



# Πότε να καταλύονται οι έκτακτες κοιλιακές συστολές

Νικόλαος Φραγκάκης

Επίκουρος Καθηγητής Καρδιολογίας ΑΠΘ  
Γ' Πανεπιστημιακή Καρδιολογική Κλινική  
Γ.Ν. Ιπποκράτειο, Θεσσαλονίκης

# PVCs: When to ablate?

## **Critical Questions that should be answered**

---

- Are they symptomatic?
- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Identify those patients with frequent PVCs who are at increased risk of developing PVC-induced cardiomyopathy
- Is ablation an effective therapy?
- Which group of patients will benefit most?

# Symptoms related to PVCs

---

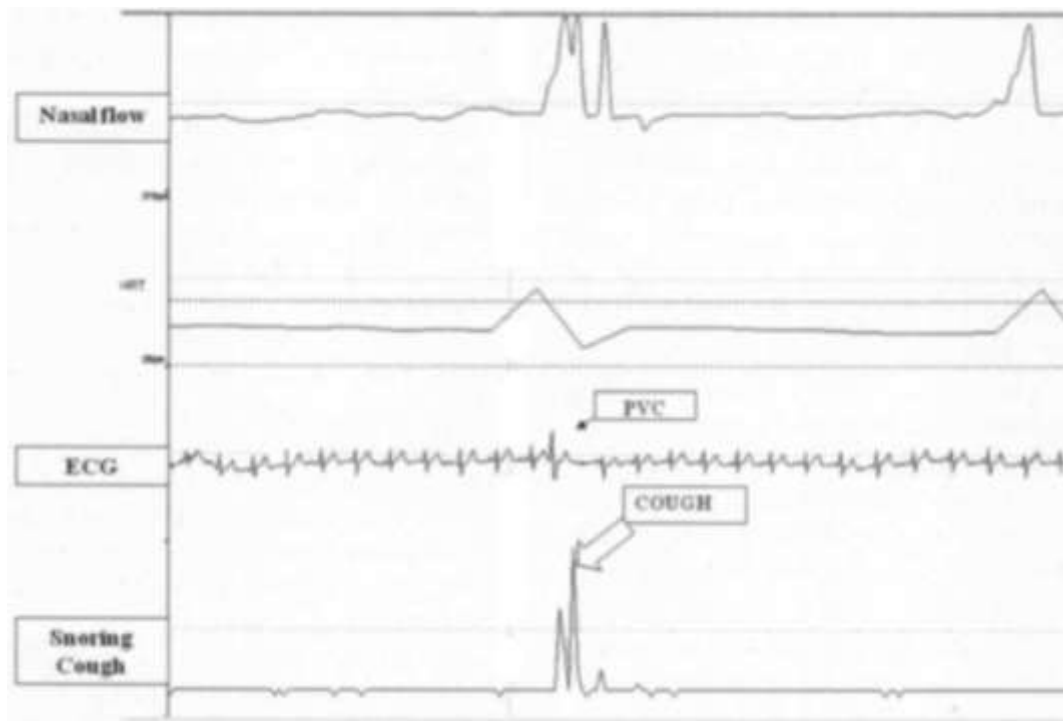
## Symptoms:

Palpitations	54 (64%)
Unpleasant feeling of extra heartbeats	45 (53%)
Dyspnoea	39 (47%)
Reduced physical capacity	37 (44%)
Chronic fatigue	36 (43%)
Dizziness	35 (42%)
Chest pain	34 (40%)
Blurred vision or eye flashes	16 (19%)
Presyncope	15 (18%)
Syncope	10 (12%)
Arrhythmia-associated cough	5 (6%)
Arrhythmia-associated dysphagia	5 (6%)



### Diagnosis and Management of Premature Ventricular Complexes-Associated Chronic Cough\*

*Sebastian M. Stec, MD; Elżbieta M. Grabczak, MD; Piotr Bielicki, MD; Beata Zaborska, MD; Rafał Krenke, MD; Tomasz Kryński, MD; Marta Dąbrowska, MD; Joanna Domagała-Kulawik, MD; Anna Domeracka-Kołodziej, MD; Agnieszka Sikorska, MD; Piotr Kulakowski, MD; and Ryszarda Chazan, MD, FCCP*



## Videofluoroscopic Modified Barium Swallow Study for Premature Ventricular Complexes–Associated Dysphagia

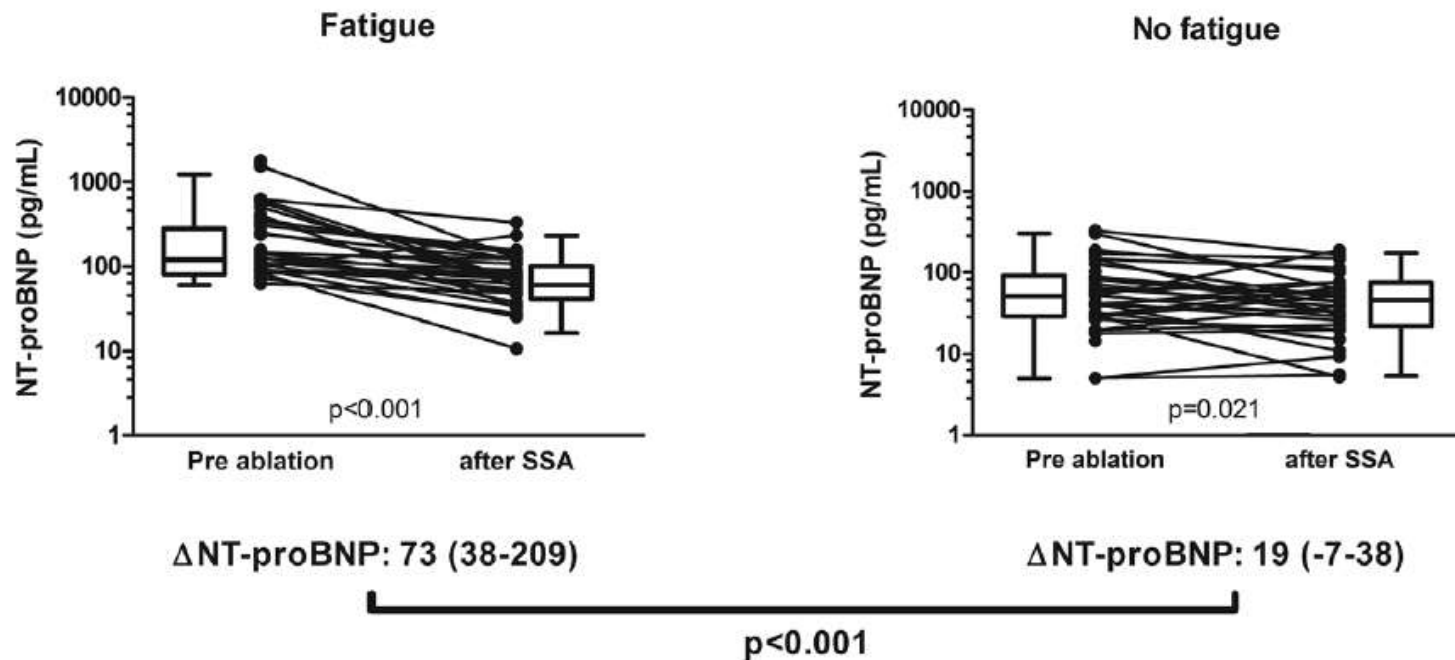
Sebastian Stec, MD; Wieslaw Tarnowski, MD, PhD; Artur Binda, MD;  
Piotr Kulakowski, MD, PhD, FESC

---

- During sinus rhythm, no symptoms of dysphagia and no abnormalities in barium passage through the esophagus were documented . **During frequent PVC, however, the patient reported difficulty swallowing and intraesophageal reflux**, and prolonged barium deposits in the upper esophagus were documented .
- In esophageal manometry during sinus rhythm, no significant abnormalities were found; however, **during frequent PVC, esophageal spasm and abnormal motility were documented**

# Fatigue as Presenting Symptom and a High Burden of Premature Ventricular Contractions Are Independently Associated With Increased Ventricular Wall Stress in Patients With Normal Left Ventricular Function

Carine F.B. van Huls van Taxis, MD; Sebastiaan R.D. Piers, MD; Marta de Riva Silva, MD; Olaf M. Dekkers, PhD; Daniël A. Pijnappels, PhD; Martin J. Schalij, MD, PhD; Adrianus P. Wijnmaalen, MD, PhD; Katja Zeppenfeld, MD, PhD



# PVCs: When to ablate?

## **Critical Questions that should be answered**

---

- Are they symptomatic?
- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Identify those patients with frequent PVCs who are at increased risk of developing PVC-induced cardiomyopathy
- Is ablation an effective therapy?
- Which group of patients will benefit most?

