

## **References**

**Agarwal AK, Venugopalan P.** Left atrial spontaneous echo contrast in patients with rheumatic mitral valve stenosis in sinus rhythm: relationship to mitral valve and left atrial measurements. **Int J Cardiol** 2001; **77**:63– 8.

**Akyurek O, Sayin T, Dincer I, et al.** Lengthening of intraatrial conduction time in atrial fibrillation and its relation with early recurrence of atrial fibrillation. **Jpn Heart J** 2001;**42**:575– 84.

**Albin G, Hayes DL, Holmes DR Jr.** Sinus node dysfunction in pediatric and young adult patients: treatment by implantation of a permanent pacemaker in 39 cases. **mayo Clin Proc** 1985; **60**:667–672.

**Allessie M, Ausma J, Schotten U.** Electrical, contractile and structural remodeling during atrial fibrillation. **Cardiovasc Res** 2002; **54**:230–46.

**Allessie M, Boyden P, Camm AJ, Kleber AG, Lab MJ, Legato MJ et al.** Pathophysiology and prevention of atrial fibrillation. **Circulation** 2001;**103**:769–77.

**Ammirati F, Colivicchi F, Santini M et al.** Permanent cardiac pacing versus medical treatment for the prevention of recurrent vasovagal syncope. A multicenter, randomized, controlled trial. **Circulation** 2001; **104**:52– 57.

**Andersen HR, Nielsen JC, Thomsen PEB, et al.** Atrioventricular conduction during long-term follow-up of patients with sick sinus syndrome. **Circulation** 1998; **98**:1315–1321. [PMID: 9751681].

**Anne W, Willems R, Van der MN, et al.** Atrial fibrillation after radiofrequency ablation of atrial flutter: preventive effect of angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor blockers, and diuretics. *Heart* 2004; 90:1025–30.

**Arima H, Hart RG, Colman S, et al.** Perindopril-based blood pressure lowering reduces major vascular events in patients with atrial fibrillation and prior stroke or transient ischemic attack. *Stroke* 2005;36:2164 –9.

**Ausubel K and Furman S.** The pacemaker syndrome. *Ann Intern Med* 1985; 103: 420–9.

**Barold SS.** Indications for permanent cardiac pacing in first degree AV block: class I, II, or III. *Pacing Clin Electrophysiol* 1996; 19:747–751.

**Bellet S.** *Clinical Disorders of the Heart Beat*. 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger, 1971.

**Benavente O, Hart R, Koudstaal P, et al.** Oral anticoagulants for preventing stroke in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation and no previous history of stroke or transient ischemic attacks. *The Cochrane Library* 2003.

**Berger M, Schweitzer P.** Timing of thromboembolic events after electrical cardioversion of atrial fibrillation or flutter: a retrospective analysis. *Am J Cardiol* 1998;82:1545–7, A8.

**Berglund H, Nishioka T, Hackner E, Kim CJ, Luo H, Fontana G et al.** Ventricular pacing: a cause of reversible severe mitral regurgitation. *Am Heart J* 1996; 131:1035–7.

**Blanc JJ, L'Her C, Touiza A et al.** Prospective evaluation and outcome of patients admitted for syncope over 1 year period. **Eur Heart J 2002; 23: 815–820.**

**Brignole M, Alboni P, Benditt D et al.** Guidelines on management (diagnosis and treatment) of syncope–update 2004. **Europace 2004;6: 467–537.**

**Brignole M, Menozzi C, Gianfranchi L et al.** Neurally mediated syncope detected by carotid sinus massage and head-up tilt test in sick sinus syndrome. **Am J Cardiol 1991; 68:1032–1036 .**

**Brignole M, Sutton R, Menozzi C et al.** Early application of an implantable loop recorder allows effective specific therapy in patients with recurrent suspected neurally mediated syncope. **Eur Heart J 2006; 27: 1085–1092.**

**Brugada R, Tapscott T, Czernuszewicz GZ, et al.** Identification of a genetic locus for familial atrial fibrillation. **N Engl J Med 1997;336: 905–11.**

**Bungard TJ, Ghali WA, Teo KK, et al. 2000.** Why do patients with atrial fibrillation not receive warfarin? **Arch Intern Med, 160:41–6.**

