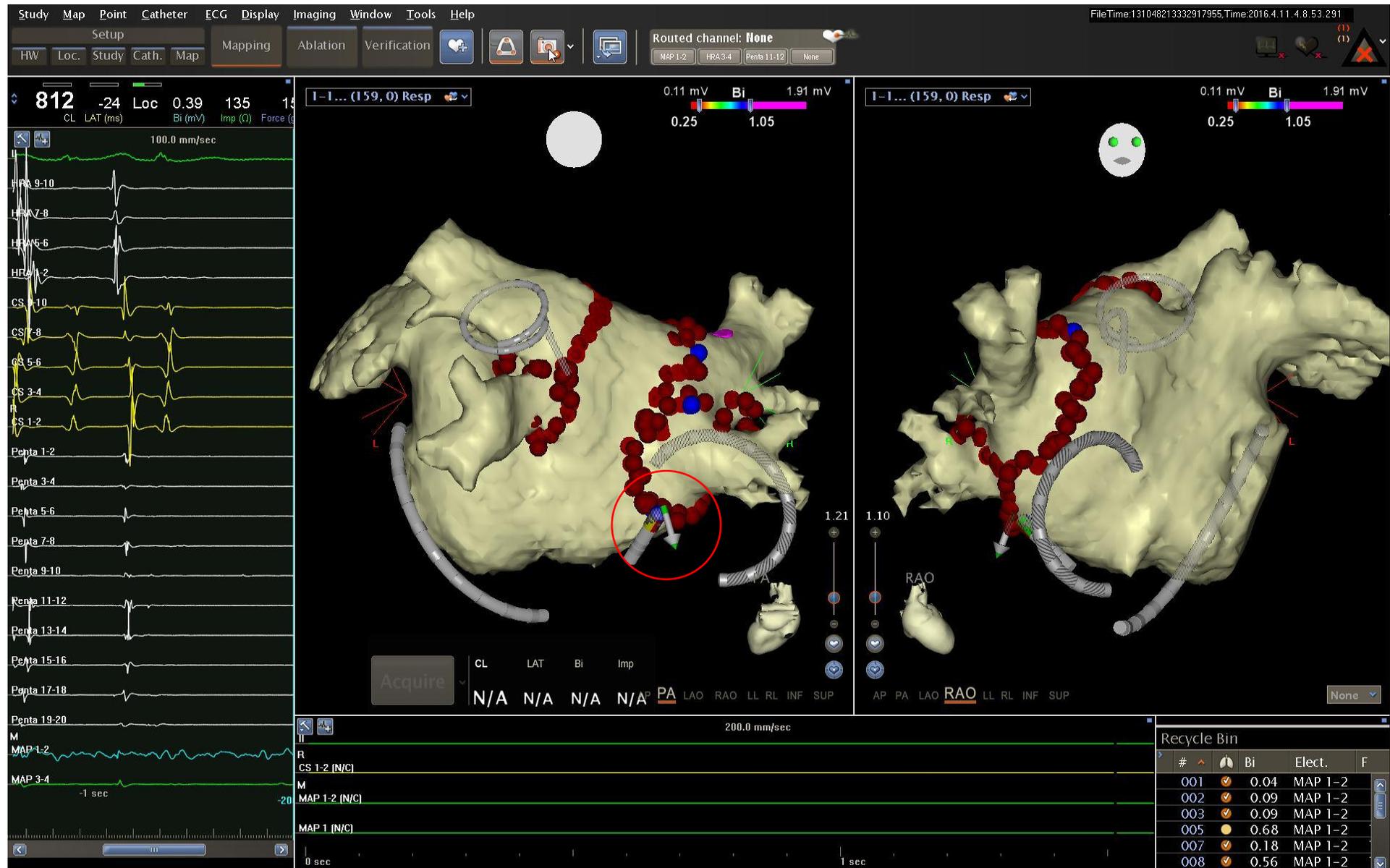
Ablation Line_CPVI



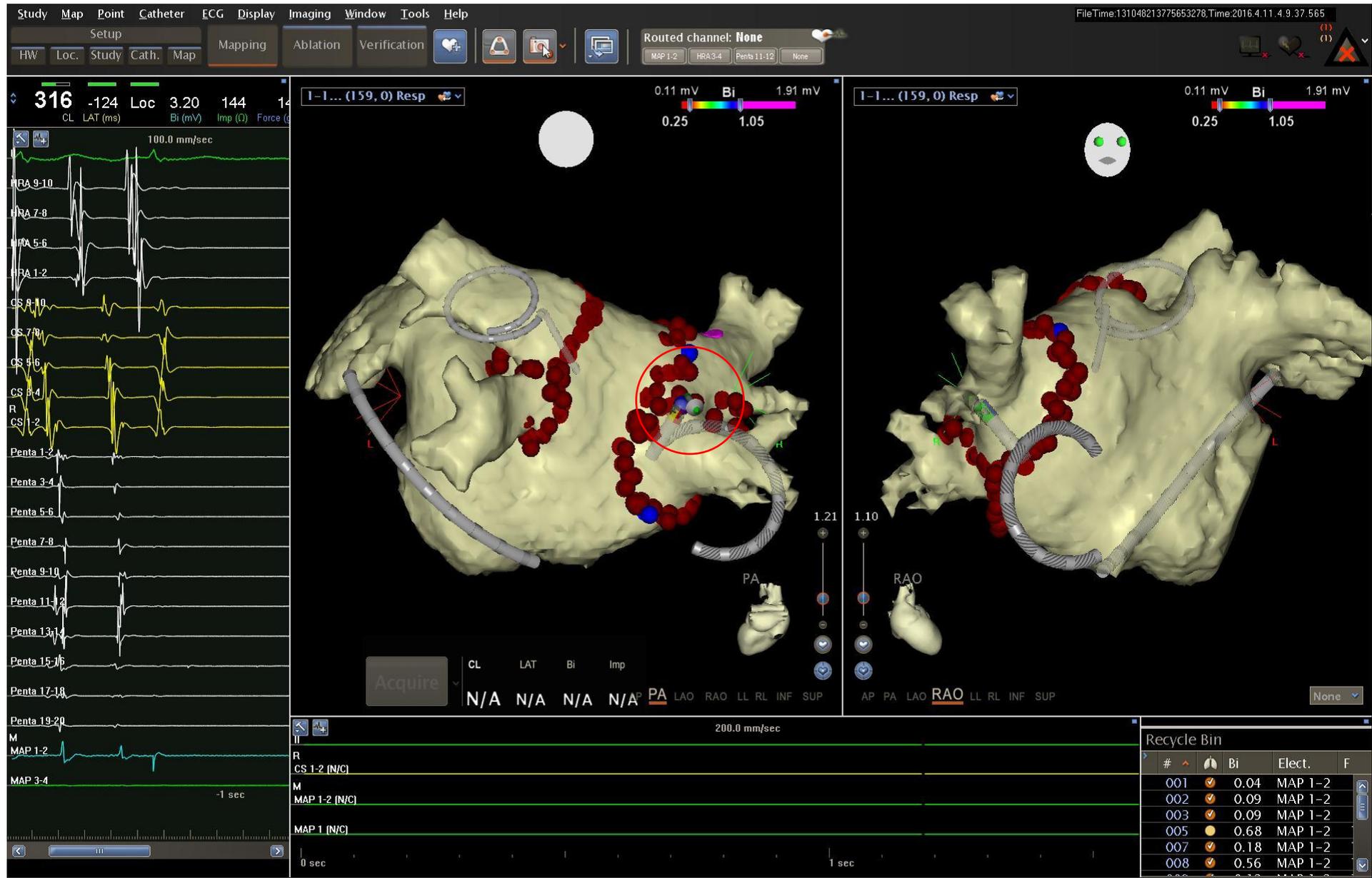
Ablation Line_CPVI



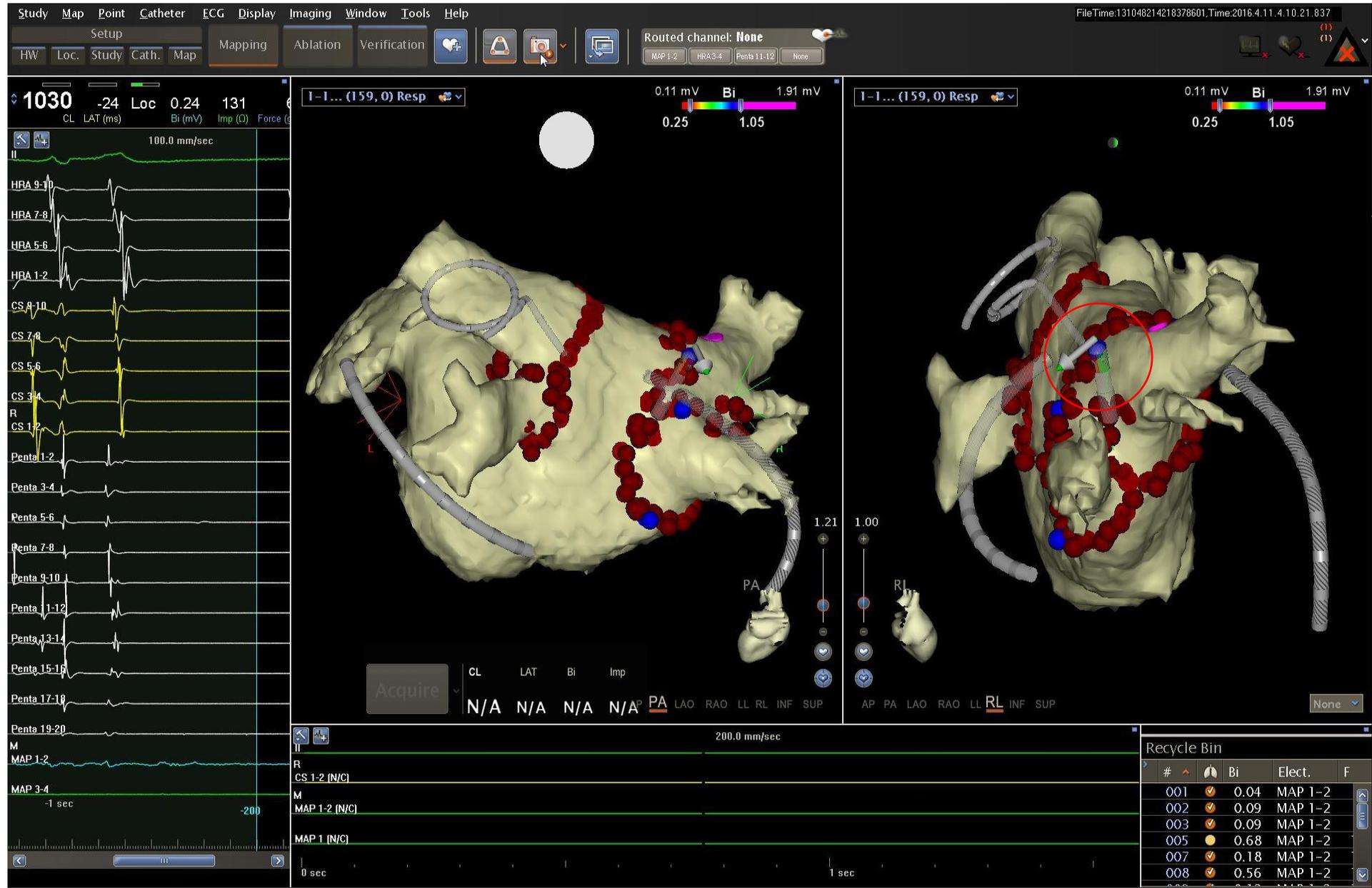
1st Termination Site_Catheter Postion & Signal



2nd Termination Site_Catheter Postion & Signal



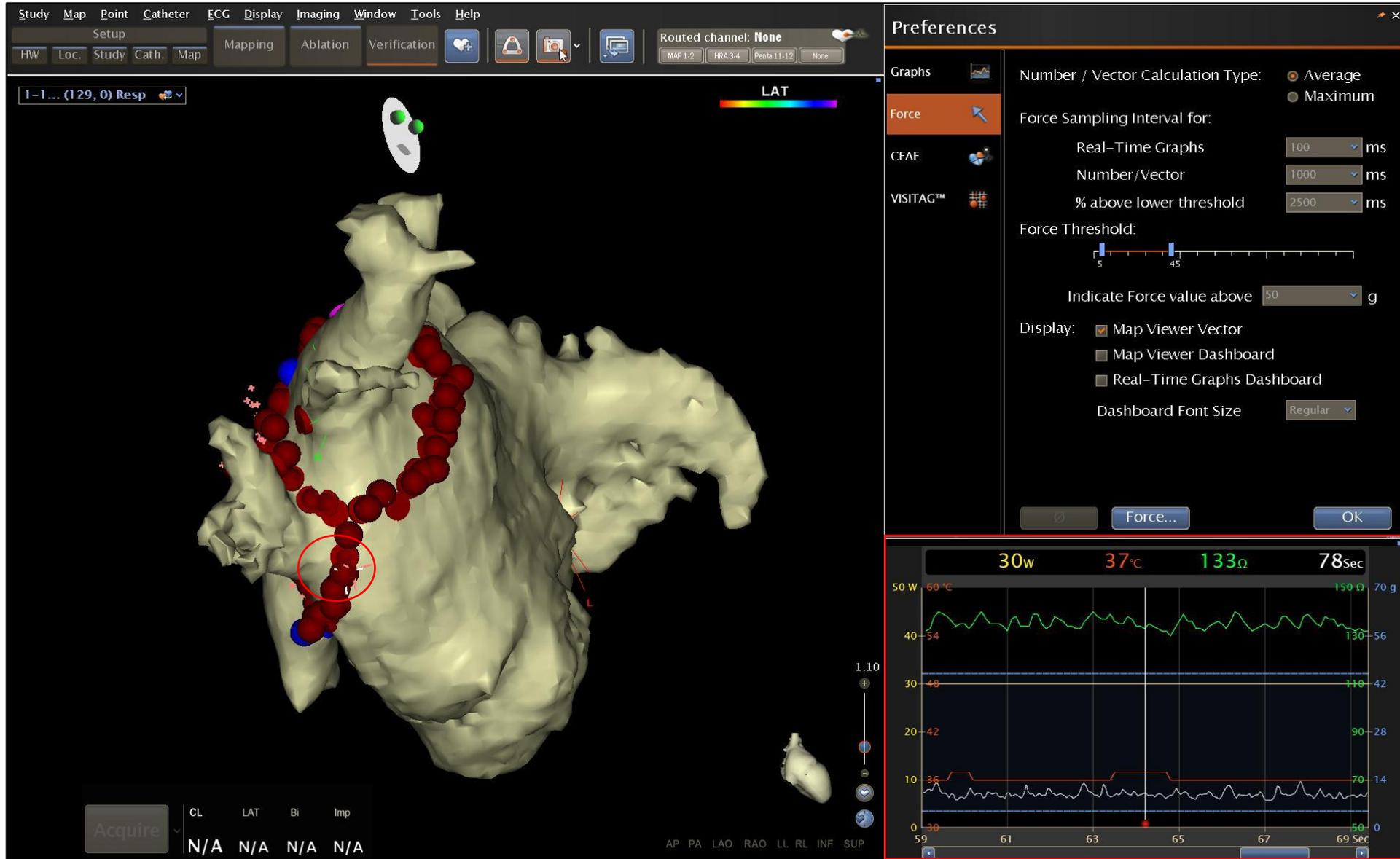
3rd Termination Site_Catheter Postion & Signal





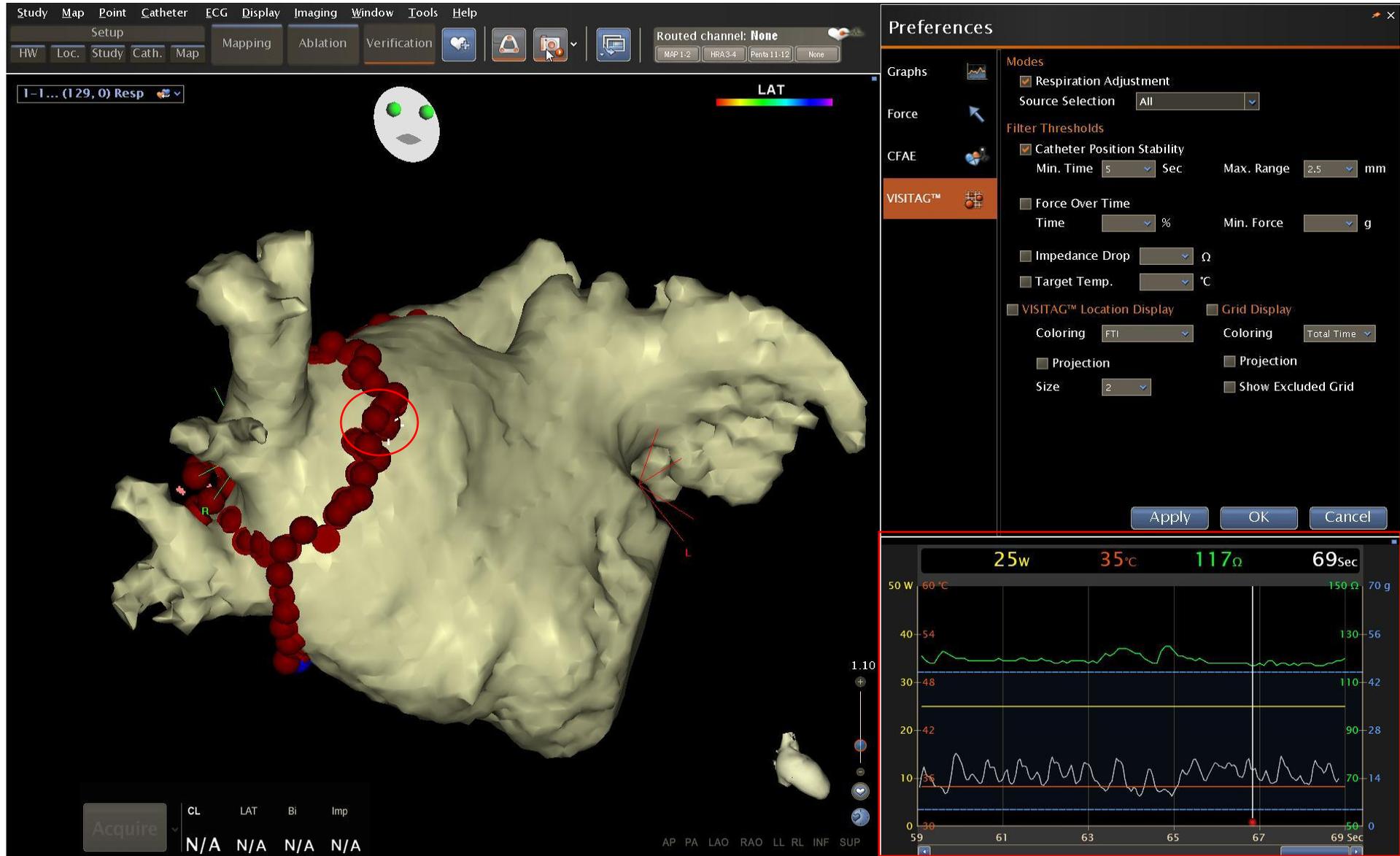
RIPV anterior_

Contact Force 10g Point, Catheter stability

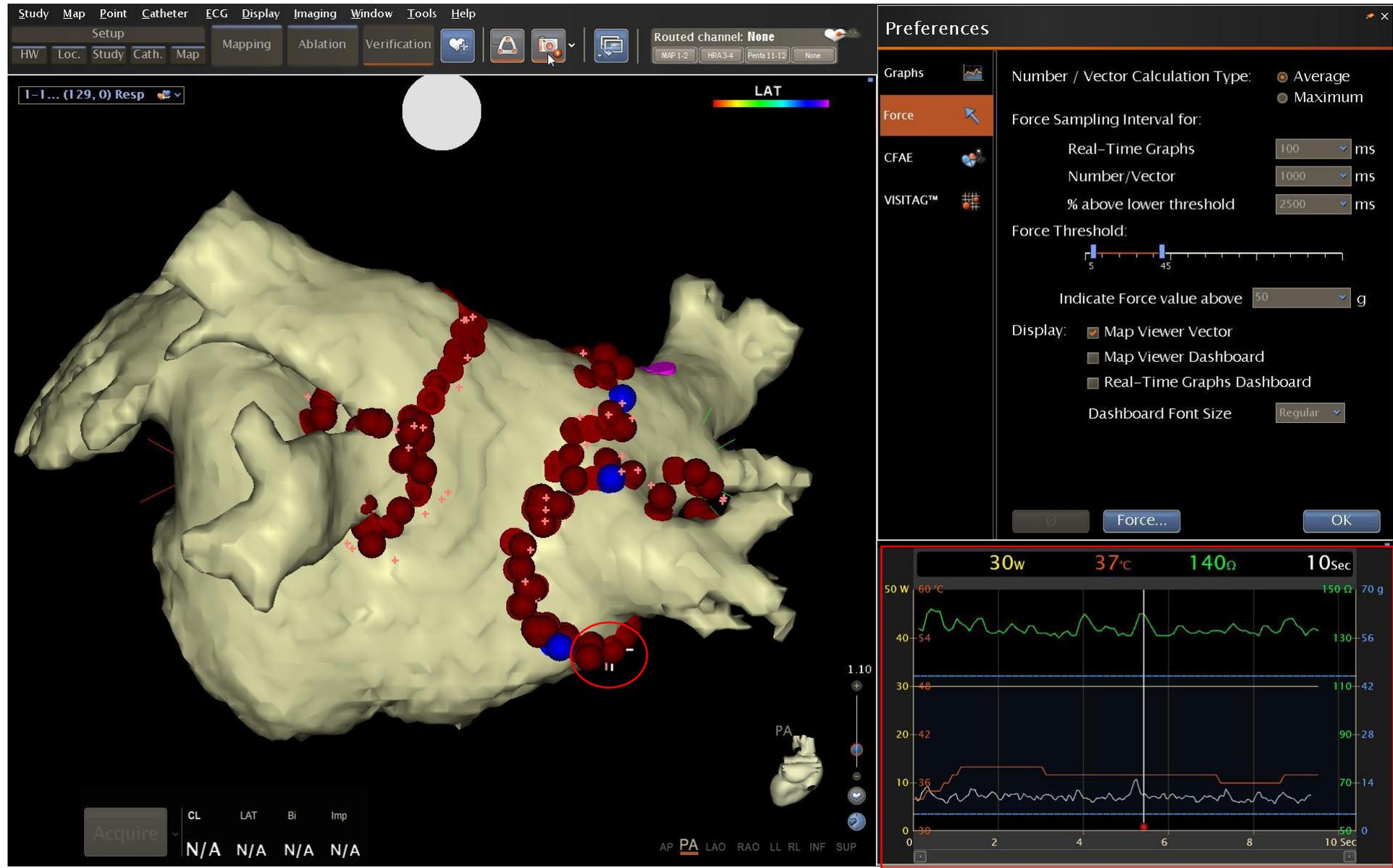


RSPV anterior_

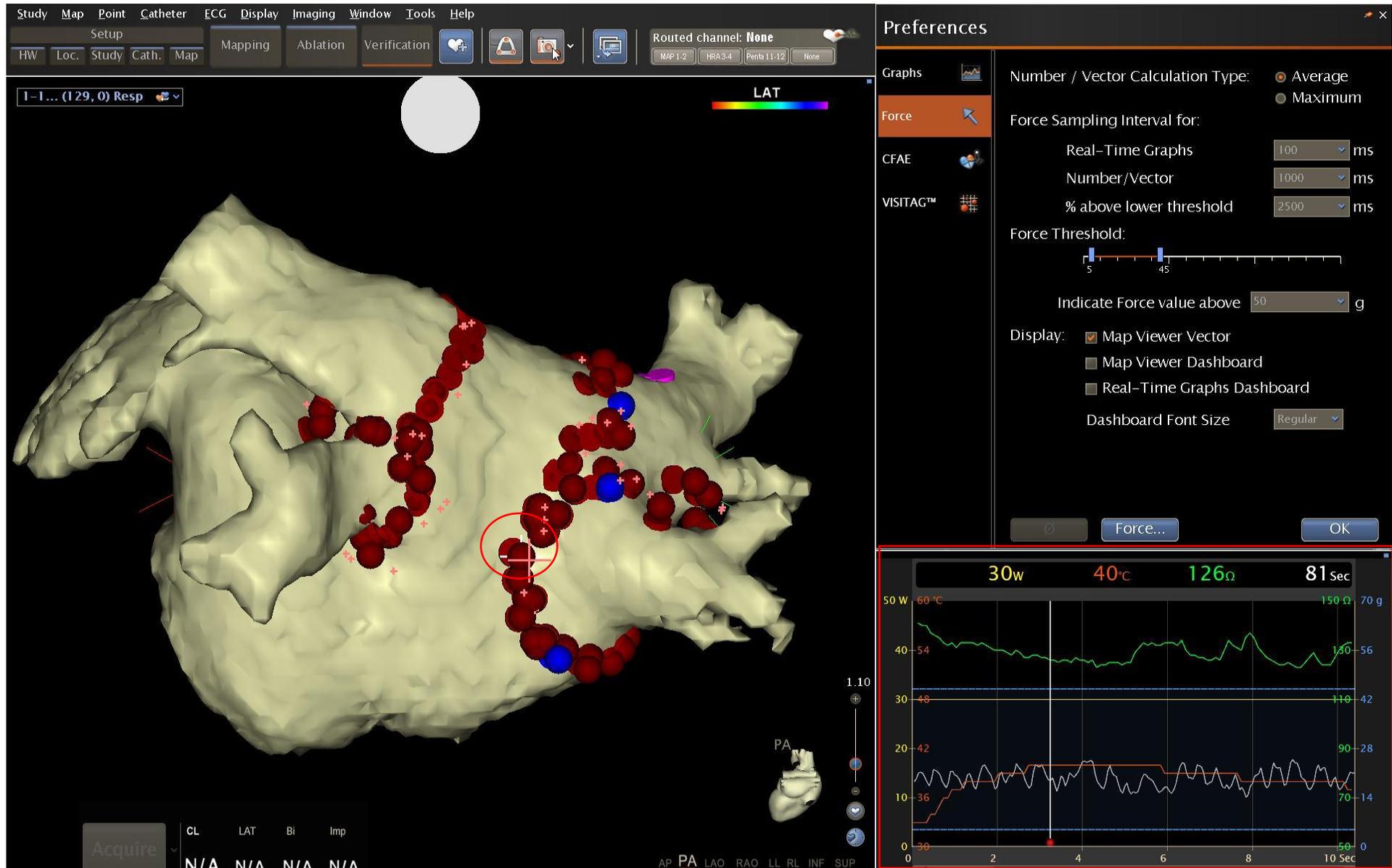
Contact Force 16g Point, Catheter stability



