



Bologna
4 dicembre 2018

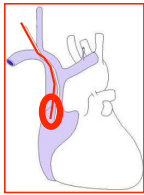


Il punto sulla tip location
Il ruolo centrale dell'ECG intracavitario,
anche nel paziente con fibrillazione atriale

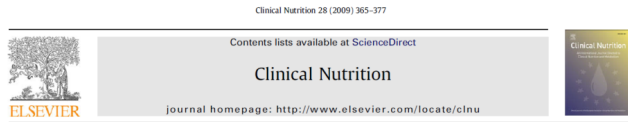


Antonio La Greca
Chirurgia d'Urgenza
F. Policlinico Gemelli – IRCCS, Università Cattolica
Sacro Cuore ROMA





Tip location: during CVC insertion !!!



ESPEN Guidelines on Parenteral Nutrition: Central Venous Catheters
(access, care, diagnosis and therapy of complications)

Mauro Pittiruti^a, Helen Hamilton^b, Roberto Biffi^c, John MacFie^d, Marek Pertkiewicz^e



“Ideally, the position of the tip should be checked **during** the procedure”



“Use methods for identifying CVAD tip location **during** the insertion procedure (ie, real time) due to greater accuracy, more rapid initiation of infusion therapy, and reduced costs”

Avoid complications due to malposition
Avoid costs of repositioning procedures
(2-30% without intraprocedural monitoring)



Intraprocedural tip location: IC-ECG !!!

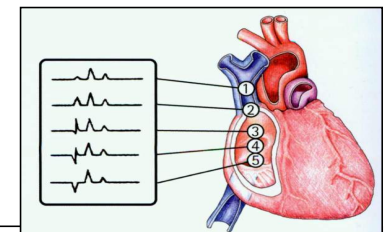
Intracavitary ECG is a well established method for verifying the position of the tip of a CVC

J Vasc Access 2011; 12 (4): 280-291
DOI: 10.5301/JVA.2011.8381

REVIEW

The electrocardiographic method for positioning the tip of central venous catheters

Mauro Pittiruti¹, Antonio La Greca¹, Giancarlo Scoppettuolo²



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

J Vasc Access 2012; 13 (3): 357-365
DOI: 10.5301/JVA.2012.9020

The intracavitary ECG method for positioning the tip of central venous catheters: results of an Italian multicenter study

Mauro Pittiruti¹, Daniele Bertollo², Ermanno Briglia³, Massimo Buononato⁴, Giuseppe Capozzoli⁵, Luigi De Simone⁶, Antonio La Greca¹, Cecilia Pelagatti⁷, Pier Sandro Sette⁸

JVA
ISSN 1129-7298

J Vasc Access 2015; 16 (2): 137-143
DOI: 10.5301/jva.5000281

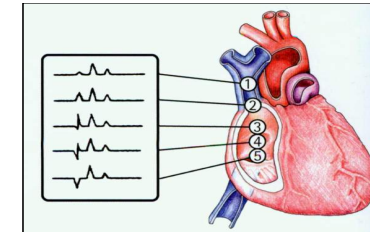
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The intracavitary ECG method for positioning the tip of central venous access devices in pediatric patients: results of an Italian multicenter study

Francesca Rossetti¹, Mauro Pittiruti², Massimo Lamperti³, Ugo Graziano⁴, Davide Celentano⁵, Giuseppe Capozzoli⁶



Tip location: IC-ECG



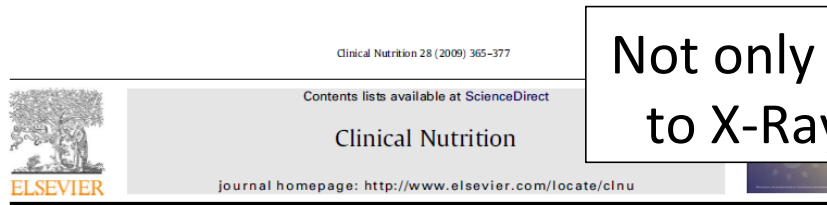
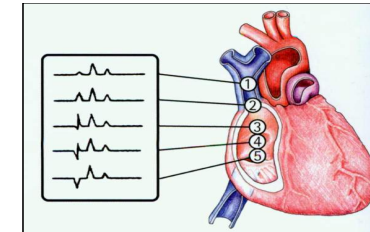
	Adults*	Children**
Accuracy	94.5%	95.8%
Feasibility	98.5%	99.3%

*The intracavitary ECG method for positioning the tip of central venous catheters: results of an Italian multicenter study. M Pittiruti et al J Vasc Access 2012;13(3):357-365

** The intracavitary ECG method for positioning the tip of central venous devices in pediatric patients: a multicenter study. F. Rossetti, M. Pittiruti et al. J Vasc Access, 2015;16(2):137-143



IC-ECG: guidelines !!!



Not only as an alternative
to X-Ray based controls ...

ESPEN Guidelines on Parenteral Nutrition: Central Venous Catheters
(access, care, diagnosis and therapy of complications)

Mauro Pittiruti^a, Helen Hamilton^b, Roberto Biffi^c, John MacFie^d, Marek Pertkiewicz^e

of malposition may be minimized by using a technique for intra-operative control of the position of the catheter tip (including fluoroscopy and ECG-based methods).

Ideally, the position of the tip should be checked during the procedure,²⁷ either by fluoroscopy or by the ECG method.^{28,29} If the

**... but even as a
first-choice method**



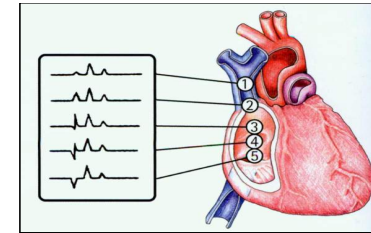
E. Use methods for identifying CVAD tip location during the insertion procedure (ie, “real time”) due to greater accuracy, more rapid initiation of infusion therapy, and reduced costs.

1. Use electrocardiogram (ECG) methods with either a metal guidewire or a column of normal saline inside the catheter lumen and observe the ECG tracing to place the CVAD tip at the CAJ. Follow manufacturers’ directions for use with other ECG-based technology using a changing light pattern to detect tip location.



Clinical Nutrition 28 (2009) 365–377

No more X-Rays



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Clinical Nutrition

journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clnu>



If the position has not been checked intraoperatively, a post-procedural chest X-ray should be performed to check the position of the tip

ESPEN Guidelines on Parenteral Nutrition: Central Venous Catheters (access, care, diagnosis and therapy of complications)

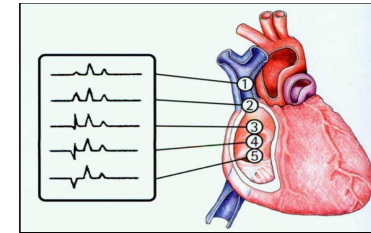
Mauro Pittiruti^a, Helen Hamilton^b, Roberto Biffi^c, John MacFie^d, Marek Pertkiewicz^e



Postprocedure radiograph imaging is not necessary if alternative tip location technology confirms proper tip placement (II).



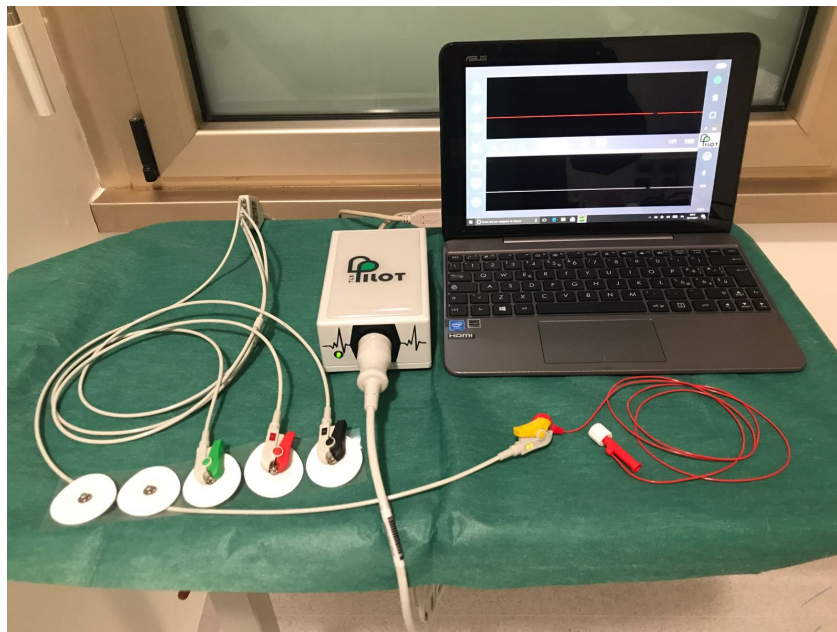
TIP LOCATION 2011-2016



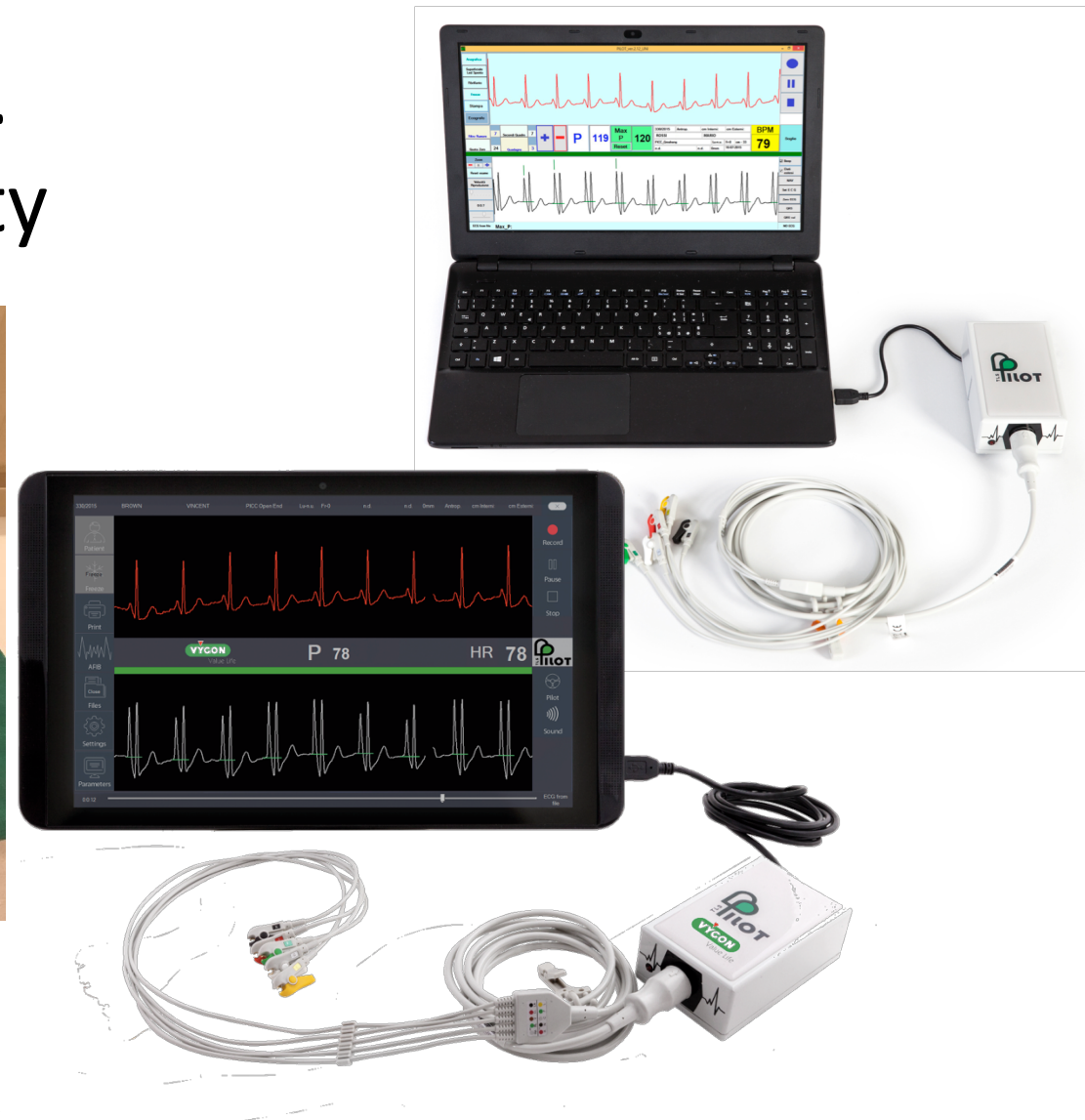
Standard of care: IC-ECG ...

- E. Use methods for identifying CVAD tip location during the insertion procedure (ie, “real time”) due to greater accuracy, more rapid initiation of infusion therapy, and reduced costs.
1. Use electrocardiogram (ECG) methods with either a metal guidewire or a column of normal saline inside the catheter lumen and observe the ECG tracing to place the CVAD tip at the CAJ. Follow manufacturers’ directions for use with other ECG-based technology using a changing light pattern to detect tip location.

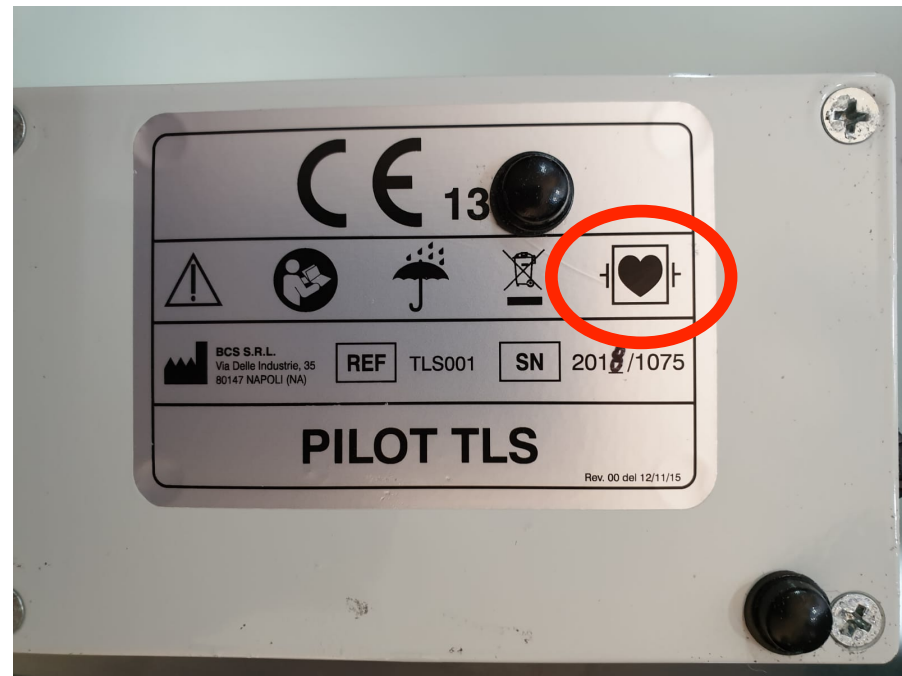
Dedicated monitors improving feasibility



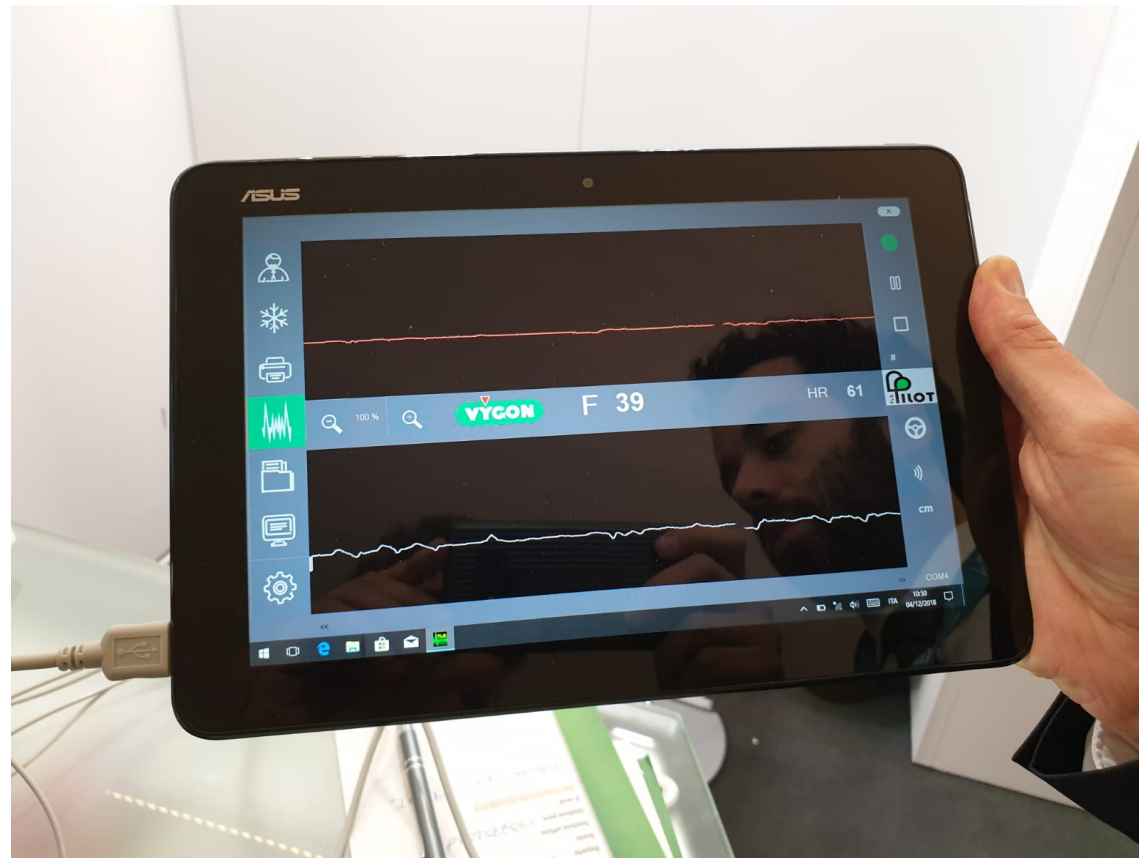
Electrical safety
Portable
Signal quality and target wave identification



