

TIGULLIO II Congresso Nazionale di 2024 ARITMOLOGIA

16-17 Aprile Sestri Levante (GE)

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Sede Congressuale

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Sestri Levante



Pacing del sistema di conduzione: la programmazione del device

Giovanni Coluccia, MD, FAIAC



@messapus

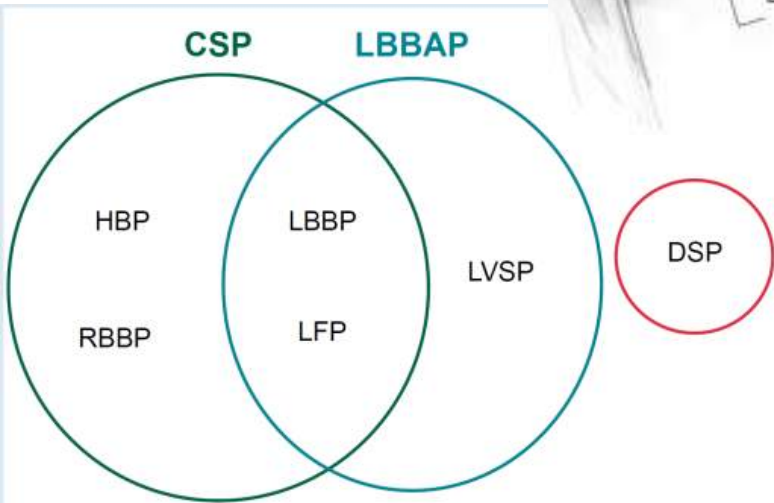
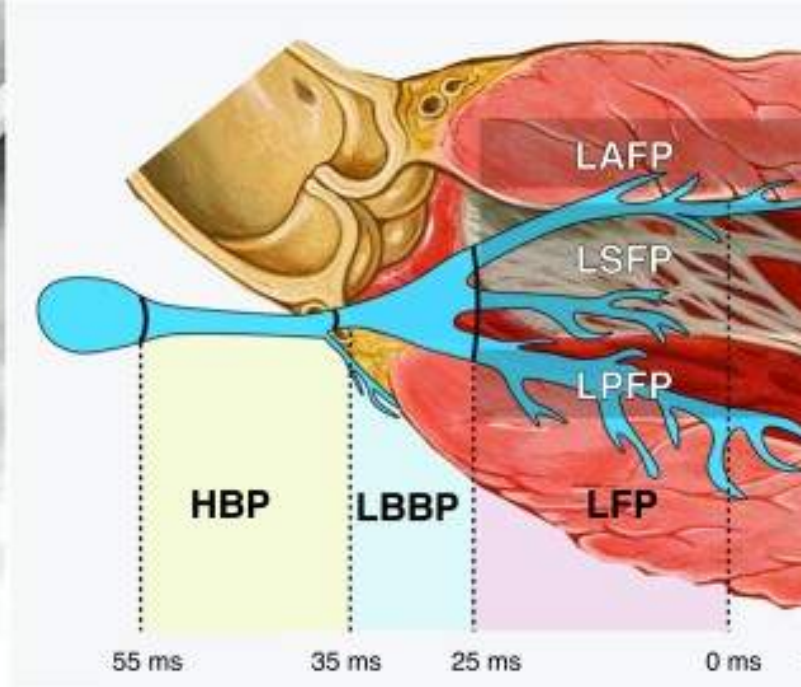
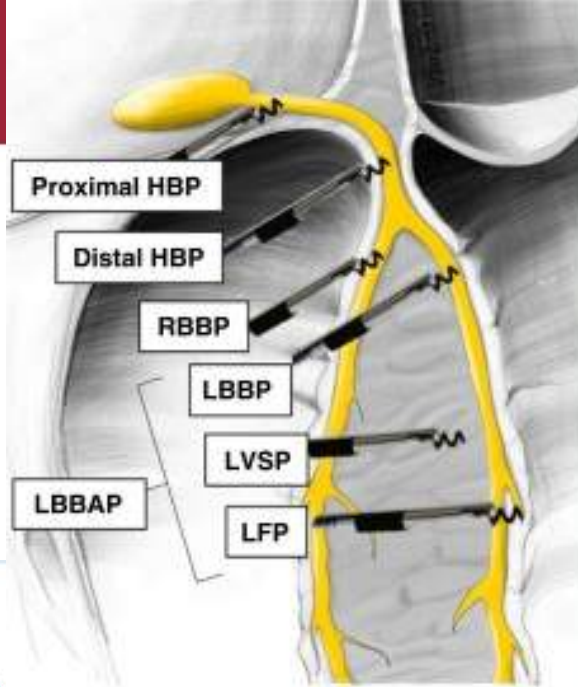


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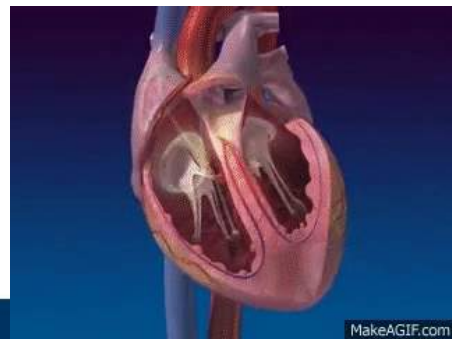
UO Cardiologia – UTIC, Ospedale “Card. G. Panico”, Tricase

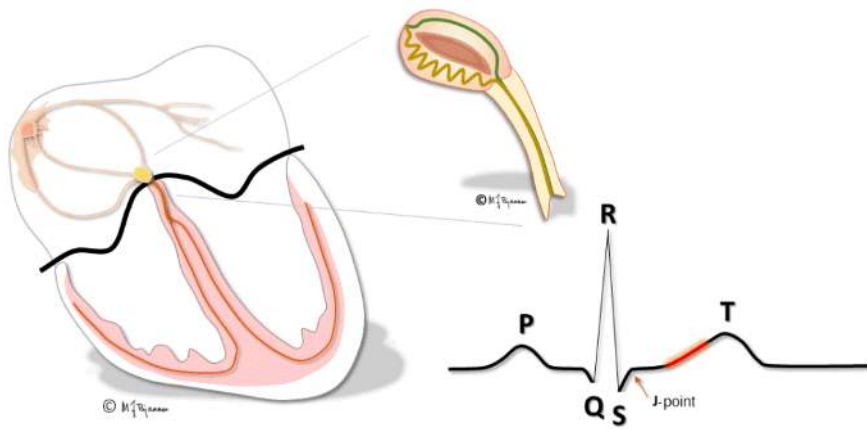


Conflitti di interesse: nessuno

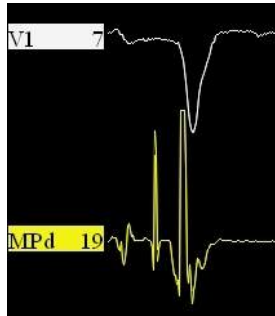
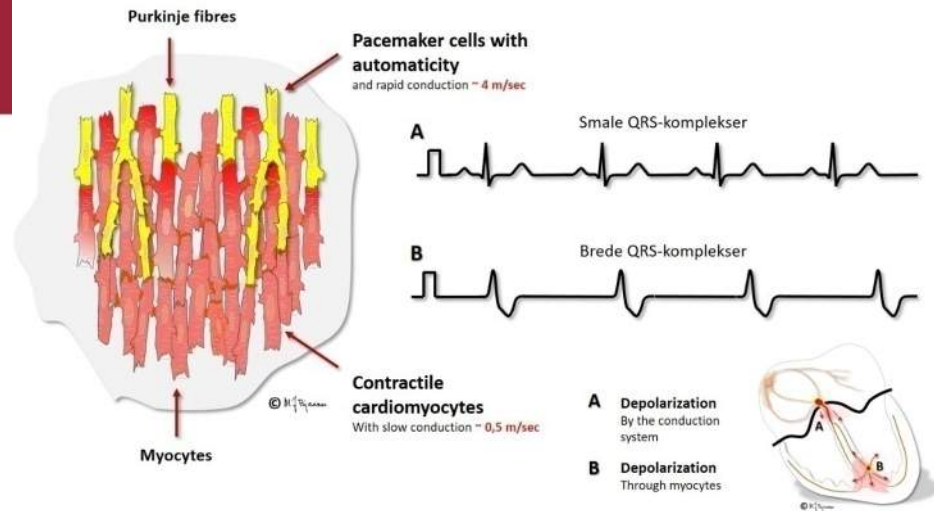


Europace (2023) **25**, 1208–1236

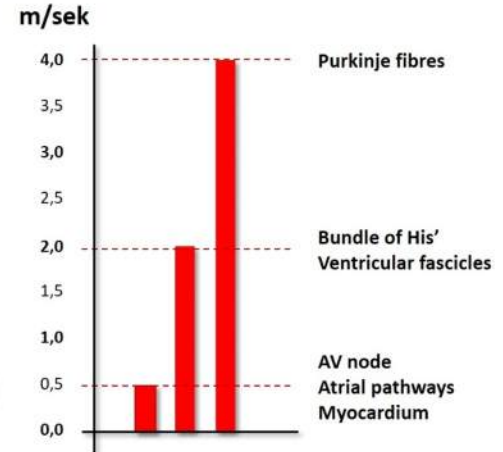
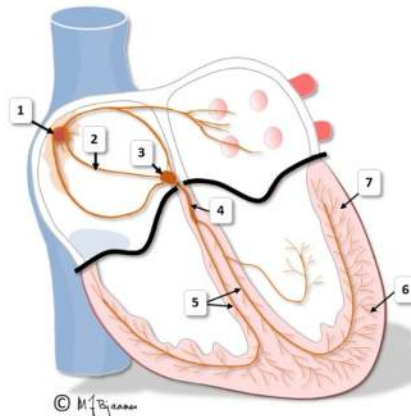




Conduction velocities



- 1 Sinoatrial node
- 2 Atrial pathways
- 3 AV-node
- 4 Bundle of His
- 5 Ventricular fascicles
- 6 Purkinje fibres
- 7 Myocardium



Programmazione del dispositivo con:

- Stimolazione del fascio di His**
- Stimolazione dell'area della branca sinistra**



Table 9 Pacemaker interrogation and programming approach for CPP

	HBP	LBBAP
Capture thresholds	Determine His bundle capture relative to RV capture; program output to ensure His bundle capture (at least 1 V above the threshold)	Determine LBB (LV septal) capture and anodal capture
Capture assessment algorithms	Avoid, unless known that His bundle and RV capture thresholds are similar	Capture assessment algorithms can be utilized successfully
AV delays	Program 30–50 ms shorter than conventional parameters*	Program 20–30 ms shorter than conventional parameters*
Atrial oversensing	Atrial oversensing can occur with proximal lead placement and may need appropriate programming to also avoid ventricular undersensing	
Ventricular unipolar sensing	Avoid if pacing dependent	

Recommendations for using His bundle pacing

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
In patients treated with HBP, device programming tailored to specific requirements of HBP is recommended. ^{430,431}	I	C

European Heart Journal (2021) **00**, 1–94
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehab364

- 1 C-EO
2. In patients undergoing CSP with HBP or LBBAP, accurate demonstration of conduction system capture thresholds (including BBB correction) and myocardial capture thresholds at implant is useful for appropriate programming of the device.