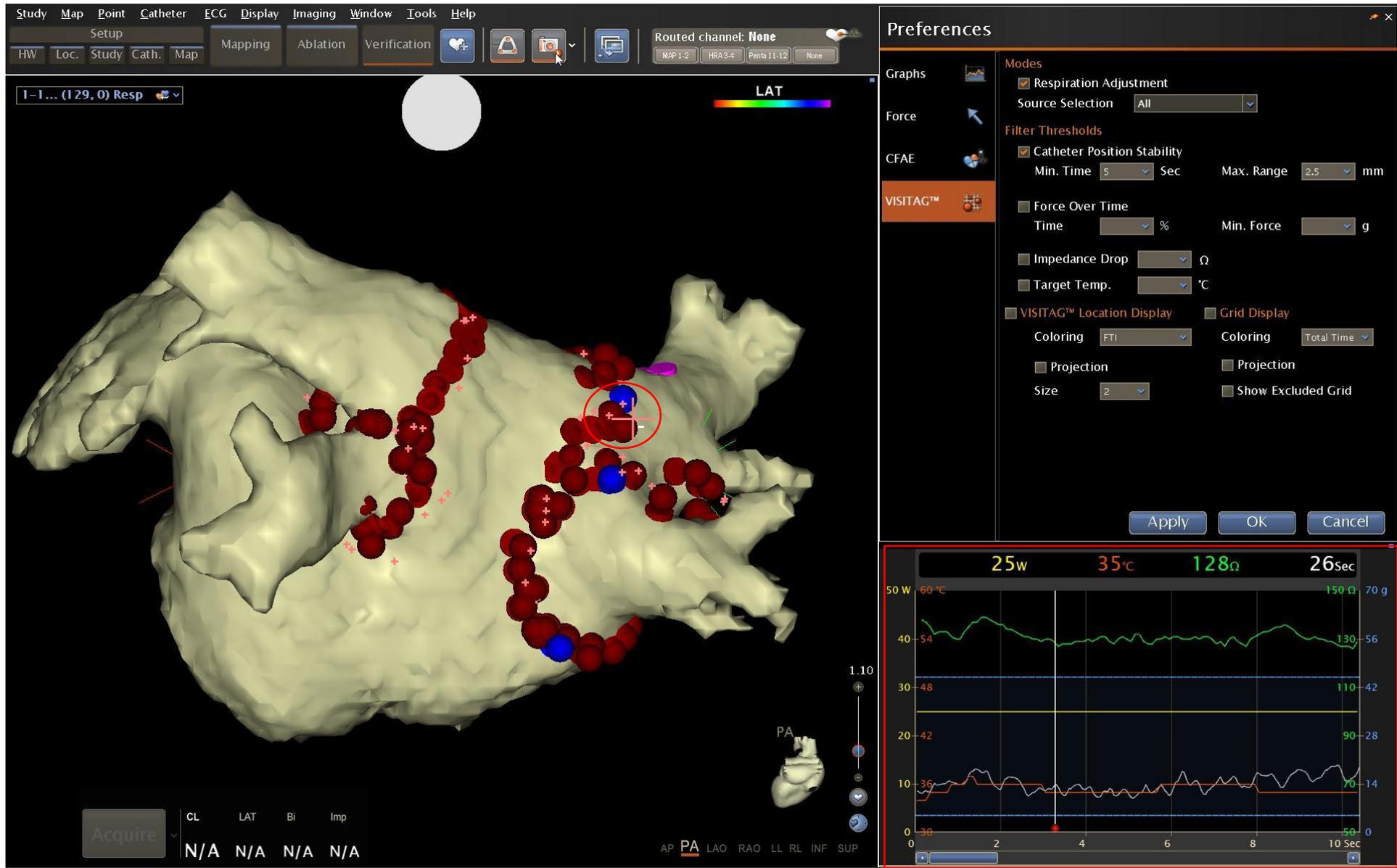
RIPV Inferior_Contact Force 10g Point, Catheter stability



RIPV Inferior_ Contact Force 19g Point, Catheter stability

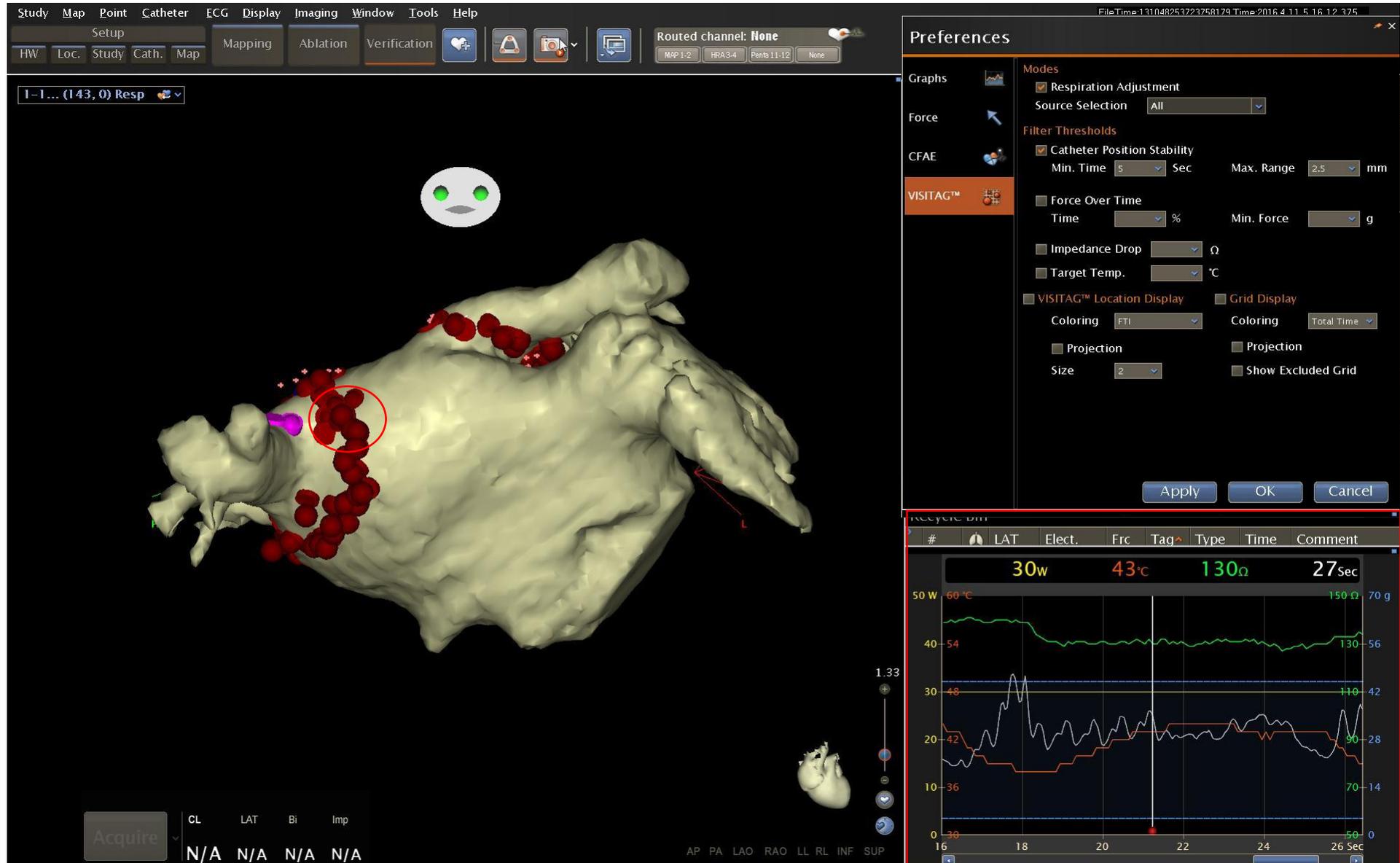


RIPV Inferior_ Contact Force 19g Point, Catheter stability



Righest Roof_

Contact Force 31g Point, Catheter stability



LIPV posterior_ Contact Force 17g Point, Catheter stability



LIPV posterior_

Contact Force 46g Point, CF Graph change

Study Map Point Catheter ECG Display Imaging Window Tools Help

FileTime:131048252315087608,Time:2016.4.11.5.13.51.508

Setup
HW Loc. Study Cath. Map Mapping Ablation Verification Routed channel: None

1-1... (143, 0) Resp

Preferences

Modes

- Respiration Adjustment
- Source Selection: All

Filter Thresholds

- Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 5 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
- Force Over Time
 - Time: %
 - Min. Force: g
- Impedance Drop: Ω
- Target Temp.: $^{\circ}\text{C}$

VISITAG™ Location Display

- Grid Display
- Coloring: FTI
- Projection: Projection
- Size: 2
- Show Excluded Grid

Apply OK Cancel

Recycle Bin

#	LAT	Elect.	Frc	Tag	Type	Time	Comment
			24w	38°C	115 Ω	49Sec	

50 W 60°C 70 g

40-54 30-48 20-42 10-36 0-30

130-56 110-42 90-28 70-14 50-0

20 22 24 26 28 30 Sec

Acquire

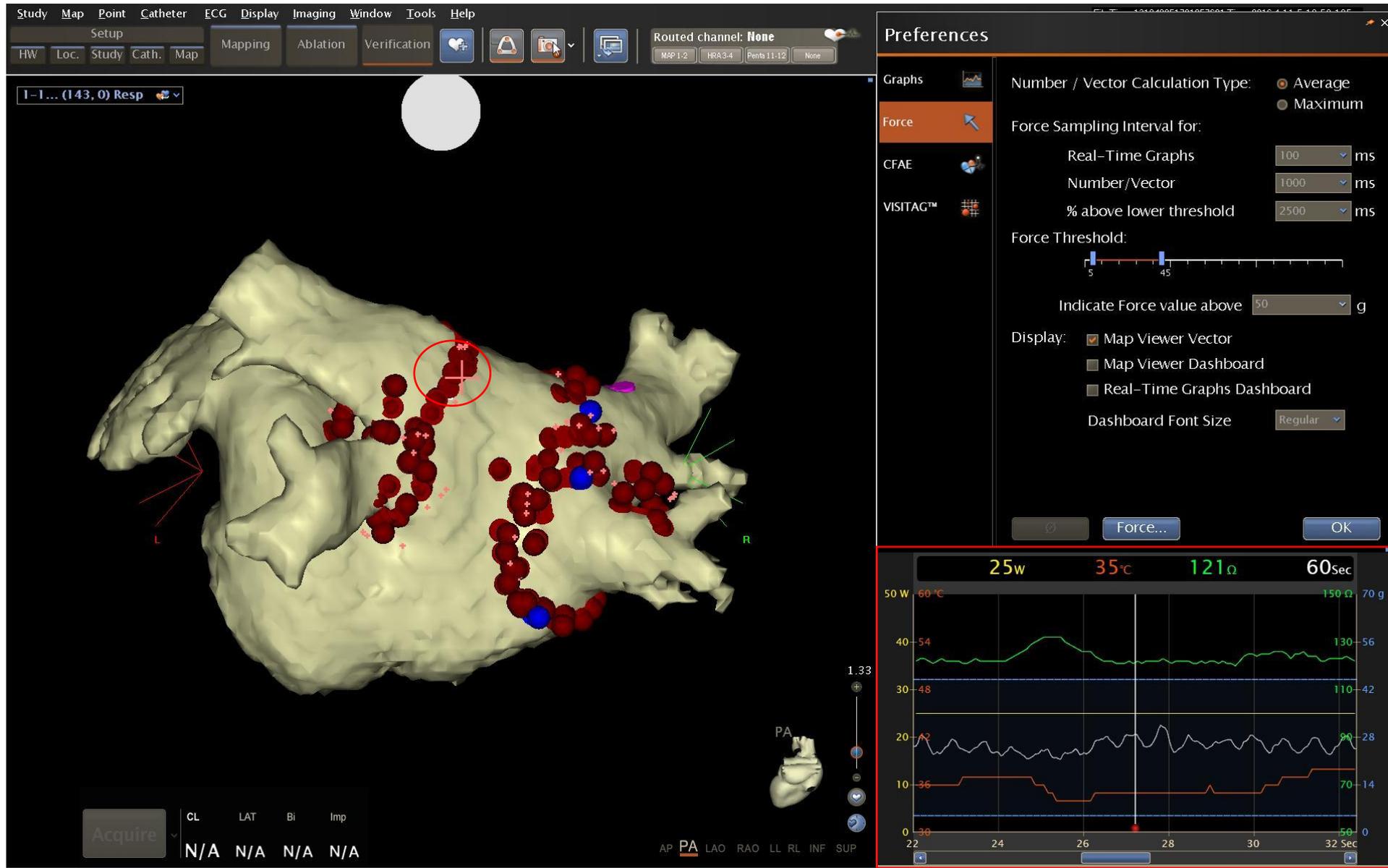
CL LAT Bi Imp

N/A N/A N/A N/A

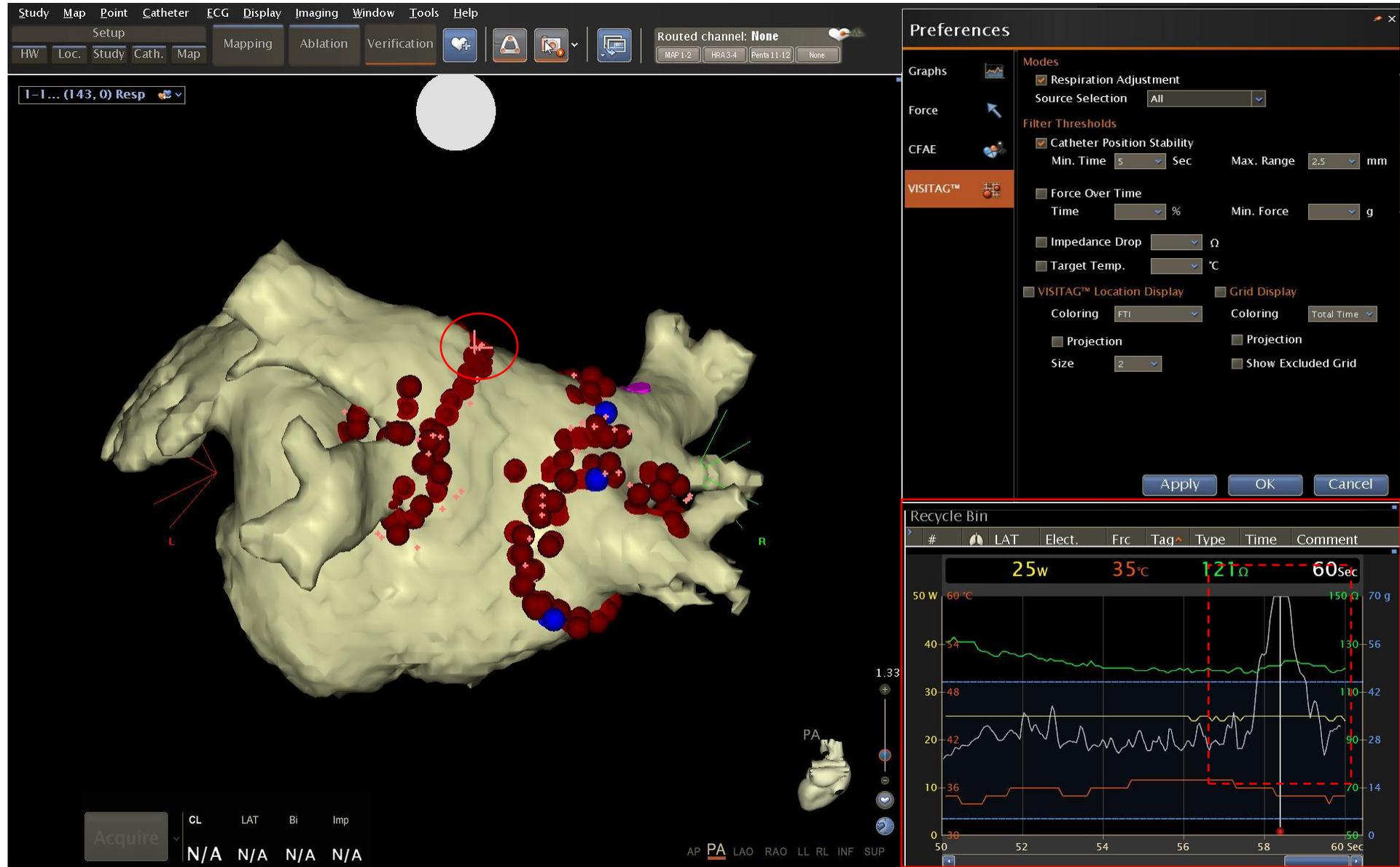
AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP

LSPV posterior_

Contact Force 27g Point, CF stability



LSPV posterior_ Contact Force 65g Point, CF Too High



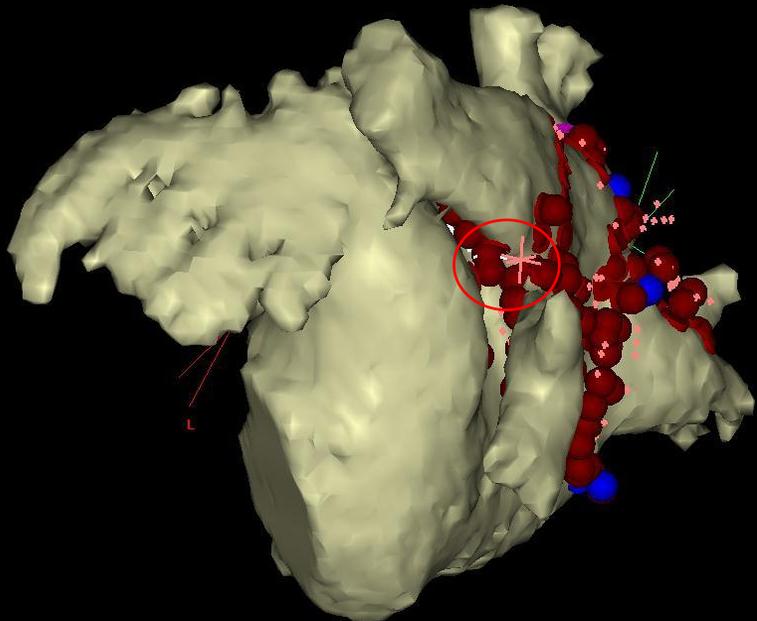
Ridge-Carina_CF Stability Contact Force 29g Point

Study Map Point Catheter ECG Display Imaging Window Tools Help

FileTime:131048253381648611,Time:2016.4.11.5.15.38.164

Setup
 HW Loc. Study Cath. Map Mapping Ablation Verification Routed channel: None
 MAP 1-2 HRA 3-4 Penta 11-12 None

1-1... (143, 0) Resp



Preferences

Modes
 Respiration Adjustment
 Source Selection All

Filter Thresholds
 Catheter Position Stability
 Min. Time 5 Sec Max. Range 2.5 mm

Force Over Time
 Time % Min. Force g

Impedance Drop Ω

Target Temp. $^{\circ}\text{C}$

VISITAG™ Location Display
 Coloring FTI Grid Display
 Projection Total Time
 Projection
 Show Excluded Grid

Apply OK Cancel

Recycle Bin

#	LAT	Elect.	Frc	Tag	Type	Time	Comment
			30w			43 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	118 Ω
						69Sec	



50 W 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 70 g

40 54 130 56

30 48 42

20 42 90 28

10 36 7 14

0 38 50 0

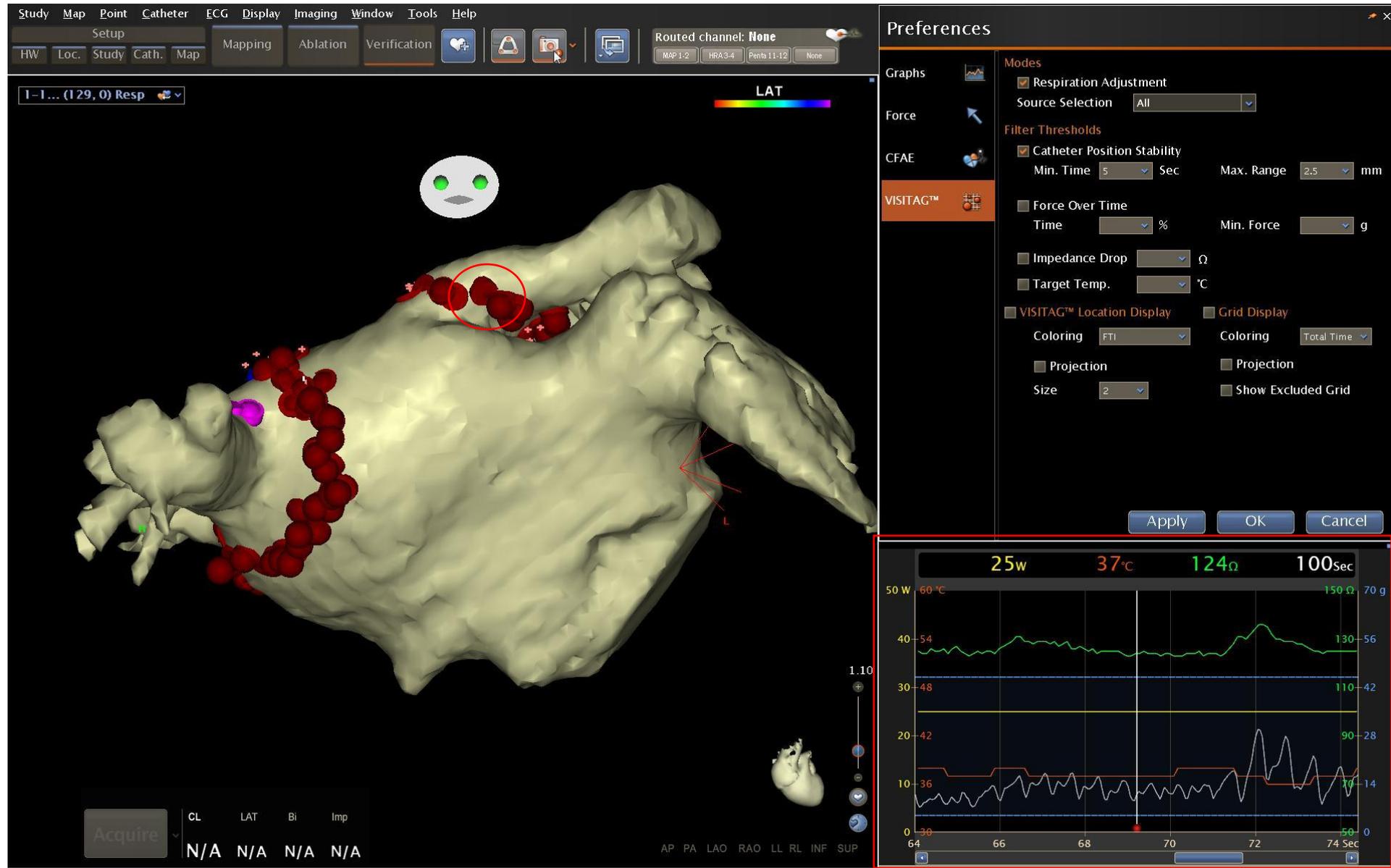
48 50 52 54 56 58 Sec

Acquire

CL LAT Bi Imp
 N/A N/A N/A N/A

AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP

Ridge-Carina_CF Stability Contact Force 12g Point



Preferences

- Graphs
- Force
- PASO™
- CFAE
- VISITAG™**

Modes

- Respiration Adjustment
- Source Selection: 1-Map

Filter Thresholds

- Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: [] Sec
 - Max. Range: [] mm
- Force Over Time
 - Time: [] %
 - Min. Force: [] g
- Impedance Drop: [] Ω
- Target Temp.: [] °C
- VISITAG™ Location Display
- Grid Display

Coloring

- Total Time: []
- Projection:
- Size: 2
- Show Excluded Grid:

Apply OK Cancel

Preferences

- Graphs
- Force**
- PASO™
- CFAE
- VISITAG™

Number / Vector Calculation Type: Average Maximum

Force Sampling Interval for:

- Real-Time Graphs: [100] ms
- Number/Vector: [1000] ms
- % above lower threshold: [2500] ms

Force Threshold:

5 10 []

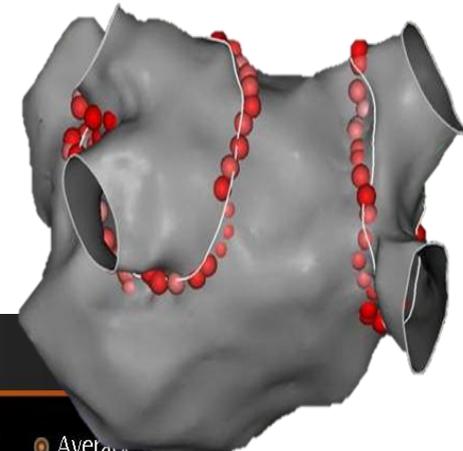
Indicate Force value above: [None] g

Display:

- Map Viewer Vector
- Map Viewer Dashboard
- Real-Time Graphs Dashboard

Dashboard Font Size: [Regular]

Force... OK



VISITAG Display_FTI

The screenshot displays the VISITAG software interface. At the top, a menu bar includes 'Study', 'Map', 'Point', 'Catheter', 'ECG', 'Display', 'Imaging', 'Window', 'Tools', and 'Help'. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for 'Setup', 'HW', 'Loc.', 'Study', 'Cath.', 'Map', 'Mapping', 'Ablation', and 'Verification'. The main window shows a 3D anatomical map with numerous red spheres representing catheter positions. A 'Routed channel: None' indicator is visible. A 'Preferences' window is open on the right, with a red box highlighting the 'Filter Thresholds' section. The 'Filter Thresholds' section includes the following settings:

- Respiration Adjustment
- Source Selection: All
- Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 5 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
- Force Over Time
 - Time: 50 %
 - Min. Force: 5 g
- Impedance Drop: 8 Ω
- Target Temp.: 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
- VISITAG™ Location Display
 - Coloring: FTI
 - Projection:
 - Size: 2
- Grid Display
 - Coloring: Total Time
 - Projection:
 - Show Excluded Grid:

At the bottom of the interface, there are control panels for 'AP' and 'PA' views, and a status bar showing 'Acquire' and various parameters (CL, LAT, Bi, Imp) with values 'N/A'.

VISITAG Display_ Impedance Drop

The screenshot displays the VISITAG software interface. The main window shows a 3D anatomical map of the heart with numerous data points (red and white spheres) representing impedance measurements. A color scale for impedance is visible, ranging from 8 ohm to 26 ohm. The interface includes a menu bar (Study, Map, Point, Catheter, ECG, Display, Imaging, Window, Tools, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. A 'Preferences' window is open on the right side, showing settings for 'Impedance Drop' and other parameters. The 'Impedance Drop' setting is checked and set to 8 Ω . Other settings include 'Catheter Position Stability' (checked, 5 Sec, 2.5 mm), 'Force Over Time' (unchecked, 50%), and 'Target Temp.' (unchecked, 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$). The 'VISITAG Location Display' is checked, and the 'Coloring' is set to 'Imp. Drop'. The 'Projection' is set to 2. The 'Show Excluded Grid' is unchecked. The 'Apply', 'OK', and 'Cancel' buttons are visible at the bottom of the preferences window.