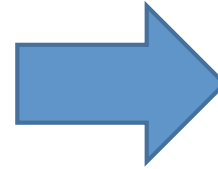
Electrical safety



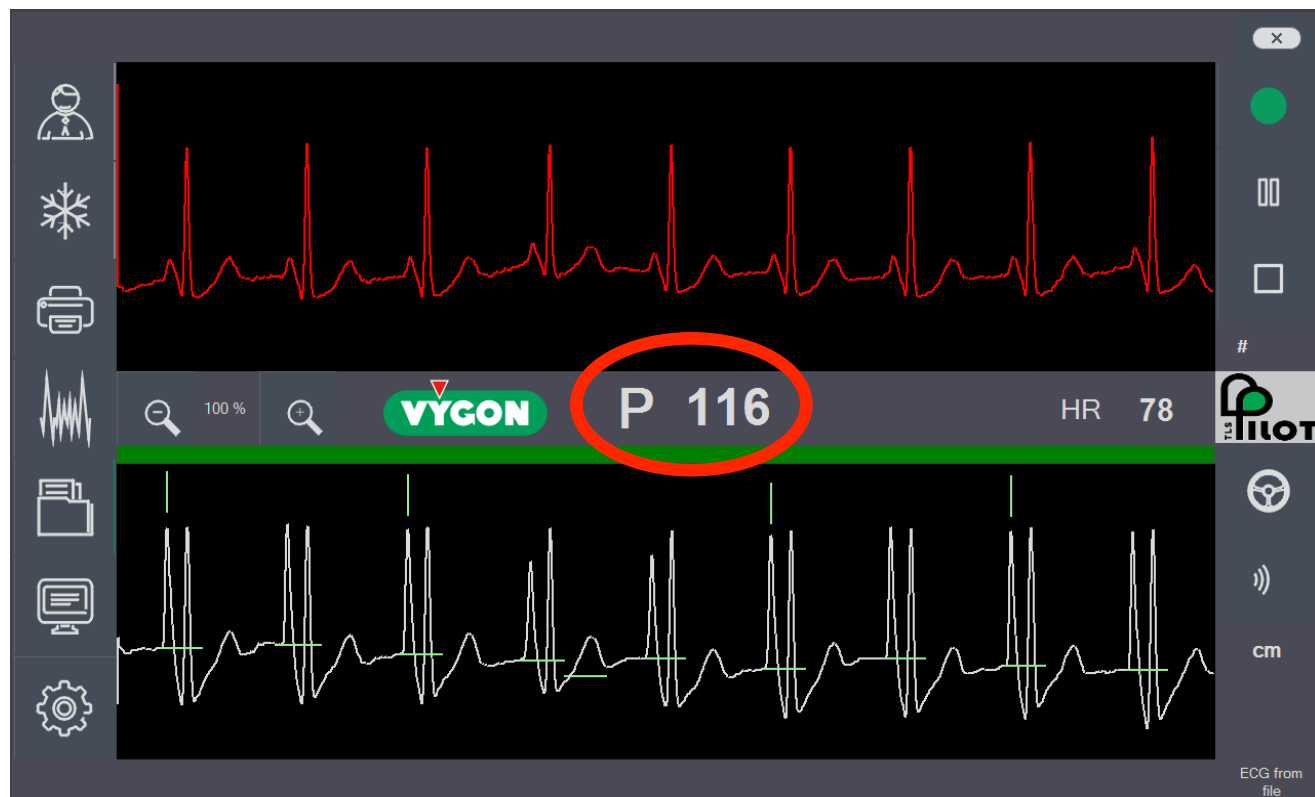
Portability



Good signal quality
Complete but user friendly dashboard
Quantitative p-wave measures

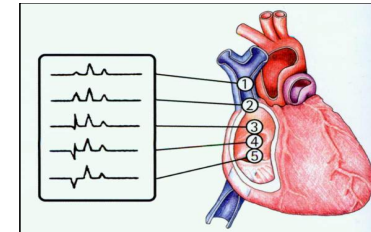


Easier target wave identification





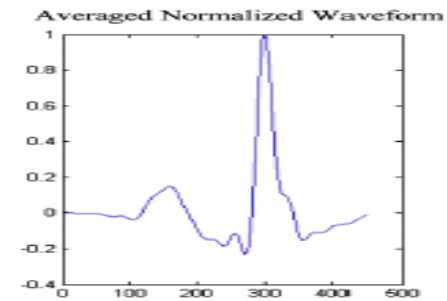
Problem ...



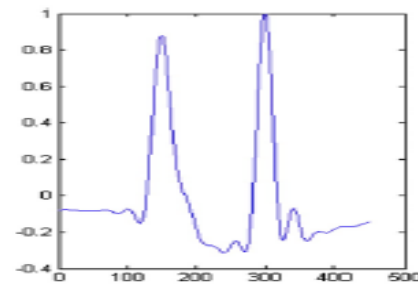
IC-ECG is based on the interpretation of changes of the p-wave during intracavitary detection of ECG:

- maximal p-wave = CAJ

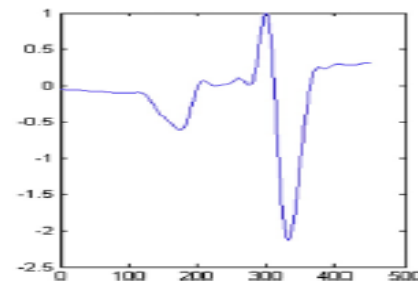
Subclavian vein



Atrio caval junction

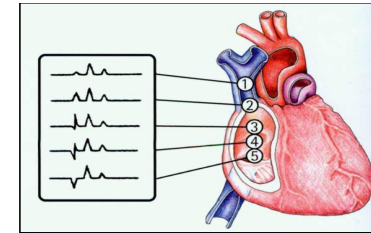


Inferior vena cava





Problem ...



IC-ECG is based on the interpretation of changes of the p-wave during intracavitary detection of ECG:

- maximal p-wave = CAJ

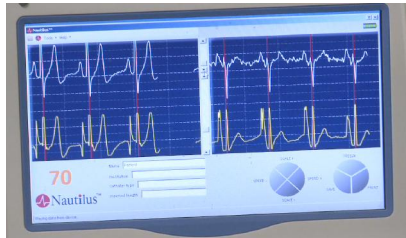
Conventional IC-ECG cannot be carried out when the p-wave is:

- absent (atrial fibrillation);
- abnormal (ectopic rhythms)
- hidden (active pacemakers)
- difficult to identify/evaluate (extreme tachycardia, malposition)

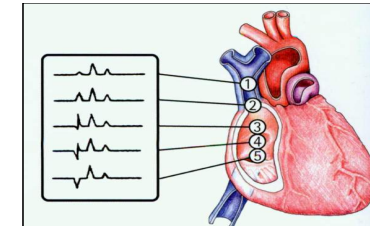
Un-Applicability

Un-Feasibility





Problem ...



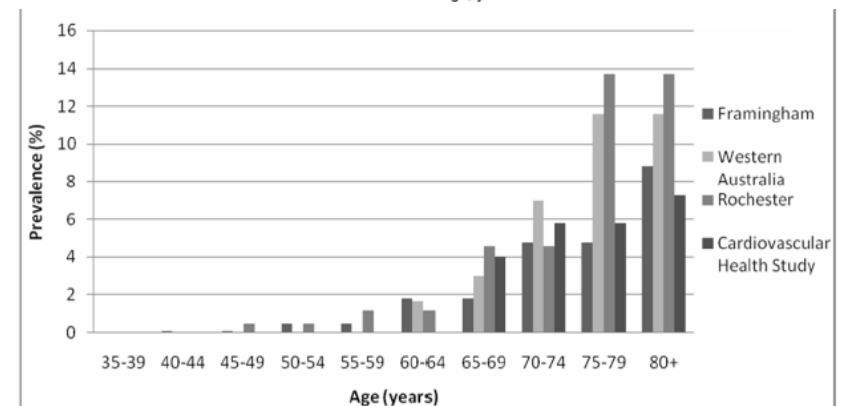
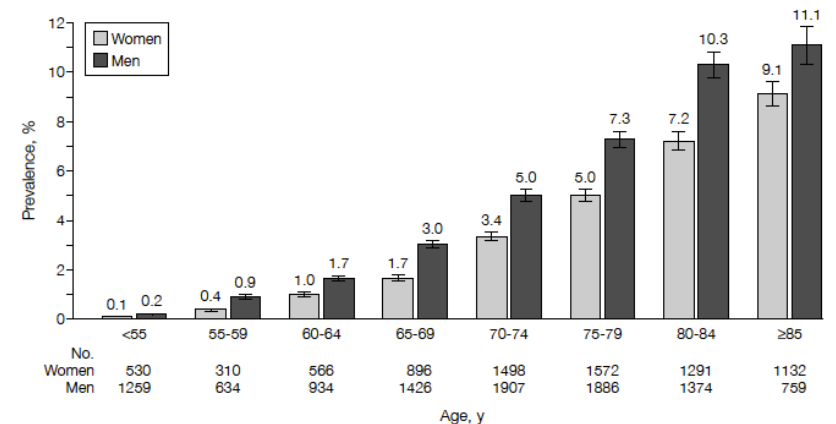
A subgroup of patients cannot benefit from IC-ECG:

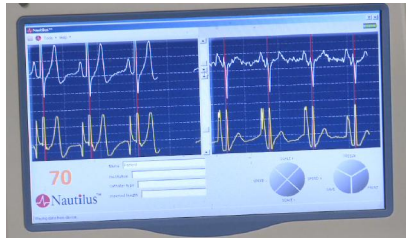
a) Patients without an evident P wave or with abnormal P on their basal surface ECG tracking

- atrial fibrillation or other morphologic abnormalities of p wave (junctional rhythms and others)
- Active atrial pace-makers

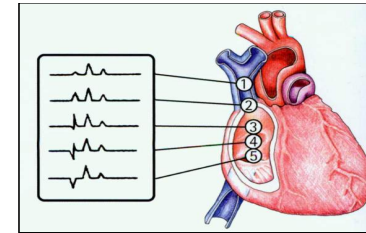
Global **applicability** (in-hospital):
91-93%

Figure 2. Prevalence of Diagnosed Atrial Fibrillation Stratified by Age and Sex





Problem ...



A subgroup of patients cannot benefit from IC-ECG:

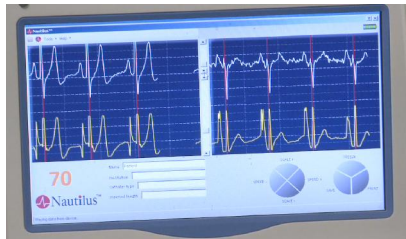
b) Difficult interpretation of a potentially detectable IC p-wave

- training ? correct procedural flow
- technical problems (electrical interference, cable or monitor quality)
- tachyarrhythmias ?
- trembling or non cooperating patients

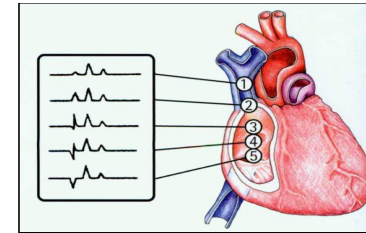
c) No p-waves variations detected despite potentially detectable IC p-wave

- refractory primary malposition
- technical problems

Global feasibility
(italian multicenter studies)
98.5-99.3%



Problem ...



2. Assess patient for known history of cardiac dysrhythmias and the presence of a P wave on ECG (if available) before planning to use ECG technology for placement. Contraindications to the use of ECG technology include patients with an abnormal ECG rhythm with an absence or alteration in the P wave (eg, presence of pacemakers, atrial fibrillation, extreme tachycardia). Follow manufacturers' directions for use in the appropriate patient populations.

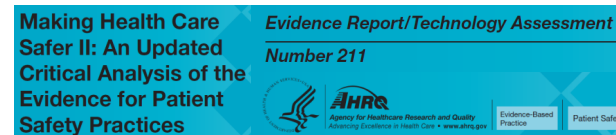
No more X-Rays

We still want to strictly adhere to the 2013
AHRQ statement

Annals of Internal Medicine

SUPPLEMENT

The Top Patient Safety Strategies That Can Be Encouraged for
Adoption Now



Annals of Internal Medicine

March 2013 | Annals of Internal Medicine | Volume 158 • Number 5 (Part 2) | 365

Encouraged

- Multicomponent interventions to reduce falls
- Use of clinical pharmacists to reduce adverse drug events
- Documentation of patient preferences for life-sustaining treatment
- Obtaining informed consent to improve patients' understanding of the potential risks of procedures
- Team training
- Medication reconciliation
- Practices to reduce radiation exposure from fluoroscopy and CT
- The use of surgical outcome measurements and report cards, such as those from ACS NSQIP
- Rapid-response systems
- Use of complementary methods for detecting adverse events or medical errors to monitor for patient safety problems
- Computerized provider order entry
- Use of simulation exercises in patient safety efforts

Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

- Introducing alternative tip location methods
- Adding further tip location and/or navigation technologies to IC-ECG
- Improving applicability of IC-ECG (modified IC-ECG)
- Integrating all the above mentioned strategies (an algorithm)

Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

- Introducing alternative tip location methods

Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

- Introducing alternative tip location methods
 - Fluoroscopy
 - Echocardiography
 - Trans-esophageal
 - Trans-thoracic
 - Modified IC-ECG

Intra-procedural tip location: Fluoroscopy



- Expensive
- Logistically unsustainable
- Inaccuracy of radiological landmarks
- X-Ray exposure (AHRQ 2013)

Intra-procedural tip location: Fluoroscopy

Annals of Internal Medicine

SUPPLEMENT

The Top Patient Safety Strategies That Can Be Encouraged for
Adoption Now



Annals of Internal Medicine

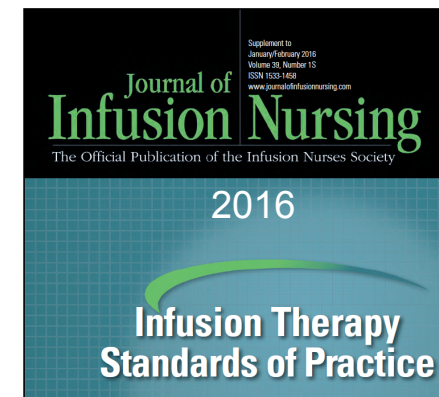
March 2013 | Annals of Internal Medicine | Volume 158 • Number 5 (Part 2) | 365

Encouraged

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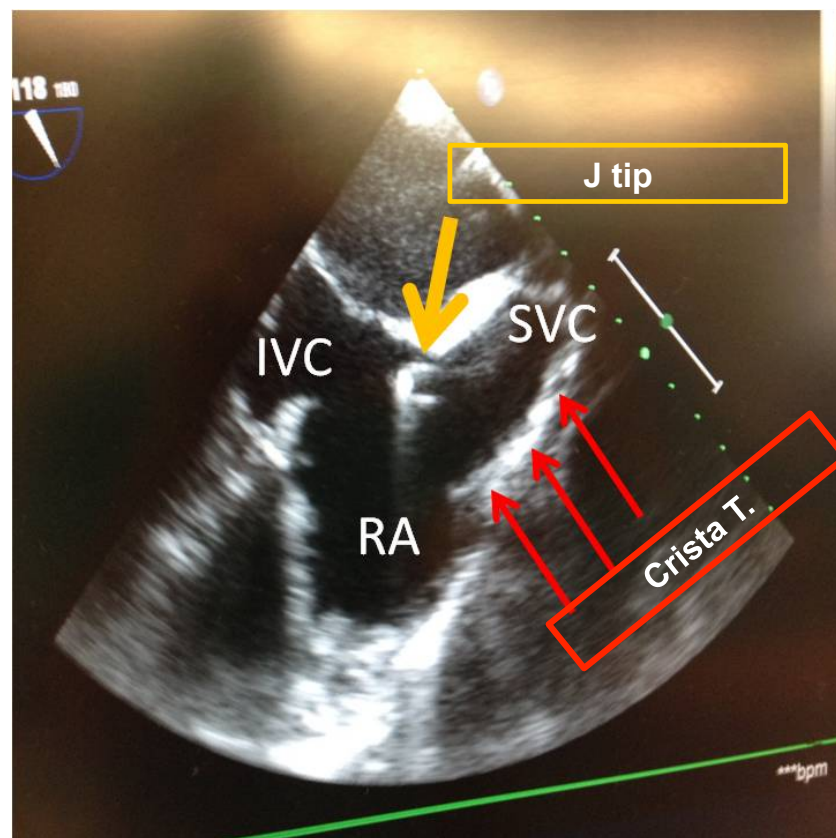
Intra-procedural tip location: Fluoroscopy

