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CARDIAC CENTER  
Where Academia Complements Care

مركز الملك فهد  
لأمراض وجراحة القلب

جامعة  
الملك سعید  
King Saud University



# Arrhythmias 341

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Electrophysiologist and Ass. Prof  
KSU / KKUH

# Objectives

- ▶ General approach to arrhythmias
- ▶ Specific types and chronic management:
  - ▶ Atrial Fibrillation (AF)
  - ▶ Atrial Flutter (AFL)
  - ▶ Supraventricular tachycardia (SVT)
  - ▶ Wolf-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW)
  - ▶ Ventricular tachycardia (VT)
  - ▶ Ventricular fibrillation (VF)
- ▶ Acute management

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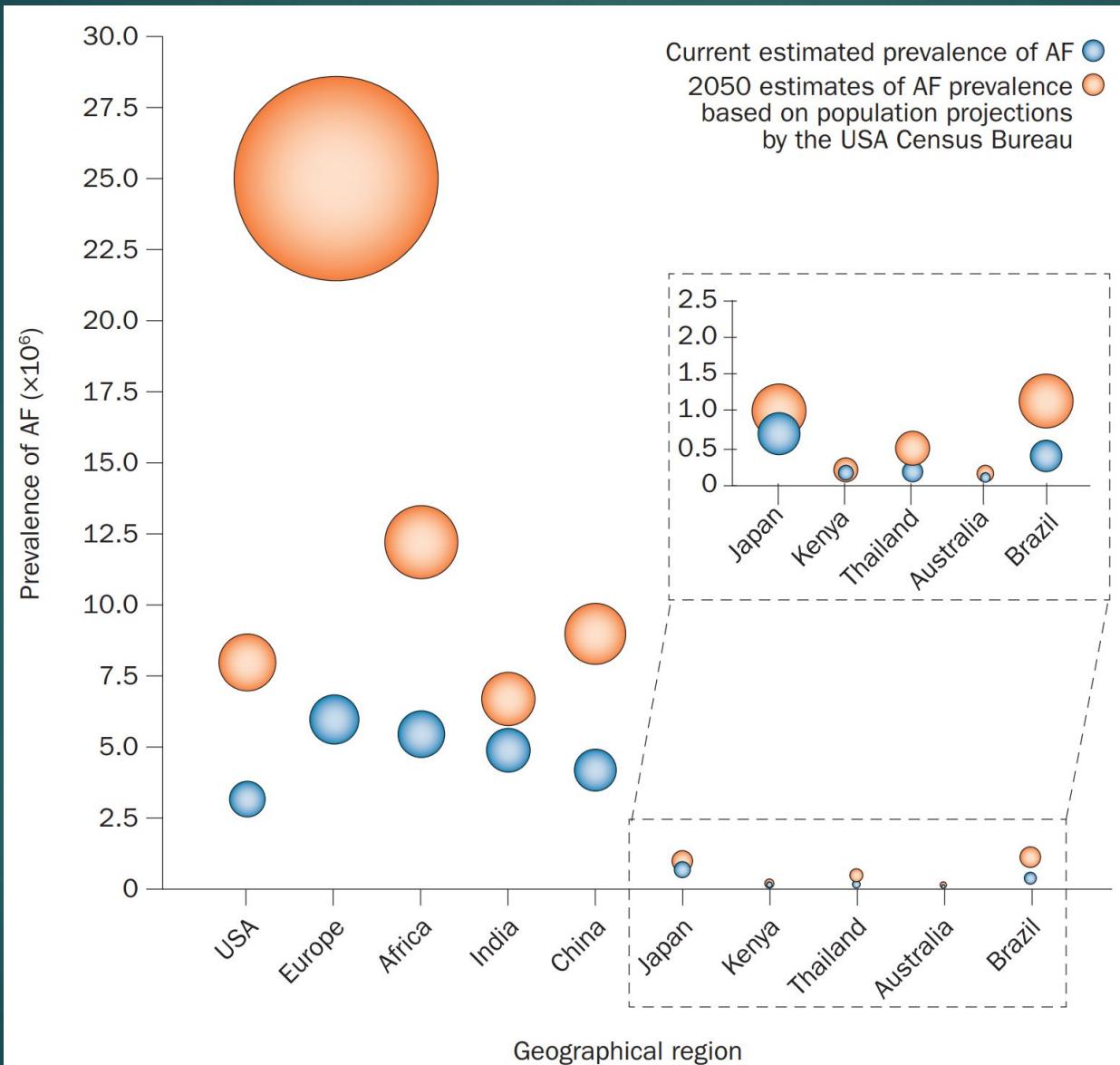
# General approach

- ▶ History:
  - ▶ HPI:
    - ▶ Palpitation, Dizziness, syncope, fatigue, chest pain and SOB, Stroke (AF)
  - ▶ Family history
  - ▶ Social history: Ethol, illicit drug use
  - ▶ PMH:
    - ▶ Underlying heart disease
    - ▶ Past medical and surgical history
- ▶ Work-up:
  - ▶ ECG (baseline and during episodes), Holter, Echo
  - ▶ R/out secondary causes: electrolytes, TSH, sleep study,
- ▶ Management:
  - ▶ Wait and see Vs medical therapy Vs ablation

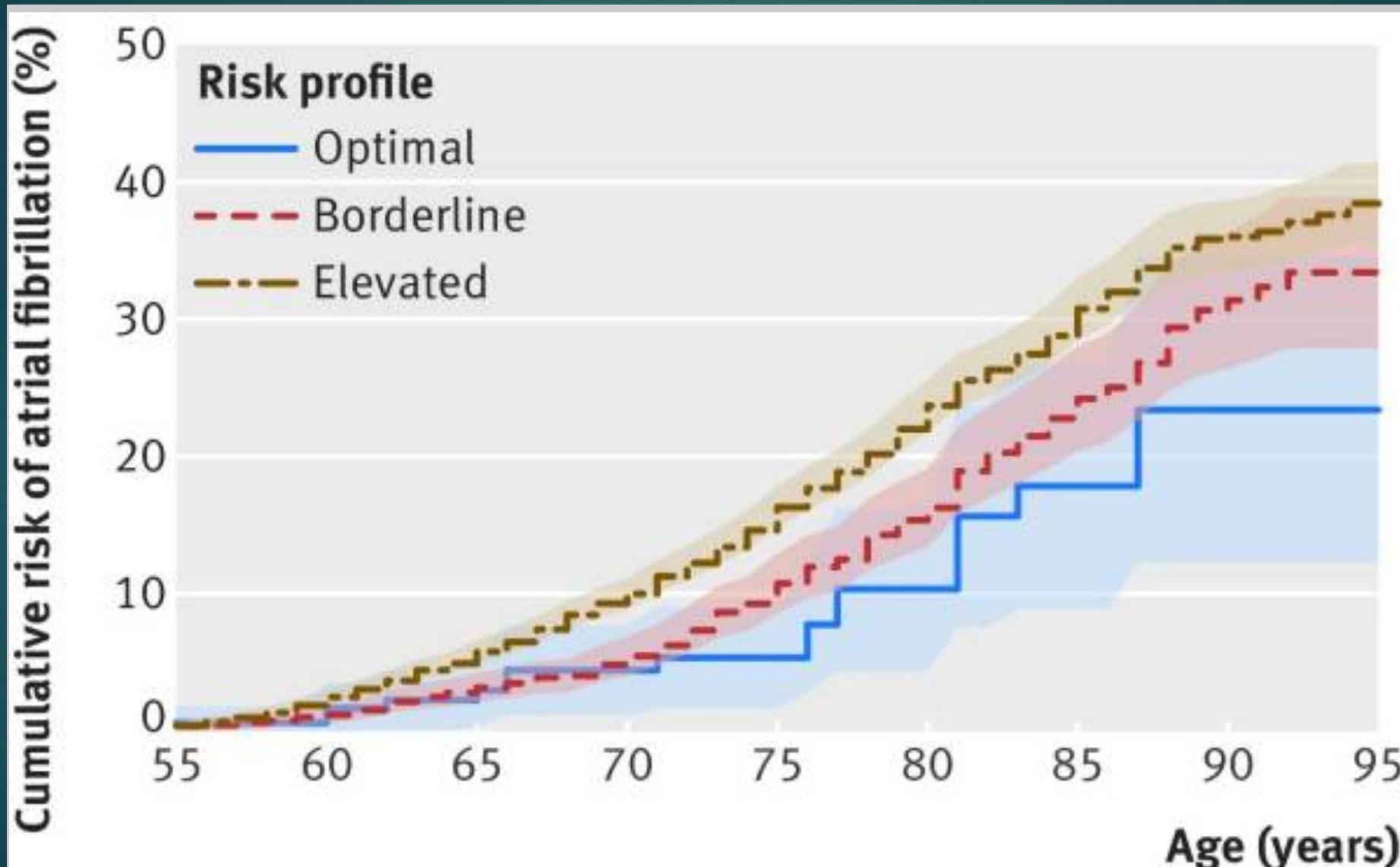
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# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)