FileTime:131048264027327509,Time:2016.4.11.5.33.22.732

Setup
HW Loc. Study Cath. Map Mapping Ablation Verification

Routed channel: None
MAP 1-2 HRA 3-4 Pentb 11-12 None

1-1... (143, 0) Resp

8 ohm Imp 26 ohm
10 15

LAT
8 ohm Imp 26 ohm

Preferences

Graphs Force CFAE VISITAG™

Modes
 Respiration Adjustment
Source Selection All

Filter Thresholds
 Catheter Position Stability
Min. Time 5 Sec Max. Range 2.5 mm
 Force Over Time
Time 50 % Min. Force 5 g
 Impedance Drop 8 Ω
 Target Temp. 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

VISITAG™ Location Display Grid Display
Coloring Imp. Drop Coloring Total Time
 Projection Projection
Size 2 Show Excluded Grid

Apply OK Cancel

AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP
AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP

Acquire CL LAT Bi Imp
N/A N/A N/A N/A

VISITAG_Grid(Catheter movement range display)

The screenshot displays a medical software interface for catheter navigation. The main window shows a 3D anatomical model of a heart with a grid of red spheres representing the catheter's movement range. The interface includes a menu bar (Study, Map, Point, Catheter, ECG, Display, Imaging, Window, Tools, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. A status bar at the top right shows 'FileTime:131048262739393844,Time:2016.4.11.5.31.13.939'. The main display area shows '1-1... (143, 0) Resp' and 'Routed channel: None'. A 'Preferences' dialog box is open on the right, showing settings for VISITAG™. The 'Preferences' dialog has a 'Modes' section with 'Respiration Adjustment' checked and 'Source Selection' set to 'All'. The 'Filter Thresholds' section includes 'Catheter Position Stability' (checked) with 'Min. Time' set to 5 Sec and 'Max. Range' set to 2.5 mm, and 'Force Over Time' (checked) with 'Time' set to 50 % and 'Min. Force' set to 5 g. The 'VISITAG™ Location Display' section has 'Coloring' set to 'FTI' and 'Grid Display' (checked) with 'Coloring' set to 'Total Time'. The 'Projection' section has 'Projection' unchecked and 'Show Excluded Grid' unchecked. The 'Apply', 'OK', and 'Cancel' buttons are visible at the bottom of the dialog. The bottom of the main window shows a 'CL LAT Bi Imp' table with 'N/A' values and a 'PA' view selected.

Study Map Point Catheter ECG Display Imaging Window Tools Help

Setup
HW Loc. Study Cath. Map Mapping Ablation Verification

Routed channel: None
MAP 1.2 HRA3.4 Pents 11-12 None

FileTime:131048262739393844,Time:2016.4.11.5.31.13.939

1-1... (143, 0) Resp

1.02 s T.Time 36.95 s
38 gs FTI 1323 gs
104 500

LAT
38 gs FTI 1323 gs

Preferences

Graphs Force CFAE VISITAG™

Modes
 Respiration Adjustment
Source Selection All

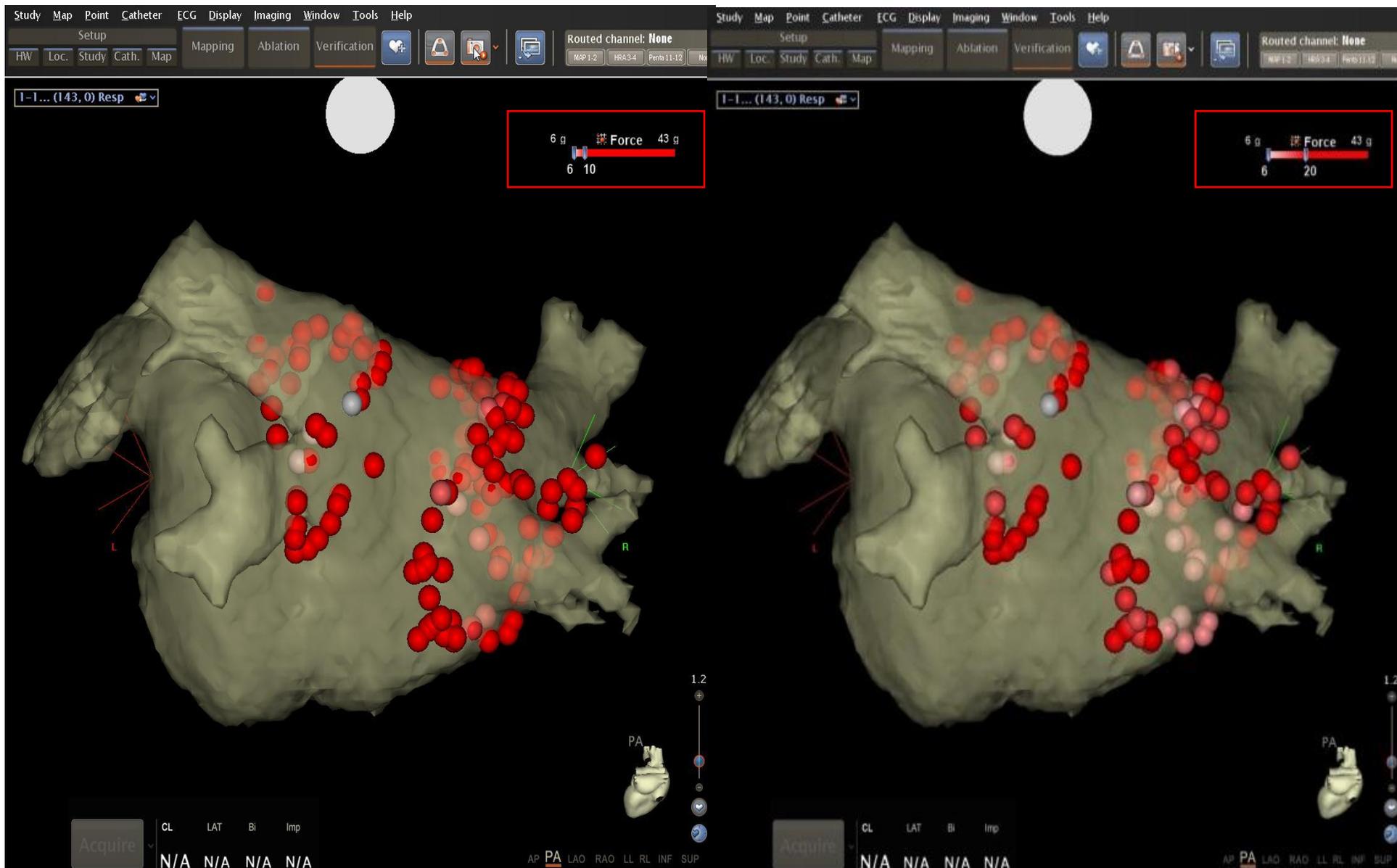
Filter Thresholds
 Catheter Position Stability
Min. Time 5 Sec Max. Range 2.5 mm
 Force Over Time
Time 50 % Min. Force 5 g
 Impedance Drop 8 Ω
 Target Temp. 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
 VISITAG™ Location Display
Coloring FTI
 Projection
Size 2
 Grid Display
Coloring Total Time
 Projection
 Show Excluded Grid

Apply OK Cancel

AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP
N/A N/A N/A N/A

AP PA LAO RAO LL RL INF SUP

VISITAG_ Coloring Option Change



VISITAG contact 8g, Stability 5sec

The screenshot displays the VISITAG software interface for catheter ablation. The main window shows a 3D anatomical map of the heart with numerous ablation points represented by red and pink spheres. A color scale for LAT (Left Atrial Tachycardia) is visible at the top right, ranging from 47 gs to 1323 gs. The interface includes a menu bar at the top with options like Study, Map, Point, Catheter, ECG, Display, Imaging, Window, Tools, and Help. Below the menu bar are tabs for Setup, Mapping, Ablation, and Verification. The bottom status bar shows various parameters: CL, LAT, Bi, Imp, and a list of views (AP, PA, LAO, RAO, LL, RL, INF, SUP).

The Preferences window is open, showing the following settings:

- Modes:**
 - Respiration Adjustment
 - Source Selection: All
- Filter Thresholds:**
 - Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 5 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
 - Force Over Time
 - Time: 50 %
 - Min. Force: 8 g
 - Impedance Drop Ω
 - Target Temp. $^{\circ}\text{C}$
- VISITAG™ Location Display:**
 - VISITAG™ Location Display
 - Coloring: FTI
 - Projection: Projection
 - Size: 2
- Grid Display:**
 - Grid Display
 - Coloring: Total Time
 - Projection: Projection
 - Show Excluded Grid: Show Excluded Grid

Buttons: Apply, OK, Cancel

VISITAG contact 8g, Stability 10sec

The screenshot displays a medical software interface with a 3D anatomical map on the left and a 'Preferences' dialog box on the right. The map shows a series of red spheres representing contact points on a greenish-yellow anatomical structure. A scale bar at the top of the map indicates '104 gs' and '1319 gs' with a 'FTI' label. The 'Preferences' dialog box is titled 'Preferences' and has a 'VISITAG™' tab selected. The settings are as follows:

- Modes:**
 - Respiration Adjustment
 - Source Selection: All
- Filter Thresholds:**
 - Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 10 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
 - Force Over Time
 - Time: 50 %
 - Min. Force: 8 g
 - Impedance Drop Ω
 - Target Temp. $^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - VISITAG™ Location Display
 - Coloring: FTI
 - Grid Display
 - Coloring: Total Time
 - Projection
 - Show Excluded Grid

Buttons at the bottom of the dialog are 'Apply', 'OK', and 'Cancel'. The interface also includes a menu bar at the top with options like 'Study', 'Map', 'Point', 'Catheter', 'ECG', 'Display', 'Imaging', 'Window', 'Tools', and 'Help'. A status bar at the bottom shows 'Acquire' and various parameters like 'CL', 'LAT', 'Bi', 'Imp', 'AP', 'PA', 'LAO', 'RAO', 'LL', 'RL', 'INF', 'SUP'.

VISITAG Impedance drop 5Ω, Stability 5sec

The screenshot displays the VISITAG software interface. The top menu bar includes Study, Map, Point, Catheter, ECG, Display, Imaging, Window, Tools, and Help. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for Setup, HW, Loc, Study, Cath, Map, Mapping, Ablation, and Verification. The main window shows a 3D anatomical map of the heart with numerous ablation points represented by red and pink spheres. A color scale for Impedance (Imp) is shown, ranging from 5 ohm to 26 ohm. The Preferences dialog box is open, showing the following settings:

- Modes:**
 - Respiration Adjustment
 - Source Selection: All
- Filter Thresholds:**
 - Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 5 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
 - Force Over Time
 - Time: 50 %
 - Min. Force: 8 g
 - Impedance Drop: 5 Ω
 - Target Temp.: 30 °C
 - VISITAG™ Location Display
 - Coloring: Imp. Drop
 - Projection:
 - Size: 2
 - Grid Display
 - Coloring: Total Time
 - Projection:
 - Show Excluded Grid:

The bottom of the interface shows a status bar with an 'Acquire' button and various parameters: CL, LAT, Bi, Imp, and a list of views (AP, PA, LAO, RAO, LL, RL, INF, SUP).

VISITAG Impedance drop 10Ω, Stability 5sec

The screenshot displays the VISITAG software interface. The main window shows a 3D anatomical map of the heart with several catheters represented by colored spheres (red, orange, pink). A color scale for Impedance (Imp) is visible, ranging from 10 ohm (red) to 26 ohm (white). The interface includes a menu bar (Study, Map, Point, Catheter, ECG, Display, Imaging, Window, Tools, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. A 'Preferences' dialog box is open on the right side, showing settings for the VISITAG™ mode.

Preferences

- Modes**
 - Respiration Adjustment
 - Source Selection: All
- Filter Thresholds**
 - Catheter Position Stability
 - Min. Time: 5 Sec
 - Max. Range: 2.5 mm
 - Force Over Time
 - Time: 50 %
 - Min. Force: 8 g
 - Impedance Drop: 10 Ω
 - Target Temp.: 30 °C
 - VISITAG™ Location Display
 - Coloring: Imp. Drop
 - Projection:
 - Size: 2
 - Grid Display
 - Coloring: Total Time
 - Projection:
 - Show Excluded Grid:

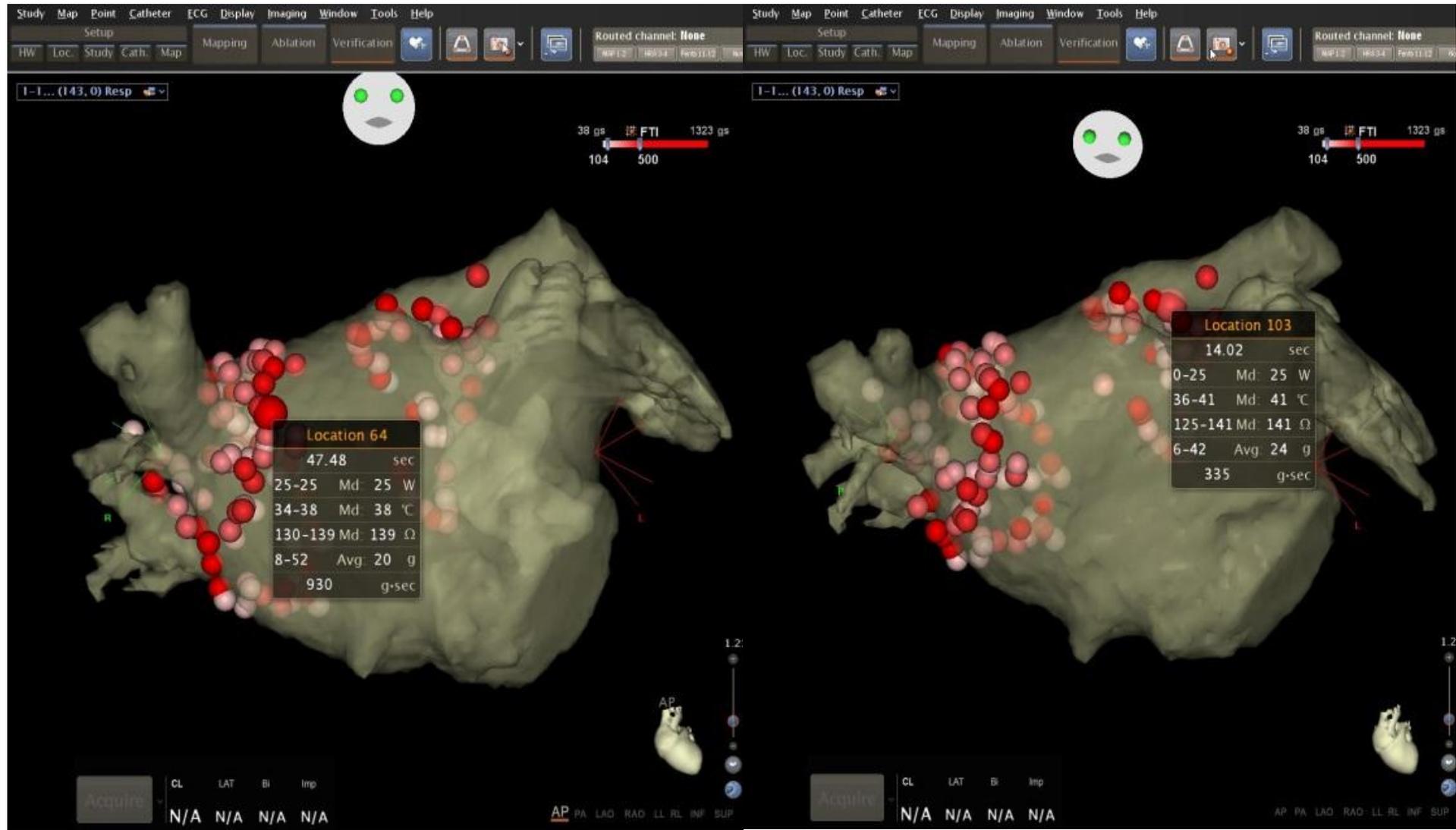
Buttons: Apply, OK, Cancel

Bottom status bar: Acquire, CL, LAT, Bi, Imp, N/A, N/A, N/A, N/A, AP, PA, LAO, RAO, LL, RL, INF, SUP, None

