

# Ασυμπτωματικός ασθενής με διαταραχές αγωγής. Πρόγνωση θεραπεία

IICE



ΚΑΡΔΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ  
ΒΟΡΕΙΟΥ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

24 | 25 | 26 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ 2011  
ELECTRA PALACE HOTEL  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ

INNOVATIONS IN  
INTERVENTIONAL  
CARDIOLOGY &  
ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

4ο ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΟ  
ΕΠΕΜΒΑΤΙΚΗΣ  
ΚΑΡΔΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ &  
ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΦΥΣΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ

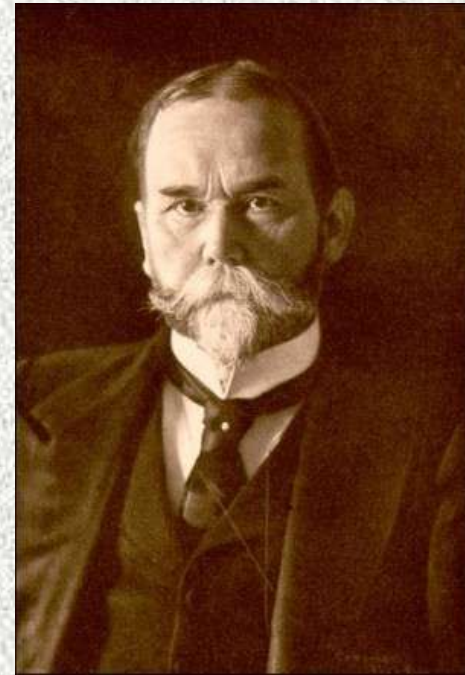
ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ / PROGRAMME



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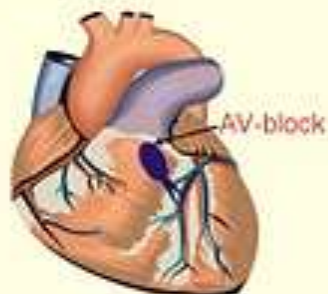
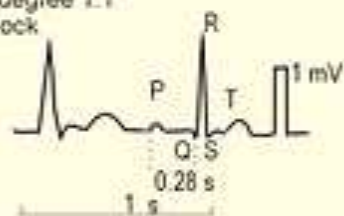
**1899 he provided a description of irregular pulses due to partial blockage of AV conduction which created a progressive lengthening of conduction time**



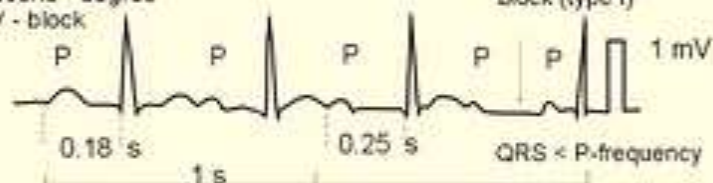
**1924 Mobitz classified second-degree AV block into type I and type II using the electrocardio-gram**

## Four Types of AV-block (PQ interval > 0.2 s)

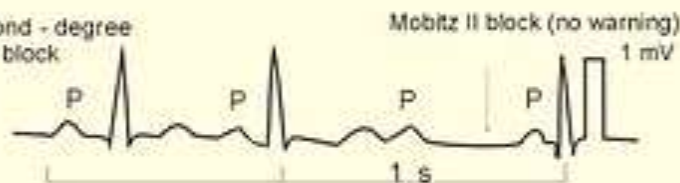
First - degree 1:1  
AV - block



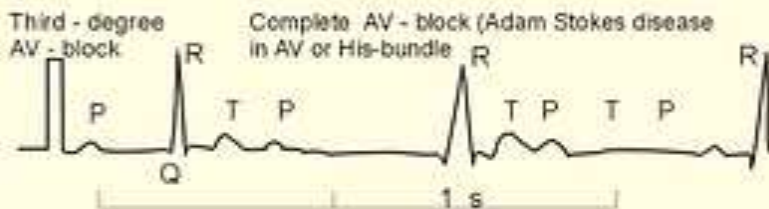
Second - degree  
AV - block



Second - degree  
AV - block

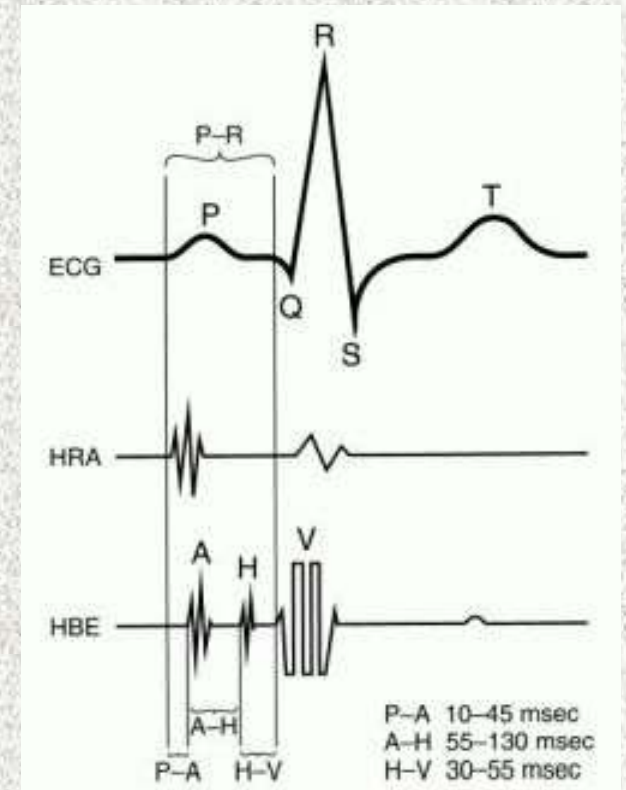
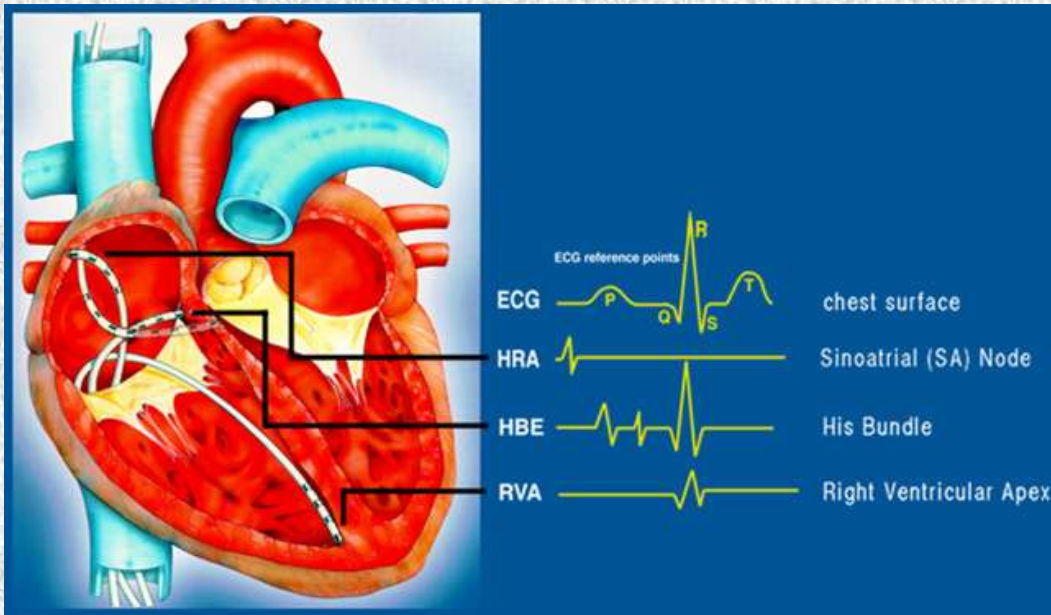


Third - degree  
AV - block



Complete AV - block (Adam Stokes disease  
in AV or His-bundle)

Fig. 11-12



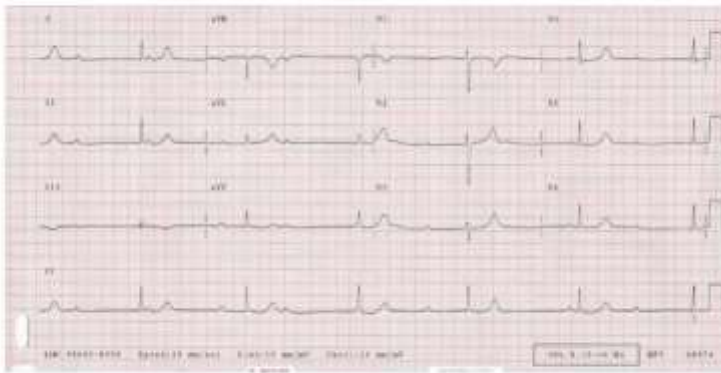
## HV challenge:

- atrial pacing
- procainamide

- **AV block** remains one of the most common reasons for pacemaker implantation
- there are still **open questions** about the indications for pacing
- lack of large, comparative, randomized **studies**,
- The situation may become even more complex when the conduction disturbance is **intermittent**
- The decision to implant a pacemaker is based, to a large extent, on the presence **of symptoms** that are directly related to the bradycardia caused by the AV block

# complete AV block

## Complete (3° AV Block)



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(c) 2007, Munther K. Homoud, MD

- a number of nonrandomized studies showing that permanent cardiac pacing **improves survival**
- especially in patients who experience episodes of **syncope**

## Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for third-degree and advanced second-degree AV block

### Class I indication

- at any anatomic level in awake, **symptom-free patients in sinus rhythm**, with documented periods of asystole greater than or equal to 3.0 seconds or any escape rate less than 40 bpm, or with an escape rhythm that is below the AV node. **(Level of Evidence: C)**
- **asymptomatic persistent third-degree AV block** at any anatomic site with average awake ventricular rates of 40 bpm or faster if cardiomegaly or LV dysfunction is present or if the site of block is below the AV node. **(Level of Evidence: B)**
- at any anatomic level in awake, **symptom-free patients with AF** and bradycardia with 1 or more pauses of at least 5 seconds or longer. **(Level of Evidence: C)**

## Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for **Class I** indication

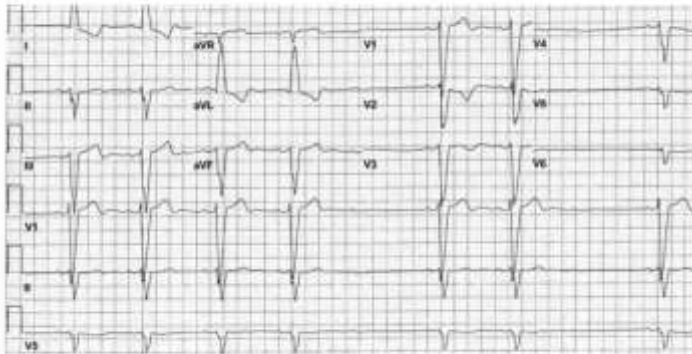
- Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for second- or third-degree AV block **during exercise** in the absence of myocardial ischemia. (Level of Evidence: C)
- at any anatomic level **after catheter ablation** of the AV junction. (Level of Evidence: C)
- at any anatomic level associated with **postoperative AV block** that is not expected to resolve after cardiac surgery. (Level of Evidence: C)
- at any anatomic level **associated with neuromuscular diseases** with AV block (Level of Evidence: B)

**Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for  
Class IIa indication**

- Permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable for persistent third-degree AV block with an escape rate **greater than 40 bpm** in asymptomatic adult patients **without cardiomegaly**. (Level of Evidence: C)

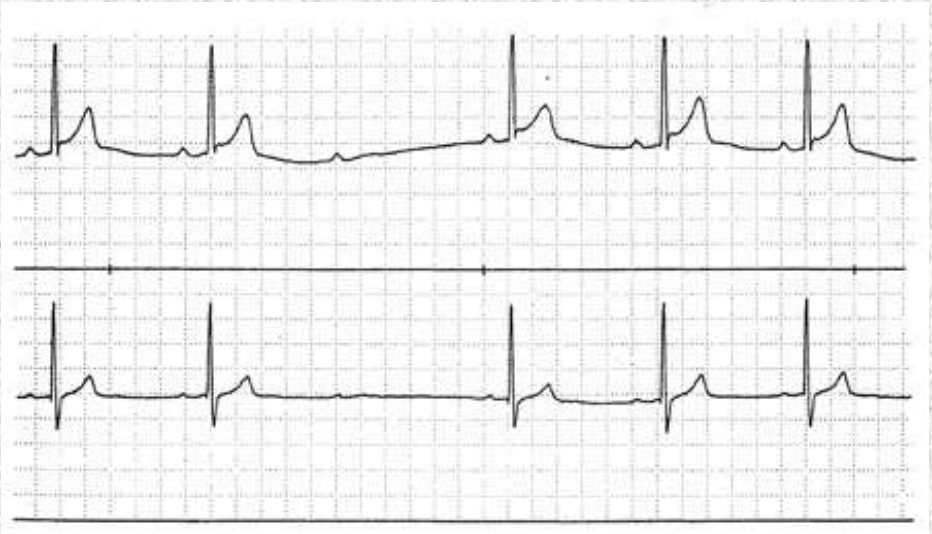
# Second-degree block type II Mobitz II

Mobitz II 2° AV Block



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(c) 2007, Munir K. Hamoud, MD

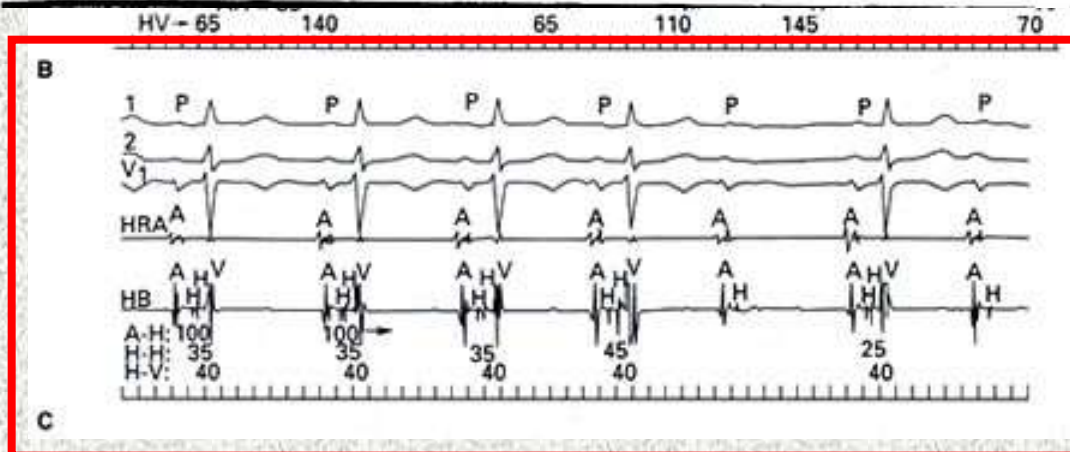


## Second-degree block type II Mobitz II

D. Zipes. Circ 1979

**TABLE 1. Site of Second-degree Atrioventricular Block**

Type of block	Normal QRS	BBB
Type I	AVN > > > > HPS	AVN > HPS
Type II	HPS > AVN	HPS > > > > AVN
1:1 → 2:1; fixed		
2:1 or greater	HPS = AVN	HPS > > AVN



is usually infranodal (either intra- or infra-His) especially when the QRS is wide

