Rhythmologie

To Pace or not to Pace?



Jan Till Royal Brompton London



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Why might we think about pacing a child or young person?

- AV block
- Sinus node disease
- Advanced heart failure
 - Congenital or acquired
 - Structurally normal heart
 - CHD +/- surgery

- Neuromuscular disease
- Myotonic muscular dystrophy
- Kearns Sayre syndrome
- Erb dystrophy (limb girdle) peroneal muscular atrophy
- Progressive conduction disorders
- RAS/neurocardiogenic syncope
- Long QT
- Congenital hypoventilation syndrome



Congenital Complete AV Block



Preterm neonate 2.1 Kg



Age 2 yrs







Challenges of pacing children





Long term consequences of pacing early







Europace Advance Access published July 12, 2013



Europace doi:10.1093/europace/eut082 **EHRA/AEPC CONSENSUS STATEMENT**

Pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy for arrhythmias in the pediatric population: EHRA and AEPC-Arrhythmia Working Group joint consensus statement

Josep Brugada¹*, Nico Blom², Georgia Sarquella-Brugada³, Carina Blomstrom-Lundqvist⁴, John Deanfield⁵, Jan Janousek⁶, Dominic Abrams⁷, Urs Bauersfeld^{8†}, Ramon Brugada⁹, Fabrizio Drago¹⁰, Natasja de Groot¹¹, Juha-Matti Happonen¹², Joachim Hebe¹³, Siew Yen Ho¹⁴, Eloi Marijon¹⁵, Thomas Paul¹⁶, Jean-Pierre Pfammatter¹⁷, and Eric Rosenthal¹⁸



0	Congenital AV block		
	Symptomatic advanced second- or third-degree AV block	Class I, level C	Class I, level C
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with ventricular dysfunction	Class I, level C	Class I, level B
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with prolonged QTc interval	Class I, level C	-
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with complex ventricular ectopy	Class I, level C	Class I, level B
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with wide QRS escape rhythm	Class I, level C	Class I, level B
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with abrupt ventricular pauses >threefold the basic cycle length	Class I, level C	Class IIa, level B
	Asymptomatic third-degree AV block in the infant with a ventricular rate <55 bpm or with CHD and a ventricular rate <70 bpm	-	Class I, level C
	Third-degree AV block beyond the first year of life with an average heart rate <50 bpm	-	Class IIa, level B
	Asymptomatic high degree AV block with a ventricular rate <50 bpm	Class I, level C	-
	Third-degree AV block beyond the first year of life with symptoms due to chronotropic incompetence	-	Class IIa, level B
	High degree AV block in asymptomatic children/adolescents in absence of the above risk conditions	Class IIb, level C	Class IIb, level B
	Asymptomatic type I second-degree AV block	-	Class III, level C
I	Postoperative AV block		
	Postoperative advanced second- or third-degree AV block that persists >7 days after cardiac surgery (10 days in ESC guidelines)	Class I, level B	Class I, level B
	Transient postoperative third-degree AV block that reverts to sinus rhythm with residual bifascicular block	Class IIa, level C	Class IIb, level C
	Unexplained syncope in the patient with prior CHD surgery complicated by transient complete heart block with residual fascicular block	-	Class IIa, level B
	Transient postoperative AV block with return of normal AV conduction in the otherwise asymptomatic patient	-	Class III, level B
	Asymptomatic postoperative bifascicular block with/without first-degree AV block in the absence of prior transient complete AV block	-	Class III, level C

Baruteau Eur J Pediatrics 2016

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Level of evidence

A data derived available from multiple randomised trials or metaanalyses

B data derived from single randomised clinical trial or large non randomised studies

C consensus of opinion of experts and/or data derived from small studies retrospective studies or registries



Eur Heart J. 1981 Aug;2(4):281-8.

Congenital complete heart block in adolescence and adult life. A follow-up study.

Esscher EB.

Pediatrics. 1982 Jun;69(6):728-33.

Diagnosis, management, and long-term results of patients with congenital complete atrioventricular block.

Pinsky WW, Gillette PC, Garson A Jr, McNamara DG.

N Engl J Med. 1987 Apr 2;316(14):835-9.

Use of ambulatory electrocardiographic monitoring to identify high-risk patients with congenital complete heart block.

Dewey RC, Capeless MA, Levy AM.

Am Heart J. 1989 Dec;118(6):1193-8.

Congenital complete heart block in patients without anatomic cardiac defects.

Sholler GF1, Walsh EP.

Pacing Clin Electrophysiol. 1997 Aug;20(8 Pt 2):2098-101.

Natural history of congenital complete atrioventricular block.

Michaelsson M¹, Riesenfeld T, Jonzon A.

