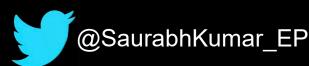
#### A Novel Approach to Substrate Mapping: Results of a Prospective Study of Mapping during Sinus Rhythm to Identify the VT Isthmus

#### Saurabh Kumar, BSc(Med)/MBBS, PhD

Associate Professor of Medicine VT / Sudden Death Program Director Group Lead: Translational EP (WARC) Westmead Hospital, University of Sydney, Australia



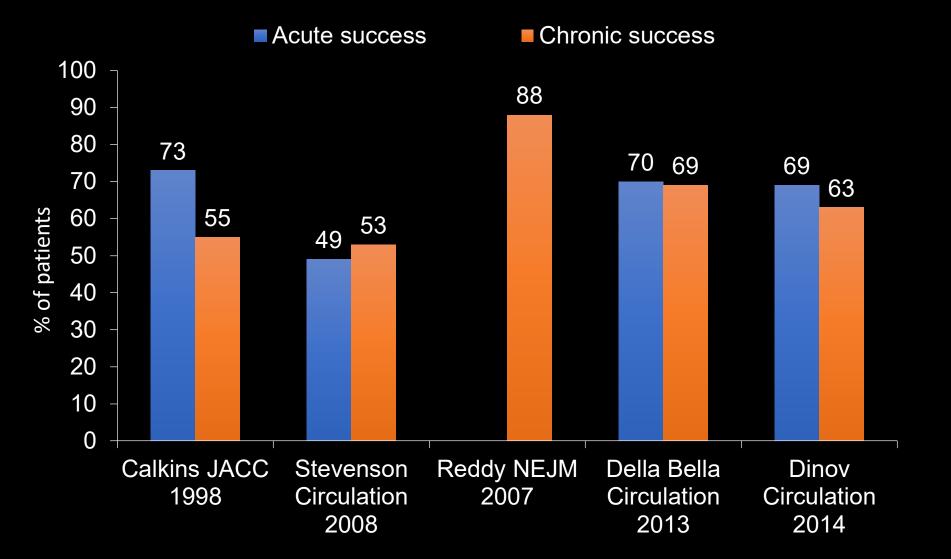




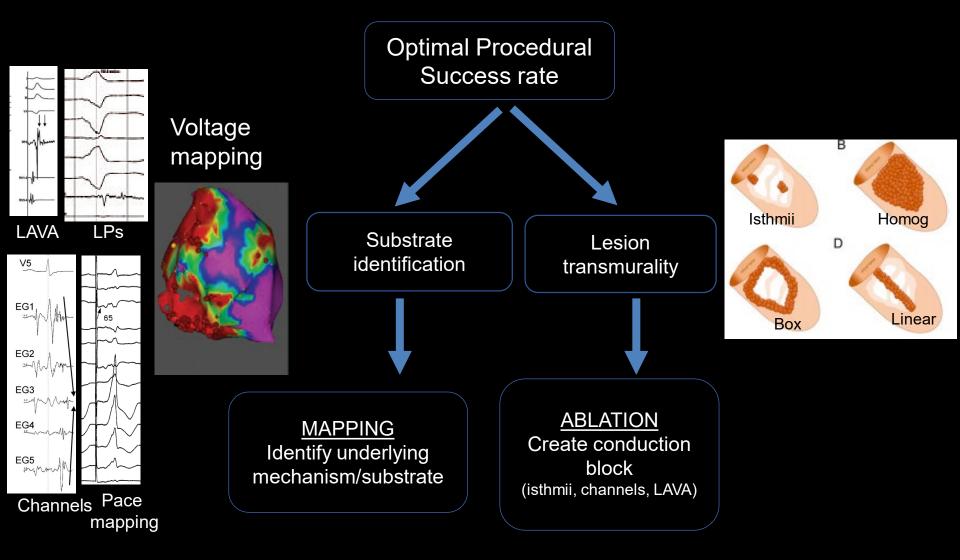
WESTMEAD APPLIED RESEARCH CENTRE



## Why strive for improvement?



### VT ablation strategies



## Mapping strategies

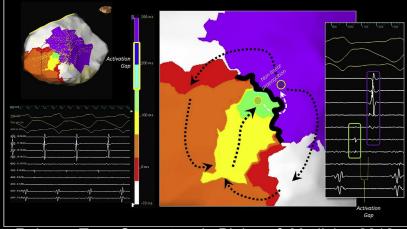
#### Activation

-Long mapping times; unreliably inducibility; non-sustainability; switch from one VT to another; hemodynamic intolerance