# Type II second-degree AV block

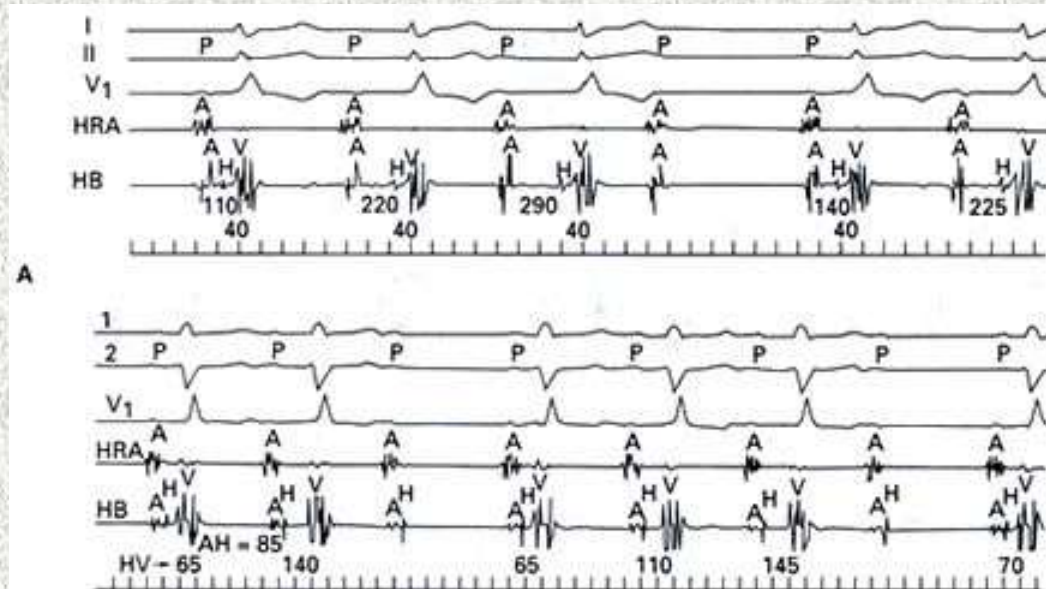
- ❑ symptoms are frequent
- ❑ prognosis is compromised and
- ❑ progression to third-degree AV block is common and sudden.
- ✓ Thus, type II second-degree AV block with a wide QRS typically indicates **diffuse conduction system disease** and constitutes an **indication for pacing even in the absence of symptoms**

## second-degree AV block

### Class IIa indication for P/M

- Permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable for **asymptomatic**
  - second-degree AV block at intra- or infra-His levels found at electrophysiological study. (Level of Evidence: B)
  - asymptomatic type II second-degree AV block with a narrow QRS. (Level of Evidence: B)
  - When type II second-degree AV block occurs with a wide QRS, including isolated right bundle-branch block, pacing becomes a **Class I** recommendation.

# second-degree AV block type I Mobitz I or Wenckenbach



usually due to  
delay in the  
AV node  
irrespective of  
QRS width

TABLE 1. *Site of Second-degree Atrioventricular Block*

Type of block	Normal QRS	BBB
Type I	AVN > > > HPS	AVN > HPS
Type II	HPS > AVN	HPS > > > AVN
1:1 → 2:1; fixed		
2:1 or greater	HPS = AVN	HPS > > AVN

# Natural History of Chronic Second-degree Atrioventricular Nodal Block

- ECGs in all **patients** demonstrated episodes of **type I second degree** block
- **electrophysiologic diagnosis** of second-degree AV nodal block.
- 34% had **no evidence of organic heart disease**, and second-degree AV nodal block was considered to be idiopathic
  - None of the patients (with or without syncope) were treated with pacemakers
  - FU:1395 ± 636 days, 1/19 P/M
- 66% had clinically diagnosable **organic heart disease**
  - FU:1347 ± 825 days, P/M:10/15
- Among our 56 patients with chronic AV nodal block, 18 had an associated intraventricular conduction defect.
  - All these patients had organic heart disease and
  - most presented with either congestive heart failure or syncope

# **second-degree AV block type I**

## **Mobitz I or Wenckenbach**

- The natural history is related to the presence or absence of organic disease
- it is usually benign in the former and more malignant in the latter
- progression to advanced AV block in this situation is uncommon
- pacing is usually not indicated
- unless the patient is symptomatic.

## asymptomatic type I second-degree AV block

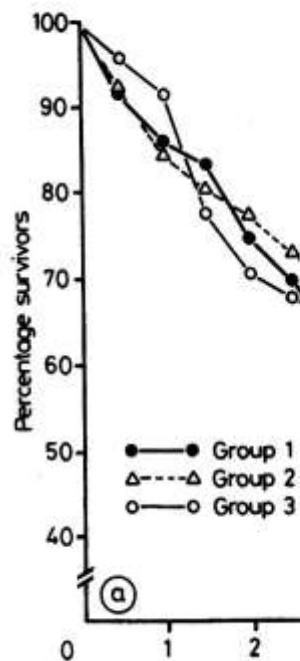
### **Class III** indication for P/M

Permanent pacemaker implantation is **not indicated** for

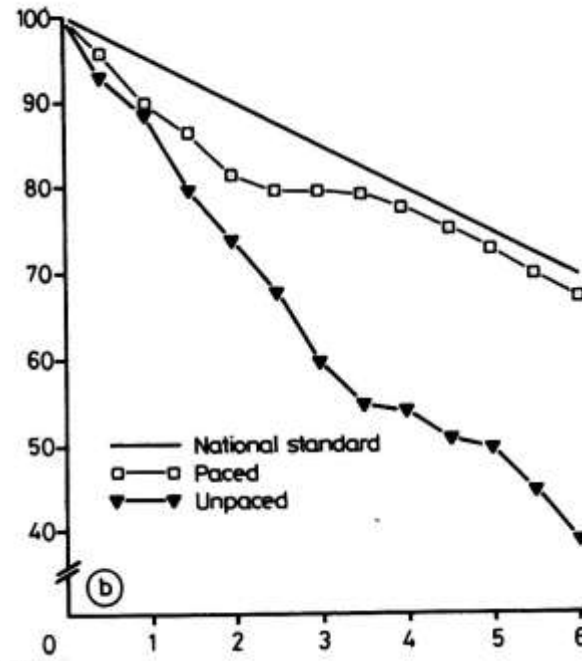
- asymptomatic type I second-degree AV block at the **supra-His** (AV node) level or that
- which is **not known** to be intra- or infra-Hisian. (Level of Evidence: C)

# Survival in second degree atrioventricular block

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Shaw, Kekwick, Veale, Gowers, Whistance



- group 1: Mobitz type I block
- group 2: Mobitz type II block
- group 3: 2:1 or 3:1 block

• The presence or absence of bundle branch block did not appear to influence prognosis

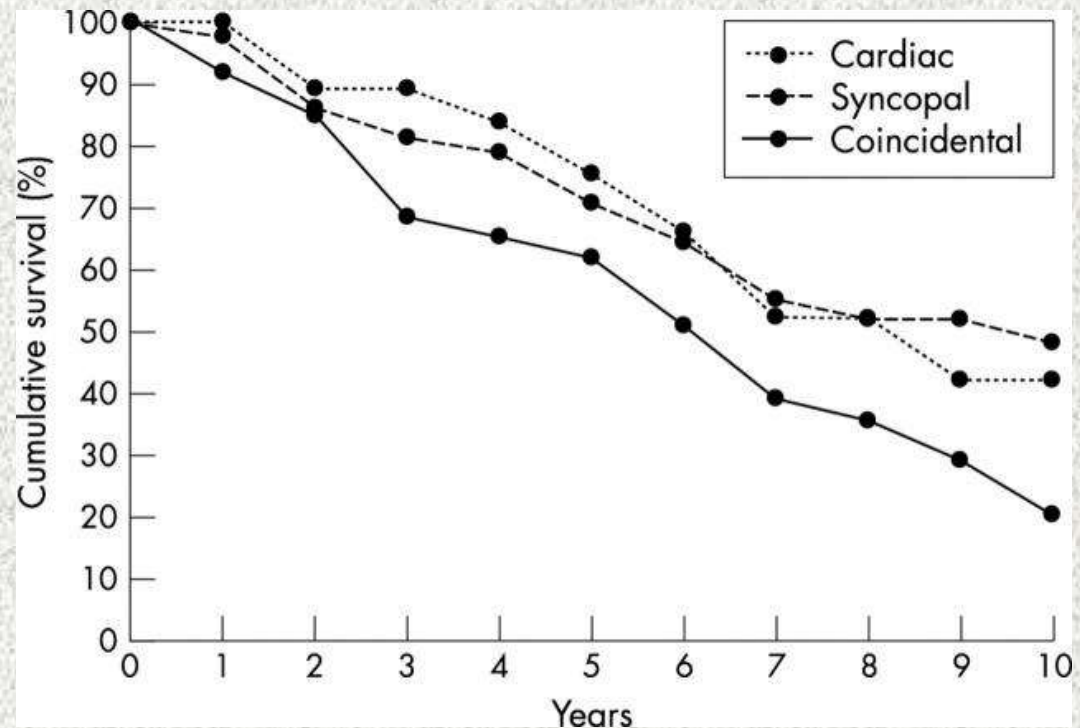
• Even patients without major symptoms fared badly if left unpaced.

DAVID B SHAW et al.