# The New England Journal of Medicine

©Copyright, 1985, by the Massachusetts Medical Society

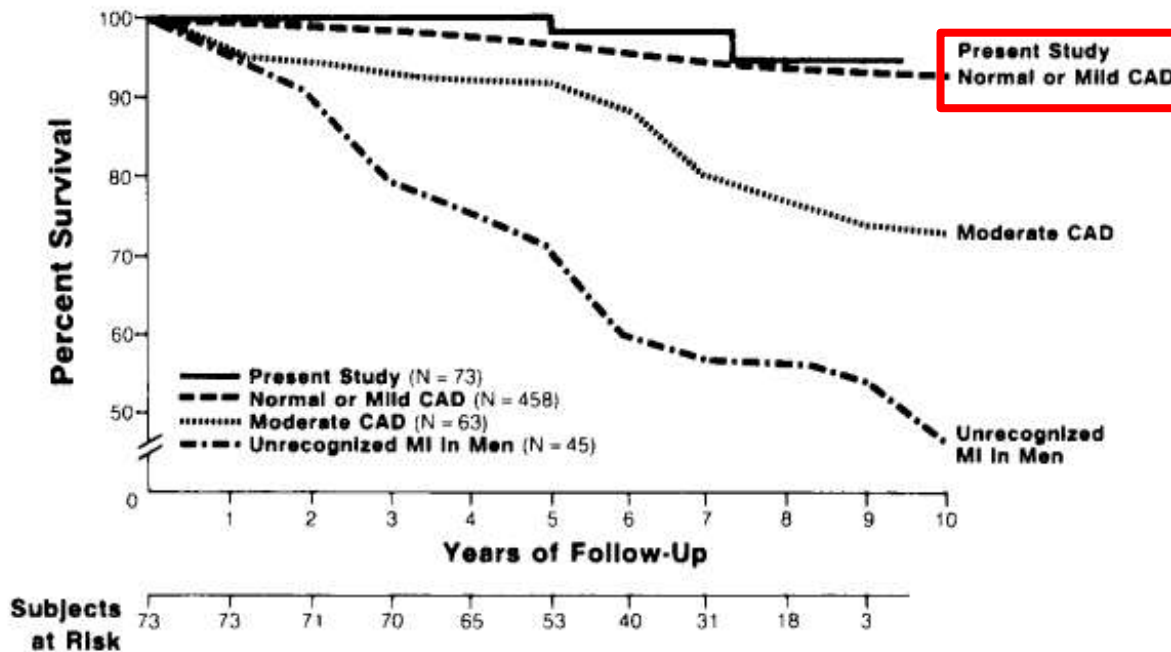
Volume 312

JANUARY 24, 1985

Number 4

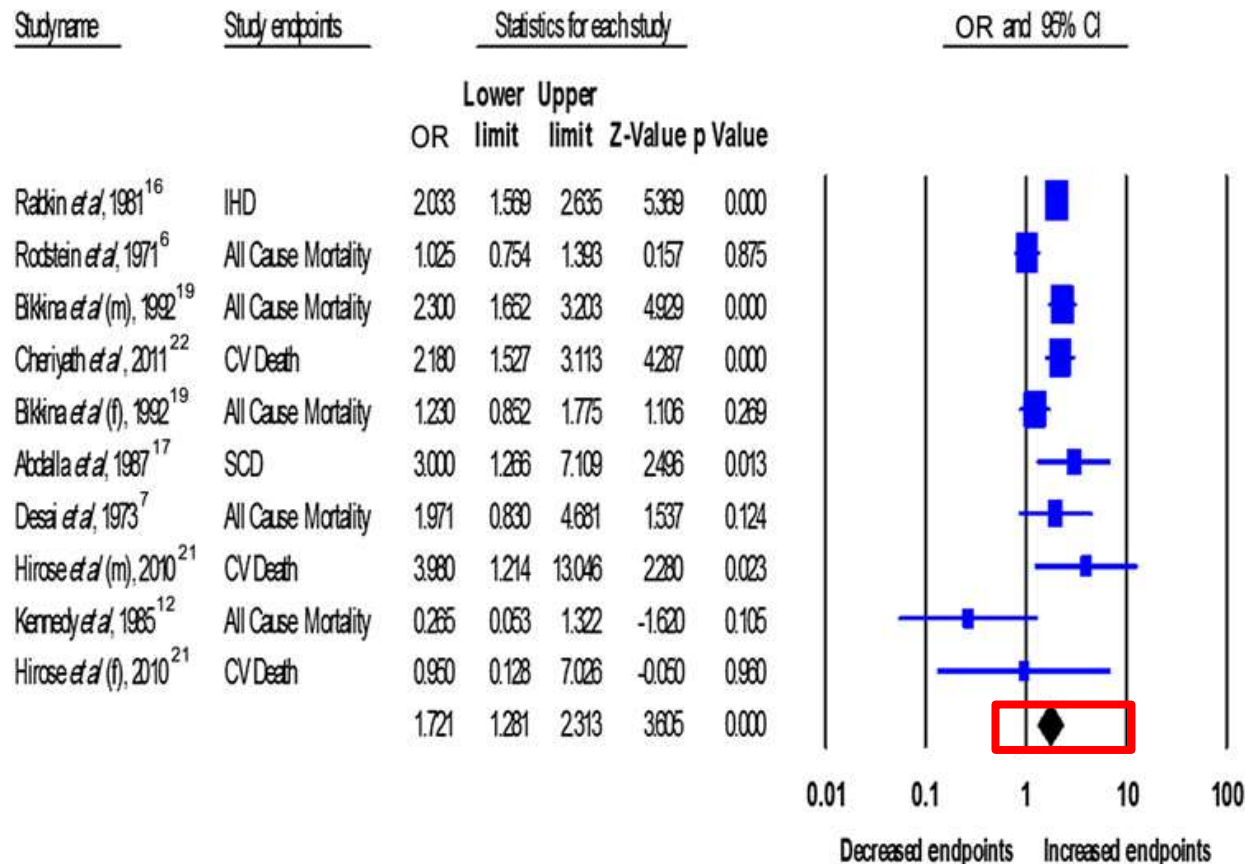
## LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP OF ASYMPTOMATIC HEALTHY SUBJECTS WITH FREQUENT AND COMPLEX VENTRICULAR ECTOPY

HAROLD L. KENNEDY, M.D., M.P.H., JAMES A. WHITLOCK, B.S., MICHAEL K. SPRAGUE, LISA J. KENNEDY, THOMAS A. BUCKINGHAM, M.D., AND ROBERT J. GOLDBERG, PH.D.



# The prognostic significance of premature ventricular complexes in adults without clinically apparent heart disease: a meta-analysis and systematic review

Victor Lee,<sup>1</sup> Harry Hemingway,<sup>2</sup> Rami Harb,<sup>1</sup> Tom Crake,<sup>1</sup> Pier Lambiase<sup>1</sup>



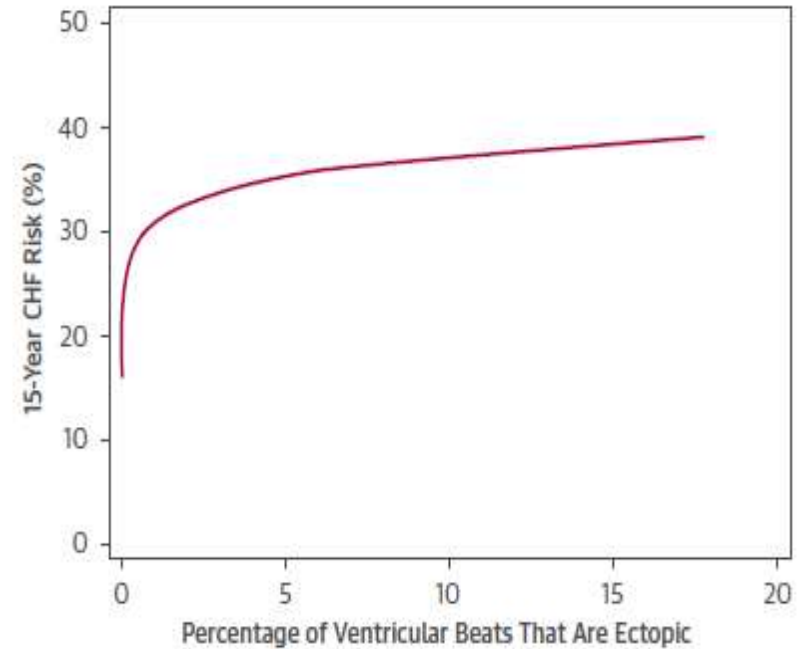
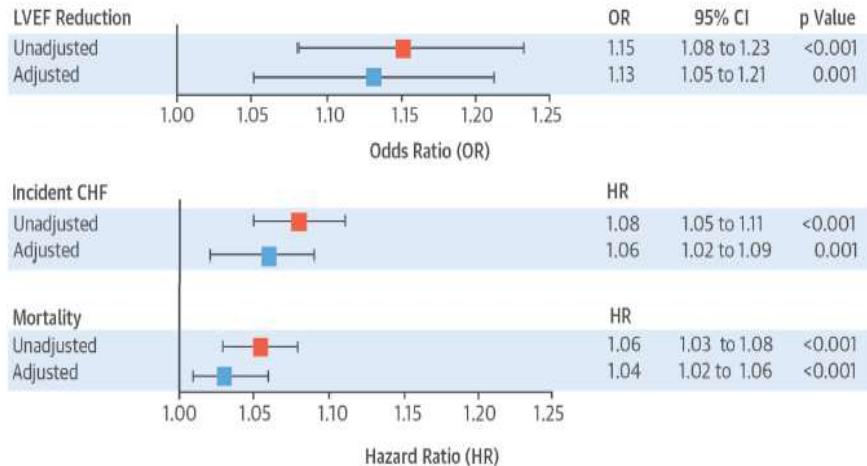
# Ventricular Ectopy as a Predictor of Heart Failure and Death