VISITAG information

RSPV anterior

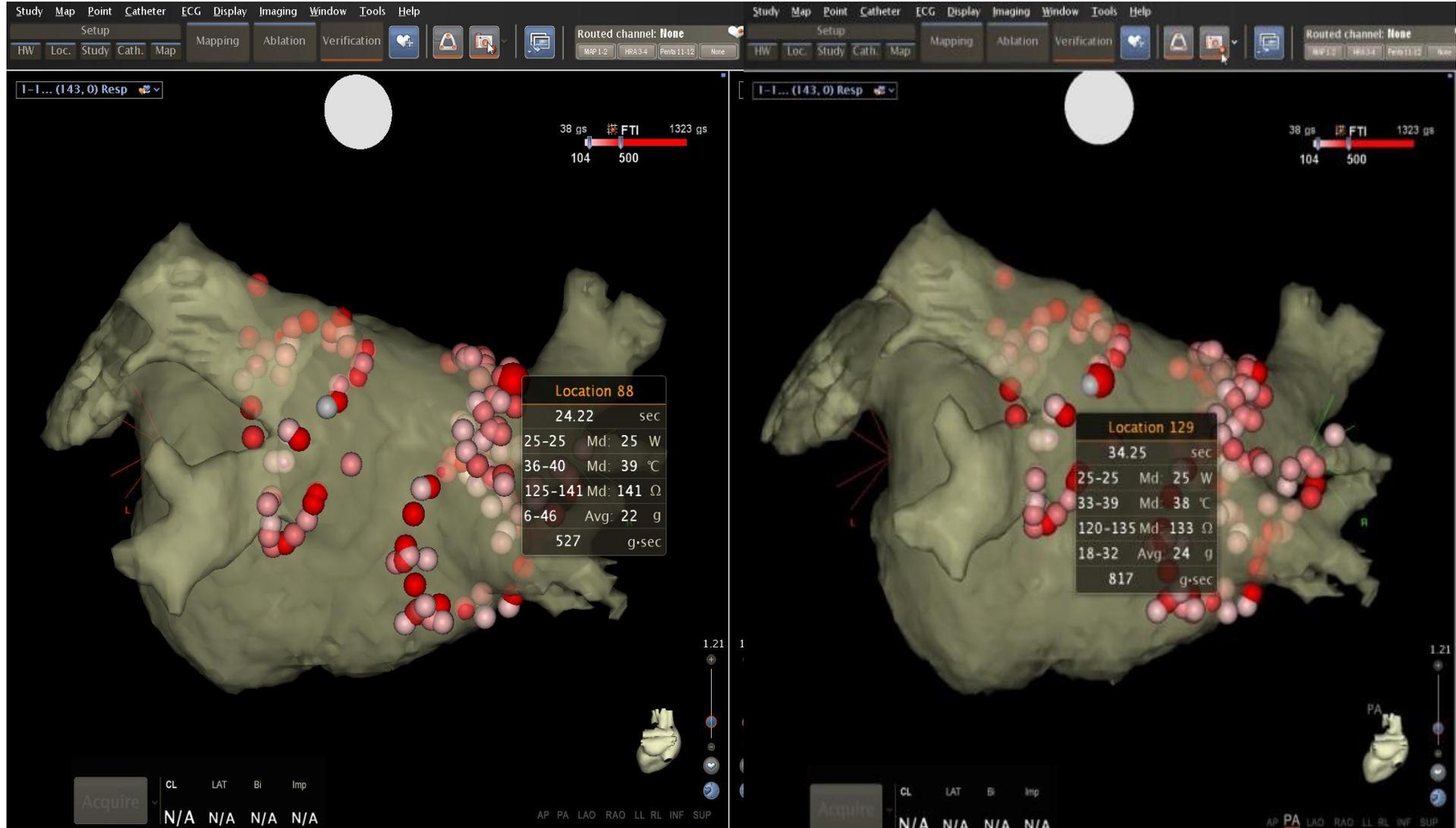
LSPV Anterior



VISITAG information

RSPV Posterior

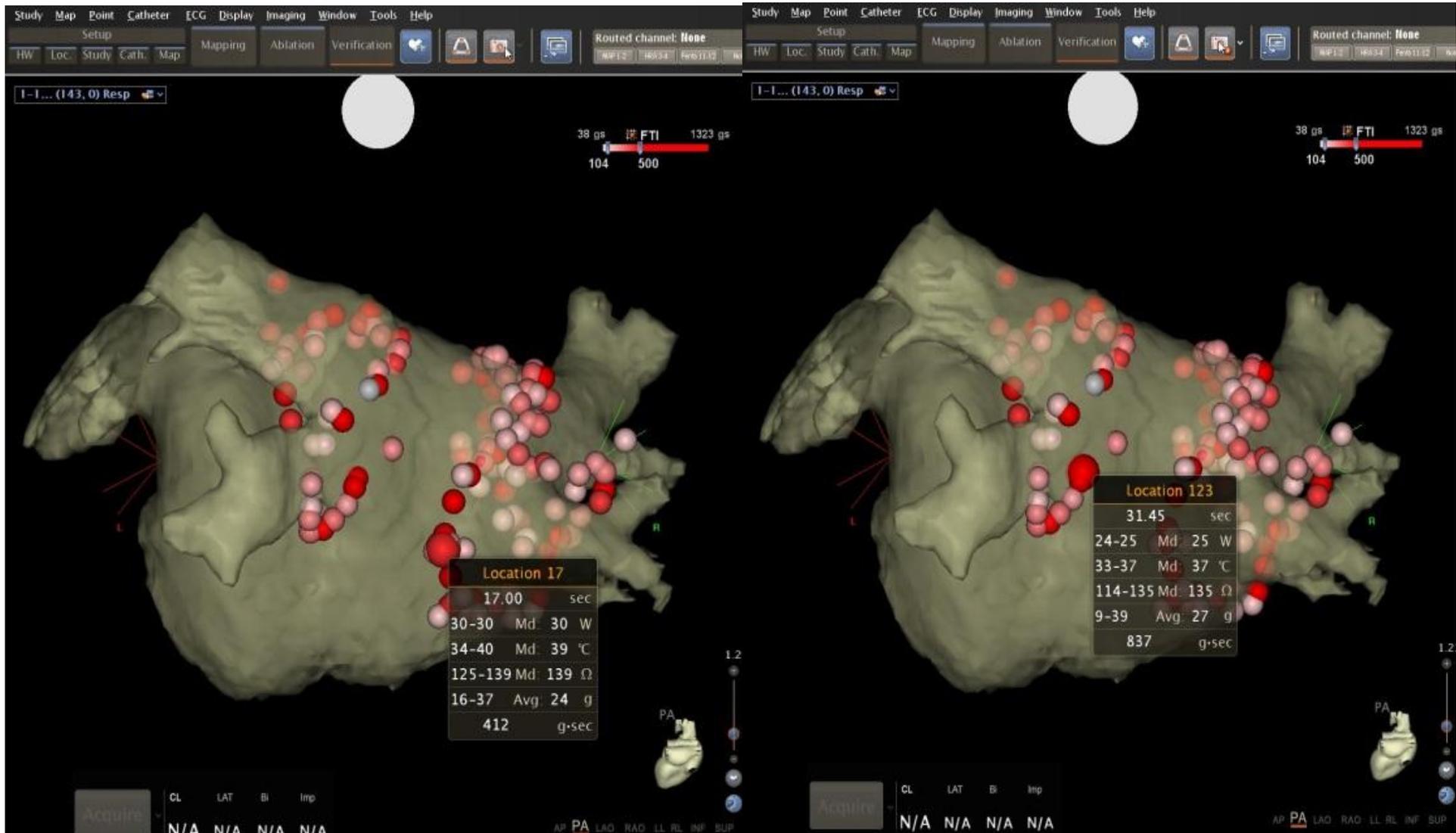
LSPV Posterior



VISITAG information

RIPV Posterior

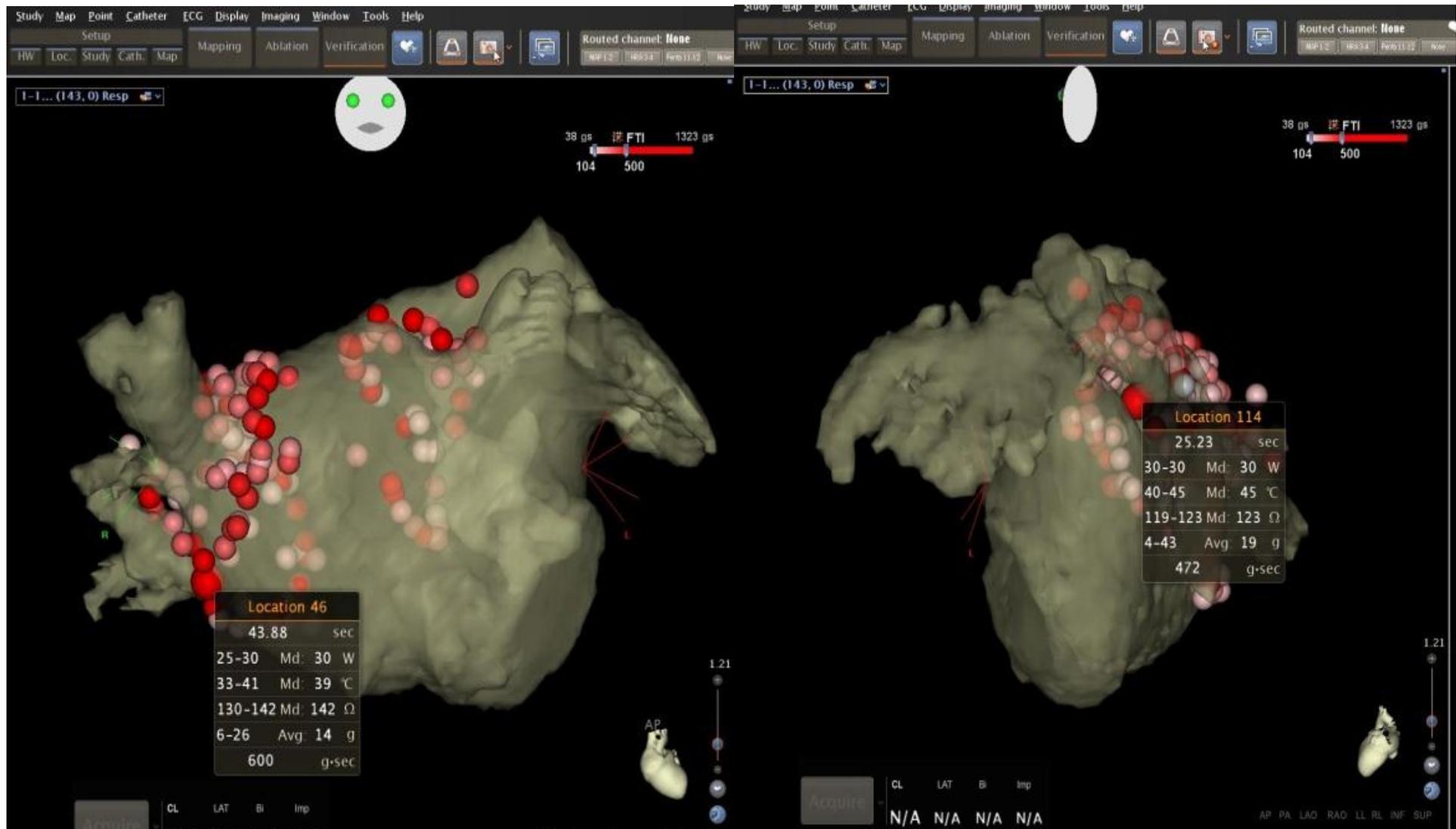
LIPV Posterior



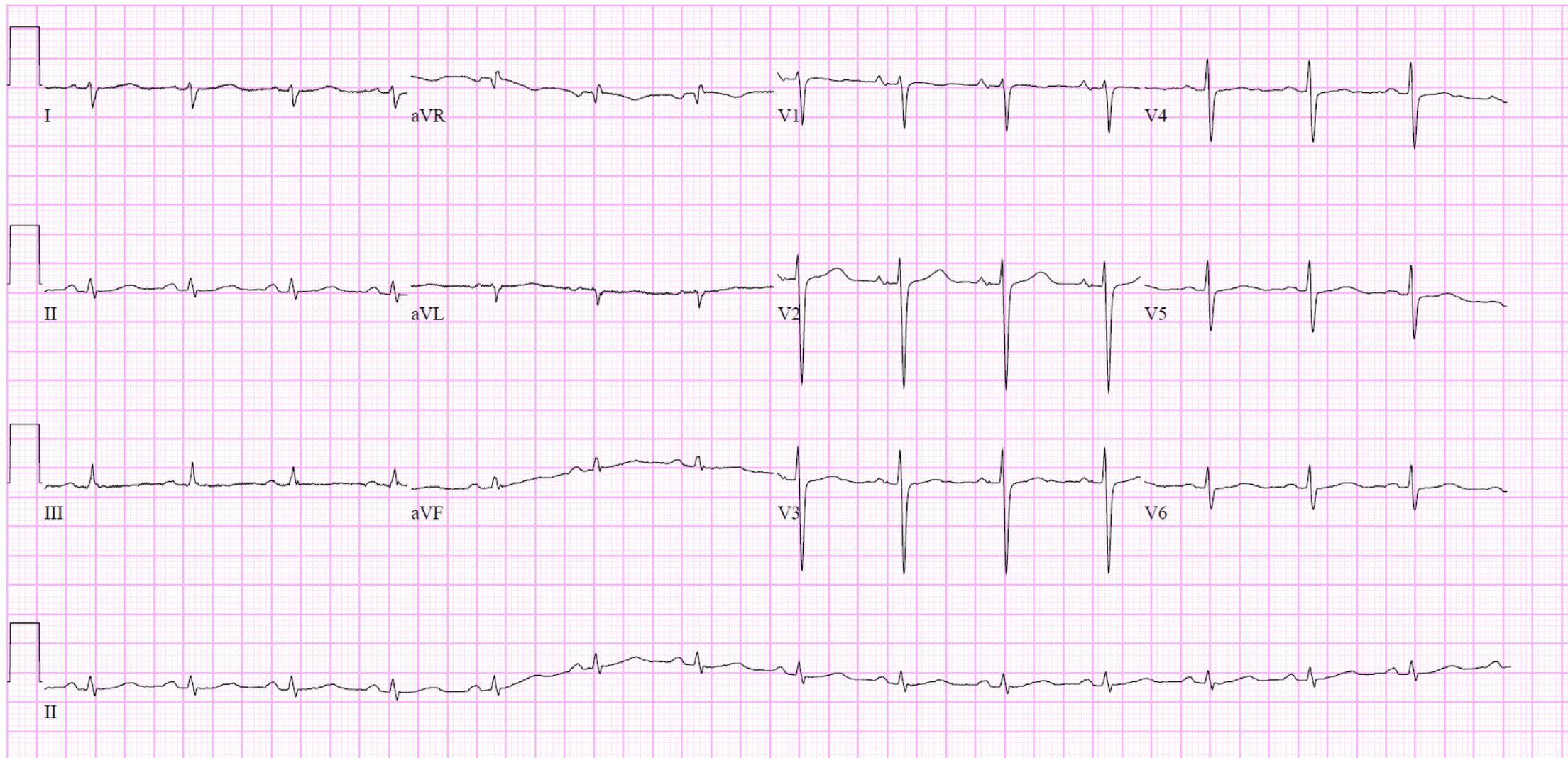
VISITAG information

RSPV Anterior

LSPV Anterior



06/Apr/2016, after AF ablation



Optimal Force–Time Integral for Pulmonary Vein Isolation According to Anatomical Wall Thickness Under the Ablation Line

Akio Chikata, MD; Takeshi Kato, MD, PhD; Satoru Sakagami, MD, PhD; Chieko Kato, MD, PhD; Takahiro Saeki, MD, PhD; Keiichi Kawai, MD; Shin-ichiro Takashima, MD, PhD; Hisayoshi Murai, MD, PhD; Soichiro Usui, MD, PhD; Hiroshi Furusho, MD, PhD; Shuichi Kaneko, MD, PhD; Masayuki Takamura, MD, PhD

Background—Low contact force and force–time integral (FTI) during catheter ablation are associated with ineffective lesion formation, whereas excessively high contact force and FTI may increase the risk of complications. We sought to evaluate the optimal FTI for pulmonary vein (PV) isolation based on atrial wall thickness under the ablation line.

Methods and Results—Contact force parameters and FTI during anatomical ipsilateral PV isolation for atrial fibrillation and atrial wall thickness were assessed retrospectively in 59 consecutive patients for their first PV isolation procedure. The PV antrum was divided into 8 segments, and the wall thickness of each segment under the ablation line was determined using multidetector computed tomography. The FTI for each ablation point was divided by the wall thickness of the PV antrum segment where each point was located to obtain FTI/wall thickness. In total, 5335 radiofrequency applications were delivered, and 85 gaps in PV isolation ablation lines and 15 dormant conductions induced by adenosine were detected. The gaps or dormant conductions were significantly associated with low contact force, radiofrequency duration, FTI, and FTI/wall thickness. Among them, FTI/wall thickness had the best prediction value for gaps or dormant conductions by receiver operating characteristic curve analysis. FTI/wall thickness of <76.4 gram-seconds per millimeter (gs/mm) predicted gaps or dormant conductions with sensitivity (88.0%) and specificity (83.6%), and FTI/wall thickness of <101.1 gs/mm was highly predictive (sensitivity 97.0%; specificity 69.6%).

Conclusions—FTI/wall thickness is a strong predictor of gap and dormant conduction formation in PV isolation. An FTI/wall thickness \approx 100 gs/mm could be a suitable target for effective ablation. (*J Am Heart Assoc.* 2016;5:e003155 doi: 10.1161/JAHA.115.003155)

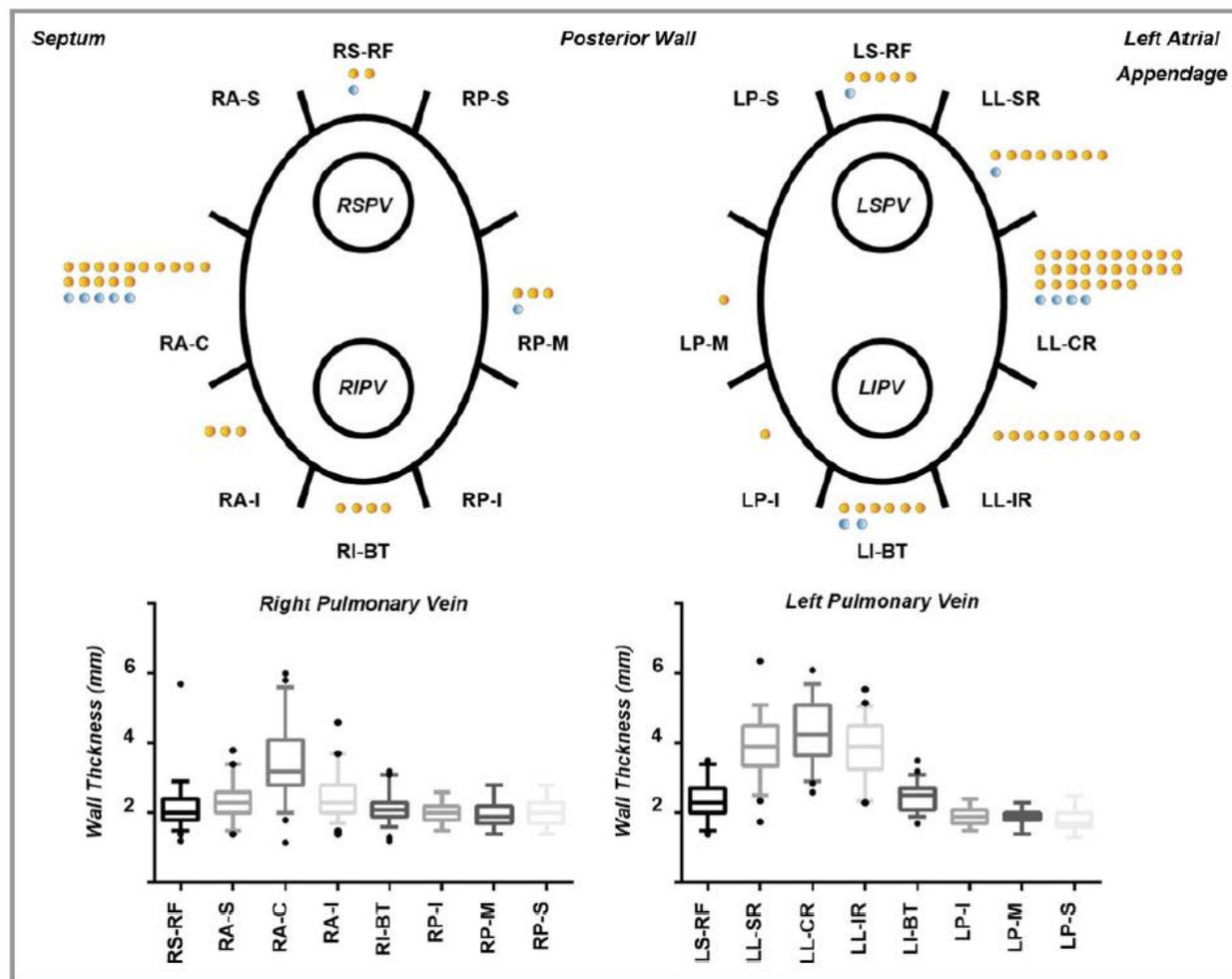


Figure 1. Myocardial thickness of each segment under the ablation line (lower panels) and distribution of acute gaps and dormant conductions (DCs) after pulmonary vein isolation (upper panels). Yellow circles represent acute gaps, blue circles represent DCs. LI-BT indicates left inferior bottom; LIPV, left inferior pulmonary vein; LL-CR, left lateral carina ridge; LL-IR, left lateral inferior ridge; LL-SR, left lateral superior ridge; LP-I, left posterior inferior; LP-M, left posterior middle; LP-S, left posterior superior; LSPV, left superior pulmonary vein; LS-RF, left superior roof; RA-C, right anterior carina; RA-I, right anterior inferior; RA-S, right anterior superior; RI-BT, right inferior bottom; RIPV, right inferior pulmonary vein; RP-I, right posterior inferior; RP-M, right posterior middle; RP-S, right posterior superior; RSPV, right superior pulmonary vein; RS-RF, right superior roof.

Table 2. CF Parameters for Each Segment Under the Ablation Line

PV	Segment	Wall Thickness (mm)	Average CF (g)	Max CF (g)	Min CF (g)	RF Duration (s)	FTI (gs)	FTI/Wall Thickness (gs/mm)
Left	Superior roof	2.4±0.5	16.8±7.3	34.9±19.5	7.7±5.2	23.0±11.5	375.6±236.2	163.7±116.0
	Lateral superior ridge	3.9±0.9	16.7±6.9	32.6±16.7	6.2±4.8	26.4±13.8	434.9±299.4	114.2±77.9
	Lateral carina ridge	4.3±0.9	15.7±6.2	33.1±15.5	6.9±5.0	27.6±13.4	427.1±257.9	102.6±68.5
	Lateral inferior ridge	3.9±0.8	16.5±7.4	32.3±13.3	7.9±7.1	26.1±12.8	409.1±247.6	108.2±68.3
	Inferior bottom	2.5±0.4	17.7±8.0	31.3±11.6	8.4±7.5	20.2±10.6	333.5±209.2	136.4±87.7
	Posterior inferior	1.9±0.3	16.5±7.7	26.9±10.9	7.7±7.1	15.4±6.4	234.7±100.0	124.0±57.0
	Posterior middle	1.9±0.3	16.3±7.4	28.0±12.0	7.5±6.5	17.4±7.1	275.4±174.8	146.1±96.1
	Posterior superior	1.8±0.3	17.4±8.0	32.5±17.4	8.4±6.4	19.8±9.2	322.1±169.3	186.9±102.5
Right	Superior roof	2.1±0.6	21.2±8.4	58.7±27.9	6.8±6.1	19.7±9.6	397.9±216.7	190.9±110.5
	Anterior superior	2.3±0.5	19.9±8.4	35.3±13.5	9.2±7.1	22.8±10.7	436.4±275.6	191.2±119.7
	Anterior carina	3.4±1.1	22.2±10.4	35.6±13.6	9.8±8.6	25.3±13.5	538.7±377.8	164.3±122.6
	Anterior inferior	2.4±0.6	23.8±10.2	39.8±14.2	10.1±9.1	23.1±11.7	533.4±330.8	229.2±148.9
	Inferior bottom	2.1±0.4	23.4±10.9	41.1±15.0	7.8±9.4	20.2±9.6	448.3±270.7	205.1±111.4
	Posterior inferior	2.0±0.3	18.9±9.1	37.4±15.1	4.9±6.8	20.1±10.1	346.9±18.0	175.2±93.2
	Posterior middle	2.0±0.4	20.0±8.9	42.0±18.7	6.7±6.8	19.9±8.9	376.5±203.3	193.1±109.5
	Posterior superior	2.1±0.5	20.7±7.4	56.1±23.1	6.2±6.1	19.9±10.3	386.3±207.2	192.3±108.5

CF indicates contact force; FTI, force–time integral; gs, gram-seconds; Max, maximum; Min, minimum; PV, pulmonary vein; RF, radiofrequency.

Table 3. Ablation Parameters at Each Point With a Gap or DC Compared With Those Without

	With Gap or DC (n=100)	Without Gap or DC (n=5235)	P Value
FTI, gs	199.0±12.3	407.9±3.7	<0.0001
Average CF, g	13.8±0.6	19.2±0.1	<0.0001
Max CF, g	30.4±1.5	37.6±0.3	0.0001
Minimum CF, g	5.3±0.5	7.6±0.1	0.0007
RF duration, s	15.2±0.9	22.46±0.2	<0.0001
FTI/wall thickness, gs/mm	50.6±2.4	164.8±1.5	<0.0001
RF power, W	28.7±0.2	28.0±0.1	0.08

CF indicates contact force; DC, dormant conduction; FTI, force–time integral; gs, gram-seconds; RF, radiofrequency.

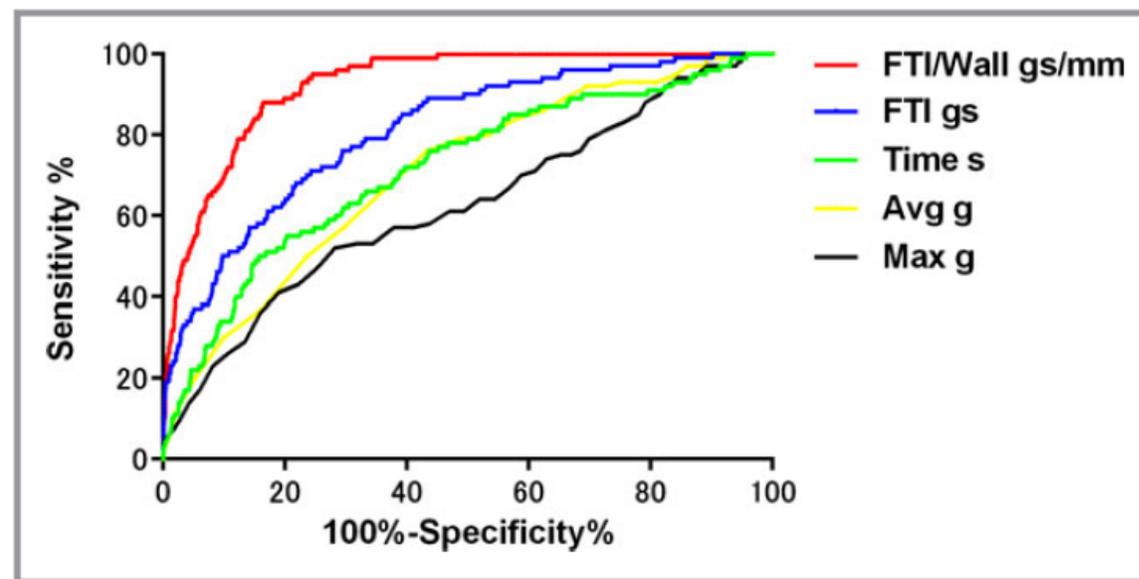


Figure 2. Receiver operating characteristic curve analysis for acute gap and dormant conduction (DC) predictability. FTI/wall thickness showed the best prediction value with an area under the curve (AUC) of 0.9242 (95% CI 0.9060–0.9425, $P<0.001$ vs AUCs of FTI and the other contact force [CF] parameters). FTI, average CF, maximum CF, and RF duration had AUCs of 0.8101, 0.7046, 0.6246, and 0.7161, respectively. The best threshold for FTI/wall thickness for predicting acute gaps or DCs was 76.4 gs/mm (sensitivity 88.0%; specificity 83.6%). An FTI/wall thickness of <101.1 gs/mm was highly predictive of acute gap or DC (sensitivity 97.0%; specificity 69.6%). Avg indicates average; FTI, force–time integral; gs, gram-seconds; Max, maximum.

In this study

- MDCT analysis revealed that the wall thickness was different at each part of the ablation line and was thickest at the left lateral ridge (LLR);
- The gaps or DCs were significantly associated with low CF, RF duration, FTI, and FTI/wall thickness
- ROC curve analysis identified **FTI/wall thickness as the best predictor for gaps and DCs**

In this study

- **The wall thickness of LLR,**
 - Lateral superior ridge 3.9 ± 0.9 mm
 - Lateral carinal ridge 4.3 ± 0.9 mm
 - Lateral inferior ridge 3.9 ± 0.8 mm
- **Left posterior 2 mm**
- **Right anterior carina 3.4 ± 1.1**
- **Right other sites 2 mm**

- A lower average CF has been reported as a strong predictor of gap formation
- It has been reported that CF at the LLR tends to be low and that the **majority of conduction gaps after single continuous circular lesions around ipsilateral PVs were located at the LLR and anterior wall of the right PV.**
- In present study, the CF for LLR was low, **and most of the gaps and DCs were located at the LLR or the right anterior carina,** which was consistent with previous reports.
- They speculate that the lower CF and insufficient FTI against the thick atrial walls at the LLR and anterior right PV wall led to the formation of gaps and DCs.

- It has been reported that a **minimum FTI of ≈ 400 gs for each lesions was necessary to avoid reconnection or to create transmural lesion in PVI.**
- Conversely, the relationship between **FTI and electrogram attenuation plateaued at ≈ 500 gs**, and FTI and impedance drop also plateaued at ≈ 500 gs.
- Beyond this plateau point, continuation of ablation is unlikely to produce further gains but may increase the potential risk of complications such as perforation, steam pops, or damage to extracellular structures.

- **FTI/wall thickness ≈ 100 gs/mm** could be a suitable target value to achieve effective ablation.

Long-Term Results of Catheter Ablation in Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation

Lessons From a 5-Year Follow-Up

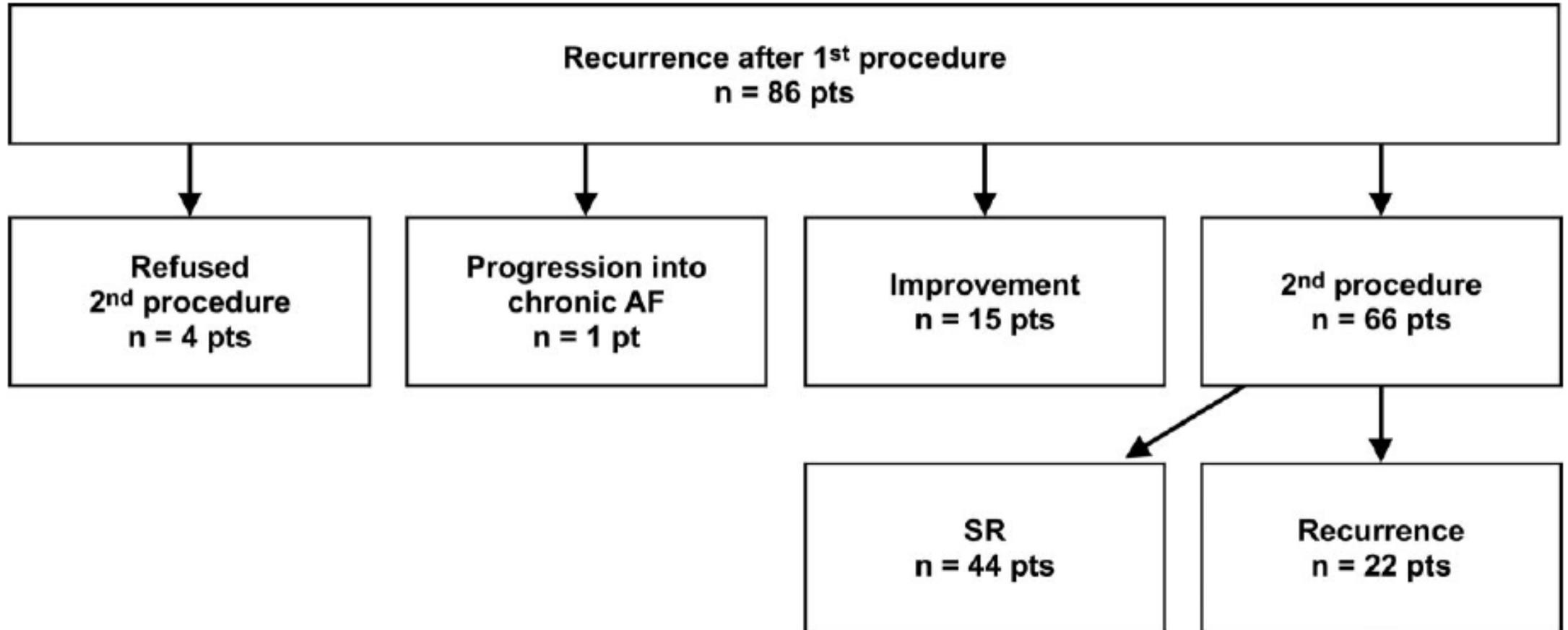
Feifan Ouyang, MD*; Roland Tilz, MD*; Julian Chun, MD; Boris Schmidt, MD; Erik Wissner, MD; Thomas Zerm, MD; Kars Neven, MD; Bulent Köktürk, MD; Melanie Konstantinidou, MD; Andreas Metzner, MD; Alexander Fuernkranz, MD; Karl-Heinz Kuck, MD

Background—Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (AF) naturally progresses toward chronic AF at an estimated rate of 15% to 30% over a 1- to 3-year period. Pulmonary vein (PV) isolation is increasingly performed for the treatment of drug-refractory paroxysmal AF. The long-term data on clinical outcome after circumferential PV isolation are limited.

Methods and Results—From 2003 to late 2004, 161 patients (121 men; age, 59.8 ± 9.7 years) with symptomatic paroxysmal AF and normal left ventricular function underwent circumferential PV isolation guided by 3-dimensional mapping and double Lasso technique. Right-sided and left-sided continuous circular lesions encircling the ipsilateral PVs were placed with irrigated radiofrequency energy. The procedure end point was the absence of all PV spikes for at least 30 minutes after PV isolation verified by 2 Lasso catheters placed within the ipsilateral PVs. Sinus rhythm was present in 75 patients (46.6%) after the initial procedure during a median follow-up period of 4.8 years (0.33 to 5.5 years). A second procedure was performed in 66 and a third procedure in 12 patients. Recovered PV isolation conduction was observed in 62 of 66 patients (94.0%) during the second and in 8 of 12 patients (66.7%) during the third procedure. After a median of 1 (1 to 3) procedure, stable sinus rhythm was achieved in 128 of 161 patients (79.5%), whereas clinical improvement occurred in an additional 21 of 161 patients (13.0%) during a median follow-up of 4.6 years (0.33 to 5.5 years). Four patients in stable sinus rhythm died during follow-up. Progression toward chronic AF was observed in 4 patients (2.4%); however, only 2 patients reported symptoms.

Conclusion—In patients with paroxysmal AF and normal left ventricular function, circumferential PV isolation results in stable sinus rhythm in the majority of patients, and low incidence of chronic AF was observed after ablation during up to 5 years of follow-up. (*Circulation*. 2010;122:2368-2377.)

Recurrent ATAs after the initial ablation procedure



- In 66 patients, a repeat procedure was performed at a median of 120 days after the initial procedure.
- During the second procedure, mapping demonstrated a macro-AT with its critical isthmus between the mitral annulus and the left sided PVs in 9 patients, a macro-AT with its critical isthmus between both CCLs in 2 patients, and a macro-AT within the right atrial free wall in 1 patient.
- **Recovered PV conduction during SR was found in 62 of 66 patients (94%); conduction gaps were located along the right PVs in 40 patients (61%) and the left-sided PVs in 51 patients (77%). All conduction gaps were successfully closed with a minimal number of irrigated radiofrequency current applications. After CPVI, frequent atrial extrasystoles were identified and ablated at the superior crista terminalis in 1 patient and within the superior vena cava in 2 patients.**
- In 1 of 4 patients without recovered PV conduction, mapping and ablation was successfully performed, targeting a focal AT originating from the roof of the LA.

- **The estimated probability to maintain SR at 5 years of follow-up after a single procedure was 45.3% and increased to 78.1% after a median 1 (1 to 3) procedure.**

Table 2. Distribution of Conduction Gaps During the Second and Third Ablation Procedures

Patient	Age, y/Sex	Time From First to Second Procedure, d	Time From First to Third Procedure, d	Conduction Gaps at the R-CCLs		Conduction Gaps at the L-CCL	
				During Second Procedure	During Third Procedure	During Second Procedure	During Third Procedure
1*	63/F	151	352			Anterosuperior	
2	46/M	70	718		Posteroinferior	Anterosuperior	
3	78/F	6	289			Anterosuperior	Posterosuperior
4	62/F	5	738	Posterosuperior	Inferior		
5	41/F	119	208	Posterosuperior		Inferior	
6*	65/M	184	222			Anteroinferior	Anteroinferior
7	63/M	48	221	Posterosuperior Anteroinferior			
8*	67/M	91	317	Posterosuperior		Posteroinferior	
9	67/F	3	644		Anteroinferior	Anterosuperior	
10	41/F	5	497			Anterosuperior	Inferior
11	63/F	4	865				Posteroinferior
12	46/M	10	728		Posteroinferior		
Mean±SD		58.0±64.8	483.3±242.5				

R-CCL indicates CCLs around the ipsilateral septal pulmonary veins; L-CCL, CCLs around the ipsilateral lateral pulmonary veins.