4. Avoid fluoroscopy except in the case of difficult CVAD insertions, as it requires exposure to ionizing radiation.

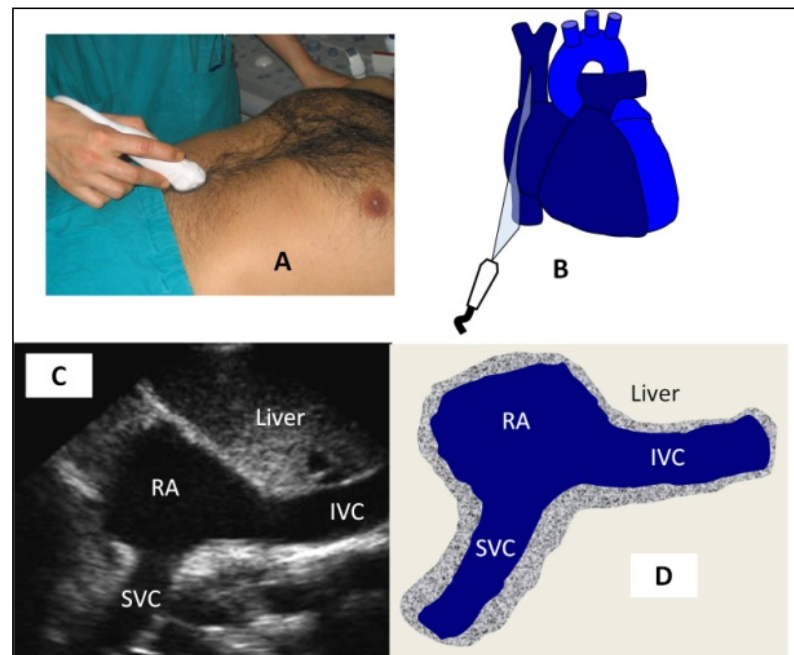
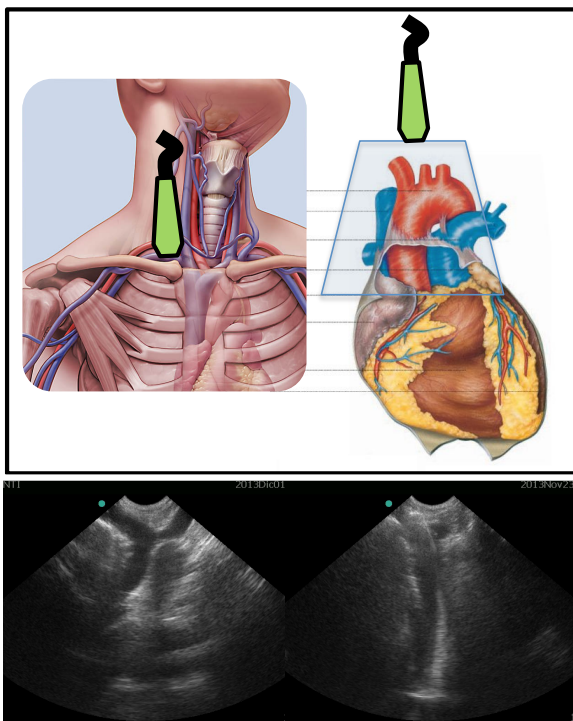


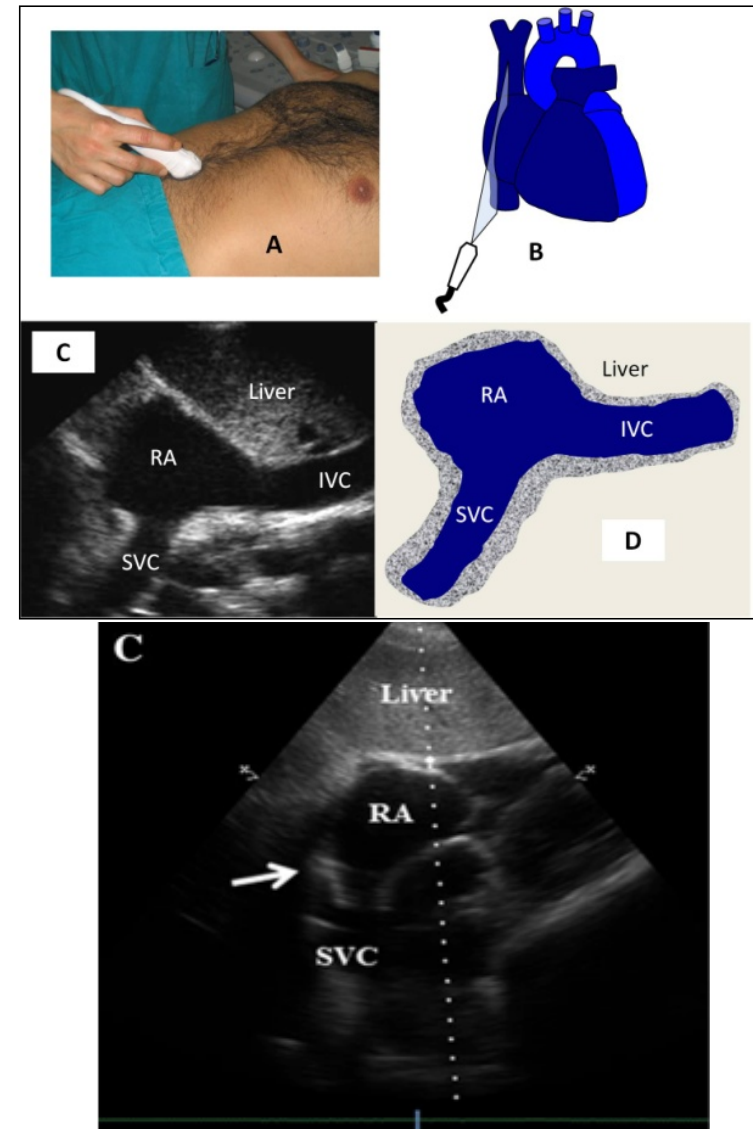
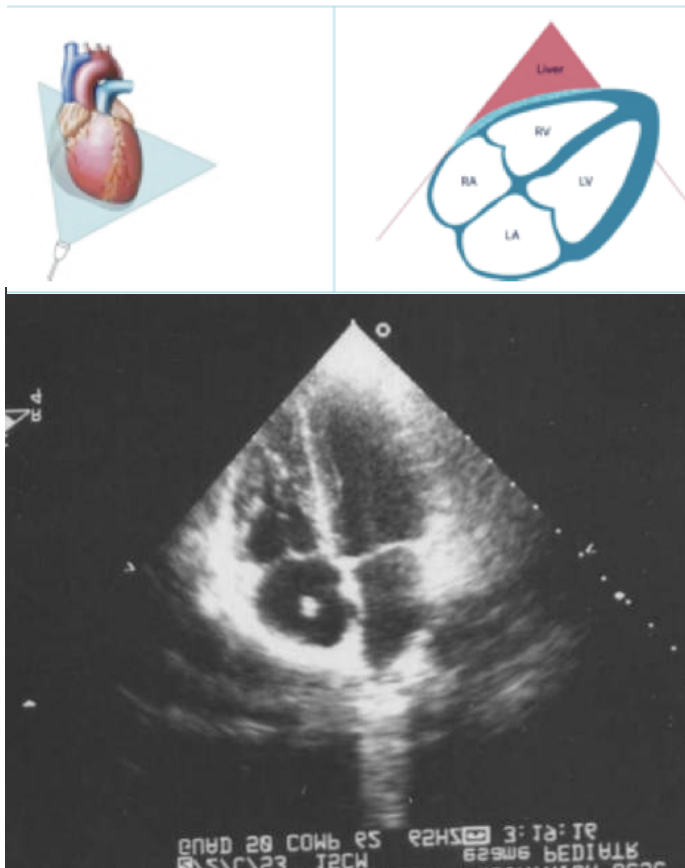
Intra-procedural tip location: Trans-Esophageal Echocardiography

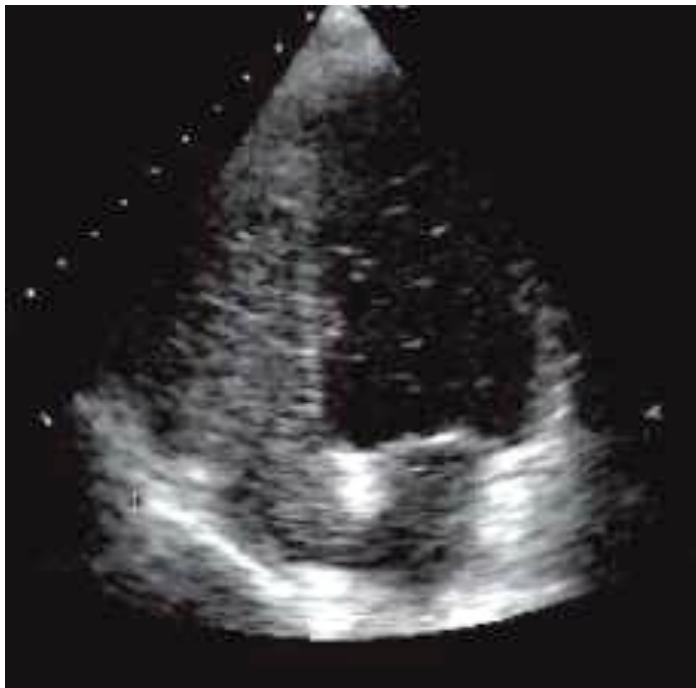
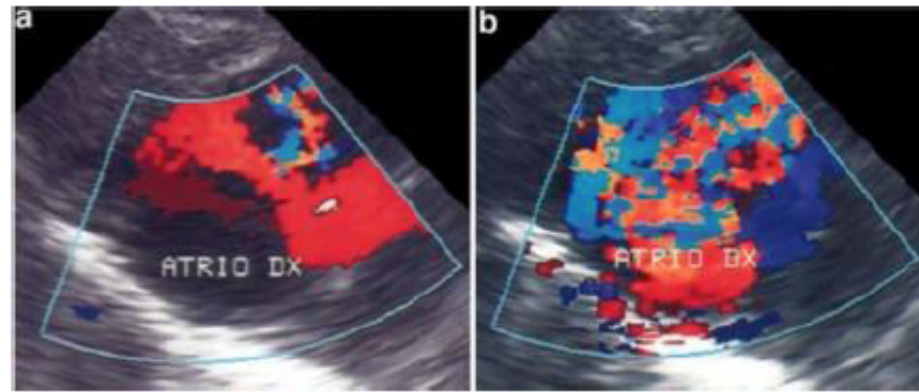
- The most accurate
- Invasive
- Specialty-based
- Only for patients under general anesthesia



Intra-procedural tip location: Trans-Thoracic Ecocardiography







Intra-procedural tip location: Trans-Thoracic Ecocardiography

Intensive Care Med (2012) 38:1105–1117
DOI 10.1007/s00134-012-2597-x

CONFERENCE REPORTS AND EXPERT PANEL

Massimo Lamperti
Andrew R. Bodenham
Mauro Pittiruti
Michael Blaivas
John G. Augoustides

International evidence-based
recommendations on ultrasound-guided
vascular access

Table 4 Recommendations on ultrasound vascular access in adults and cost-effectiveness

Ultrasound vascular access in adults				
Domain code	Suggested definition	Level of evidence	Degree of consensus	Strength of recommendation
D4.SD2.S1	Ultrasound guidance should be routinely used for short-term central venous access in adults	A	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S2	Ultrasound guidance should be routinely used for long-term central venous access in adults	A	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S3	PICCs should be routinely inserted at mid arm level by ultrasound guidance using micro introducer technique	A	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S4	Use of ultrasound guidance should be taken into consideration for any kind of peripheral intravenous line when difficult access is anticipated	B	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S5	Ultrasound-guided arterial catheterization improves first-pass success and should be used routinely in adults	A	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S6	Ultrasound can accurately detect pneumothorax and should be routinely performed after central venous catheter cannulation when the pleura could have been damaged	B	Very good	Strong
D4.SD2.S7	<u>CEUS (contrast-enhanced ultrasound) is a valid method for detecting a central venous catheter tip in the right atrium</u>	B	Very good	Strong
Cost-effectiveness D5.S1–3	of the use of ultrasound for vascular cannulation Ultrasound-guided vascular access has to be used because it results in clinical benefits and reduced overall costs of care makes it cost-effective	A	Very good	Strong

Intra-procedural tip location: Trans-Thoracic Ecocardiography

3. Use caution with ultrasound for CVAD tip location, as its use in replacing chest radiographs is controversial in all ages due to small sample sizes in available studies and lack of standardized techniques. Consider use in neonates and in emergency departments when immediate knowledge of the CVAD tip location is beneficial.

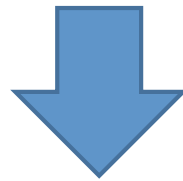


Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

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Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

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IMPROVING FEASIBILITY

Improving feasibility: “integrated devices” (IC-ECG + navigation)

ECG + doppler



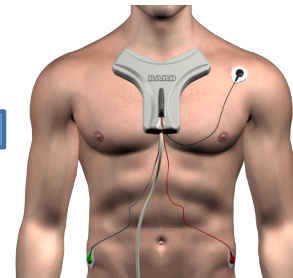
Green Arrow – Keep going
The catheter is moving with the flow of the blood towards the heart.

Orange Circle – Do not enter
The catheter is moving against the flow of the blood. It needs to be pulled back and redirected.

Yellow Triangle – Redirect catheter
The catheter is possibly against the blood vessel wall. It needs to be pulled back and repositioned.

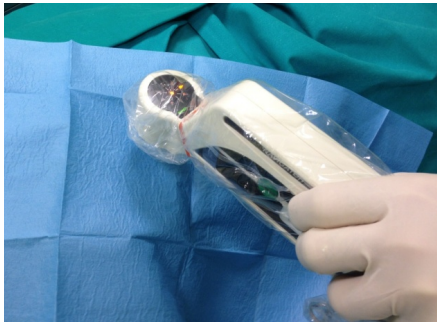
Blue Bull's Eye – Correct Placement
The catheter tip has arrived within the lower 1/3 SVC and the CAJ.

ECG
+ presso-acoustic waves



ECG
+ electromagnetic tracking





Improving feasibility:
IC-ECG + navigation

Adding a navigation system may help directing the tip towards the SVC thus obtaining the expected variations in amplitude of P wave or T-Q segment
(improve feasibility)

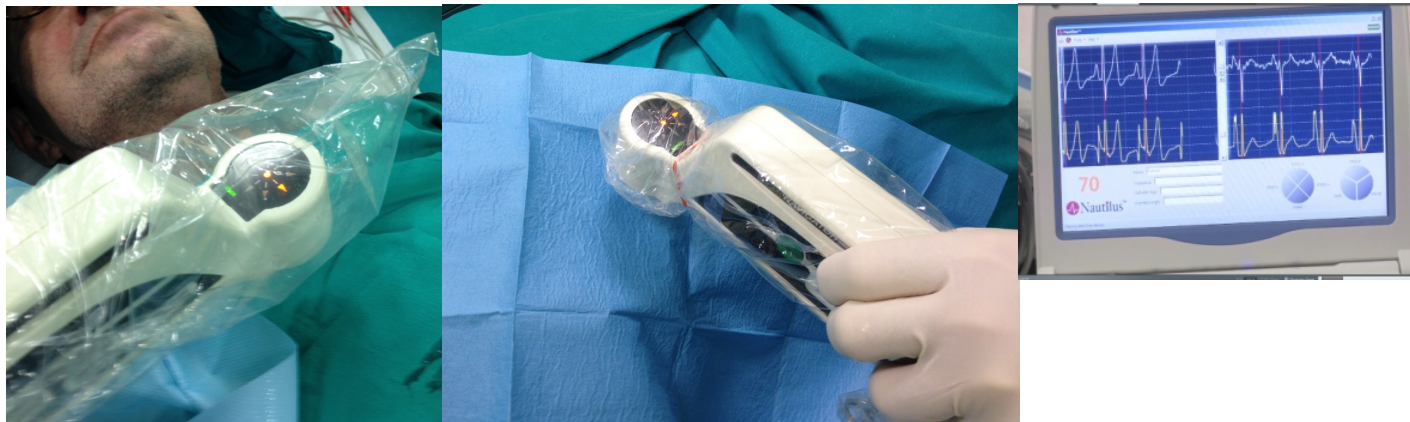


Improving feasibility: IC-ECG + navigation study



“TIP NAVIGATION + TIP LOCATION: AN ALGORITHM FOR MAXIMIZING SAFETY AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF CENTRAL VADs”

- 30 patients consecutively studied during PICC placement
- Navigator (Corpak) as tip navigation system
- Intracavitary ECG method for tip location.