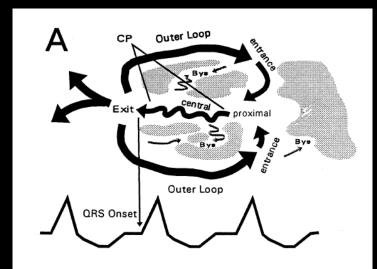
#### Entrainment

-unreliably inducibility; non-sustainability; switch from one VT to another; hemodynamic intolerance

 Substrate mapping emerged as predominant mapping strategy
 Smaller MIs, more rapid VTs
 NICM

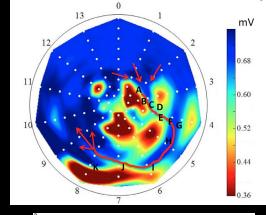


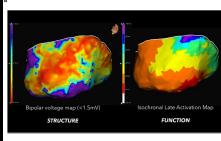
Raiman, Tung Computers in Biology & Medicine 2018

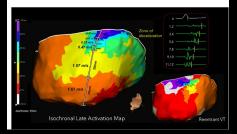


## **Substrate Mapping Strategies**

#### Nathakumar et al



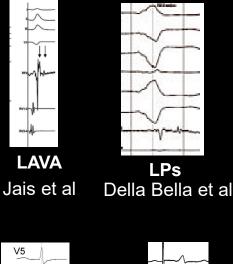


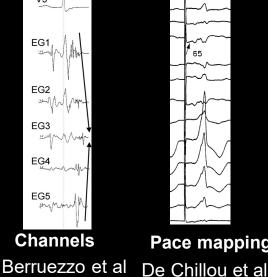


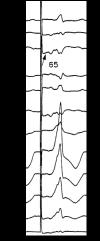
**ISCHOCRONAL** LATE ACTIVATION MAPPING

Tung et al

DEEP

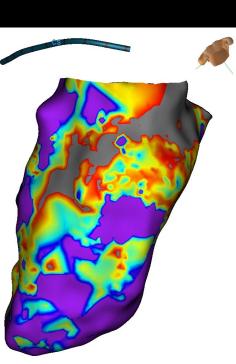






Pace mapping

Voltage mapping

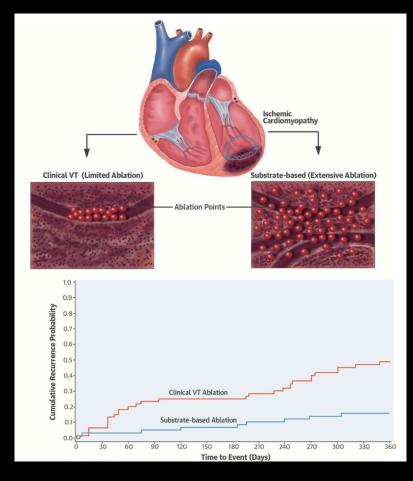


Targeted Ablation of VT Guided by Wavefront Discontinuities During SR: A New Functional Substrate Mapping Strategy

Aziz, Tung Circulation 2019

## **Substrate Modification**

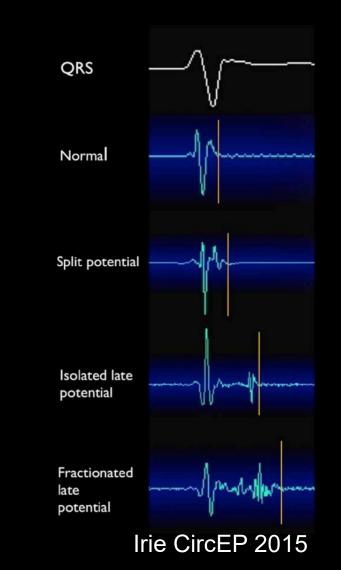
- Extensive ablation / homogenization preferred over limited ablation
- Can we limit ablation to critical VT isthmus sites?
- Can those sites be identified in SR with activation mapping?