Jonathan W. Dukes, MD,\* Thomas A. Dewland, MD,† Eric Vittinghoff, PhD, MPH,‡ Mala C. Mandyam, MD,§  
 Susan R. Heckbert, MD, PhD,|| David S. Siscovick, MD, MPH,||¶ Phyllis K. Stein, PhD,# Bruce M. Psaty, MD, PhD,||\*\*††  
 Nona Sotoodehnia, MD,||‡‡ John S. Gottdiener, MD,§§ Gregory M. Marcus, MD, MAS\*

## 1.139 Cardiovascular Health Study

**CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION** Associations Between Baseline Percent PVCs and 5-Year Reduction in LVEF, Incident CHF, and Mortality



## **Βασική διερεύνηση ατόμων με πολλαπλές ΕΚΣ**

---

1. Ιστορικό- ατομικό αναμνηστικό, συμπτώματα, συγκοπή, άσκηση-ηρεμία
2. Κληρονομικό αναμνηστικό
3. ΗΚΓ 12 απαγωγών – λεπτομερής ανάλυση
4. Αν είναι δυνατό καταγραφή PVCs/NSVT σε 12 απαγωγές – μορφολογικά κριτήρια
5. Επαναλαμβανόμενα ΗΚΓ
6. Διαθωρακικό Ηχωκαρδιογράφημα
7. Κατά περίπτωση: Coronary angiography, Stress testing, MRI, perfusion scanning, prolonged ECG monitoring/ILR, ΗΦΕ/PVS, Late Potentials,....

## Spectrum of PVCs and in pts without structural heart disease

---

### Right ventricular tachycardias (60%)

Right ventricular outflow tract (24,25)

Pulmonary artery (26,27)

Peri-His (28)

Tricuspid annulus

Other right ventricular tachycardia

### Left ventricular tachycardias (30%)

Fascicular [posterior (29,30) >> anterior (31)]

Aortic sinus of Valsalva (32,33)

Mitral annulus (34,35)

Left ventricular outflow tract endocardium (36,37)

Papillary muscle

Other left ventricular tachycardia

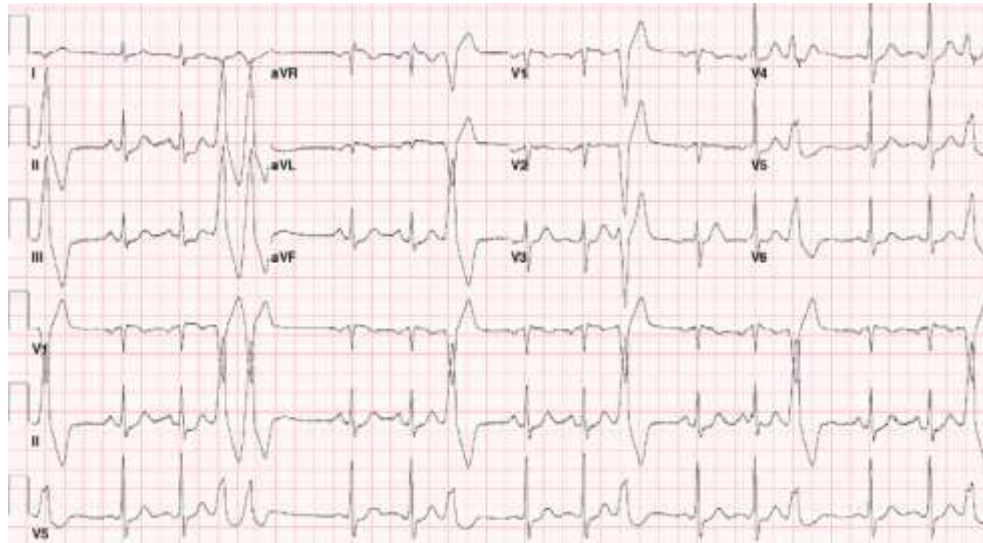
### Epicardial (9%) (36)

Bundle branch reentry (1%) (39)

# RVOT PVCs

## ECG characteristics

---



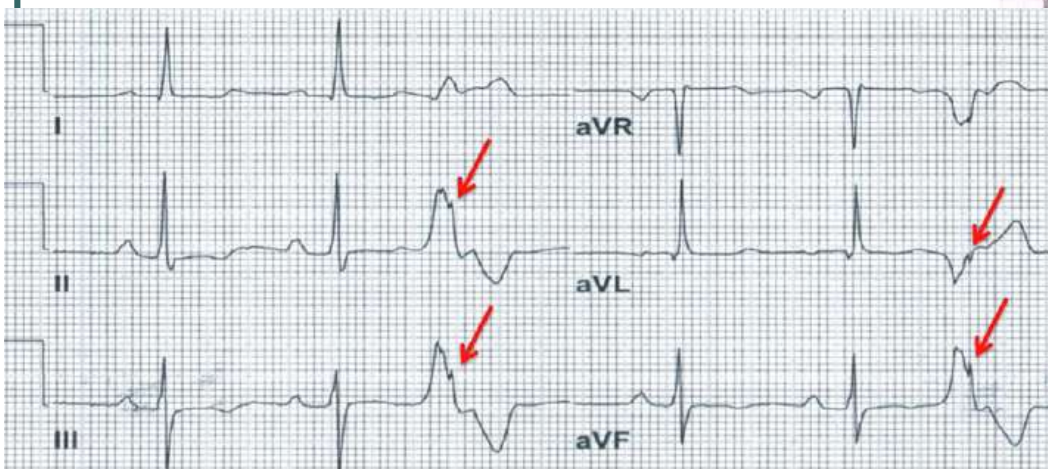
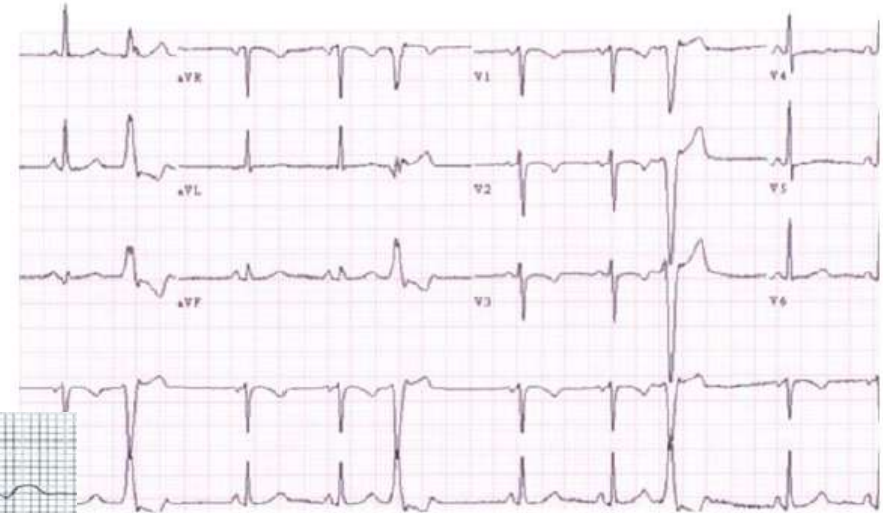
- Ventricular arrhythmias from the RVOT region have an **LBBB QRS morphology with an inferior axis** in the frontal plane
- The precordial transition (from rS to Rs) typically occurs at lead **V4 or later**, and begins no earlier than lead V3

