



Is the rhythm normal and if not, what's the basic rhythm?

Is the rhythm replaced?

Is the rhythm disturbed?

In case of rhythm switch go back and evaluate the second rhythm

| Initial question | | Answer | | Additional question | Rhythm diagnosis | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| First quick view | 1 | Is it sinus rhythm and heart rate < 100/min ? | N | Y | | Sinus rhythm |
| | 2 | Can you recognize a "rhythm at a glance"? | N | Y | | Ventricular fibrillation Ventricular flutter Atrial flutter Pacemaker |
| Rapid and regular | 3 | Is the rhythm rapid & regular? | N | Y | QRS duration ≥ 0,12 s | Ventricular tachycardia Atrial tachycardia with BBB |
| | | | | | QRS duration ≤ 0.1 s | Sinus tachycardia Atrial tachycardia Atrio-ventricular reentry tachycardia (AVRT) AV nodal reentry tachycardia (AVNRT) |
| Zoom in to P wave | 4 | Are the P waves neg. in II, III and aVF? | N | Y | P preceding QRS? | "Upper" junctional rhythm |
| | | | | | P following QRS? | "Lower" junctional rhythm |
| | 5 | Are the P waves absent or doubtful? | N | Y | QRS totally irregular? | Atrial fibrillation (AF) |
| | | | | | QRS regular? | "Mid" junctional rhythm AF + 3rd deg. AV block (AVB) |
| | 6 | Are there too many P waves? | N | Y | PR constant? | 2nd deg. AVB Mobitz Type II |
| | | | | | PR varying QRS regular | 3rd deg. AV block |
| | | | | PR varying QRS irregular | 2nd deg. AVB Mobitz Type I | |
| Basic rhythm interrupted | 7 | Do you see a rhythm switch? | N | Y | | Which rhythms are present? |
| | 8 | Do you see premature beats? | N | Y | Preceding premature P? | Supraventricular premature beat (SPB) |
| | | | | | No preceding premature P? | Ventricular premature beat (VPB) |
| | 9 | Do you see a remarkable pause? | N | Y | Following ventricular premature beat? | Compensatory pause |
| | | | | | After termination of TC? | Preautomatic pause |
| | | | | | "Empty" pause | SA (sinoauricular) block |
| Containing premature P? | | | | | Supraventricular premature beat + AV block | |
| | | | | Terminated by a QRS with a different shape than the rest of the QRS complexes | Escape beat | |