Electrophysiologic Findings and Long-Term Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Third or More Catheter Ablation Procedures for Atrial Fibrillation

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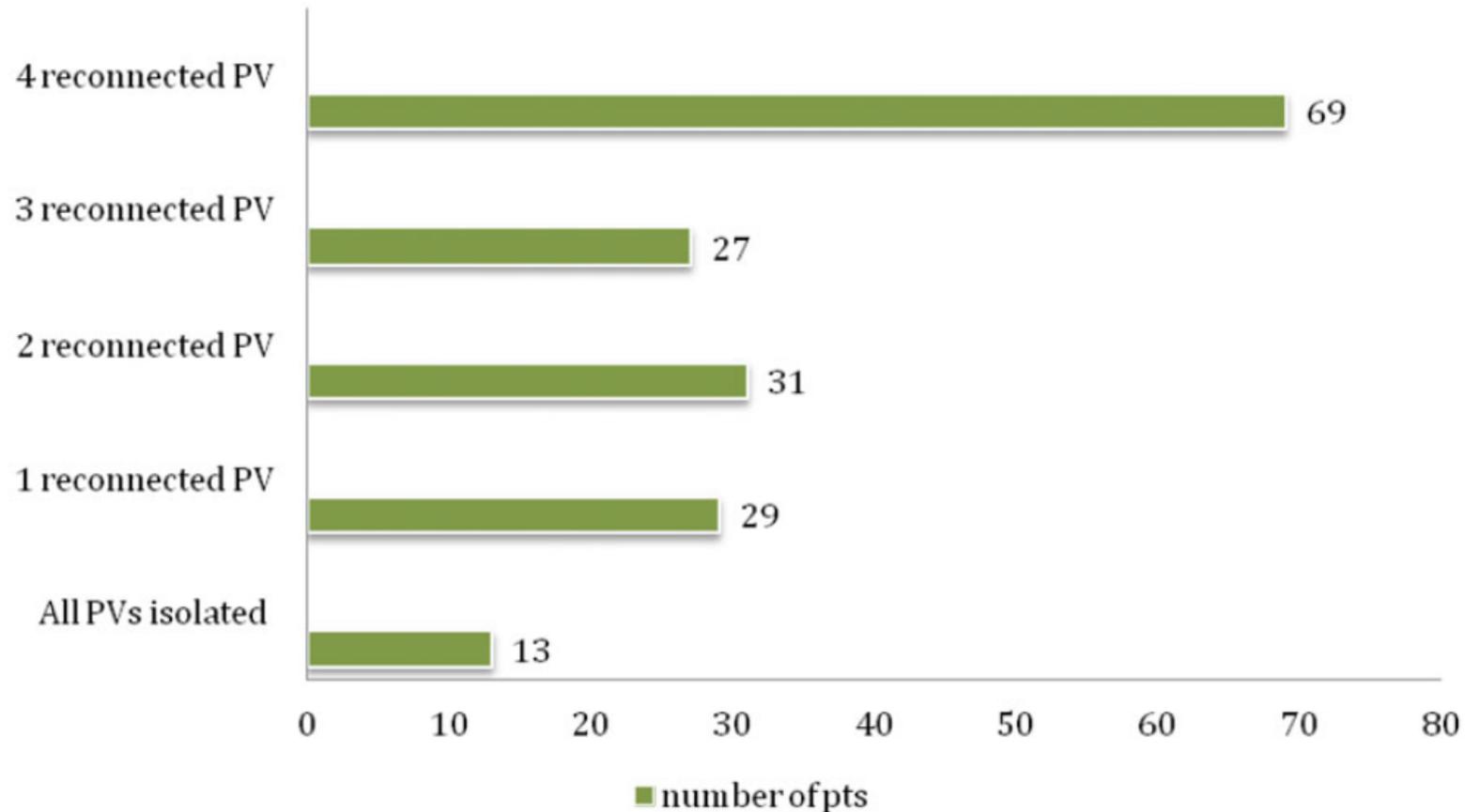
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Electrophysiologic Findings. *Introduction:* Pulmonary vein (PV) status, arrhythmia sources, and outcomes with ≥ 3 ablation procedures have not been characterized.

Methods and Results: All patients with ≥ 3 procedures were included and underwent antral reconnection of reconnected PVs and ablation of non-PV triggers. Of 2,886 patients who underwent PVI, 181 (6%) had more than 2 ablation procedures (3 procedures in 146 and ≥ 4 procedures in 35). In 12 patients, the clinical arrhythmia was other than AF. Of the remaining 169 patients, 69 (41%) had 4 reconnected PVs, 27 (16%) had 3, 31 (18%) had 2, and 29 (17%) had 1. Only 13 (8%) had all PVs still isolated. Provocative techniques in 127 patients initiated PV triggers in 92 patients, including AF or PV atrial tachycardia in 64 (50%), and reproducible PV APDs in 28 (22%). Thirty-six (20%) had a new non-PV trigger targeted. At a mean of 36 months (12–119 months) after last procedure, 63 patients (47%) had no AF off antiarrhythmic drugs (AAD); 28 (21%) had no AF with AAD; and 18 (13%) had rare AF with good symptom control; 26 patients (19%) had recurrent AF.

Conclusions: At time of third or greater AF ablation, PV reconnection is the rule (92%) and PV triggers initiating AF can be demonstrated. Following repeat PVI and targeting non-PV triggers, 81% of patients had clinical AF control. Our findings suggest that PV reconnection and attempts to identify and eliminate non-PV triggers are effective and support the role of multiple repeat procedures for AF recurrence. (*J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol*, Vol. pp. 1-7)

Status of PVs at time of repeat ablation in the 169 patients in whom the PVs were surveyed.





Recurrence of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation after pulmonary vein isolation: is repeat pulmonary vein isolation enough? A prospective, randomized trial

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Aims

In patients with paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (pAF), pulmonary vein isolation (PVI) has become an accepted treatment option with single procedure success rates of 60–80%. A repeat ablation is performed in ~30% of patients because of arrhythmia recurrence. The strategy for this repeat procedure is not defined.

Methods and results

Patients with pAF recurrence after PVI were prospectively randomized and underwent a second ablation procedure with either PVI of all reconnected veins or PVI with an additional left atrial anterior line. Follow-up in our arrhythmia clinic was every 3 months up to 12 months including 7 day Holter monitoring. A total of 77 patients (mean age 63 ± 9 years, 69% males) were included in the analysis. A repeat PVI was performed in 41 patients, PVI + anterior line in 36 patients. After a follow-up of 12 months, 26 of 41 (63%) patients after repeat PVI and 18 of 36 (50%) patients with PVI + anterior line were in stable sinus rhythm off antiarrhythmic medication ($P = 0.26$). In most patients (12 of 15 patients with PVI and 14 of 18 patients with PVI + anterior line) with an arrhythmia recurrence after the second procedure, the recurring arrhythmia was paroxysmal AF. In 2 of 15 patients of the PVI group and in 4 of 18 patients of the PVI + anterior line group atypical flutter was the reoccurring arrhythmia ($P = \text{NS}$).

Conclusion

In this prospective randomized trial, patients with a recurrence of paroxysmal AF had no better outcome after repeat PVI + one left atrial line compared with patients with repeat PVI only.

Keywords

Atrial fibrillation • Relapse; • Pulmonary vein isolation • Anterior line • PVI

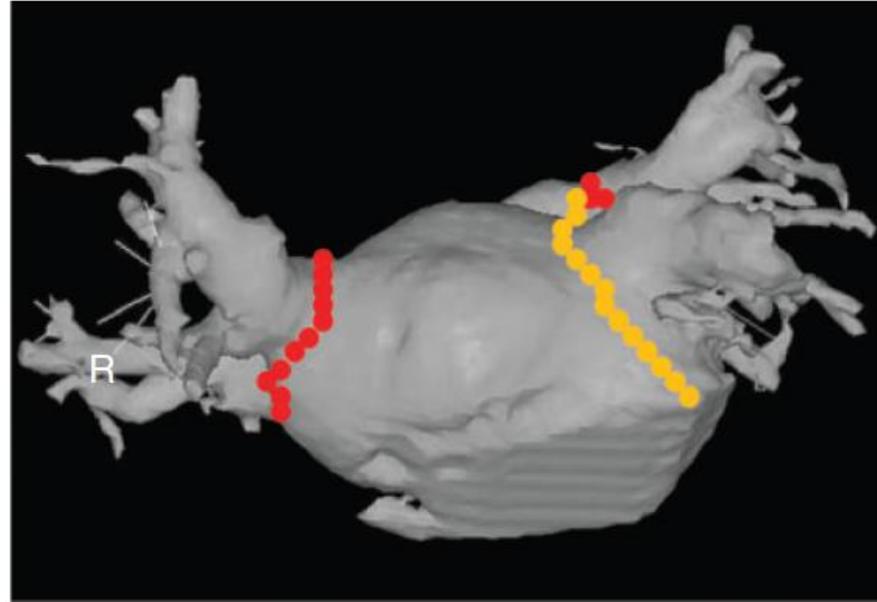
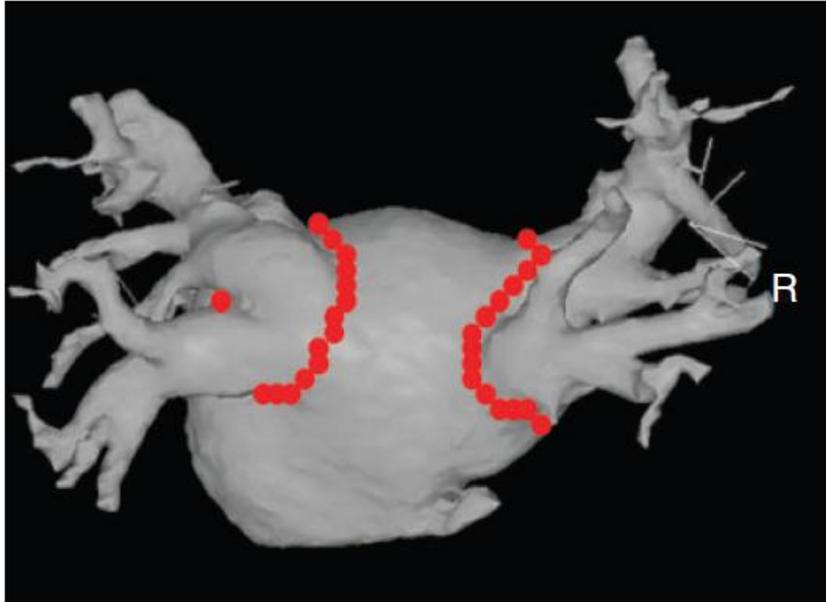


Table 1 Baseline characteristics

	PVI (n = 41)	PVI + anterior line (n = 36)	P value
Age	64 ± 9	62 ± 8	0.33
Gender (male)	68%	69%	1.0
Duration of atrial fibrillation (months)	74.5 ± 76	97.3 ± 80	0.25
Time since initial PVI (months)	21.5 ± 27.6	17.3 ± 24.7	0.5
CHADS ² VASc score	2.3 ± 1.7	2.1 ± 1.8	0.62
Art. hypertension	71%	61%	0.47
Hyperlipidemia	39%	61%	0.07
Coronary artery disease	14.6%	8.3%	0.5
Diabetes mellitus	12%	8.3%	0.7
Previous stroke	7.3%	16.7%	0.3
Size of left atrium	44 ± 6.2	43.7 ± 5	0.85

Table 2 Procedural data

	PVI	PVI + anterior line	P value
Reconnected PV per patient	3.7 ± 0.9	3.3 ± 0.9	0.02
Procedure time (min)	106.6 ± 42	117.9 ± 52	0.3
RF time (min)	33.5 ± 18	44.7 ± 19	0.01
Fluoroscopy time (min)	21.8 ± 14	16.9 ± 13.5	0.14
Fluoroscopy dose (cGym)	1818 ± 1219	1557 ± 1203	0.35
Tamponade	0	0	1.0
Procedural stroke	0	0	1.0
Blood transfusion	0	0	1.0
Groin pseudoaneurysm	1	0	1.0

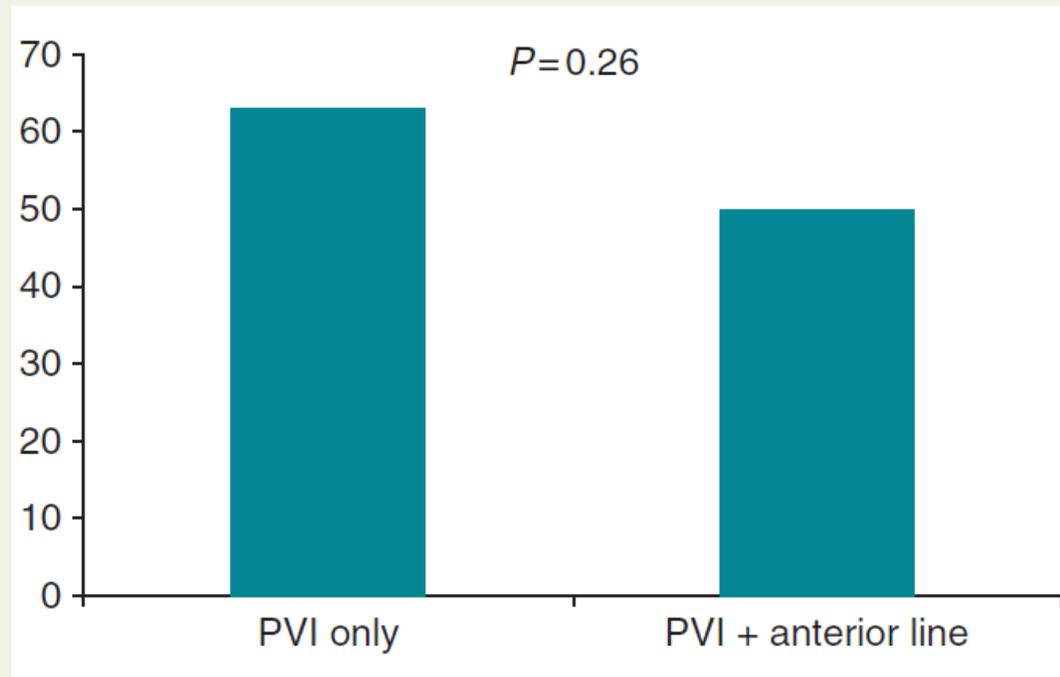


Figure 2 After a follow-up of 12 months 63% in the PVI only group and 50% in the PVI + anterior line group were in stable sinus rhythm off antiarrhythmic medication.

Table 3 Type of arrhythmia recurrence after repeat procedure

	PVI (N = 16)	PVI + anterior line (N = 18)	P value
Paroxysmal AF	75%	78%	0.4
Persistent AF	12.5%	0%	
Atypical flutter	12.5%	22%	

Areas with complex fractionated atrial electrograms recorded after pulmonary vein isolation represent normal voltage and conduction velocity in sinus rhythm

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Aims

Although complex fractionated atrial electrograms (CFAEs) are purported to represent critical sites for atrial fibrillation (AF) perpetuation, the mechanism and the significance of CFAE in the genesis of AF remain poorly understood. This study evaluated the relationship between CFAE and areas of abnormal atrial tissue defined by low-voltage electrograms (LVE) and signal average of the P-wave (SAPW).

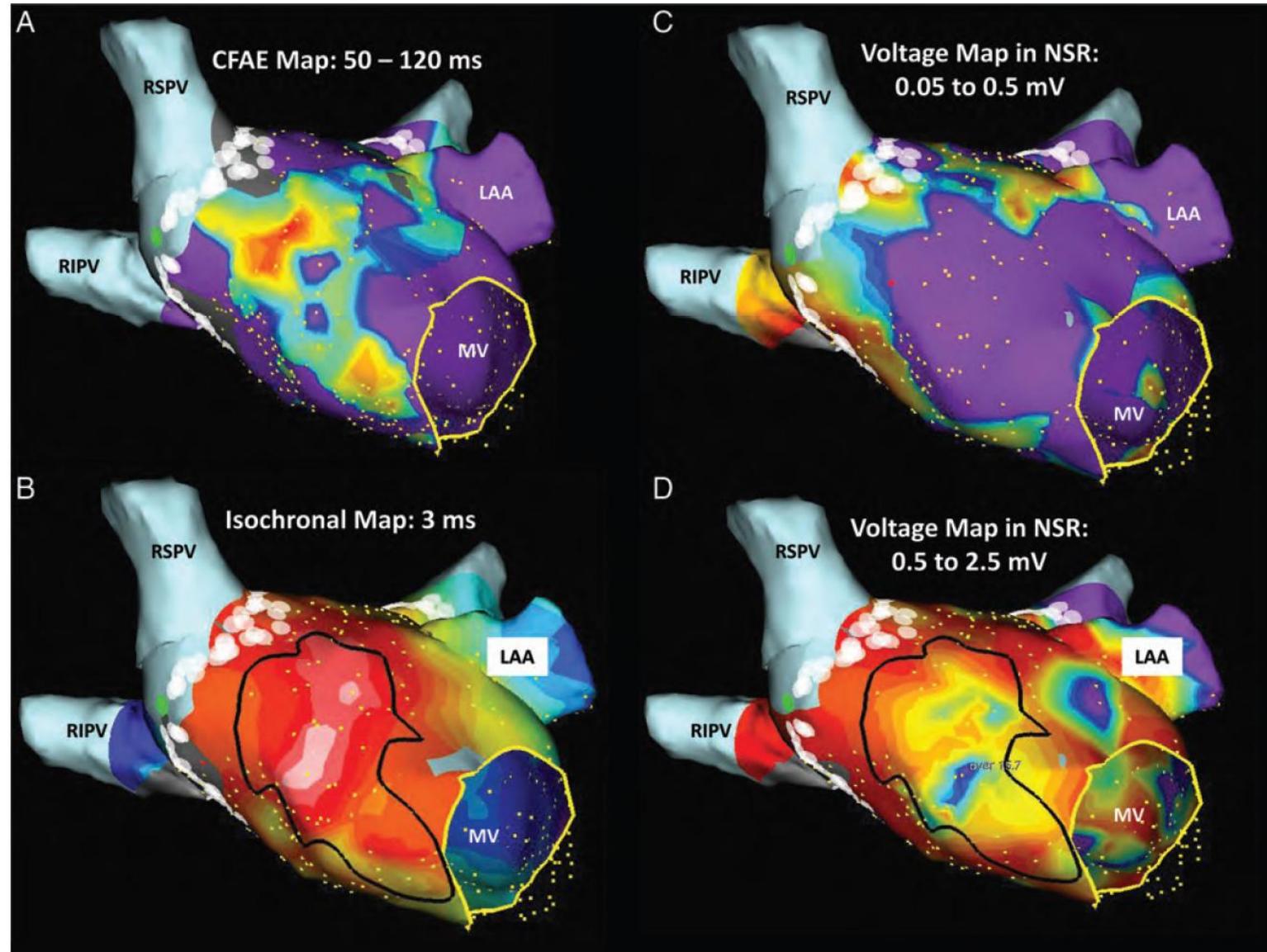
Methods and results

Complex fractionated atrial electrogram maps were obtained after pulmonary vein isolation in 15 patients with persistent AF. Patients were then cardioverted and voltage/activation maps were acquired in normal sinus rhythm (NSR). Total left atrium (LA), CFAE and LVE areas were measured as % of total LA area (mean \pm SD). Conduction velocities of normal, LVE and CFAE areas were also measured during NSR. Patients underwent signal averaged ECG of the P-wave in NSR within 24 h of the procedure. Complex fractionated atrial electrograms areas accounted for $33 \pm 24\%$ of total LA. In NSR, only $12 \pm 10\%$ of LA area had LVE. There was no anatomic correlation between CFAE sites and LVE; the area of overlap between CFAE and LVE was only $1.6 \pm 1.5\%$. Conduction velocity was faster in CFAE areas (2.3 ± 1.4 m/s) than in normal voltage areas (1.3 ± 0.3 m/s), and LVE areas (1.1 ± 0.7 m/s, $P = 0.06$). A positive correlation was only found between LVE areas and SAPW duration ($r = 0.7$, $P = 0.04$).

Conclusion

Areas of CFAEs correspond to areas of normal atrial voltage and normal conduction velocity during NSR. Complex fractionated atrial electrogram probably represents the response of normal healthy atrial tissue to rapid pulmonary vein activation.

Minimal overlap between CFAE and low voltage electrogram areas, and normal conduction velocities in CFAE areas along the anteroseptal wall of the LA



Inverse Relationship Between Fractionated Electrograms and Atrial Fibrosis in Persistent Atrial Fibrillation

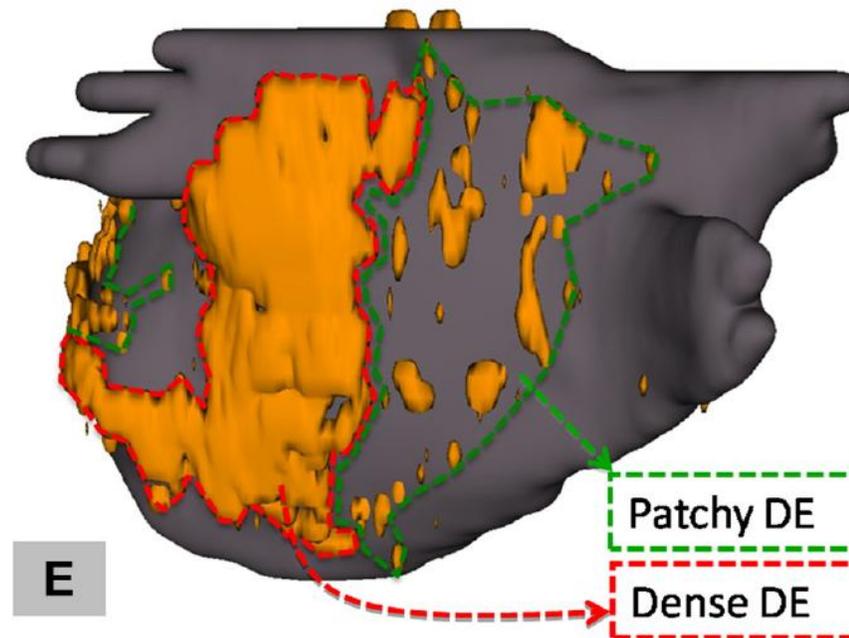
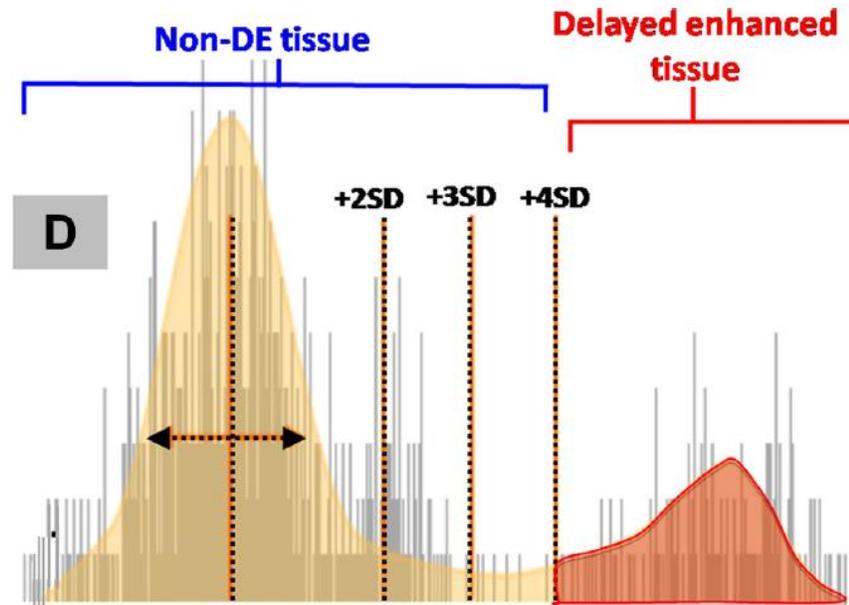
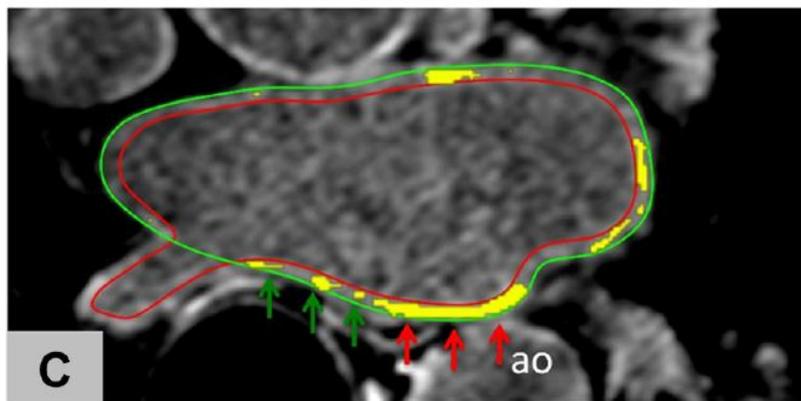
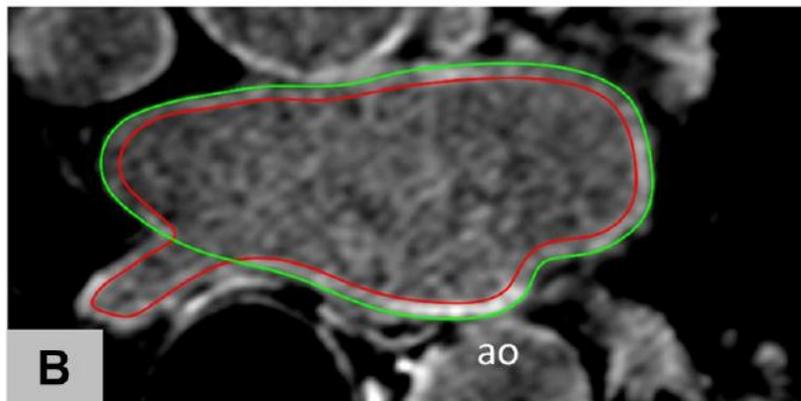
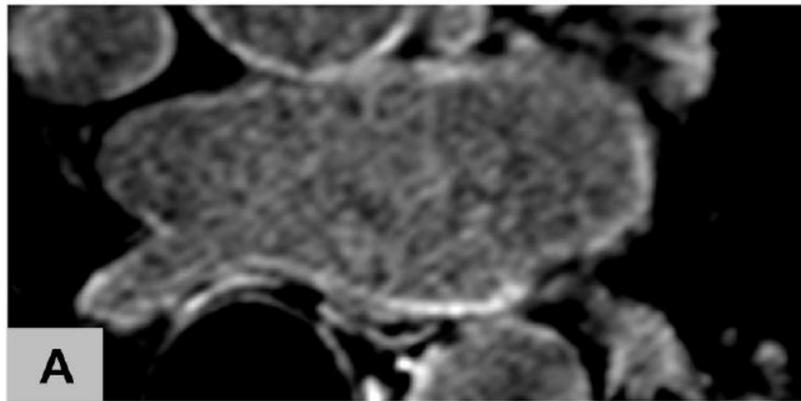
Combined Magnetic Resonance Imaging and High-Density Mapping