# An electrocardiographic scoring system for distinguishing right ventricular outflow tract arrhythmias in patients with arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy from idiopathic ventricular tachycardia

Kurt S. Hoffmayer, MD,\* Prashant D. Bhave, MD,† Gregory M. Marcus, MD, MAS, FHRS,\* Cynthia A. James, PhD,‡ Crystal Tichnell, MGC,‡ Nagesh Chopra, MD,§ Laura Moxey, BSc, CCRA, CCRP,|| Andrew D. Krahn, MD, FHRS,|| Sanjay Dixit, MD, FHRS,¶ William Stevenson, MD, FHRS,§ Hugh Calkins, MD, FHRS,‡ Nitish Badhwar, MBBS,\* Edward P. Gerstenfeld, MD, FHRS,\* Melvin M. Scheinman, MD, FHRS\*

**Table 1** Electrocardiographic ARVD/C risk score

ECG characteristic	Points
Anterior T-wave inversions (V <sub>1</sub> -V <sub>3</sub> ) in sinus rhythm VT/PVC	3
Lead I QRS duration ≥120 ms	2
QRS notching (multiple leads)	2
V <sub>5</sub> transition or later	1
Maximum total	8



*Heart Rhythm* 2013;10:477-82

# PVCs: When to ablate?

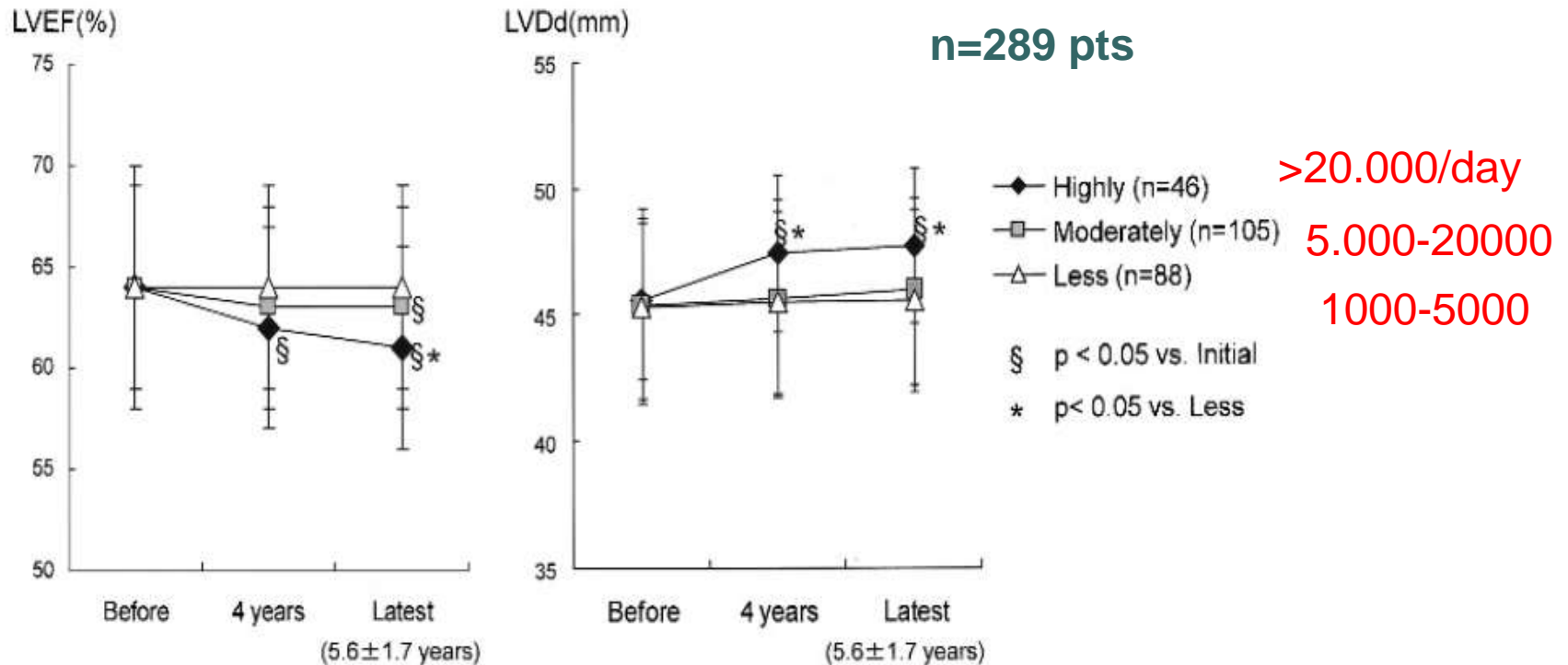
## **Critical Questions that should be answered**

---

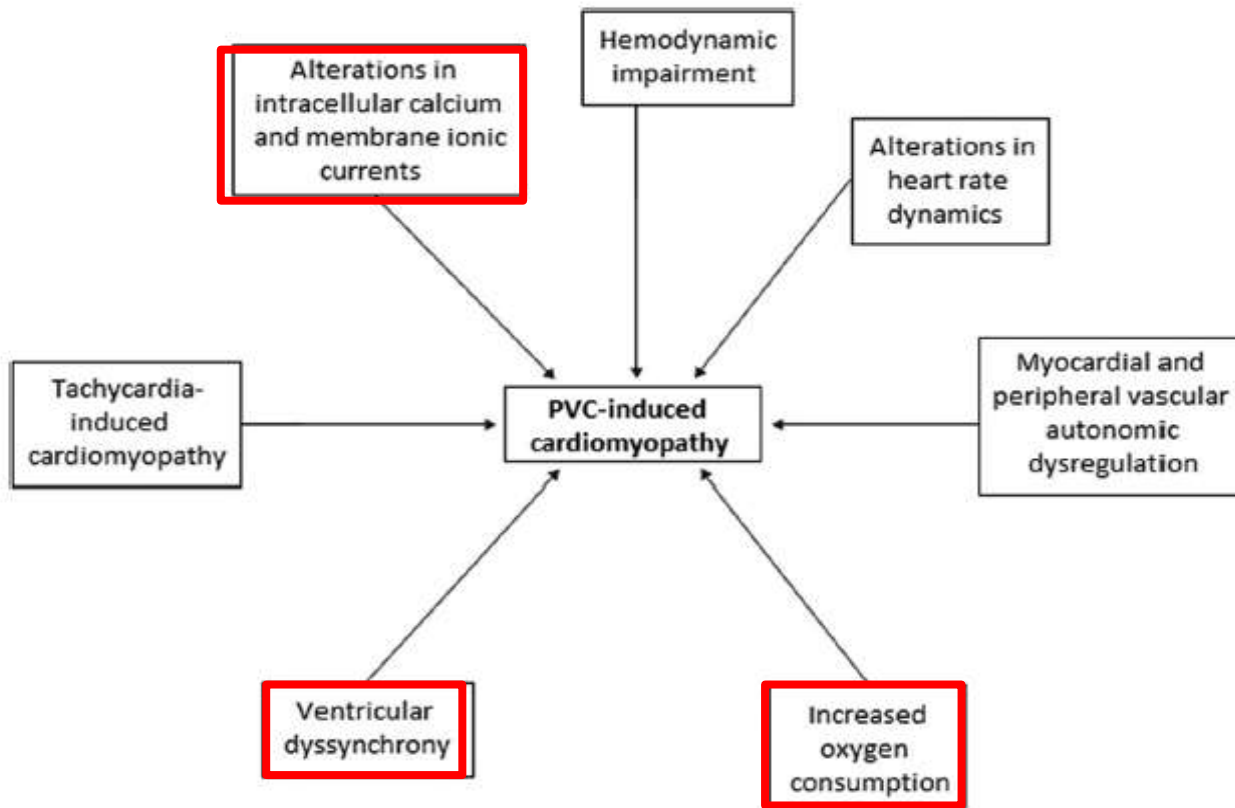
- Are they symptomatic?
- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Identify those patients with frequent PVCs who are at increased risk of developing PVC-induced cardiomyopathy
- Is ablation an effective therapy?
- Which group of patients will benefit most?