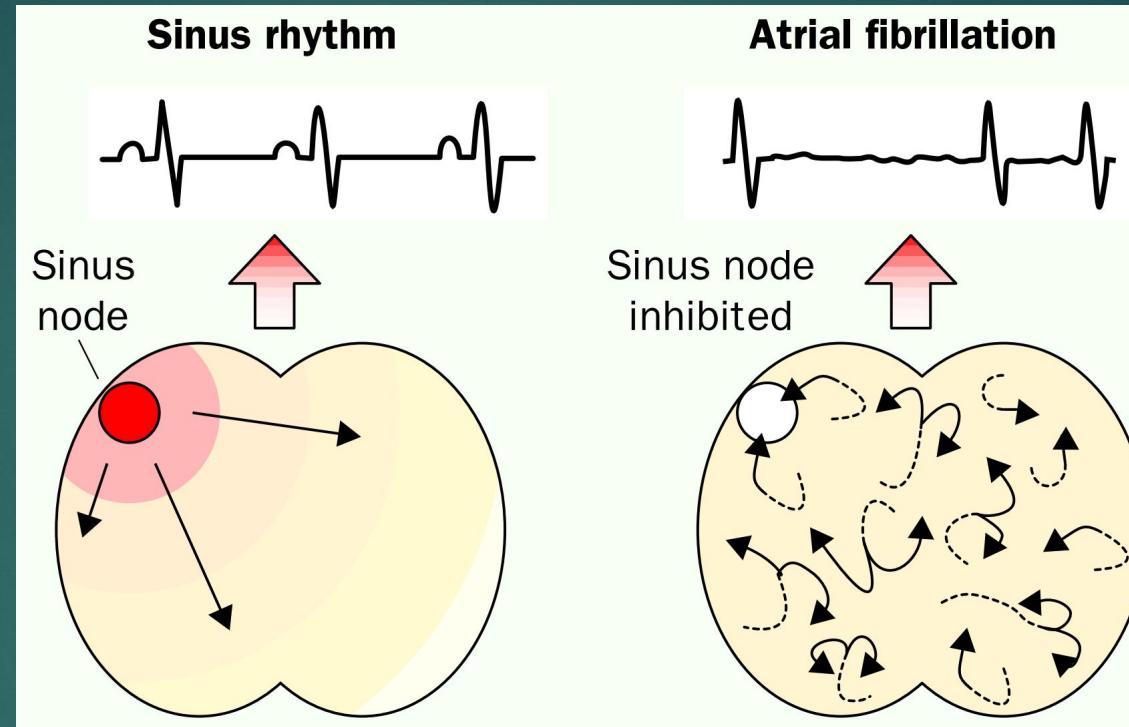
# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)



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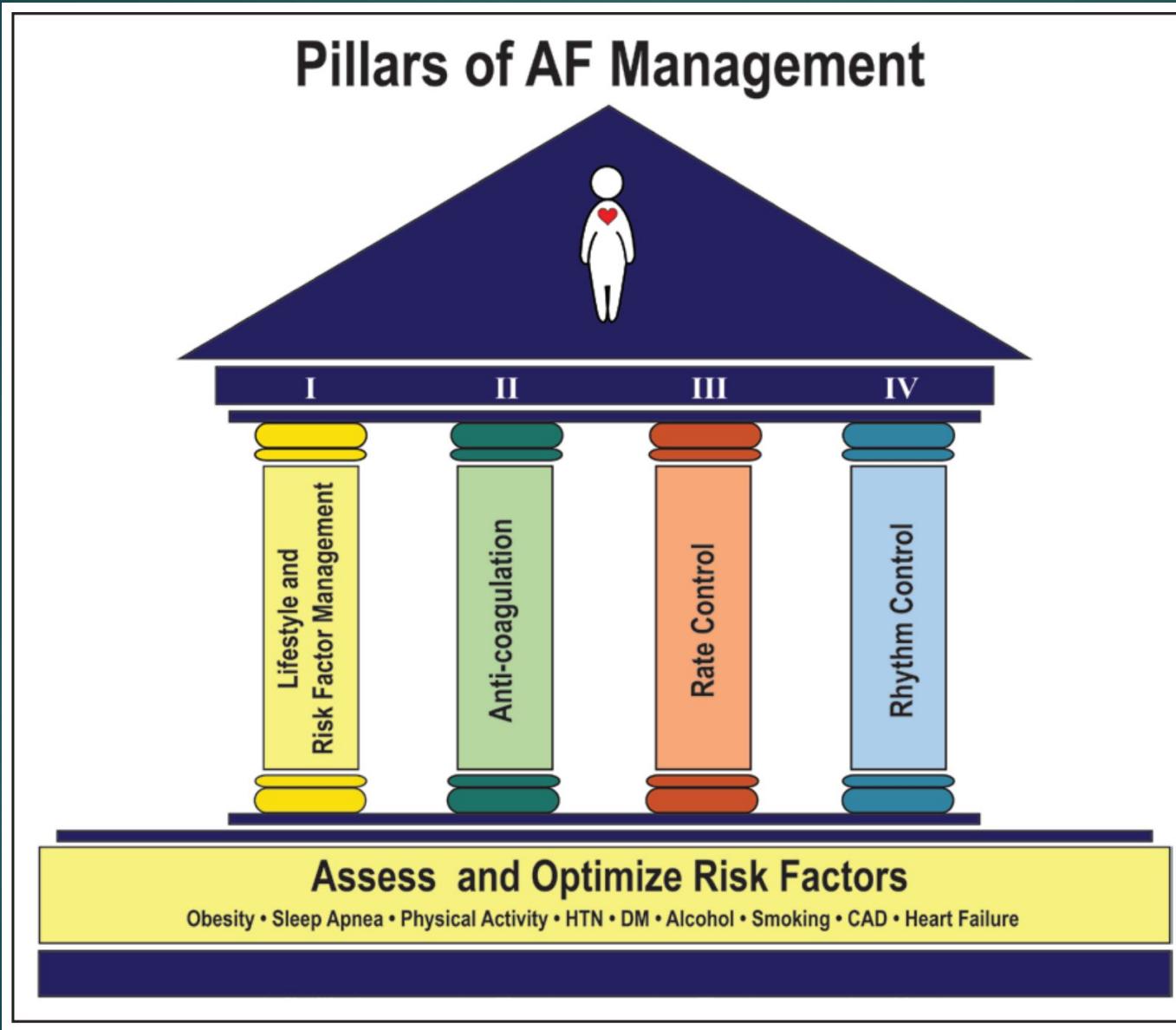
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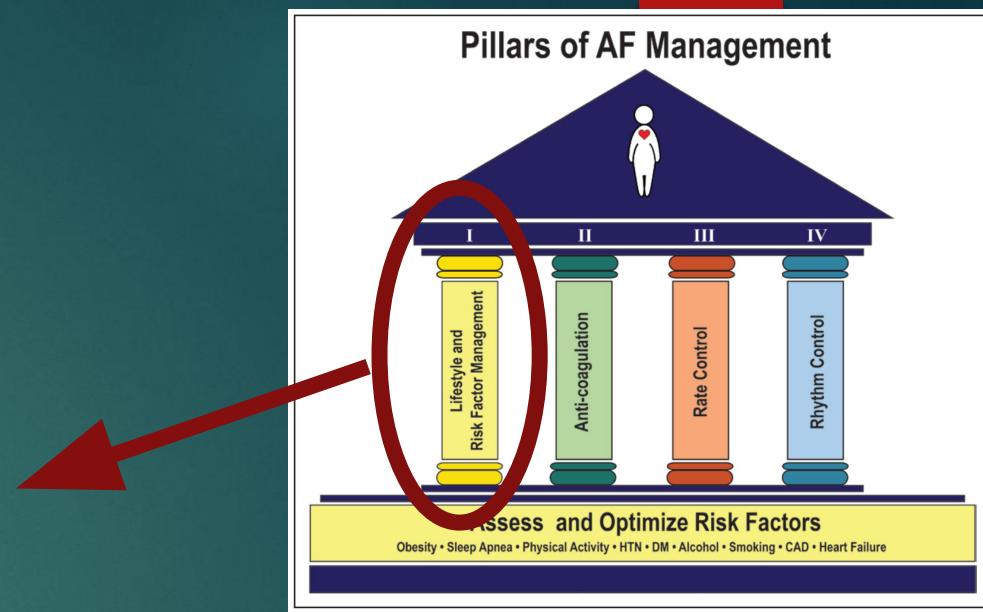
VS



