

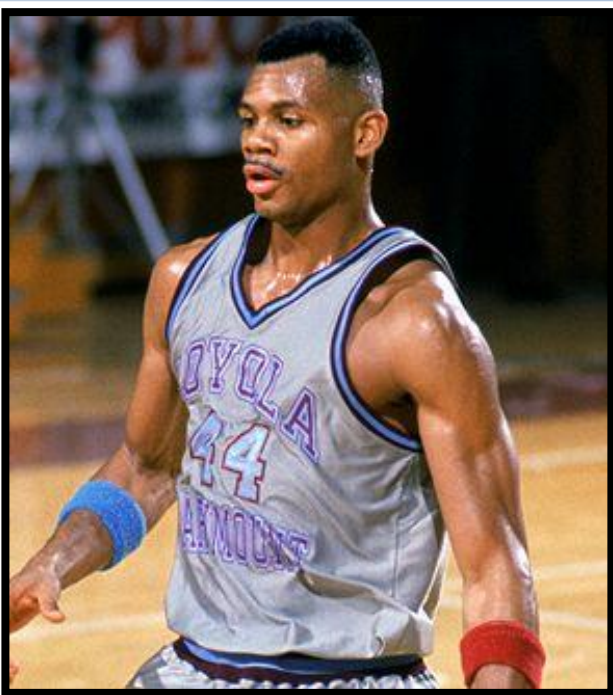
# Cardiac Care of the Athlete: New Frontier or Refining the Focus?

Matthew W. Martinez, MD FACC  
Sports Cardiology Medical Director  
HCM Medical Director  
Team Cardiologist - New York Jets  
Cardiologist – Major League Soccer, NFL Medical  
committee, NBPA, JETS



@mmartinezheart





**Hank Gathers**  
SCA March 4, 1990

## Italian soccer captain found dead before game

By Associated Press

March 4, 2018



## Keyontae Johnson 2020 collapse



News > UK > Home News

**London Marathon death: Matt Campbell,  
aged 29, dies after collapsing at mile 22**



PRO BASKETBALL

## *The N.B.A. Is the First League to Begin Standardized Cardiac Screening*

By HOWARD BECK SEPT. 17, 2006



# FIFA 2006 Pilot



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**FELLOWS-IN-TRAINING & EARLY CAREER PAGE**

## The Emergence of Sports Cardiology as a Specialty



# Care of the Athletic Heart

From Elite to  
Exercise Enthusiasts

*Virtual*

**Course Director**

Jonathan H. Kim  
MD, MSc, FACC

**Course Co-Director:**

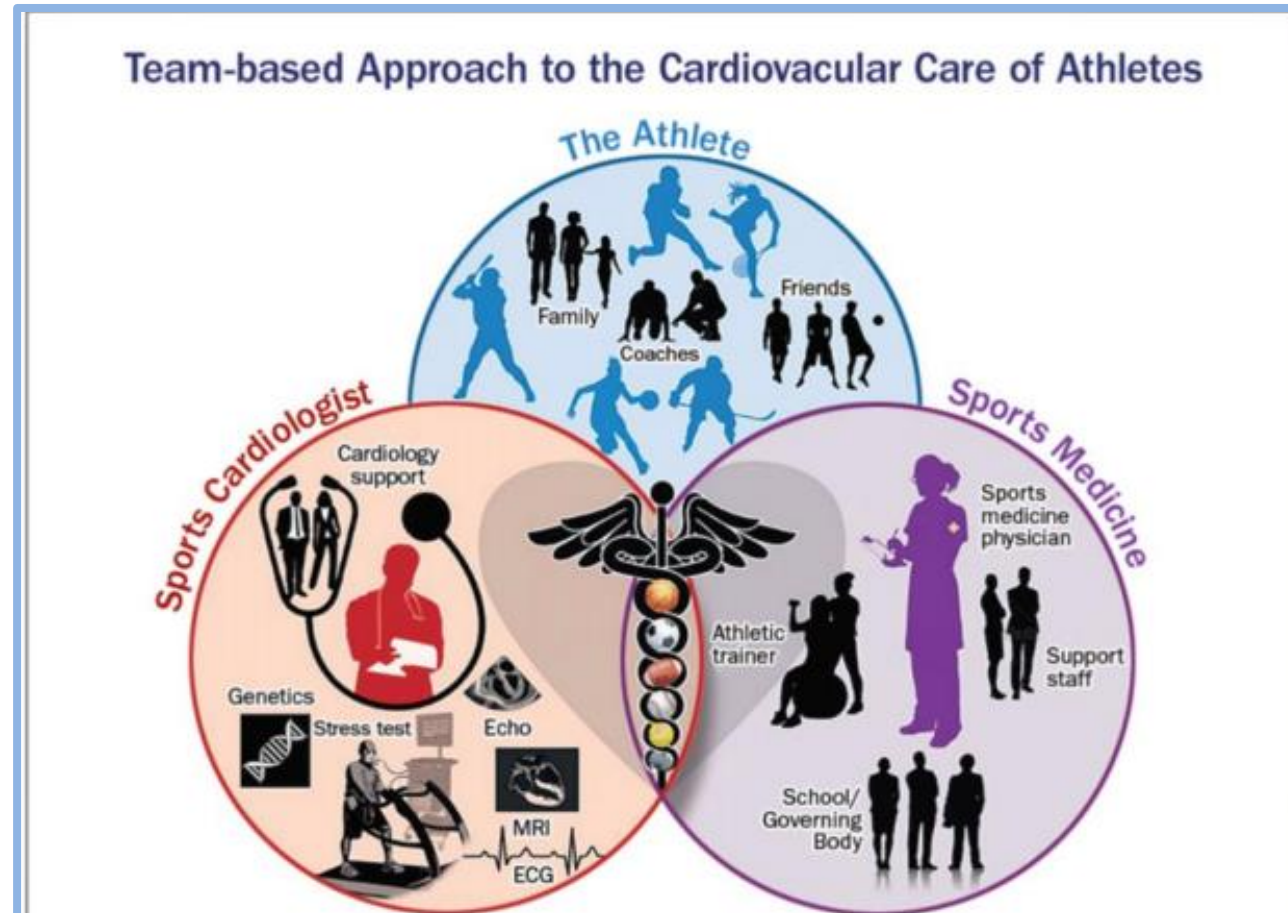
Dermot Phelan  
BAO, MB BCh, PhD, FACC

[ACC.org/  
athletic  
heart2021](http://ACC.org/athleticheart2021)

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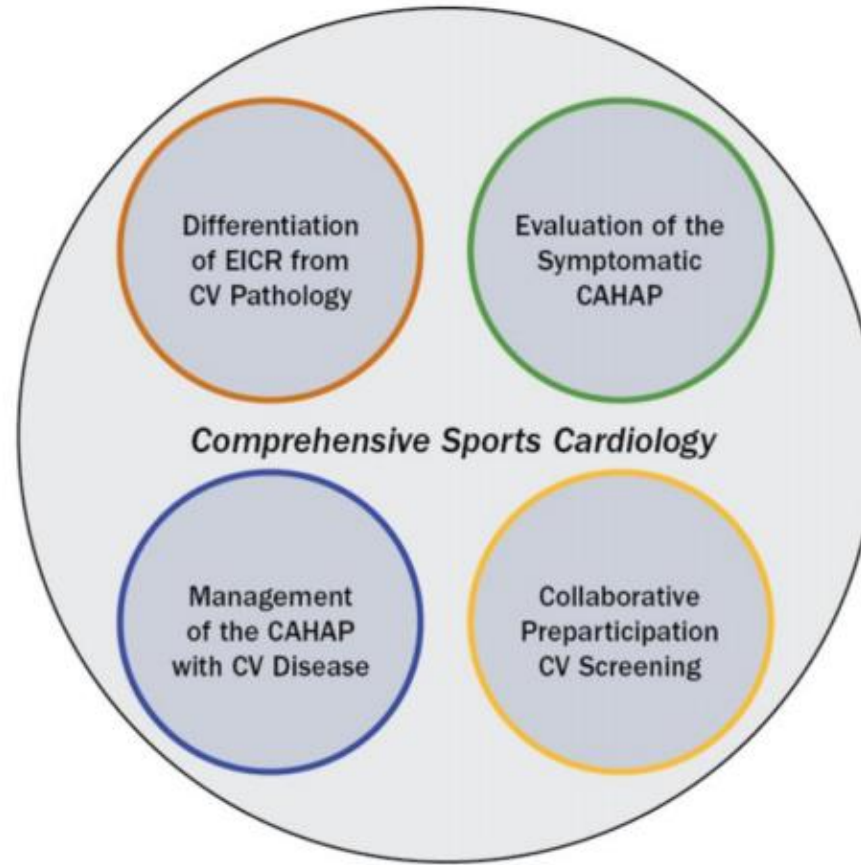
# Care of the Athlete



**Multidisciplinary Athlete-Centered Care (“Athlete Care Team”)  
in Evaluating and Managing Athletes at Risk of SCD**



## Overview of Fundamental Core Competencies in Sports Cardiology



*CAHAP = competitive athletes and highly active people; CV = cardiovascular; EICR = exercise-induced cardiac remodeling.*



# Which Athletes Are Highest Risk?



# Incidence of Male vs. Female SCA/D

Author	Year	Age of cohort	# Male SCA/D	Person-Years	Male Incidence	# Female SCA/D	# Female Person-years	Female Incidence
Corrado	2003	12-35	46	1,904,490	1:41,402	5	464,100	1:92,820
Toresdahl*	2014	high school	16	924,000	1:57,750	2	652,828	1:326,414
Harmon	2015	college	64	2,418,563	1:37,790	15	1,823,899	1: 121,593
Harmon	2016	high school	92	4,124,525	1:44,832	12	2,850,115	1:237,510
Peterson*	2020	high school	176	7,732,032	1:43,932	28	5,706,008	1: 203,786
		college	32	1,116,992	1:34,906	7	862,946	1:123,278
<b>Total</b>			<b>426</b>	<b>18,220,602</b>	<b>1:42,771</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>12,359,896</b>	<b>1:179,129</b>

- Males are at 4x the risk of Females
- 86% of deaths occurred in Males

\*Included both SCA and SCD





# Incidence of SCD in Athletes by Race

Study	Year Published	Years Studied	Age	Black	White	Relative Risk
Maron	2014	2002 - 2011	17-26	1:26,000	1:143,000	5.50
Harmon	2015	2003 - 2013	18-26	1:21,000	1:68,000	3.23
Peterson	2020	2014 – 2018	College	1:18,000 (males)	1:39,000 (males)	2.10

- Looked at NCAA college athletes
- Used similar databases

# Incidence, Etiology and Comparative Frequency of NCAA Athletes: A Decade in Review

## Epidemiology and Prevention

Incidence, Cause, and Comparative Frequency of Sudden Cardiac Death in National Collegiate Athletic Association Athletes  
A Decade in Review

Kimberly G. Harmon, MD; Irfan M. Asif, MD; Joseph J. Maleszewski, MD;  
David S. Owens, MD, MS; Jordan M. Prutkin, MD, MHS; Jack C. Salerno, MD;  
Monica L. Zigman, MPH; Rachel Ellenbogen, MS; Ashwin L. Rao, MD;  
Michael J. Ackerman, MD, PhD; Jonathan A. Drezner, MD

Sport	Incidence
Men's basketball	1 in 8,978
Men's soccer	1 in 23,689
Men's Football	1 in 35,951
Men's Swimming	1 in 42,784
Men's Cross-country	1 in 42,857
Men's Lacrosse	1 in 45,850
Women's Cross-country	1 in 47,089
Women's Volleyball	1 in 49,217
Men's Baseball	1 in 50,023
<b>NCAA Athletes</b>	<b>1 in 53,703</b>
Women's Swimming	1 in 57,611
Women's basketball	1 in 77,061
Men's track	1 in 120,521

# Comparison of Incidence Data in Male Sport

	Maron 2002-2011 (NCAA) SCD	Harmon 2003-2013 (NCAA) SCD	Peterson 2014-2018 (NCAA) SCA/D	Harmon 2007-2011 (high school) SCA/D	Peterson 2014-2018 (high school) SCA/D	Malhotra 1996-2016
American Football	1:39,000	1 :36,000			1:83,000	
Black			1:28,000			
White			1:20,000			
Male basketball		1:9,000		1:37,000	1:40,000	
Black		1:5,000	1:5,000			
White		1:15,000	1:15,000			
Male soccer		1:24,000			1:89,000	1:15,000

# Which Athletes Are Highest Risk?



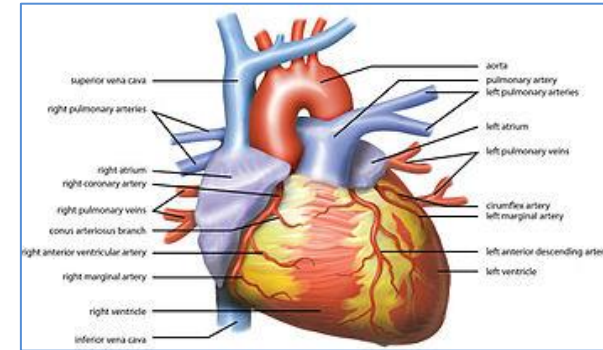
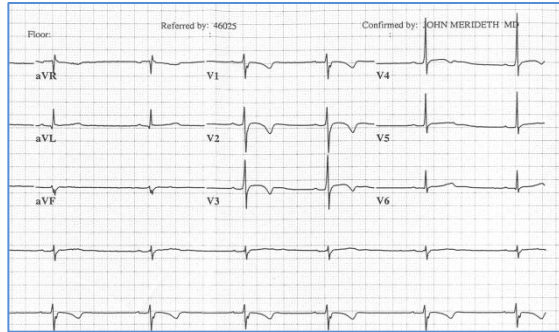
Male athletes

Black athletes

Male basketball,  
Soccer and  
American  
football athletes



# Sudden Cardiac Death in *Young Athletes*



## Structural Abnormalities

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy  
RV cardiomyopathy  
Artery anomalies  
Marfan syndrome  
Valve disease

## Electrical Abnormalities

Wolff Parkinson White syndrome  
Long QT syndrome  
Brugada syndrome  
CPVT

## Acquired Abnormalities

Infection (myocarditis)  
Trauma (commotio cordis)  
Drugs  
Environment (heat/cold)