# Prognostic significance of frequent premature ventricular contractions originating from the ventricular outflow tract in patients with normal left ventricular function

S Niwano, Y Wakisaka, H Niwano, H Fukaya, S Kurokawa, M Kiryu, Y Hatakeyama, T Izumi



# Putative mechanisms of PVCs induced Cardiomyopathy



# PVCs: When to ablate?

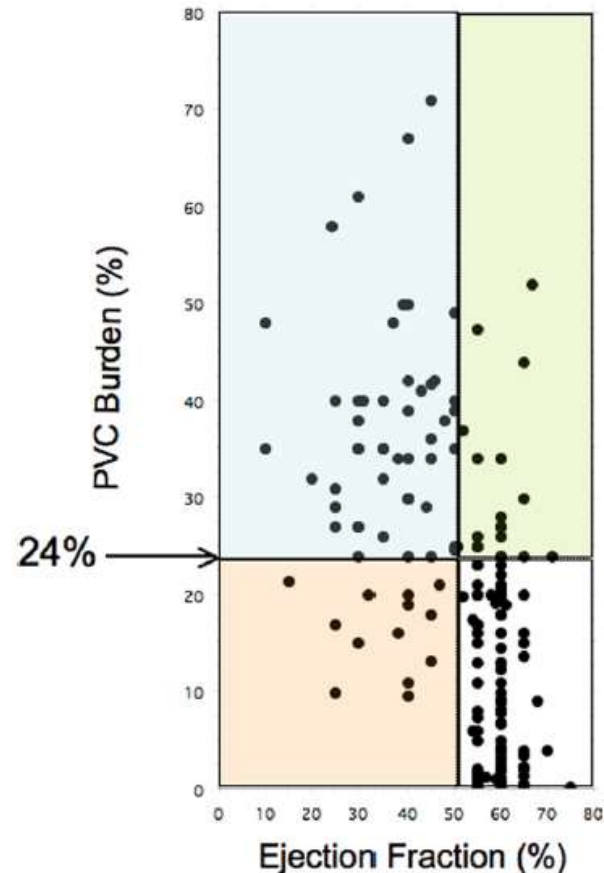
## **Critical Questions that should be answered**

---

- Are they symptomatic?
- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Identify those patients with frequent PVCs who are at increased risk of developing PVC-induced cardiomyopathy
- Is ablation an effective therapy?
- Which group of patients will benefit most?

# Relationship between burden of premature ventricular complexes and left ventricular function

Timir S. Baman, MD,\* Dave C. Lange, MD,\* Karl J. Ilg, MD,\* Sanjaya K. Gupta, MD,\* Tzu-Yu Liu, MS,<sup>†</sup> Craig Alguire, MD,\* William Armstrong, MD, FACC,\* Eric Good, DO, FACC,\* Aman Chugh, MD, FACC,\* Krit Jongnarangsin, MD,\* Frank Pelosi, Jr., MD,\* Thomas Crawford, MD,\* Matthew Ebinger, MD, DO,\* Hakan Oral, MD, FACC,\* Fred Morady, MD, FACC,\* Frank Bogun, MD, FACC\*



# Additional Predisposing Factors of VPC-Induced Cardiomyopathy

---

- **VPC QRS width (>140 ms)**
- burden of interpolated VPCs
- presence of NSVT
- **multiform VPCs**
- VPCs of right ventricular origin
- VPCs with retrograde P wave
- **Long exposure to frequent PVCs**
- Circadian variability in frequency of PVCs

*del Carpio Munoz F, et al. J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol 2011;22:791-8*

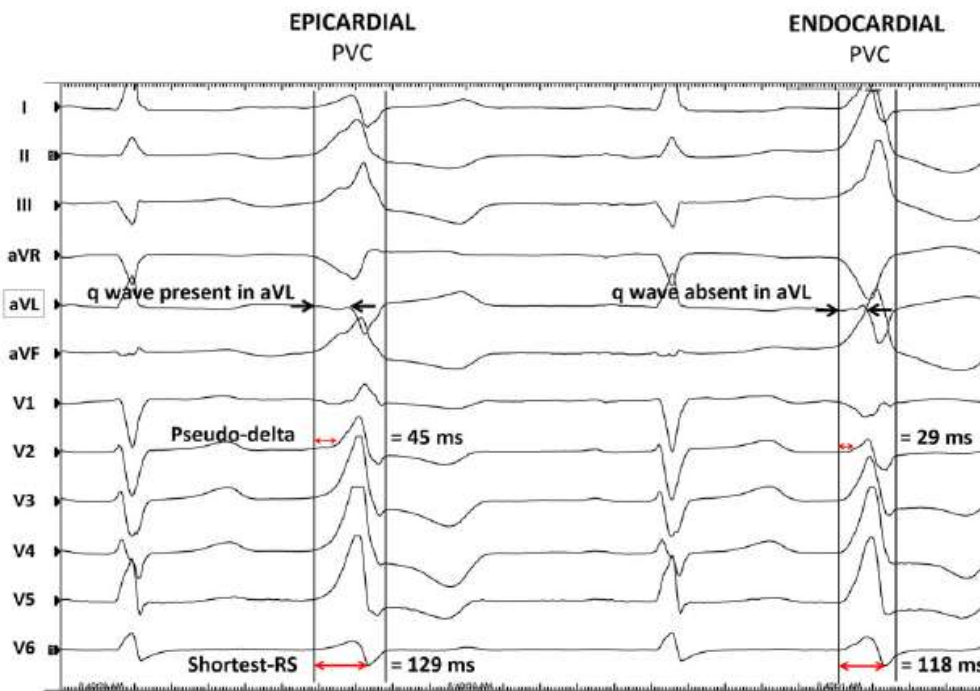
*Yokokawa M, et al. Heart Rhythm 2012;9:1460-4*

*Olgun H, et al. Heart Rhythm 2011;8:1046-9*

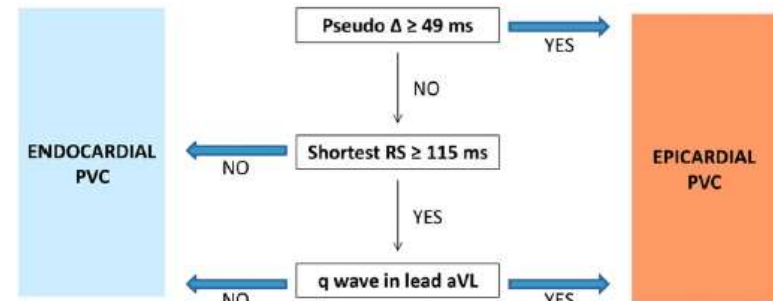
*Bas H et al. Heart Rhythm 2016;13:98-102*

# A New Combined Parameter to Predict Premature Ventricular Complexes Induced Cardiomyopathy: Impact and Recognition of Epicardial Origin

DAVID HAMON, M.D.,\*,† MARIE SADRON BLAYE-FELICE, M.D.,‡ JASON S. BRADFIELD, M.D.,† NAJIA CHAACHOUI, M.D.,\* RODERICK TUNG, M.D.,† CLAUDE S. ELAYI, M.D.,§ MARMAR VASEGHI, M.D., M.S.,† TARVINDER S. DHANJAL, M.D., PH.D.,\* NOEL G. BOYLE, M.D., PH.D.,† PHILIPPE MAURY, M.D., PH.D.,‡ KALYANAM SHIVKUMAR, M.D., PH.D.,† and NICOLAS LELLOUCHE, M.D., PH.D.\*



ECG Criteria for an Epicardial PVC origin



# A New Combined Parameter to Predict Premature Ventricular Complexes Induced Cardiomyopathy: Impact and Recognition of Epicardial Origin