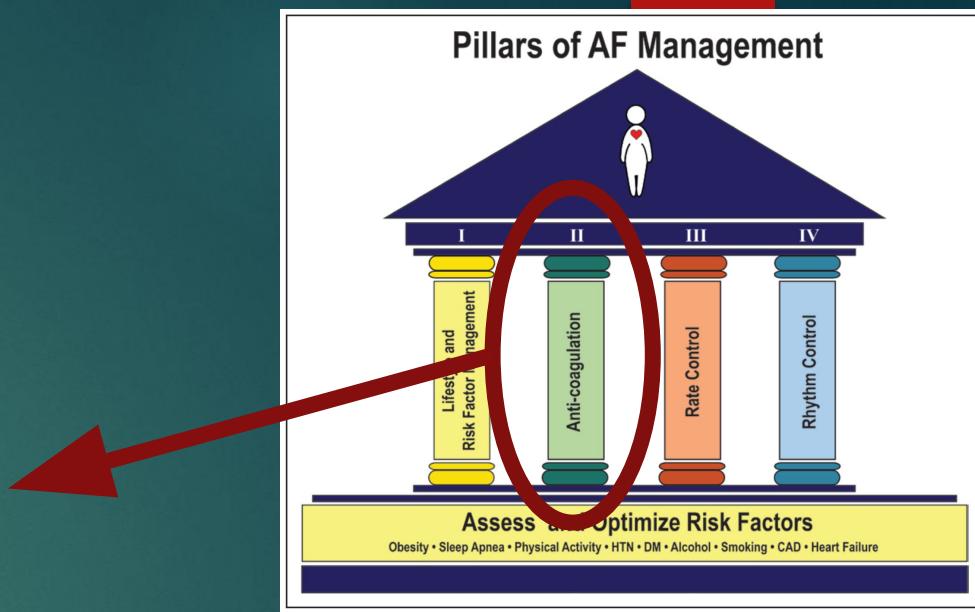
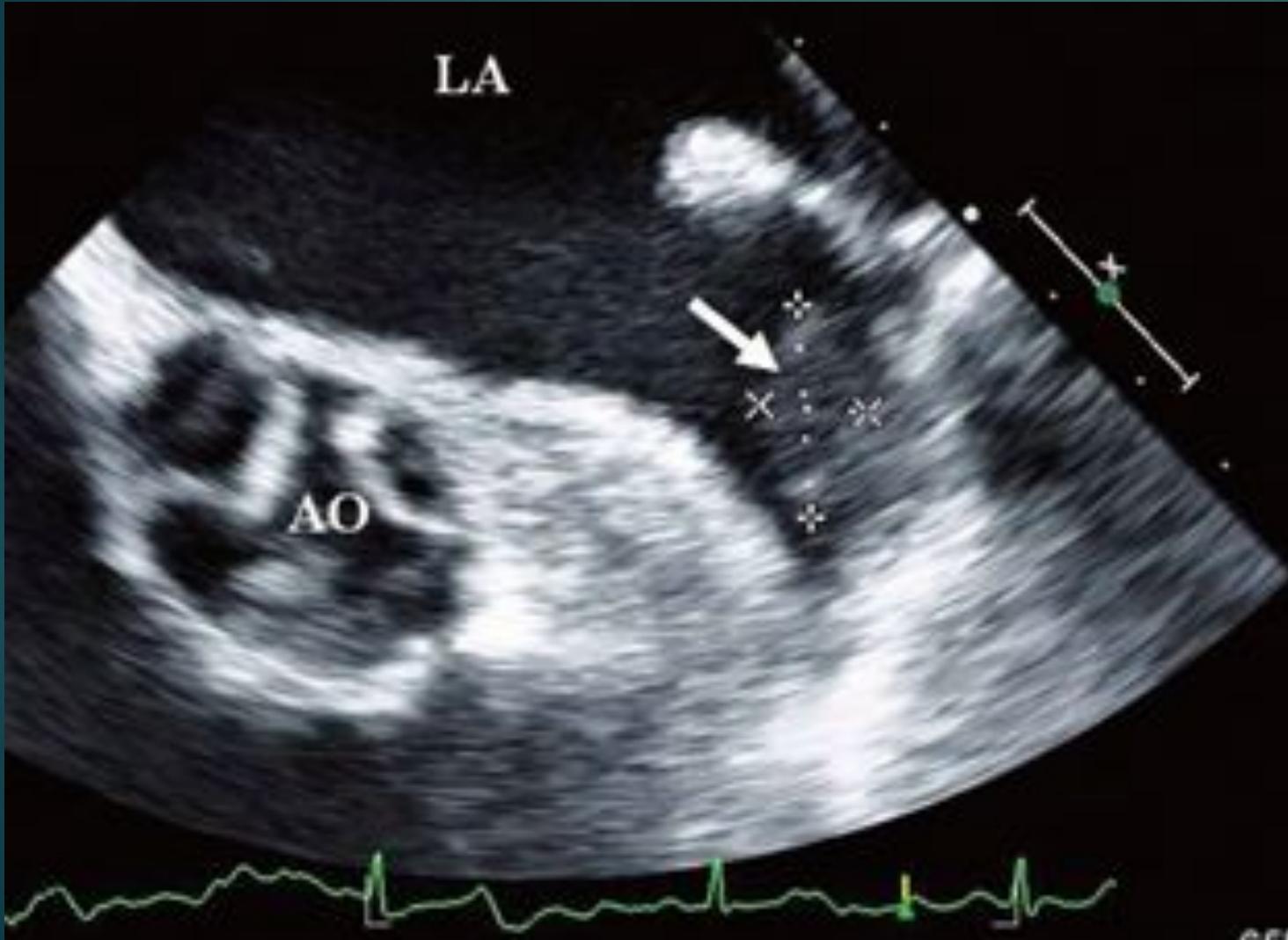
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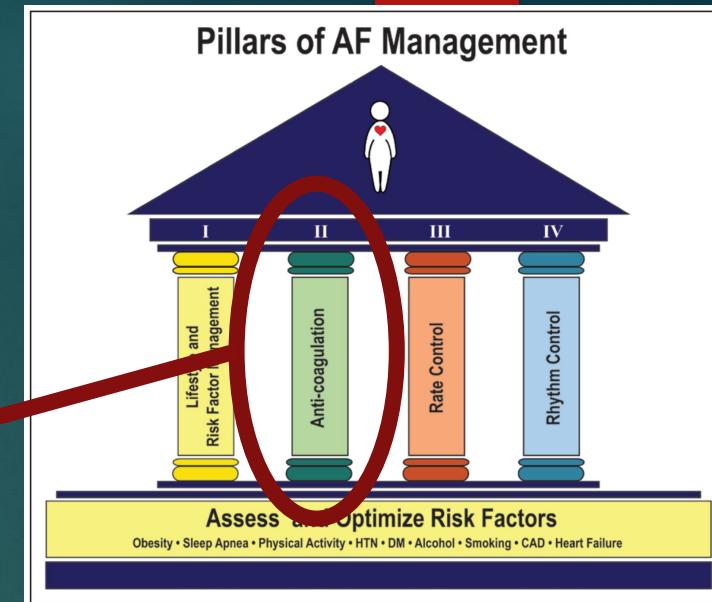
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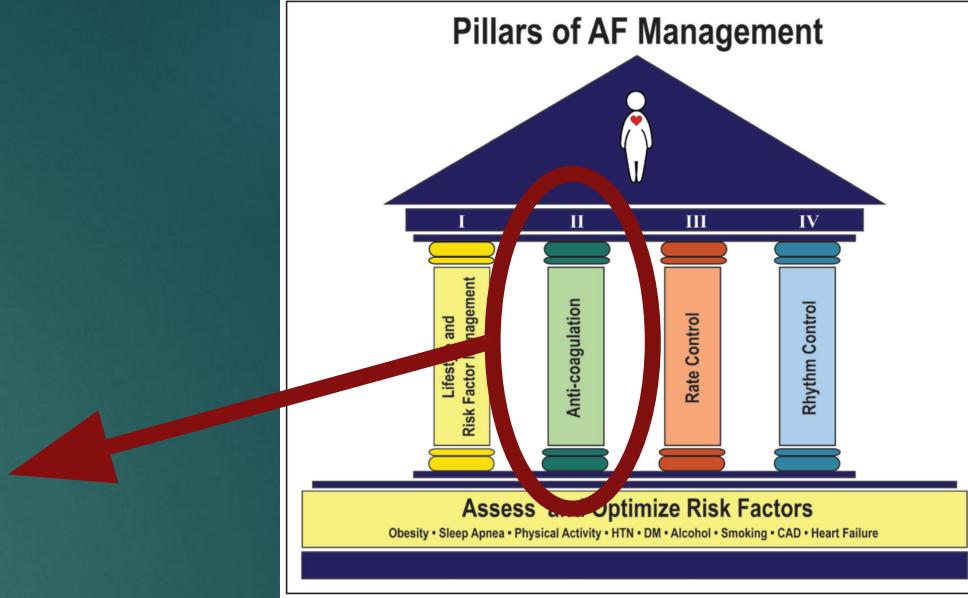
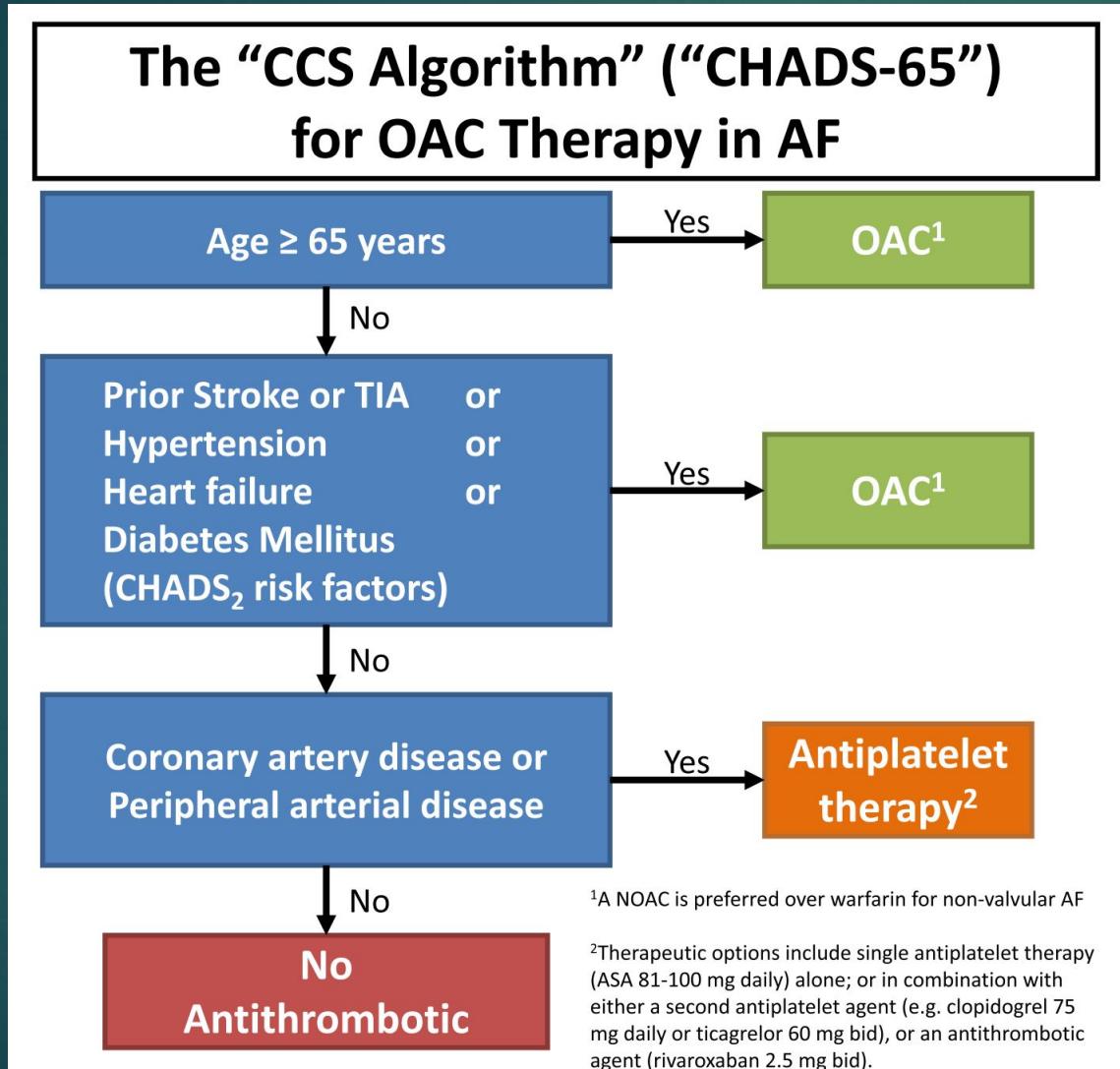
# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)

CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc	Score
Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunction	1
Hypertension	1
Age ≥ 75 years	2
Diabetes mellitus	1
Stroke/TIA/TE	2
Vascular disease [prior MI, PAD, or aortic plaque]	1
Age 65-74 years	1
Sex category (female)	1

CHADS <sub>2</sub> score	Patients (n=1733)	Adjusted stroke rate (%/year) <sup>a</sup> (95% confidence interval)
0	120	1.9 (1.2–3.0)
1	463	2.8 (2.0–3.8)
2	523	4.0 (3.1–5.1)
3	337	5.9 (4.6–7.3)
4	220	8.5 (6.3–11.1)
5	65	12.5 (8.2–17.5)
6	5	18.2 (10.5–27.4)



# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)



**OAC:**

Warfarin  
Dabigatran  
Rivaroxaban  
Apixaban  
Edoxaban

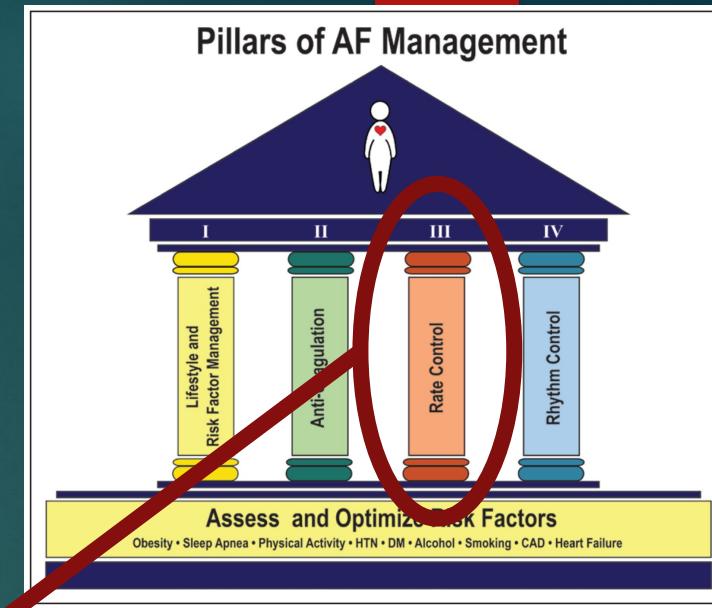
# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)

## Medications:

- 1- Beta-blocker
- 2- Calcium channel blockers
- 3- Digoxin

## Procedure:

- 1- Pace and ablate



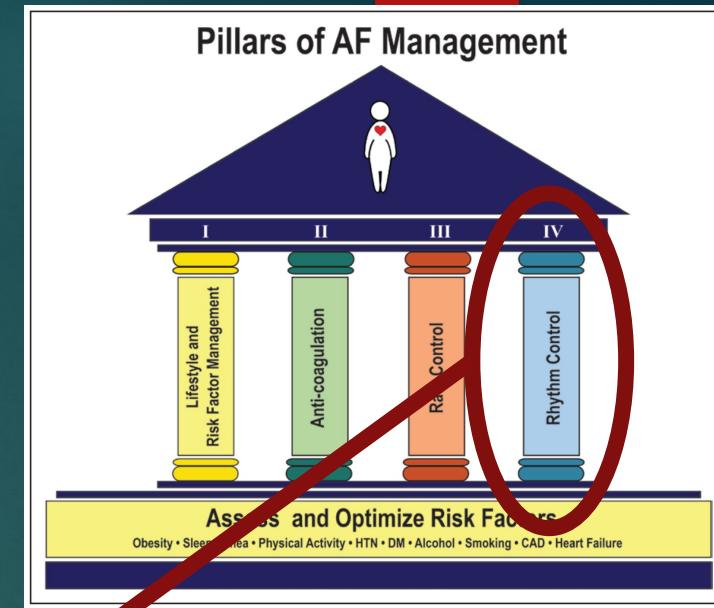
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## Medications:

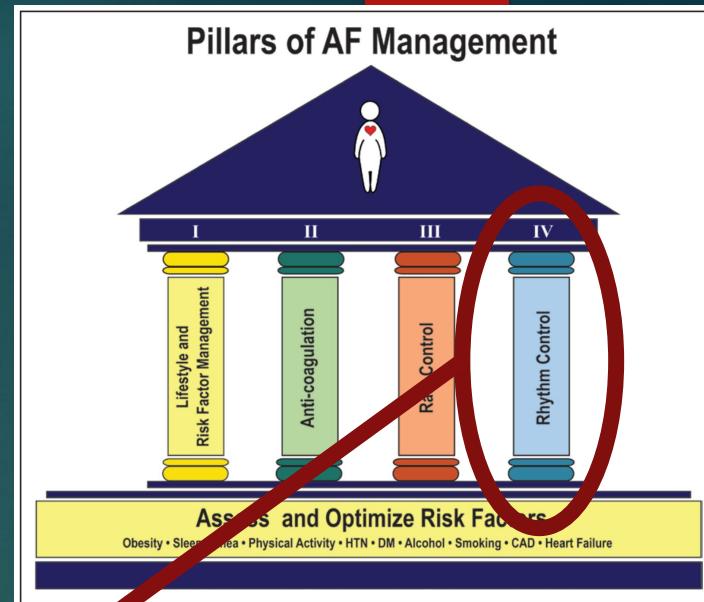
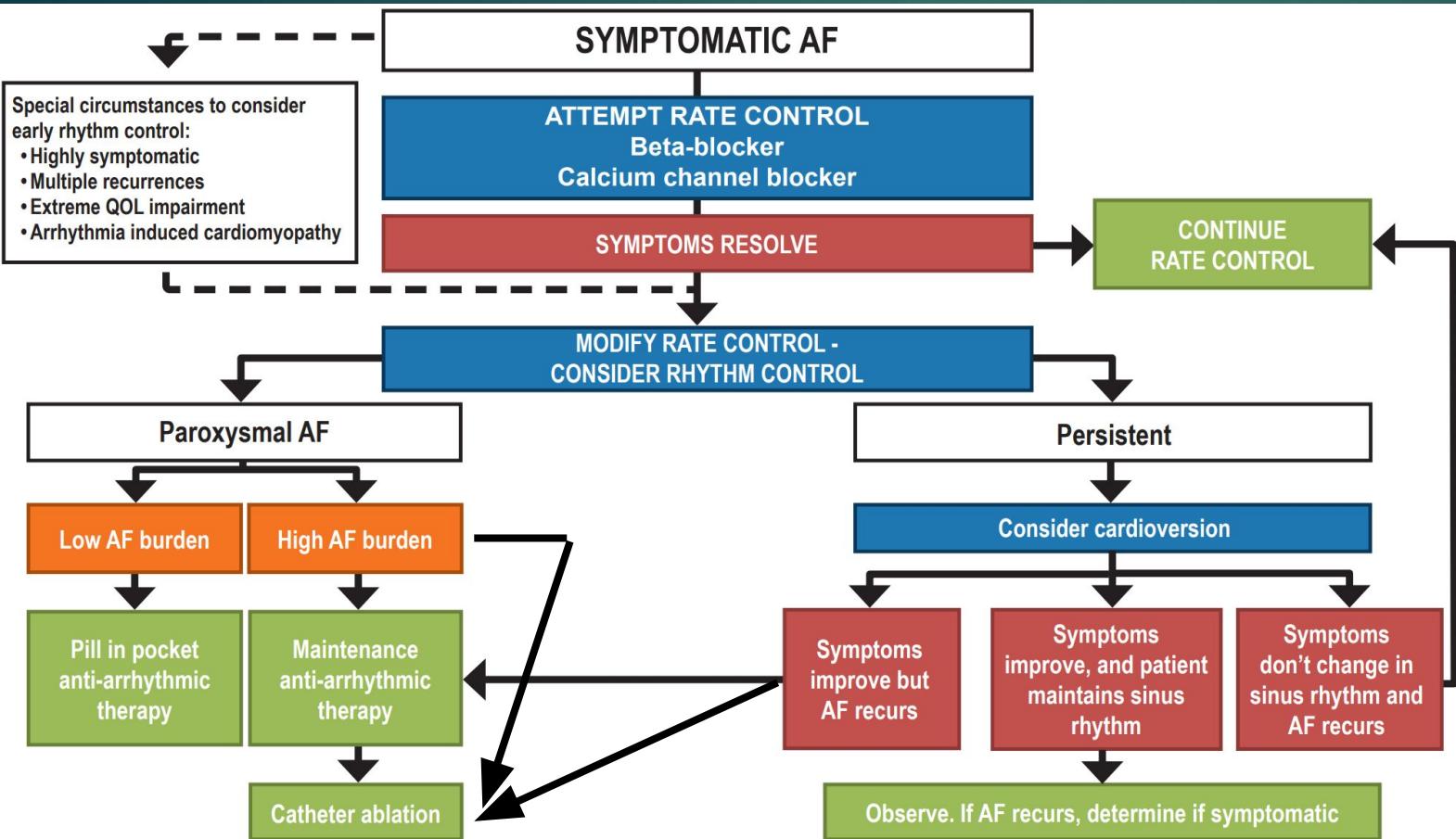
- 1- Amiodarone
- 2- Sotalol
- 3- Flecainide  
(PRN or maintenance)