# Traditional etiologies of SCD in Athletes (<40 years)

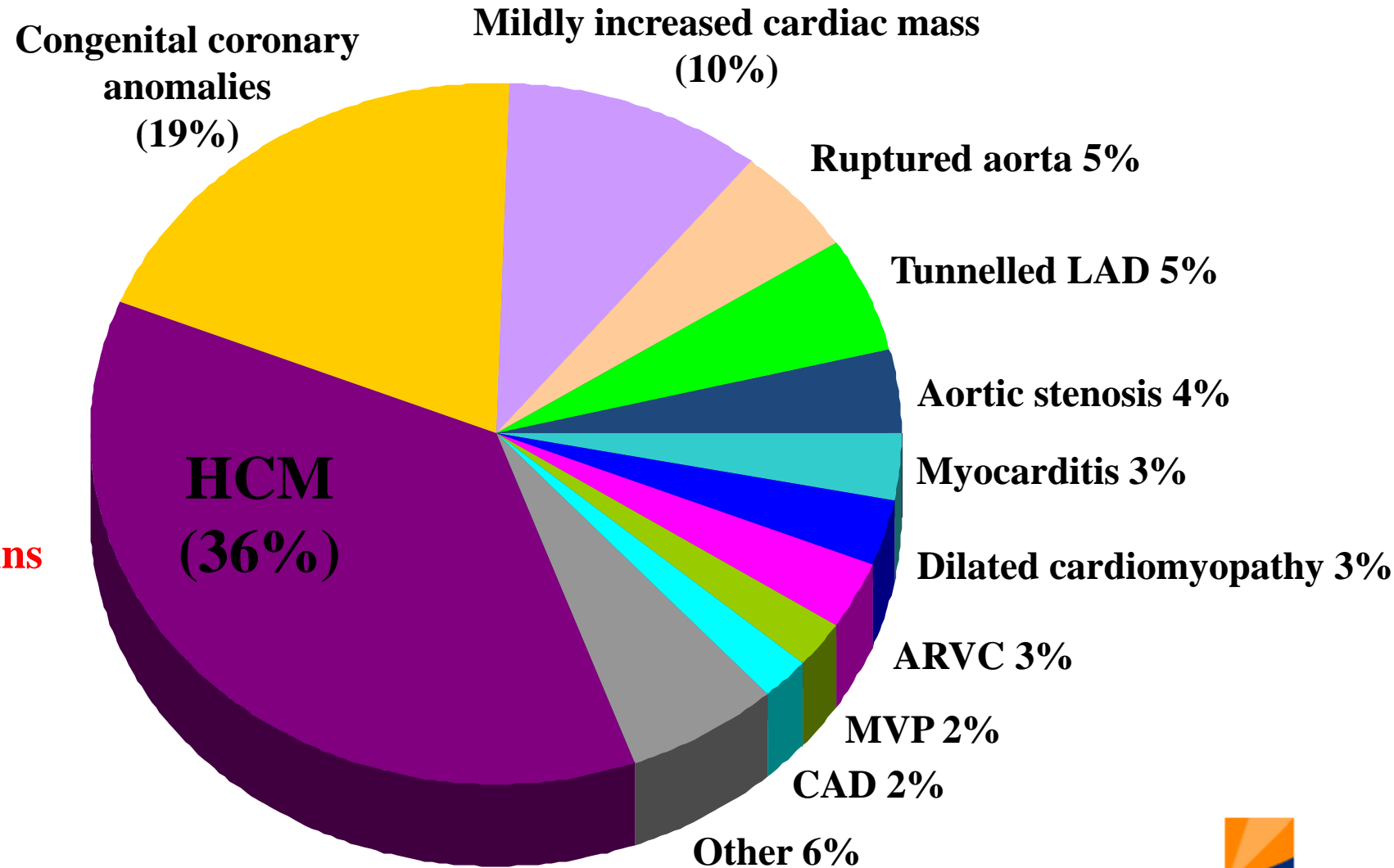
## 1980 - 2005

Multiple updates:  
2007, 2009, 2016

N = 2406

Confirmed CV deaths = 840+

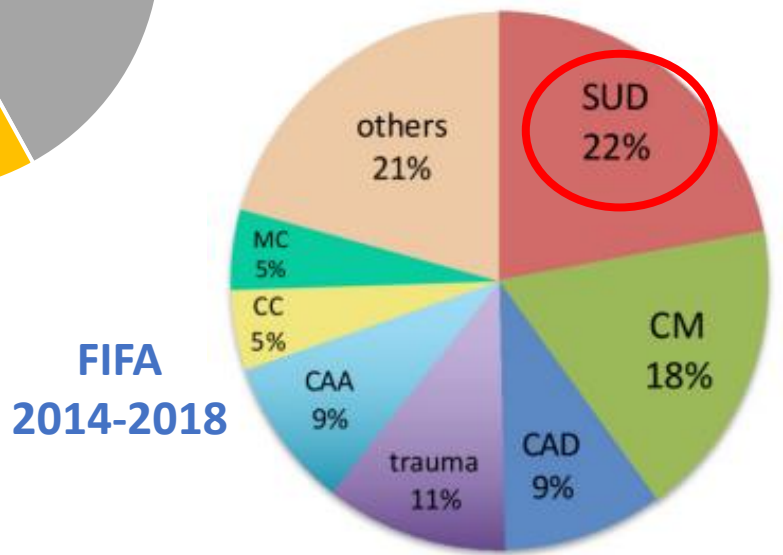
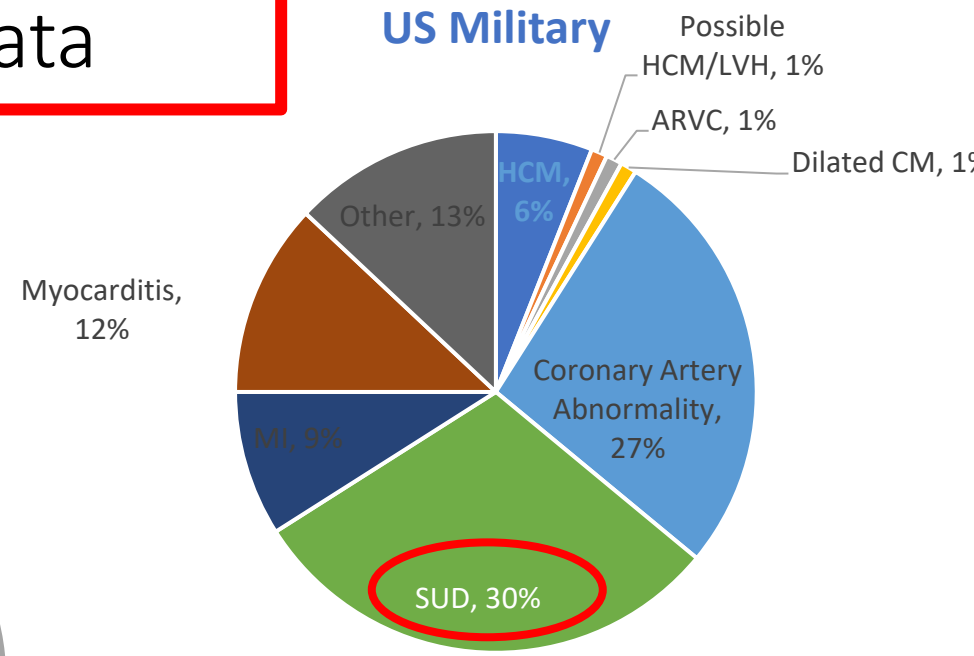
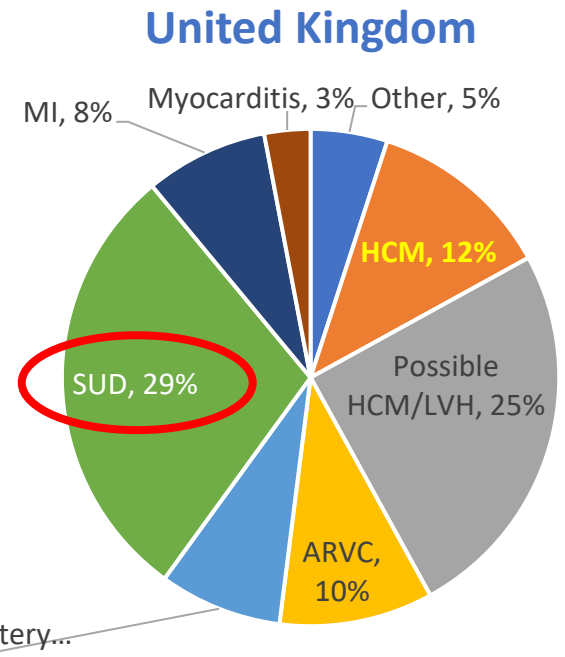
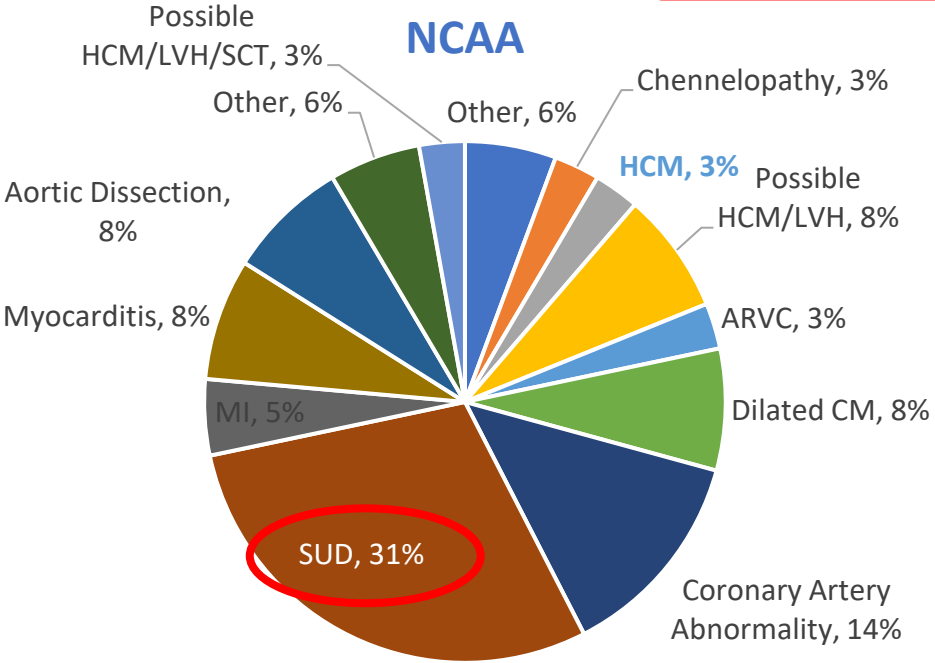
**The data and message remains largely unchanged**



Maron BJ et al. *Circulation*. 1996;94:850-56.



# Contemporary Estimates of SCD - > challenge prior data



Eckart RE et al. Ann Intern Med. 2004;141:829-834.  
 Harmon KG et al. Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2014;7:198-204.  
 De Noronha SV et al. Heart. 2009;95:1409-1414.

# How to identify those at highest risk?





# Preparticipation evaluations

- HS, Collegiate, Elite/Pro
- PPE CV screening
- Comprehensive personal, family history and physical exam
  - AHA 14-point
- Additional testing
  - ECG, Echocardiogram, Cardiac MRI

**PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION HISTORY FORM**  
(Note: This form is to be filled out by the patient and parent prior to seeing the physician. The physician should keep this form in the chart.)

Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

**New Jersey Department of Education**  
**ANNUAL ATHLETIC PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM**  
Part A: HEALTH HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE-Completed by the parent and student and reviewed by examining provider  
Part B: PHYSICAL EVALUATION FORM-Completed by examining licensed provider with MD, DO, APN or PA

**Part A: HEALTH HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Sports Physical: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F (circle one) Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Provider Name (Medical Home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Please answer the following questions about the student's medical history by CIRCULING the correct response. Explain all "yes" responses on the lines below the questions. Please respond to all questions.

1. Have you ever had, or do you currently have:  
a. Restriction from sports for a health related problem? Y / N / Don't Know  
b. An injury or illness since your last exam? Y / N / Don't Know  
c. A chronic or ongoing illness (such as diabetes or asthma)? Y / N / Don't Know  
(1.) An inhaler or other prescription medicine that you take on a regular basis? Y / N / Don't Know  
d. Any prescribed or over the counter medications that you take on a regular basis? Y / N / Don't Know  
e. Surgery, hospitalization or any emergency room visit(s)? Y / N / Don't Know  
f. Any allergies to bee stings, pollen, latex or foods? Y / N / Don't Know  
g. Any allergies to medications? Y / N / Don't Know  
(1.) If yes, check type of reaction:  Rash  Hives  Breathing or other anaphylactic reaction  
 Anaphylaxis

(2.) Take any medication/EpiPen taken for allergy symptoms? (List below.) Y / N / Don't Know  
h. Any anemias, blood disorders, sickle cell disease/trait, bleeding tendencies or clotting disorders? Y / N / Don't Know  
i. A blood relative who died before age 50? Y / N / Don't Know

Explain all "yes" answers here (include relevant dates):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Cardiovascular Preparticipation Screening of Competitive Athletes**

A Statement for Health Professionals From the Sudden Death Committee (Clinical Cardiology) and Congenital Cardiac Defects Committee (Cardiovascular Disease in the Young), American Heart Association

Barry J. Maron, Paul D. Thompson, James C. Puffer, Christopher A. McGrew, William B. Strong, Pamela S. Douglas, Luther T. Clark, Matthew J. Mitten, Michael H. Crawford, Dianne L. Atkins, David J. Driscoll, and Andrew E. Epstein

Originally published 15 Aug 1996 | Circulation. 1996;94:850–856

*“The American Heart Association recommends that some form of preparticipation cardiovascular screening for high school and collegiate athletes*



## Cardiovascular Preparticipation Screening of Competitive Athletes

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Originally published 15 Aug 1996 | Circulation. 1996;94:850–856

*“The American Heart Association recommends that some form of preparticipation cardiovascular screening for high school and collegiate athletes*

*“We conclude that a complete and careful personal and family history and physical examination . . . **is the best available and most practical approach to screening populations of competitive sports participants”***

*“The standard history and physical examination **intrinsically lack the capability to reliably identify many potentially lethal cardiovascular abnormalities.***

Indeed, it is an unrealistic expectation that screening can reliably exclude most important cardiac lesions.”