Programmazione del dispositivo con:

- **Stimolazione del fascio di His**
- **Stimolazione dell'area della branca sinistra**



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Specific requirements of HBP:

- 1.To capture the HB (and correct conduction disturbances)
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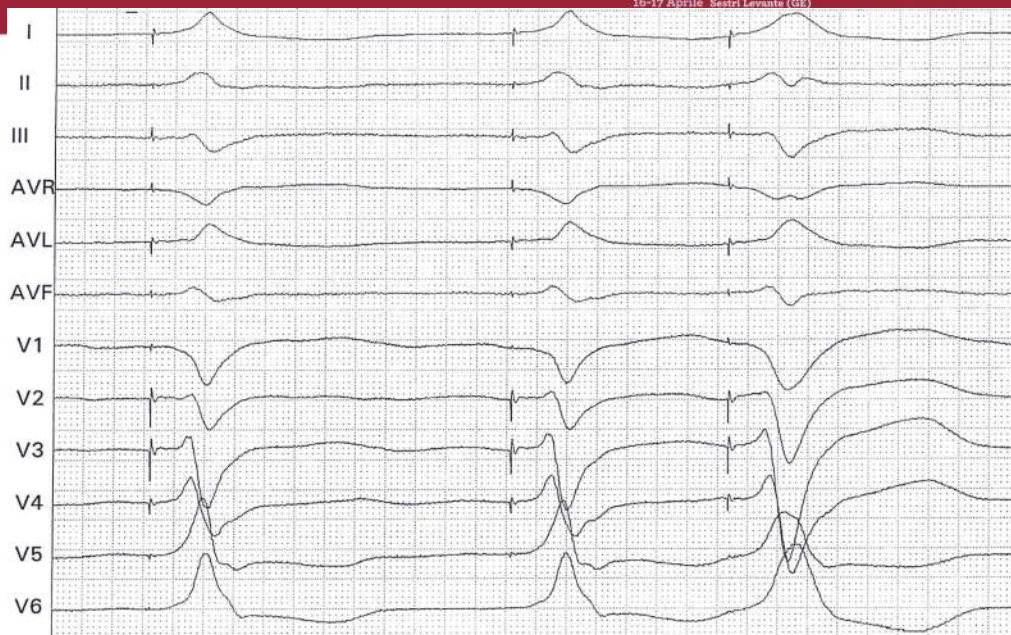
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SPONTANEOUS

**SELECTIVE NON-SELECTIVE
HB CAPTURE**



S1

600 ms

S1

360 ms

S2

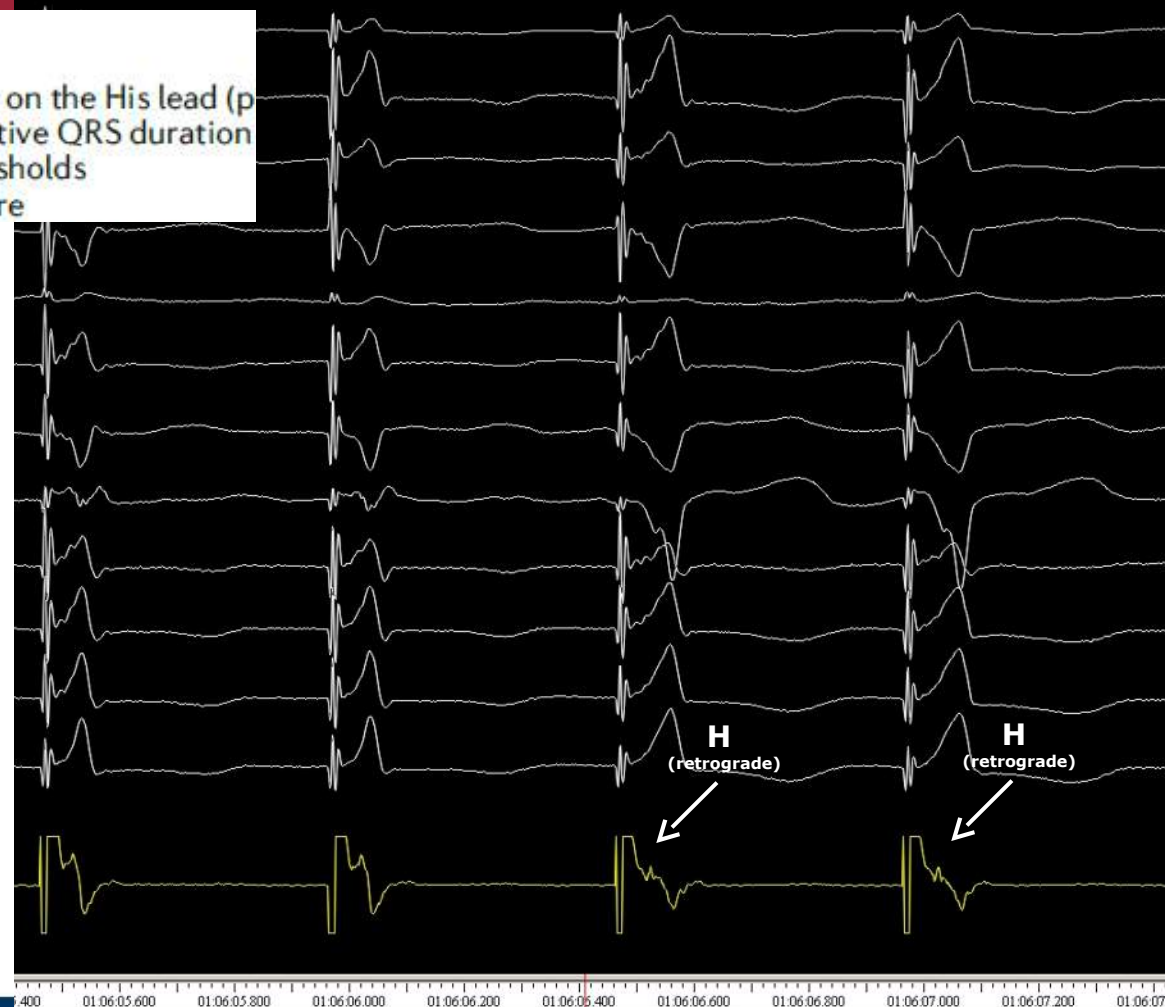
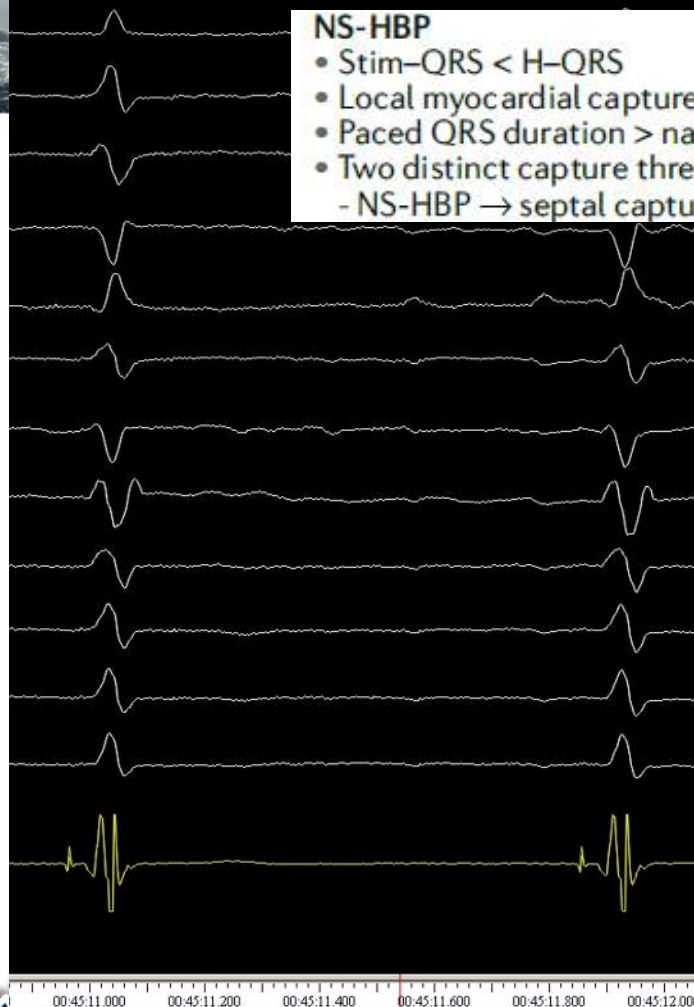
NON-SELECTIVE HB CAPTURE

**RV CAPTURE
(HB refractory)**



NS-HBP

- Stim-QRS < H-QRS
- Local myocardial capture on the His lead (p
- Paced QRS duration > native QRS duration
- Two distinct capture thresholds
 - NS-HBP → septal capture



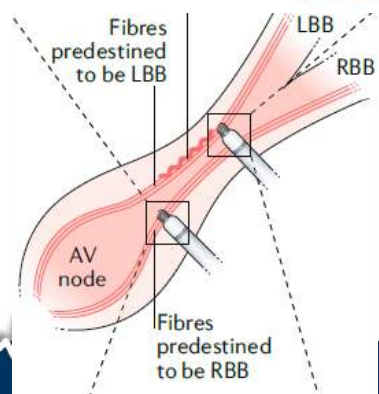
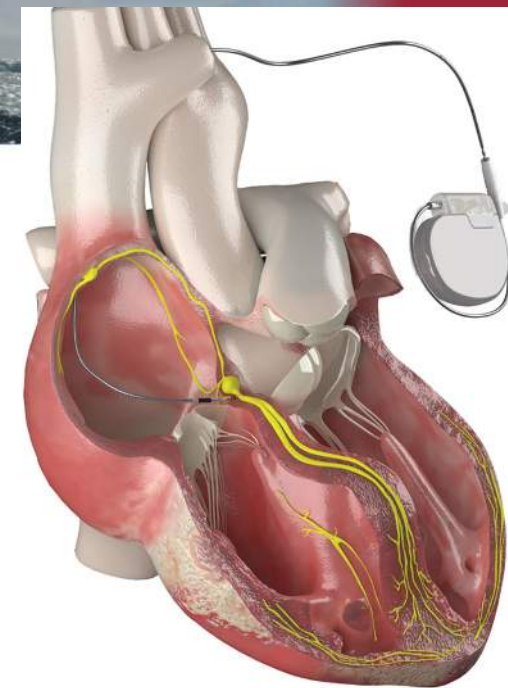
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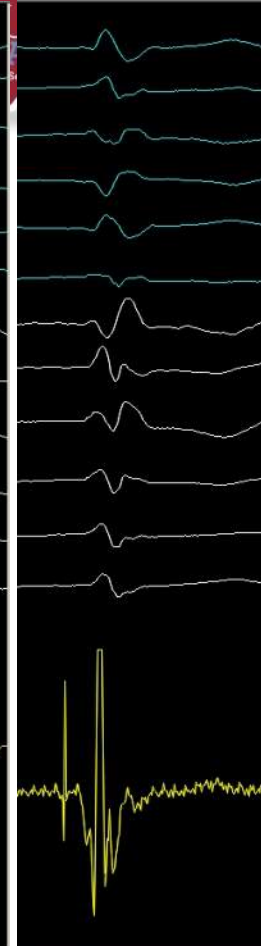
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STIM



5:52.800 00:55:53.100 00:55:53.400 00:55:53.700 00:55:54.000 00:55:54.300 00:55:54.600 00:55:54.900 00:55:55.200 00:55:55.500 00:55:55.800 00:55:56.100 00:55:56.400 00:55:56.700 16.400 00:40:16.600 00:40:16.800