## Procedure:

- 1- AF ablation



# Atrial Fibrillation (AF)

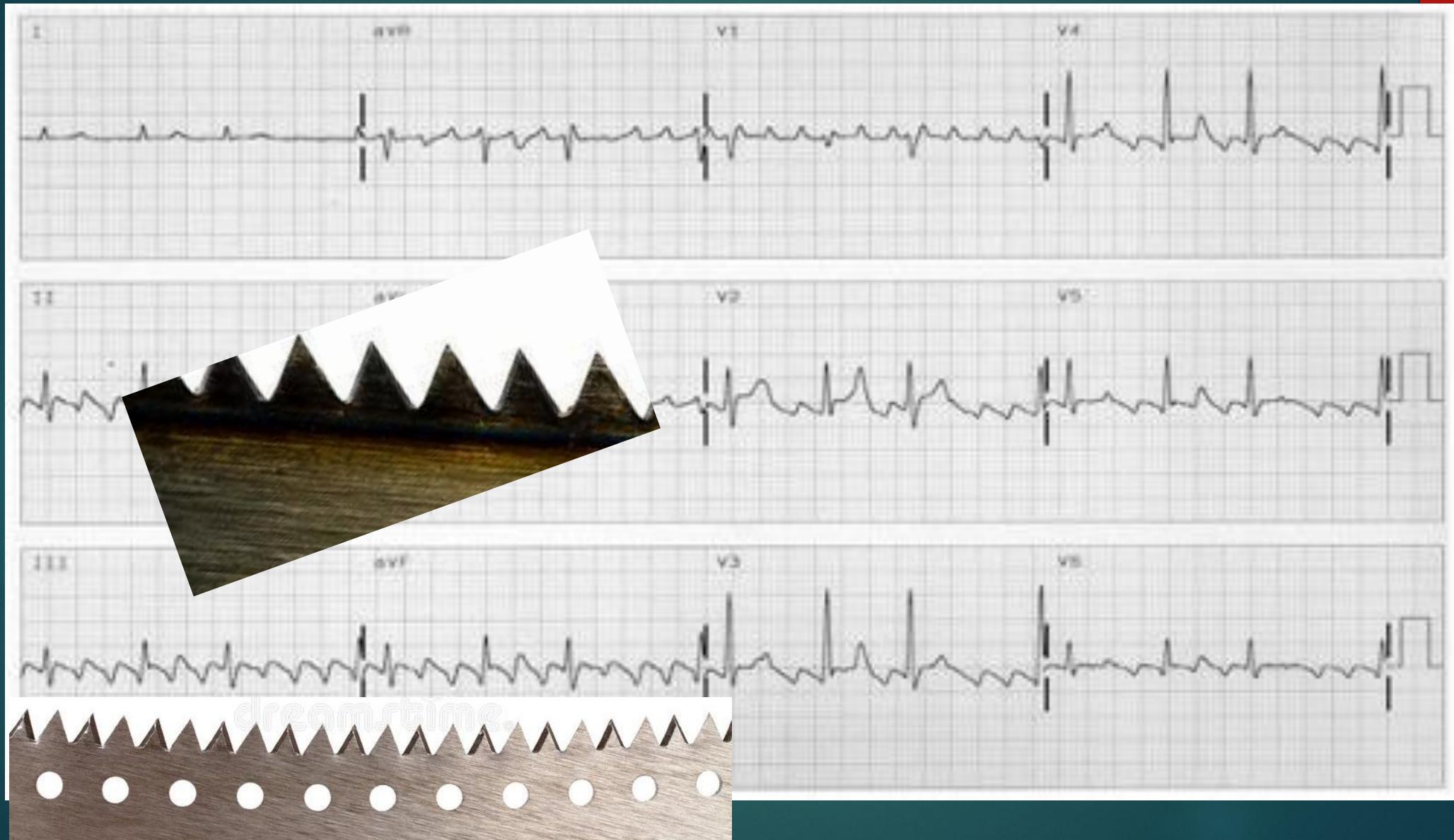


- Rate control is reasonable if asymptomatic
- Consider rhythm control for symptoms Rx
- Catheter ablation is a reasonable first line

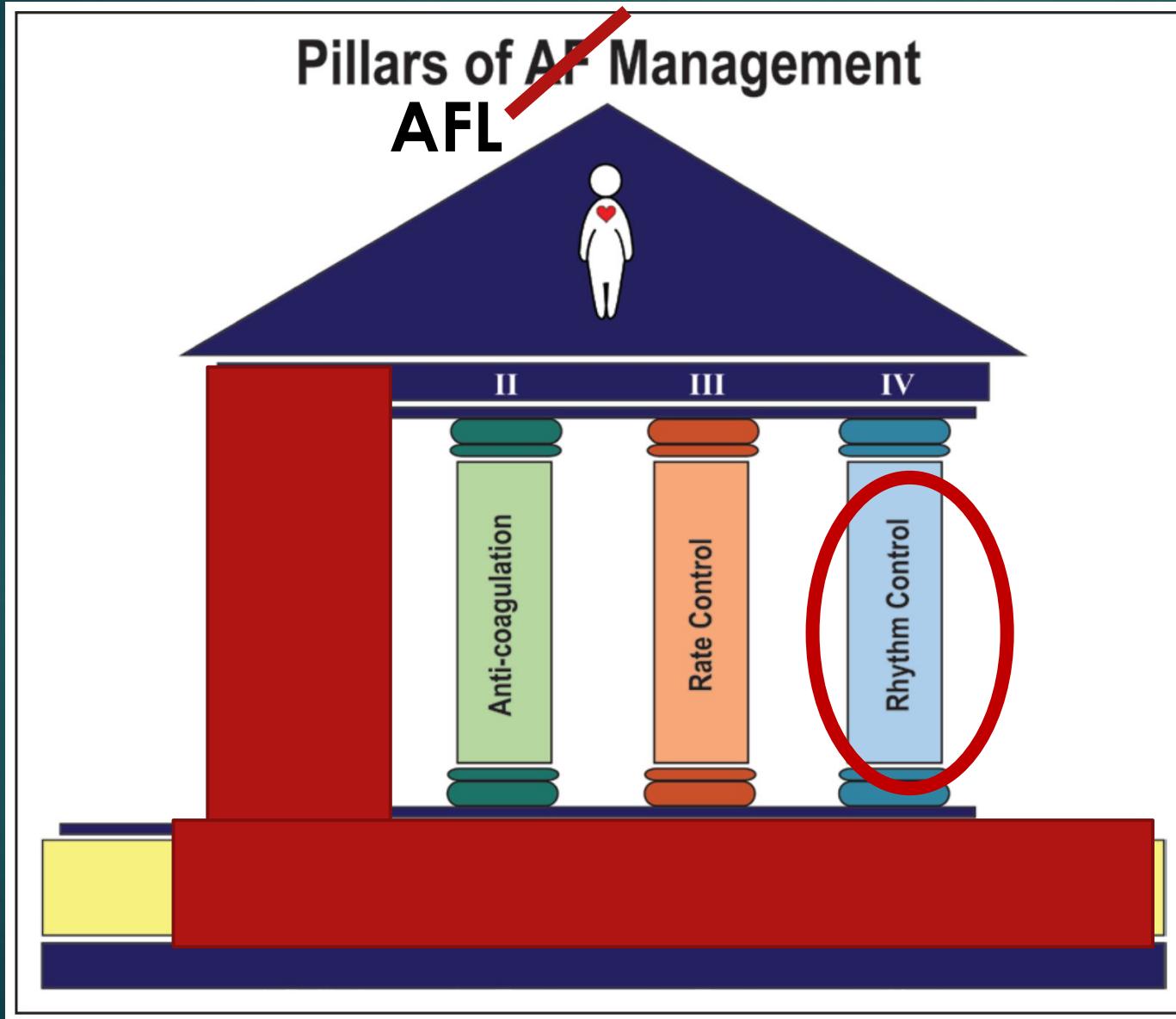
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# Atrial Flutter (AFL)



# Atrial Flutter (AFL)

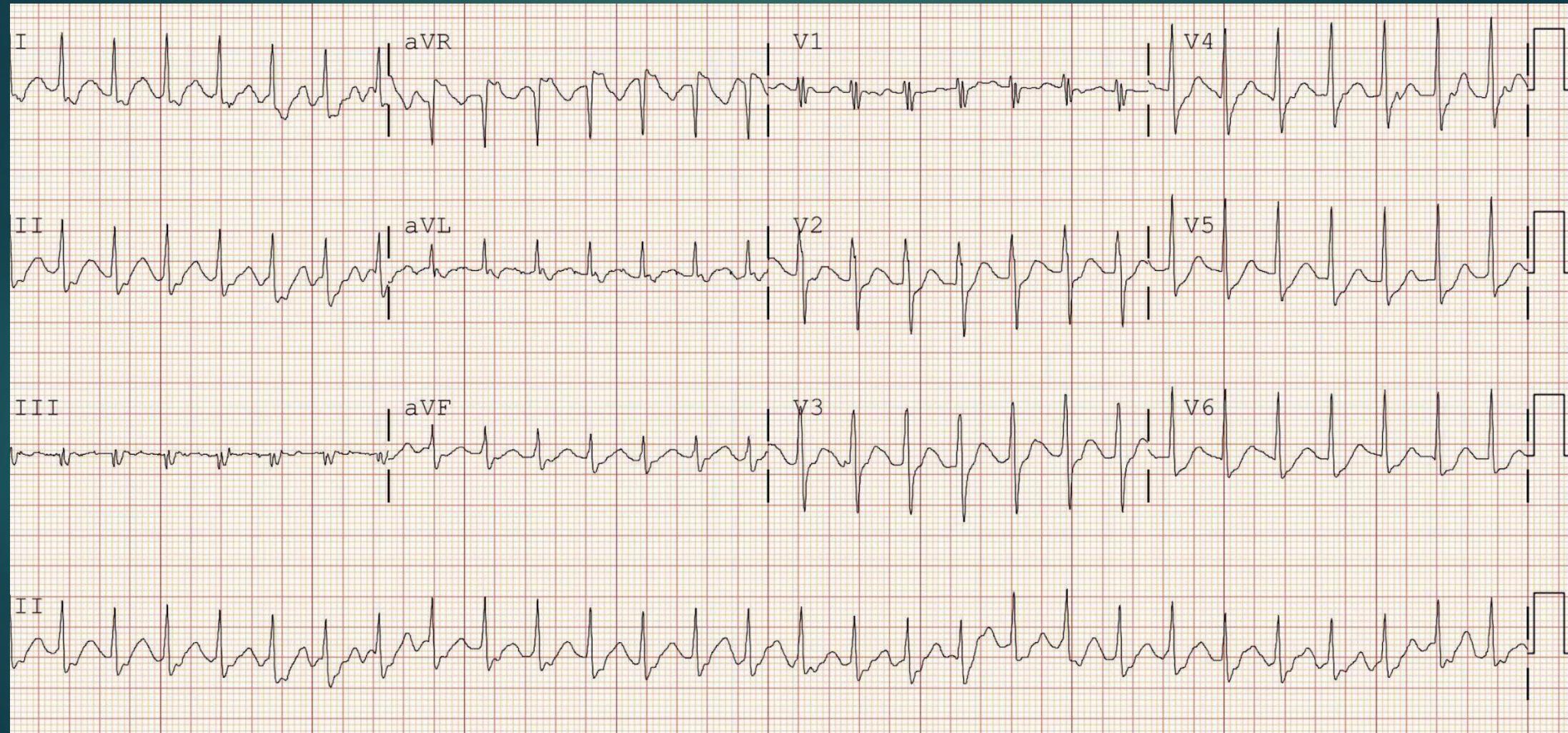


- Catheter ablation is first line !