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Stress Raises  
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## In the NCAA, a Push to Reform Health Standards

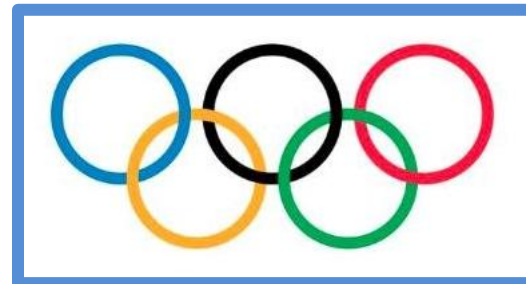
25 years after Hank Gathers's death, the NCAA's first-ever chief medical officer gets behind cardiac screening of athletes



## Cardiovascular Care Checklist of Best Practices for NCAA Member Institutions

This checklist can be used as a resource when evaluating institutional cardiac care plans. The checklist has been designed to help institutions become better informed and educated about the best practices that are endorsed in the Interassociation Consensus Document on Cardiovascular Care of College Student-Athletes.

### Pre-Participation Evaluation of Student-Athletes



# Comparison of Screening Strategies for Elite Athletes

	IOC/ USOC	FIFA	MLB	MLS	NBA/ WNBA	NFL	NHL	Premier League
Combine					X	X	X	
H&P	X <sup>†</sup>	X <sup>†</sup>	X	X	X	X	X <sup>†</sup>	X
ECG	X	X	X	X <sup>^</sup>	X	X	X	X <sup>^</sup>
Echo		X		X	X	X		X <sup>^</sup>
Stress test ECG	X <sup>*</sup>	X <sup>*</sup>						
Stress Echo					X			
Additional Testing As needed	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

† Unique H&P; others use AHA  
 ^ Every 2 years  
 \* Stress ECG if >35 years old

## New guidance on preventing sudden cardiac death in athletes published

NCAA, medical specialists recommend all universities have well-rehearsed emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest

April 15, 2014

**TABLE 1 Cardiovascular Care Checklist of Best Practices for NCAA Member Institutions**

### Pre-Participation Evaluation of Student-Athletes

- The purpose of the evaluation, as stated in the *2014-15 NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook (19)*, is explained to the student-athlete.
- The cardiac evaluation includes, at minimum, a comprehensive personal and family history, and physical examination, such as the AHA 14-point evaluation or the Pre-participation Physical Evaluation Monograph, Fourth Edition.
- The pre-participation evaluation is either conducted on campus under the supervision of the institution's director of medical services or is reviewed by a process that is supervised by the institution's director of medical services.
- If an ECG is included in addition to history and physical screening, best practices include:
  - Pre-ECG screening planning is performed with a multidisciplinary team.
  - The student athlete is provided an in-depth explanation for the rationale of ECG screening and the possible risk vs. benefit of adding ECG screening.
  - Modern athlete-specific ECG interpretation standards are used.
  - Skilled cardiology oversight is available.



## New guidance on preventing sudden cardiac death in athletes published

NCAA, medical specialists recommend all universities have well-rehearsed emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest

April 15, 2014

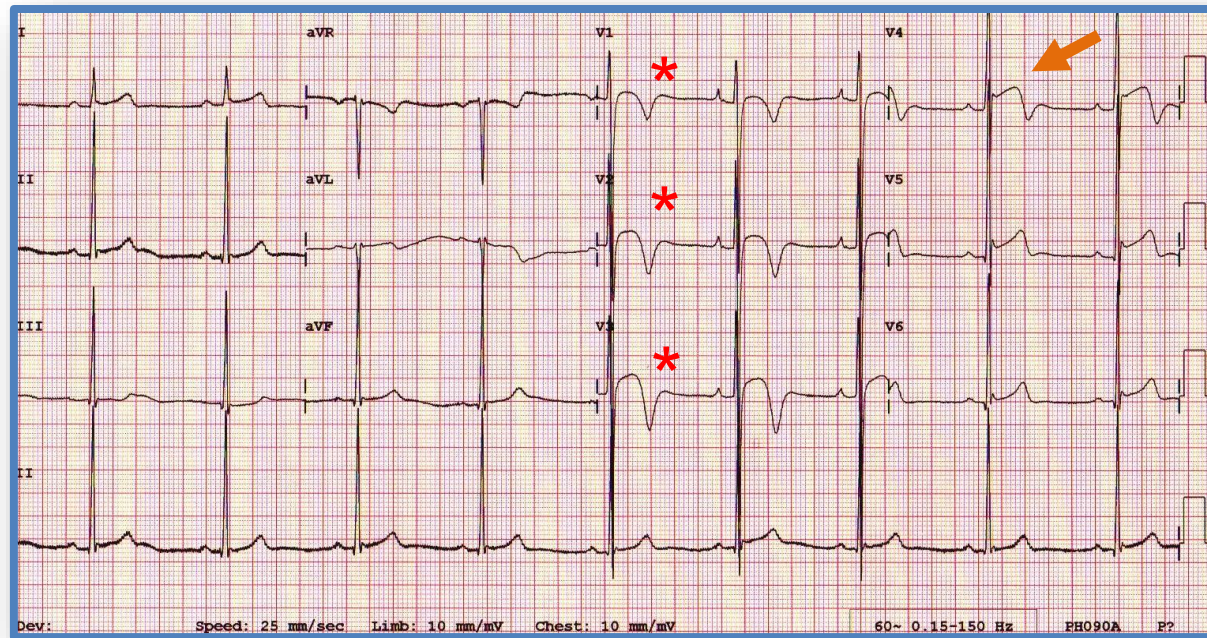
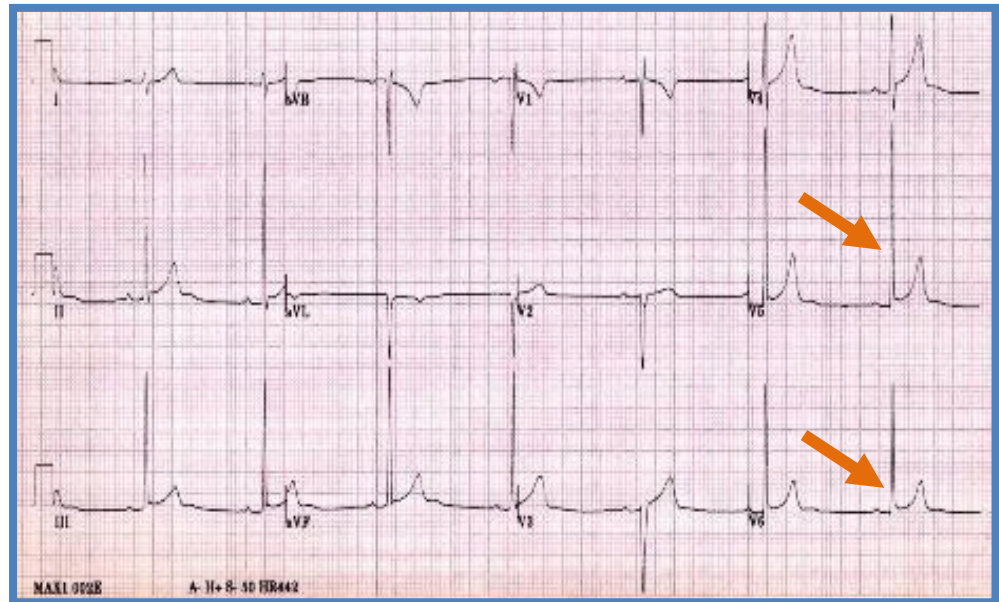
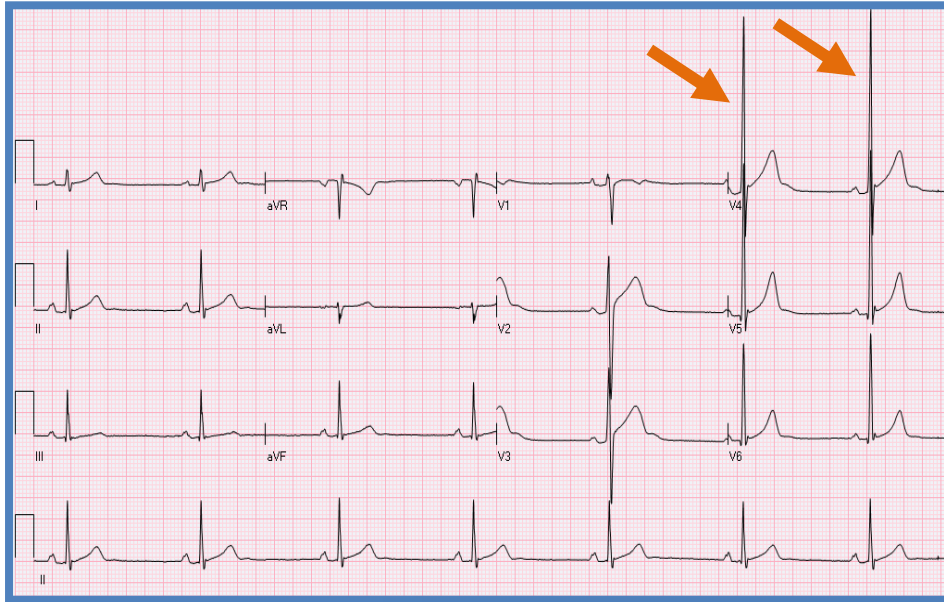
### TABLE 1 Cardiovascular Care Checklist of Best Practices for NCAA Member Institutions

The field of sports cardiology is a highly specialized segment of cardiology and very few physicians and institutions across the country have the knowledge base, skill and experience in this discipline to accurately interpret an athlete's ECG. This could put smaller colleges and universities located in low-density population areas at a disadvantage when it comes to accessing expertise in sports cardiology. The task force recommended establishing regional referral centers that can provide pre-participation ECG interpretation, clarity on the cardiovascular status of athletes with irregular findings during their pre-participation screening, evaluations of new cardiovascular symptoms that develop during training or competition, and consultations on when a player with a cardiac issue is cleared to play.