Pacing polarity

- Unipolar: - lower capture threshold
- easier detection of pacing spike
- Bipolar: - higher impedance
- lower battery drain

Voltage

- 2 x capture threshold
- at least 1 V safety margin in non-dependent patients

Pulse width

- 0.4/.5 ms if threshold < 2 V
- 1 ms if threshold > 2 V

- Set an **output** allowing not only HB **capture**, but also BBB **correction**
- **Disable** automatic **capture** management **algorhythms**



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The relationship between anatomy and electrical parameters in His bundle pacing: A transthoracic echocardiography evaluation

Giovanni Coluccia, MD^{a,*}, Jacopo Senes, MD^a, Serena Corallo, MD^a, Milena Aste, MD^a, Daniele Oddone, MD^a, Paolo Donateo, MD^a, Enrico Puggioni, MD^a, Michele Brignole, MD, FESC^{a,b}

^a Department of Cardiology, Ospedali del Tigullio, Via Don Bobbio, 25 – 16033 Lavagna (GE), Italy

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ARTICLE INFO

Journal of Electrocardiology 68 (2021) 85–89

Keywords:

His bundle pacing
Echocardiography
Cardiac conduction system anatomy
Conduction system pacing
Physiological pacing

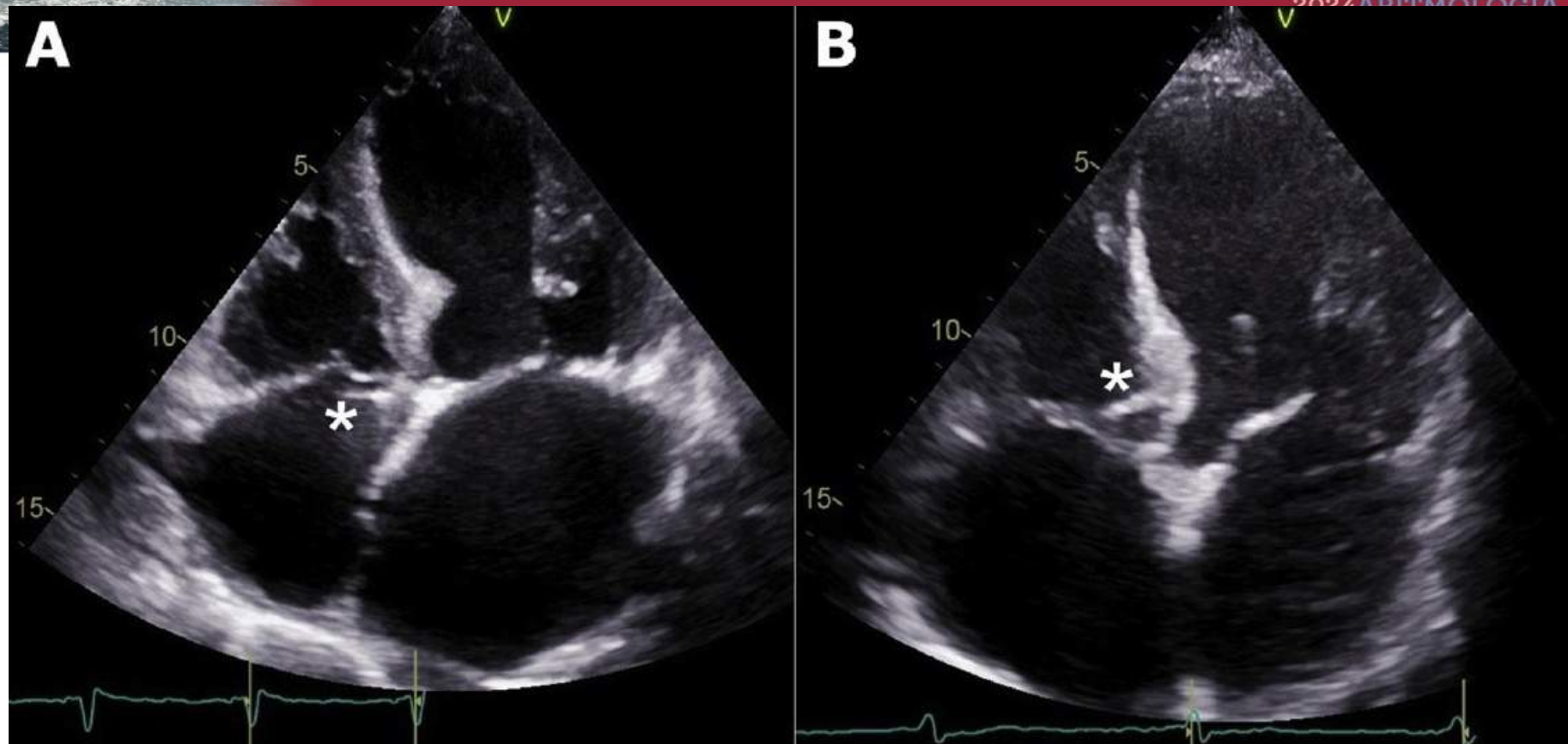
ABSTRACT

Purpose: The implantation site of the His bundle (HB) lead may influence pacing parameters. Our aim was to characterize the anatomical location of the HB lead tip and its relationship with acute electrical parameters.

Methods: Consecutive patients who underwent HB lead implantation, guided by standard fluoroscopy and electrophysiology, were prospectively enrolled. The relationship between HB lead tip and tricuspid valve plane (TVP) was assessed with post-procedure transthoracic echocardiography.

Results: Twenty-five patients were studied. In 11 patients (44%), the HB lead tip did not cross the TVP (A group): in 7 cases it was screwed in the right atrium at a mean distance of -6.1 mm from the TVP and, in 4 cases, at the level of the tricuspid annulus. In the remaining 14 patients (56%), the lead tip crossed the TVP (V group): it was screwed in the right ventricle at a mean distance of 9.3 mm from the TVP. A and V groups had comparable HB capture thresholds (1.6 ± 1 V vs 1.7 ± 0.7 V, 1 ms pulse-width; $p = 0.66$); selective HB capture was significantly more represented in the A group (91% vs 21%; $p = 0.001$). Significantly higher R-wave amplitudes were seen in the V group (6.7 ± 3 vs 2.5 ± 1.7 mV; $p = 0.0004$), and they positively correlated with the distance from the TVP ($p = 0.0038$). Atrial oversensing was never observed.

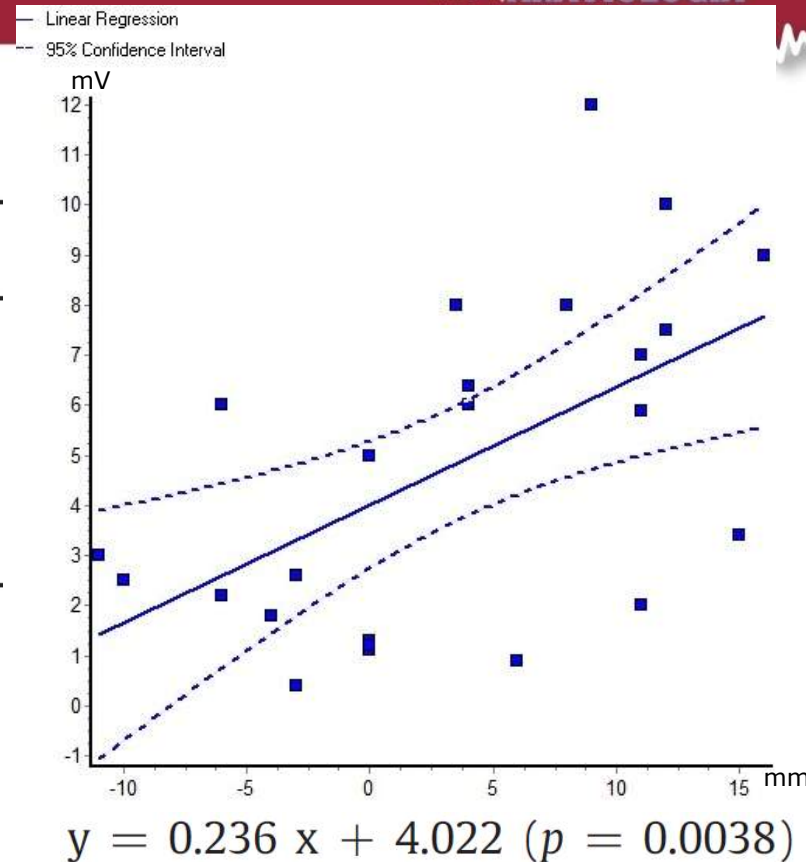
Conclusion: In a consecutive cohort of HB pacing recipients, the rate of patients who had an effective HB capture in the atrium was substantial and was characterized by different electrophysiological properties than in the ventricle.



Anatomical and electrical parameters in Atrial and Ventricular groups.

	A group (11 pts)	V group (14 pts)	p value
Mean distance from the tricuspid valve annulus, mm (range)	-3.9 (-11-0)	9.3 (3-16)	-
Selective His bundle capture, n (%)	10 (91)	3 (21)	0.001
His bundle capture threshold at 1 ms, V	1.6 ± 1.0	1.7 ± 0.7	0.66
HV interval after screwing, ms	57 ± 14	49 ± 8	0.17
Atrial potentials on electrogram, n (%)	7 (64)	4 (29)	0.11
R wave sensing, mV	2.5 ± 1.7	6.7 ± 3.0	0.0004

Journal of Electrocardiology 68 (2021) 85-89



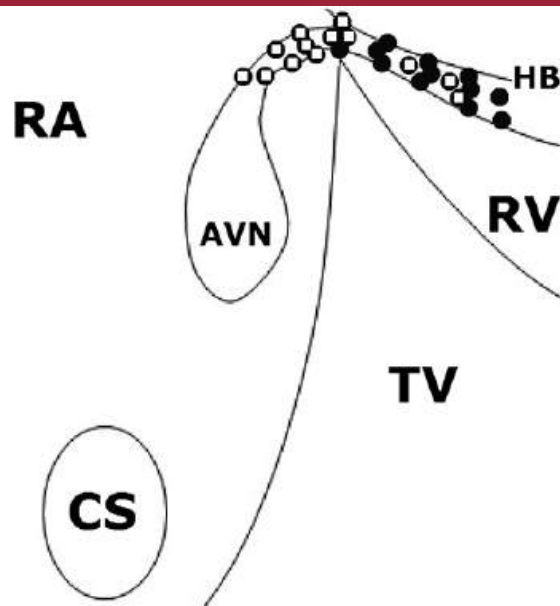


Fig. 2. Distribution of sites of lead screwing in the study population, along the His bundle (HB), in relation to the tricuspid valve (TV) septal leaflet insertion: black dots = sites of non-selective capture; white-core dots = sites of selective capture. Other abbreviations: AVN = compact atrio-ventricular node; CS = coronary sinus ostium; RA = right atrium; RV = right ventricle.