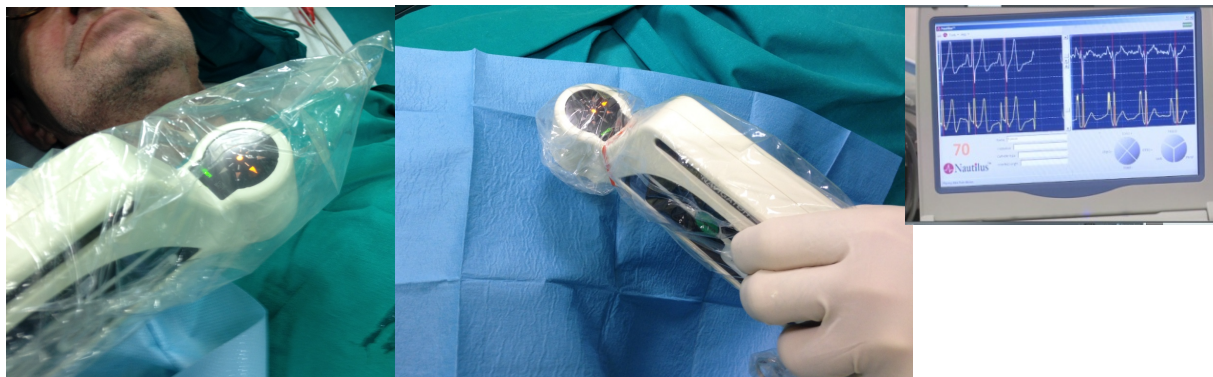


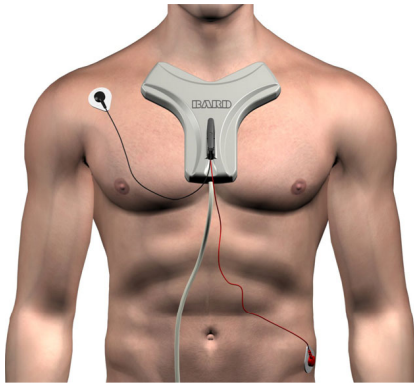


Improving feasibility: IC-ECG + navigation study

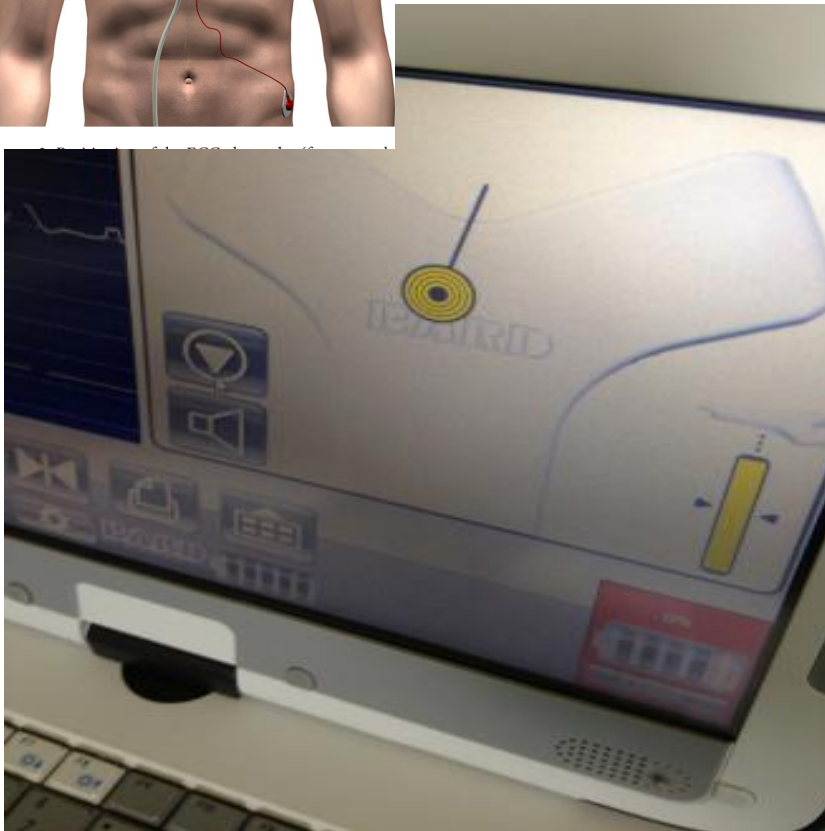


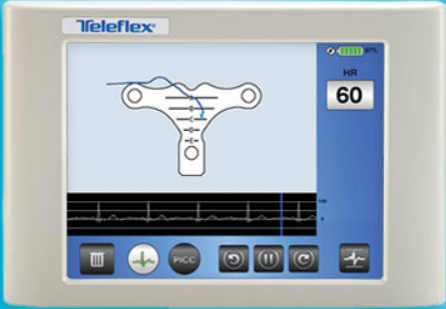
- The tip navigation device was successfully used in all patients, making the procedure easier and faster.
- In all patients, the correct tip location as evaluated by the intracavitary ECG method corresponded to the electromagnetic detection of the tip below the third intercostal space, with the tip properly directed downward.





New Sherlock (3CG)





Teleflex

Arrow®
VPS Rhythm® Device
with Optional TipTracker™
Technology

Because no one should suffer from vascular-related complications ARROW™



The image shows a patient's chest with a VPS Rhythm Device inserted into the neck. The device is a white, Y-shaped catheter with a black handle and a clear plastic sheath. It is connected to a black cable. The patient is wearing a light blue hospital gown with a colorful pattern.

Tip navigation by VPS Rhythm

Arrow Teleflex

Improving feasibility:
IC-ECG navigation!!!



Improving feasibility: IC-ECG navigation!!!



Improving feasibility: IC-ECG navigation!!!



Improving feasibility: IC-ECG navigation!!!



Improving feasibility: IC-ECG navigation!!!

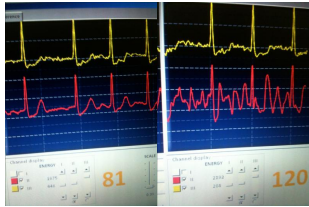


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Intra-procedural tip location in the IC-ECG unsuitable patients: how ?

- Improving applicability of IC-ECG
(modified IC-ECG)



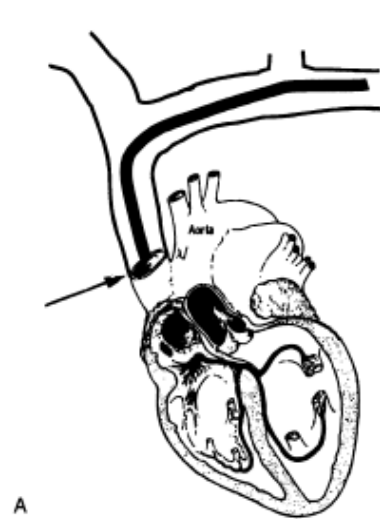
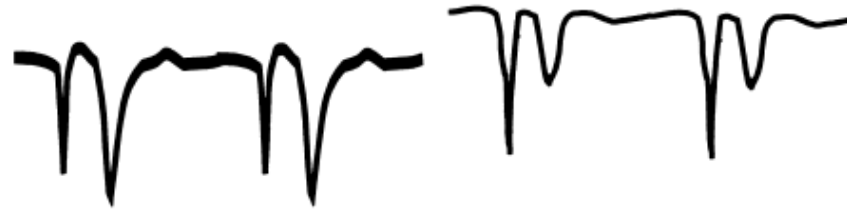
Improving applicability of IC-ECG (ectopic rhythms)

Junctional rhythms show a negative p wave on surface ECG

This negative wave increases in amplitude on IC-ECG while approaching the heart, reaching a maximum at the atrio-caval junction

These IC-ECG modification patterns are similar to those observed in sinus rhythm patients, but specular in sign

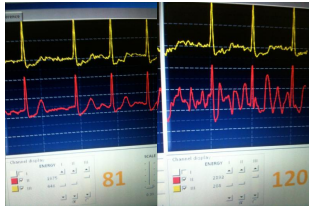
(La Greca A, personal observation)



A



B



Improving applicability of IC-ECG (atrial fibrillation)

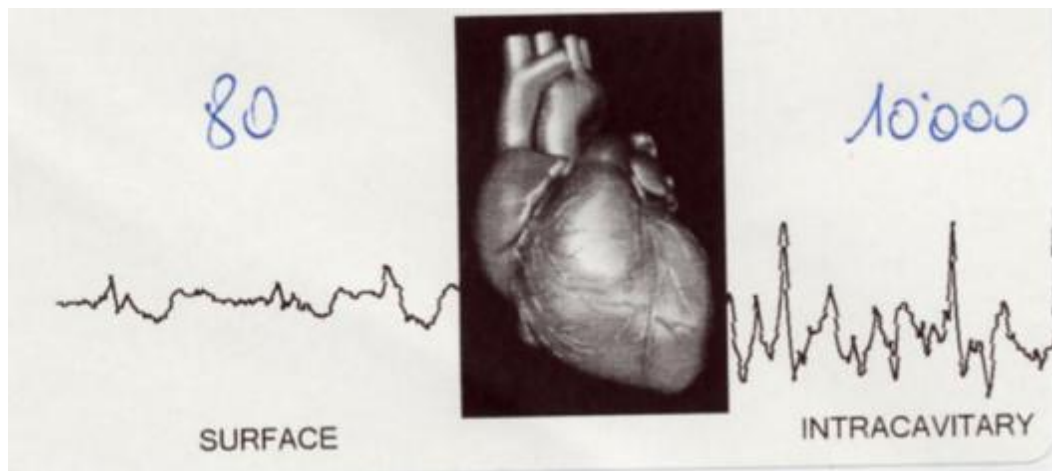
The mean increase of the baseline electrical activity on the intracavitary ECG recorded in patients with atrial fibrillation may be used for detecting the transition of the catheter electrode from the superior vena cava to the right atrium

(Engelhardt 1984; Pittiruti et al. 2011 and 2016)

Using 'modified' IC-ECG for tip location, evaluating the TQ tract and not the P wave

In normal atrium, CAJ = maximal P wave

In the fibrillating atrium, CAJ = maximal activity of the atrial waves (in terms of frequency and height)





Improving applicability FA – Study 1

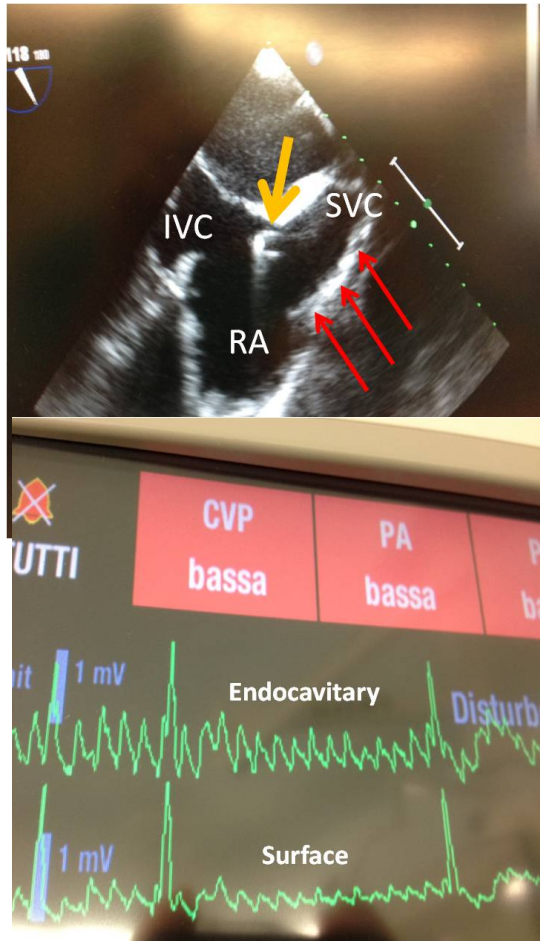


“EKG-controlled placement of central venous catheters in patients with atrial fibrillation”
(Pittiruti, La Greca, Scoppettuolo et al. - INS 2011)

- Cavo-atrial junction was detected by two criteria:
 - (a) abrupt appearance of high-voltage waves when entering the right atrium and their brisk disappearance when pulling the catheter back into the vena cava superior;
 - (b) sudden increase (4-fold, 10fold) of the amount of energy recorded by the intracavitary electrode
- Post-op. chest x-ray in all patients
- Cavo-atrial junction correctly identified in 25 pts. out of 27
- Conclusion: the EKG method for verifying the position of the tip of central venous access devices can be applied in most patients with atrial fibrillation, with high accuracy (no false positives; few false negatives).



Improving applicability FA – Study 2



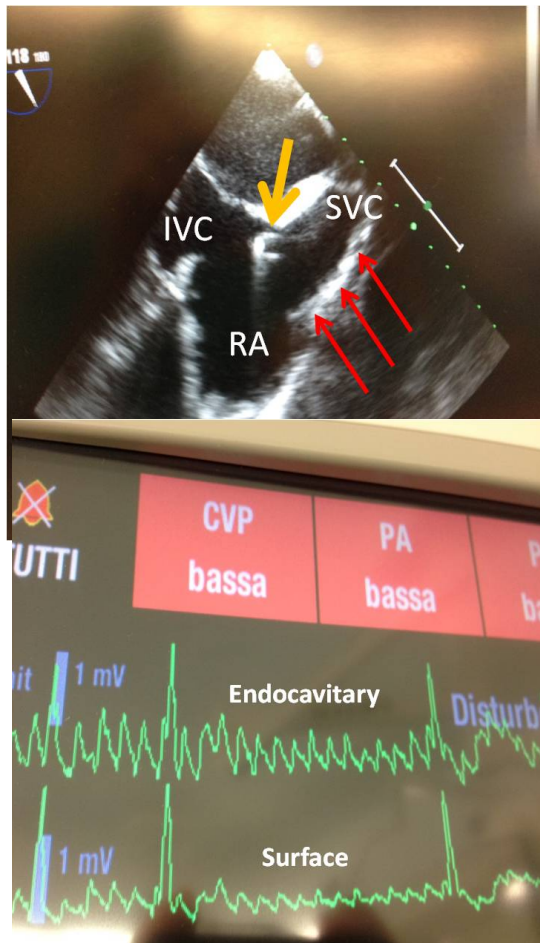
- Patients affected by atrial fibrillation and candidate to cardiac surgery (aorto-coronary bypass, valvular replacement) under hemodynamic monitoring via trans-esophageal echocardiography + CVAD placement in the operating room have been consecutively enrolled.
- In each patient, the TEE probe is inserted after completion of the general anesthesia procedure and adjusted to obtain the atrio-bicaval view according to the Medical Society of Echocardiography guidelines.



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Improving applicability FA – Study 2



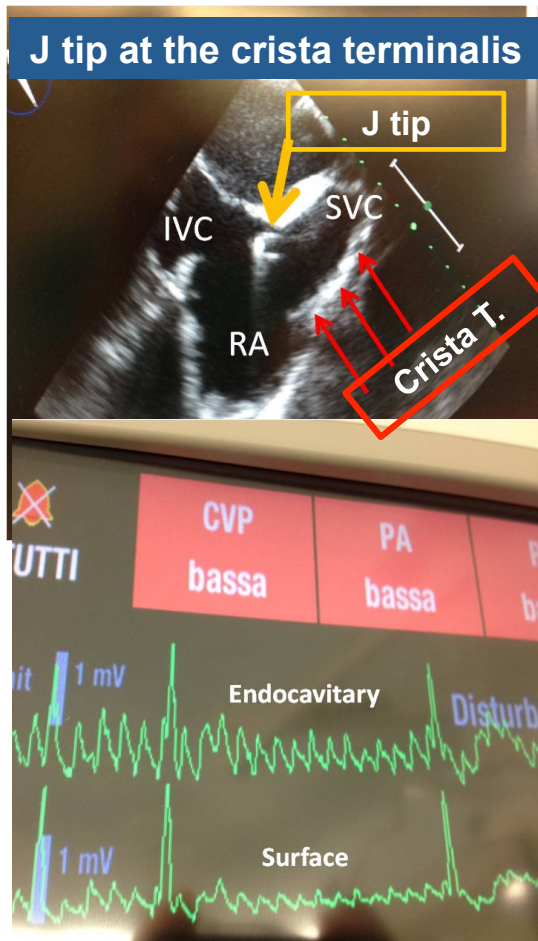
- The CVAD was inserted under ultrasound and IC-ECG guidance according to our Institution standard policy.
- The CVAD tip was placed at the CAJ as defined with regard to the crista terminalis, the anatomical and US landmark of the CAJ and then threaded 2 cm below and pulled 2 cm above it always under TEE guidance.
- The IC-ECG traces corresponding to the three US-based tip positions were saved for subsequent analysis and the catheter was left in situ at the point defined by TEE.



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Improving applicability FA – Study 2



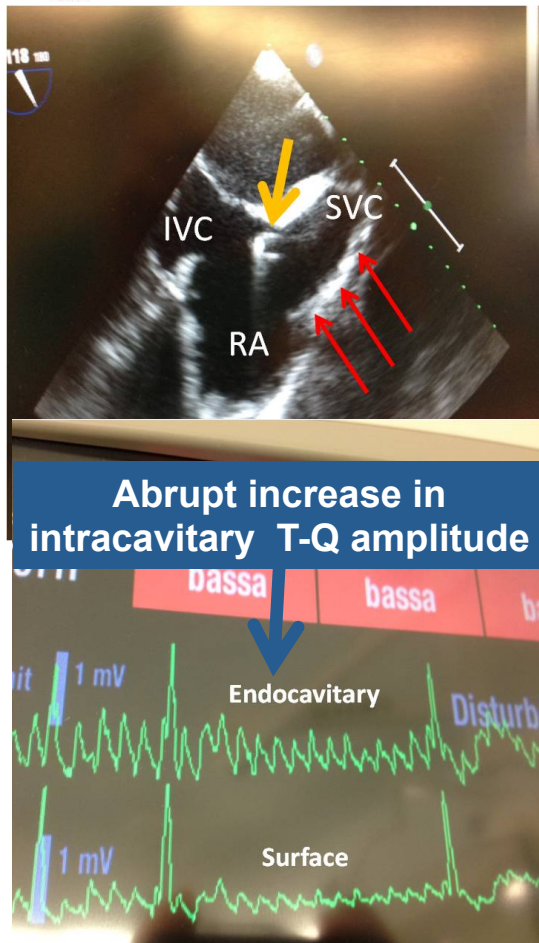
- 10 consecutive patients have been enrolled and included in the analysis.
- CVAD insertion successful and uneventful in all patients.
- All CVADs inserted via the right IJV.
- Guidewire J-tip exiting the catheter and the crista terminalis clearly located by the TEE operator in all patients.



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Improving applicability FA – Study 2



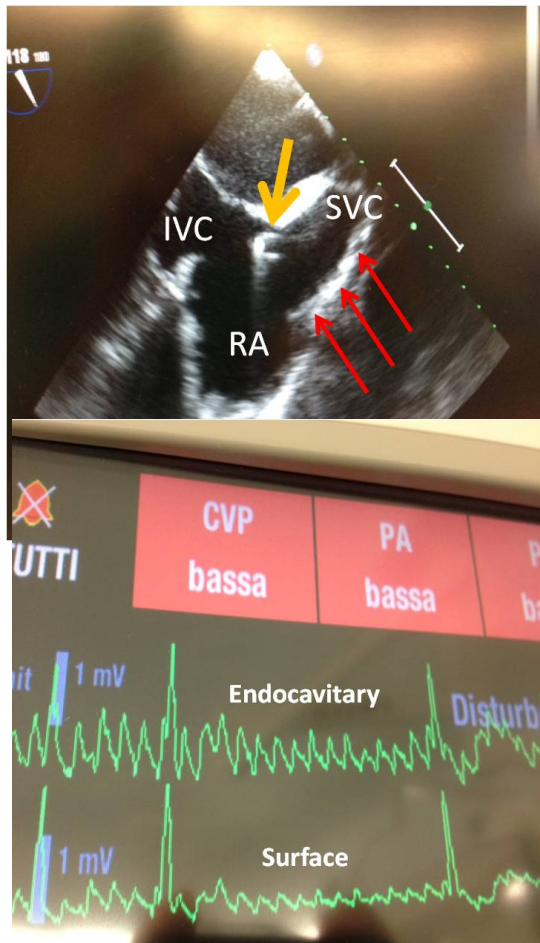
- Under TEE, an abrupt increase in the mean intracavitary amplitude of the asynchronous atrial electrical activity (i.e. the T-Q segment on the ECG trace) as compared to the surface trace is recorded with the J-tip placed at the crista terminalis.
- A clear reduction in amplitude is evident in the two alternative positions (SVC and deep RA) in all patients.