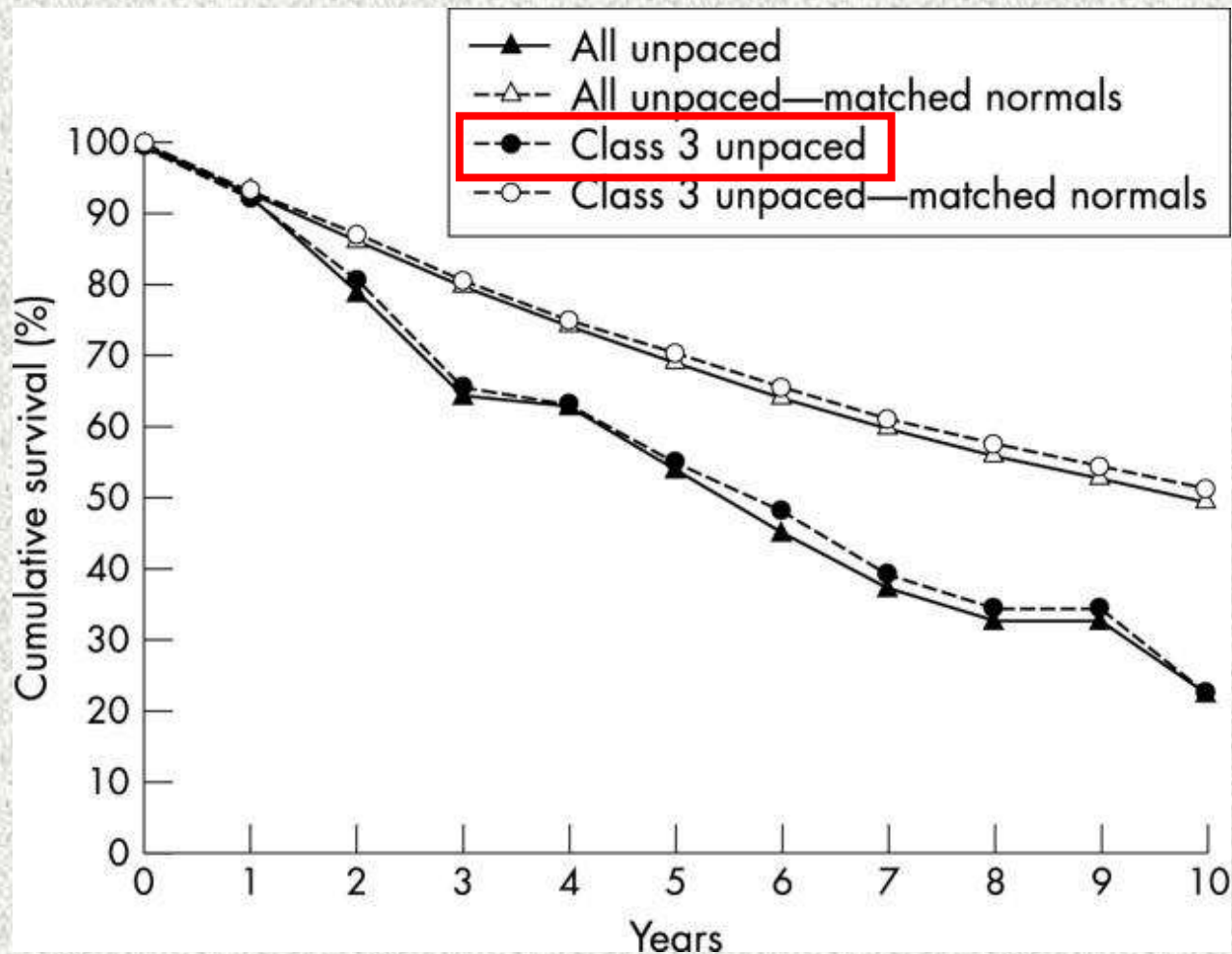
Br Heart J 1985

# Is Mobitz type I atrioventricular block benign in adults?

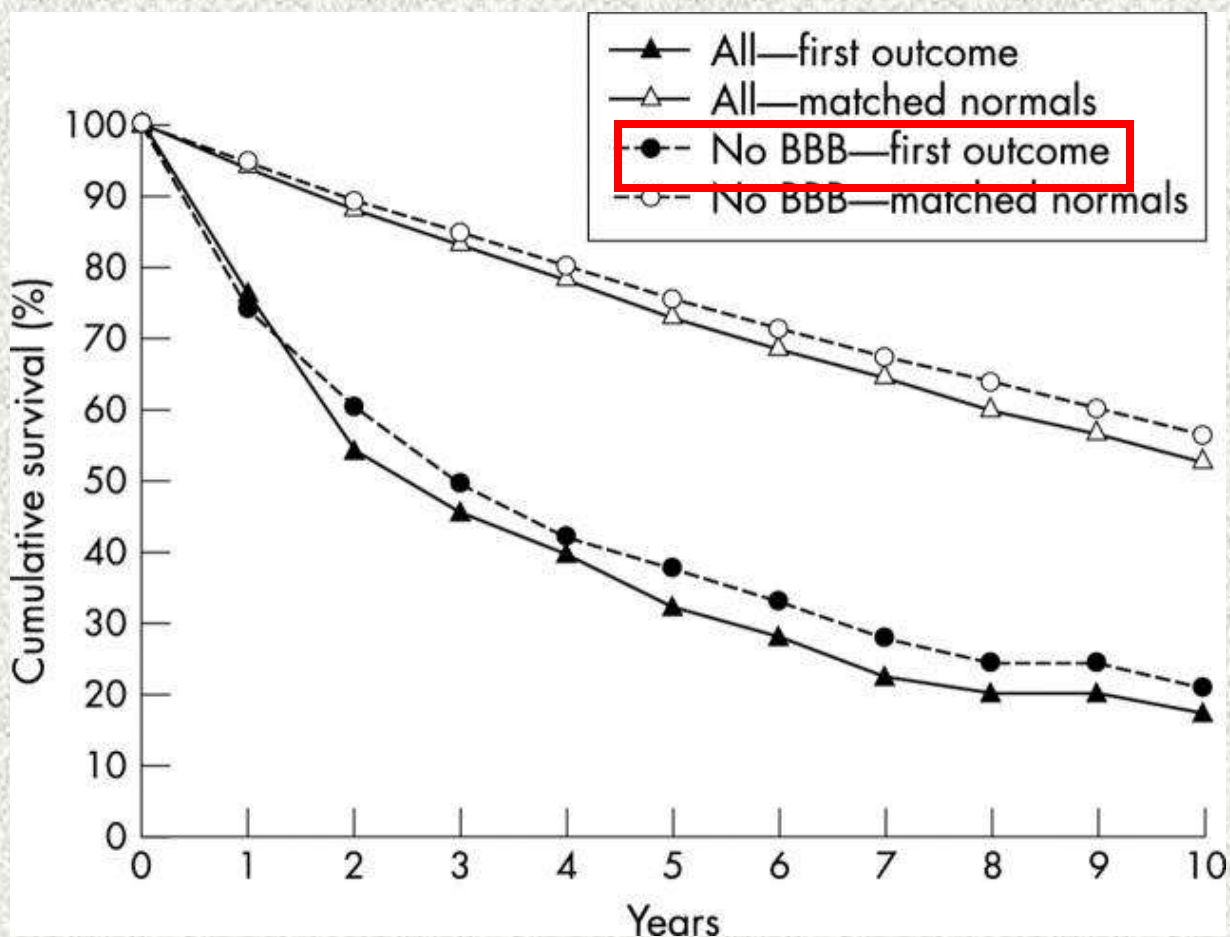
- **Syncopal reason** for referral was defined as a disturbance of consciousness (syncope or presyncope)
- **Cardiac reason** was palpitation, breathlessness, chest pain, or suspected cardiac failure
- **Coincidental reason** was discovery of Mobitz I on the preoperative ECG, during the health check, or during an intercurrent infection or other disease