Journal of Electrocardiology 68 (2021) 85–89



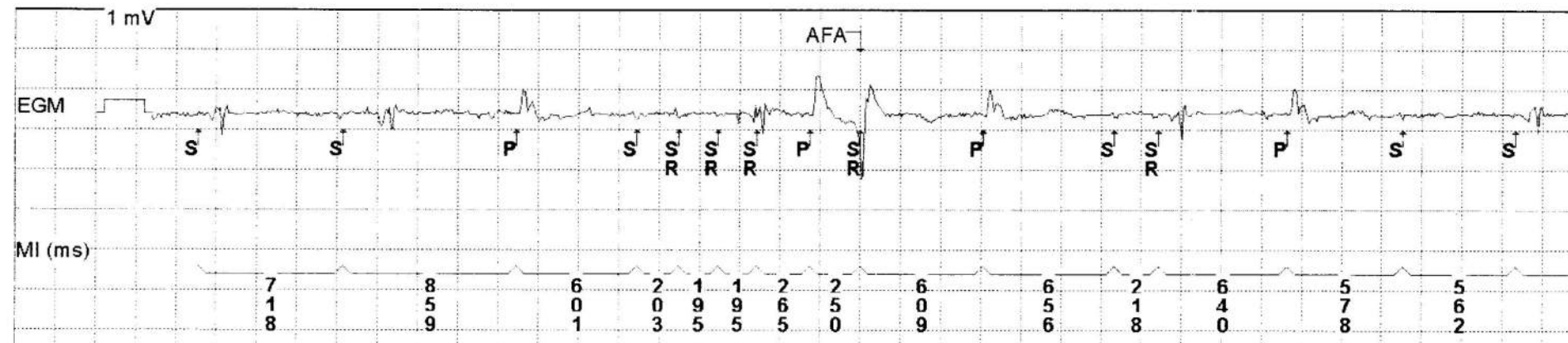
Permanent atrial fibrillation. Single chamber PM; His bundle lead. Permanent programming: AAIR 70-130 ppm, sensitivity 0.25 mV (BI). Pacing percentage: 99%.

In the arrhythmia registry, a single "high atrial frequency" ("AFA") episode, revealing **atrial waves oversensing**.

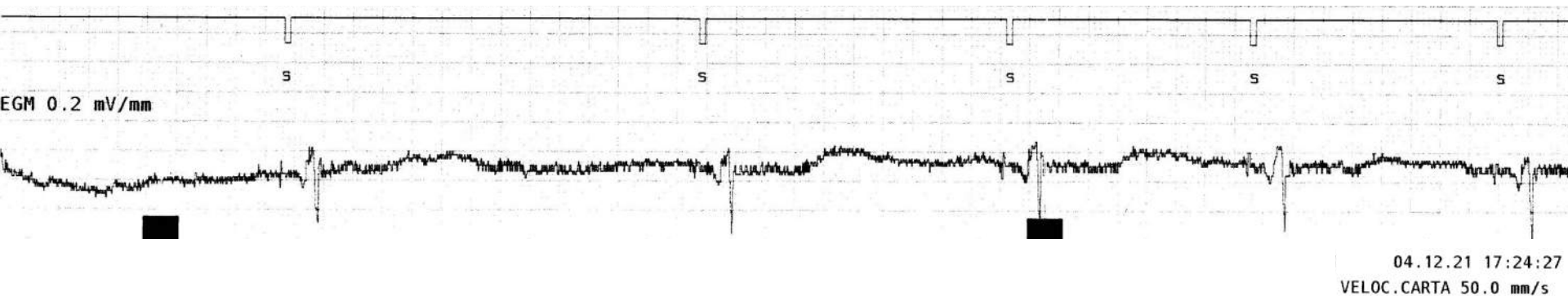
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Raccolti: 31.10.21 13:00

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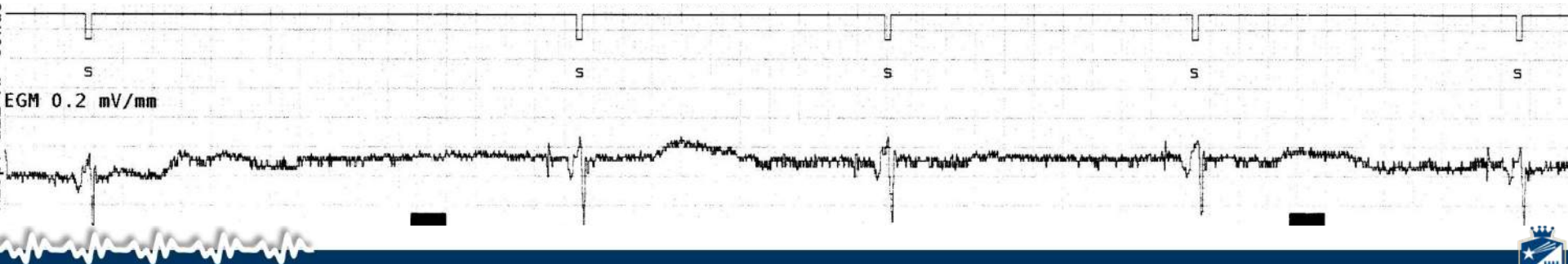


Temporary mode: AAI 30 ppm; sensitivity 0,25 mV (BI)



R wave amplitude: 1.5 mV (BI); HB wave amplitude: 0.35 mV (BI).

Temporary mode: AAI 30 ppm; sensitivity 0,5 mV (BI)



Sensing polarity

- Bipolar: - first choice
- Unipolar: - when difficult to avoid A oversensing in BI (adjust sensitivity to avoid noise detection)
- In case of **low R wave** sensing and single chamber pacemaker, consider **AAI(R)** mode and report it in notes
- When in the RV port, finely tune the **sensitivity**, especially in case of low R wave sensing and/or risk of A / HB oversensing
- **Disable automatically-adjusting** sensitivity

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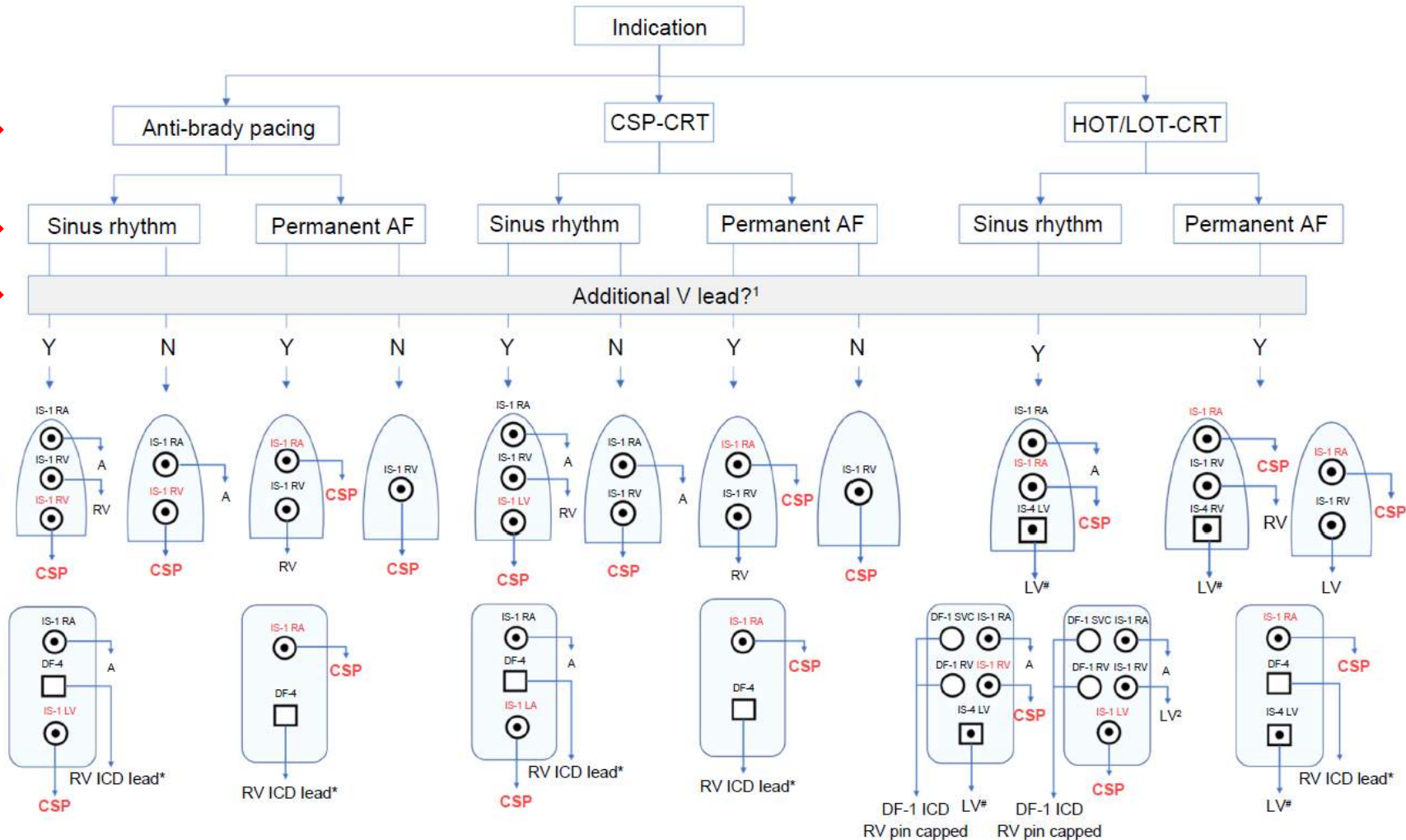
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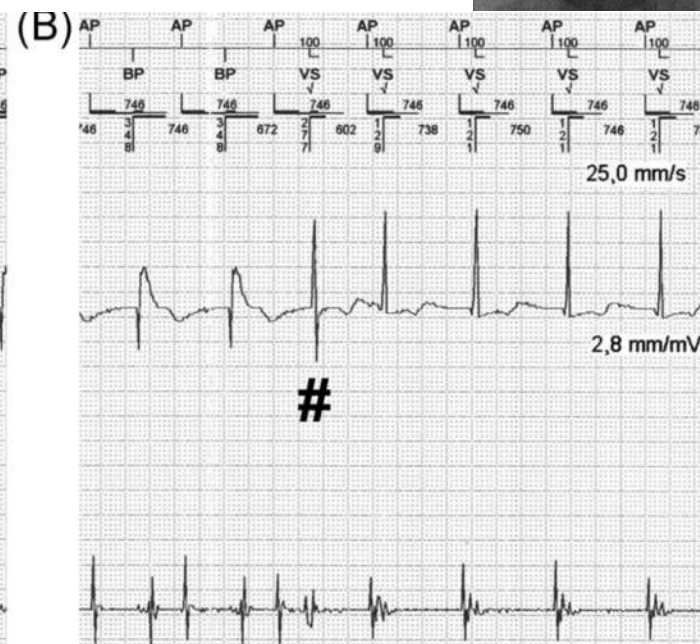
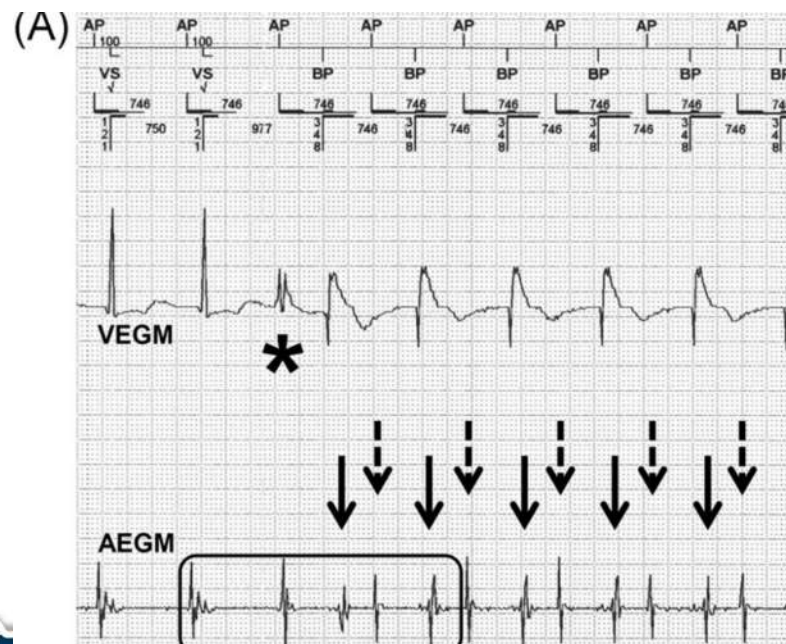
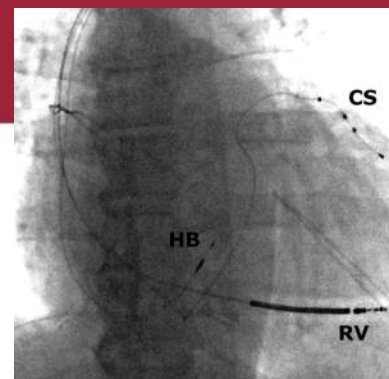
PM