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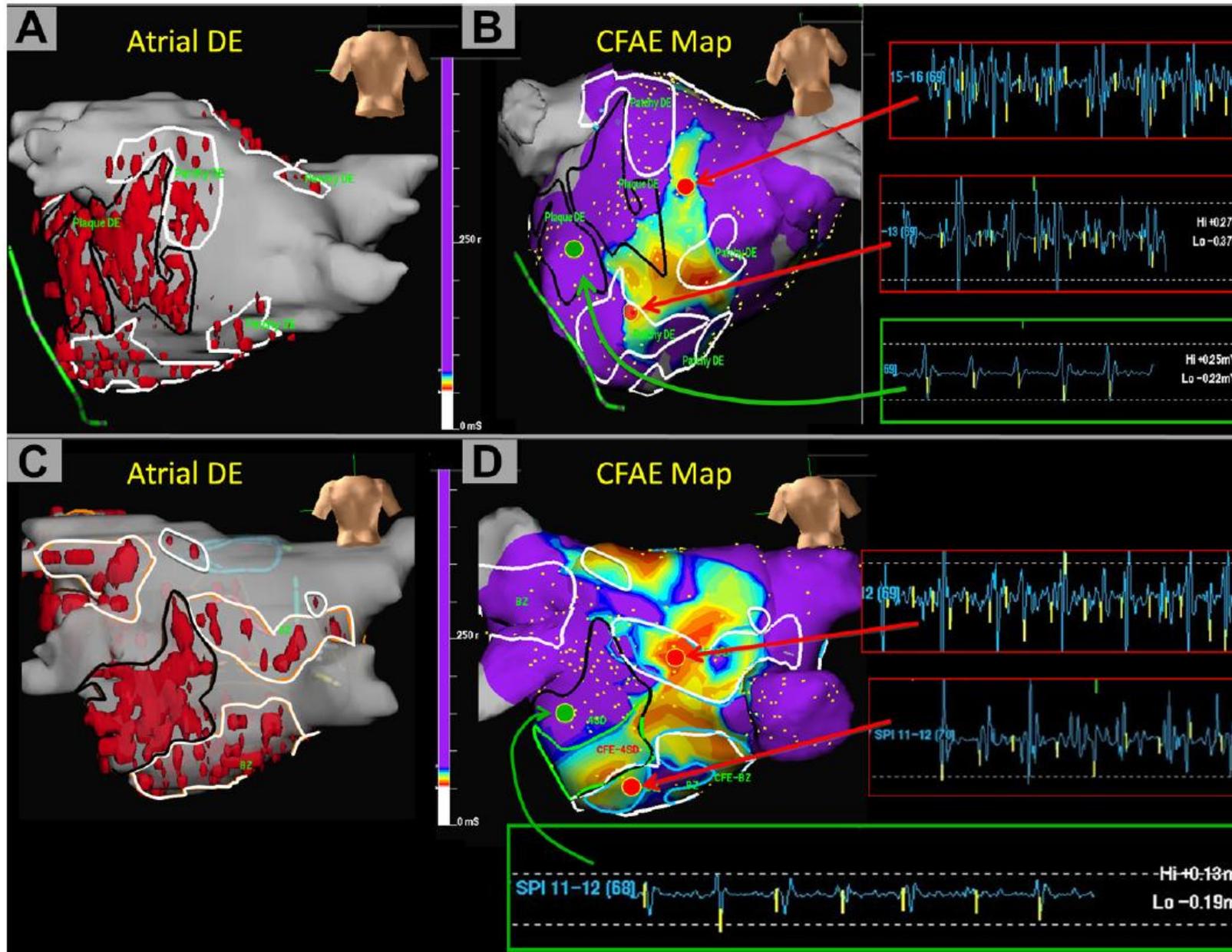
Bordeaux and Sophia-Antipolis, France; Bad Krozingen, Germany; and St. Paul, Minnesota

Objectives	This study sought to evaluate the relationship between fibrosis imaged by delayed-enhancement (DE) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and atrial electrograms (Egms) in persistent atrial fibrillation (AF).
Background	Atrial fractionated Egms are strongly related to slow anisotropic conduction. Their relationship to atrial fibrosis has not yet been investigated.
Methods	Atrial high-resolution MRI of 18 patients with persistent AF (11 long-lasting persistent AF) was registered with mapping geometry (NavX electro-anatomical system (version 8.0, St. Jude Medical, St. Paul, Minnesota)). DE areas were categorized as dense or patchy, depending on their DE content. Left atrial Egms during AF were acquired using a high-density, 20-pole catheter (514 ± 77 sites/map). Fractionation, organization/regularity, local mean cycle length (CL), and voltage were analyzed with regard to DE.
Results	Patients with long-lasting persistent versus persistent AF had larger left atrial (LA) surface area (134 ± 38 cm ² vs. 98 ± 9 cm ² , $p = 0.02$), a higher amount of atrial DE (70 ± 16 cm ² vs. 49 ± 10 cm ² , $p = 0.01$), more complex fractionated atrial Egm (CFAE) extent (54 ± 16 cm ² vs. 28 ± 15 cm ² , $p = 0.02$), and a shorter baseline AF CL (147 ± 10 ms vs. 182 ± 14 ms, $p = 0.01$). Continuous CFAE (CFE _{mean} [NavX algorithm that quantifies Egm fractionation] <80 ms) occupied $38 \pm 19\%$ of total LA surface area. Dense DE was detected at the left posterior left atrium. In contrast, the right posterior left atrium contained predominantly patchy DE. Most CFAE ($48 \pm 14\%$) occurred at non-DE LA sites, followed by $41 \pm 12\%$ CFAE at patchy DE and $11 \pm 6\%$ at dense DE regions ($p = 0.005$ and $p = 0.008$, respectively); $19 \pm 6\%$ CFAE sites occurred at border zones of dense DE. Egms were less fractionated, with longer CL and lower voltage at dense DE versus non-DE regions: CFE _{mean} : 97 ms versus 76 ms, $p < 0.0001$; local CL: 153 ms versus 143 ms, $p < 0.0001$; mean voltage: 0.63 mV versus 0.86 mV, $p < 0.0001$.
Conclusions	Atrial fibrosis as defined by DE MRI is associated with slower and more organized electrical activity but with lower voltage than healthy atrial areas. Ninety percent of continuous CFAE sites occur at non-DE and patchy DE LA sites. These findings are important when choosing the ablation strategy in persistent AF. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2013;62:802-12) © 2013 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation

Detection, segmentation, and 3-D reconstruction of Atrial DE



Relationship of atrial DE to Continuous CFAE sites

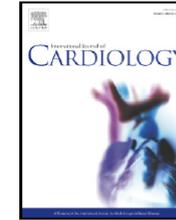




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Is there still a role for additional linear ablation in addition to pulmonary vein isolation in patients with paroxysmal atrial fibrillation? An Updated Meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials☆



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ABSTRACT

Background: The benefits and risks of additional left atrium (LA) linear ablation in patients with paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (AF) remain unclear.

Methods: Randomized controlled trials were identified in the PubMed, Web of Science, Embase and Cochrane databases, and the relevant papers were examined. Pooled relative risks (RR) and 95% confidence interval (95% CI) were estimated using random effects models. The primary endpoint was the maintenance of sinus rhythm after a single ablation.

Results: Nine randomized controlled trials involving 1138 patients were included in this analysis. Additional LA linear ablation did not improve the maintenance of the sinus rhythm following a single procedure (RR, 1.03; 95% CI, 0.93–1.13; $P = 0.60$). A subgroup analysis demonstrated that all methods of additional linear ablation failed to improve the outcome. Additional linear ablation significantly increased the mean procedural time (166.53 ± 67.7 vs. 139.57 ± 62.44 min, $P < 0.001$), the mean fluoroscopy time (54.56 ± 38.7 vs. 44.32 ± 31.6 min, $P < 0.001$) and the mean radiofrequency (RF) energy application time (78.94 ± 28.39 vs. 59.74 ± 22.38 min, $P < 0.001$). No statistically significant differences in the rates of complications were noted (RR, 0.57; 95% CI, 0.27–1.19; $P = 0.13$).

Conclusions: Additional LA linear ablation did not exhibit any benefits in terms of sinus rhythm maintenance for paroxysmal AF patients following a single procedure. Additional linear ablation significantly increased the mean procedural, fluoroscopy and RF application times. This additional ablation was not associated with a statistically significant increase in complication rates. This finding must be confirmed by further large, high-quality clinical trials.

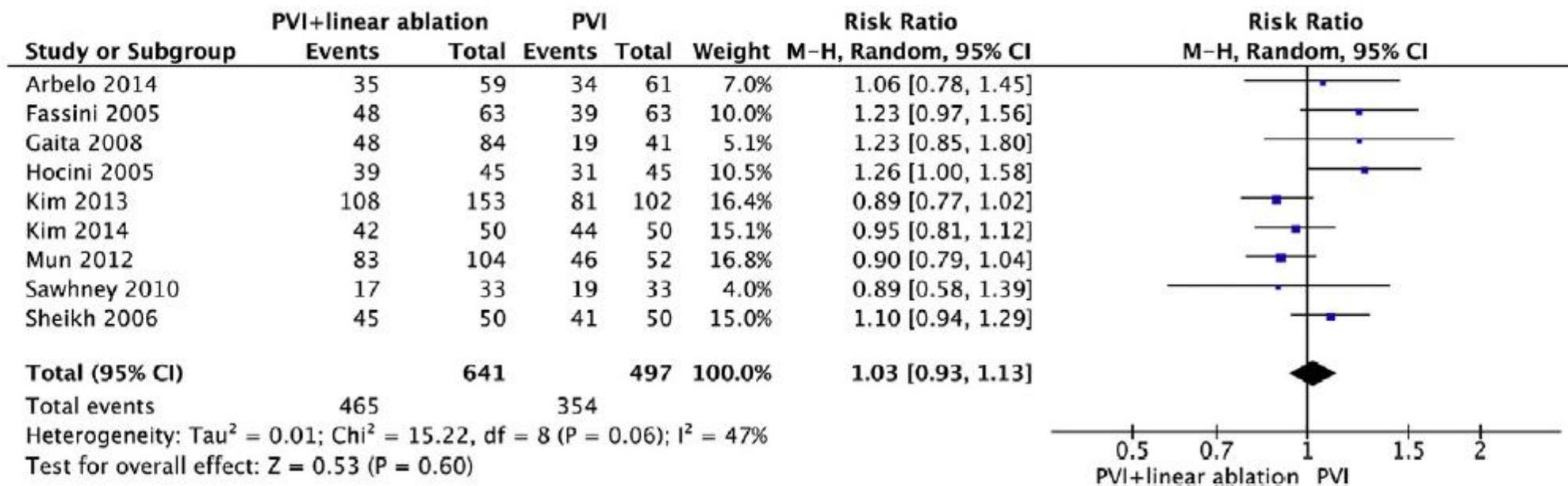
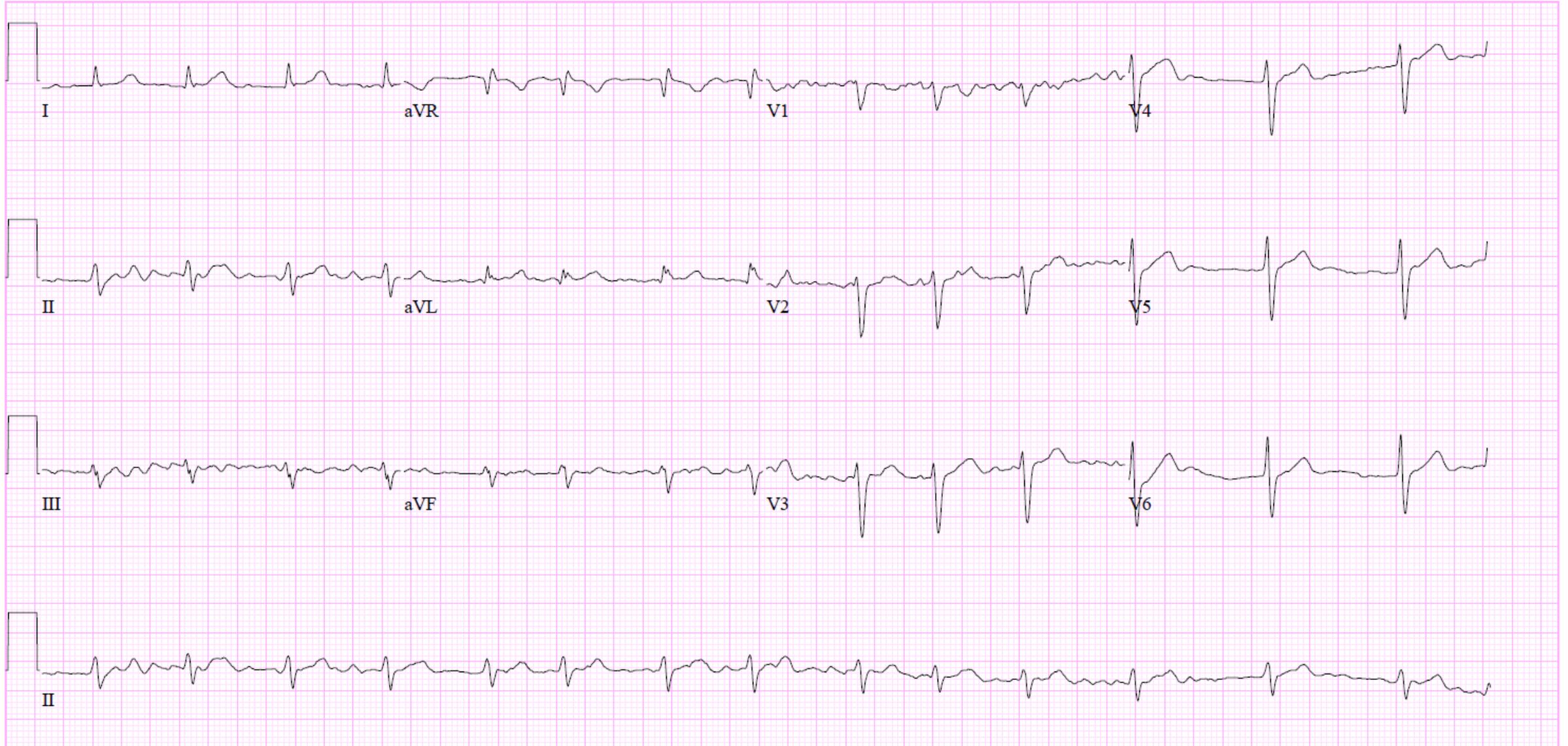


Fig. 2. Relative risks for sinus rhythm maintenance in the PVI group and the PVI plus linear ablation group. PVI, pulmonary vein isolation.

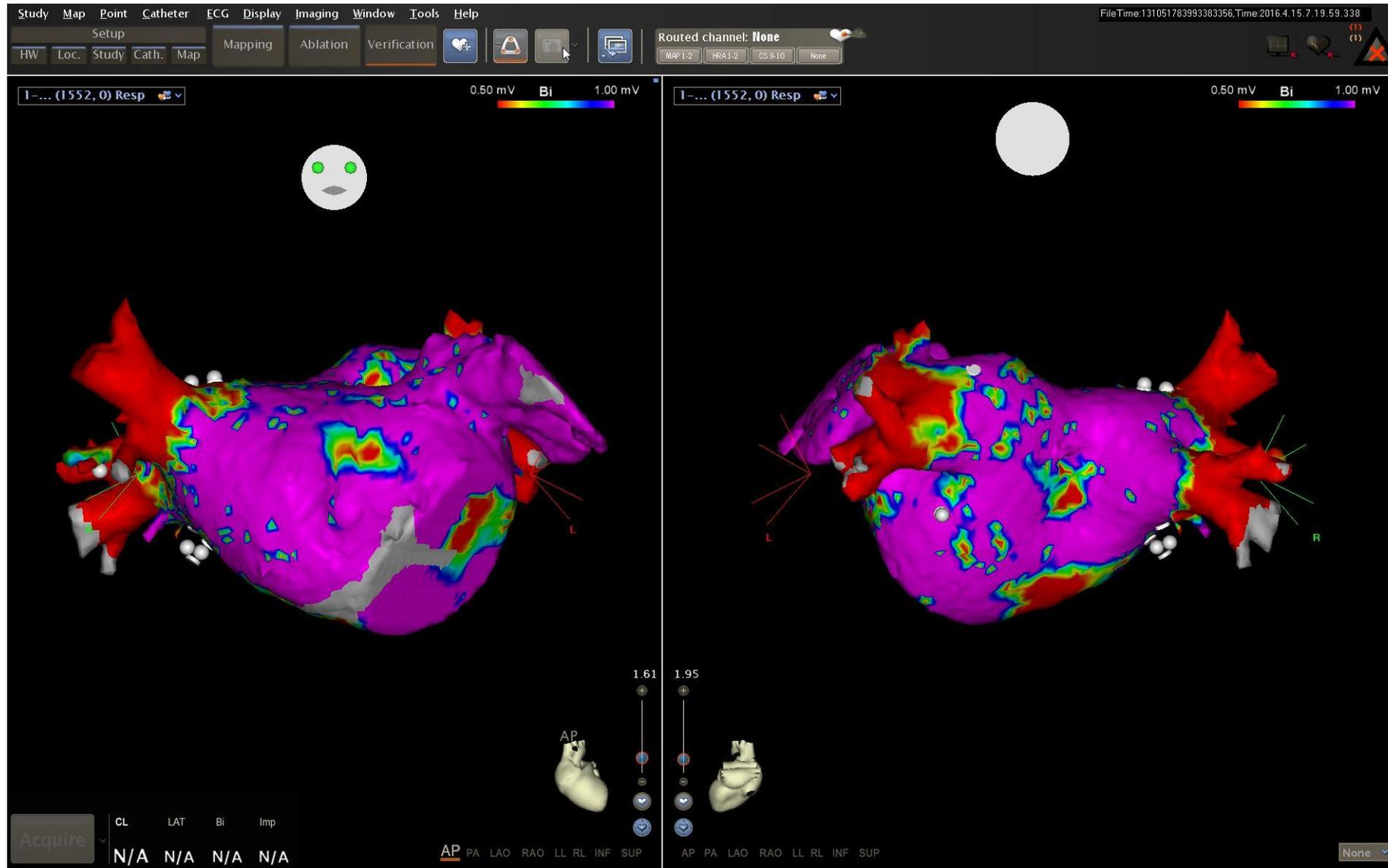
M/41, palpitation for 1wk

- 2013년 A-fib Dx. (Persistent AF for 10 yrs)
- 2015.04.14. 본원에서 DC cardioversion 200J 2회 시행, sinus conversion되지 않았음
- 2015.04.15. DC cardioversion 200J 1재시행, sinus conversion
- 이후 외래 f/u 하던 중 afib recur
- 2015.06.25. afib Ablation 시행
- 이후 외래 f/u 하던 중
- 2016.04.05 palpitation으로 외래 방문

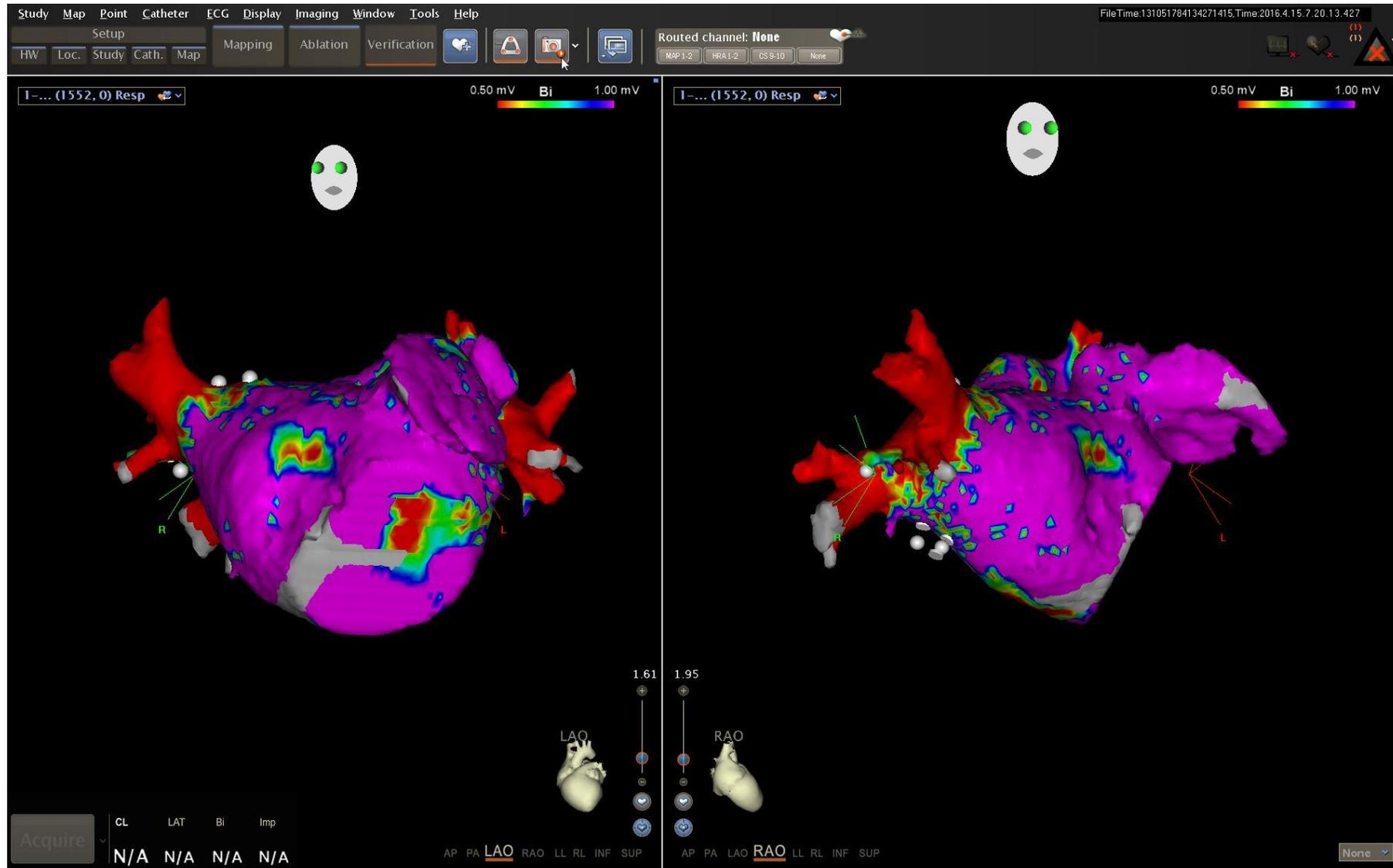
10/Feb/2015



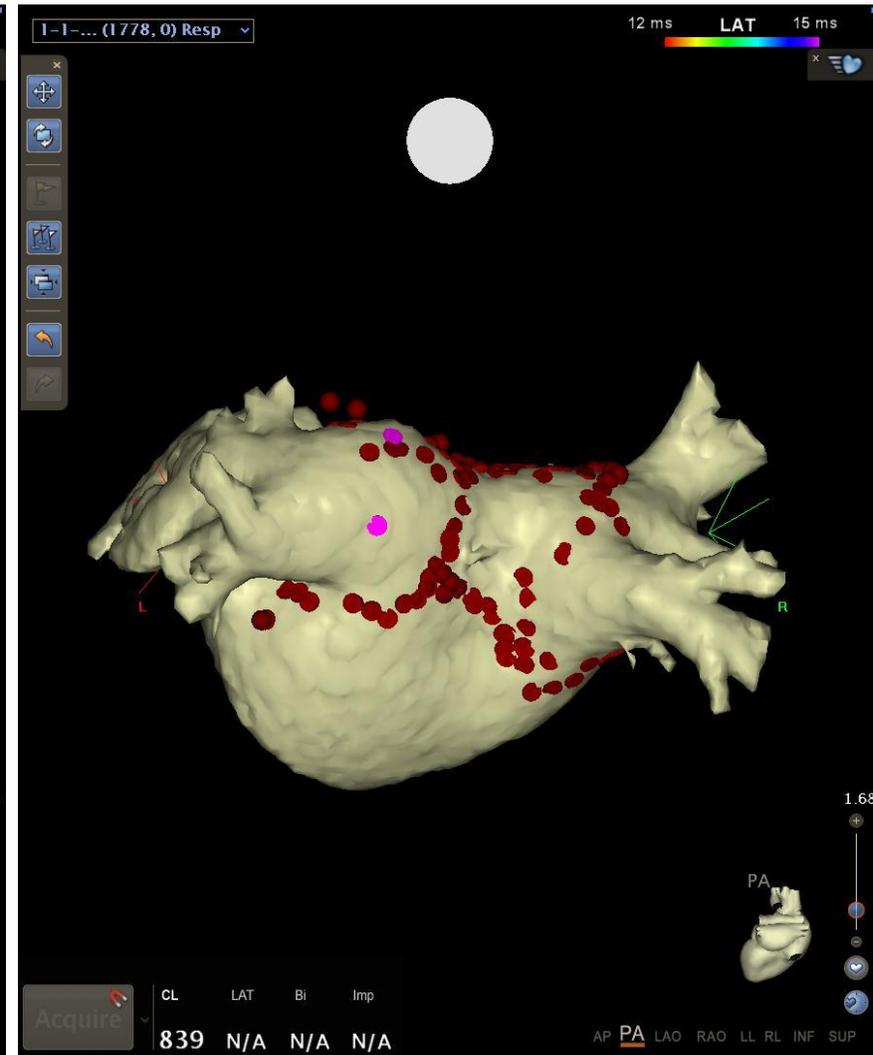
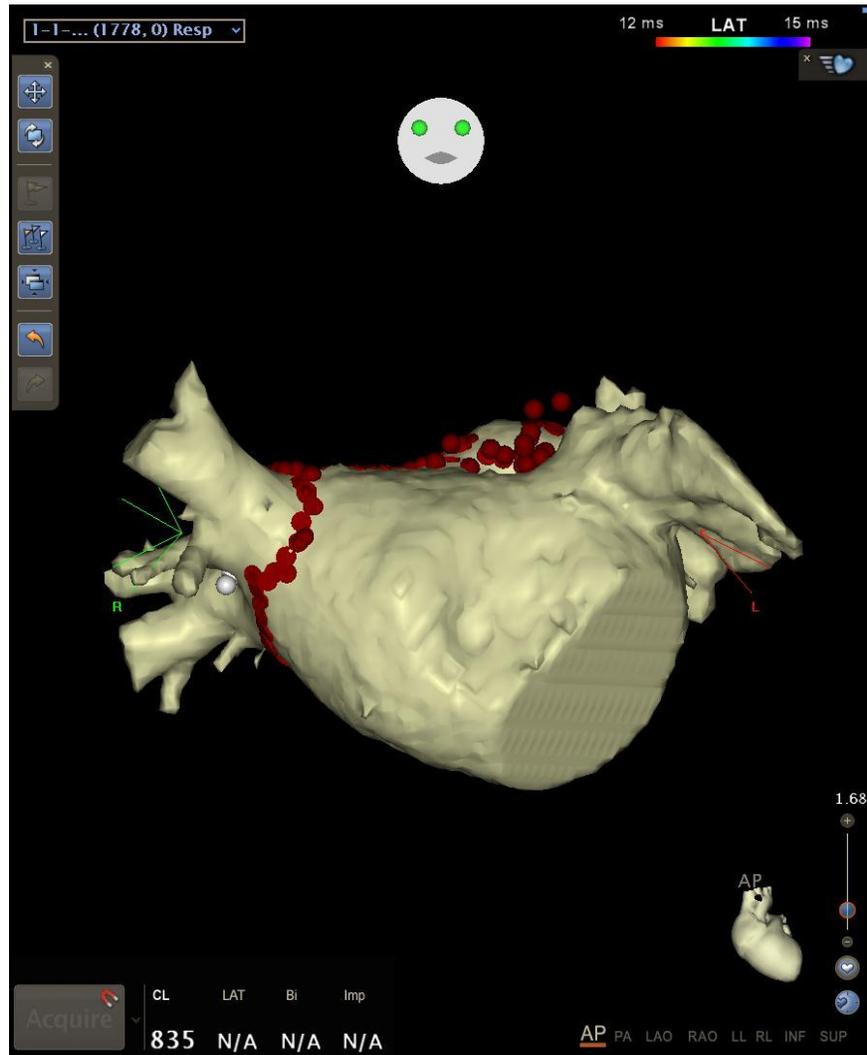
2015.06.25 Initial Voltage