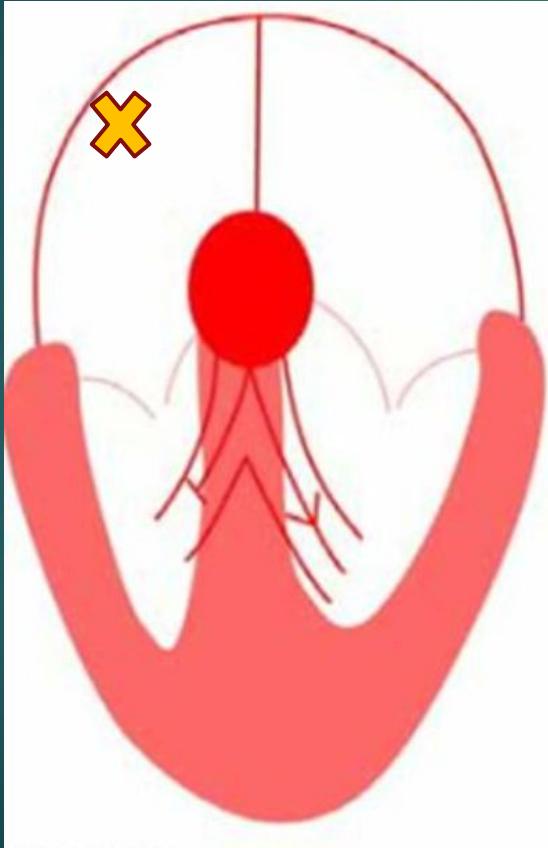
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# Supraventricular Tachy (SVT)



# Supraventricular Tachy (SVT)



# Supraventricular Tachy (SVT)

*Acute Rx:*

Valsalva

Adenosine

*Chronic Rx:*

**1- Catheter ablation**

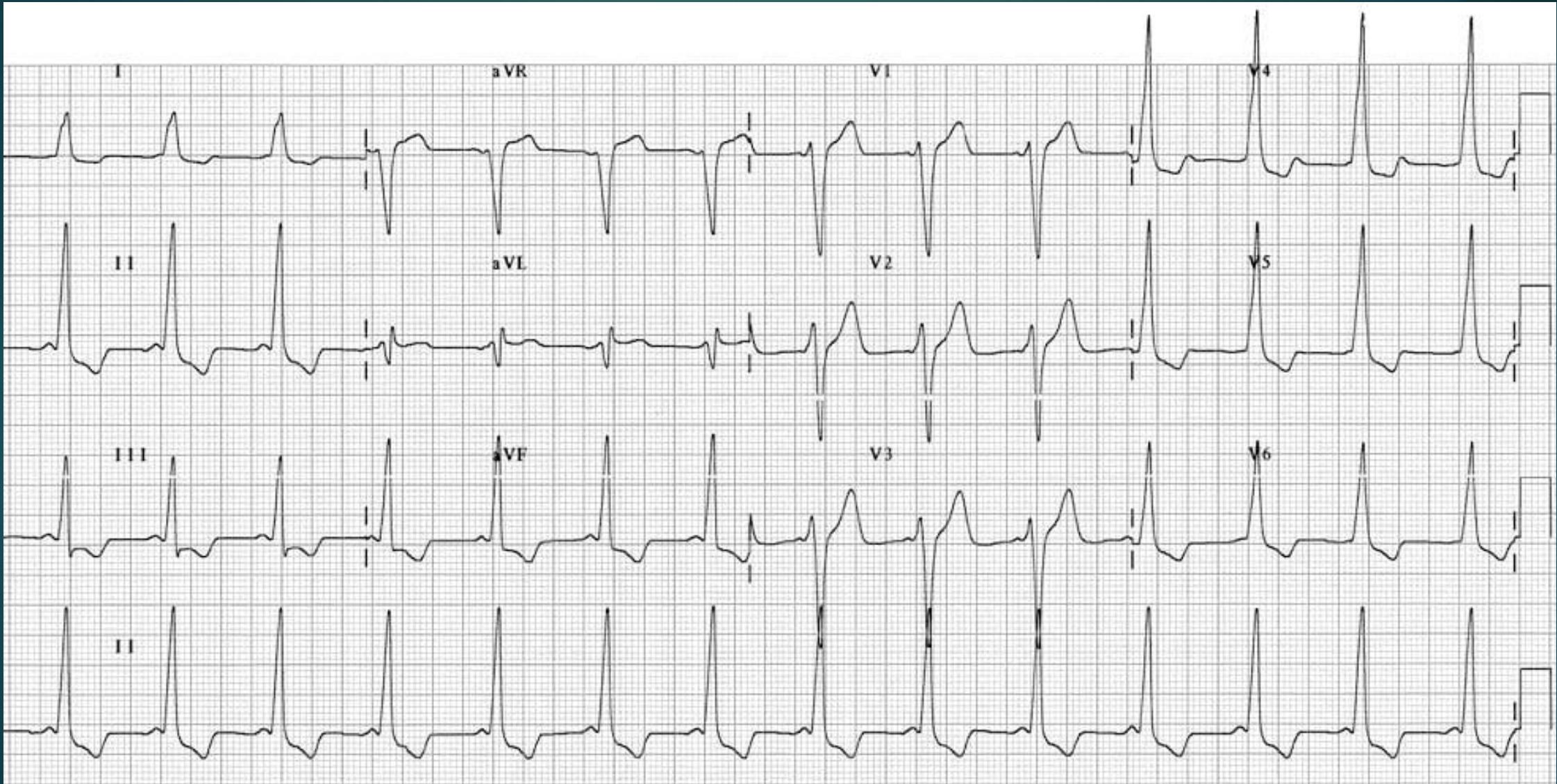
2- Medical therapy

3- Watchful waiting

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# Wolf-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW)



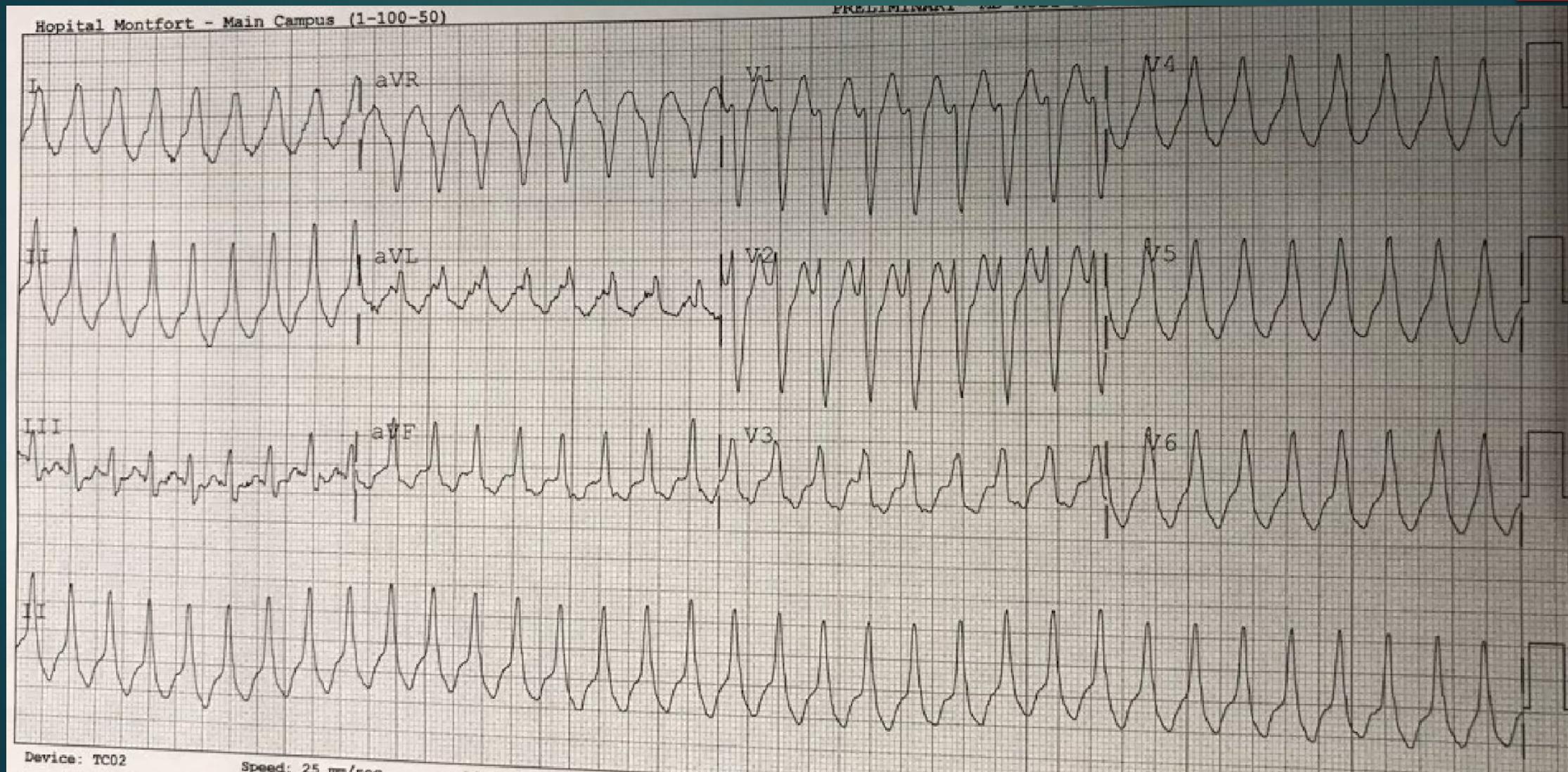
# Wolf-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW)