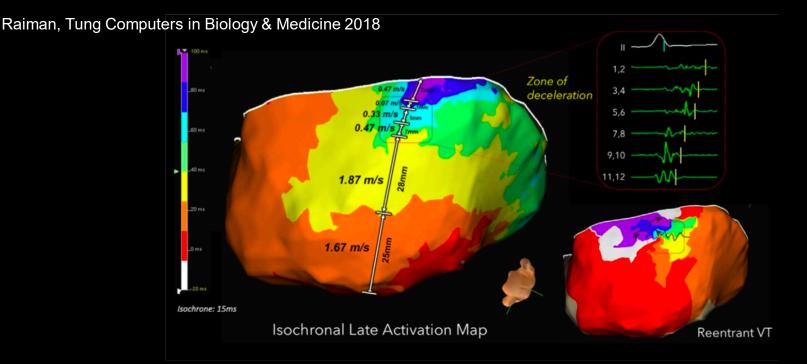


Di Biase JACC 2015

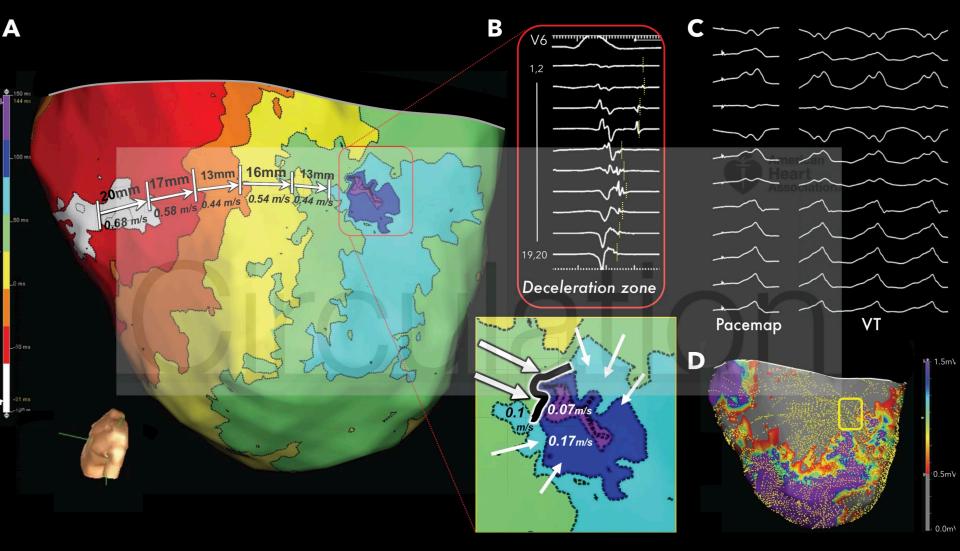
# Isochronal late activation mapping (ILAM) and deceleration zones (DZ)

- Each electrogram timed at the offset of the local bipolar electrogram deflection, signifying the completion of local activation.
- ILAM constructed by manual or automated annotation of all points collected.





- ILAM displayed with 8 equally distributed isochrones of activation (12.5% of ventricular activation comprised each isochrone).
- Deceleration zone (DZ) = regions with >3 isochrones within a 1 cm radius.
- DZ correlate with localized regions of conduction velocity slowing (<0.6cm/s)</li>



*localized line of conduction block - defined as a split potential with an isoelectric segment* (>20ms) signifying an activation gap with reversal of isochronal activation distal to the region of slowest conduction.