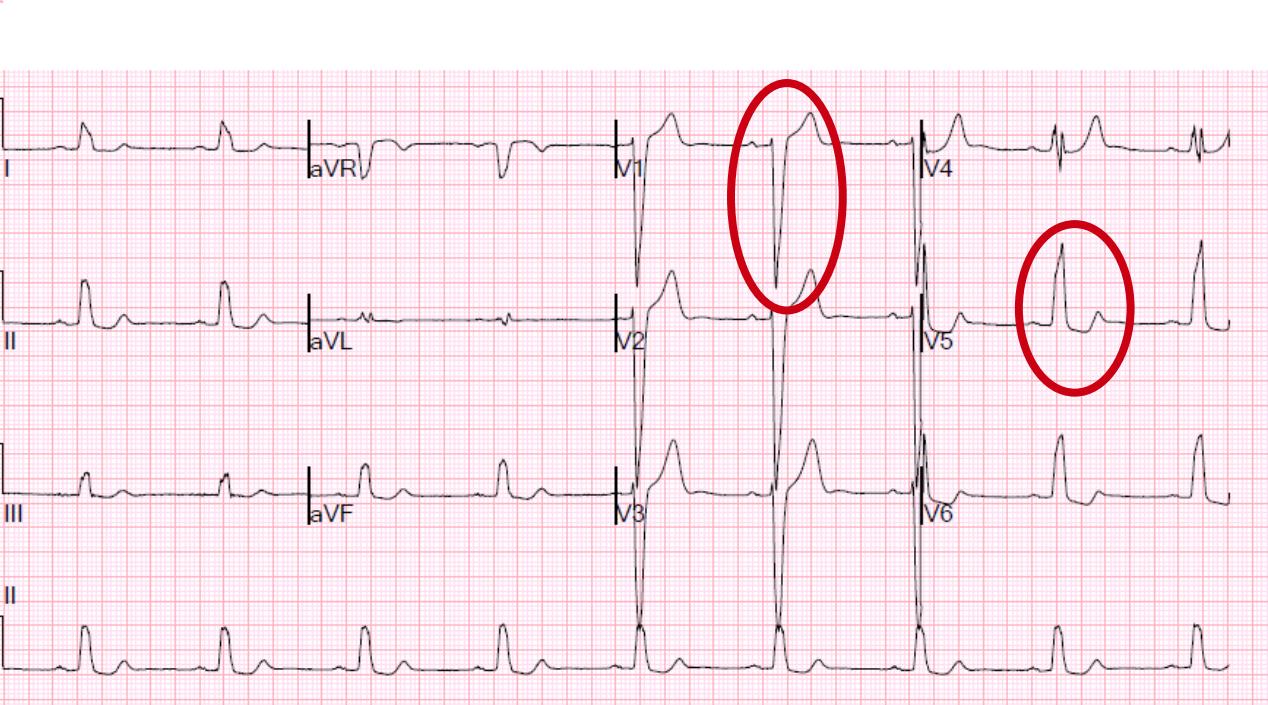
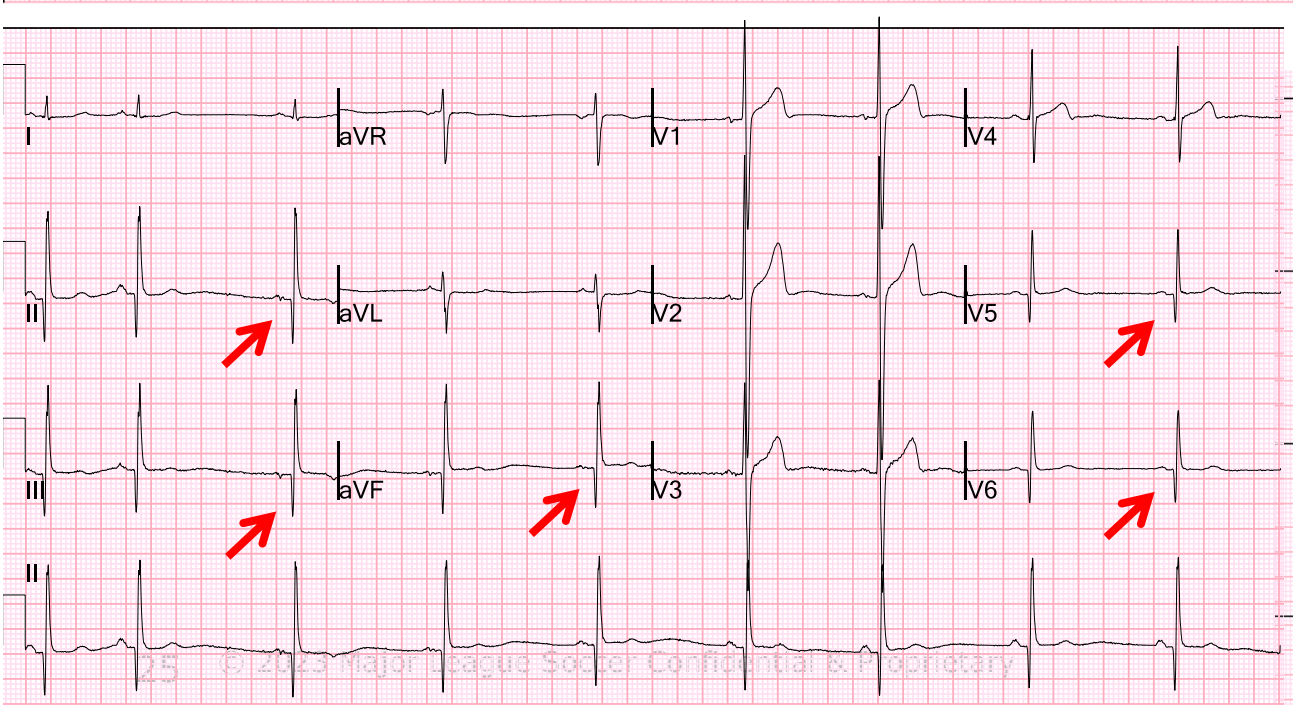
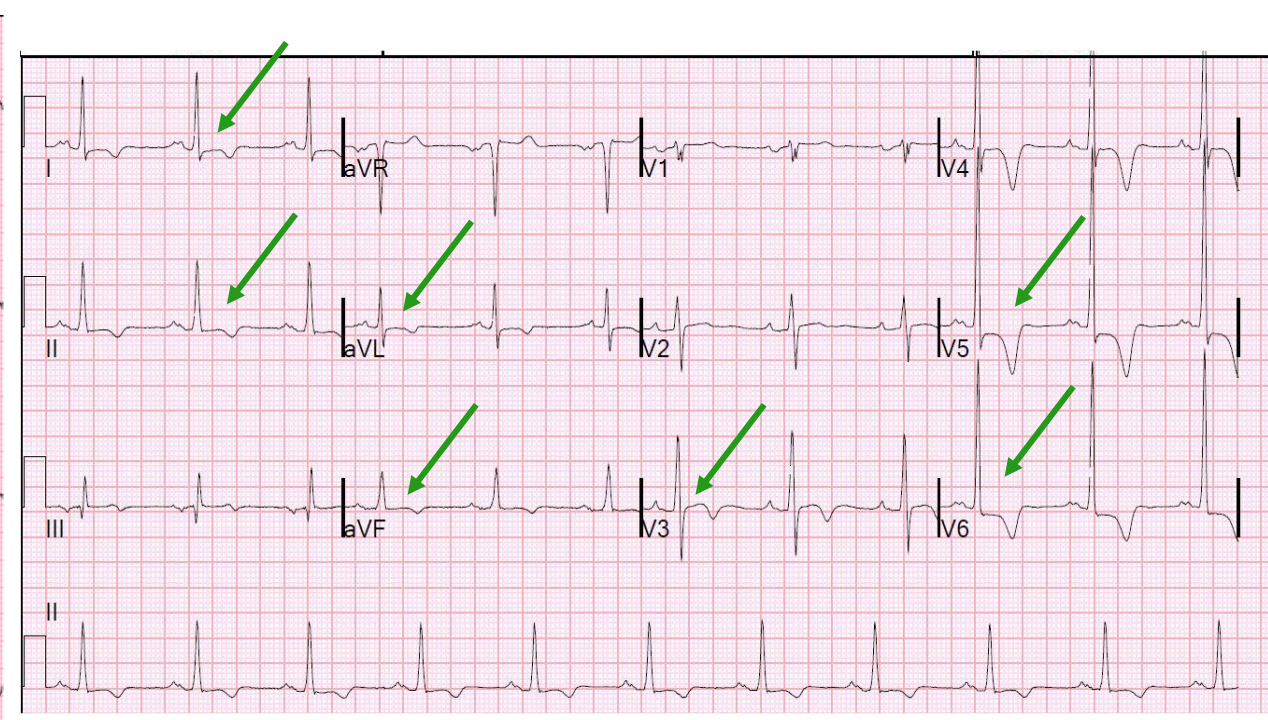
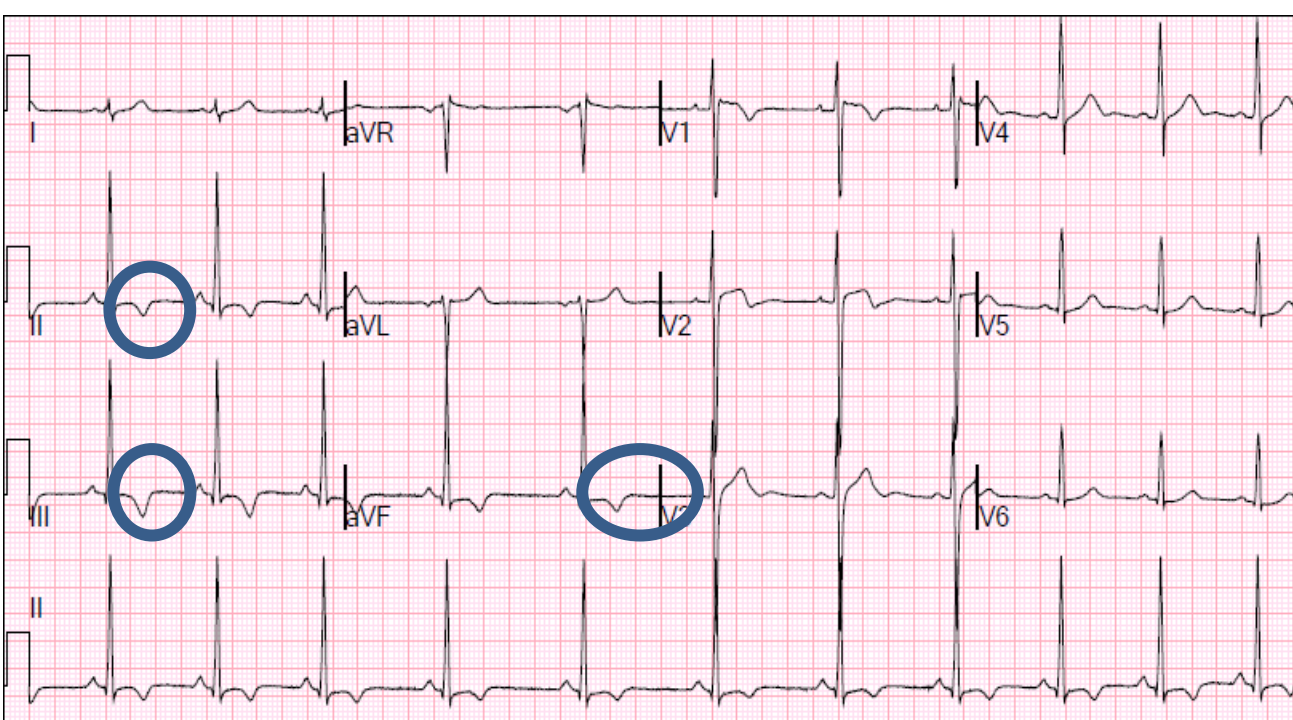
rationale of ECG screening and the possible risk vs. benefit of adding ECG screening.

- Modern athlete-specific ECG interpretation standards are used.
- Skilled cardiology oversight is available.









## Historical Progression of ECG Interpretation Criteria in the Athletes

**1998**

Screening for HCM  
in young athletes.

NEJM. 339(6)

Initial presentation of  
formal ECG criteria for  
differentiation of  
pathology from  
normality in athletes

**Key Advances**

-First published  
ECG criteria  
designed to detect  
occult structural  
disease in athletes

**2005**

"ESC 2005"

Eur Heart J. 26(5)

First consensus  
document presenting  
quantitative ECG  
criteria for use in  
athletes

**Key Advances**

-First published  
consensus  
document  
describing the  
rational for clinical  
ECG interpretation  
in athletes

**2010**

"ESC 2010"

Eur Heart J. 31(2)

Criteria update aimed at  
acknowledging the  
difference between  
"common/training  
related" ECG patterns  
and "uncommon/training  
unrelated" ECG patterns

**Key Advances**

-Segregated athlete ECG  
patterns into "Group 1"  
(training related) and  
"Group 2" (training  
unrelated)

**2012**

"Seattle Criteria"

Br J Sports Med 47(3)

Criteria update aimed at  
refining the ESC 2010  
criteria with an emphasis  
on the development of  
training modules for  
sports medicine  
practitioners.

**Key Advances**

-Provided refined  
quantitative definitions  
for numerous ECG  
patterns to increase  
specificity for the  
detection of occult  
disease

**2014**

"Revised Criteria"

Circulation. 129(16)

Criteria focused on  
further improving the  
specificity of athlete ECG  
interpretation by using  
primary data derived  
from sizeable multi-  
ethnic athlete cohorts.

**Key Advances**

-Reclassified several  
common isolated ECG  
patterns as benign  
including axis deviation,  
atrial enlargement, and  
right ventricular  
hypertrophy



# Methodology to classify athlete ECG

## DISEASE PROBABILITY

## PREVALENCE IN THE HEALTHY ATHLETE

LOW (<5%)

NORMAL

HIGH (>5%)

LOW (<5%)

BORDERLINE

LOW (<5%)

HIGH (>5%)

ABNORMAL

LOW (<5%)



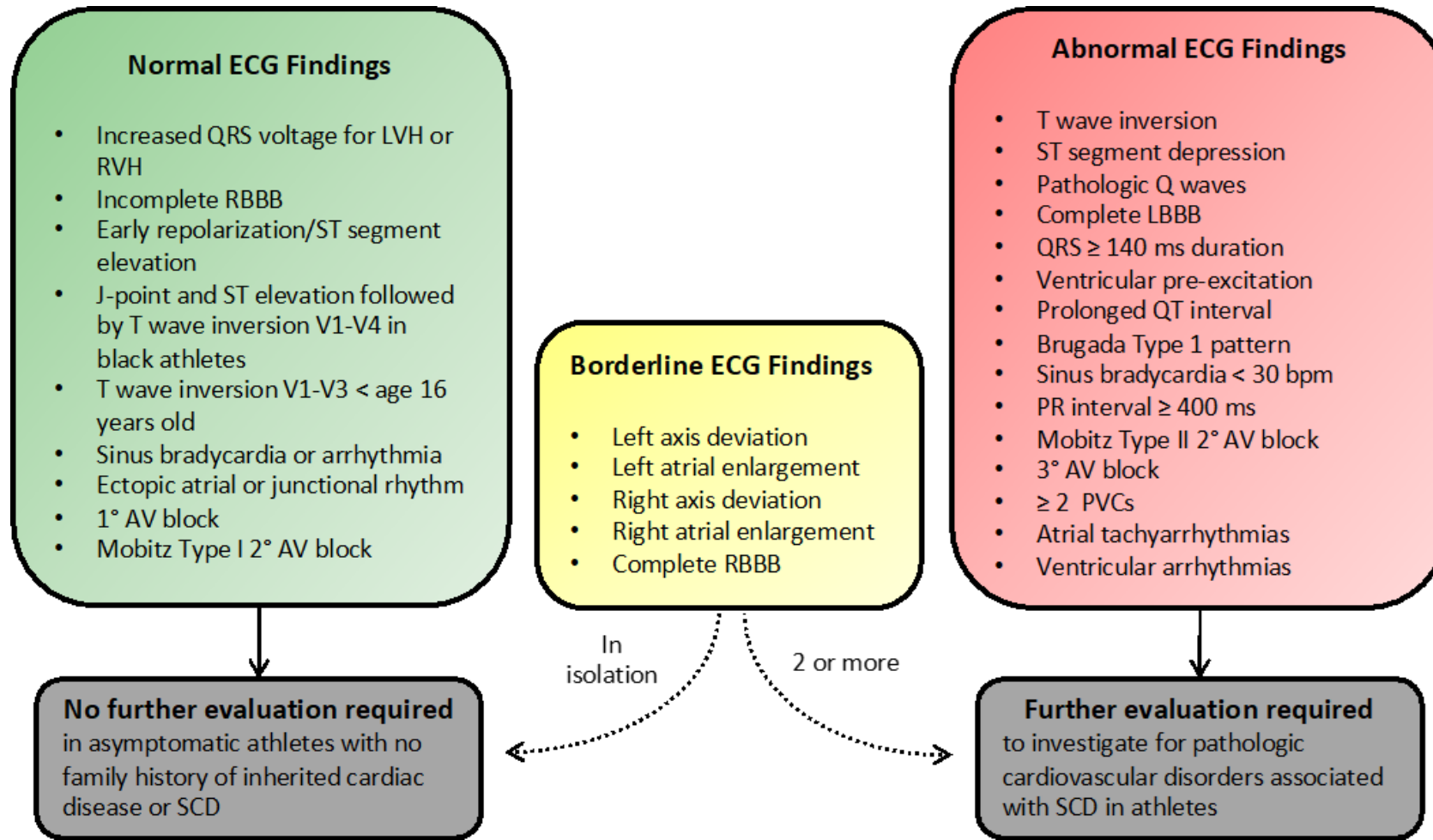
# The Evolution of ECG Interpretation Criteria



	ESC 2005	ESC 2010	Seattle Criteria	International Criteria
False Positive Rate	15-20%	10-15%	3-6%	1-2%



# 2017 International recommendations



# The good, the bad and the uncertain

	<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>Specificity</b>	<b>Utility</b>
HCM	+++	+++	Good
LQTS	+	++/+++	OK
ARVC	+	+	Poor
Anomalous coronaries	++/+++	-	Poor
Brugada	+	++	Poor



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Outcomes of Cardiac Screening in Adolescent Soccer Players

Aneil Malhotra, M.B., B.Chir., Ph.D., Harshil Dhutia, M.B., B.S.,  
Gherardo Finocchiaro, M.D., Sabiha Gati, M.B., B.S., Ph.D.,  
Ian Beasley, M.B., B.S., Paul Clift, M.B., B.S., M.D., Charlotte Cowie, M.B., B.S.,  
Antoinette Kenny, M.B., B.S., M.D., Jamil Mayet, M.B., B.S., M.D.,  
David Oxborough, Ph.D., Kiran Patel, M.B., B.Chir., Ph.D.,  
Guido Pieves, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Dhruvo Rakhit, M.B., B.S., Ph.D.,  
David Ramsdale, M.B., B.S., M.D., Leonard Shapiro, M.B., B.S., M.D.,  
John Somauroo, M.B., B.S., Graham Stuart, M.B., Ch.B.,  
Amanda Varnava, M.B., Chir.B., M.D., John Walsh, M.B., B.S., D.M.,  
Zaheer Yousef, M.B., B.S., M.D., Maite Tome, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Michael Papadakis, M.B., B.S., M.D., and Sanjay Sharma, M.B., Ch.B., M.D.