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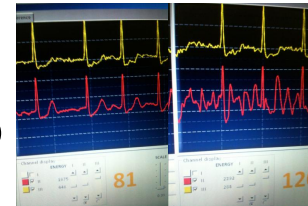
Improving applicability FA – Study 2



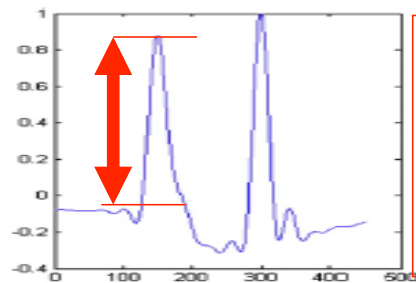
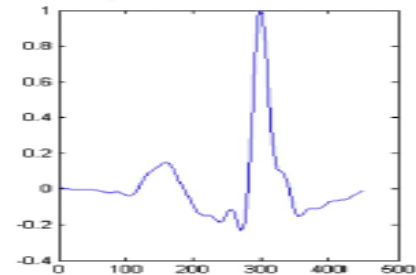
- While patients are being enrolled, further IC-ECG traces analysis is ongoing to define quantitative parameters allowing a more refined correlation between IC-ECG and tip position in FA patients (i.e.: energy et al.)

Improving applicability – FA

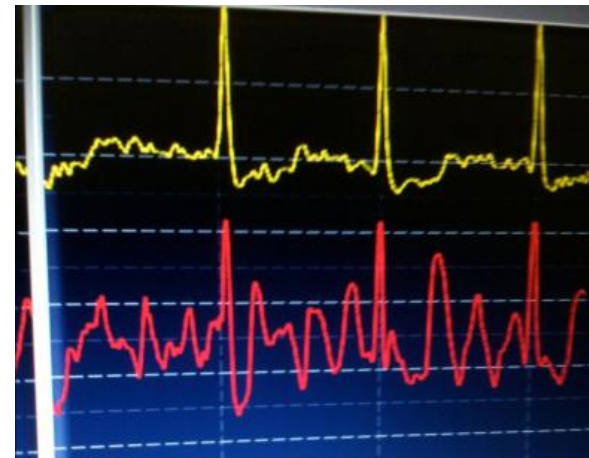
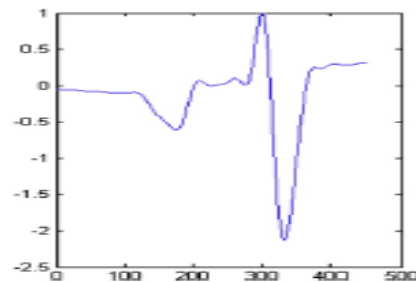
Which quantitative parameter ?



Averaged Normalized Waveform



mm
or
mV

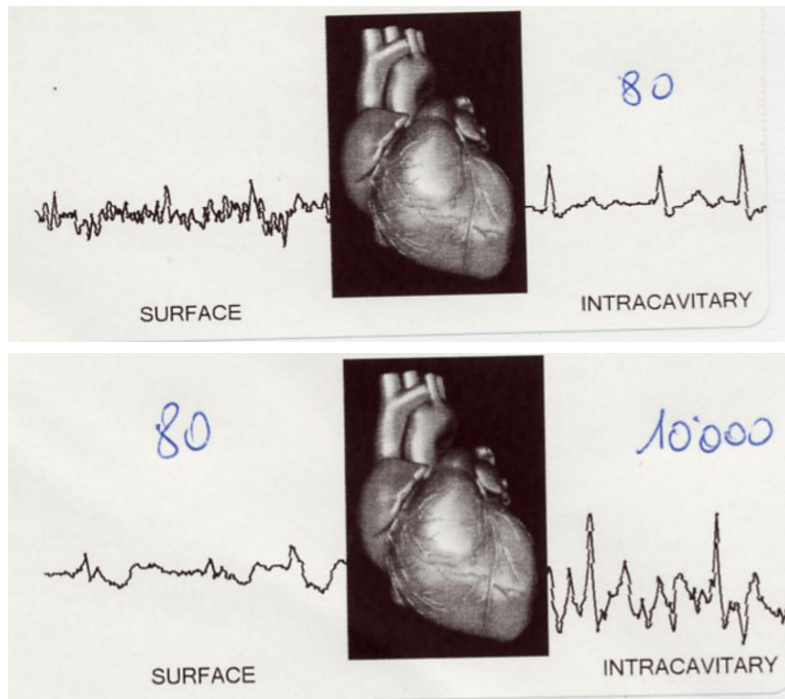


???

Improving applicability of IC-ECG (atrial fibrillation)

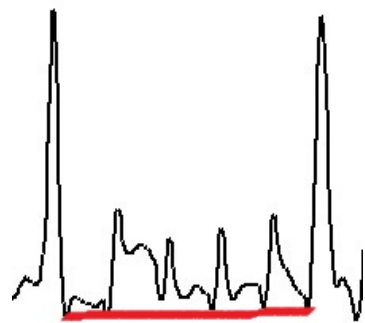
Using specialized “digital” ECG monitors

The area under the T-Q segment = atrial energy

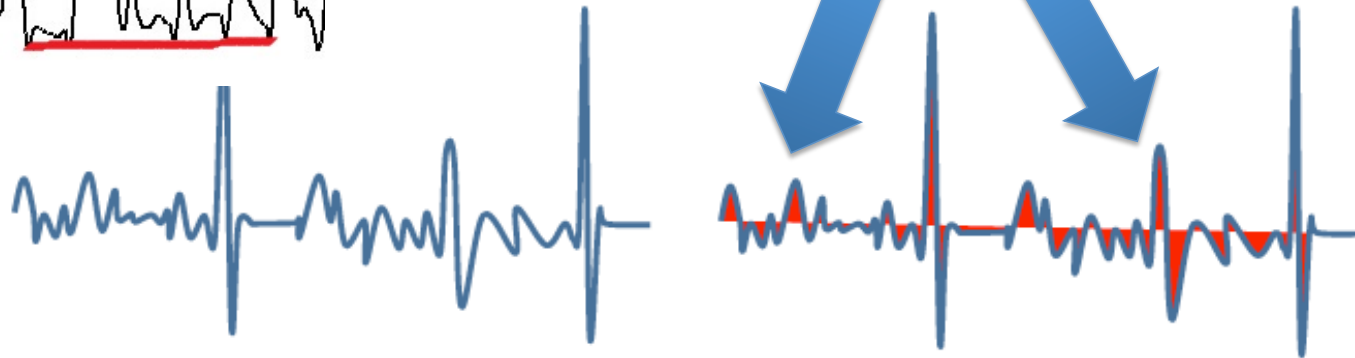


Improving applicability of IC-ECG (atrial fibrillation)

The area under the T-Q segment (atrial “energy”) might be related to the cavo-atrial junction tip location



But it is different during examination in the same tip position !!! (different duration of the T-Q segment)



Improving applicability

FA – Study 3

The mean peak-to-peak maximal voltage might be related to the cavo-atrial junction tip location (more constant in different measurements at the same tip position)



Our latest study

A modified intracavitary electrocardiographic method for detecting the location of the tip of central venous catheters in atrial fibrillation patients (JVA 2018, in press)

2018

Improving applicability

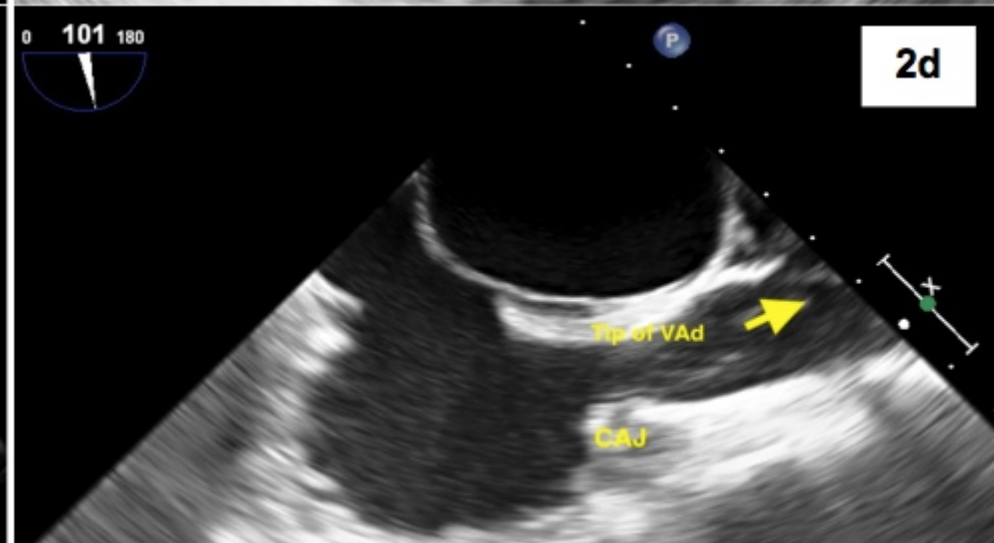
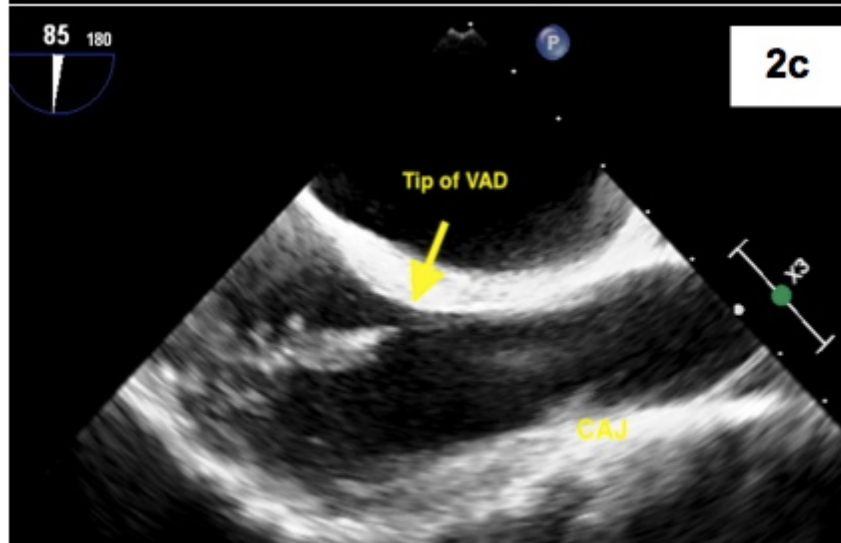
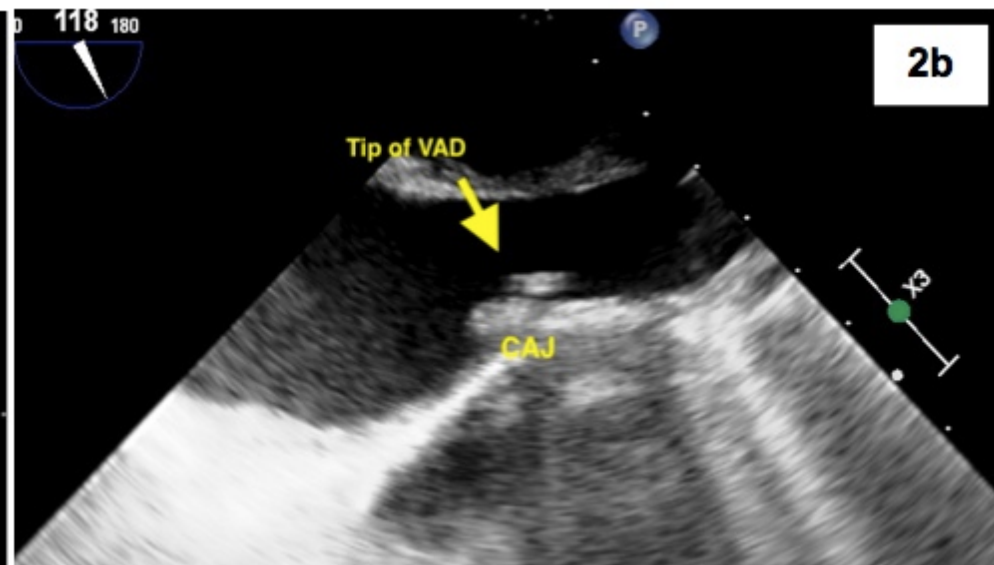
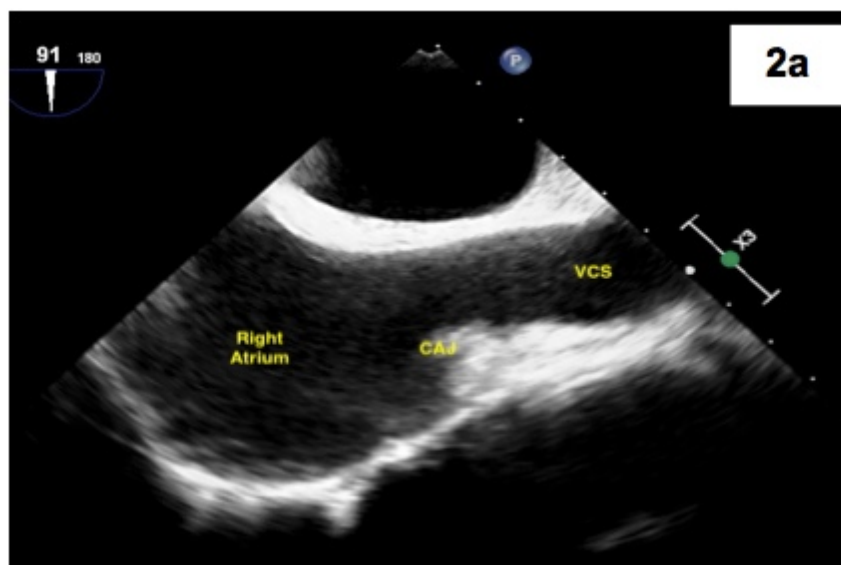
FA – Study 3

- Same principles as study 2
 - IC-ECG + TEE during cardiac surgery
 - 3 tip positions under TEE (CAJ, CAJ + 2 cm, CAJ – 2 cm)
 - IC-ECG at the 3 positions
- Parameter:
 - mean value of the maximal F wave recorded in each T-Q segment during 10 cardiac cycles (***post-recording HUMAN READING***)

Methods

18 AF patients requiring simultaneously a CVC and a trans-esophageal echocardiography (TEE).

An IC-ECG trace was recorded with the catheter tip in 3 different positions defined by TEE imaging: [in the superior vena cava](#), 2 cm above the cavo-atrial junction (CAJ); [at the CAJ](#); and [in the right atrium](#), 2 cm below the CAJ.



Methods

Three different criteria of measurement of the *f* waves pattern in the TQ tract were used:

- the mean height of *f* waves (method A);
- the height of the highest *f* wave (method B);
- the difference between the highest positive peak and the lowest negative peak (method C)

Each of the three methods of measurement was applied to ten or more consecutive QRST complexes, so to get a mean value derived from many (= or > 10) different measurements

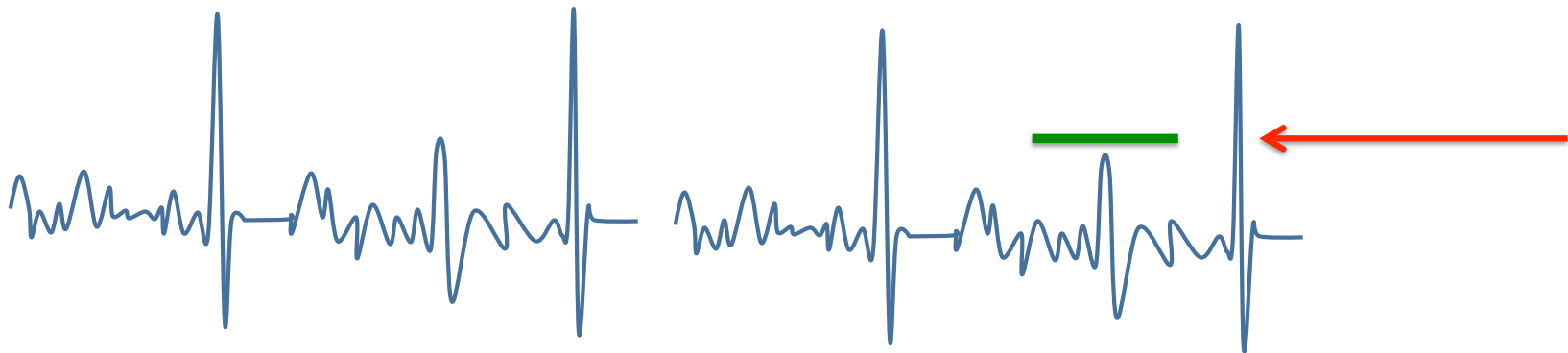
Method A

📺 Measurement of the the mean height of f waves



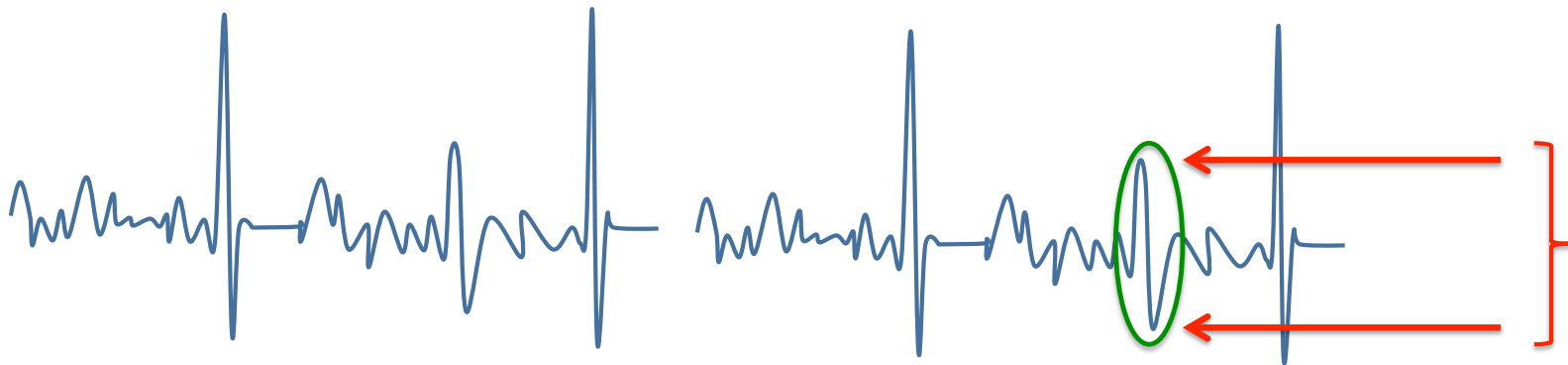
Method B

📏 Measurement of the height of the highest f wave



Method C

- 📌 Measurement of the widest difference between maximal positive peak and maximal negative peak



With the tip placed at the CAJ, the mean value of the *f* waves was significantly higher than in the other two positions.