- Small risk of SCD from pre-excited AF
- Risk stratification (assess if the accessory pathway is capable of conducting rapid AF)

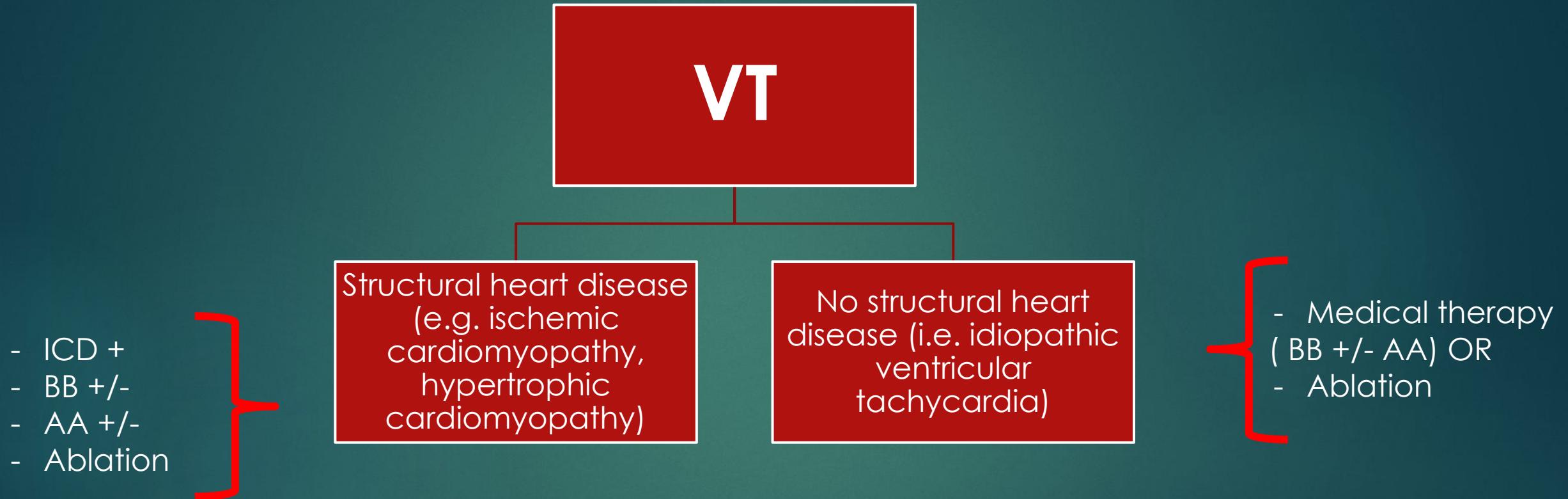
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# Ventricular tachycardia (VT)



# Ventricular tachycardia (VT)



# Objectives

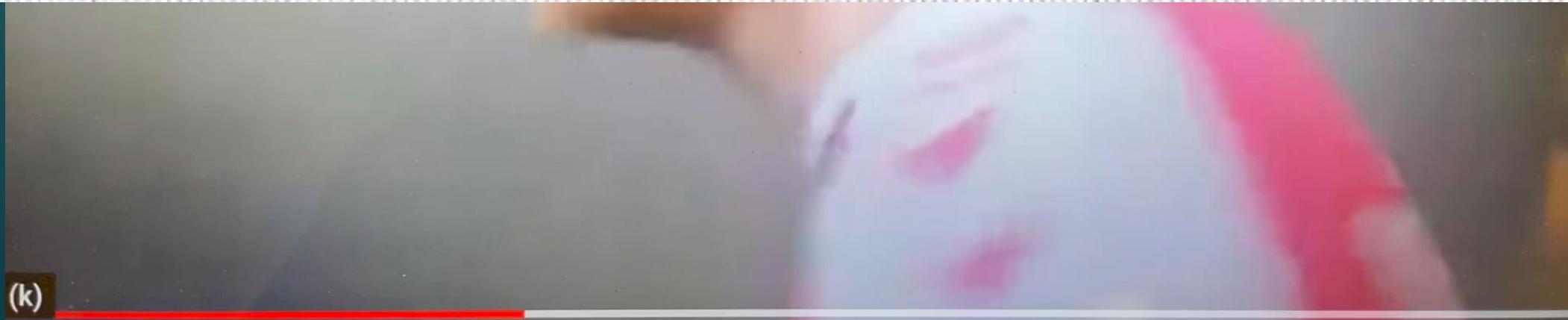
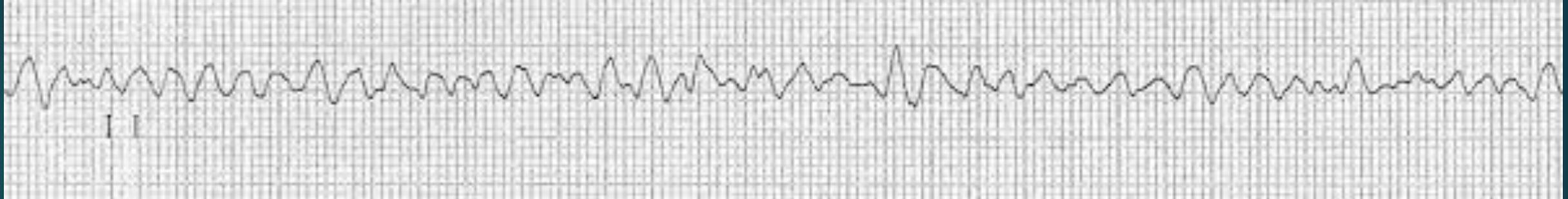
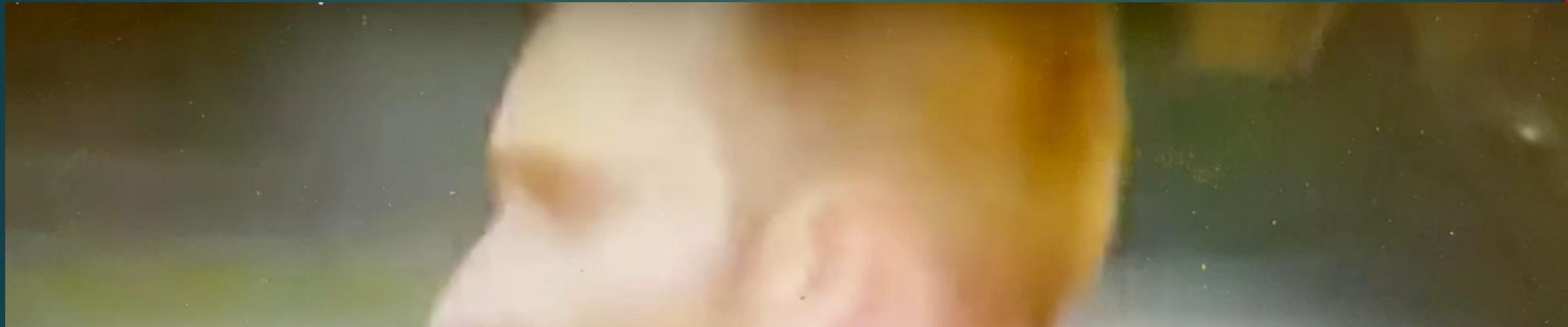
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  - ▶ **Ventricular fibrillation (VF)**
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# Ventricular fibrillation (VF)



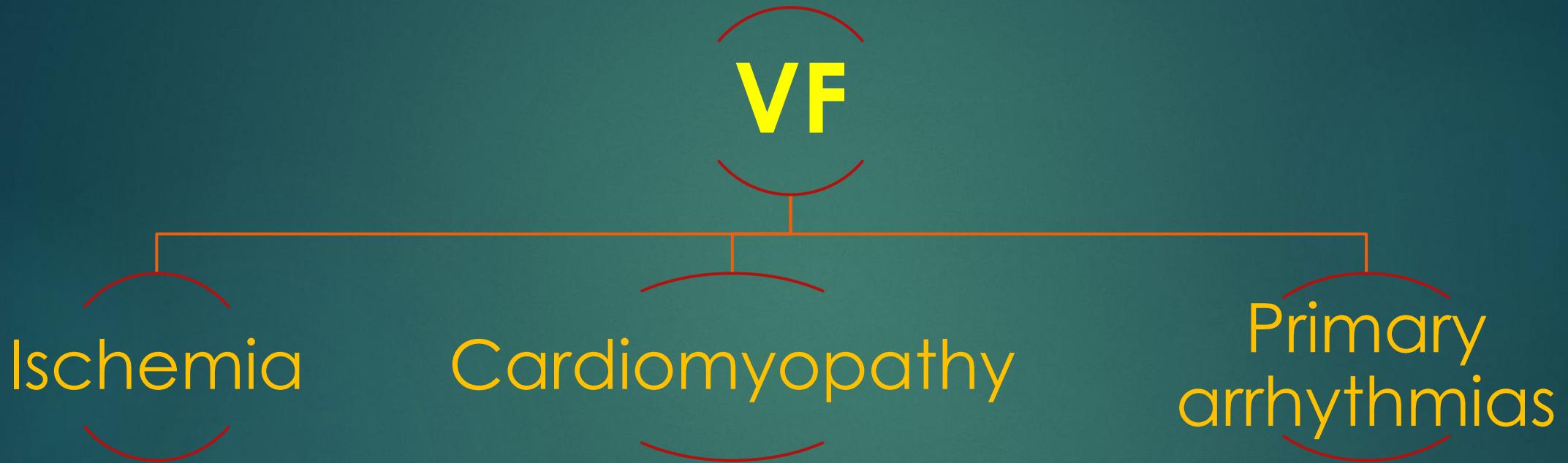
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# Ventricular fibrillation (VF)



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# Ventricular fibrillation (VF)