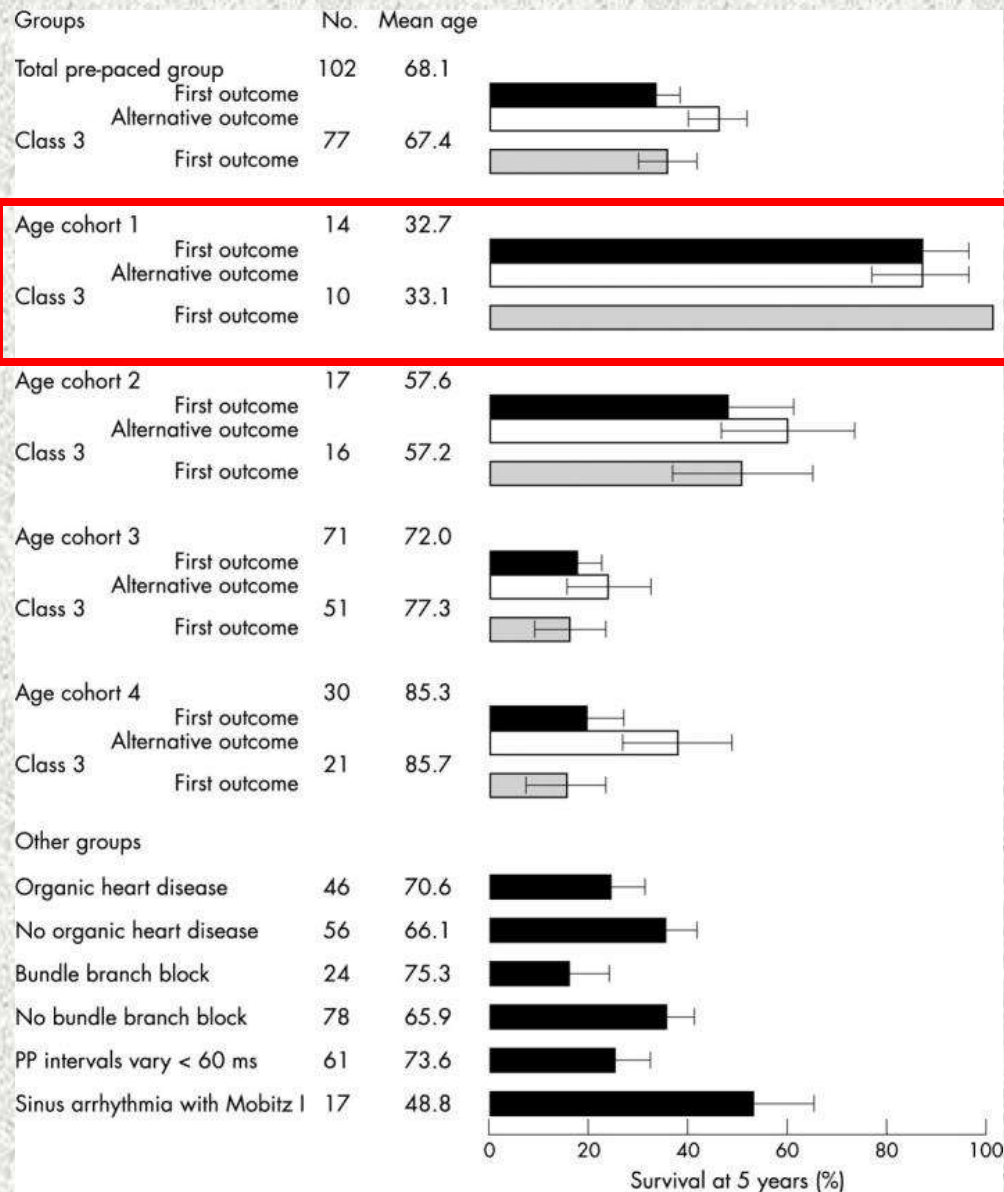


## Life table survival curves for patients with Mobitz I atrioventricular block who did not receive a pacemaker and for matched normal populations



## Survival to the first outcome (death, deterioration in conduction, or symptomatic bradycardia) in patients with Mobitz I and to death in a matched normal population





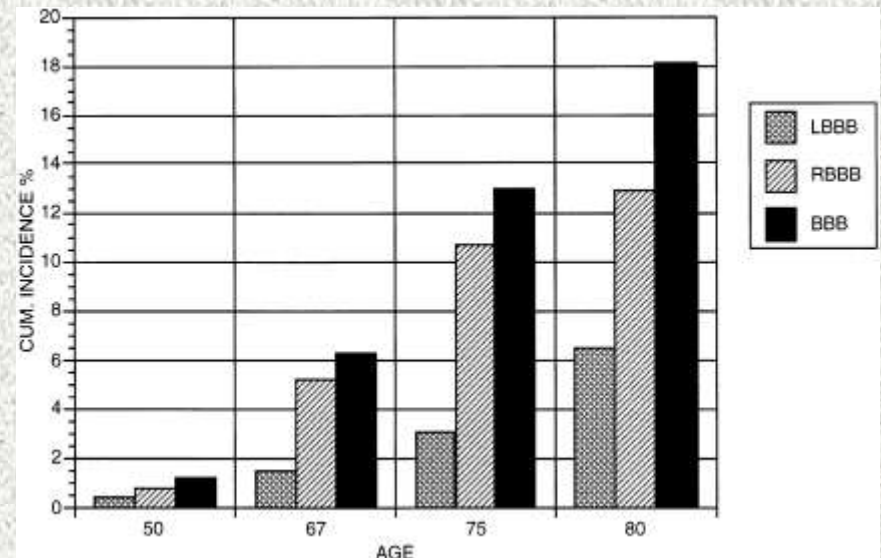
❑ Mobitz I was **not benign** in most of those studied who were aged > 45 years

❑ **In class 3** 47% of pts with **organic heart disease**

# Bifascicular blocks

## LBBB, RBBB+LAH, RBBB+LPH

- ✓ **Prevalence:** 1% to 1.5% in the adult population
- ✓ often a **manifestation** of serious underlying heart disease
- ✓ **higher probability** of progression to advanced atrioventricular block (AVB) and
- ✓ increased risk of **ventricular arrhythmias**, which results in an
- ✓ increase in **mortality** when compared to the general population.

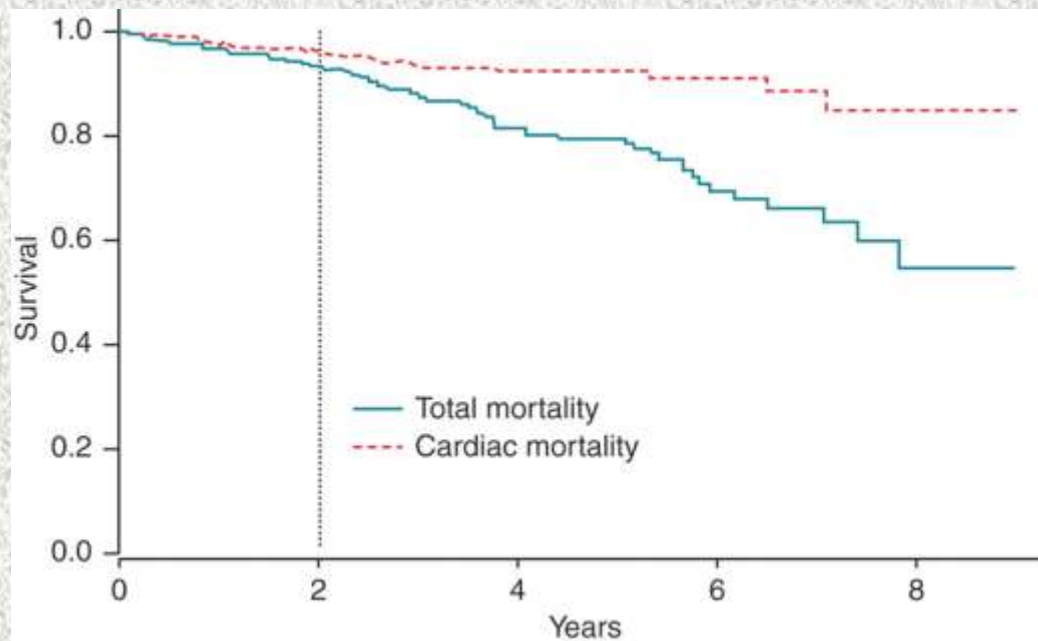


- ❖ **bundle-branch block is highly age-dependent,**
- ❖ **uncommon (1.2%) at age 50**
- ❖ **to becoming common (17%) at age 80 in the same population.**

## Long-term mortality predictors in patients with chronic bifascicular block.

- Between 1998 and 2006,
- 259 consecutive patients with chronic bifascicular block
- FU: 4.5 years.
- mean age: 73 years,
- 47% structural heart disease,
- LVEF  $\leq$  35% in 12% of patients,
- 42% impaired renal function.
- prior syncope/pre-syncope (82% of the whole population).