ANOVA
p <.001
for all

Pairwise
p <.05
for each

Methods to measure the F-wave	Anatomical site	Mean $\pm$ SD (number of observations)	Pairwise comparison*
Method A	SVC	1,9 $\pm$ 0,89 (385)	SVC <u>vs</u> CAJ
	CAJ	3,33 $\pm$ 1,47 (590)	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA; CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC
	RA	2,08 $\pm$ 0,75 (376)	RA <u>vs</u> CAJ
Method B	SVC	2,11 $\pm$ 1,32 (180)	SVC <u>vs</u> CAJ
	CAJ	4,52 $\pm$ 1,87 (180)	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA; CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC
	RA	2,03 $\pm$ 0,9 (180)	RA <u>vs</u> CAJ
Method C	SVC	2,34 $\pm$ 1,39 (180)	SVC <u>vs</u> CAJ
	CAJ	5,07 $\pm$ 2,07 (180)	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA; CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC
	RA	2,32 $\pm$ 0,93 (180)	RA <u>vs</u> CAJ

Legend. SVC =superior vena cava; RA =right atrium; CAJ = cavo-atrial junction; SD =standard deviation; mm =millimeter.

* ANOVA was significantly different for all ($p < 0.001$); each pairwise comparison was individually significant ($p < .05$) at post-hoc analysis (Scheffé test for all pairwise comparisons).

All three methods were effective in discriminating the tip position at the CAJ ...

Different methods to measure the f waves	Anatomical site	AUC $\pm$ SE (95% C.I.)*	Cut-off value (mm) **
Method A	CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC	0,71 $\pm$ 0,016 (0,68-0,74)	> 2
Method A	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA	0,7 $\pm$ 0,016 (0,67-0,73)	> 2,5
Method B	CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC	0,84 $\pm$ 0,021 (0,79-0,87)	> 2
Method B	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA	0,86 $\pm$ 0,018 (0,82-0,9)	> 2,5
Method C	CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC	0,83 $\pm$ 0,02 (0,78-0,86)	> 2
Method C	CAJ <u>vs</u> RA	0,85 $\pm$ 0,019 (0,81-0,88)	> 3

Legend. AUC =area under curve, SE =standard error, C.I. =confidence interval, mm =millimeter, SVC = Superior Vena Cava, RA = Right Atrium, CAJ = cavo-atrial junction

* A higher value of AUC with narrow 95% confidence interval means a better discrimination between two different positions.

** The cut-off value of the height of the f wave (expressed in mm) corresponds to the one associated with maximal accuracy (minimal false positive and false negative results).



Different methods to <u>measure the f waves</u>	Anatomical site	AUC $\pm$ SE (95% C.I.)*	Cut-off value (mm) **
Method A	CAJ <u>vs</u> SVC	0,71 $\pm$ 0,016 (0,68-0,74)	> 2
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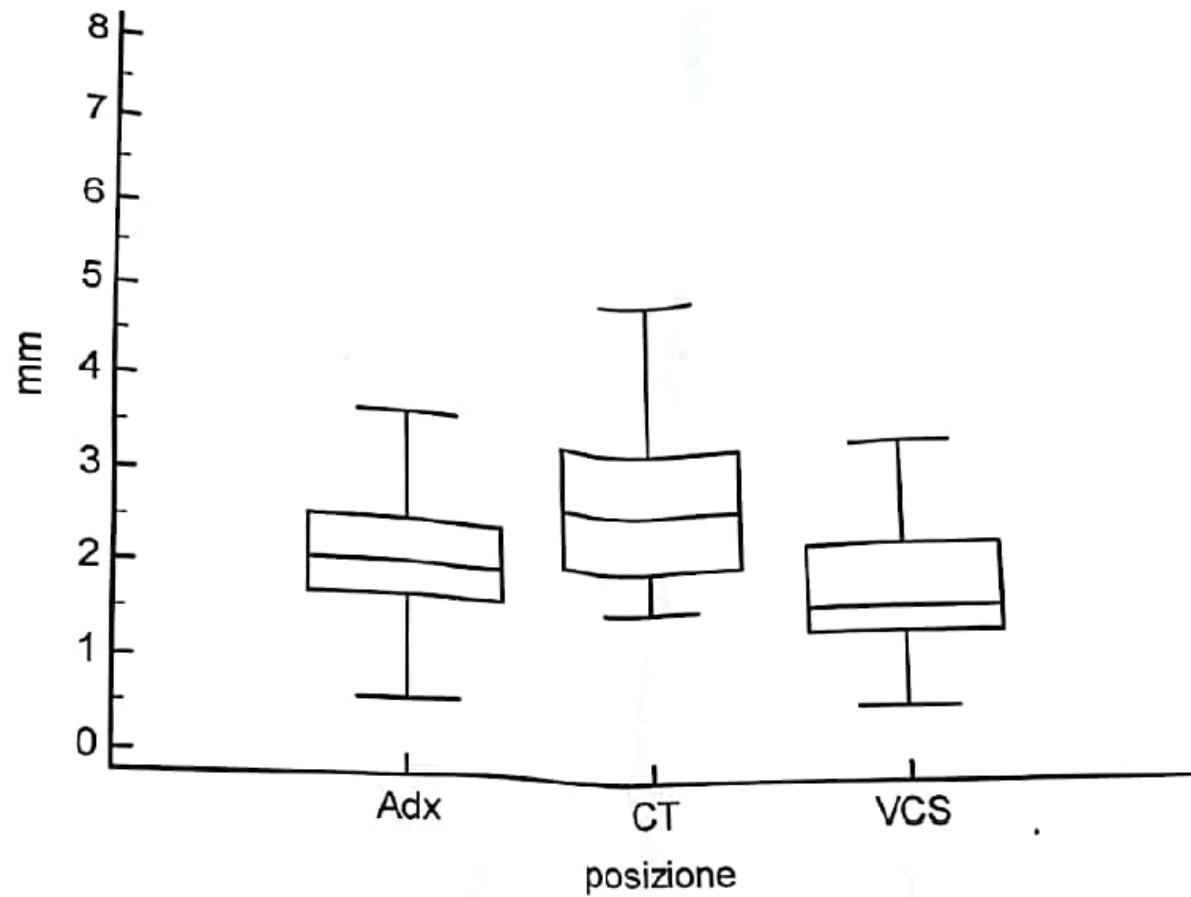


... though method B proved to be the most accurate.

ROC Analysis
Higher value of AUC =
better discrimination
between two different
positions

Improving applicability

FA – Study 3



Conclusions of the study

Our study demonstrates that a 'modified' IC-ECG method based not on the maximal height of the P wave but on the maximal electrical activity of the TQ tract can be safely used for detecting the location of the tip of central VADs in AF patients.

Our data also suggests that this method should replace other tip location methods currently used in AF patients, such as fluoroscopy or post-procedural chest x-ray, since such radiological techniques are less accurate, more expensive and less safe than IC-ECG.

JVA

The Journal of
Vascular Access



Official Journal of the Vascular Access Society (VAS)

Published in association with

ASDIN - American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology

AVAS - Australian Vascular Access Society

ASDA - Argentine Society for Dialysis Access

ASDA - Argentine Society for Dialysis Access

VASA - Vascular Access Society of the Americas

VHAS - Vascular Access Society of British Isles

WVCA - World Congress Vascular Access

WICHTIG

Our current algorithm in adult patients

🚩 If a P wave is evident on basal ECG:

- *Conventional IC-ECG is enough*

🚩 If a P wave is not evident:

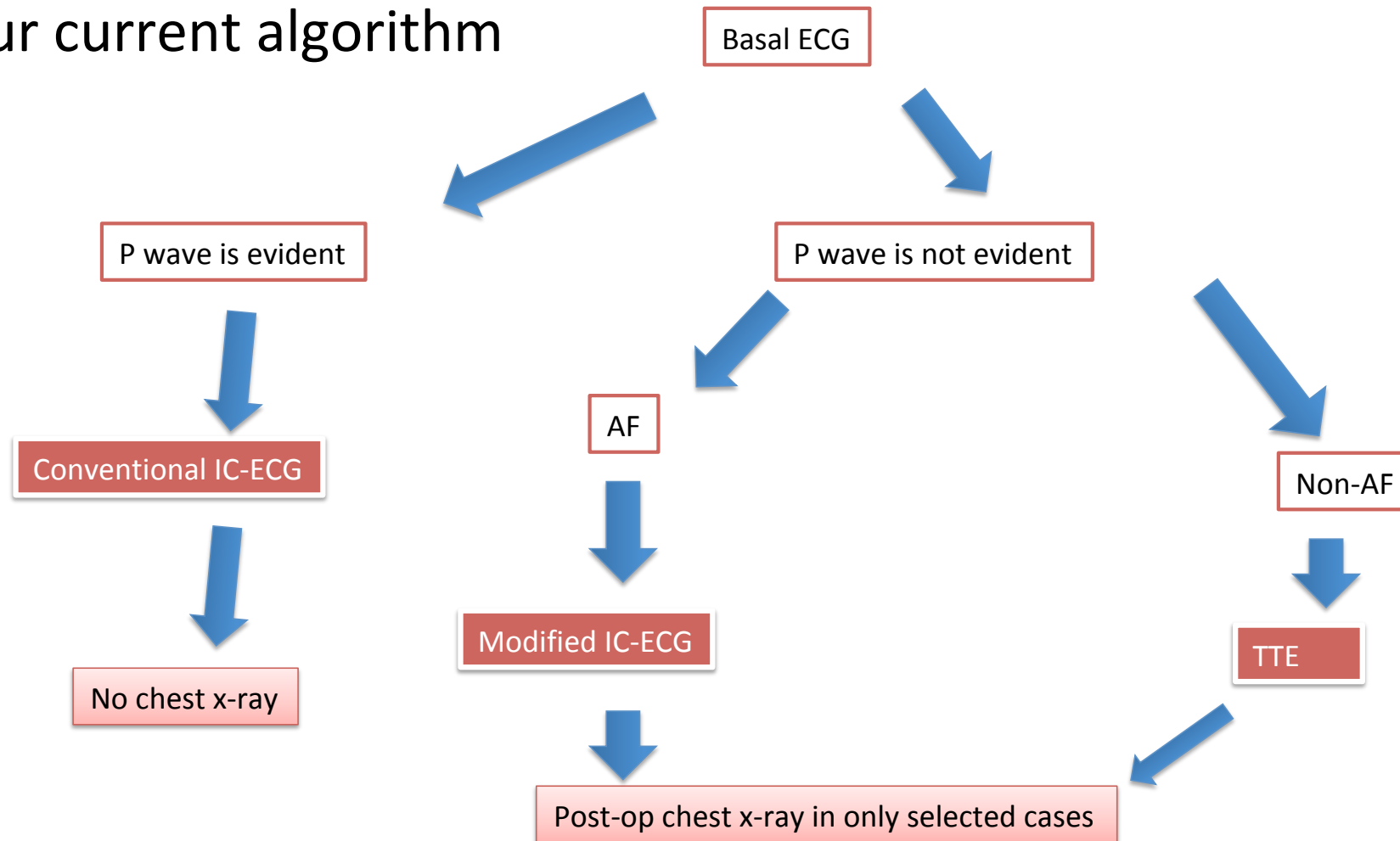
- In AF patients:

- *Modified IC-ECG and/or echocardio (TTE)*

- In non-AF patients (PM, etc.):

- *Echocardio (TTE)*

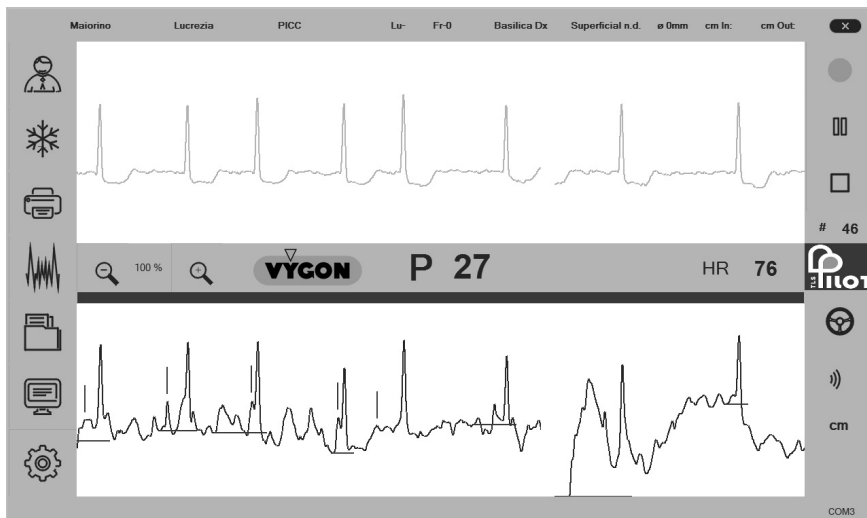
Our current algorithm



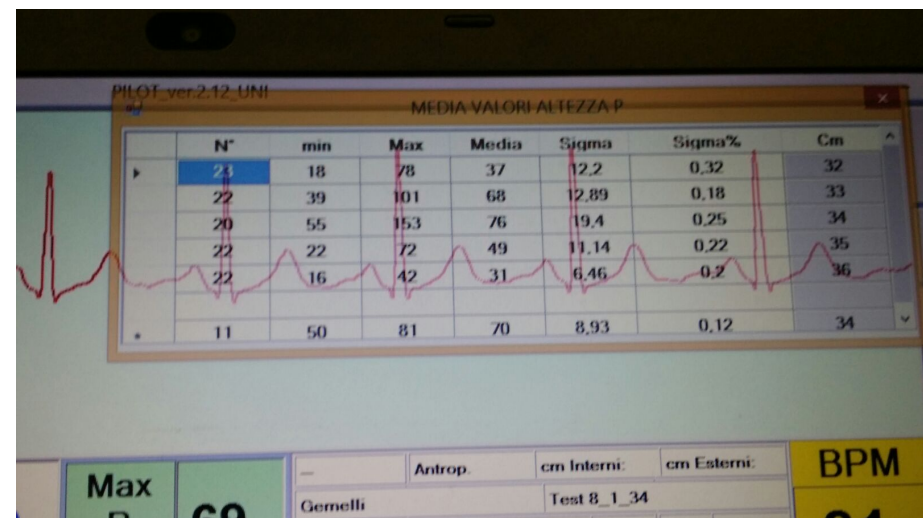
Improving applicability in FA

- Can we use quantitative parameters vs human eye in clinical practice ?
- User friendliness of quantitative parameters

Human eye

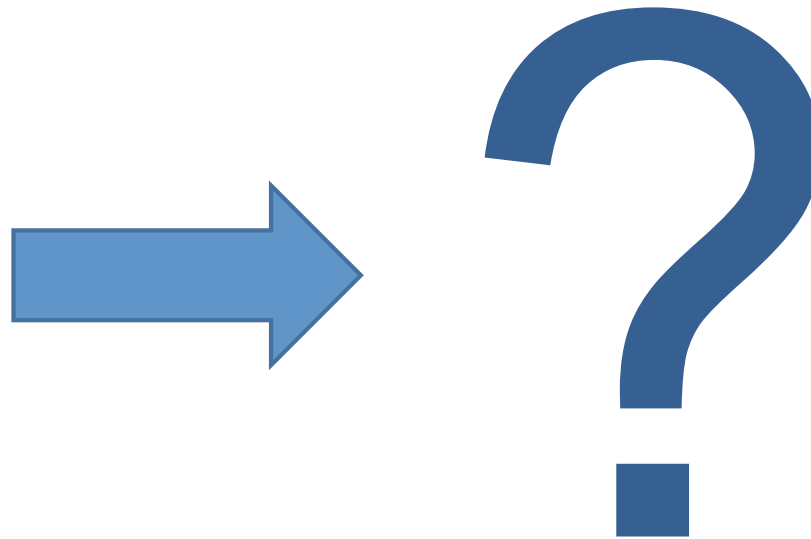


Quantitative parameters



Improving applicability in FA

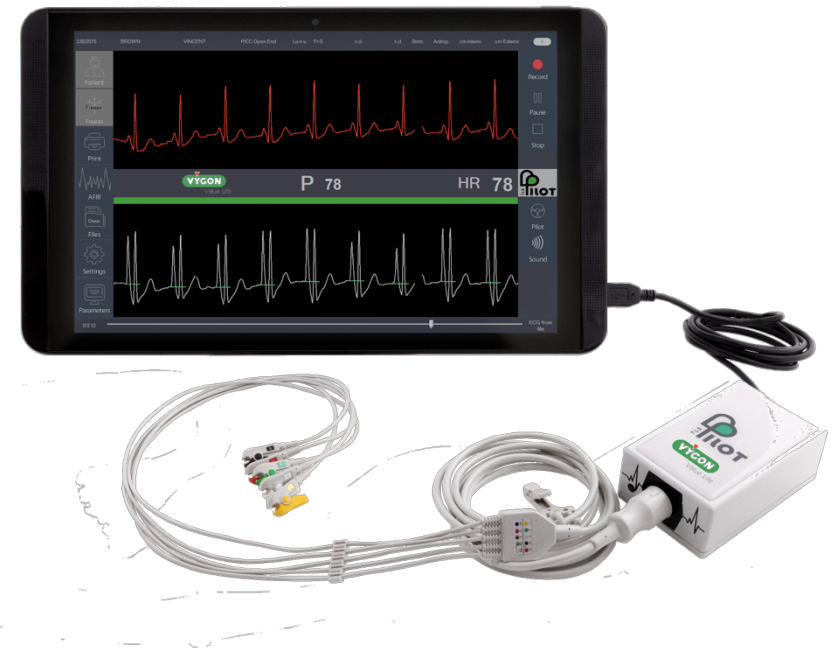
- IC-ECG in FA patients: how to introduce it into guidelines ?