ICD



Loss of His bundle capture due to repetitive non-re-entrant “ventriculohisian” synchrony

Giovanni Coluccia MD  | Daniele Oddone MD | Michele Brignole MD, FESC



Circulation: Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology

REVIEW

Device Programming for His Bundle Pacing

Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2019;12:e006816. DOI: 10.1161/CIRCEP.118.006816

ABSTRACT: Although permanent His bundle pacing was first reported almost 2 decades ago, it is only recently gaining wider adoption, following facilitation of the implant procedure by dedicated tools. An additional challenge is programming the system, as His bundle pacing may have specific configurations and require special considerations which current implantable pulse generators are not designed for. The aim of this article is to provide practical recommendations for programming His bundle pacing, to deliver optimal therapy and ensure patient safety.

Haran Burri, MD
Daniel Keene, MD
Zachary Whinnett, MD
Francesco Zanon, MD
Pugazhendhi Vijayaraman, MD

- When in the **A port**:
 - disable ventricular **safety pacing**
 - in ICD, disable 1:1 tachycardia **discriminators**
 - set high **sensitivity** or **DVI** mode
 - adjust appropriate **pAV interval** (20-40 ms longer than AP-VS interval)
- When in the **LV port**, set the maximum allowed VV interval to anticipate the “LV” (HB) pacing

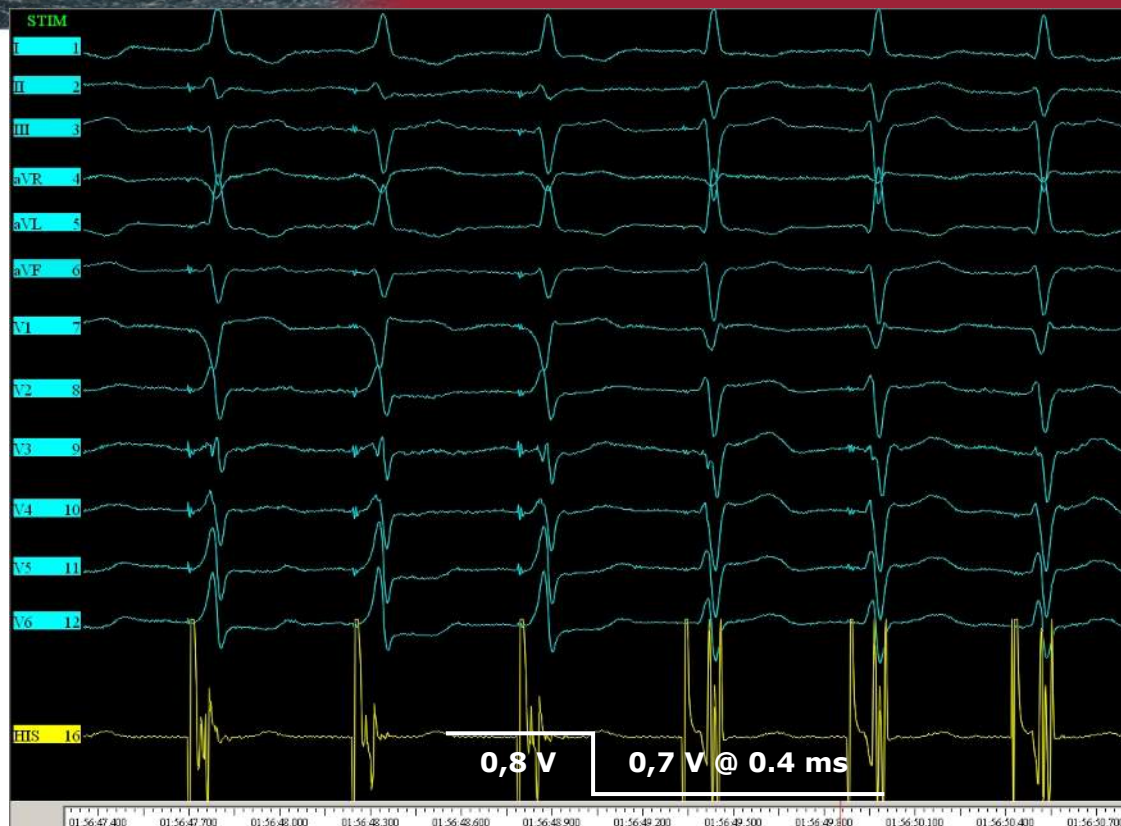
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NON SELECTIVE

SELECTIVE

HB CAPTURE

A

S-HBP

B

NS-HBP

Intrinsic

Pacing

Activation by HPS
Activation by myocardial capture

Troubleshooting and programming considerations for His bundle pacing

Daniel L. Lustgarten, MD, PhD, FHRS,^{*} Parikshit S. Sharma, MD, MPH, FACC, FHRS,[†]
Pugazhendhi Vijayaraman, MD, FHRS[‡]

Nominally programmed AV delays

The programmed AV delay is the most unique aspect of HBP. The HBP-programmed AV delay must take into account the time it takes for the stimulus onset to conduct through the His-Purkinje system, in contrast to RV pacing where ventricular activation onset is coincident with the stimulus. In the setting of patients with AV nodal conduction disease, nominally programmed AV delays will result in AV dyssynchrony. For example, if the nominal sensed AV delay is 180 ms, during atrial sensing the effective AV delay will be 230 ms, assuming an HV time of 50 ms. Longer AV delays decrease the diastolic filling time and increase the risk of diastolic regurgitation, both of which compromise cardiac output. Conversely, programming a very short AV delay

output. Conversely, programming a very short AV delay will compromise the atrial kick's contribution to ventricular filling, especially detrimental in patients with compromised LV function.

If the AV delay is programmed too long in patients with preserved AV conduction, intrinsic conduction can compete with HBP and, if the latter is being used to normalize the QRS, compromise therapy ([Supplemental Figure 4](#)). For example, if a patient has a PR interval of 200 ms and an HV interval of 40 ms, programming an AV delay >160 ms will result in pseudofusion.

REVIEW

Device Programming for His Bundle Pacing

ABSTRACT: Although permanent His bundle pacing was first reported almost 2 decades ago, it is only recently gaining wider adoption, following facilitation of the implant procedure by dedicated tools. An additional challenge is programming the system, as His bundle pacing may have specific configurations and require special considerations which current implantable pulse generators are not designed for. The aim of this article is to provide practical recommendations for programming His bundle pacing, to deliver optimal therapy and ensure patient safety.

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If the His lead is connected to a ventricular port, one should bear in mind the **latency** in ventricular activation resulting from HV conduction, and shorten the programmed AVI accordingly. The HV interval can be measured by the stimulus to QRS onset in case of selective capture. With **nonselective capture**, it is at present **unclear** if the AVI should be adjusted.

AVI: His lead in RV/
LV port

Usual AVI minus HV interval
(or stimulus to QRS onset)

AV hysteresis may be programmed if V pacing needs to be avoided.

Permanent His Bundle Pacing: A programming and troubleshooting guide

Jillian L. Hanifin, Venkatesh Ravi, Richard G. Trohman, Parikshit S. Sharma*

Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL, USA

If AV block is the reason for implant, the AV delays should be **shortened**. On average, the paced AV delay is programmed **approximately** 130 ms and the sensed AV delay is approximately 100 ms. The AV delays for AV block are shortened to accommodate for the HV interval (usually 35–55 ms) and may vary from patient to patient based on measurements that are taken at implant.

HBP issues	Consequence	Best practices at implant	Troubleshooting options
Long programmed AV delays	Pseudofusion	Measure intrinsic AV conduction time and adjust for HV interval	Shorten Paced/sensed AV intervals if indication for implant was AV block



Programming and follow-up of patients with His bundle pacing

When programming AV intervals, the His pace to QRS onset delay should be **subtracted** from the programmed AV delay.

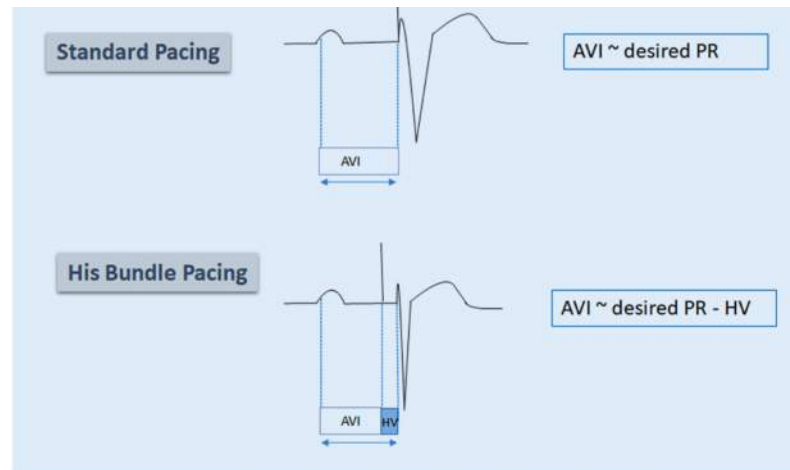


Fig. 2 ▲ Programming of atrioventricular intervals (AVI) for His bundle pacing. Note that the AVI needs to be shortened, as the His ventricular (HV) delay results in latency before QRS onset

Paced and sensed AV delay

Subtract HV interval (e.g. 40 ms) from desired AV interval (e.g. 180 and 140 ms, i.e. program to 140 and 100 ms instead)

Troubleshooting Programming of Conduction System Pacing

Elise Bakelants  and Haran Burri 

Department of Cardiology, University Hospital of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

When the HB lead is connected to the RV port in patients in sinus rhythm with an atrial lead, the His-ventricle (HV) interval should be accounted for and subtracted from the **desired** AV delay. In case of **selective** HBP, one can measure the spike-QRS onset delay, or simply use a default value of 40 ms.

AV delay

HBP lead in ventricular port: Subtract HV interval (e.g. 40 ms) from desired AV interval

Arrhythmia & Electrophysiology Review 2021;10(2):85–90.