**Camous JP, Raybaud F, dolisi C, Schenowitz A, Varenne A, Baudouy M.** Interatrial conduction in patients undergoing AV stimulation: effects of increasing atrial stimulation rate. **Pacing Clin Electrophysiol 1993; 16: 2082–6.**

**Cappato R, Calkins H, Chen SA, et al.** Worldwide survey on the methods, efficacy, and safety of catheter

ablation for human atrial fibrillation. *Circulation* 2005; **111:1100–5.**

**Carlsson J, Miketic S, Windeler JS, et al.** Randomized trial of rate-control versus rhythm-control in persistent atrial fibrillation: the strategies of treatment of atrial fibrillation (STAF) Study. *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 2003, **41:1690–6.**

**Carsten W. Israel.** The role of pacing mode in the development of atrial fibrillation. *Europace* 2006 **8(2):89-95.**

**Chapman N, Huxley R, Anderson C, et al.** Effects of a perindopril-based blood pressure-lowering regimen on the risk of recurrent stroke according to stroke subtype and medical history: the PROGRESS Trial. *Stroke* 2004; **35:116–21.**

**Chen SA, Tai CT, Yu WC, et al.** Right atrial focal atrial fibrillation: electrophysiologic characteristics and radiofrequency catheter ablation. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 1999; **10:328–35.**

**Chimowitz MI, DeGeorgia MA, Poole RM, et al.** Left atrial spontaneous echo contrast is highly associated with previous stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation or mitral stenosis. *Stroke* 1993; **24:1015–9.**

**Cohen MI, Buck K, Tanel R et al.** Capture anagement efficacy in children and young adults with endocardial and unipolar epicardial systems. *Europace* 2004; **6:248–255.**

**Connolly SJ, Kerr CR, Gent M, et al.** Effects of physiologic pacing versus ventricular pacing on the risk of

stroke and death due to cardiovascular causes. *N Engl J Med* 2000; 342:1385–1391. [PMID: 10805823].

**Connolly SJ, Sheldon R, Thorpe KE, VPS II Investigators, et al:** Pacemaker therapy for prevention of syncope in patients with recurrent severe Vasovagal syncope: Second Vasovagal Pacemaker Study (VPS II): a randomized trial. *JAMA* 2003; 289:2224.

**Corley SD, Epstein AE, DiMarco JP, et al.** Relationships between sinus rhythm, treatment, and survival in the atrial fibrillation follow-up investigation of rhythm management (AFFIRM) study. *Circulation*, 2004;109:1509–13.

**Cox JL, Canavan TE, Schuessler RB, et al.** The surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation. II. Intraoperative electrophysiologic mapping and description of the electrophysiologic basis of atrial flutter and atrial fibrillation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1991;101:406 –26.

**Cox JL.** Cardiac surgery for arrhythmias. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2004;15:250–62.

**Crijns HJ, Tjeerdsma G, De Kam PJ, et al.** Prognostic value of the presence and development of atrial fibrillation in patients with advanced chronic heart failure. *Eur Heart J* 2000; 21:1238–45.

**Damiano RJ Jr, Gaynor SL, Bailey M, et al.** The long-term outcome of patients with coronary disease and atrial fibrillation undergoing the Cox maze procedure. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2004; 126:2016 –21.

**Darbar D, Herron KJ, Ballew JD, et al.** Familial atrial fibrillation is a genetically heterogeneous disorder. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2003;41: 2185–92.

**Daubert JC, Pavin D, Jauvert G, Mabo P.** Intra- and interatrial conduction delay: implications for cardiac pacing. *Pacing Clin Electrophysiol* 2004; 27: 507-25. [ISI][Medline].

**Donmoyer TL, DeSanctis RW, Austen WG.** Experience with implantable pacemakers using myocardial electrodes in the management of heart block. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1967; 3:218–227. [PMID: 4951735].

**Dubin AM, Janousek J, Rhee E et al.** Resynchronization therapy in pediatric and congenital heart disease patients: an international multicenter study. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005; 46:2277–2283.

**Elad Anter, Mariell Jessup and David J. Callans.** Atrial Fibrillation and Heart Failure: Treatment Considerations for a Dual Epidemic. *Circulation* 2009;119;2516-2525.