Aziz, Tung Circulation 2019

#### **Original Article**

#### Relationship Between Sinus Rhythm Late Activation Zones and Critical Sites for Scar-Related Ventricular Tachycardia Systematic Analysis of Isochronal Late Activation Mapping

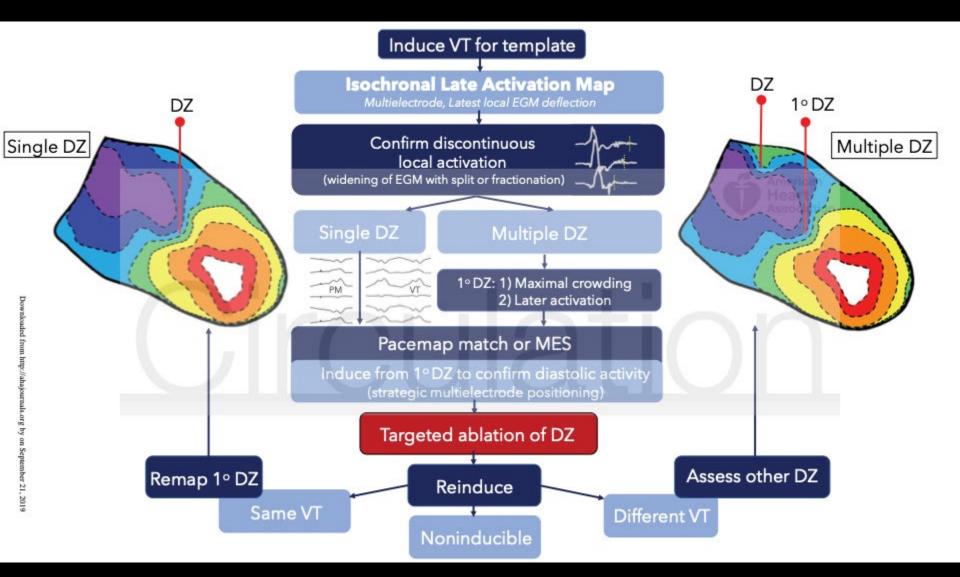
Tadanobu Irie, MD; Ricky Yu, MD; Jason S. Bradfield, MD; Marmar Vaseghi, MD, MS;
Eric F. Buch, MD; Olujimi Ajijola, MD, PhD; Carlos Macias, MD; Osamu Fujimura, MD;
Ravi Mandapati, MD; Noel G. Boyle, MD, PhD; Kalyanam Shivkumar, MD, PhD;
Roderick Tung, MD

CircEP 2015

A strong correlation found between regions of isochronal crowding, or deceleration zones (DZ), during sinus rhythm and critical isthmus sites during VT

## Study aims

- Report prospective outcomes of a novel ablation strategy guided by a voltage- independent mapping display to target DZ for the treatment of scar-related VT.
- Correlate DZ with termination sites during VT ablation to assess the strength of DZ as a mechanistic surrogate for high arrhythmogenicity.
- Demonstrate whether functional changes in wavefront propagation can be verified by remapping after targeted ablation of DZ to provide objective evidence of scar modification.



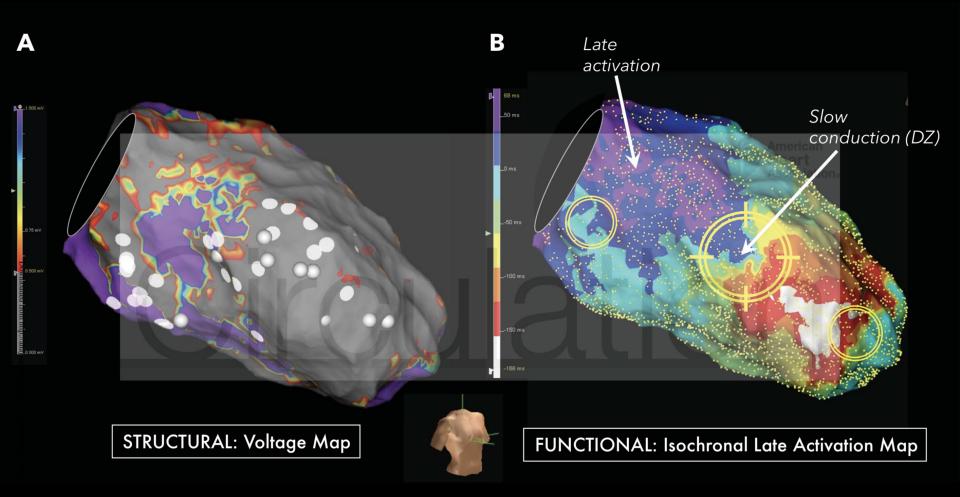
Targeted ablation, not extensive substrate modification

