

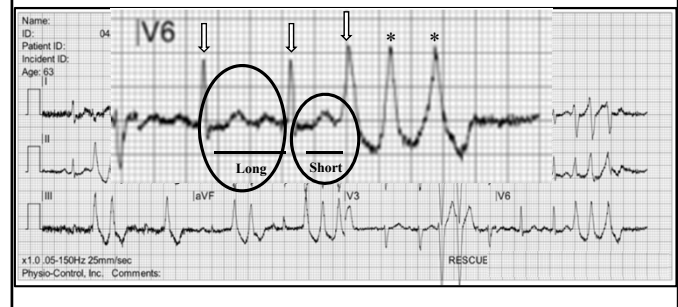
EEM 2019

Ashman's Phenomenon

The Heart is Lazy in AFib

Corey M. Slovis, M.D.
 Vanderbilt University Medical Center
 Metro Nashville Fire Department
 Nashville International Airport
 Nashville, TN

VTACH?



Ashman's Phenomenon

The Heart is Lazy in Atrial Fibrillation

It tries to repolarize as late as it can, based on how long ago the prior beat was

His-Purkinje cells

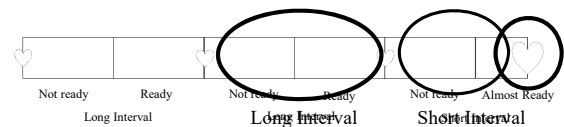
They repolarize based on the prior beat



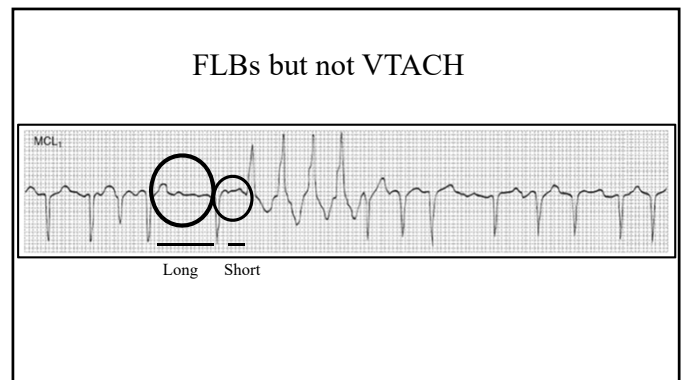
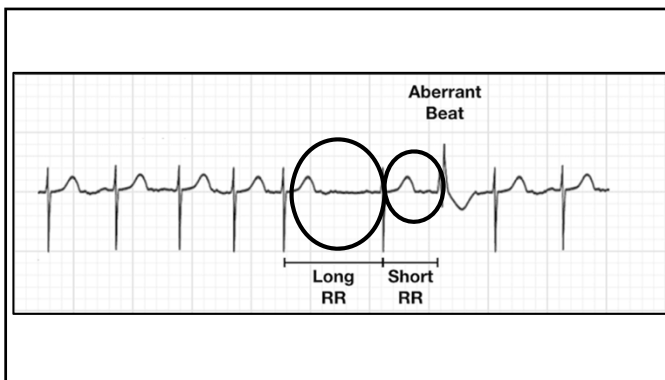
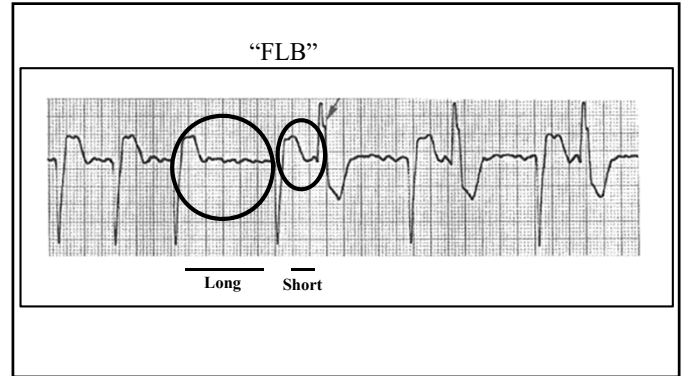
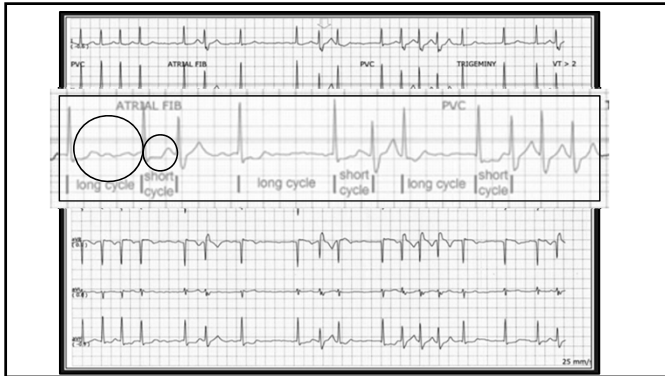
Aberrancy or Ashman's Phenomenon

- Aberrancy occurs if the His-Purkinje isn't ready
- It creates a FLB – Funny Looking Beat
- It looks like a PVC or “Run of VTach”
- Seen in AFib

What happens if a beat tries to go down “too soon” and the His-Purkinje system isn't completely repolarized?



- This is called Long-Short
- **Long** interval followed by a **Short** Interval



When you hear Afib in COPD patients, R/O MAT

When you hear AFib with runs of PVCs or Vtach, think **Ashman's**

If the "PVC" or Run of VTACH in AFib comes after a short pause, it's

Aberrancy not Ectopy