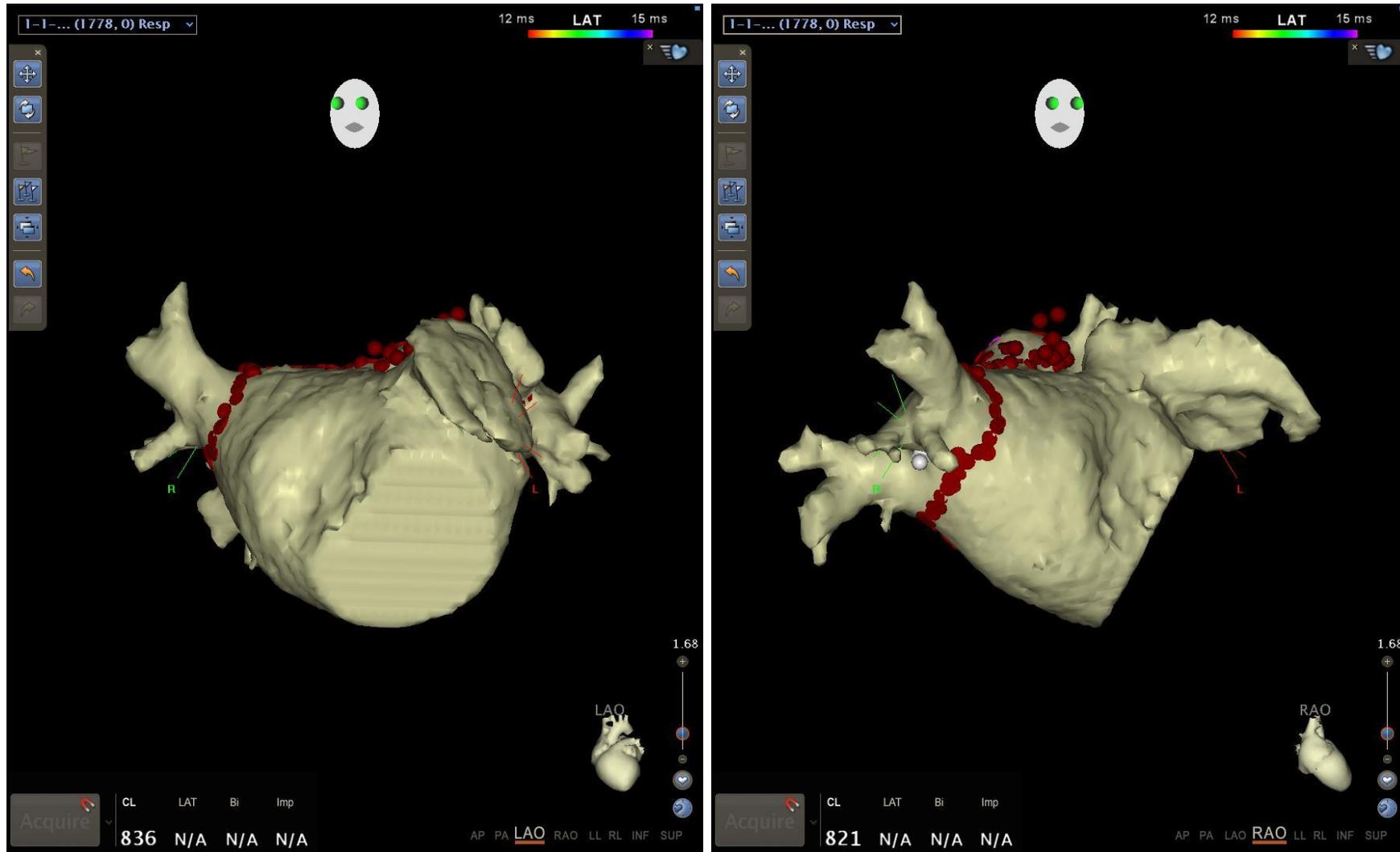
2015.06.25 Initial Voltage



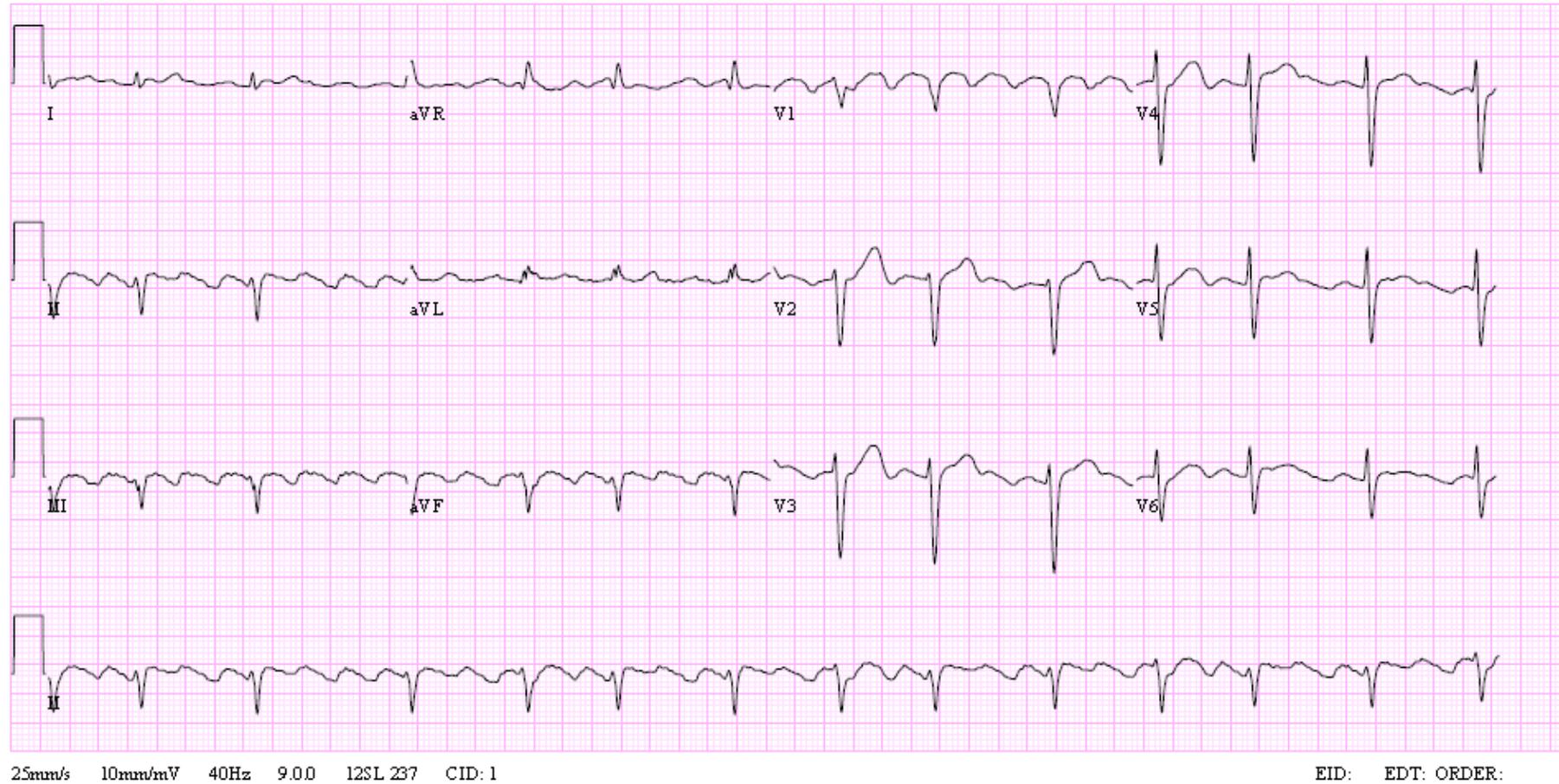
2015.06.25 LA Ablation



2015.06.25 LA Ablation



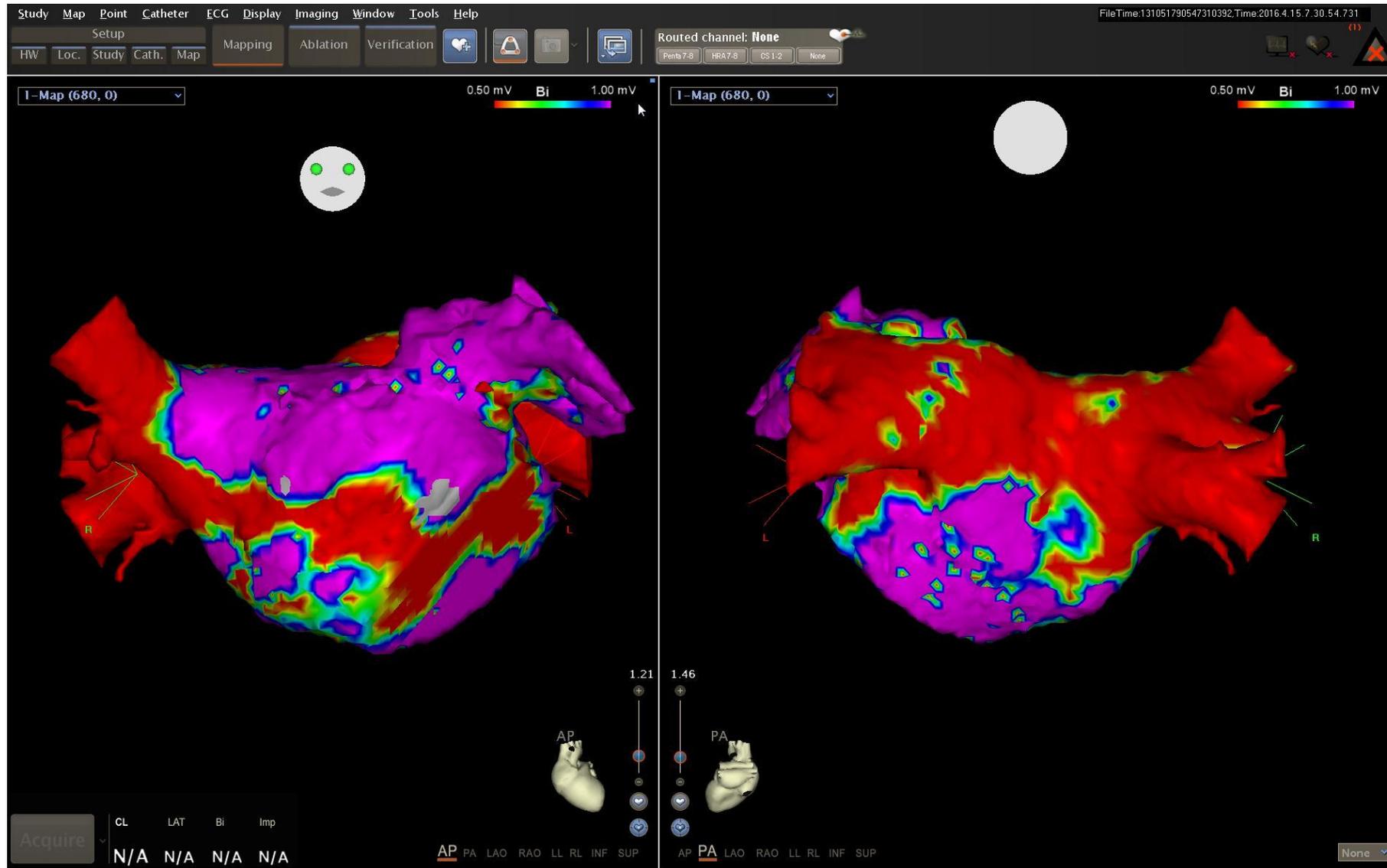
EKG (2016.04.05)



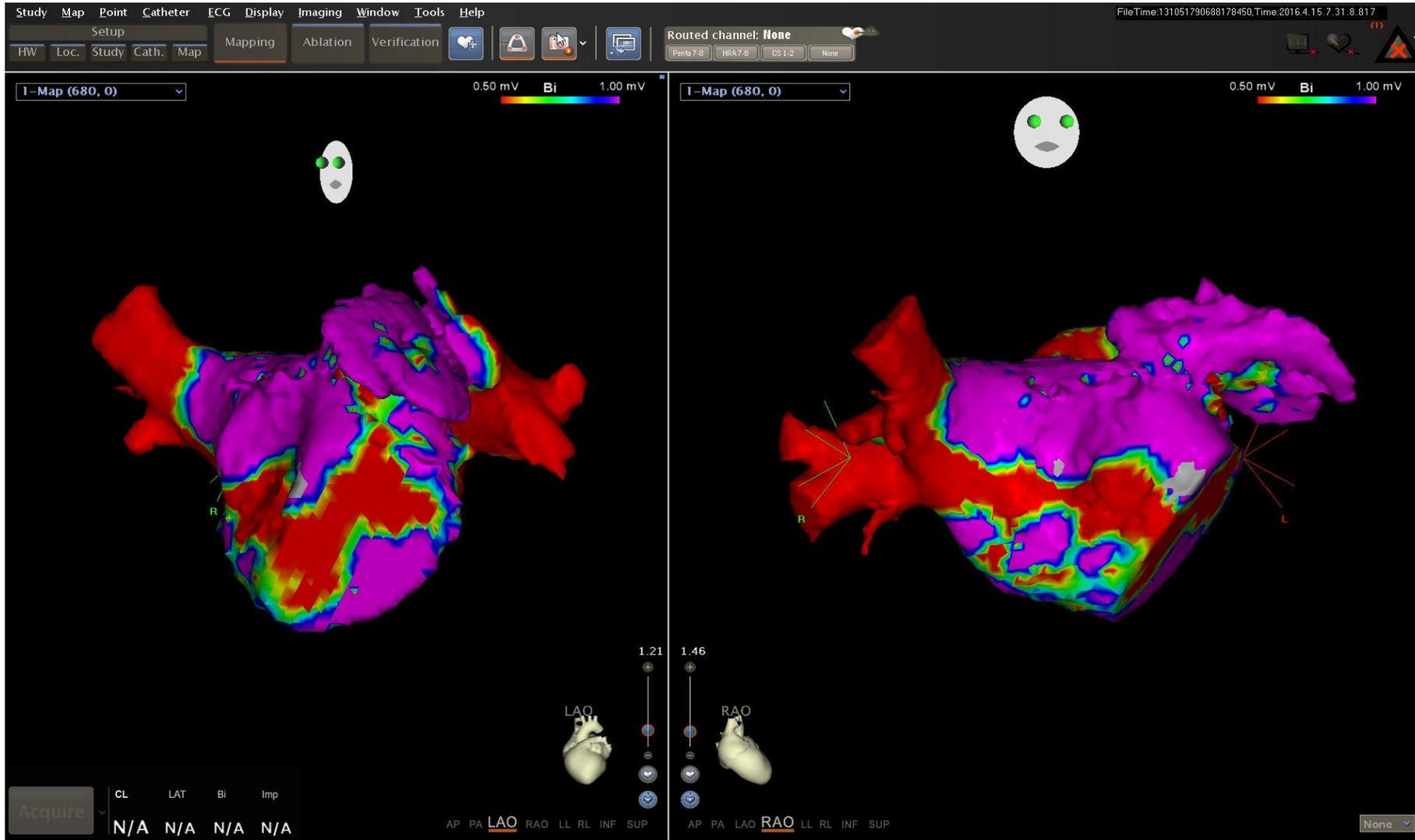
at cardiac cathroom (2016.04.14)