**Evans A, Perez I, Yu G, Kalra L.** Should stroke subtype influence anticoagulation decisions to prevent recurrence in stroke patients with atrial fibrillation? *Stroke* 2001, 32:2828–32.

**Fairfax AJ, Lambert CD, Leatham A.** Systemic embolism in chronic sinoatrial disorder. *New Engl J Med* 1976; 295:1455–1458.

**Fang MC, Singer DE, Chang Y, et al.** Gender differences in the risk of ischemic stroke and peripheral embolism in atrial fibrillation: the Anticoagulation and Risk factors In Atrial fibrillation (ATRIA) study. *Circulation* 2005; 112:1687–91.

**Fox CS, Parise H, D'Agostino RB Sr, et al.** Parental atrial fibrillation as a risk factor for atrial fibrillation in offspring. *JAMA* 2004;291:2851–5.

**Friberg J, Scharling H, Gadsboll N, et al.** Sex-specific increase in the prevalence of atrial fibrillation (The Copenhagen City Heart Study). *Am J Cardiol* 2003; 92:1419 –23.

**Frost L, Hune LJ, Vestergaard P.** Overweight and obesity as risk factors for atrial fibrillation or flutter: the Danish Diet, Cancer, and Health Study. *Am J Med* 2005;118:489 –95.

**Furberg CD, Psaty BM, Manolio TA, et al.** Prevalence of atrial fibrillation in elderly subjects (the Cardiovascular Health Study). *Am J Cardiol* 1994; 74:236–41.

**Fuster V, Rydén L.E, David S, et al.** ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With atrial fibrillation: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines and the European Society of Cardiology Committee for Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2001 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With atrial fibrillation): Developed in Collaboration With the European Heart Rhythm Association and the Heart Rhythm Society. *Circulation*, 114:e257–e354.

**Gage BF, Waterman AD, Shannon W, et al.** Validation of clinical classification schemes for predicting stroke: results from the National Registry of atrial fibrillation. *JAMA* 2001., 285:2864–2870.

**Gillinov AM, McCarthy PM.** Advances in the surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation. *Cardiol Clin* 2004; 22:147–57.

**Go AS, Hylek EM, Phillips KA, et al.** Prevalence of diagnosed atrial fibrillation in adults: national implications for rhythm management and stroke prevention: the AnTicoagulation and Risk Factors in Atrial Fibrillation (ATRIA) Study. *JAMA* 2001; 285:2370–5.

**Goette A, Honeycutt C, Geller JC, Langberg JJ, Klein HU.** Effect of right arial pressure on electrical remodeling during atrial fibrillation in dogs. *Herzschr Elektrophysiol* 1999; 10: 51-8.

**Goldberg RJ, Yarzebski J, Lessard D, et al.** Recent trends in the incidence rates of and death rates from atrial fibrillation complicating initial acute myocardial infarction: a community-wide perspective. *Am Heart J* 2002; 143:519–27.

**Gronefeld GC, Lilienthal J, Kuck KH, et al.** Pharmacological intervention in atrial fibrillation. Impact of rate versus rhythm control on quality of life in patients with persistent atrial fibrillation. Results from a prospective randomized study. *Eur Heart J* 2003., 24:1430–6.

**Hart RG, Benavente O, McBride R, et al.** Antithrombotic therapy to prevent stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation: a meta-analysis. *Ann intern Med* 1999., 131:492–501.

**Hart RG, Halperin JL.** Atrial fibrillation and stroke: concepts and controversies. *Stroke* 2001;32:803– 8.



**Hart RG, Halperin JL.** Atrial fibrillation and thromboembolism: a decade of progress in stroke prevention. *Ann Intern Med* 1999; 131: 688–95.

**Hart RG, Pearce LA, Miller VT, et al.** Cardioembolic vs. noncardioembolic strokes in atrial fibrillation: frequency and effect of antithrombotic agents in the stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation studies. *Cerebrovasc Dis* 2000;10:39–43.

**Healey JS, Baranchuk A, Crystal E, et al.** Prevention of atrial fibrillation with angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers: a meta-analysis. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005; 45:1832–9.

**Herweg B, Dalal P, Nagy B, et al.** Power spectral analysis of heart period variability of preceding sinus rhythm before initiation of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation. *Am J Cardiol* 1998;82:869 –74.