## Long-term mortality predictors in patients with chronic bifascicular block.



- ❑ death occurred in 20% of patients,
- ❑ cardiac death accounting for only about one-third (7%) of all deaths.

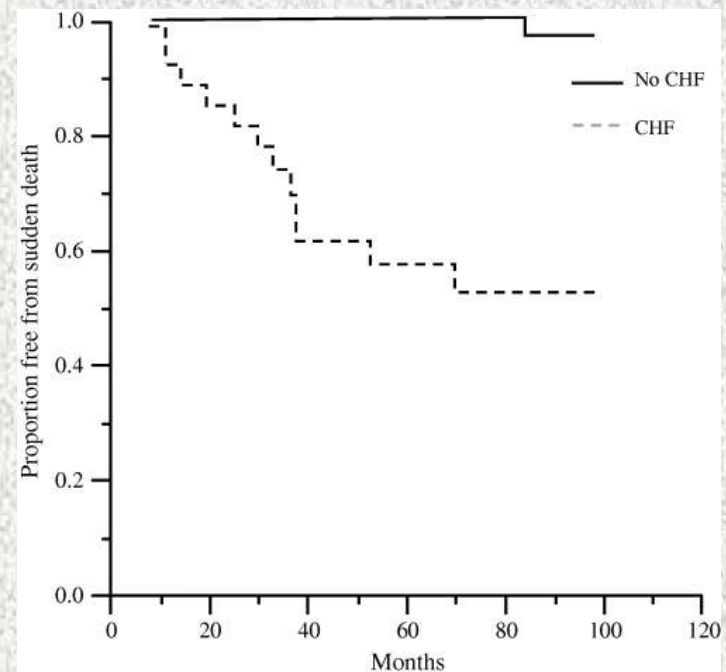
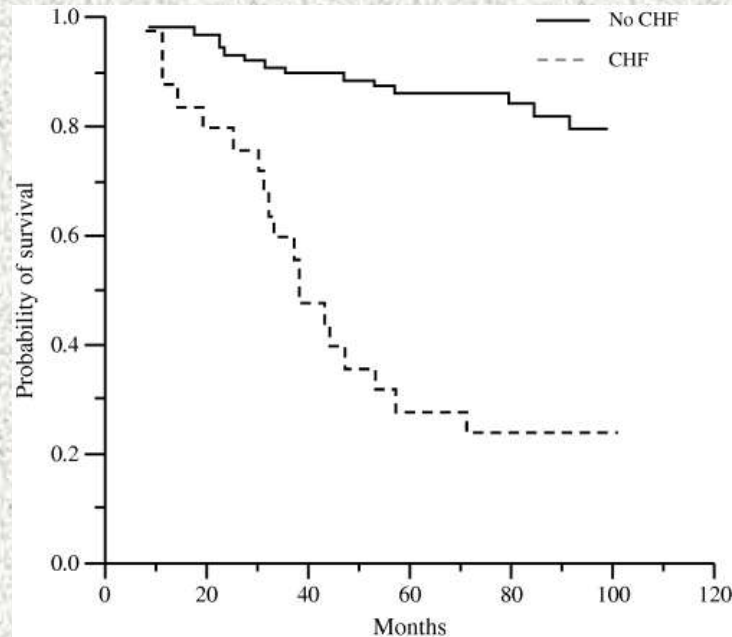
## Hazard ratio for total and cardiac mortality during the follow-up using bivariate Cox models

Variables	Total mortality (n = 53)	Cardiac mortality (n = 19)
Male	1.03 (0.58–1.84)	1.04 (0.39–2.74)
Age	1.04 (1.01–1.08)	1.0 (0.95–1.05)
Syncope/pre-syncope	1.08 (0.52–2.21)	1.86 (0.43–8.05)
<u>NYHA &gt;II</u>	3.13 (1.79–5.51)	<u>6.93 (2.69–17.87)</u>
<u>Structural heart disease</u>	2.3 (1.31–4.04)	<u>4.45 (1.47–13.42)</u>
Hypertension	1.33 (0.74–2.39)	2.94 (0.85–10.13)
Diabetes	1.16 (0.64–2.08)	1.49 (0.58–3.81)
Dyslipaemia	0.77 (0.41–1.47)	0.66 (0.22–2.01)
Active smoker	1.09 (0.64–1.87)	1.06 (0.43–2.62)
<u>LVEF &lt; 35%</u>	2.95 (1.5–5.78)	<u>4.75 (1.77–12.74)</u>
Renal function		
eGFR ≥ 60 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	Reference	
eGFR 40–59 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	1.46 (0.78–2.75)	1.46 (0.49–4.35)
<u>  eGFR &lt; 40 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup></u>	5.06 (2.54–10.1)	<u>5.82(1.93–17.52)</u>
ECG		
Atrial fibrillation	2.77 (1.18–6.51)	0.05 (indeterminate)
PR interval > 200 ms	1.35 (0.75–2.42)	1.48 (0.59–3.72)
Kind of BFB		
LAFB+RBBB	Reference	
LPFB+RBBB	0.46 (0.14–1.53)	0.46 (0.06–3.6)
LBBB	0.9 (0.51–1.61)	1.08 (0.42–2.76)
EPS		
HV interval > 70 ms	0.95(0.53–1.69)	1.06 (0.42–2.71)
VT inducibility	2.07 (0.50–8.54)	3.18 (0.42–24.05)

## Hazard ratio for total and cardiac mortality during the follow-up using multivariate Cox models

Variable	HR	95% IC	P-value
<b>Total mortality</b>			
Age	1.04	1.01–1.09	0.02
Atrial fibrillation	2.96	1.10–7.92	0.03
eGFR <40 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	4.29	2.04–9.01	<0.001
NYHA ≥II	2.17	1.05–4.52	0.03
LVEF <35%	2.41	0.99–5.84	0.05
<b><u>Cardiac mortality</u></b>			
NYHA ≥II	5.45	2.01–14.82	0.001
eGFR <40 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	3.82	1.21–12.06	0.02

# Long-term prognosis in patients with bifascicular block – the predictive value of noninvasive and invasive assessment



**An annual all-cause mortality and sudden death of 4.7% and 2%, respectively**

## Long-term prognosis in patients with bifascicular block – the predictive value of noninvasive and invasive assessment

**Table 3** Hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals for different covariates for death from any cause in the study population

Variable	HR	95% CI	P-value
Age	1.03	0.97–1.09	0.3
Previous MI	1.09	0.43–2.79	0.9
<u>CHF</u>	4.68	2.03–10.79	<0.001
LV-EF	0.98	0.95–1.01	0.1
Monomorphic VT	0.42	0.12–1.47	0.2

# total mortality rate in patients with bifascicular block

- ❖ Marti-Almor J et al. Europace 2009: (20.1% in a median follow-up of 4.5 years)
- ❖ Tabrizi F et al. J Intern Med 2006: a mortality rate of 33%, half of them due to SCD
- ❖ McAnulty JH et al. N Engl J Med 1982: mortality rate among BFB patients of 29%, 42% of which due to SCD
- ❖ Dhingra RC et al. Circulation 1981: total mortality of 38% was determined after a 7 year follow-up period, with SCD being mainly responsible for this mortality rate.