DOI: 10.1111/jce.15927

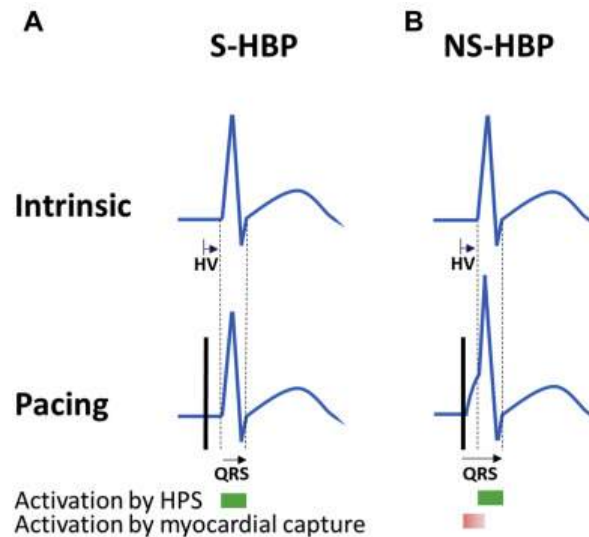
ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Optimization of the atrioventricular delay in conduction system pacing

Giovanni Coluccia MD¹  | Gabriele Dell'Era MD² | Chiara Ghiglieri MD²
Federica De Vecchi MD² | Enrico Spinoni MD² | Matteo Santagostino MD²
Alessandro Guido MD¹ | Maria Zaccaria MD¹ | Giuseppe Patti MD² |
Michele Accogli MD¹ | Pietro Palmisano MD¹ 

The **EP-guided** AV delay was defined as the programmed AV delay leading to a **PR** interval on the surface ECG of **150** ms in s-HBP and LBBAP or **150-HV** in ns-HBP.

In selective and non-selective **HBP** patients:



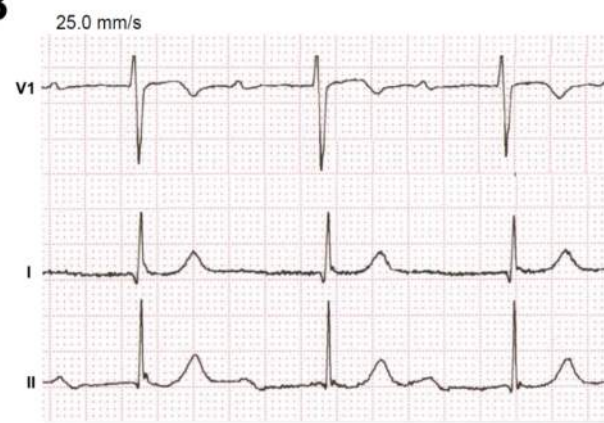
$$\text{EP-guided sAV delay (ms)} = 150 - \text{RA sensing latency} - \text{HV}$$



A



B

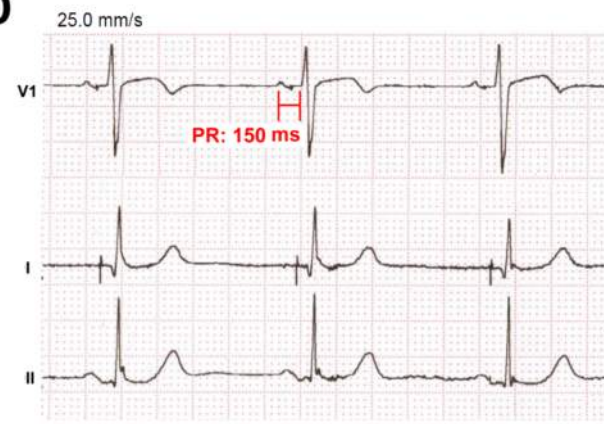


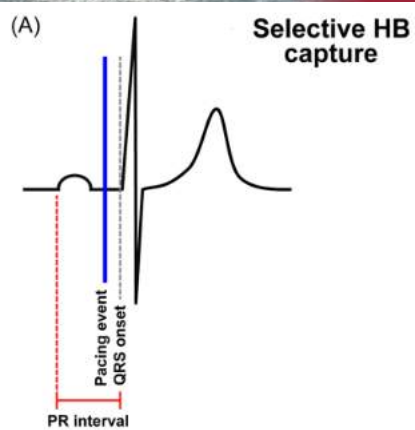
C



EP-guided SAV delay = 150 - RA sensing latency (50 ms) - HV (50) = 50 ms

D



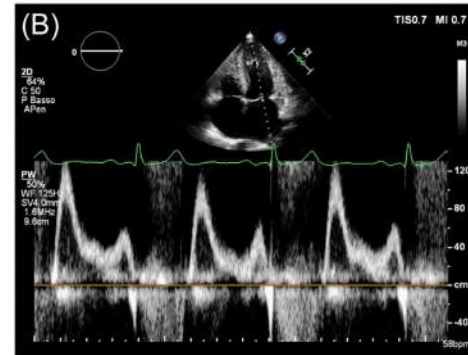
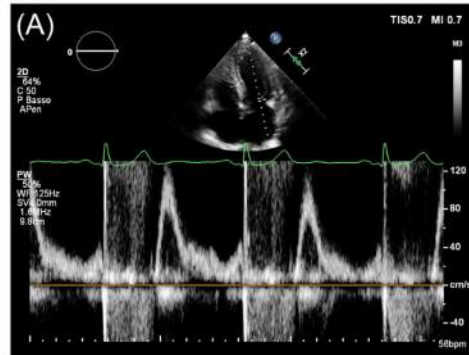
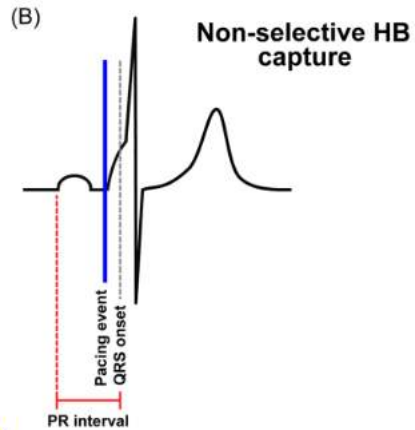


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EP-guided sAVD - 40 ms

EP-guided sAVD

EP-guided sAVD + 40 ms

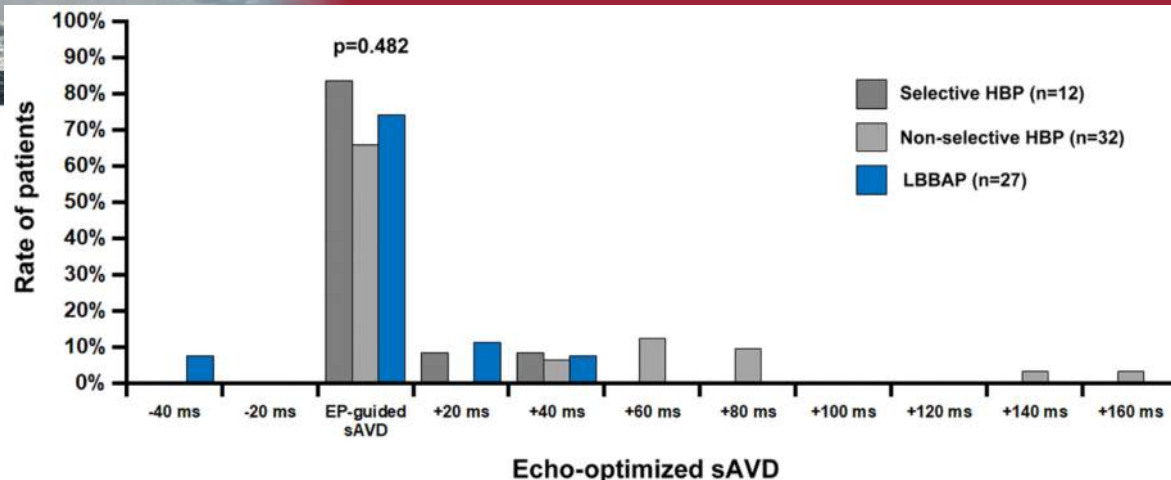


TABLE 3 Predictors of discordance between EP-guided AV delay and echo-optimized AV delay in the overall study population: univariate and multivariate Cox proportional hazards analysis.

Variable	Univariable analysis		Multivariable analysis	
	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	p Value	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	p Value
LA anteroposterior diameter >40 mm	2.674 (0.93–7.73)	.065	1.241 (0.24–6.30)	.795
LA area >20 cm ²	17.086 (4.65–62.84)	<.001	6.888 (1.27–37.25)	.025
RASL time >40 ms	9.75 (2.93–32.41)	<.001	5.498 (1.36–22.25)	.017
EP-guided sAVD >80 ms	0.274 (0.09–0.87)	.023	0.574 (0.13–2.56)	.467

Note: Bold type indicates significant p values.

Programmazione del dispositivo con:

- Stimolazione del fascio di His
- Stimolazione dell'area della branca sinistra




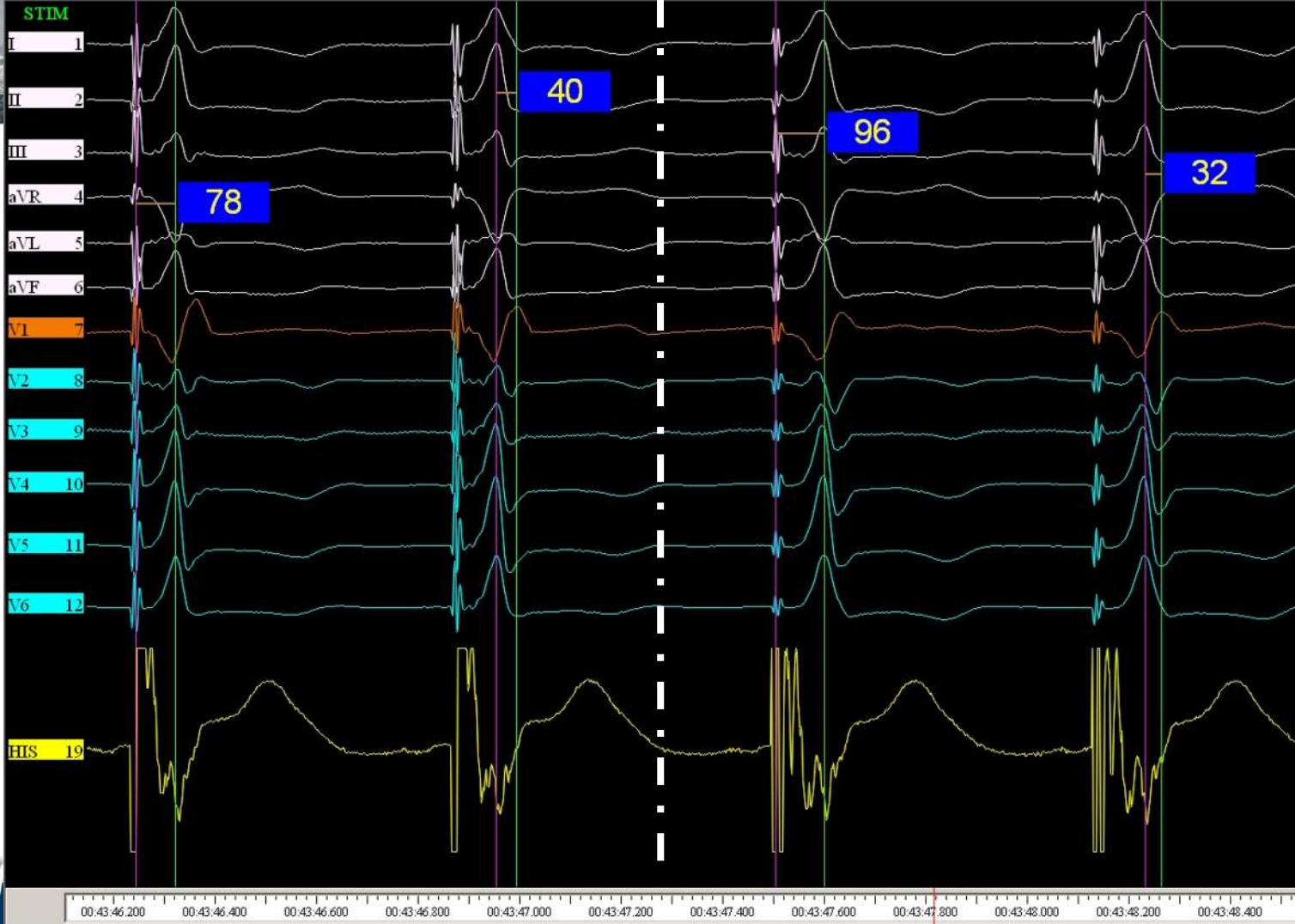
In LBBAP

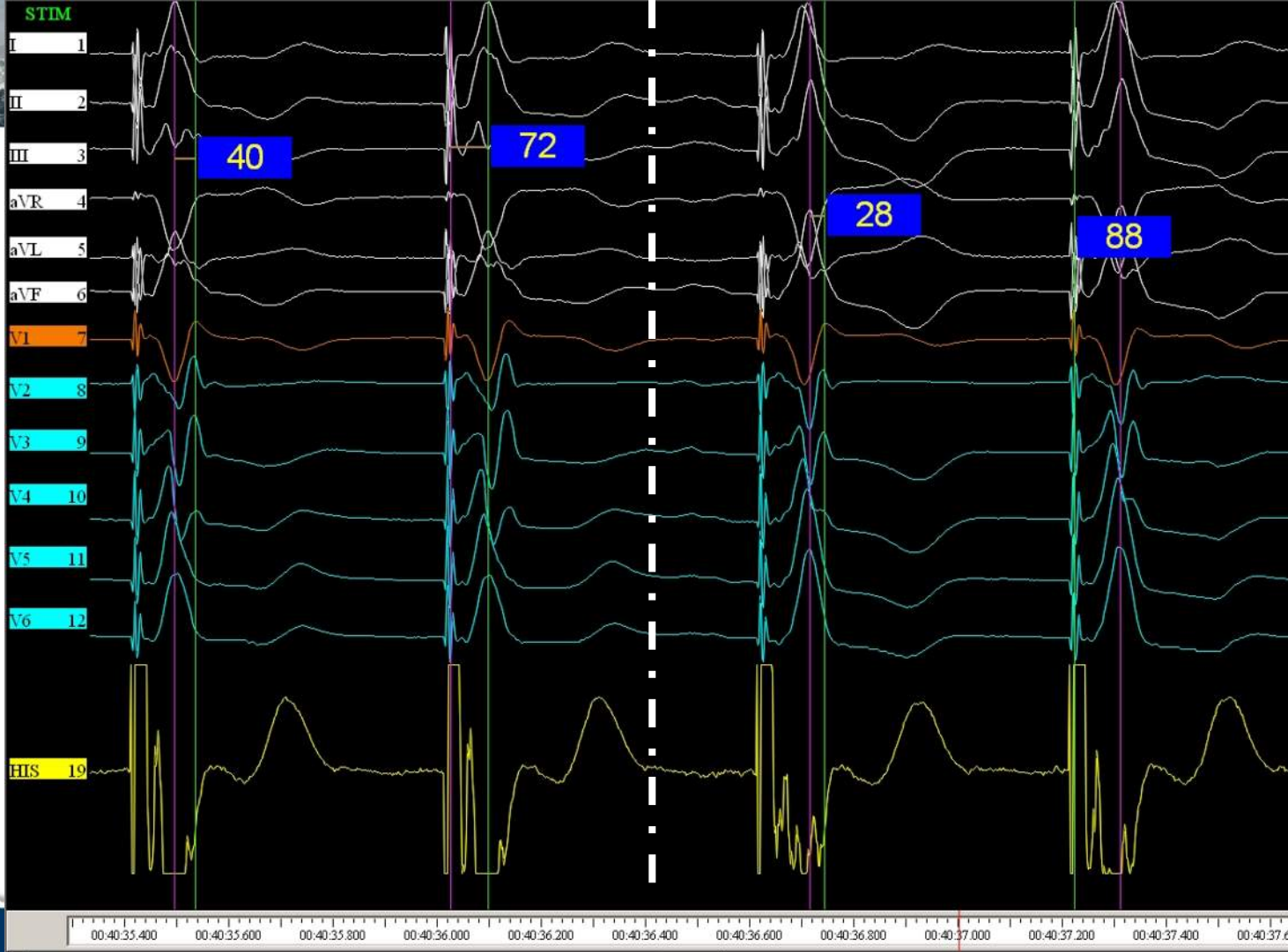
- Electrical **parameters** generally similar to or even better than conventional RV pacing
- Limited / no use of **backup** leads
- Pacing **output**: program to allow conduction system capture
- Pacing configuration: based on the effect of **anodal capture**
- **Automated capture** verification algorithms: generally working as in conventional RV pacing
- **Sensing** configuration: bipolar
- Automatic **sensitivity**: generally Ok
- **AV intervals**: mechanics and BBB correction



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Left bundle branch area pacing (LBBAP) Auto Threshold algorithms Evaluation for Conduction System Pacing: The LATECS pilot Trial

Chiara Ghiglieri MD^{1,2}  | Gabriele Dell'Era MD¹ | Alessandro Veroli MD^{1,2} |
Federica De Vecchi MD¹ | Matteo Santagostino MD¹ | Stefano Porcellini MD¹ |
Giuseppe Patti MD^{1,2}



Autothreshold algorithm feasibility and safety in left bundle branch pacing

Elena Sola-García ^{1,2*}, Manuel Molina-Lerma ^{2,3}, Juan Jiménez-Jáimez ^{2,3},
Rosa Macías-Ruiz ^{2,3}, Pablo J. Sánchez-Millán ^{2,3}, Luis Tercedor ^{2,3},
and Miguel Álvarez ^{2,3}

Methods: Consecutive patients receiving ATM-capable CIED and LBBAP in our hospital were enrolled in this prospective, observational trial; they were evaluated 3 months after implant, comparing pacing thresholds manually assessed and obtained via ATM. Subsequent remote follow-up was carried on when available.

Results: Forty-five patients were enrolled. ATM for LBBAP lead provided consistent results in all the patients and was therefore activated; mean value of manually obtained LBBAP capture threshold was 0.66 ± 0.19 V versus ATM of 0.64 ± 0.19 V. TOST analysis showed equivalence of the two measures ($p = .66$). At subsequent follow-up (mean follow up 7.7 ± 3.2 months), ATM was effective in assessing pacing thresholds and no clinical adverse event was observed.

Conclusions: ATM algorithms proved equivalent to manual testing in determining capture threshold and were reliably employed in patients receiving LBBAP CIED.

Methods and results

A prospective, non-randomized, single-centre comparative study was conducted. Consecutive patients with indication for cardiac pacing were enrolled. Implants were performed in the left bundle branch area or the right ventricle endocardium at the discretion of the operator. Left bundle branch pacing was determined according to published criteria. Autothreshold algorithm was activated in both groups whenever allowed by the device. Seventy-five patients were included, with 50 undergoing LBBP and 25 receiving conventional pacing. Activation of the autothreshold algorithm was more feasible in later phases, showing a favourable trend towards bipolar pacing. Failures in algorithm activation were primarily due to insufficient safety margins (82.8% in LBBP and 90% in conventional pacing). The remainder was attributed to atrial tachyarrhythmias (10.3% and 10%, respectively) and electrical noise (the remaining 6.9% in the LBBP group). In the LBBP group, there were not statistically significant differences between manual and automatic thresholds, and both remained stable during follow-up (mean increase of 0.50 V).


Conclusion

The autothreshold algorithm is feasible in LBBP, with a favourable trend towards bipolar pacing. Automatic thresholds are similar to manual in patients with LBBP, and they remain stable during follow-up.





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- 

Troubleshooting Programming of Conduction System Pacing

Elise Bakelants  and Haran Burri 

Department of Cardiology, University Hospital of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

For an **LBBAP** lead connected to the RV port, one can program the AV delay as usual, as the delay between the left bundle branch potential and QRS onset is **negligible** (<20 ms). Direct LBB capture may even not be present in a substantial proportion of these patients.

AV delay

HBP lead in ventricular port: Subtract HV interval (e.g. 40 ms) from desired AV interval

LBBAP lead in ventricular port: Subtract LBB-V interval (e.g. 20 ms) from desired AV interval

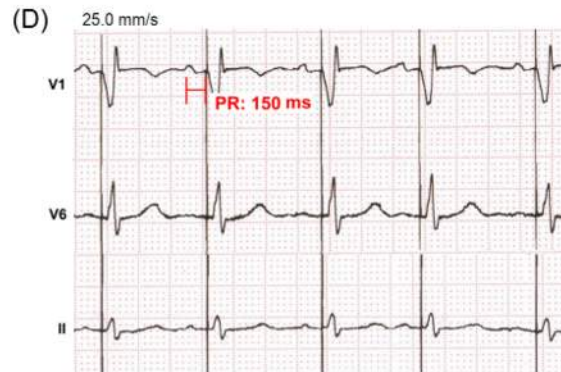
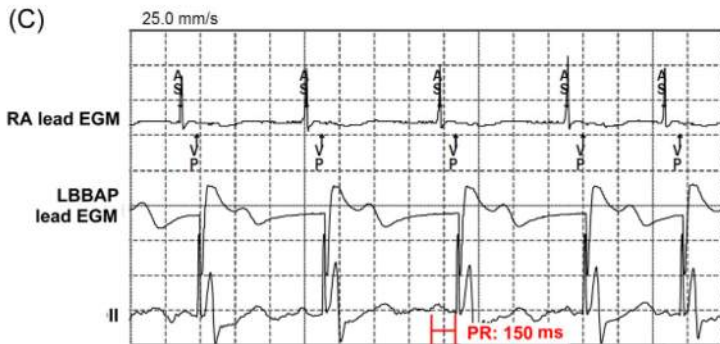
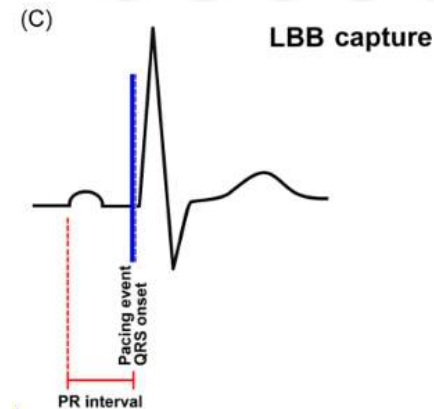
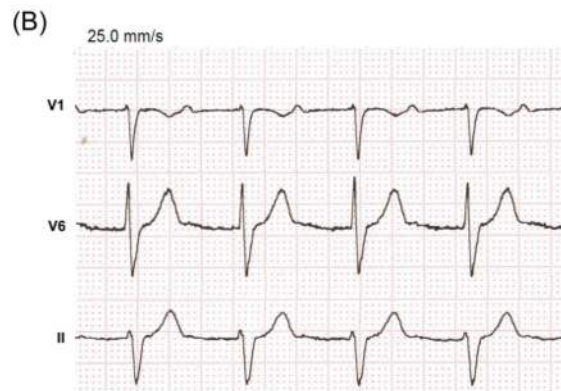
Optimization of the atrioventricular delay in conduction system pacing

Giovanni Coluccia MD¹ | Gabriele Dell'Era MD² | Chiara Ghiglieri MD²
Federica De Vecchi MD² | Enrico Spinoni MD² | Matteo Santagostino MD²
Alessandro Guido MD¹ | Maria Zaccaria MD¹ | Giuseppe Patti MD² |
Michele Accogli MD¹ | Pietro Palmisano MD¹

The **EP-guided** AV delay was defined as the programmed AV delay leading to a **PR** interval on the surface ECG of **150** ms in s-HBP and LBBAP or **150-HV** in ns-HBP.