**Hesselson AB, Parsonnet V, Bernstein AD, et al.** Deleterious effect of long term single-chamber ventricular pacing in patients with sick sinus syndrome: the hidden benefits of dual-chamber pacing. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1992;19:1542-1549.

**Hindricks G, Piorkowski C, Tanner H, et al.** Perception of atrial fibrillation before and after radiofrequency catheter ablation: relevance of asymptomatic arrhythmia recurrence. *Circulation* 2005; 112:307–13.

**Hocini M, Sanders P, Jais P, et al.** Techniques for curative treatment of atrial fibrillation. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2004;15:1467–71.

**Hohnloser SH, Kuck KH. 2001.** Randomized trial of rhythm or rate control in atrial fibrillation: the Pharmacological intervention in atrial fibrillation trial (PIAF). *Eur Heart J*, **22:801–2.**

**Holden W, McAnulty JH, Rahimtoola SH.** Characterization of heart rate response to exercise in the sick sinus syndrome. *Br Heart J* **1978; 20: 923–930.**

**Hsu LF, Jais P, Keane D, et al.** Atrial fibrillation originating from persistent left superior vena cava. *Circulation* **2004;109:828 –32.**

**Ismer B, von Knorre GH, Voss W, Placke J.** Approximation of the individual optimal AV delay using left atrial electrocardiography. *Herzschrittm Electrophysiol* **2004; 15:(suppl. 1) 1/33-8.**

**Jais P, Haissaguerre M, Shah DC, et al.** A focal source of atrial fibrillation treated by discrete radiofrequency ablation. *Circulation* **1997;95: 572–6.**

**Jais P, Hocini M, Macle L, et al.** Distinctive electrophysiological properties of pulmonary veins in patients with atrial fibrillation. *Circulation* **2002; 106:2479–85.**

**Janosik DL, Ellenbogen KA.** Basic physiology of cardiac pacing and pacemaker syndrome. In: **Ellenbogen KA, Kay GN, Wilkoff BL, eds. Clinical cardiac pacing and defibrillation. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders, 2000:333-82.**

**Katritsis D, Ward DE, Camm AJ.** Can we treat carotid sinus syndrome? *PACE* 1991; 14:1367. [PMID: 1720530].

**Kerr CR, Connolly SJ, Abdollah H, Roberts RS, Gent M, Yusuf S, et al.** Canadian trial of physiologic pacing: effects of physiological pacing during long-term follow-up. *Circulation* 2004; 109: 357–62.

**Khan IA.** Atrial stunning: determinants and cellular mechanisms. *Am Heart J* 2003; 145:787–94.

**Kindermann M, Hennen B, Jung J et al.** Biventricular versus conventional right ventricular stimulation for patients with standard pacing indication and left ventricular dysfunction. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2006;47: 1927–1937.

**Klein AL, Grimm RA, Murray RD, et al.** Use of transoesophageal echocardiography to guide cardioversion in patients with atrial fibrillation. *N Engl J Med* 2001, 344:1411–20.

**Knight BP, Gersh BJ, Carlson MD, et al.** Role of permanent pacing to prevent atrial fibrillation: science advisory from the American Heart Association Council on Clinical Cardiology (Subcommittee on Electrocardiography and Arrhythmias) and the Quality of Care and Outcomes Research Interdisciplinary Working Group, in collaboration with the Heart Rhythm Society. *Circulation* 2005;111:240 –3.

**Kober L, Bloch Thomsen PE, Moller M, et al.** Effect of dofetilide in patients with recent myocardial infarction and left-ventricular dysfunction: a randomised trial. *Lancet* 2000; 356:2052– 8.

**Kopecky SL, Gersh BJ, McGoon MD, et al.** The natural history of lone atrial fibrillation. A population-based study over three decades. *N Engl J Med* 1987; **317:669–74.**

**Kumagai K, Nakashima H, Urata H, et al.** Effects of angiotensin II type 1 receptor antagonist on electrical and structural remodeling in atrial fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2003; **41:2197–204.**

**L’Allier PL, Ducharme A, Keller PF, et al.** Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibition in hypertensive patients is associated with a reduction in the occurrence of atrial fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2004; **44:159–64.**

**Lamas GA, Lee KL, Sweeney M, et al.** Ventricular pacing or dual chamber pacing for sinus node dysfunction. *N Engl J Med* 2002; **346:1854–1862.** [PMID: 12063369].