- Evidence base + chance of widespreading

Widespreading: pre-requisites

- **QUANTITATIVE** analysis might represent the scientific basis for validating IC-ECG in FA patients
- This should be **USER FRIENDLY**
- The **MANUAL QUANTITATIVE** analysis of the TQ tract is difficult and time-consuming.
- The Pilot provides **automatically and REAL-TIME** the measurement of the widest difference between maximal positive peak and maximal negative peak (method C).

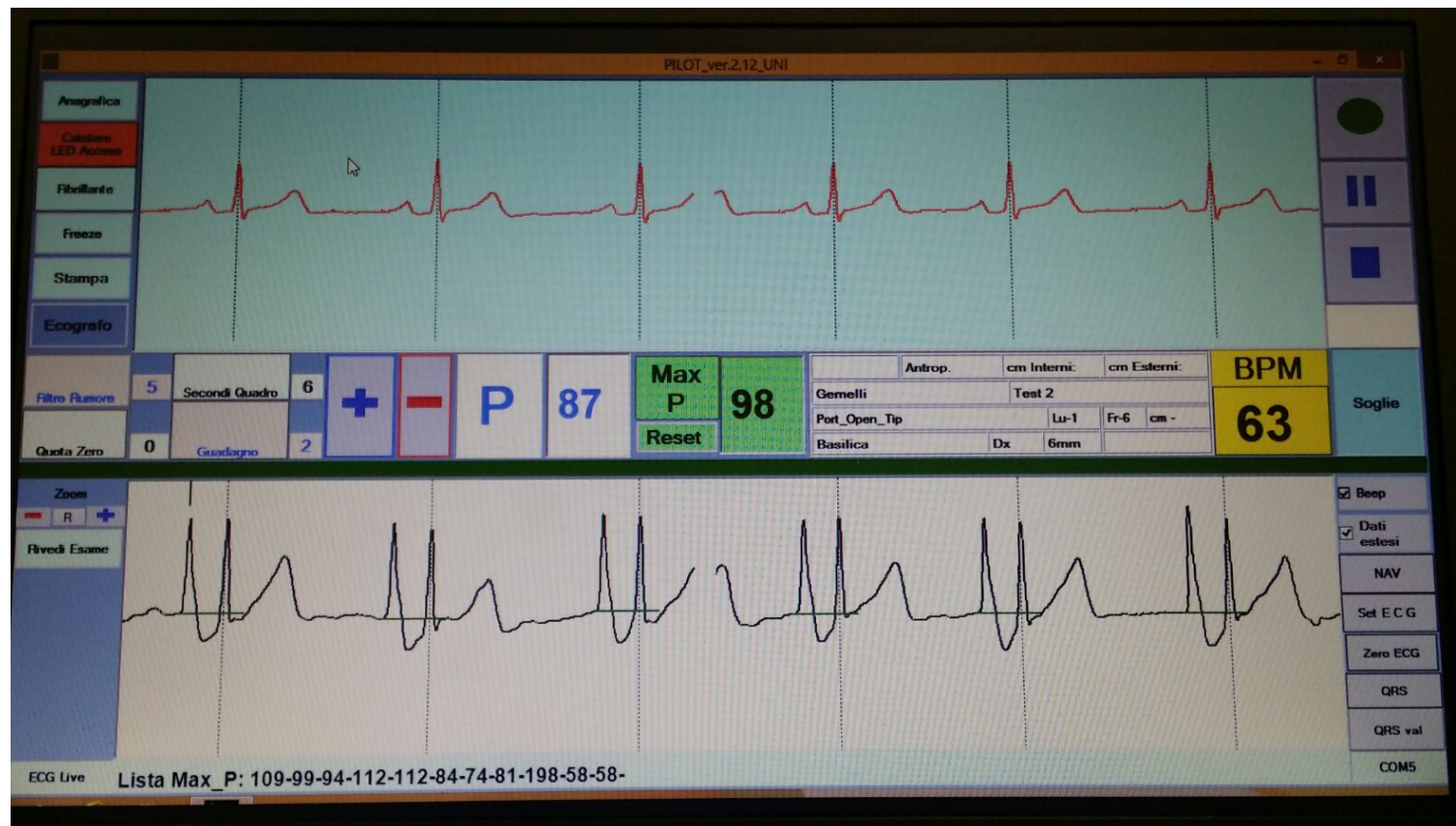


Improving applicability FA – Study 4 and 5

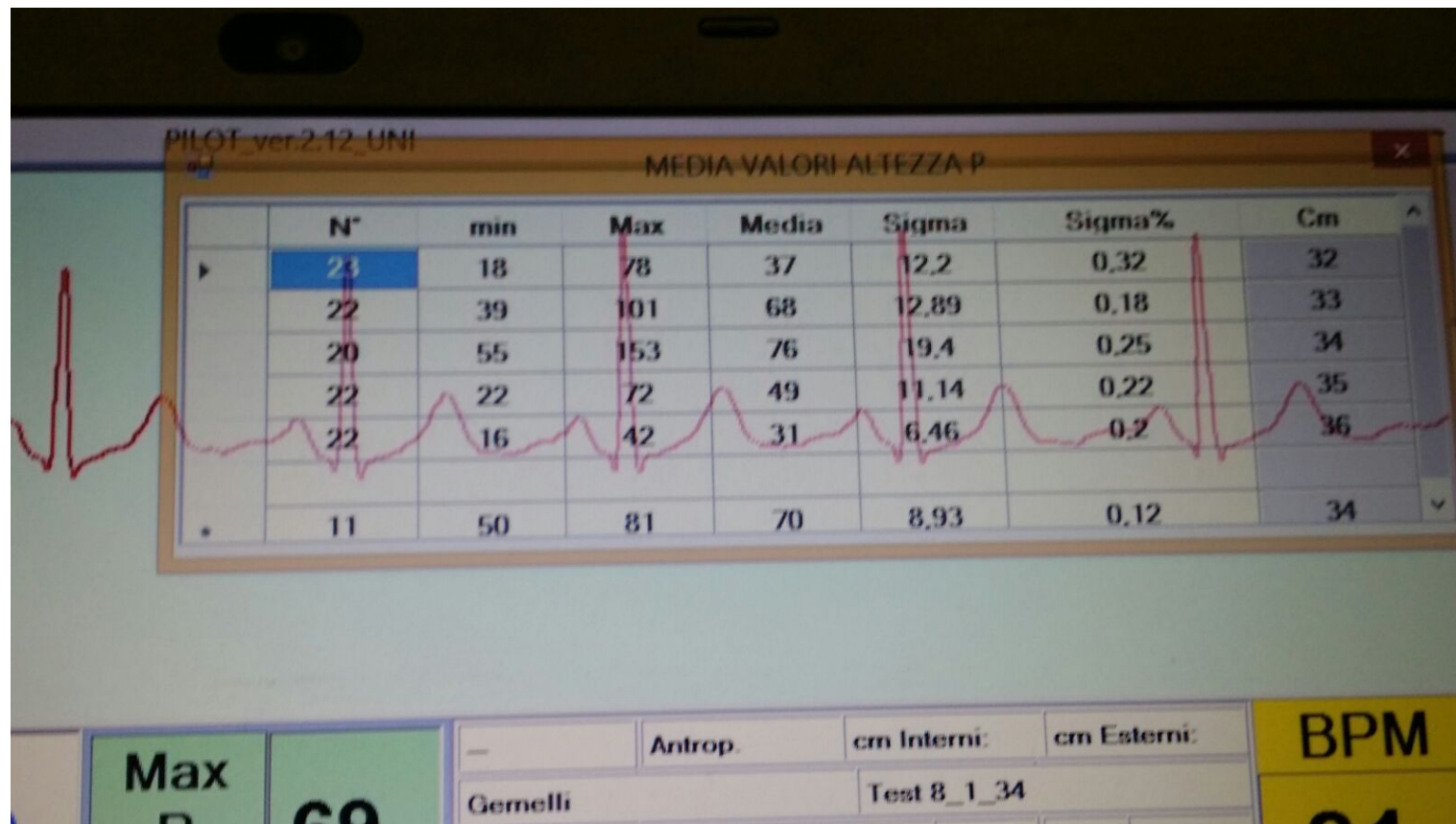
The highest T-Q activity is related to the cavo-atrial junction tip location
(more constant in different measurements at the same tip position)

Using specialized “digital” ECG monitors
to calculate this mean value ***DURING THE PROCEDURE***
and on more than 20 cycles instead of 10
REAL TIME !!!