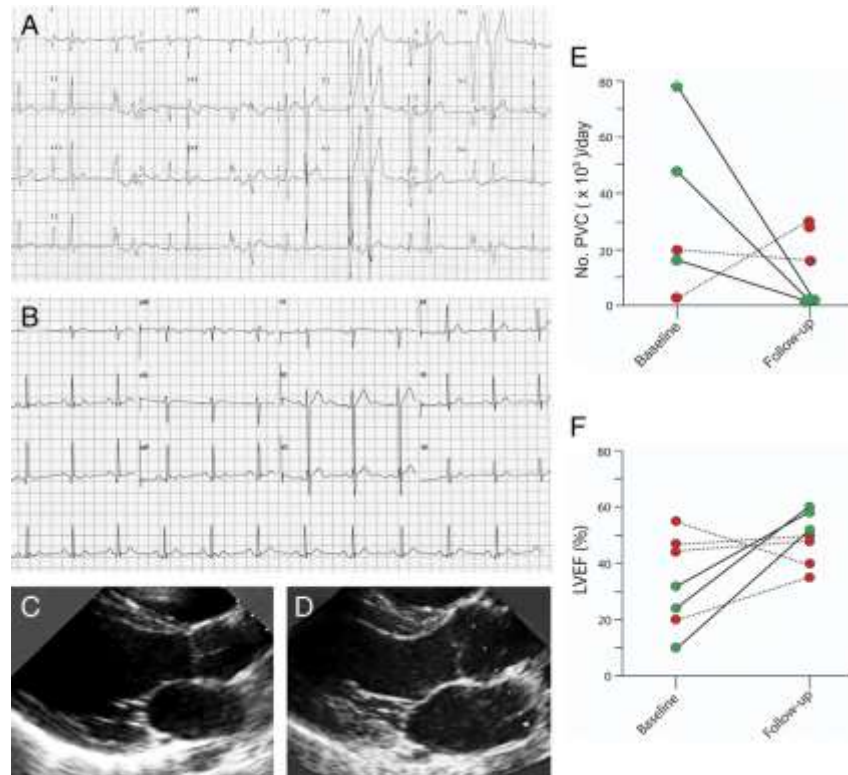
---

## Multivariate Analysis for Parameters Associated With PVC-CMP

Variables	Odds Ratio	95% CI	P Value
Male	1.06	0.17–6.54	0.952
Structural heart disease	12.30	1.63–92.58	0.015
Interpolation	19.72	0.28–1363	0.168
Coupling	0.98	0.97–1.00	0.050
Epicardial origin	68.74	3.54–1363	0.005
Sinus beat QRS width	1.04	1.00–1.08	0.066
PVC Burden	1.25	1.10–1.42	<0.001
PVC-QRS width	1.07	1.01–1.12	0.016
Right ventricle origin	0.22	0.04–1.28	0.092
Palpitations	0.04	0.01–0.55	0.011

## R222Q SCN5A Mutation Is Associated With Reversible Ventricular Ectopy and Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Stefan A. Mann, PHD,\* Maria L. Castro, BMEDSCI(HONS),\* Monique Ohanian, BMEDSCI(HONS),\* Guanglan Guo, PHD,\* Poonam Zodgekar, MSW, GRADDIPGENCOUNS,\* Angela Sheu, MB, BS,\* Kathryn Stockhammer, BSC, GRADDIPGENCOUNS,\* Tina Thompson, BNURS,† David Playford, MB, BS, PHD,‡ Rajesh Subbiah, MB, BS, PHD,§|| Dennis Kuchar, MD,§ Anu Aggarwal, MB, BS, PHD,† Jamie I. Vandenberg, MB, BS, PHD,\*|| Diane Fatkin, MD\*§||  
*Darlinghurst, New South Wales; Parkville, Victoria; Armadale, Western Australia; and Kensington, New South Wales, Australia*



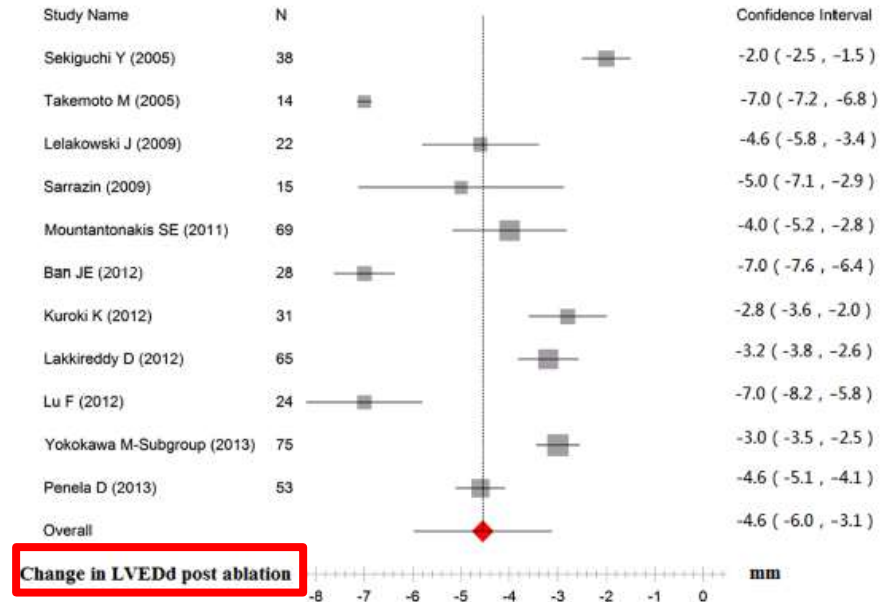
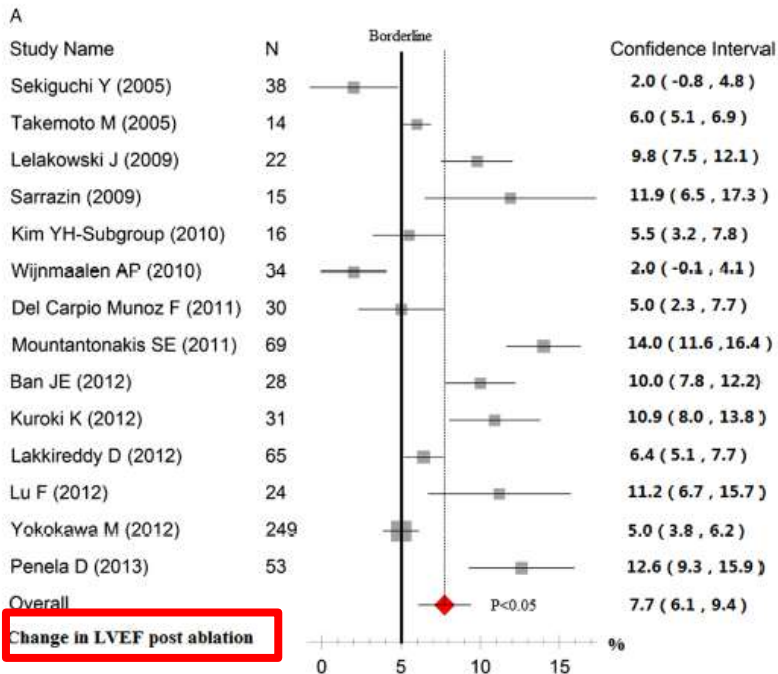
# PVCs: When to ablate?

## Critical Questions that should be answered

---

- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Is there a cut off PVCs burden associated with impaired LV function?
- Is ablation an effective therapy?

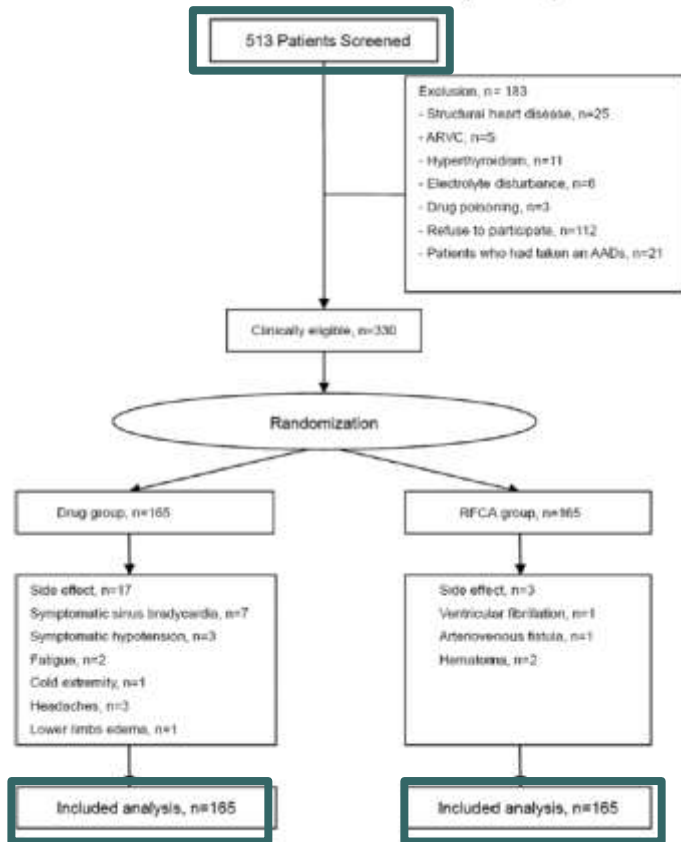
# Beneficial effects of catheter ablation of frequent premature ventricular complexes on left ventricular function



# Radiofrequency Ablation Versus Antiarrhythmic Medication for Treatment of Ventricular Premature Beats From the Right Ventricular Outflow Tract

## Prospective Randomized Study

Zhiyu Ling, MD, PhD\*; Zengzhang Liu, MD\*; Li Su, MD, PhD; Vadim Zipunnikov, PhD; Jinjin Wu, MD; Huaan Du, MD, PhD; Kamsang Woo, MD; Shaojie Chen, MD, PhD; Bin Zhong, MD; Xianbin Lan, MD; Jinqi Fan, MD, PhD; Yanping Xu, MD; Weijie Chen, MD; Yuehui Yin, MD; Saman Nazarian, MD, PhD; Bernhard Zrenner, MD