**Lazar S, Dixit S, Marchlinski FE, et al.** Presence of left-to-right atrial frequency gradient in paroxysmal but not persistent atrial fibrillation in humans. *Circulation* 2004; **110:3181–3186.**

**Le Heuzey JY, Pazioud O, Piot O, et al.** Cost of care distribution in atrial fibrillation patients: the COCAF study. *Am Heart J* 2004; **147:121–6.**

**Leon AR, Greenberg JM, Kanuru N, et al.** Cardiac resynchronization in patients with congestive heart failure and chronic atrial fibrillation: effect of upgrading to biventricular pacing after chronic right ventricular pacing. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2002; **39:125863.**

**Leon AR, Greenberg JM, Kanuru N, et al.** Cardiac resynchronization in patients with congestive heart failure and chronic atrial fibrillation: effect of upgrading to biventricular pacing after chronic right ventricular pacing. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2002;39:1258–63.

**Levy S, Maarek M, Coumel P, et al.** Characterization of different subsets of atrial fibrillation in general practice in France: the ALFA study. **The College of French Cardiologists.** *Circulation* 1999; 99:3028 –35.

**Levy S, Ricard P, Lau CP, et al.** Multicenter low energy transvenous atrial defibrillation (XAD) trial results in different subsets of atrial fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1997;29:750 –5.

**Lim HS, Hamaad A, Lip GY. 2004.** Clinical management of atrial fibrillation rate control versus rhythm control. *Crit Care*, 8:271–9.

**Link MS, Hellkamp AS, Estes NAM, et al.** High incidence of pacemaker syndrome in patients with sinus node dysfunction treated with ventricular-based pacing in the Mode Selectio Trial (MOST), **JACC, Vol. 43, No. 11, 2004: 2066-2071.**

**Lip GY, Boos CJ.** Antithrombotic therapy for atrial fibrillation. *Heart* 2005., 92:155–61.

**Madrid AH, Bueno MG, Rebollo JM, et al.** Use of irbesartan to maintain sinus rhythm in patients with long-lasting persistent atrial fibrillation: a prospective and randomized study. *Circulation* 2002; 106:331– 6.

**Maggioni AP, Latini R, Carson PE, et al.** Valsartan reduces the incidence of atrial fibrillation in patients with heart failure: results from the Valsartan Heart Failure Trial (Val-HeFT). *Am Heart J* 2005; **149**: 548–57.

**Maisel WH.** Autonomic modulation preceding the onset of atrial fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2003;**42**:1269 –70.

**Manning WJ, Silverman DI, Waksmonski CA, et al.** Prevalence of residual left atrial thrombi among patients with acute thromboembolism and newly recognized atrial fibrillation. *Arch Intern Med* 1995;**155**: 2193–8.

**Meine TJ, Al-Khatib SM, Alexander JH et al.** Incidence, predictors, and outcomes of high-degree atrioventricular block complication acute myocardial infarction treated with thrombolytic therapy. *Am Heart J* 2005;**149**:670–674.

**Meng F, Yoshikawa T, Baba A, et al.** Beta-blockers are effective in congestive heart failure patients with atrial fibrillation. *J Card Fail* 2003; **9**:398–403.

**Miller VT, Rothrock JF, Pearce LA, et al.** Ischemic stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation: effect of aspirin according to stroke mechanism. Stroke Prevention in Atrial Fibrillation Investigators. *Neurology* 1993; **43**:32–6.

**Moak JP, Hasbani K, Ramwell C et al.** Dilated cardiomyopathy following right ventricular pacing for AV block in young patients: resolution after upgrading to biventricular pacing systems. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2006; **17**:1068–1071.