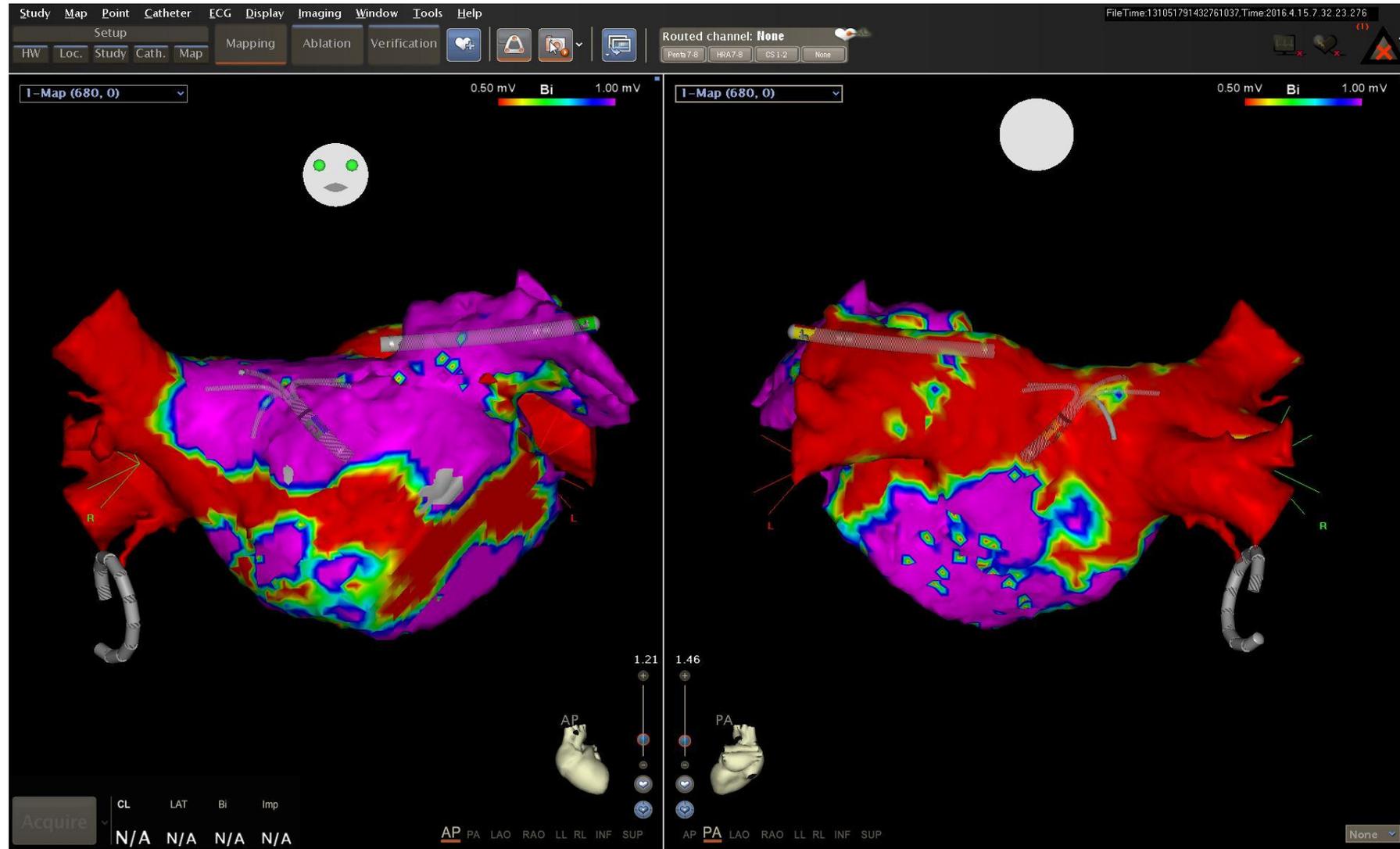
2016.04.14 Initial Voltage



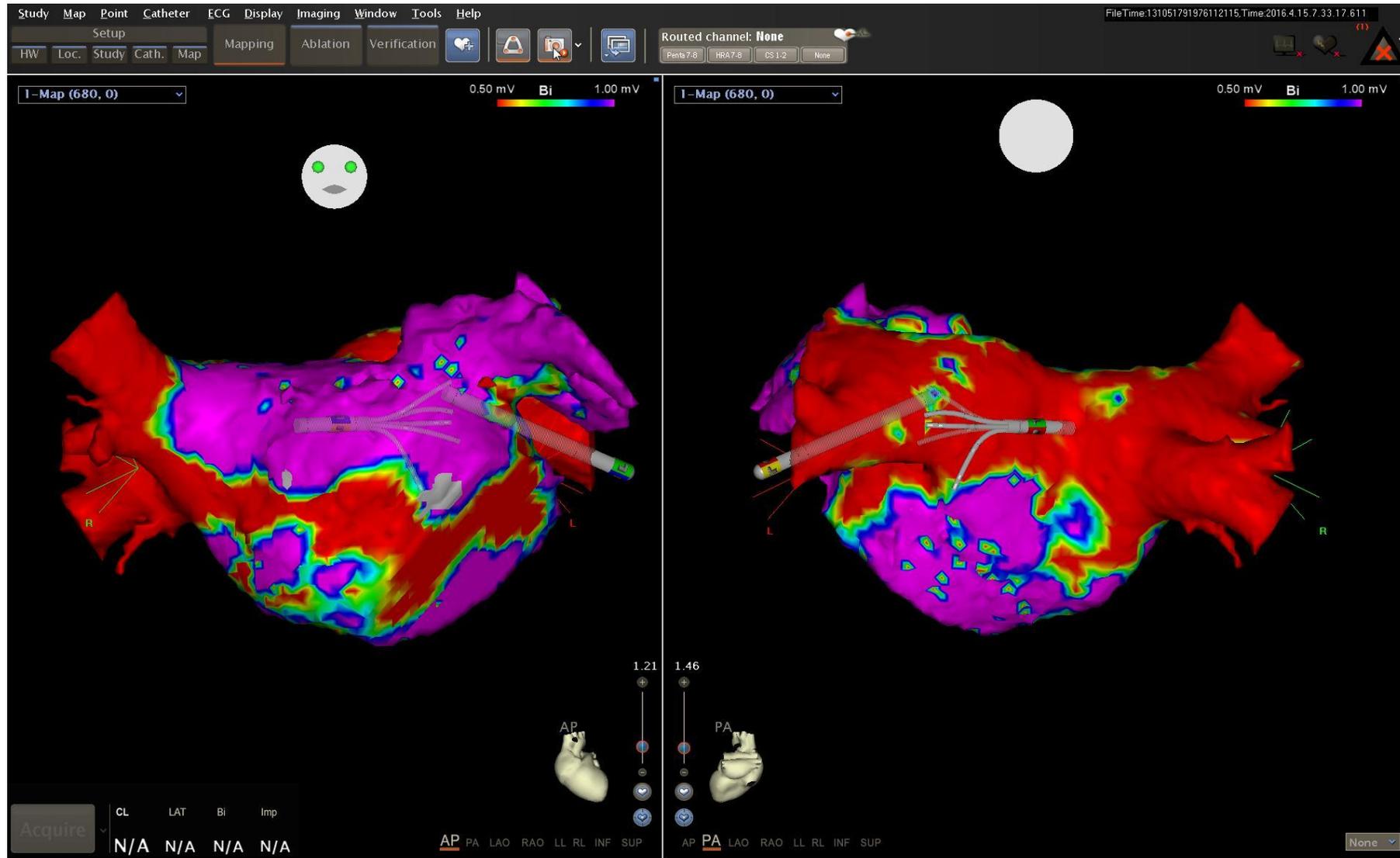
2016.04.14 Initial Voltage



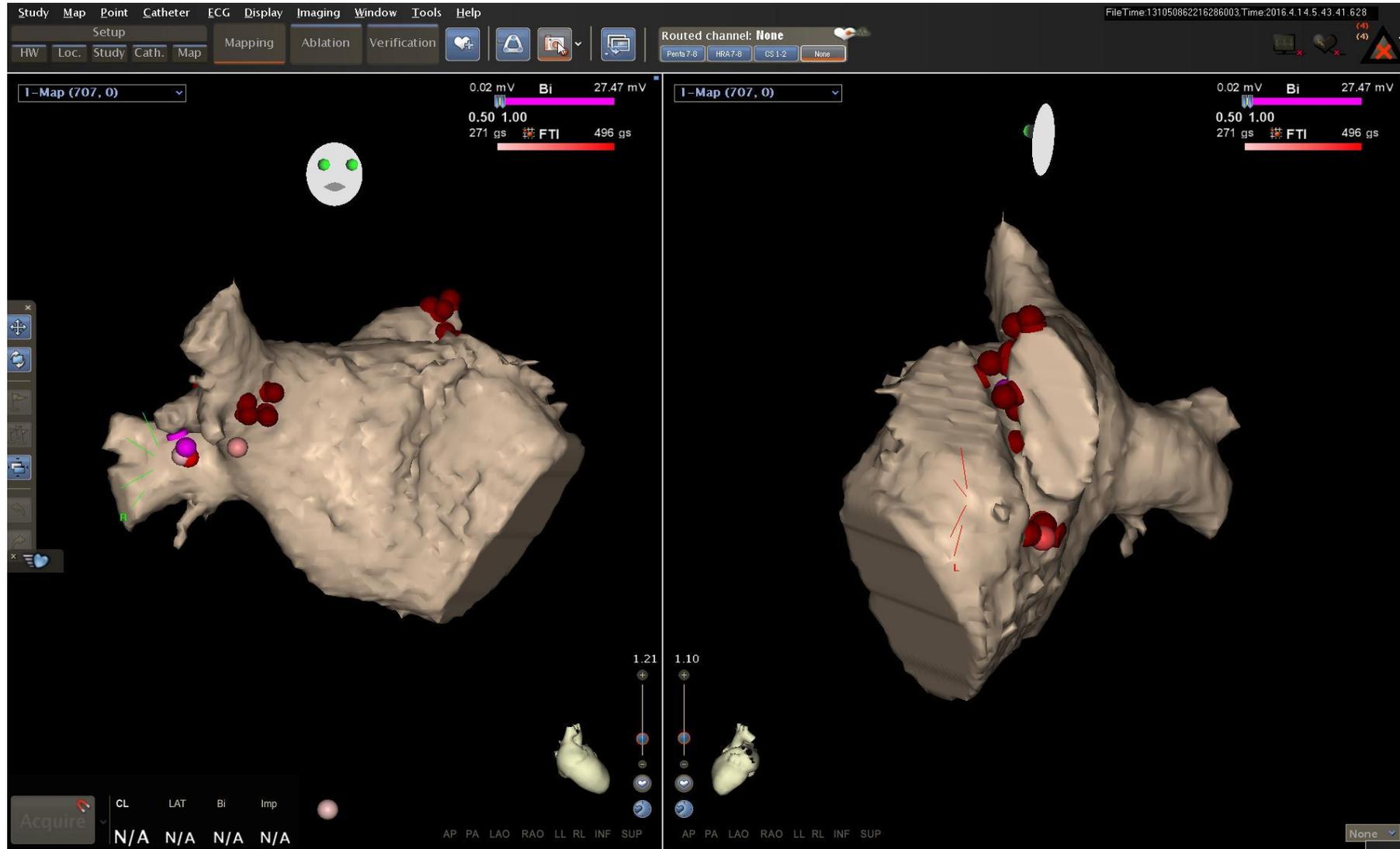
2016.04.14 Pentaray Voltage



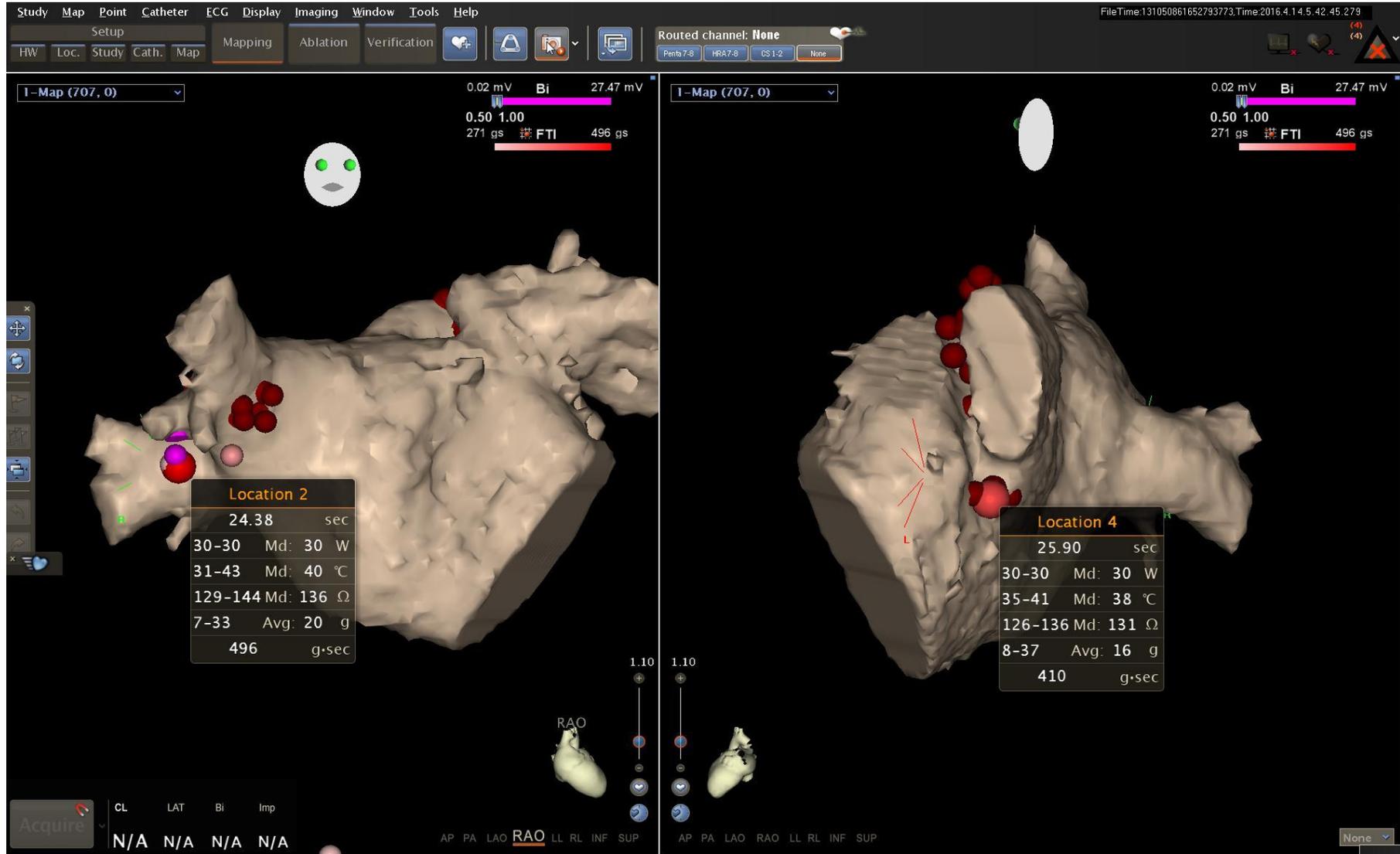
2016.04.14 Pentaray Voltage



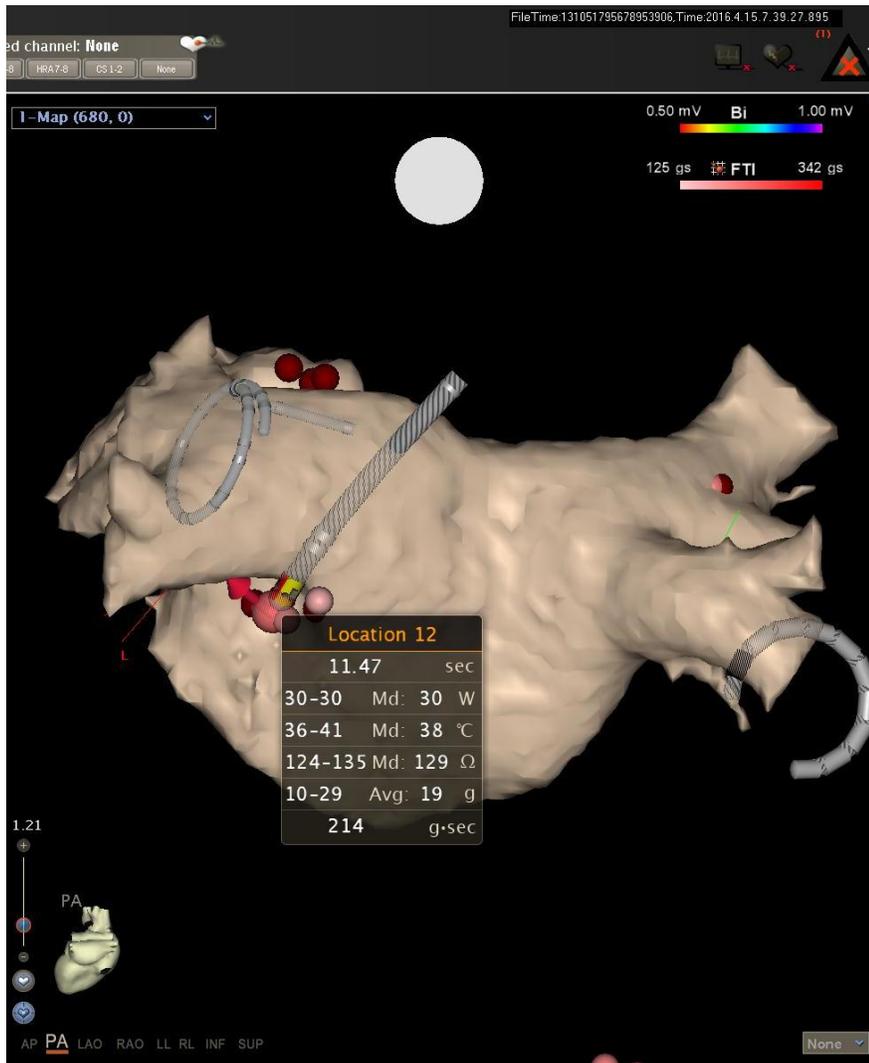
2016.04.14 LA Ablation



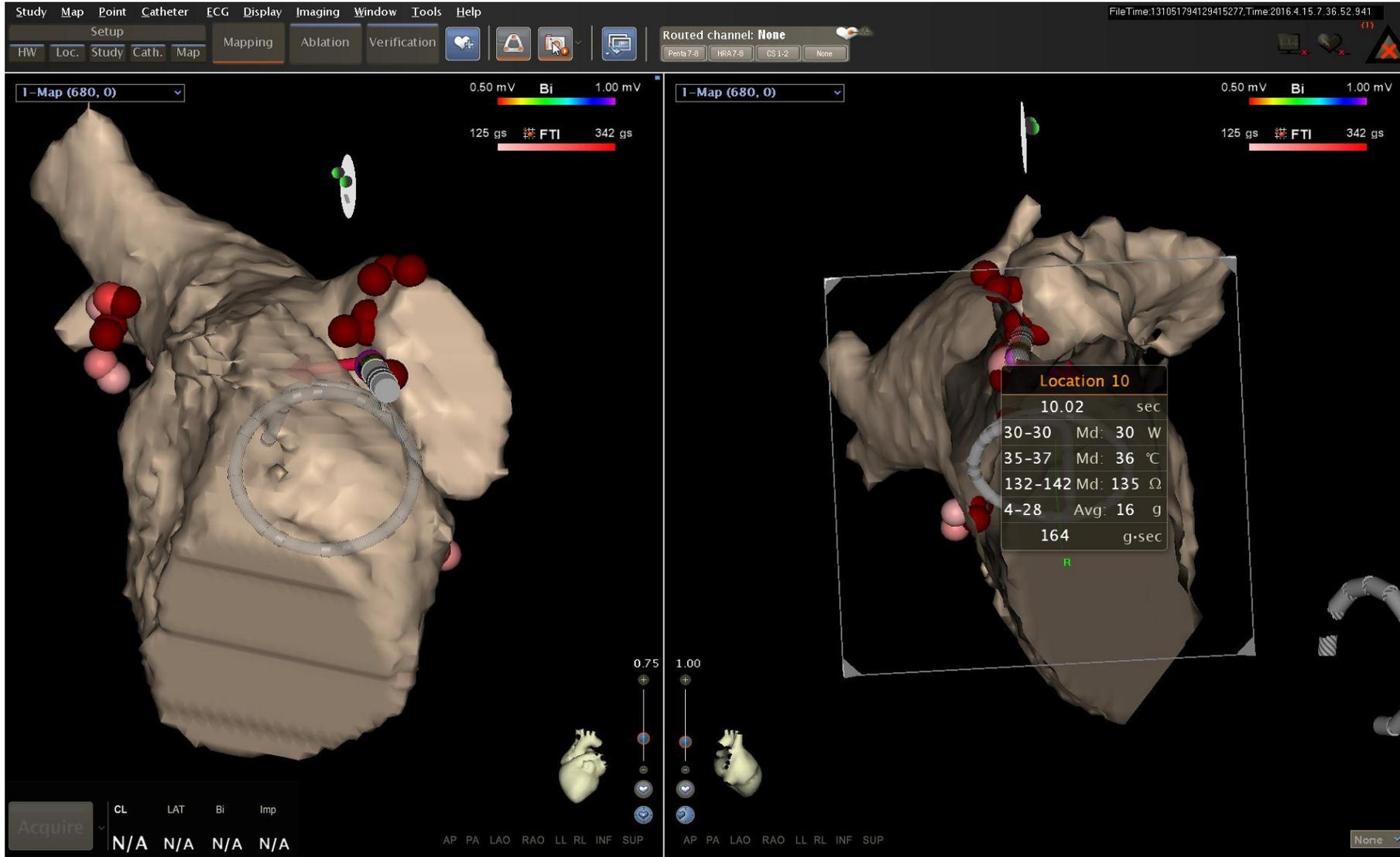
2016.04.14 LA Ablation_VISITAG Points



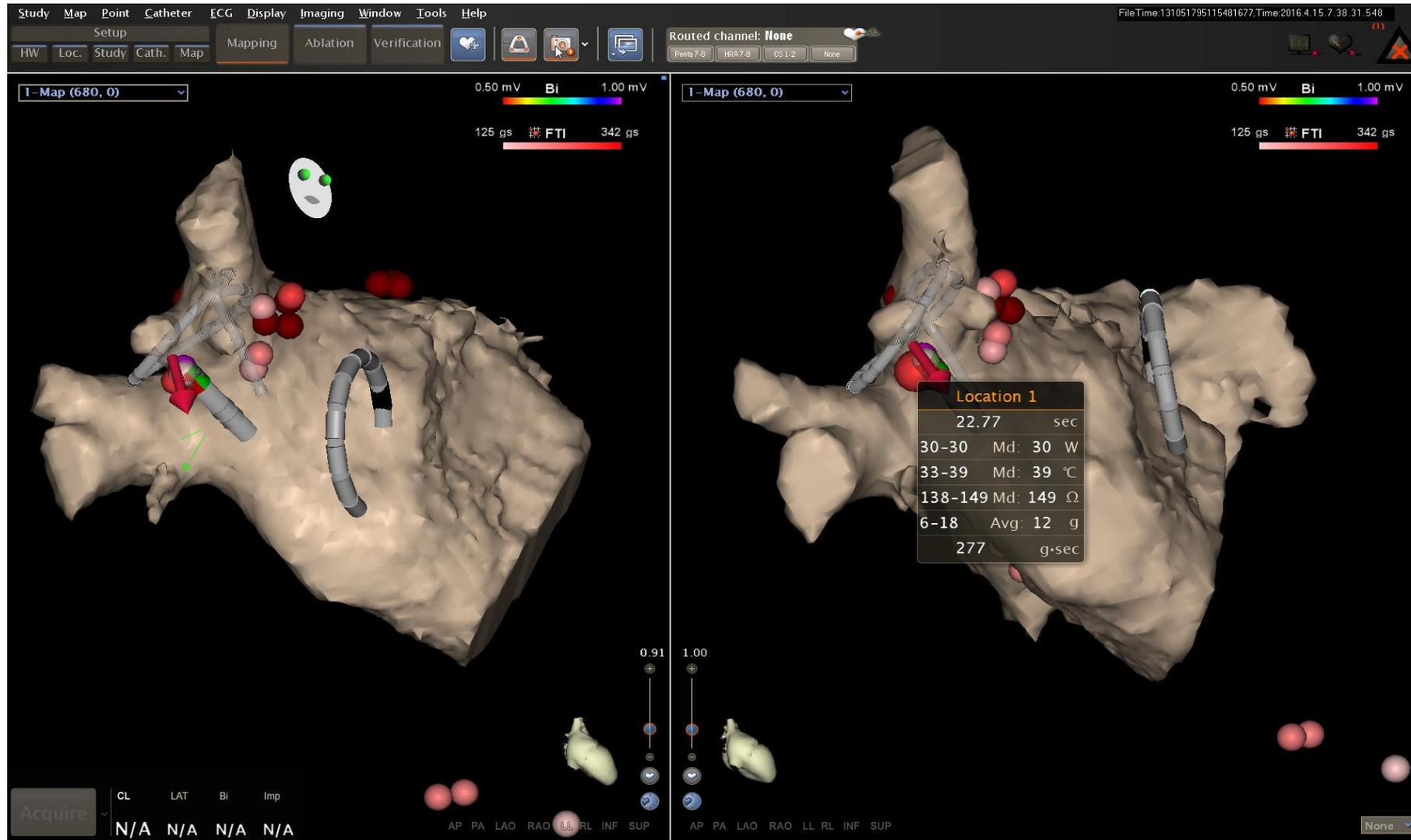
2016.04.14 LA Ablation_VISITAG Points



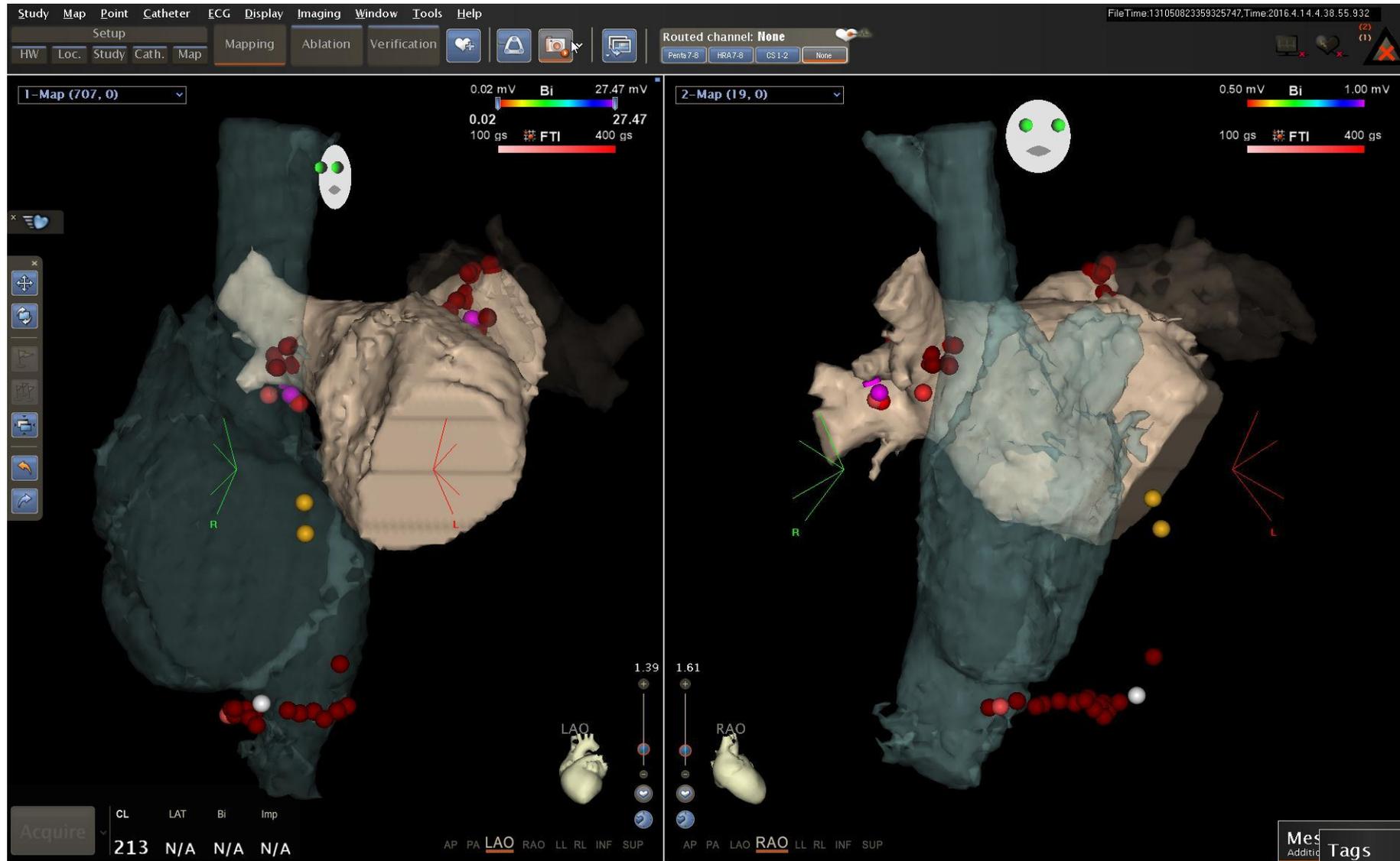
2016.04.14 PV potential elimination site and VISITAG Points near the termination site



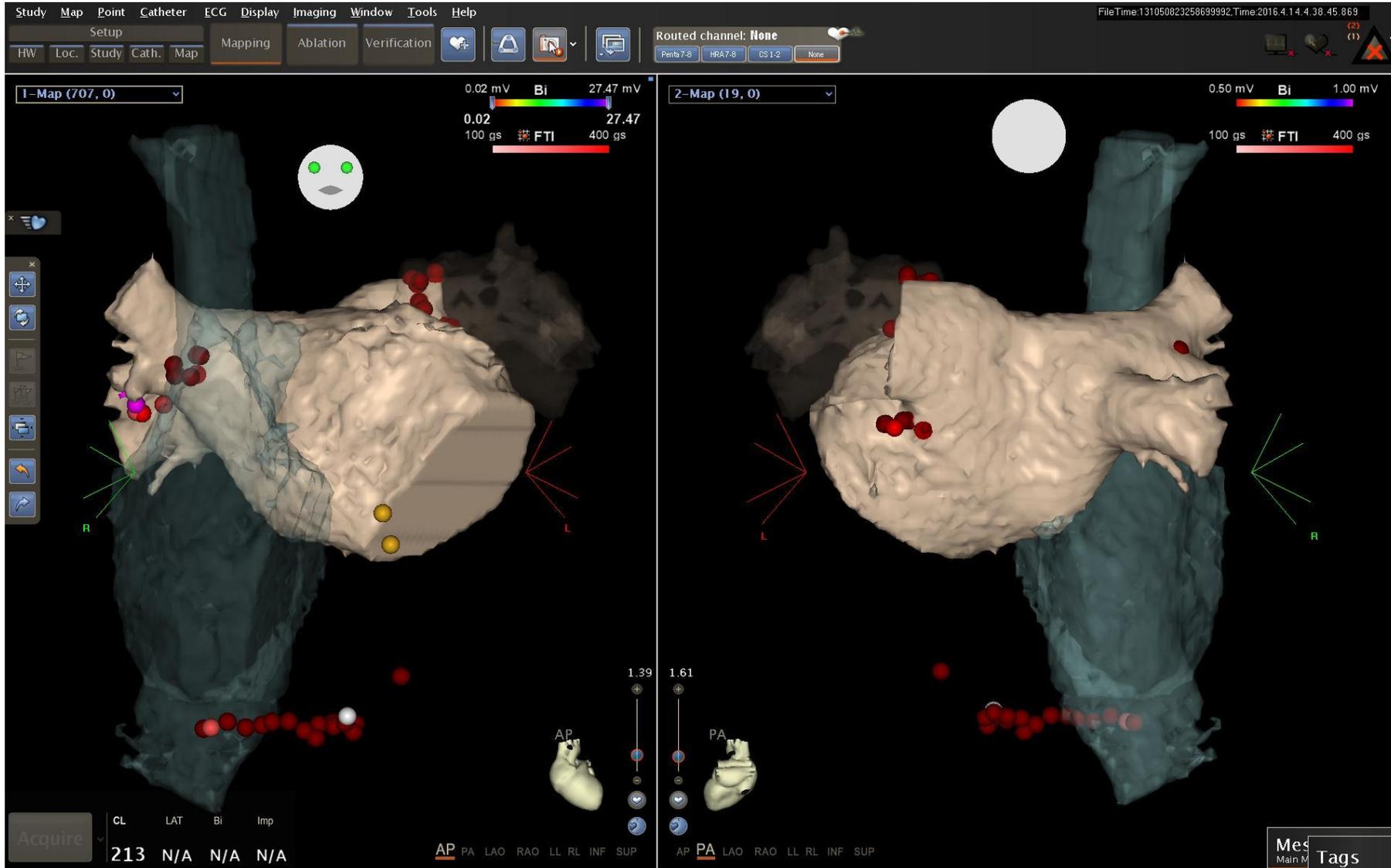
2016.04.14 Residual PV potential elimination site and VISITAG Points near the termination site



2016.04.14 RA LA Ablation



2016.04.14 RA LA Ablation



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MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ENCAINIDE, FLECAINIDE, OR PLACEBO

The Cardiac Arrhythmia Suppression Trial

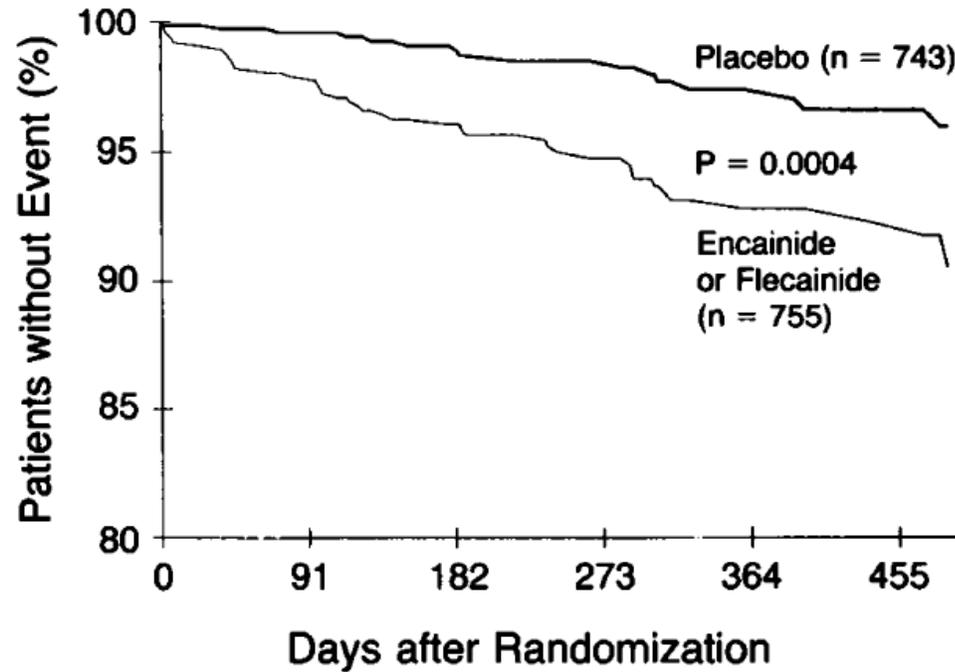
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DAVID W. RICHARDSON, M.D., AND THE CAST INVESTIGATORS*

Abstract *Background and Methods.* In the Cardiac Arrhythmia Suppression Trial, designed to test the hypothesis that suppression of ventricular ectopy after a myocardial infarction reduces the incidence of sudden death, patients in whom ventricular ectopy could be suppressed with encainide, flecainide, or moricizine were randomly assigned to receive either active drug or placebo. The use of encainide and flecainide was discontinued because of excess mortality. We examined the mortality and morbidity after randomization to encainide or flecainide or their respective placebo.

Results. Of 1498 patients, 857 were assigned to receive encainide or its placebo (432 to active drug and 425 to placebo) and 641 were assigned to receive flecainide or its placebo (323 to active drug and 318 to placebo). After a mean follow-up of 10 months, 89 patients had died: 59 of arrhythmia (43 receiving drug vs. 16 receiving placebo; $P = 0.0004$), 22 of nonarrhythmic cardiac causes (17 receiving drug vs. 5 receiving placebo; $P = 0.01$), and 8 of noncardiac causes (3 re-

ceiving drug vs. 5 receiving placebo). Almost all cardiac deaths not due to arrhythmia were attributed to acute myocardial infarction with shock (11 patients receiving drug and 3 receiving placebo) or to chronic congestive heart failure (4 receiving drug and 2 receiving placebo). There were no differences between the patients receiving active drug and those receiving placebo in the incidence of nonlethal disqualifying ventricular tachycardia, proarrhythmia, syncope, need for a permanent pacemaker, congestive heart failure, recurrent myocardial infarction, angina, or need for coronary-artery bypass grafting or angioplasty.

Conclusions. There was an excess of deaths due to arrhythmia and deaths due to shock after acute recurrent myocardial infarction in patients treated with encainide or flecainide. Nonlethal events, however, were equally distributed between the active-drug and placebo groups. The mechanisms underlying the excess mortality during treatment with encainide or flecainide remain unknown. (N Engl J Med 1991; 324:781-8.)



Placebo	743	632	516	412	292	201
Active drug	755	631	507	392	286	198

Figure 1. Actuarial Probabilities of Freedom from Death or Cardiac Arrest Due to Arrhythmia in 1498 Patients Receiving Encainide or Flecainide or Corresponding Placebo.

The number of patients at risk of an event is shown along the bottom of the figure.