## ABSTRACT

- 11,168 English 15-17yr old soccer player
- Mandatory H&P, ECG and Echo
- 20 yr study period
- 225 (2%) with congenital, valve disorders
- 42 (0.38%) with findings assoc with SCA



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Outcomes of Cardiac Screening  
in Adolescent Soccer Players

Aneil Malhotra, M.B., B.Chir., Ph.D., Harshil Dhutia, M.B., B.S.,  
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Michael Papadakis, M.B., B.S., M.D., and Sanjay Sharma, M.B., Ch.B., M.D.

## ABSTRACT

23 died

8 deaths from cardiac causes

7 (88%) due to cardiomyopathy

**6** were not identified by screening





**Table 3.** Characteristics of Athletes with Sudden Cardiac Death.

Athlete No.	Sex and Age	Race*	Years from Screening to Death	Diagnosis	Initial Screening Result	Blind Reading (Reviewer 1)	Blind Reading (Reviewer 2)
1	M, 16.8 yr	Black	0.1	Idiopathic left ventricular hypertrophy	Negative	Negative	Negative
2	M, 16.6 yr	Mixed	1.0	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Abnormal ECG and echocardiogram	NA	NA
3	M, 16.6 yr	Black	3.3	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Negative	Negative	Negative
4	M, 16.3 yr	Black	7.7	Dilated cardiomyopathy	Negative	Negative	Negative
5	M, 17.0 yr	White	7.9	Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy	Negative	Negative	Negative
6	M, 17.2 yr	White	9.7	Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy	Negative	Negative	Negative
7	M, 15.7 yr	White	11.5	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Abnormal ECG and echocardiogram	NA	NA
8	M, 16.8 yr	White	13.2	Sudden arrhythmic death syndrome	Negative	Negative	Negative

\* Race was reported by the athlete or the parent or guardian.

Improvement in diagnosis  
 - No improvement in survival –  
 Potential risk of harm



## Electrocardiogram interpretation in NCAA athletes: Comparison of the 'Seattle' and 'International' criteria

Nicola Hyde, MD<sup>a</sup>, Jordan M. Prutkin, MD, MHS<sup>b</sup>, Jonathan A. Drezner, MD<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Family Medicine, Sports Medicine Section, University of Washington, United States of America

<sup>b</sup> Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Washington, United States of America



- 5,258 NCAA athletes (73% White, 16% Black)
- 1.6% abnormal by International Criteria; 1.3% false positive (overall)

Hyde N. *J Electrocardiol* 2019.

- 11,168 soccer players
- 1.8% abnormal by International Criteria; 1.5% false positive (overall)

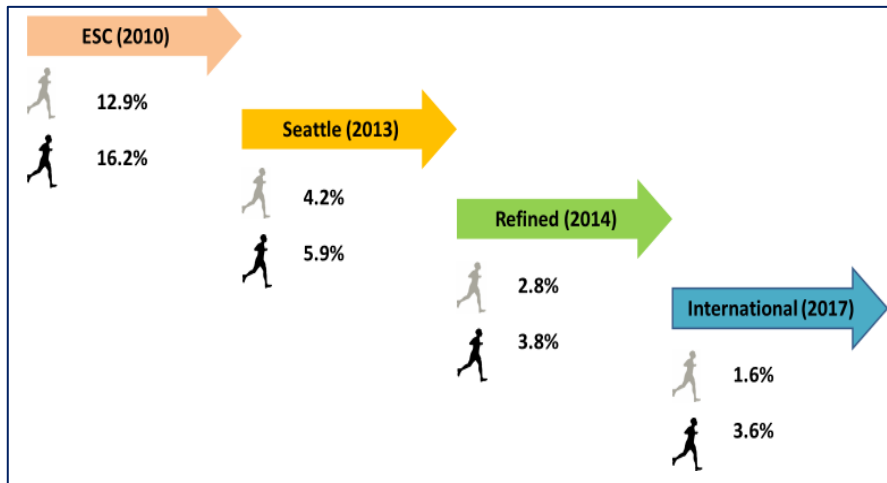
British Journal of  
**Sports Medicine**

Accuracy of the 2017 international recommendations for clinicians who interpret adolescent athletes' ECGs: a cohort study of 11 168 British white and black soccer players

Aneil Malhotra ,<sup>1</sup> Harshil Dhutia,<sup>1</sup> Tee-Joo Yeo,<sup>1,2</sup> Gherardo Finocchiaro,<sup>1</sup> Sabiha Gati,<sup>1,3</sup> Paulo Bulleros,<sup>1</sup> Zephyr Fanton,<sup>1</sup> Efstathios Papatheodorou,<sup>1</sup> Chris Miles,<sup>1</sup> Tracey Keteepe-Arachi, Joyee Basu,<sup>1</sup> Gemma Parry-Williams,<sup>1</sup> Keerthi Prakash,<sup>1</sup> Belinda Gray,<sup>1</sup> Andrew D'Silva ,<sup>1</sup> Bode Ensam,<sup>1</sup> Elijah Behr,<sup>1</sup> Maite Tome,<sup>1</sup> Michael Papadakis,<sup>1</sup> Sanjay Sharma<sup>1</sup>

- 1.4% White vs. 3.3% Black false positive
- 95% Male
- 91% White vs. 9% Black

Malhotra A. *Br J Sports Med* 2019.



# Electrocardiographic Findings in National Basketball Association Athletes

Table 2. Abnormal Electrocardiographic (ECG) Findings

Abnormal ECG Classification	No. (%)			P Value
	Total Athletes (n = 519)	Racial/Ethnic Subgroups		
		African American (n = 409)	White (n = 96)	
Seattle criteria	151 (25.2)	103 (25.2)	23 (24.0)	.90
Refined criteria	108 (20.8)	87 (21.2)	16 (16.6)	
International recommendations	81 (15.6)	65 (15.8)	11 (11.5)	.34
<b>Abnormal ECG findings</b>				
Short QT Interval (QTc <320 ms)	0	0	0	.99
Long QT Interval (QTc >470 ms)	4 (0.8)	4 (0.9)	4 (4.2)	.98
Left bundle branch block	0	0 (0.2)	0	.99
Intraventricular conduction delay <sup>a</sup>	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	0	.74
Q waves <sup>b</sup>	3 (0.6)	1 (0.2)	2 (2.1)	.32
ST-segment depression <sup>c</sup>	9 (1.7)	9 (2.2)	0	.22
Abnormal T-wave inversion <sup>d</sup>	32 (6.2)	27 (6.6)	3 (3.1)	.24
Ventricular preexcitation <sup>e</sup>	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	0	.99
Frequent premature ventricular contraction (>2)	2 (0.4)	2 (0.5)	0	.99
≥2 Borderline findings	29 (5.6)	22 (5.4)	6 (6.3)	.91
<b>Borderline ECG findings<sup>f</sup></b>				
Left atrial enlargement	69 (13.3)	53 (13.0)	13 (13.5)	.87
Right atrial enlargement	46 (8.9)	40 (9.8)	6 (6.3)	.33
QRS axis deviation	21 (4.0)	15 (3.7)	6 (6.3)	.26
Right bundle branch block	25 (4.8)	20 (4.9)	4 (4.2)	.99

409/519 = 78%

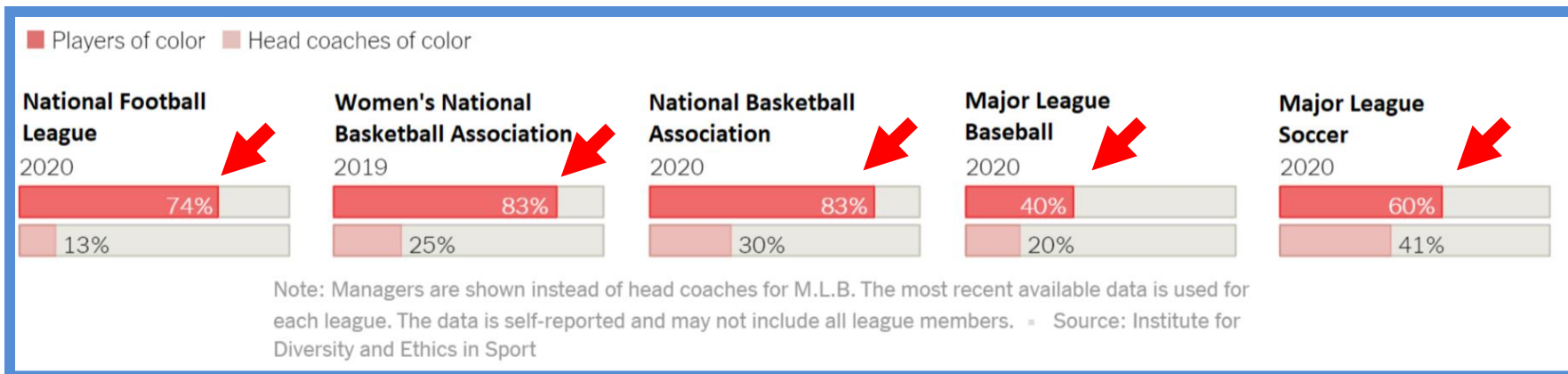
11/519 = 2%

65/519 = 12.5%

**CONSIDER UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES**



# Applications in a Diverse population



# ECG utility Issues & possible solutions

## **False positives (a low % is acceptable and inevitable):**

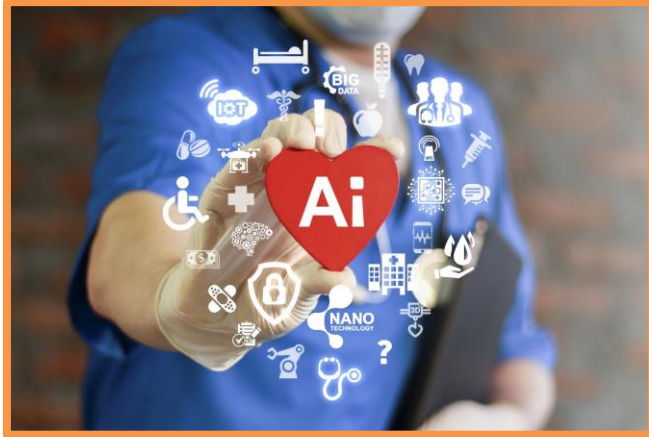
- Further refining the criteria based on new evidence
- Better education
- Use of artificial intelligence?

## **False negatives (unacceptable and dangerous):**

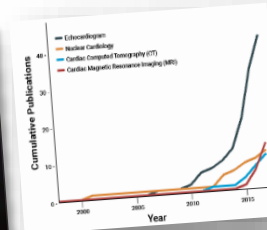
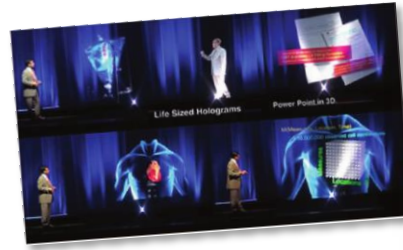
- Further refining the criteria based on new evidence
- Repeat the ECG periodically (particularly in the peri-pubertal phase)
- Use of artificial intelligence?



# AI in Cardiology



## Intelligent Platforms for Disease Assessment Novel Approaches in Functional Echocardiography



## Machine Learning for Data-Driven Discovery The Rise and Relevance\*

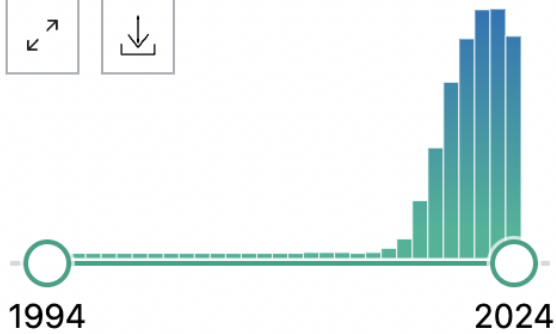
## Predicting Preclinical Heart Failure Progression The Rise of Machine-Learning for Population Health\*