**Moss AJ, Zareba W, Hall WJ., et al. 2002** Prophylactic implantation of a defibrillator in patients with myocardial infarction and reduced ejection fraction. **N Engl J Med** **346(12):877–883.**

**Moya A, Brignole M, Menozzi C et al.** Mechanism of syncope in patients with isolated syncope and in patients with tilt-positive syncope. **Circulation** **2001; 104:1261–1267.**

**Mugge A, Kuhn H, Nikutta P, et al.** Assessment of left atrial appendage function by biplane transesophageal echocardiography in patients with nonrheumatic atrial fibrillation: identification of a subgroup of patients at increased embolic risk. **J Am Coll Cardiol** **1994;23:599–607.**

**Nademanee K, McKenzie J, Kosar E, et al.** A new approach for catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation: mapping of the electrophysiologic substrate. **J Am Coll Cardiol** **2004; 43:2044 –53.**

**Nakao K, Seto S, Ueyama C, et al.** Extended distribution of prolonged and fractionated right atrial electrograms predicts development of chronic atrial fibrillation in patients with idiopathic paroxysmal atrial fibrillation. **J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol** **2002;13:996 –1002.**

**Nattel S.** New ideas about atrial fibrillation 50 years on. **Nature** **2002; 415:219 –26.**

**Okcun B, Yigit Z, Kucukoglu MS, et al. 2002.** Predictors for maintenance of sinus rhythm after cardioversion in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation. **Echocardiography**, **19:351–7.**

**Opolski G, Torbicki A, Kosior D, et al.** Rhythm control versus rate control in patients with persistent atrial fibrillation. Results of the HOT CAFE Polish Study. *Kardiologia Polska* 2003., 59:1–16.

**Ortiz J, Niwano S, Abe H, et al.** Mapping the conversion of atrial flutter to atrial fibrillation and atrial fibrillation to atrial flutter: insights into mechanism. *Circ Res* 1994;74:882– 894.

**Ostermayer SH, Reisman M, Kramer PH, et al.** Percutaneous left atrial appendage transcatheter occlusion (PLAATO system) to prevent stroke in high-risk patients with non-rheumatic atrial fibrillation: results from the international multi-center feasibility trials. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005; 46:9–14.

**Packer DL, Asirvatham S, Munger TM.** Progress in nonpharmacologic therapy of atrial fibrillation. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2003;14:S296–S309.

**Page RL, Wharton JM, Prystowsky EN.** Effect of continuous vagal enhancement on concealed conduction and refractoriness within the atrioventricular node. *Am J Cardiol* 1996;77:260 –5.

**Papadopoulos G .L, Kokkas B.A, Sakadamis G.C, Kanonidis J.E, Kotridis P.S, Karamouzis M.I, Koukoulekidis G.N, Nikolaidis N.K, Missopoulou-Kokka A and Gitsion C.T.:** " ANP concentration during interchanging DDD-VVI pacing modes in patients with retrograde ventriculoatrial conduction ".*Acta Cardiology* 1997; 52: pp37-47.

**Pedersen OD, Bagger H, Kober L, et al.** Trandolapril reduces the incidence of atrial fibrillation after acute



myocardial infarction in patients with left ventricular dysfunction. *Circulation* 1999; 100: 376–80.

**Pokharel S, van Geel PP, Sharma UC, et al.** Increased myocardial collagen content in transgenic rats overexpressing cardiac angiotensin converting enzyme is related to enhanced breakdown of N-acetyl-Ser- Asp-Lys-Pro and increased phosphorylation of Smad2/3. *Circulation* 2004; 110:3129 –35.

**Polontchouk L, Haefliger JA, Ebel B, et al.** Effects of chronic atrial fibrillation on gap junction distribution in human and rat atria. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2001; 38:883–91.

**Poole-Wilson PA, Swedberg K, Cleland JG, et al.** Comparison of carvedilol and metoprolol on clinical outcomes in patients with chronic heart failure in the Carvedilol Or Metoprolol European Trial (COMET): randomised controlled trial. *Lancet* 2003;362:7–13.

**Prystowsky EN, Katz AM.** *Atrial Fibrillation in Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine.* Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1998:1661.

**Prystowsky EN.** Atrioventricular node reentry: physiology and radiofrequency ablation. *Pacing Clin Electrophysiol* 1997;20:552–71.

**Prystowsky EN.** Management of atrial fibrillation: therapeutic options and clinical decisions. *Am J Cardiol* 2000; 85:3–11.

**Prystowsky EN.** Tachycardia-induced-tachycardia: a mechanism of initiation of atrial fibrillation. In: DiMarco JP, Prystowsky EN, editors. *Atrial Arrhythmias: State of the Art.* Armonk, NY: Futura, 1995.