In **LBBAP** patients:

$$\text{EP-guided sAV delay (ms)} = 150 - \text{RA sensing latency}$$



EP-guided sAVD = 150 - RASL (30 ms) = 120 ms

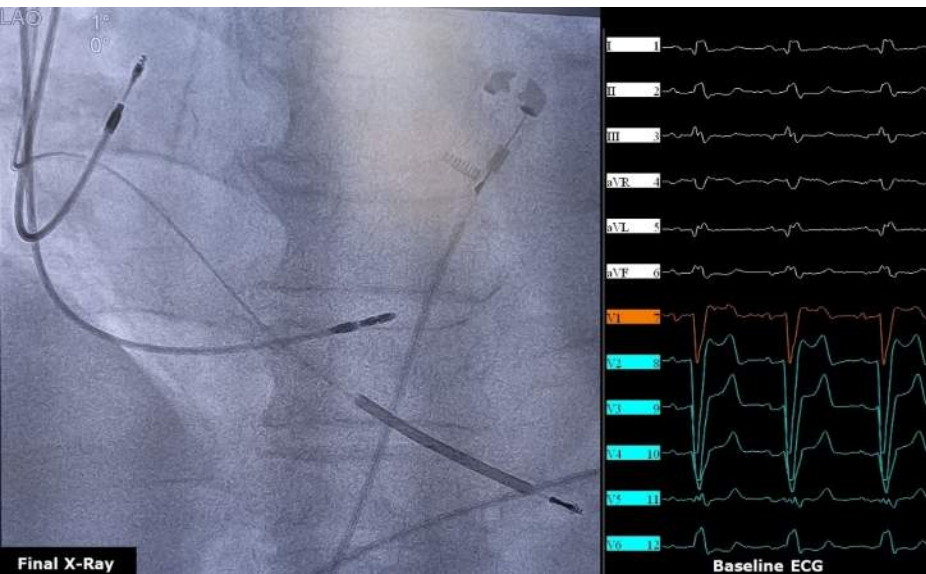
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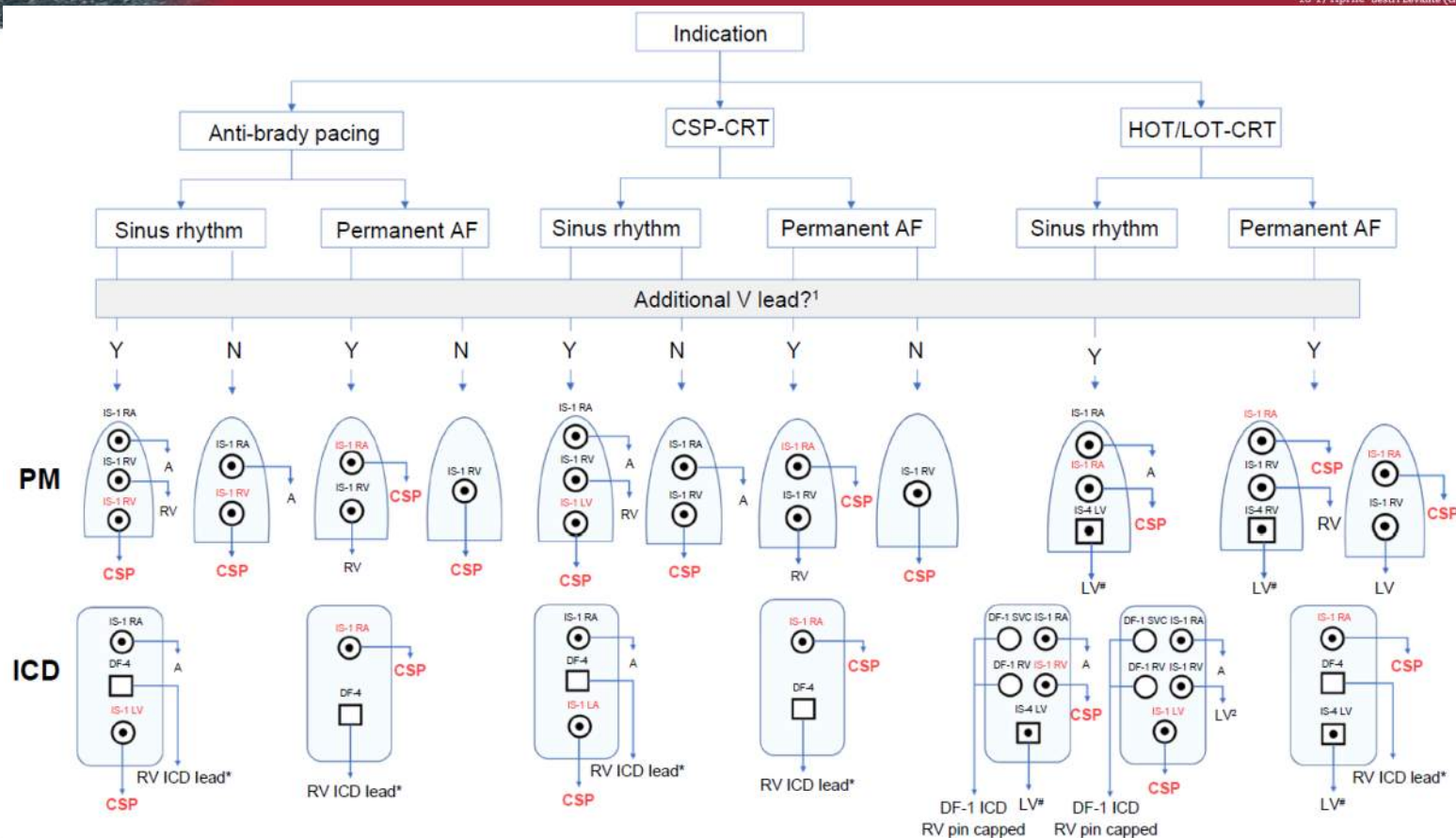
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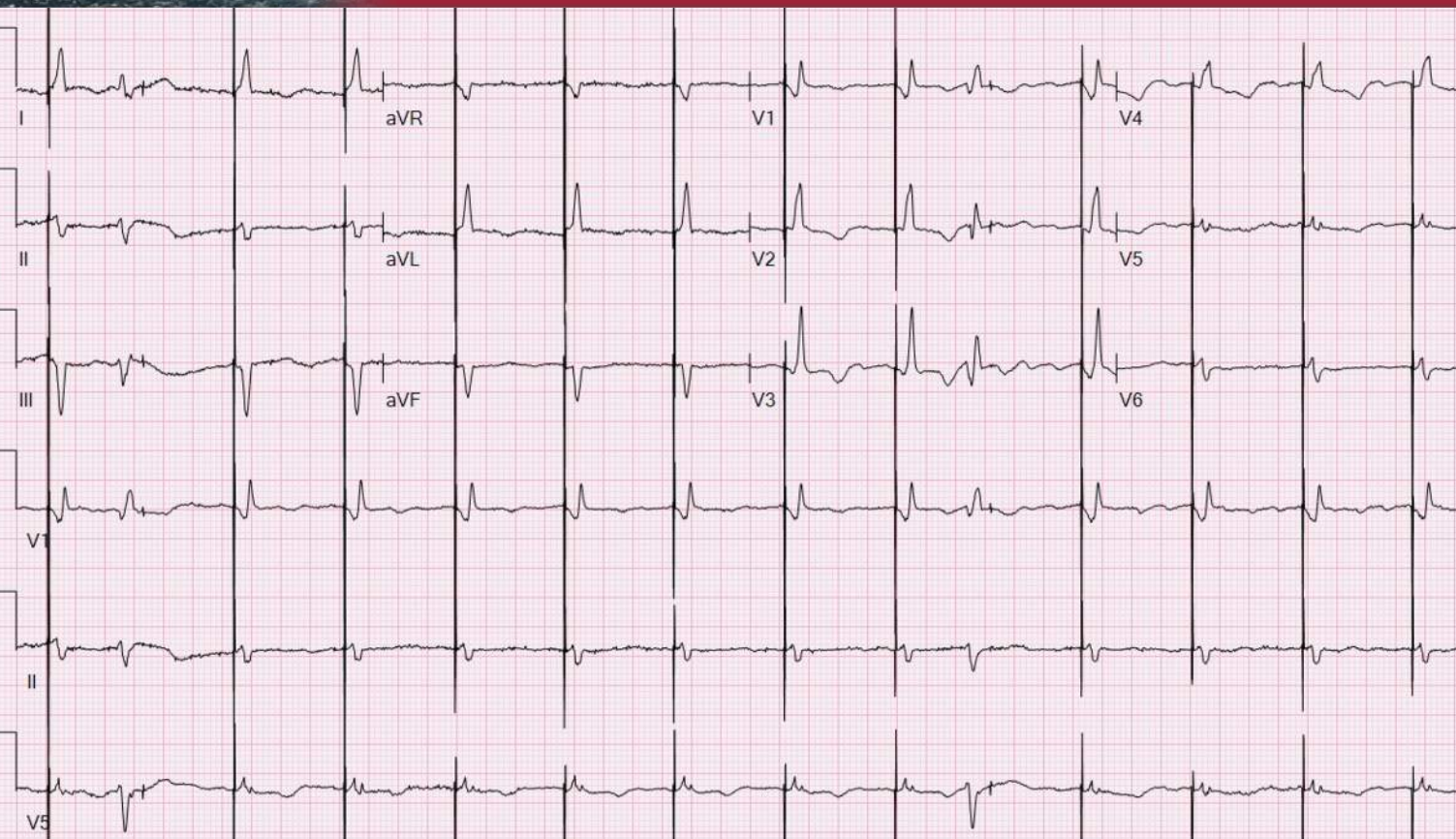
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Permanent AF. Pace and ablate; dual chamber PM; LBBAP lead in the A port and backup RV lead in the V port. Programming: DDDR.



In conclusion, some key points...

- **Effective** conduction system pacing not only depends on successful device **implantation** but also on proper device **programming**.
- Current impulse **generators** are not specifically **designed** for CSP.
- Different pacing system **configurations** are used depending on the underlying heart **rhythm** (sinus rhythm or permanent atrial arrhythmia) and the **aim** of pacing.
- Depending on the device configuration, different **programming issues** may arise.
- A **tailored** device **programming** should take into account the pathophysiology of conduction system, the individual pacing outcome and patient needs, the device features and programmable parameters.





Ezio Soldati

* 6/7/1957 + 9/4/2024



EHRA Congress, Atene, Giugno 2013

Grazie!