Disorders of AV Conduction Complete congenital atrioventricular block

- Class I
 Complete congenital atrioventricular block in a newborn or an infant with a ventricular rate < 55 bpm or with CHD and a ventricular rate <70 bpm (C)
 - Complete congenital atrioventricular block with a wide complex escape rhythm, complex ventricular ectopy, or ventricular dysfunction (B)
 - Complete congenital atrioventricular block beyond first year of life with an average heart rate <50 bpm, abrupt pauses in ventricular rate 2-3x basic cycle length or associated with symptoms of chronotropic incompetence (B)





Newborn ECG

Heart rate 35 bpm









²⁵ mm/sec 10 mm/mV Electricity Off Base Off Mc A lifetime of specialist care







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Disorders of AV Conduction Complete congenital atrioventricular block

Class II

 Complete congenital atrioventricular block in asymptomatic children or adolescents with an acceptable rate, a narrow QRS complex and normal ventricular function (C)



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#### Asymptomatic 10 year old Congenital AV Block

HR: 43								
PR	= 0 ms							
IQRS	= 94 ms							
QТ	= 483 ms							
QTc	= 431 ms							
PAx	= 0							
QrsAx	= 60							
ГАх	= 14							



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25 mm/sec 10 mm/mV F: -1 Hz W: -0.01--1 Hz Mc A lifetime of specialist care

#### Isolated Congenital Complete Atrioventricular Block in Adult Life

#### **A Prospective Study**

Magnus Michaëlsson, MD, PhD; Anders Jonzon, MD, PhD; Tomas Riesenfeld, MD, PhD

Circulation 1995





							12-SL ECG
						HR	1: 55
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#### Symptomatic 12 year AV block diagnosed a

aVR

aVL

aVF

11

III

# Non surgical atrioventricular block

 Class 1
 Advanced second or third degree AV block associated with symptomatic bradycardia, ventricular dysfunction or low cardiac output (C)



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#### Post surgery





# Post operative atrioventricular block

 Class 1
 Post operative advanced second or third degree AV block not expected to resolve or persisting at least 7 days after cardiac surgery (B)

Class IIb

• Transient post operative third degree AV block with residual bifascicular block (C)



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Implant post surgery Infant

Age 8 years



Age 10 years



12 years



Others:

Neuromuscular disease associated with AV conduction disease eg myotonic muscular dystrophy, Kearns Sayre syndrome, Erb dystrophy (limb girdle) peroneal muscular atrophy

Class 1

Class IIb

- Third degree or advanced second degree AV block with or without symptoms (B)
- Any degree of AV block, because the progression of the conduction disease may be unpredictable (B)





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#### Non-sense mutation in NKX 2-5

Unconfirmed



#### Royal Brompton Hospital 12-SL ECG 06/03/2018 16:01:24 Previous ECG: 29/11/2017 09:49:16 Comments: HR: 51 PR dQRS Male = 0 ms = 102 ms QT QTc PAx = 436 ms = 413 ms = 0 = 88 = -22 QrsAx TAx Referring: Technician: Confirmed By: VA aVR **V**1 Tб aVL V2 Ш **aVF** V6 V3 m н

25 mm/sec 10 mm/mV F: -1 Hz W: -0.01--1 Hz Mckesson - MIG





# Aetiology of sinus node disorders

#### **Congenital Heart Disease**

- Pre surgery
  - Left atrial isomerism
  - Left juxtaposition of atrial appendages
  - Ebstein
- Post surgery
  - Ebstein
  - Mustard/Senning
  - Fontan /tCPC
  - Sinus venosus ASD
  - Arterial switch
  - Tetralogy of Fallot
  - Sinus venosus ASD

#### "Idiopathic"

#### Genetic

- SCN5A
- HCN4
- RYR2
- CASQ2
- Lamin A/C
- Ankyrin B
- Caveolin 3
- PRKAG2
- LQT
- NKX 2-5



# Sinus Node Dysfunction

- Class 1
  Sinus node dysfunction with correlation of symptoms during ageinappropriate bradycardia (B)
- Class IIa Asymptomatic sinus bradycardia in children and CHD with resting rate < 40 bpm or pauses in ventricular rate > 3 s (C)
  - Sinus node dysfunction with intra-atrial reentrant tachycardia with the need for antiarrhythmic drugs when other therapeutic options, such as catheter ablation, are not possible (C)
  - Congenital heart disease and impaired haemodynamics due to sinus bradycardia or loss of AV synchrony (C)
- Class IIb Asymptomatic sinus bradycardia in the adolescent with CHD with resting rate < 40 bpm or pauses in ventricular rate > 3 s (C)











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12-SL EC(







![](_page_44_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Summary

- Current guidelines are just a "guide" based on limited evidence and we need to consider many of our cases individually
- Indications may change as our pacing techniques develop as risk benefit ratio will change
- In CHD indications change with our understanding of consequences of surgical techniques
- Indications may change with understanding of genetic conditions

A biological pacemaker is on its way Wednesday, 13 Aug 2014 11:54

![](_page_45_Picture_6.jpeg)

Eugenio Cingolani

![](_page_45_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_0.jpeg)

Atrial pacing to stabilise Long QT child with recurrent VT/storm

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Neurocardiogenic Syncope

- Significantly symptomatic patients in who prolonged asystole can be demonstrated spontaneously or at tilt-table testing (C)
- Class IIb

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)