**Psaty BM, Manolio TA, Kuller LH, et al.** Incidence of and risk factors for atrial fibrillation in older adults. *Circulation* 1997;96:2455– 61.

**Raviele A, Giada F, Menozzi C et al.,** Vasovagal Syncope, Pacing Trial Investigators. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of permanent cardiac pacing for the treatment of recurrent tilt-induced vasovagal syncope. The Vasovagal Syncope and Pacing Trial (SYNPACE). *Eur Heart J* 2004;25:1741–1748.

**Raybaud F, Camous JP, Benoit P, Dolisi C, Baudouy M.** Relationship between interatrial conduction times and left atrial dimensions in patients undergoing atrioventricular stimulation. *Pacing Clin Electrophysiol* 1995; 18: 447-5 Q.[\[ISI\]](#)[\[Medline\]](#).

**Ricard P, Levy S, Trigano J, et al.** Prospective assessment of the minimum energy needed for external electrical cardioversion of atrial fibrillation. *Am J Cardiol* 1997; 79:815– 6.

**Sgarbossa EB, Pinski SL, Maloney JD, Simmons TW, Wilkoff BL, Castle LW, et al.** Chronic atrial fibrillation and stroke in paced patients with sick sinus syndrome. Relevance of clinical characteristics and pacing modalities. *Circulation* 1993; 88: 1045–53.

**Shaw DB, Gowers JI, ekwick CA, New KHJ, Whistance AWT.** Is Mobitz type I atrioventricular block benign in adults? *Heart* 2004; 90:169–174.

**Sahn DJ, DeMaria A, Kisslo J, Weyman AE.** Recommendations regarding quantitation in M-mode

echocardiography: results of a survey of echocardiographic measurements. *Circulation* 1978;58:1072–1083. [PMID: 709763]

**Shinbane JS, Wood MA, Jensen DN, et al.** Tachycardia-induced cardiomyopathy: a review of animal models and clinical studies. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1997;29:709 –15.

**Smith RF, Jackson DH, Harthorne JW, et al.** Acquired bundle branch block in a healthy population. *Am Heart J* 1970;80:746–751. [PMID: 5477619].

**Sparks PB, Jayaprakash S, Vohra JK, et al.** Left atrial “stunning” following radiofrequency catheter ablation of chronic atrial flutter. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1998; 32:468 –75.

**Stewart S, Hart CL, Hole DJ, et al.** A population-based study of the long-term risks associated with atrial fibrillation: 20-year follow-up of the Renfrew/Paisley study. *Am J Med* 2002; 113:359–64.

**Sweeney MO, Hellkamp AS, Ellenbogen KA.** for MOde Selection Trial Investigators et al (2003) Adverse effect of ventricular pacing on heart failure and atrial fibrillation among patients with normal baseline QRS duration in a clinical trial of pacemaker therapy for sinus node dysfunction. *Circulation* 107(23):2932–2927.

**Teichman SL, Felder SD, Matos JA.** The value of electrophysiological studies in syncope of undetermined origin: report of 150 cases. *Am Heart J* 1985; 110:469. [PMID: 4025122].

**Thambo JB, Bordachar P, Garrigue S et al.** Detrimental ventricular remodeling in patients with congenital

complete heart block and chronic right ventricular apical pacing. **Circulation** 2004; **110**:3766–3772.

**Toff WD, Camm AJ, Skehan JD.** Single-chamber versus dual-chamber pacing for high-grade atrioventricular block. **N Engl J Med** 2005;**353**:145-155.

**Travill CM, Sutton R,** Pacemaker syndrome: an iatrogenic condition. **Br Heart J** 1992; **68**:163. [PMID: 1389730].

**Trohman RG, Kim MH, Pinski SL.** Cardiac pacing: the state of the art. **Lancet** 2004; **364**:1701–1719.

**Tsai LM, Lin LJ, Teng JK, et al.** Prevalence and clinical significance of left atrial thrombus in nonrheumatic atrial fibrillation. **Int J Cardiol** 1997; **58**:163–9.

**Tsang TS, Petty GW, Barnes ME, et al.** The prevalence of atrial fibrillation in incident stroke cases and matched population controls in Rochester, Minnesota: changes over three decades. **J Am Coll Cardiol** 2003; **42**:93–100.