## **Baseline Characteristics**

- March 2016-November 2018
- 120 pts, 144 procedures
- Median age 65 y; 15% F; median EF 31%; 46% storm, 91% BB, 49% amio; ICM 50%
- Epi access 59%
- 22% single VT; 45% ≥3 VTs inducible
- 77% NI, 9% non clinical VT inducible, 12% not tested, failure 2%
- Procedure duration 5.4±2 h

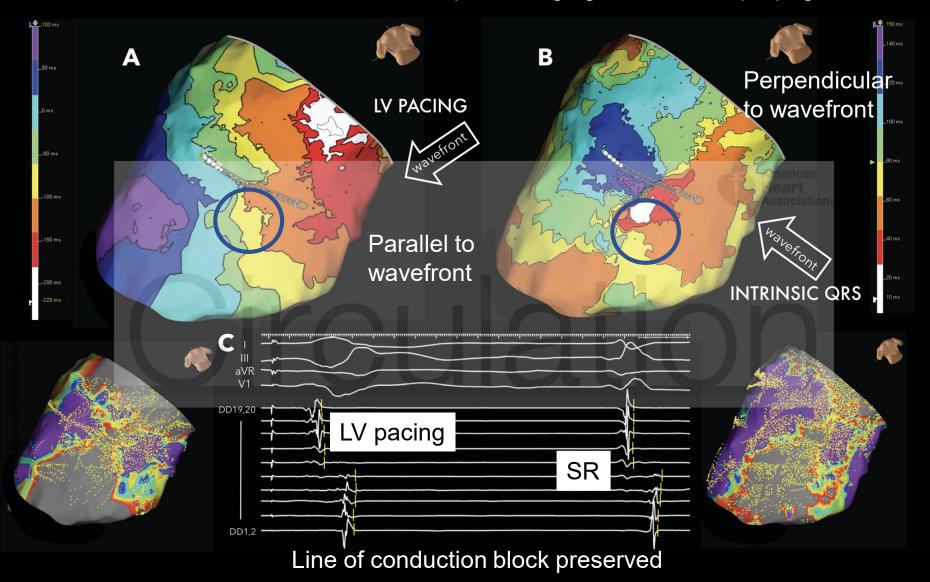
## ILAM and DZ

- Median number of DZ identified was 2±1 (18% had a single DZ, 35% with 2 DZ, and 45% with >3).
- DZ were located in mixed scar (<1.5mV) tissue in 35% and in dense scar (<0.5mV) in 63%, with 2% of DZ in normal voltage (>1.5mV).



- 3 DZ identified
- Central area: slowest DZ where limited ablation performed
- Basal and apical deceleration zones targeted subsequently
- VT free 14 months' follow up

#### Deceleration zone conserved despite changing wavefront of propagation



DZ were conserved in the same regions in 86% during different activation wavefronts

## Ablation

- Median targeted area for endocardial ablation
   31.5% of the scar area (14.6% in epi)
- Ablation targets
  - -Primary DZ 37% of cases
  - -Additional zones 63%
    - 1 additional DZ 41%
    - 2 additional DZ 19%
    - 3 additional DZ 3%