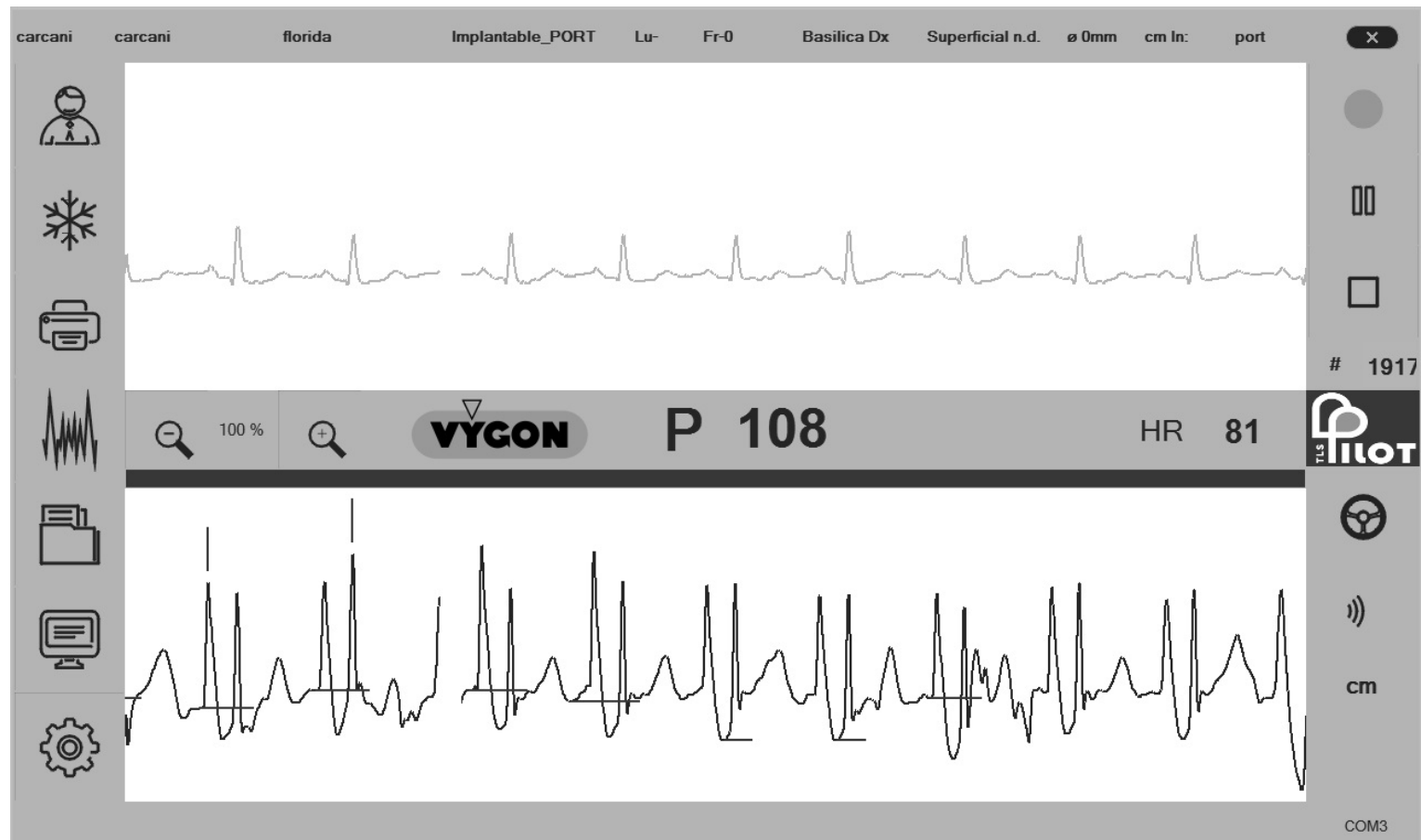
OLD PILOT



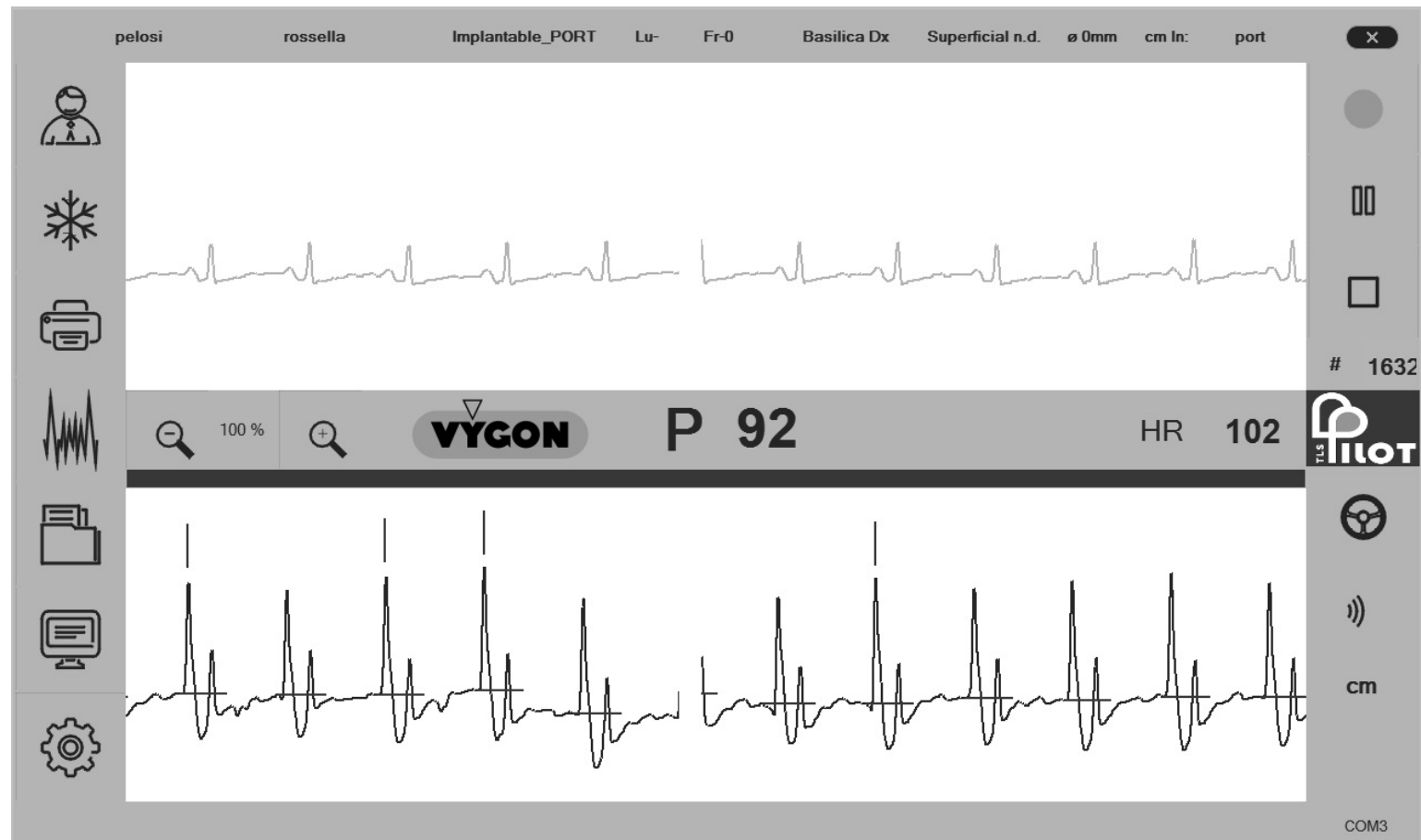
OLD PILOT



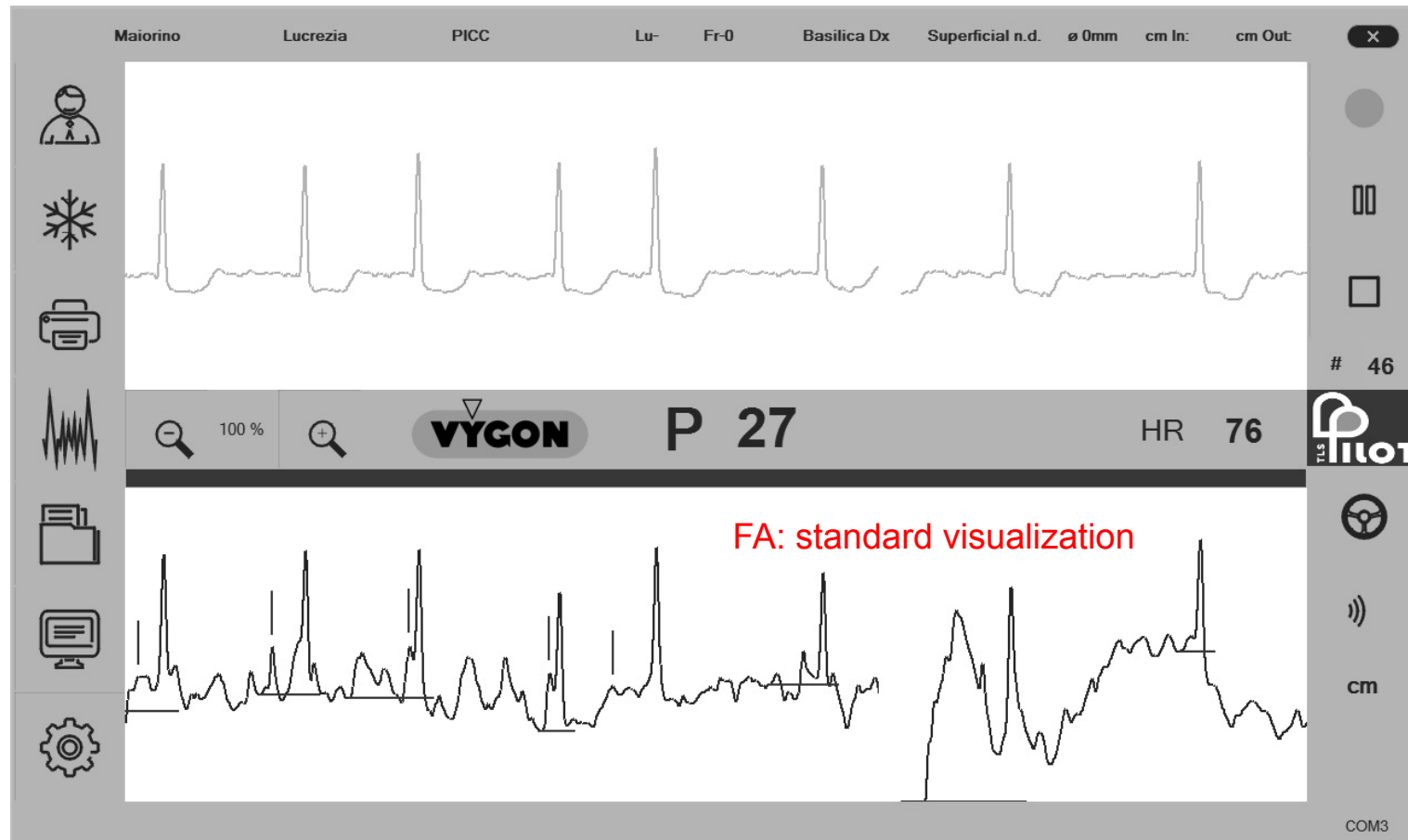
NEW PILOT



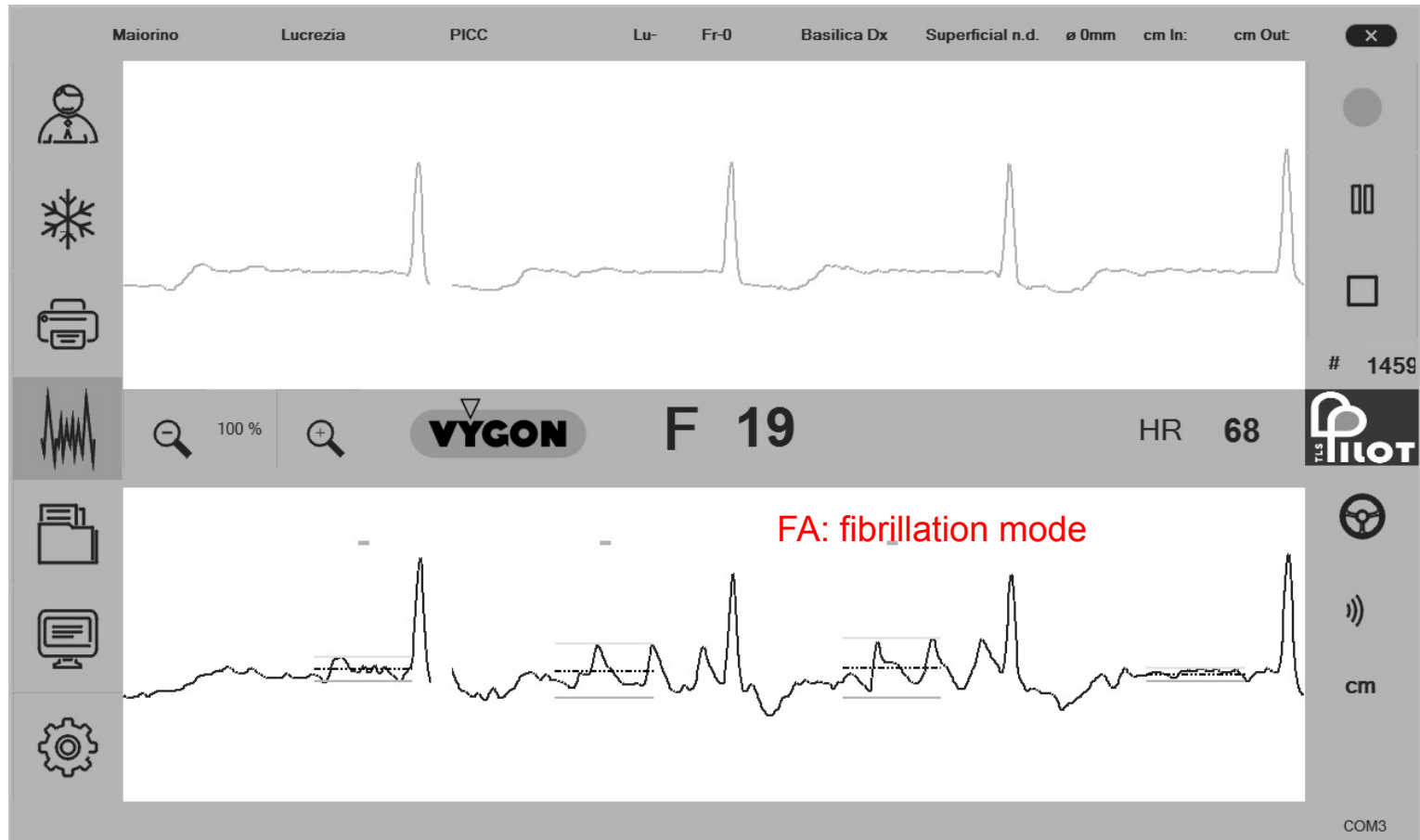
NEW PILOT



NEW PILOT



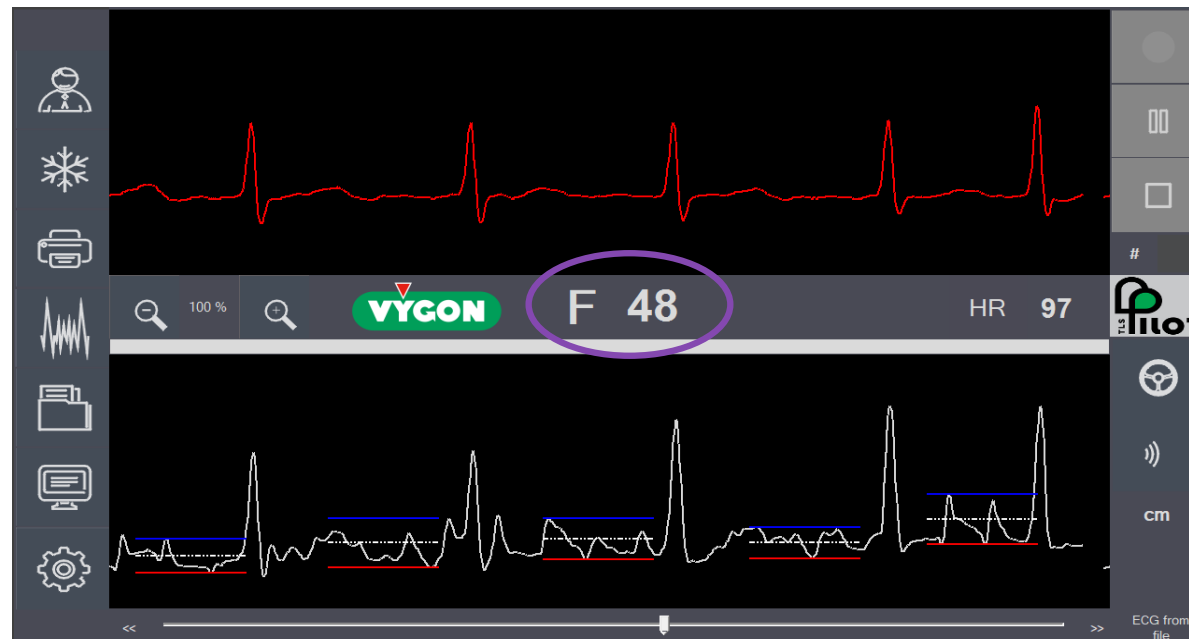
PILOT



Modalità AFIB



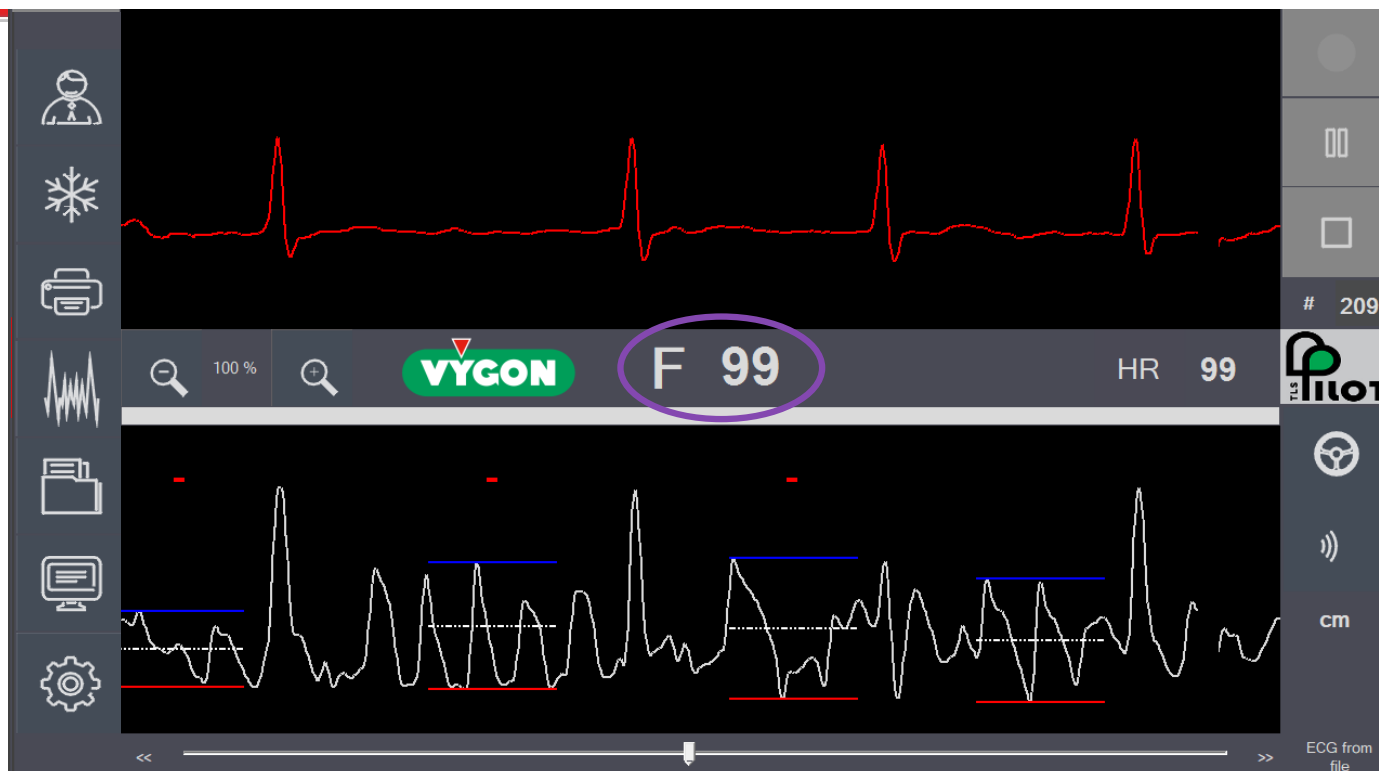
- L'assenza di una vera e propria onda P non permette di utilizzare la procedura standard; nel paziente fibrillante è possibile osservare il valore del parametro F
- F è Massimo in corrispondenza della giunzione CA.



Modalità AFIB



Modalità AFIB



Improving applicability

FA – Study 4

SUMMARY: Comparison data provided by Pilot algorithm vs manual measures (FA Study 3)

OBJECTIVE: match Pilot / manual measures (peak to peak) in identifying CAJ

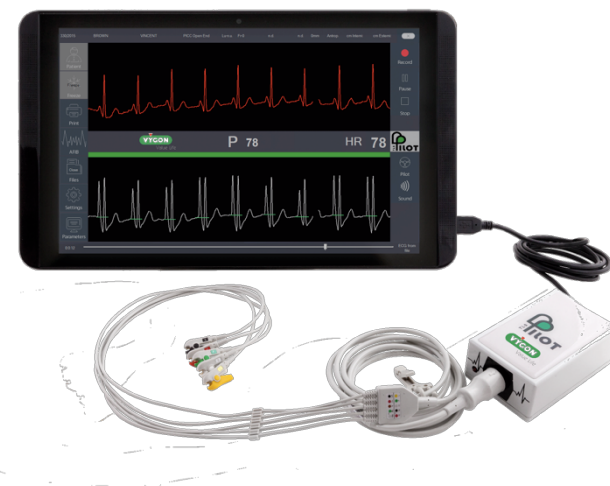
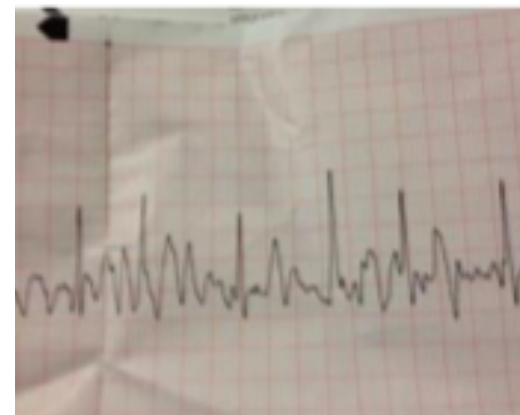
PAZIENTI IN STUDIO: tutti i pazienti con fibrillazione striale che necessitano di un catetere venoso centrale (PICC, port, PICC-port, etc.); la presenza di fibrillazione atriale in atto viene confermata dal monitoraggio ECG all'inizio della manovra.

N. PATIENTS: 20

AMBIENTE: Oncology (General and Gyn) DH

METHODOLOGY: tip location by IC-ECG (saline column) :

- Identification of CAJ by Pilot algorithm (values + morfology)
- Standard ECG monitor: printing in 3 positions (CAJ as identified by Pilot, 2 cm over, 2 cm below)
- Manual measures on the printed traces: match Pilot/manual for CAJ.



Improving applicability FA – Study 5

Comparison PILOT vs TEE

OBIETTIVO: PILOT accuracy in identifying CAJ in FA pts

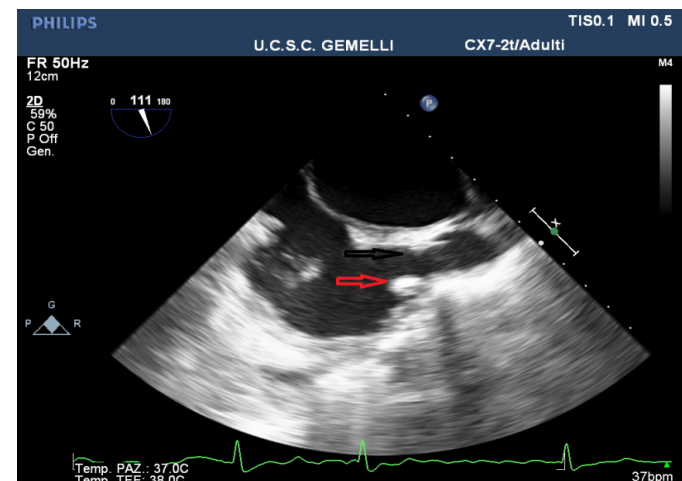
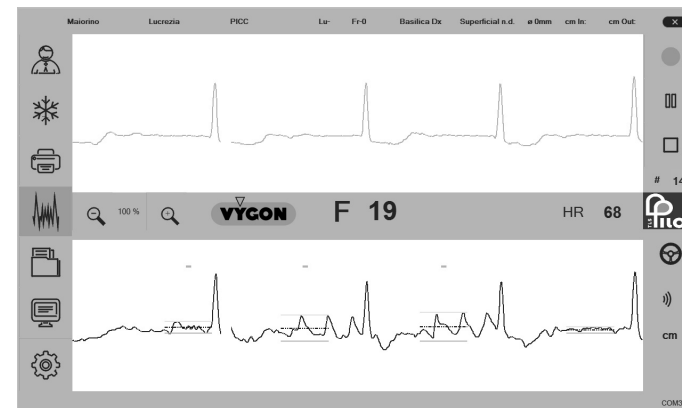
POPULATION: FA pts candidate to cardiac surgery under TEE monitoring and needing a CVC.

N. PATIENTS: 20

SETTING: Cardio surgical OR

METHODOLOGY:

- TEE probe placed; CVC insertion under Pilot
- posizionamento di sonda TEE; posizionamento del CVC usando il Pilot;
- CAJ identification under Pilot algorithm:
- TEE measurement of distance tip – CAJ



So, can we improve IC-ECG
results ?

... yes, we can !



Gemelli



Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

GAVeCeLT

Gli Accessi Venosi Centrali a Lungo Termine