**Valencia MJ, Climent PV, Marin O, et al..** The efficacy of scheduled cardioversion in atrial fibrillation: Comparison of two schemes of treatment: Electrical versus pharmacological cardioversion. *Revista Espanola de Cardiologia* 2002, **55**:113–20.

**Van Den Berg MP, Tuinenburg AE, van Veldhuisen DJ, et al.** Cardioversion of atrial fibrillation in the setting of mild to moderate heart failure. **Int J Cardiol** 1998;**63**:63–70.

**Van Gelder IC, Crijns HJ, Tieleman RG, et al.** Chronic atrial fibrillation. Success of serial cardioversion therapy and safety of oral anticoagulation. *Arch Intern Med* 1996; **156:2585–92.**

**Van Gelder IC, Hagens VE, Bosker HA, et al.** A comparison of rate control and rhythm control in patients with recurrent persistent atrial fibrillation. *N Engl J Med* 2002; **347:1834–40.**

**Van Noord T, Tieleman RG, Bosker HA, et al.** Beta-blockers prevent subacute recurrences of persistent atrial fibrillation only in patients with hypertension. *Europace* 2004; **6:343–50.**

**Van Walraven C, Hart RG, Singer DE, et al.** Oral anticoagulants vs aspirin in nonvalvular atrial fibrillation: an individual patient metaanalysis. *JAMA* 2002., **288:2441–8.**

**Verheule S, Wilson E, Everett T, et al.** Alterations in atrial electrophysiology and tissue structure in a canine model of chronic atrial dilatation due to mitral regurgitation. *Circulation* 2003; **107:2615–22.**

**Verma A, Marrouche NF, Natale A.** Pulmonary vein antrum isolation: intracardiac echocardiography-guided technique. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2004;**15:1335–40.**

**Wachtell K, Lehto M, Gerdts E, et al.** Angiotensin II receptor blockade reduces new-onset atrial fibrillation and subsequent stroke compared to atenolol: the Losartan Intervention for End Point Reduction in Hypertension (LIFE) study. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005; **45:712–9.**

**Walsh EP, Cecchin F.** Recent advances in pacemaker and implantable defibrillator therapy for young patients. **Curr Opin cardiol** 2004;19.

**Wang TJ, Larson MG, Levy D, et al.** Temporal relations of atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure and their joint influence on mortality: the Framingham Heart Study. **Circulation** 2003; 107:2920 –5.

**Wang TJ, Parise H, Levy D, et al.** Obesity and the risk of new-onset atrial fibrillation. **JAMA** 2004;292:2471–7.

**Wiggers CJ.** The muscular reactions of the mammalian ventricles to artificial surface stimuli. **Am J Physiol** 1925; 37C:275-82.3.

**Wijffels MC, Kirchhof CJ, Dorland R, et al.** Atrial fibrillation begets atrial fibrillation. A study in awake chronically instrumented goats. **Circulation** 1995;92:1954–68.

**Wong CK, Stewart RAH, Gao W et al.** Prognostic differences between different types of bundle branch block during the early phase of acute myocardial infarction: insights from the Hirulog and Early Reperfusion or Occlusion (HERO)-2 trial. **Eur Heart J** 2006;27:21–28.

**Wood MA, Brown-Mahoney C, Kay GN, et al.** Clinical outcomes after ablation and pacing therapy for atrial fibrillation: a meta-analysis. **Circulation** 2000; 101:1138–44.

**Wyse DG, Waldo AL, DiMarco JP, et al.** A comparison of rate control and rhythm control in patients with atrial fibrillation. **N Engl J Med** 2002., 347:1825–33.

**Yang Y, Grosset DG, Li Q, et al.** Identification of echocardiographic “smoke” in a bench model with transcranial Doppler ultrasound. *Stroke* 2000;**31**:907–14.

**Yoshida M, Nakamura Y, Higashikawa M, Kinoshita M.** Predictors of ischemic stroke in non-rheumatic atrial fibrillation. *Int J Cardiol* 1996; **56**:61–70.

**Zimetbaum PJ, Josephson ME.** Use of the electrocardiogram in acute myocardial infarction. *N Engl J Med* 2003;**348**:933–940.