# Correlation of DZ to critical VT sites

DZ correlated with

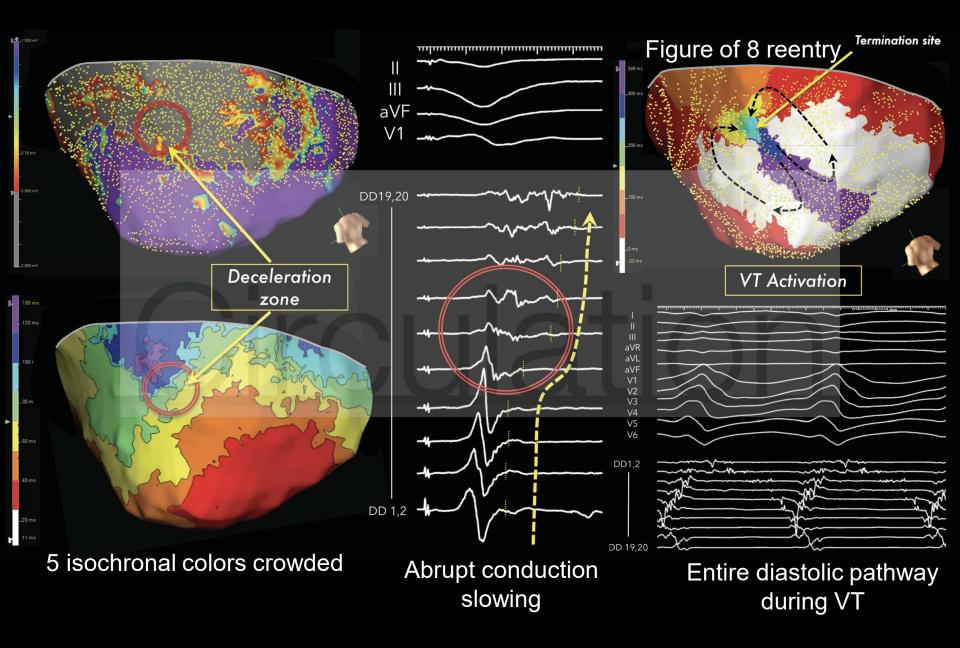
Optimal PM sites (>10/12) 92%

Co-localised to VT termination sites 95%

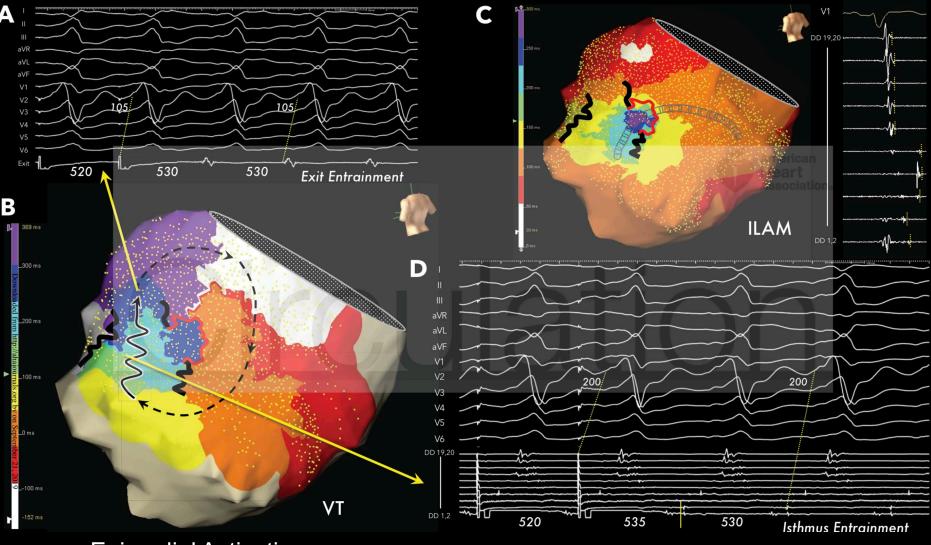
Entrainment with concealed fusion 63%

Median time to VT termination 11.5s

#### DZ co-localized to VT isthmus



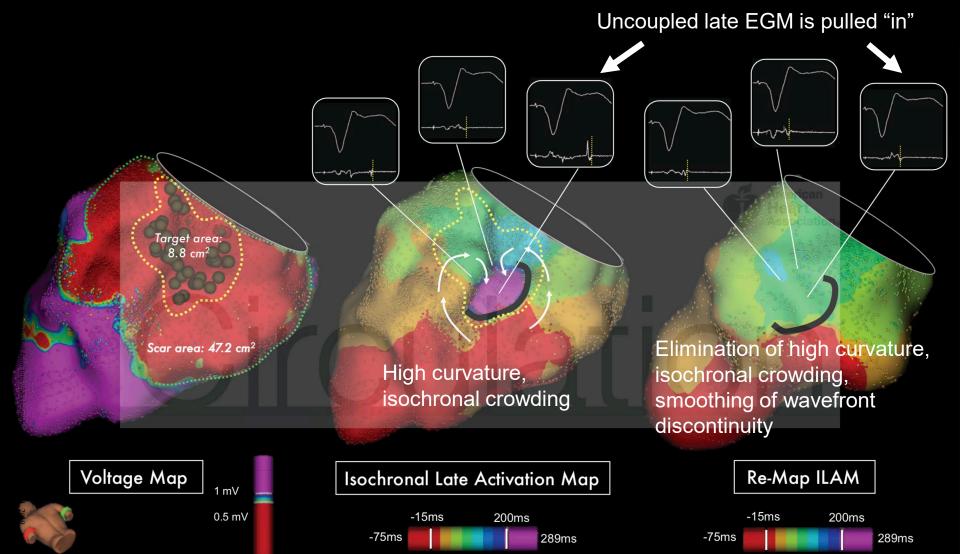
DZ

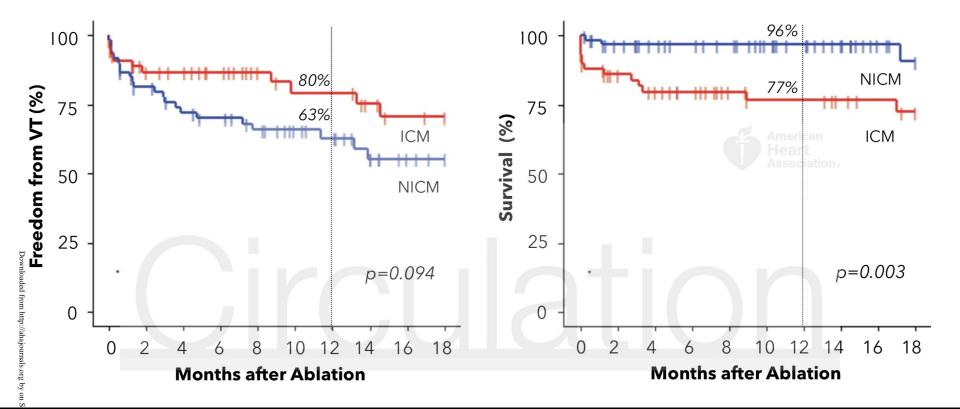


**Epicardial Activation map** 

Entire diastolic pathway evident

## Remapping post ILAM ablation: objective physiological evidence of scar modification





VT free survival at 12 months 70% ICM vs NICM (80% vs 63%; p=0.094) Overall mortality 12%; ICM vs NICM (77% vs 96%; p=0.003) Complications 8%; mortality 1.2%

## Conclusions

• Voltage-independent functional mapping during is:

-Feasible, effective in identifying critical VT sites in scar-Allows targeted ablation, eliminates need for extensive ablation

- DZ strongly predictive of critical sites for re-entry
- Remapping of DZ showing a functional change in propagation provides objective physiologic evidence of scar modification.
- Ablation times comparable to 'control arms' of homogenisation strategy but VT free survival comparable to homogenisation arm









#### VT program

Turnbull

Restoring Heart Rhythms, one beat at a time.



PhD Students Dr Siddarth Trivedi Dr Robert Anderson (Uni of Melb) Dr Jonathan Ariyaratnam Dr Richard Bennett Timmy Pham Kaimin Huang Josh Hawson (Un of iMelb) Tim Campbell

Senior Scientist: Tim Campbell VT fellow: Dr Chrishan Nalliah

Research Assistant: Ivana Trivic, Sam

Fellowship, PhD, Postdoc opportunities

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