

## Electrocardiography - Normal

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## Objectives

- Recognize the normal ECG tracing
- Calculate the heart rate
- Determine the rhythm
- Calculate the length of intervals and determine the segments deflections
- Draw the Hexagonal axis of the ECG
- Find the mean electrical axis of QRS (Ventricular depolarization)


## Principles of Vectorial Analysis of EKG's

- The current in the heart flows from the area of depolarization to the polarized areas, and the electrical potential generated can be represented by a vector, with the arrowhead pointing in the positive direction.
- The length of the vector is proportional to the voltage of the potential.
- The generated potential at any instance can be represented by an instantaneous mean vector.
- The normal mean QRS vector is $60^{\circ}\left(-30^{\circ}-110^{\circ}\right)$


## Mean Vector Through the Partially Depolarized Heart

## Einthoven's triangle and law




## Principles of Vectorial Analysis of EKG's (cont'd)

Axes of the Three Bipolar and Augmented Leads


## Axes of the Unipolar Limb Leads <br> I

$+$
$+$

## Principles of Vectorial Analysis of EKG's (cont'd)

- The axis of lead I is zero degrees because the electrodes lie in the horizontal direction on each of the arms.
- The axis of lead II is +60 degrees because the right arm connects to the torso in the top right corner, and left leg connects to the torso in the bottom left corner.
- The axis of lead III is 120 degrees.


## Principles of Vectorial Analysis of EKG's (cont'd)

| ${ }^{W}$ | A. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $X^{\prime \prime} \frac{1}{1}$ | $\%(H)_{-1}^{n}$ |
| $Y^{\prime \prime}$ | $\text { N) } \cdot \frac{A}{4}$ |

## Principles of Vectorial Analysis of EKG's (cont'd)

- In figure B , the depolarization vector is large because half of the ventricle is depolarized.
- Lead II should be largest voltage when compared to I and III when the mean vector is $60^{\circ}$.
- In figure C, left side is slower to depolarize.
- In figure D , the last part to depolarize is near the left base of the heart which gives a negative vector (S wave).
- Q wave is present if the left side of the septum depolarizes first.


## The T Wave (Ventricular Repolarization)

- First area to repolarize is near the apex of the heart.
- Last areas, in general, to depolarize are the first to repolarize.
- Repolarized areas will have a + charge first; therefore, $a+$ net vector occurs and a positive T
 wave


## Atrial Depolarization (P-Wave) and Atrial Repolarization (Atrial T Wave)

- Atrial depolarization begins at sinus node and spreads toward A-V node.
- This should give a + vector in leads I, II, and III.
- Atrial repolarization can't be seen because it is masked by QRS complex.
- Atrial depolarization is slower than in ventricles, so first area to depolarize is also the first to repolarize. This gives a negative atrial repolarization wave in leads I, II, and III


## Vectorcardiogram

- This traces vectors throughout cardiac cycle.
When half of the ventricle is depolarized, vector is largest.

- Note zero reference point, number 5, is point of full depolarization


## Determining Mean Electrical Axis

- Use 2 different leads
- Measure the sum of the height and the negative depth of the QRS complex
- Measure that vaule in mm onto the axis of the lead and draw perpendicular lines
- The intersection is at the angle of the mean axis.



## Plot of the Mean Electrical Axis of the Heart from Two Electrocardiographic Leads




Lead I

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Q}= & -0.5 \\
\mathrm{R}= & +5 \\
& +4.5
\end{aligned}
$$



Lead IIII

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Q}= & -4 \\
\mathrm{R}= & +26 \\
& +22
\end{aligned}
$$





## Heart Rate Calculation

- R-R interval $=0.83 \mathrm{sec}$
- Heart rate $=(60 \mathrm{sec}) /(0.83 \mathrm{sec})=72$ beats/min min beat


## ECG Calculations



## ECG Calculations



## Determine regularity



- Look at the R-R distances (using a caliper or markings on a pen or paper).
- Regular (are they equidistant apart)? Occasionally irregular? Regularly irregular? Irregularly irregular? Interpretation?
Regular


## ECG Deflection Waves

(Pacemaker)


## ECG Deflection Waves

60 seconds $\div 0.8$ seconds $=$ resting heart rate of 75 beats/minute

1st Degree Heart Block = P-Q interval longer than 0.2 seconds.

Time (s)

## ECG Deflection Wave Irregularities

## Enlarged QRS =

Hypertrophy of ventricles


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## ECG Deflection Wave Irregularities



## ECG Deflection Wave Irregularities

## Elevated T wave :

Hyperkalemia


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## ECG Deflection Wave Irregularities



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## Thank You