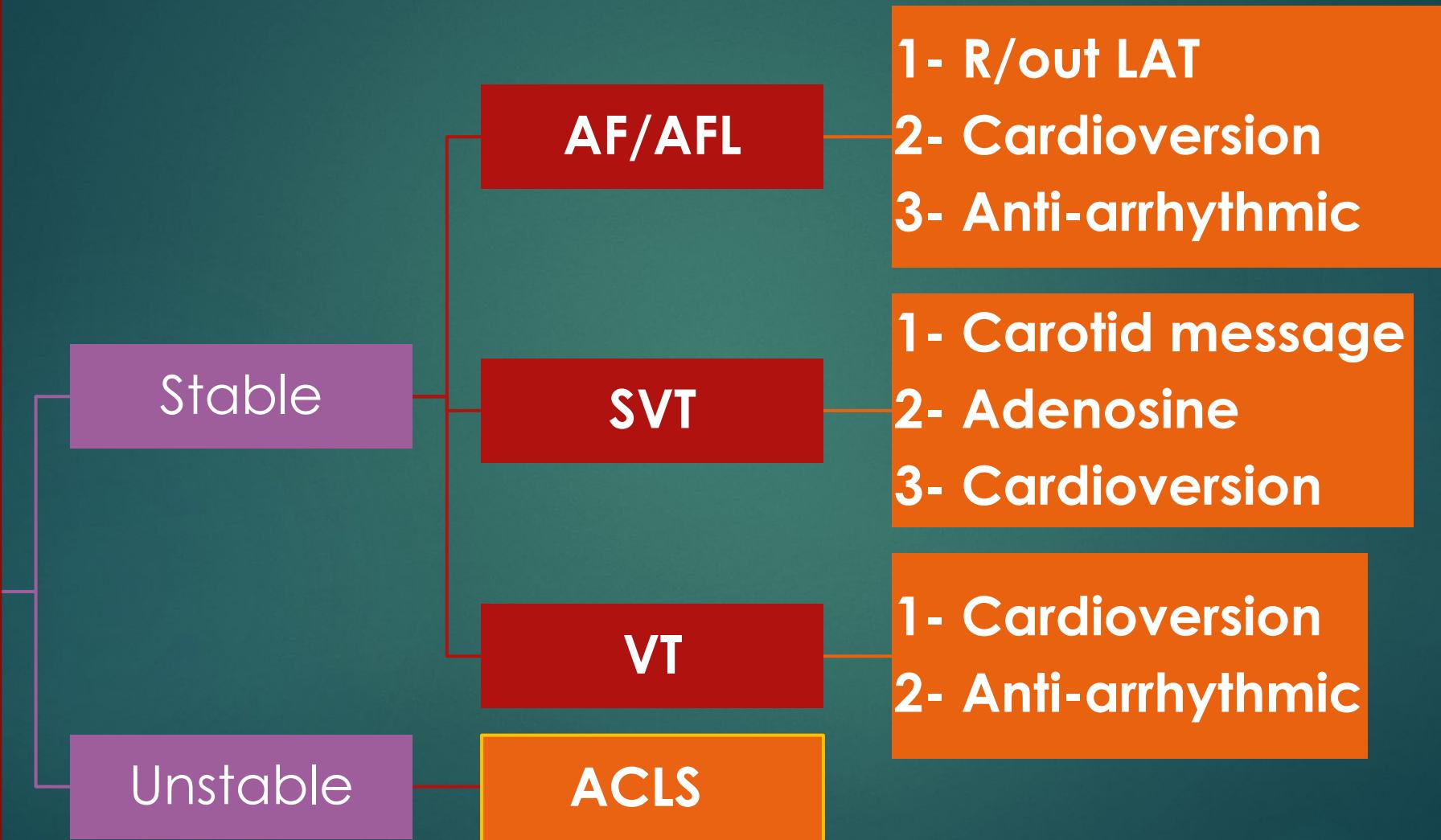


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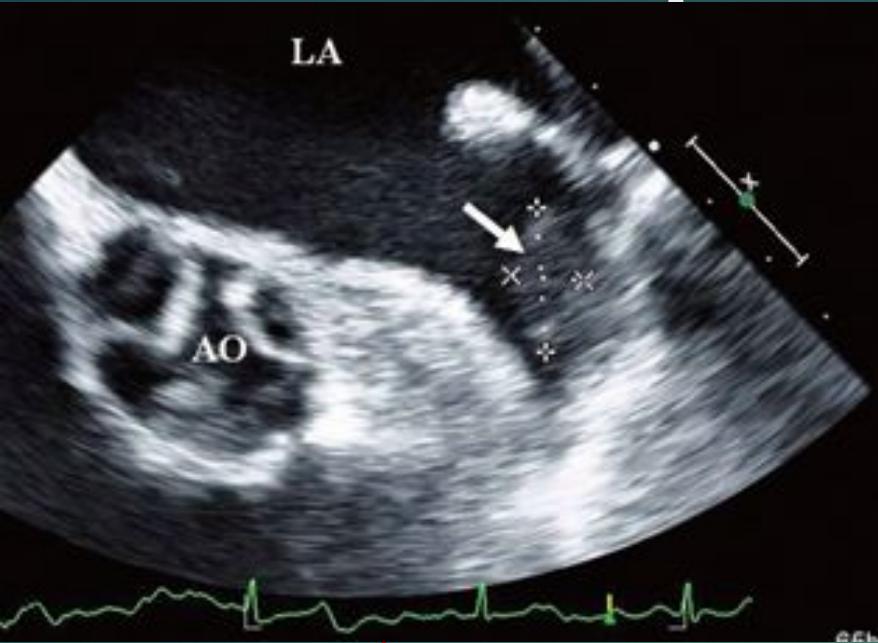
# Acute management:

## Tachy Arrhythmias



# Tachy Arrhythmias

## Acute management



Stable

SVT

Unstable

VT

ACLS

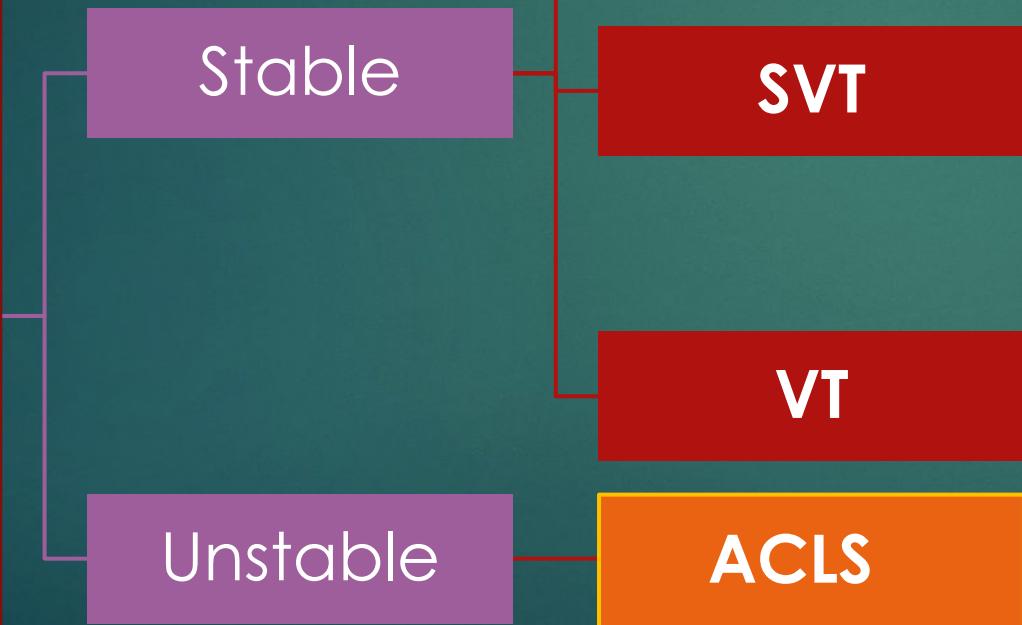
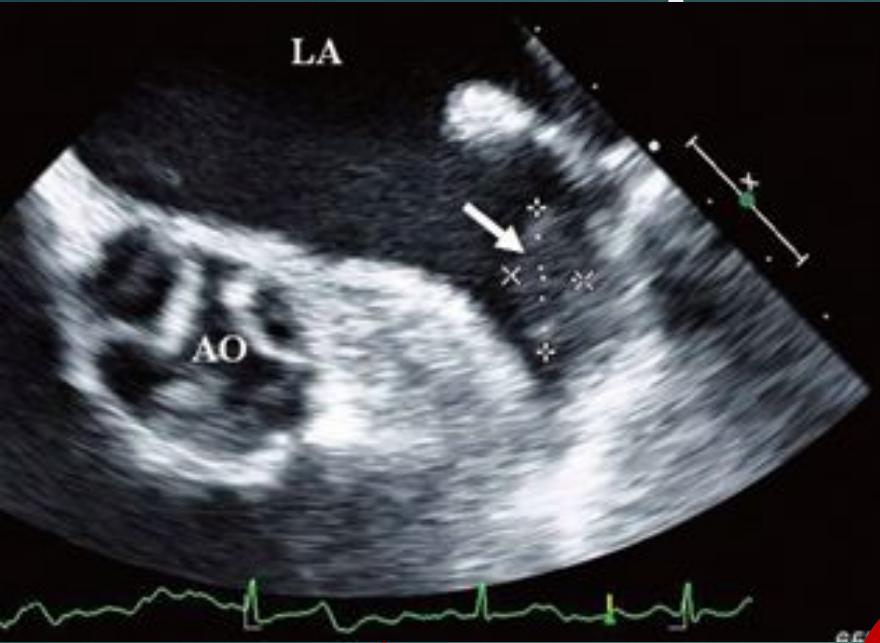
- 1- R/out LAT
- 2- Cardioversion
- 3- Anti-arrhythmic

- 1- Carotid message
- 2- Adenosine
- 3- Cardioversion

- 1- Cardioversion
- 2- Anti-arrhythmic

# Tachy Arrhythmias

## Acute management



- 1- R/out LAT
- 2- Cardioversion
- 3- Anti-arrhythmic

- 1- Carotid message
- 2- Adenosine
- 3- Cardioversion

- 1- Cardioversion
- 2- Anti-arrhythmic

# Take Home Messages:

- ▶ 3 acceptable approaches to manage tachy arrhythmias (watchful waiting / medical Rx / ablation)
- ▶ AF is the most common arrhythmia
- ▶ Use CHADS-65 score to assess the need for OAC in AF
- ▶ Use Carotid message/Adenosine for acute Rx of stable SVT