# Papillary Muscle and Moderator Band Ventricular Tachycardia

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### Papillary Muscles (PM) of Left Ventricle



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Naksuk N et al. Card Electrophysiol Clin. 2016;8:555-65



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## LV Angiography





### Papillary Muscles (PM) of Right Ventricle



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### Mechanism

### Triggered activity or abnormal automaticity

- Sensitive to catecholamines
- Noninducible by programmed stimulation
- The first beat of tachycardia is typically similar to subsequent beats
- Non-entrainable
- Typical lack of low voltage or fractionated potentials at the sites of ablation success



#### • LV Anterior PM

- RBBB, right inferior axis
- Transition at leads V3-V5
- Inferior lead discordance (lead II (-), lead III (+))

### LV Posterior PM

- RBBB, superior axis
- Transition at leads V3-V5



### PM VT vs. Fascicular VT

APM

PPM

Fascicular







	PM VT	Fascicular VT
QRS duration	150±15	127±11
V1	qR or R	rsR'
Q waves I, aVL	No	Yes

Good E et al. Heart Rhythm 2008;5:1530–1537 Al'Aref SJ et al. Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2015;8:616-24



### **Differentiation of PM VT vs. Fascicular VT**

	PM VT	Fascicular VT	
Age	Older	Younger	
Manifestation	Sustained VT < PVC or NSVT	Sustained VT > PVC or NSVT	
Response to verapamil	(-)	(+)	
Mechanism	Abnormal automaticity or triggered activity	Re-entry	
ECG			
V1 QRS morphology	RBBB, qR or R	RBBB, rsR'	
QRS duration	Longer	Shorter	
Q wave in I and aVL	(-)	(+)	
Mode of induction	Isoproterenol or epinephrine infusion and burst pacing	Programmed electrical stimulation	
Fractionated potentials at the successful sites	(-)	(+)	
Recurrence after RFCA	Relatively high	Low	

Modified from Park YM. Int J Arrhythm 2015;16:219-223



### Moderator band (MB)

- LBBB, left superior axis
- Late transition (≥V4)
- RV PM
  - LBBB
  - Anterior or posterior PM: late transition (≥V4), superior axis > inferior axis
  - Septal PM: early transition and inferior axis, similar to RVOT VT, but wider QRS and notching in precordial leads





Sadek MM et al. Heart Rhythm. 2015;12:67-75.



#### Moderator Band



Crawford T et al. Heart Rhythm. 2010;7:725-30



## **Mapping Technique**

#### • Transaortic vs.Transseptal

- Transaortic: PPM or medial aspect of APM
- Transseptal: lateral APM, steerable sheath

### Activation mapping

- Most commonly used
- ≥-30 ms earlier than QRS
- QS pattern in unipolar recording
- Sharp early signals: a more superficial location
- Far-field signals: a deeper location
- Sharp Purkinje potential (~40%)



### **Purkinje Potential during Mapping**



Doppalapudi H et al. Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2008;1:23-9



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CASE 1

#### • F/54, palpitation





#### Purkinje potential, -35ms earlier than QRS











## **Mapping Technique**

#### Pace mapping

- Useful, but not sufficient by itself
- Possibility of capturing adjacent tissue
- Sites of successful ablation usually exhibit an excellent pace map (≥11/12)
- Ablation at sites with perfect pace maps may fail to terminate the arrhythmia (exit site vs. origin)
- ICE is fundamental to allow real-time visualization of PM and ensure proper catheter-tissue contact



## **Mapping Technique**

#### ICE allows clear visualization and confirmation of contact

PPM

APM



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#### M/65, Palpitation and dyspnea, DM, HTN





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#### VEST 400/300/290/220 – VT Induction





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• VT – TCL 300ms

CASE 2

#### Comparison of induced VT vs. clinical VT







#### Activation mapping, -25ms earlier than QRS



#### Activation mapping





#### Pace mapping



#### Successful ablation site









PSH #1685630

#### Ablation site on ICE





#### VT termination during ablation



#### VEST 400/260/250/240 – No VT Induction



#### Post ablation





#### F/58, Palpitation and chest pain





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#### Cardiac MRI





#### • VT induction







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• VT, 12 lead ECG

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#### Activation mapping, -29ms earlier than QRS





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#### VT termination during ablation





#### Ablation site, retrograde transaortic approach



However, VT was still inducible despite repeated ablation...



#### Transseptal approach, LV angiogram





#### • VT induction, activation map, -43ms earlier than QRS





#### VT termination during ablation





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#### Successful ablation site





### **Catheter Ablation**

#### Challenging issues

- Complexity and variability of PM anatomy
- Potentially deep intramural site of origin
- Catheter stability
- Deep intramural origin
  - Best site of activation is ≤20 ms pre-QRS
  - The signal appears farfield looking
  - QRS morphology changes with an RF application
  - Surround the base of the PM with lesions aiming for exit block



### **Catheter Ablation**

#### Techniques to improve procedural success

- Irrigated-tip, 8mm tip catheter
- RV pacing
- ICE to evaluate catheter contact
- Carto-sound or MDCT image integration with electroanatomical mapping
- Contact force sensing catheter
- Cryoablation



### **Outcome of Catheter Ablation**

- N=1,185 (55% female; mean age 52 ±15 years)
- at 8 centers between 2004 and 2013



Latchamsetty R et al. JACC Clin Electrophysiol. 2015;1:116-123.



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### **Predictors of Outcome**

High-amplitude discrete potentials before QRS and slow downstroke of the initial Q wave on the unipolar egm were related to favorable outcome



Ban JE et al. Korean Circ J. 2013;43:811-8.



### **Predictors of Outcome**

 The presence of Purkinje potentials at the site of origin and a smaller size of the PAP are associated with successful ablation of PAP arrhythmias.



	Effective (n=31)	Ineffective (n=9)	P- value
N of PVC morphologies	4±3	4±5	0.6
P-potential at ablation site	15 (48%)	0 (0%)	0.02
Activation time (ms)	-31± 18	-28±7	0.66
Pacemapping	22(71%)	2 (22%)	0.02
Total PM mass	5.3±1.8	9.1± 4.8	<0.01
Arrhythmogenic PM mass	2.3±0.6	4.7±2.2	<0.01

Yokokawa M et al. Heart Rhythm 2010;7:1654 –1659.



### Summary

- **Mechanism**: focal (non-reentry)
- ECG characteristics: differential diagnosis and preprocedural planning
- Mapping: activation mapping complemented with pace mapping
- **Catheter ablation**: effective but challenging
  - Complex anatomy and stability issue
  - Often deep site of origin with multiple exits
  - Multiple ablation lesions frequently required
- Use of ICE: help localization and good contact





#### EP study, catheter position

RAO