## Enforcing Quality in Strain Imaging Through AI-Powered Surveillance\*

## Building Trust in AI Opportunities and Challenges for Cardiac Imaging

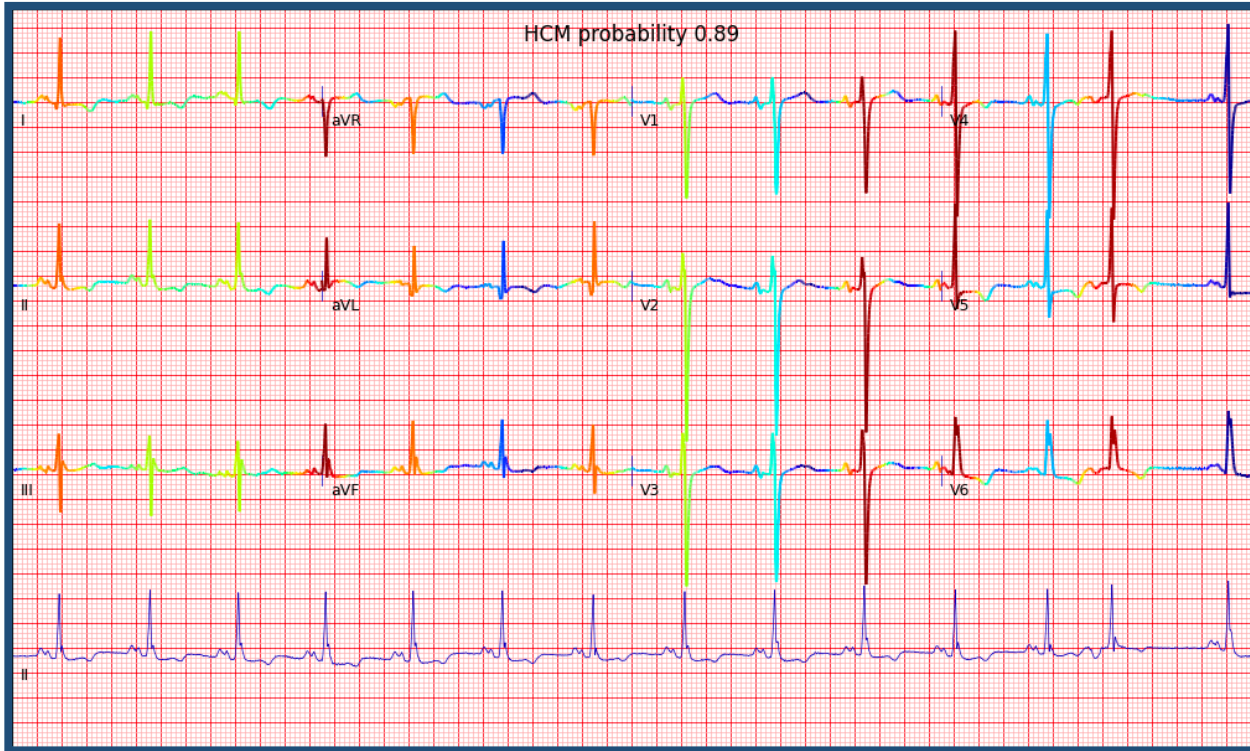
## Automated Interpretation of Myocardial Perfusion Images Tell Me AI Where to Look\*

## Imaging With Deep Learning Sharpening the Cutting Edge



850 HCM patients  
MMC Database

80% accuracy  
99% specific  
68% sensitive

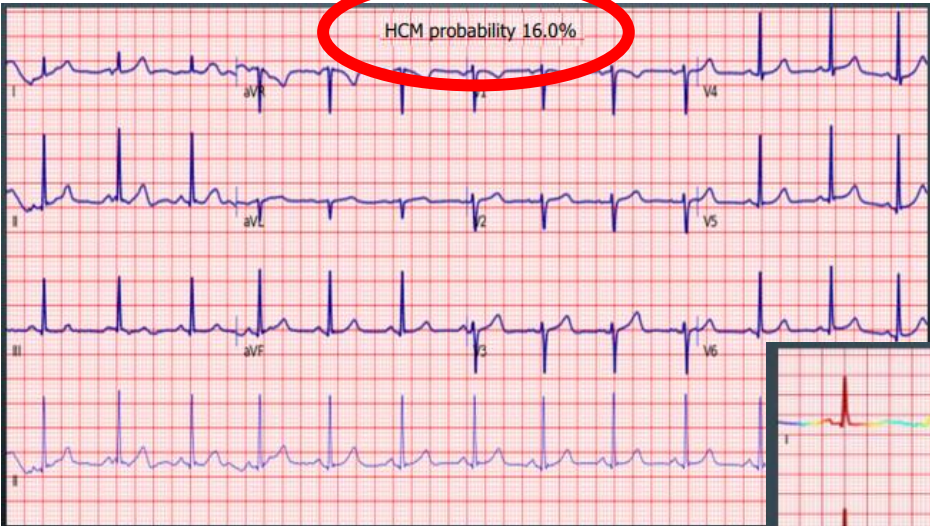


### Viz HCM Algorithm Performance By Race

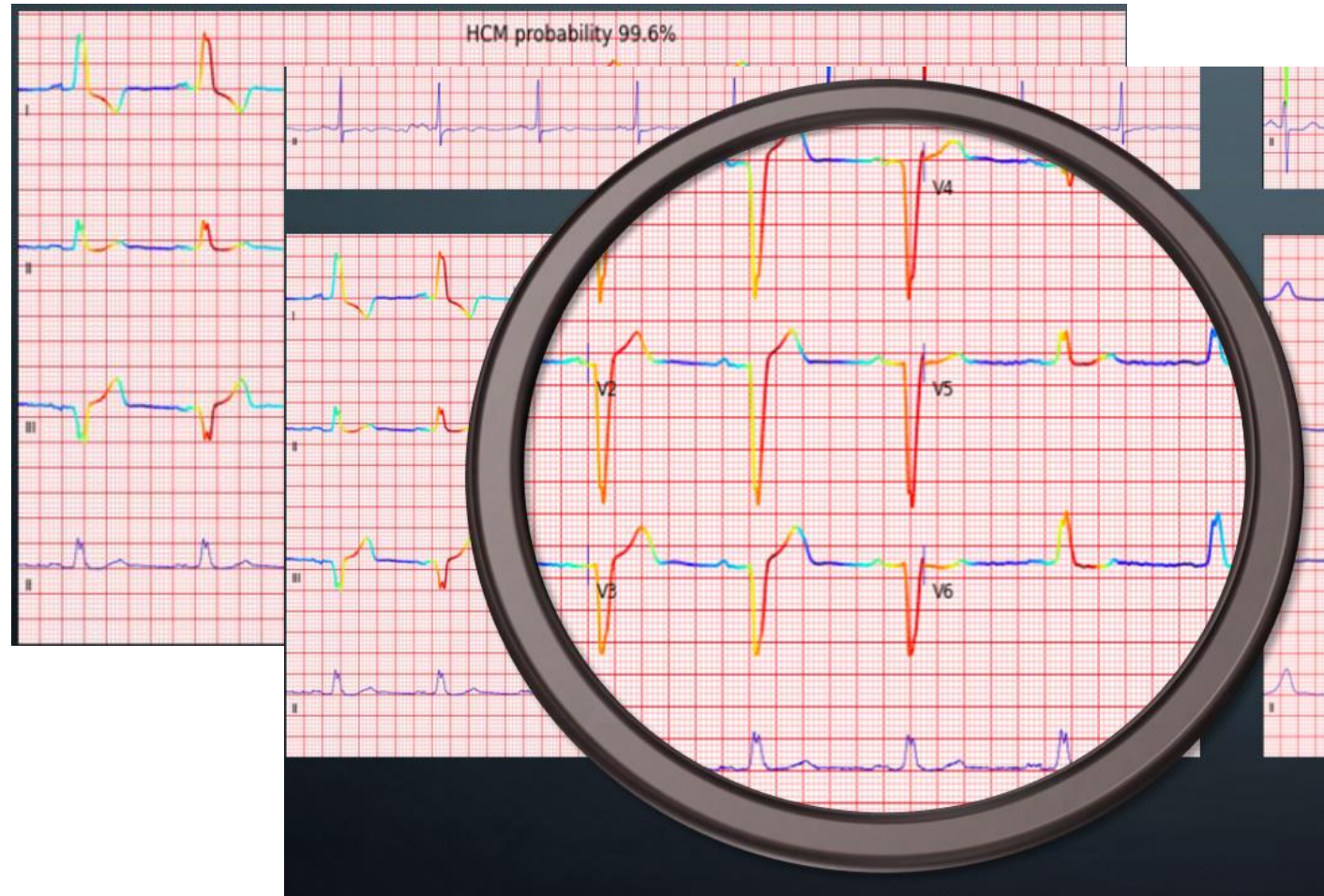
	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	WHITE
<b>AUC:</b>	0.987	0.981	1.000	0.972
<b>Sensitivity:</b>	73.3%	64.5%	100%	66.8%
<b>Specificity:</b>	98.9%	99.2%	98.2%	99.1%

AUC\* = area under the curve  
PPV\* = positive predictive value  
Source: FDA filing

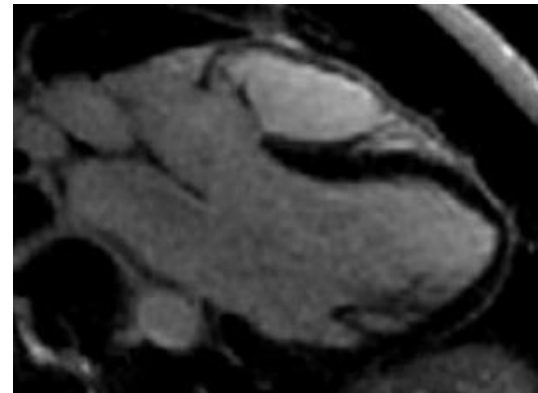
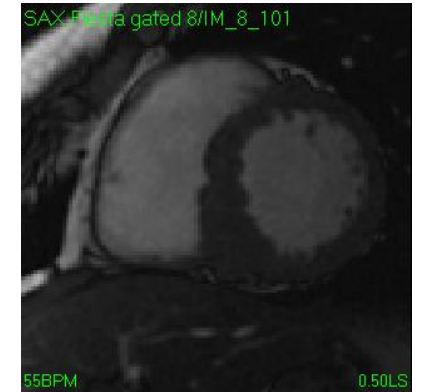
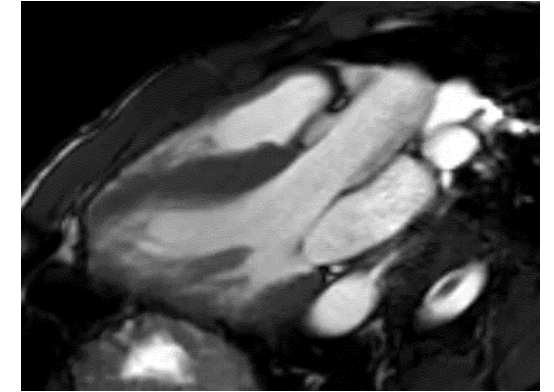
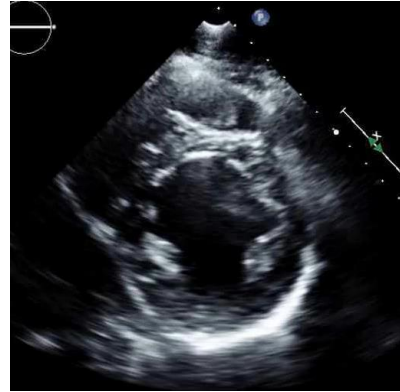
**OVERALL:** Sensitivity: 68.4%; Specificity: 99.1%; PPV 13.7%