# total mortality rate in patients with bifascicular block

- ❑ higher percentage of patients with **structural heart disease and lower LVEF** in these previous studies
- ❑ Moreover, **drugs** such as ACE-inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers, beta-blockers, or statins, with proven survival benefits, were less frequently administered when these studies were published than currently

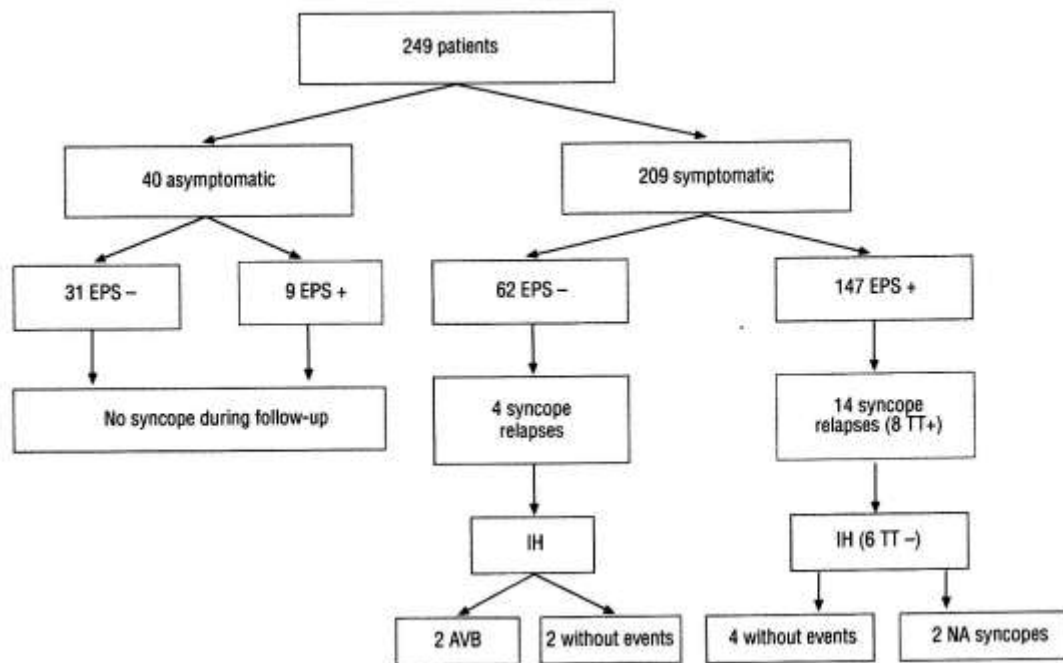
# Progression of atrioventricular block

- ❑ **annual incidence of AVB** ranging between 5% and 11% according to different series
- ❑ **In asymptomatic** patients, this is lower, ranging from 0.6% to 0.8%

# independent predictors of advanced AVB?

- ❑ the presence of **syncope** and documentation of prolonged **HV intervals** in electrophysiological studies (EPS)
- ❑ The progression rate to AV block at 4 years was 4, 12, and 24%, respectively, for patients with an **HV interval** ,55 ms (normal), 70 ms and 100 ms
- ✓ The **sensitivity and specificity of the EPS** has been questioned
  - ✓ consensus on the limit value of the HV interval necessary to indicate the implementation of a pacemaker ?
  - ✓ currently accepted value is  $\geq 70$  ms in symptomatic patients and  $\geq 100$  ms in asymptomatic patients

## Novel Predictors of Progression of Atrioventricular Block in Patients With Chronic Bifascicular Block



- 249 patients with BFB
- Mean age, 73.4 years
- median FU: 4.5 years
- 47% had structural heart disease

# results

- no difference in the HV interval between different types of BFB
- HV interval was higher in patients with
  - structural heart disease (68), compared to patients without heart disease (64) and
  - Patients with  $CF \geq II$  had a significantly higher HV interval (71), than patients in FC I (64)

**TABLE 2. Multivariate Analysis Using the Cox Regression of the Clinical Variables**

Variable	HR	95% CI	P
Prior clinic	2.88	1.44-5.78	.03
GFR <sub>e</sub> <60 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	1.5	0.99-2.27	.054
PR>200 ms	2.52	1.62-3.91	<.001
QRS>140 ms	2.68	1.75-4.1	<.001

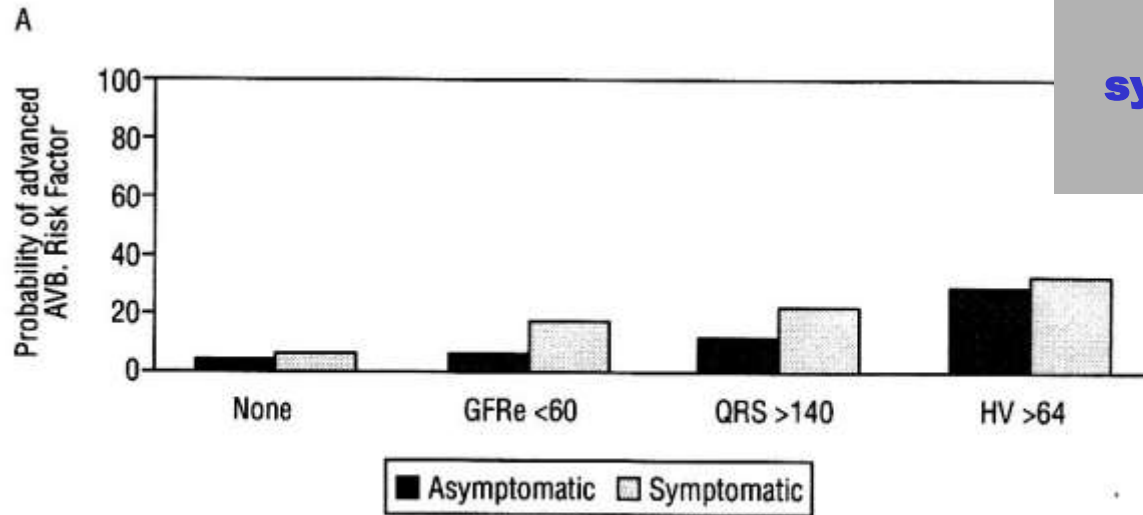
GFR<sub>e</sub> indicates glomerular filtration rate.

**TABLE 4. Multivariate Cox Analysis of the Clinical and Electrophysiological Variables for Need of Pacemaker**

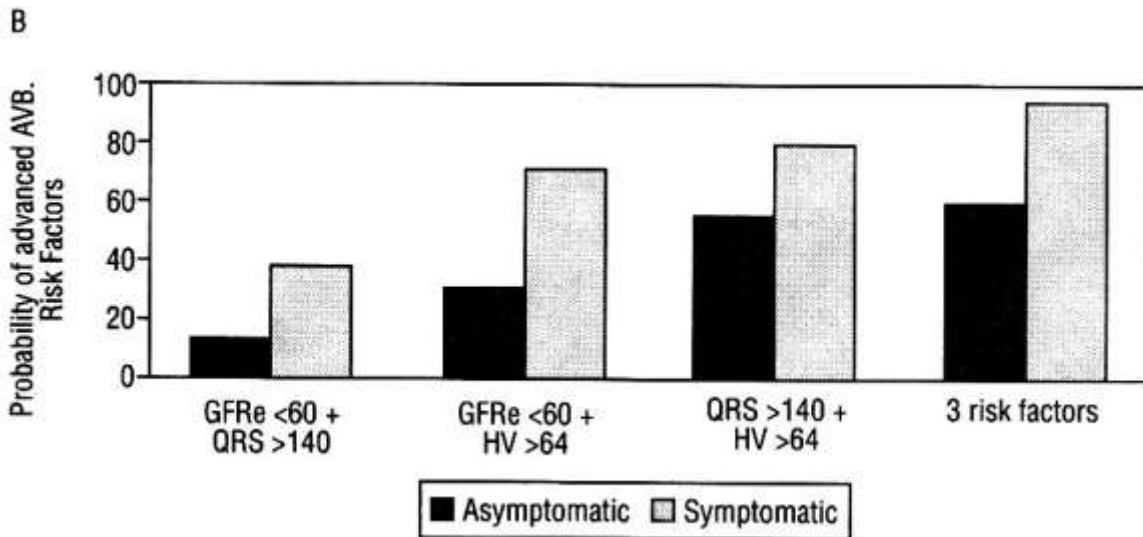
Variable	HR	95% CI	P
QRS width >140 ms	2.44	1.59-3.76	<.001
HV>64 ms	6.6	4.04-10.80	<.001
Prior symptoms	2.06	1.03-4.12	.041
GFR <sub>e</sub> <60 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	1.86	1.22-2.83	.004

GFR<sub>e</sub> indicates glomerular filtration rate.