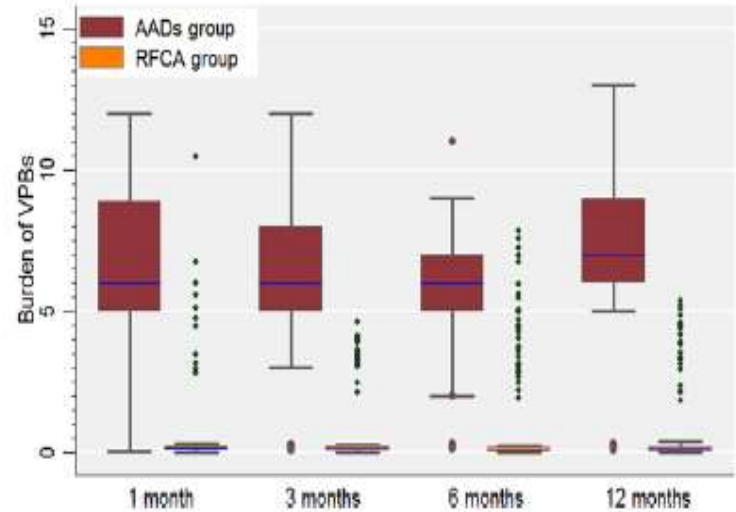
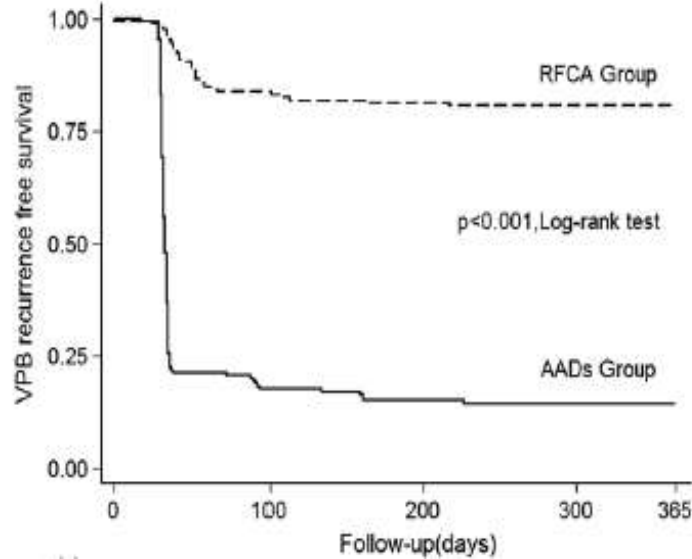


**Table 1. Baseline Characteristics\* of Study Patients**

	AADs Group (n=165)	RFA Group (n=165)
Age, y	50.54±11.52	52.68±10.37
Women n (%)	125 (75.8%)	118 (71.5%)
VPB burden, %	14 (IQR: 12, 21)	14 (IQR: 12, 21)
VPB numbers	13823 (IQR: 11948, 19892)	14049 (IQR: 11882, 19535)
Hypertension (n)	11 (165)	10 (165)
LAD, mm	34.39±2.65	34.78±2.76
LVEF, %	64.48±4.89	64.07±5.21
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	24.38±2.53	23.89±2.36
Systolic BP, mm Hg	130.58±7.52	128.15±7.23
Diastolic BP, mm Hg	80.47±7.61	77.84±5.56

# Radiofrequency Ablation Versus Antiarrhythmic Medication for Treatment of Ventricular Premature Beats From the Right Ventricular Outflow Tract

## Prospective Randomized Study



# PVCs: When to ablate?

## **Critical Questions that should be answered**

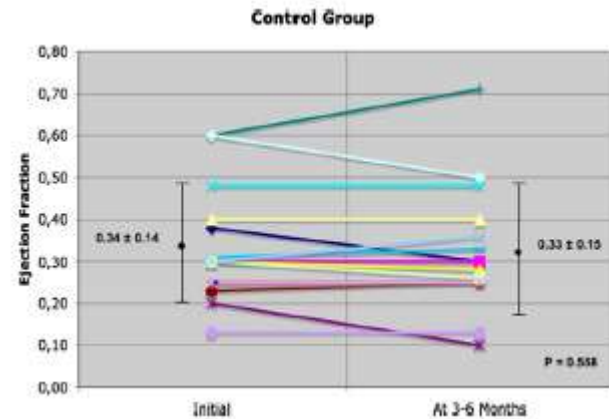
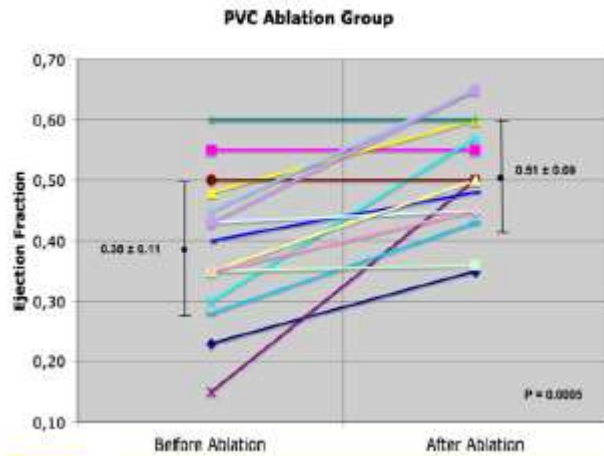
---

- Are they symptomatic?
- Prognostic significance of frequent PVCs
- Does PVCs induced cardiomyopathy exist?
- Identify those patients with frequent PVCs who are at increased risk of developing PVC-induced cardiomyopathy
- Is ablation an effective therapy?
- Which group of patients will benefit most?

# Impact of radiofrequency ablation of frequent post-infarction premature ventricular complexes on left ventricular ejection fraction

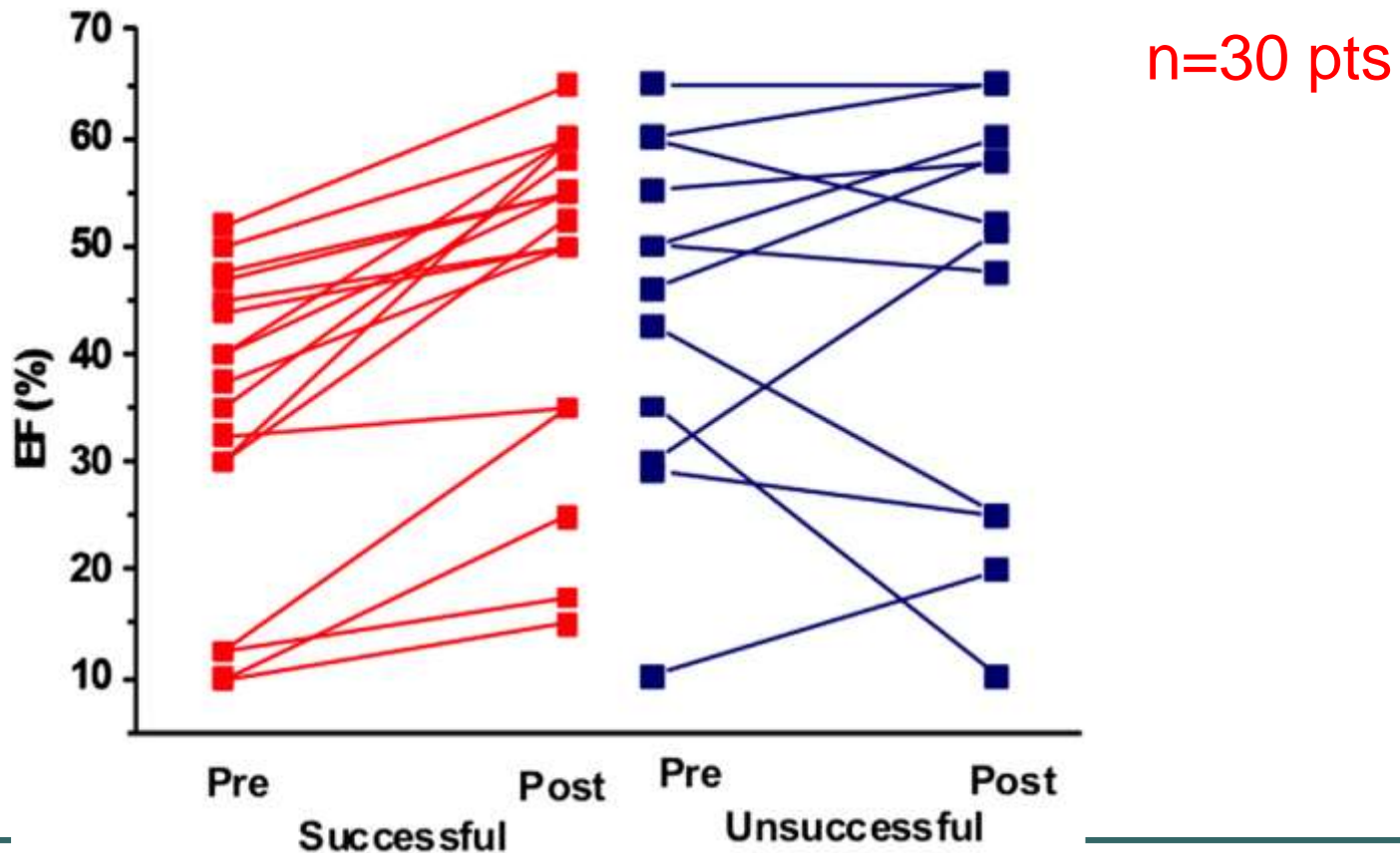
Jean-Francois Sarrazin, MD, Troy Labounty, MD, Michael Kuhne, MD, Thomas Crawford, MD, William F. Armstrong, MD, Benoit Desjardins, MD, Eric Good, DO, Krit Jongnarangsin, MD, Aman Chugh, MD, Hakan Oral, MD, Frank Pelosi, MD, Fred Morady, MD, Frank Bogun, MD