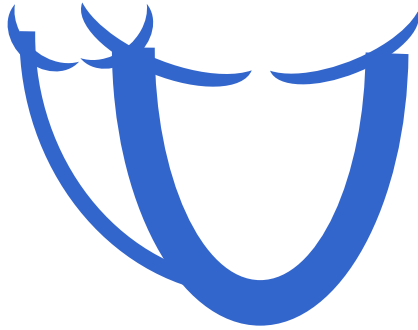


# Cardiac Imaging



# Athlete Structural Changes

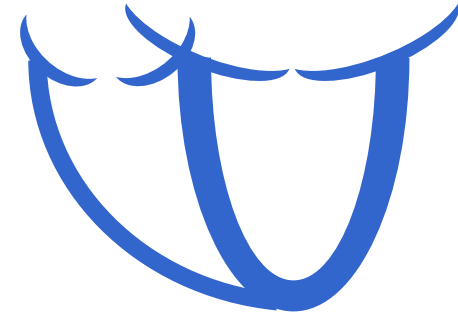
**Left Chamber  
Dilation**



**Myocardial  
Thickening**

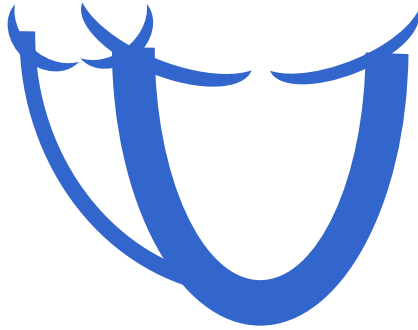


**Right Chamber  
Dilation**



# Athlete Structural Changes

**Left Chamber  
Dilation**



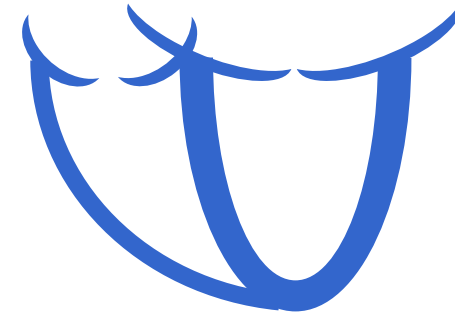
***Physiologic  
LVH***

**Myocardial  
Thickening**



***Physiologic  
cLVH, eLVH***

**Right Chamber  
Dilation**

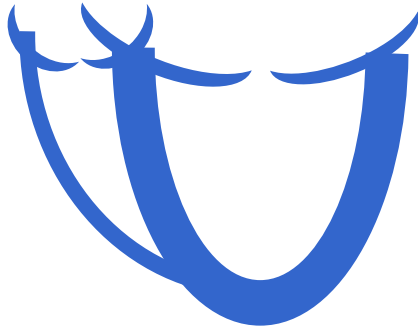


***Physiologic  
RV Dilation***



# Athlete Structural Changes

**Left Chamber  
Dilation**



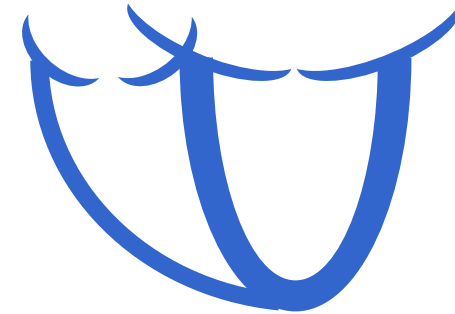
***Physiologic  
LVH***

**Myocardial  
Thickening**



***Physiologic  
cLVH, eLVH***

**Right Chamber  
Dilation**



***Physiologic  
RV Dilation***

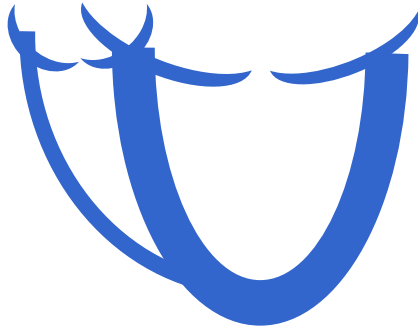
---

**Gray-Zone**



# Athlete Structural Changes

**Left Chamber  
Dilation**



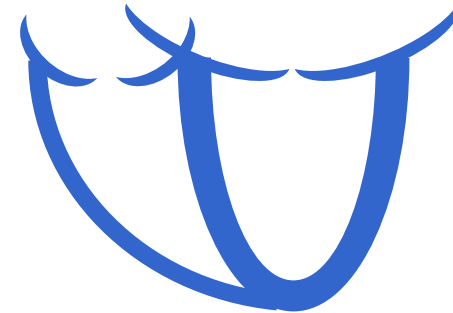
*Physiologic  
LVH*

**Myocardial  
Thickening**



*Physiologic  
cLVH, eLVH*

**Right Chamber  
Dilation**



*Physiologic  
RV Dilation*

---

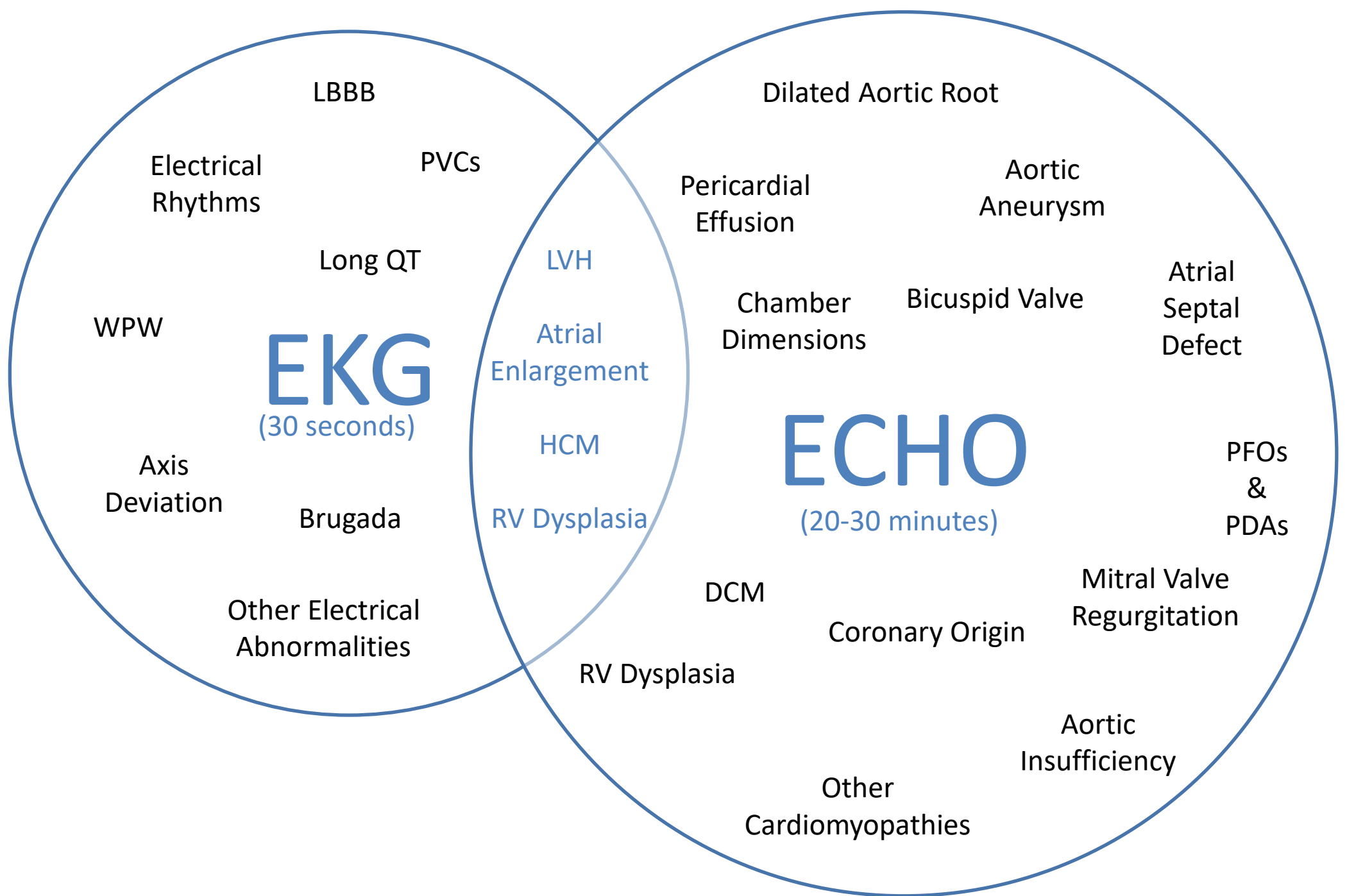
**DCM**  
**Valvular Heart  
Disease**

**HCM**  
**Hypertensive  
Infiltrative**

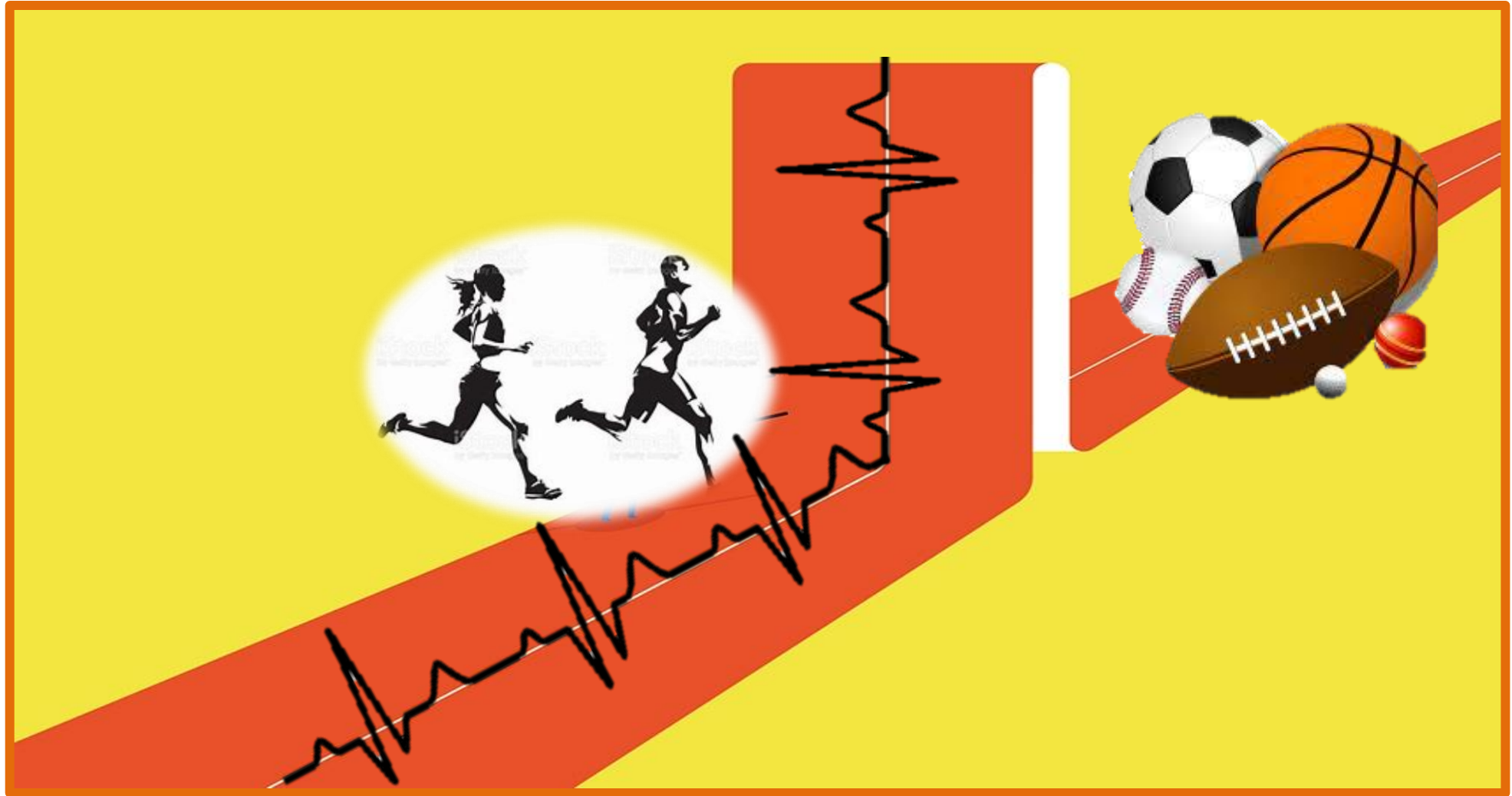
**ARVC**



# Screening findings: EKG vs ECHO

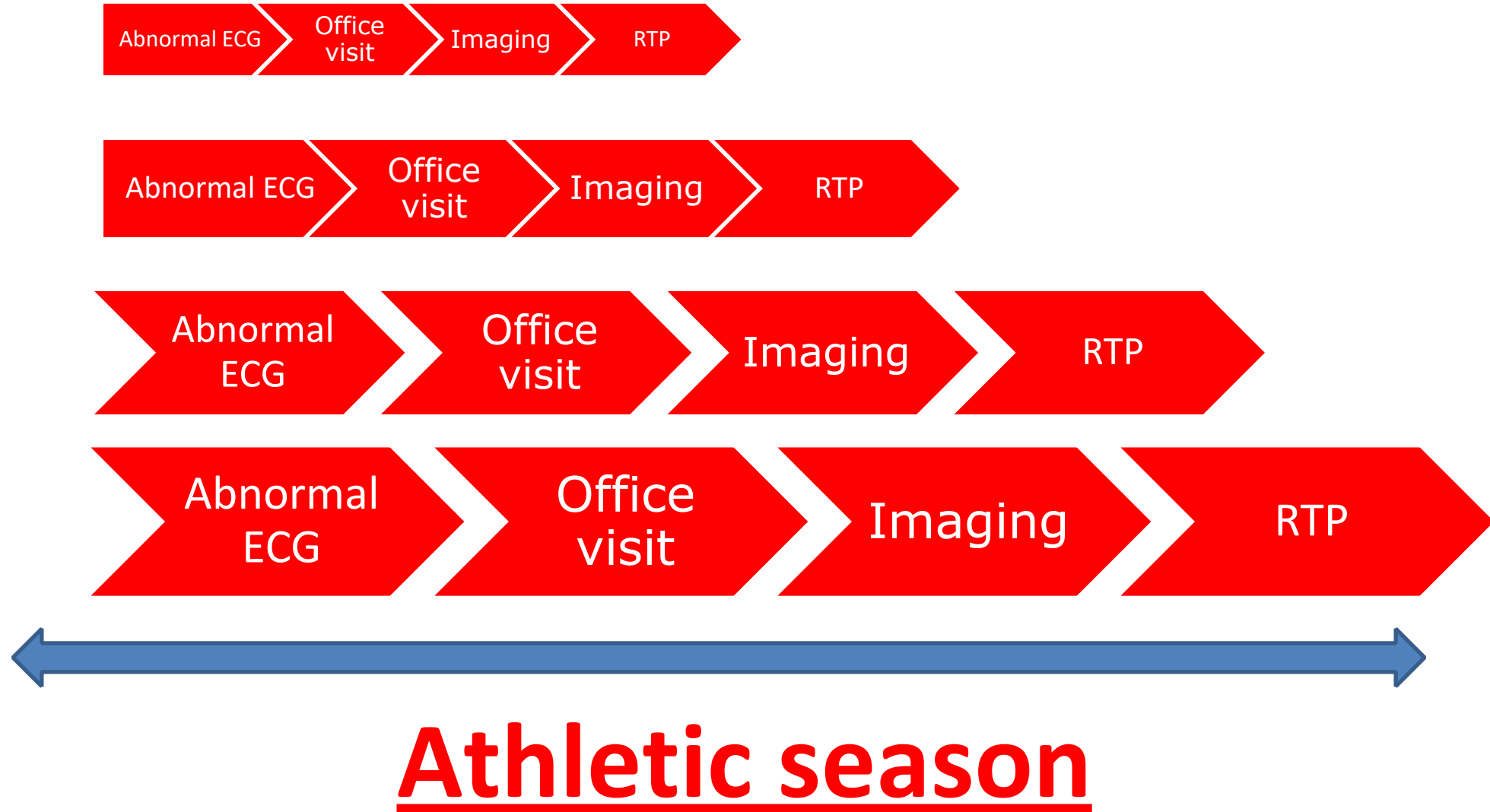


# Barriers to Participation





# Athlete assessment



# Athlete Screening

- Here to stay – ECG most often included.
- Echo imaging for higher risk groups
- Age to start? How often? Repeat?
- Expert review
  - Who, When, How to handle any findings?
- **Goals?**
  - Safety, disqualification, medical/legal?
    - Diagnosis →
      - Risk assessment →
        - Develop a surveillance/safety plan



# Purpose of CV Screening

POSITION STATEMENT

AMSSM Position Statement on Cardiovascular  
Preparticipation Screening in Athletes: Current Evidence,  
Knowledge Gaps, Recommendations, and  
Future Directions

*Jonathan A. Drezner, MD,\* Francis G. O'Connor, MD, MPH,† Kimberly G. Harmon, MD,\*  
Karl B. Fields, MD,‡ Chad A. Asplund, MD,§ Irfan M. Asif, MD,¶ David E. Price, MD,||  
Robert J. Dimeff, MD,\*\*††‡‡ David T. Bernhardt, MD,§§¶¶ and William O. Roberts, MD, MS|||*



- The primary goal of cardiovascular screening in competitive athletes is to identify cardiac disorders predisposing to SCA/D with the intent of **mitigating risk through individualized, patient-centered and disease-specific medical management.**



# Eligibility Recommendations

## Playing with Cardiovascular Disease

European Heart Journal (2005) 26, 1422–1445  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehi325

ESC Report

**Recommendations for competitive sports participation in athletes with cardiovascular disease**

A consensus document from the Study Group of Sports Cardiology of the Working Group of Cardiac Rehabilitation and Exercise Physiology and the Working Group of Myocardial and Pericardial Diseases of the European Society of Cardiology

Antonio Pelliccia<sup>1\*</sup>, Robert Fagard<sup>2</sup>, Hans Halvor Bjørnstad<sup>3</sup>, Aris Anastassakis<sup>4</sup>, Eloisa Arbustini<sup>5</sup>, Deodato Assanelli<sup>6</sup>, Alessandro Biffi<sup>1</sup>, Mats Borjesson<sup>7</sup>, François Carré<sup>8</sup>, Domenico Corrado<sup>9</sup>, Pietro Delise<sup>10</sup>, Uwe Dorwarth<sup>11</sup>, Asle Hirth<sup>3</sup>, Hein Heidbuchel<sup>12</sup>, Ellen Hoffmann<sup>11</sup>, Klaus P. Mellwig<sup>13</sup>, Nicole Panhuyzen-Goedkoop<sup>14</sup>, Angela Pisani<sup>5</sup>, Erik E. Solberg<sup>15</sup>, Frank van-Buuren<sup>13</sup>, and Luc Vanhees<sup>2</sup>



Moving away from:  
“Disqualification”  
“Ineligible”  
“Not allowed”

Journal of the American College of Cardiology  
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Published by Elsevier Inc.

