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39. Cardiac Arrhythmias and Electrophysiology

**NON-SUSTAINED AND INDUCIBLE SUSTAINED VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA IN PACEMAKER PATIENTS**

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**Background:** Nonsustained ventricular tachycardia (NSVT), a not uncommon finding in pacemaker patients, is associated with a poor prognosis, particularly in those with low ejection fractions (E.F.).

However, in patients with a preserved EF, the prognostic significance of NSVT is not only unknown but the relationship of NSVT and potentially lethal sustained ventricular tachycardia (SVT) is unclear.

**Objective:** This study investigated whether SVT is inducible in pacemaker patients with normal EF and histories of NSVT.

The finding of a positive associations would have very significant therapeutic indications. The finding of a negative association would have very significant financial implications. **Methods:**Patients in the RUMC pacemaker clinic had their devise interrogated for NSVT. NSVT was defined as three or more consecutive beats arising below the atrioventricular node with a rate of 120 or more beats/min and lasting less than 30 seconds.

These patients underwent echocardiograph testing and those with EF > 40 % and NSVT were selected for study. Each patient then underwent programed electrical stimulation to attempt to induce SVT.

**Results**: No participant in the selected group was able to be stimulated into SVT.

**Conclusion:**The population of pacemaker patient’s with NSVT and EF >40% is not at increased risk of SVT and does not warrant further anti - arrhythmic drug treatment or conversion to defibrillating pacemakers.