**annual probability of requiring a pacemaker in symptomatic and asymptomatic patients**



➤ **the most important predictor was the HV interval, although this is only able to predict the need for PM in symptomatic patients in 33%.**

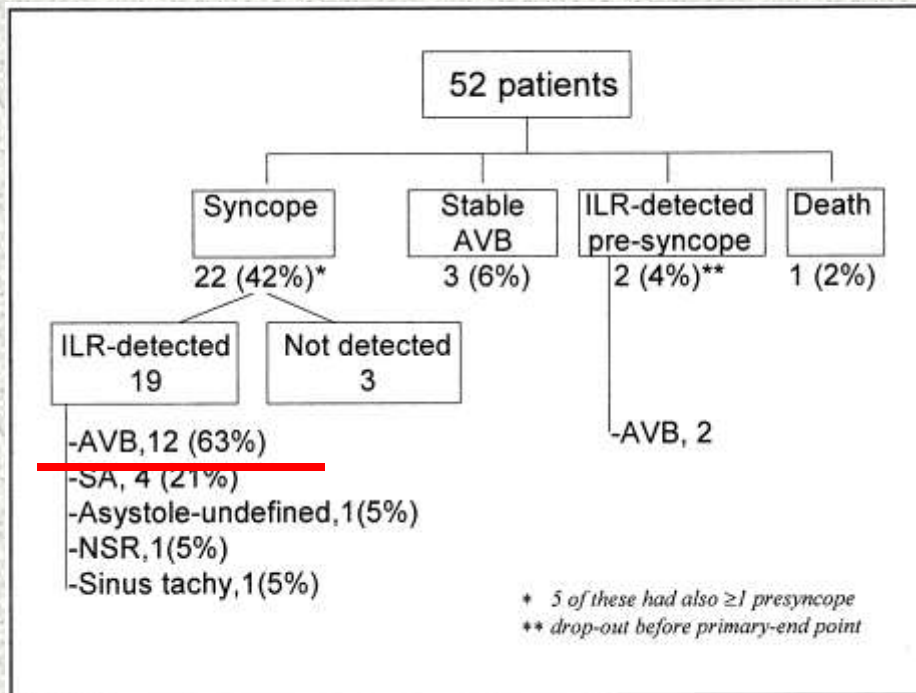


➤ **However, if you associate a QRS width > 140 ms, and renal failure, the probability increases to 95% in symptomatic patients and 59% of asymptomatic patients**

# Sensitivity and Specificity of the HV Interval

- the **cut-off of 70 ms** (guidelines of the ESC 2009)
  - sensitivity of 74% and a specificity of 78%
- a **cut-off of HV>64 ms**
  - sensitivity increase to 83% and specificity decreased to 70%
  - with a positive predictive value (PPV) of 54% and negative predictive value (NPV) of 91%,
  - with an area under the ROC curve of 0.856 (95% CI, 0.81-0.91)

# Mechanism of Syncope in Patients With Bundle Branch Block and Negative Electrophysiological Test



- ❑ a negative EPS **cannot rule out a paroxysmal AV block** as the cause of syncope
- ❑ 33% of the patients with a negative study had a documented episode of AV block

## Significance of chronic bifascicular block without apparent organic heart disease

TABLE 3. Comparative Electrophysiologic Data in Primary Conduction Disease and Organic Heart Disease Patients

	PCD (n = 86)			OHD (n = 366)			p
	Range	Mean $\pm$ SEM	No. of pts.	Range	Mean $\pm$ SEM	No. of pts.	
Heart rate (beats/min)	40-110	74 $\pm$ 1.4	86	19-147	77 $\pm$ 0.84	366	NS
AH interval (msec)	55-188	96 $\pm$ 2.9	82	45-402	110 $\pm$ 2.4	357	<0.01
Prolonged AH interval (> 130 msec)			6 (7%)			54 (15%)	<0.02
HV interval (msec)	24-100	50 $\pm$ 1.5	86	30-125	55 $\pm$ 0.74	366	<0.005
Prolonged HV interval (> 55 msec)			18 (21%)			150 (41%)	<0.001
Atrial ERP (msec)	140-390	254 $\pm$ 6.9	59	170-370	260 $\pm$ 3.5	227	NS
AV Nodal ERP (msec)	230-440	337 $\pm$ 9.9	33	220-420	363 $\pm$ 6.9	125	NS
VSCS ERP (msec)	350-530	490 $\pm$ 21.2	8	340-750	476 $\pm$ 31.0	14	NS
Sinus recovery time (msec)	600-1500	1016 $\pm$ 19	76	735-4500	1018 $\pm$ 19	287	NS

Abbreviations: PCD = primary conduction disease; OHD = organic heart disease; ERP = effective refractory period; VSCS = ventricular specialized conduction system; AV = atrioventricular.

# spontaneous progression of conduction disease

- ❖ strong association of prolonged HV interval and severity of **organic heart disease** in patients with chronic bifascicular block
- ❖ the risk of developing spontaneous AV block **in patients with primary conduction disease was significantly lower** than in those with organic heart disease (1% vs 5%)
- ❖ In **asymptomatic subjects** with chronic bifascicular block, the risk of AV block is low
- ❖ and the **sensitivity and specificity of a prolonged HV interval** in predicting AV block would presumably be low
- ❖ His bundle recording would **not be indicated as a routine** diagnostic procedure.

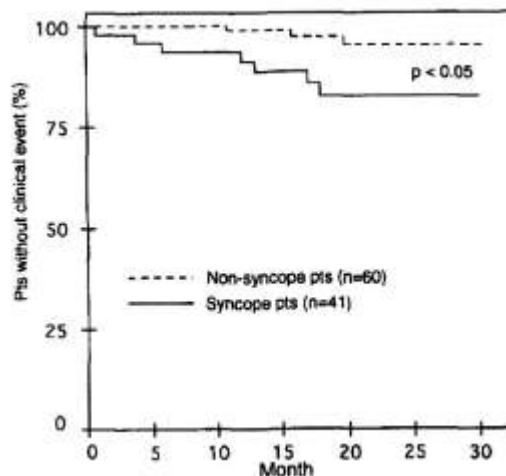
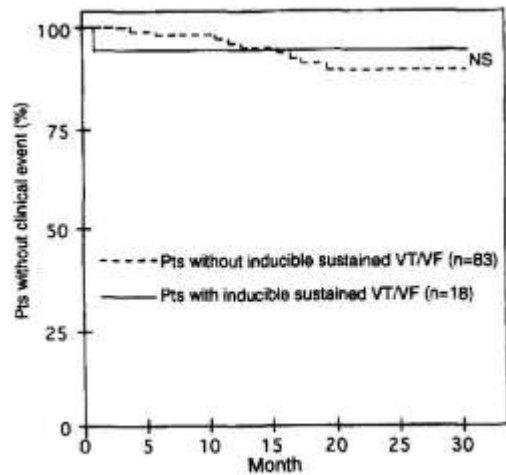
# Recommendations for Permanent Pacing in Chronic Bifascicular Block

- **Class I:**
  - Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for advanced second-degree AV block or intermittent **third-degree AV block**. (**Level of Evidence: B**)
  - Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for **type II** second-degree AV block. (**Level of Evidence: B**)
  - Permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated for **alternating bundle-branch block**. (**Level of Evidence: C**)

## Recommendations for Permanent Pacing in Chronic Bifascicular Block

- **Class IIa:**
- Permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable for an **incidental finding** at electrophysiological study of a markedly **prolonged HV** interval (greater than or equal to 100 milliseconds) in **asymptomatic patients**. **(Level of Evidence: B)**
- Permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable for an **incidental finding** at electrophysiological study of pacing-induced **infra-His block** that is not physiological. **(Level of Evidence: B)**

## Diagnostic value of programmed ventricular stimulation in patients with bifascicular block: a prospective study of patients with and without syncope



- The **inducibility** of ventricular arrhythmias is high in patients with bifascicular block
- **Clinical events** during follow-up were not predicted by programmed ventricular stimulation in either of the two groups.
- The finding of inducible ventricular arrhythmia in patients with bifascicular block should therefore be interpreted with caution.

A Englund et al.

J Am Coll Cardiol, 1995

# Συμπεράσματα

- ❑ Οι ασθενείς με διαταραχές της αγωγής έχουν αυξημένο ποσοστό επίπτωσης καρδιακής νόσου
- ❑ Η πρόγνωση τους ως αναφορά την θνητότητα και την επιδείνωση σε πλήρη κκα είναι χειρότερη από τον γενικό πληθυσμό και φαίνεται ότι συσχετίζεται με την υποκείμενη καρδιοπάθεια
- ❑ Οι ασυμπτωματικοί χωρίς καρδιακή νόσο ασθενείς έχουν καλύτερη πρόγνωση
- ❑ Η ΗΦΜ, ιδιαίτερα σε ασυμπτωματικούς ασθενείς έχει χαμηλή ευαισθησία και ειδικότητα ως προγνωστικό εργαλείο επιδείνωσης της αγωγής αλλά και αιφνίδιου θανάτου από κοιλιακή ταχυκαρδία

Θεραπεύουμε τους ασθενείς και όχι ΗΚΦηματα