- n=30 pts



# Effect of ablation of frequent premature ventricular complexes on left ventricular function in patients with nonischemic cardiomyopathy

Moutaz El Kadri, MD,<sup>†</sup> Miki Yokokawa, MD,<sup>†</sup> Troy Labounty, MD,<sup>†</sup> Gisela Mueller, MD,<sup>\*</sup> Thomas Crawford, MD,<sup>†</sup> Eric Good, DO, FACC,<sup>†</sup> Krit Jongnarangsin, MD,<sup>†</sup> Aman Chugh, MD,<sup>†</sup> Hamid Ghanbari, MD,<sup>†</sup> Rakesh Latchamsetty, MD,<sup>†</sup> Hakan Oral, MD, FACC,<sup>†</sup> Frank Pelosi, MD, FACC,<sup>†</sup> Fred Morady, MD, FACC,<sup>†</sup> Frank Bogun, MD, FACC<sup>†</sup>



# Radiofrequency Ablation of Premature Ventricular Ectopy Improves the Efficacy of Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy in Nonresponders

**Table 4** Change in Various Echo Parameters Before and After PVC Ablation

Change in Echo Parameters	Pre-Ablation	Post-Ablation	Mean Improvement	p Value
Δ EF	26.2 ± 5.5	32.7 ± 6.7	6.42 ± 5.26	<0.001
Δ LVEDD	6.83 ± 0.83	6.51 ± 0.91	-0.32 ± 0.26	<0.001
Δ LVESD	5.83 ± 0.55	5.62 ± 0.32	-0.31 ± 0.23	<0.001
Δ LVESV	178 ± 72	145 ± 23	-33.17 ± 22.94	<0.001
Δ LVEDV	242 ± 85	212 ± 63	-30.65 ± 21.63	<0.001

**Table 6**

Improvements in Echo Parameters and NYHA Class Post-Ablation With Percentage of Pre-Ablation PVC Burden Stratified to <22% and >22%

Change in Echo Parameters	Pre-Ablation PVC Ablation		Independent t Test p Value
	≤22.0%, n = 33	>22.0%, n = 32	
Δ EF	4.79 ± 7.25	12.66 ± 7.54	<0.001
Δ LVEDD	-0.18 ± 0.18	-0.47 ± 0.24	<0.001
Δ LVESD	-0.17 ± 0.19	-0.46 ± 0.18	<0.001
Δ LVESV	-18.7 ± 15.4	-48.1 ± 19.8	<0.001
Δ LVEDV	-16.0 ± 17.8	-45.8 ± 13.2	<0.001
Δ NYHA class	-1.00 (-1.00, 0.00)	-1.0 (-1.00, 0.00)	0.525*



## 2015 ESC Guidelines for the management of patients with ventricular arrhythmias and the prevention of sudden cardiac death

The Task Force for the Management of Patients with Ventricular Arrhythmias and the Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

### Treatment of outflow tract ventricular tachycardia

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>	Ref. <sup>c</sup>
Catheter ablation of RVOT VT/PVC is recommended in symptomatic patients and/or in patients with a failure of anti-arrhythmic drug therapy (e.g. beta-blocker) or in patients with a decline in LV function due to RVOT-PVC burden.	I	B	525–528
Treatment with sodium channel blockers (class IC agents) is recommended in LVOT/aortic cusp/epicardial VT/PVC symptomatic patients.	I	C	529–531

Catheter ablation of LVOT/aortic cusp/epicardial VT/PVC by experienced operators after failure of one or more sodium channel blockers (class IC agents) or in patients not wanting long-term anti-arrhythmic drug therapy should be considered in symptomatic patients.

IIa	B	195, 531–533
-----	---	--------------

# Malignant Entity of Idiopathic Ventricular Fibrillation and Polymorphic Ventricular Tachycardia Initiated by Premature Extrasystoles Originating From the Right Ventricular Outflow Tract

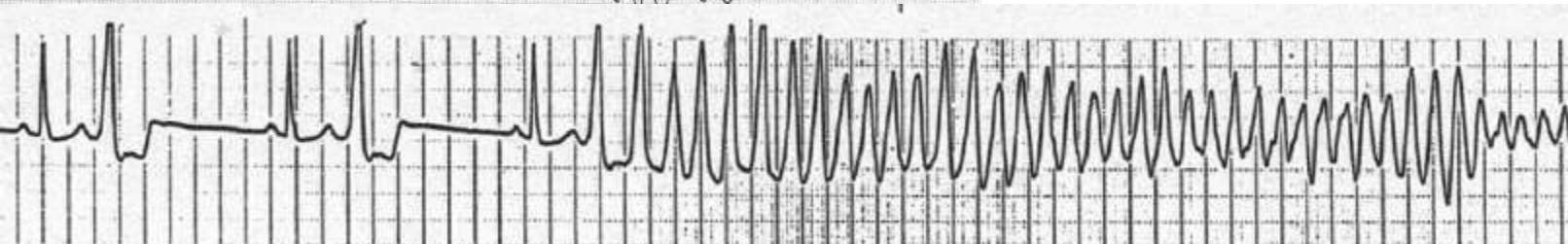
Takashi Noda, MD, PHD,\* Wataru Shimizu, MD, PHD,\* Atsushi Taguchi, MD,\* Takeshi Aiba, MD, PHD,† Kazuhiro Satomi, MD,\* Kazuhiro Suyama, MD, PHD,\* Takashi Kurita, MD, PHD,\* Naohiko Aihara, MD,\* Shiro Kamakura, MD, PHD\*

*J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005;46:1288–94



**Table 2.** Comparison of the Clinical Parameters Between the VF/PVT Group and the RVOT-VT Group

	VF/PVT Group (n = 16)	RVOT-VT Group (n = 85)	p Value
Male	7/16 (44%)	25/85 (29%)	0.26
Age (yrs)	39 ± 10	43 ± 14	0.19
FH	1/16	1/85	0.29
Duration from onset of symptom to RFCA (months)	80 ± 103	69 ± 79	0.71
History of syncope	11/16 (69%)	15/85 (18%)	0.0001
<b>Holter ECG findings</b>			
Isolated PVC (/day)	17,554 ± 11,338	15,506 ± 16,053	0.58
CI of VE (ms)	409 ± 62	428 ± 65	0.27
QRS duration of VE (ms)	148 ± 8	142 ± 12	0.03
CL of VT (ms)	245 ± 28	328 ± 65	<0.0001



# Conclusions

---

- PVC ablation **efficacy and safety** are reasonably good but limitations should be respected
- The majority of pt with high density PVC **do not develop cardiomyopathy**
- PVC induced cardiomyopathy is usually **reversible**
- the suppression of PVCs **is indicated** for **symptomatic** pts with frequent PVCs and those with **overt LV dysfunction**

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

---

- NCT01757067 [**Early Elimination of Premature Ventricular Contractions in Heart Failure (EVAC-HF)**] is a prospective, randomized study that will compare the effects on LVEF in patients with **non ischemic cardiomyopathy with LVEF45% and >20% PVCs** following ablation or optimal medical therapy
- NCT01566344 a randomized prospective study with **idiopathic or postinfarction cardiomyopathy (LVEF<50%) and 15% monomorphic PVCs** to either conventional heart failure therapy and PVC suppression therapy (ablation or amiodarone if unsuccessful ablation) or heart failure therapy alone