Vol. 45, No. 8, 2005  
ISSN 0735-1097/05/\$30.00  
doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2005.02.006

**36TH BETHESDA CONFERENCE**

Introduction: Eligibility  
Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With  
Cardiovascular Abnormalities—General Considerations

Barry J. Maron, MD, FACC, *Co-Chair*  
Douglas P. Zipes, MD, MACC, *Co-Chair*

2005



# Eligibility Recommendations

## Playing with Cardiovascular Disease

European Heart Journal (2005) 26, 1422–1445  
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ESC Report

### Recommendations for competitive sports participation in athletes with cardiovascular disease

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### 36TH BETHESDA CONFERENCE

#### Introduction: Eligibility Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities—General Considerations

Barry J. Maron, MD, FACC, *Co-Chair*  
Douglas P. Zipes, MD, MACC, *Co-Chair*

2005



ESC  
European Society of Cardiology  
European Heart Journal (2019) 40, 19–33  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehy730

SPECIAL ARTICLE  
Sports cardiology

### Recommendations for participation in competitive and leisure time sport in athletes with cardiomyopathies, myocarditis, and pericarditis: position statement of the Sport Cardiology Section of the European Association of Preventive Cardiology (EAPC)

Antonio Pelliccia<sup>1\*</sup>, Erik Elcker Solberg<sup>2</sup>, Michael Papadakis<sup>3</sup>, Paolo Emilio Adami<sup>1,4</sup>, Alessandro Biffi<sup>1</sup>, Stefano Caselli<sup>5</sup>, André La Gerche<sup>6</sup>, Josef Niebauer<sup>7</sup>, Axel Pressler<sup>8,9</sup>, Christian M. Schmied<sup>10</sup>, Luis Serratos<sup>11,12</sup>, Martin Halle<sup>8,9</sup>, Frank Van Buuren<sup>13</sup>, Mats Borjesson<sup>14,15</sup>, François Carré<sup>16</sup>, Nicole M. Panhuyzen-Goedkoop<sup>17,18</sup>, Hein Heidbuchel<sup>19,20</sup>, Iacopo Olivetto<sup>21</sup>, Domenico Corrado<sup>22</sup>, Gianfranco Sinagra<sup>23</sup>, and Sanjay Sharma<sup>24</sup>

2019

### AHA/ACC Scientific Statement

#### Eligibility and Disqualification Recommendations for Competitive Athletes With Cardiovascular Abnormalities: Task Force 3: Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy, Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy and Other Cardiomyopathies, and Myocarditis

A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology

Barry J. Maron, MD, FACC, Chair; James E. Udelson, MD, FAHA, FACC; Robert O. Bonow, MD, MS, FAHA, MACC; Rieck A. Nishimura, MD, FAHA, MACC; Michael J. Ackerman, MD, PhD; NA. Mark Estes III, MD, FACC; Leslie T. Cooper, Jr, MD, FAHA, FACC; Mark S. Link, MD, FACC; Martin S. Maron, MD, FACC; on behalf of the American Heart Association Electrocardiography and Arrhythmias Committee of the Council on Clinical Cardiology, Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young, Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing, Council on Functional Genomics and Translational Biology, and the American College of Cardiology

2015

Guidelines now indicate we need **more than yes or no.**  
-> Advocate risk assessment



## CLINICAL SCIENCES

*clinical commentary*

# The medical care of competitive athletes: the role of the physician and individual assumption of risk

BENJAMIN D. LEVINE and JAMES STRAY-GUNDERSEN

*Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine,  
Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas,  
The Baylor/UT Southwestern Sports Science Laboratory, and  
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas*

LEVINE, B. D. and J. STRAY-GUNDERSEN. The medical care of competitive athletes: the role of the physician and individual assumption of risk. *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.*, Vol. 26, No. 10, pp. 1190–1192, 1994.



# LQTS

Return to play? Athletes with congenital long QT syndrome

Jonathan N Johnson,<sup>1</sup> Michael J Ackerman<sup>1,2,3</sup>

*BJSM* 2013

- Low rate of cardiac events and no deaths in over 650 athlete-years of follow-up

Sports Participation in Genotype Positive Children With Long QT Syndrome

Peter F. Aziz, MD,\* Tammy Sweeten, MS,† Ramon L. Vogel, MD,† William J. Bonney, MD,†  
Jacqueline Henderson, RN,† Akash R. Patel, MD,† Maully J. Shah, MBBS†

*JACC* 2015

- No cardiac events and no deaths in **treatment-compliant** children with LQTS in 755 patient-years of follow-up

Shared Decision-Making in Cardiovascular Disease



## AHA/ACC CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE


## 2020 AHA/ACC Guideline for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients With Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines

COR	LOE	RECOMMENDATIONS
1	B-NR	1. For most patients with HCM, <u>mild- to moderate-intensity recreational* exercise is beneficial to improve cardiorespiratory fitness, physical functioning, and quality of life, and for their overall health in keeping with physical activity guidelines for the general population (1-3).</u>
1	C-EO	2. For athletes with HCM, <u>a comprehensive evaluation and shared discussion of potential risks of sports participation by an expert provider is recommended (4).</u>
2a	C-EO	3. For most patients with HCM, participation in low-intensity competitive sports is reasonable (5,6).
2b	C-LD	5. For patients with HCM, participation in high-intensity recreational activities or moderate- to high-intensity <u>competitive sports activities may be considered after a comprehensive evaluation and shared discussion, repeated annually with an expert provider who conveys that the risk of sudden death and ICD shocks may be increased, and with the understanding that eligibility decisions for competitive sports participation often involve third parties (c.g., team physicians, consultants, and other institutional leadership) acting on behalf of the schools or teams (4,7-11).</u>





A large crowd of stylized human figures in various colors (dark blue, light blue, orange, white) is shown. The figures are simple, flat shapes with rounded heads and limbs. One figure in the center is white and stands out from the rest. The background is a gradient of dark blue to light blue.

**Grouping populations that have widely varying risks can result in inaccurate or even misleading assessments**



**Baylor's Jared Butler medically cleared to play in NBA: Sources**

By **Shams Charania** and The Athletic Staff  
July 17, 2021 Updated 7:21 PM EDT

8 Comments

**For 4 NBA players with serious heart ailments, a fraternity has helped get them through it**

**Some young athletes with heart disease cleared to play under new recommendations**

By AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION NEWS



**Cleared by cardiologists, Sierra Leone's Alhaji Kamara joins D.C. United**

By **Steven Goff**  
May 10, 2016

D.C. United has acquired Alhaji Kamara, a forward from Sierra Leone whose career was jeopardized by a heart condition this winter.

In the past week, the MLS cardiology consultant and a heart specialist at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital examined Kamara and determined that he could resume playing soccer, United General Manager Dave Kasper said Tuesday.

With medical clearance, United finalized a deal with Kamara's previous employer, IFK Norrkoping of Sweden. D.C. did not pay a transfer fee but will compensate the Swedish team if Kamara, 22, meets performance incentives or is sold in the future.

NBA NHL

**Clint Dempsey cleared to play again after heart problems**

- Seattle Sounders striker missed end of last season with medical condition
- Dempsey says he hopes to make return to US national team soon

**Michigan DT Maurice Hurst, potential first-round pick, cleared to play after heart condition diagnosis**

Frank Schwab  
Shutdown Corner March 22, 2018

Follow



# Care of the Athlete

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY  
© 2017 BY THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY FOUNDATION  
PUBLISHED BY ELSEVIER

VOL. 69, NO. 11, 2017  
ISSN 0735-1097/\$36.00  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2017.02.009>

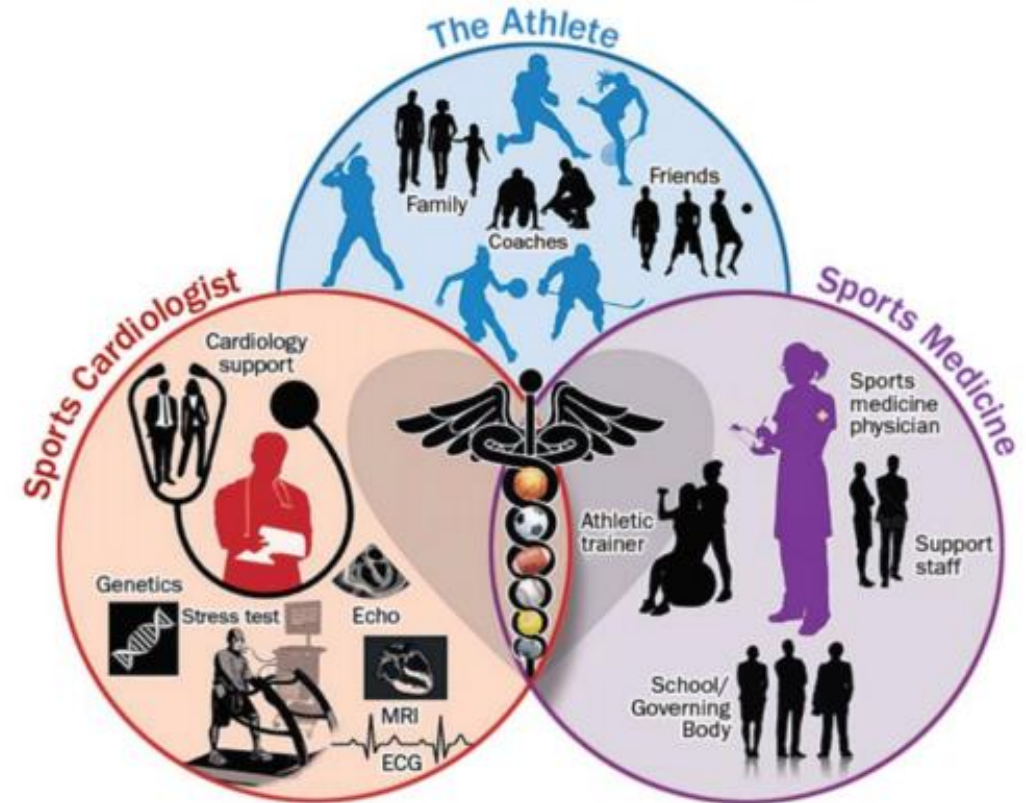
FELLOWS-IN-TRAINING & EARLY CAREER PAGE

## ~~The Emergence of Sports Cardiology as a Specialty~~

Maxwell Eyrar Afari, MD



### Team-based Approach to the Cardiovascular Care of Athletes



### Multidisciplinary Athlete-Centered Care (“Athlete Care Team”) in Evaluating and Managing Athletes at Risk of SCD

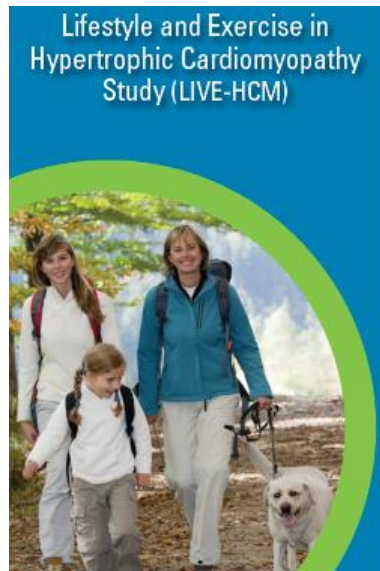
# EXERCISE IN GENETIC CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (LIVE-HCM)

Aim 1: Incidence **arrhythmic events** over 3 years  
Comparison moderate or vigorous exercisers vs sedentary

Aim 2: **Quality of life**  
Comparison moderate or vigorous exercisers vs sedentary

Age 8-60 years, with OR without ICD  
Any level exercise

Enrollment completed January 2019,  
Follow up completed January 2022  
Events adjudication underway  
1753 HCM participants



NIH R01 HL125918-01

# Outcome Registry for Cardiac Conditions in Athletes

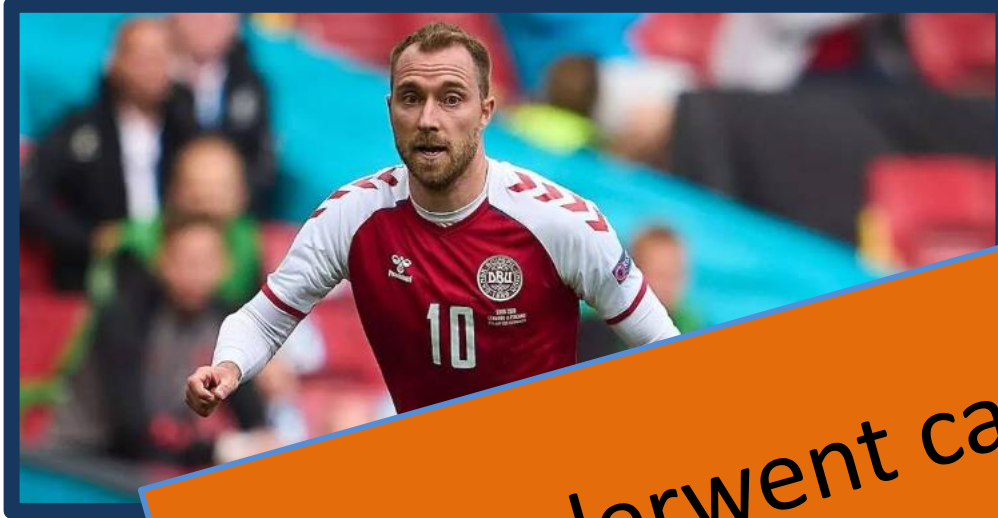


# ORCCA



# Christian Eriksen returns to Denmark squad for 1st time since collapse

Denmark plays a friendly away against the Netherlands on March 26 and hosts Serbia on March 27, before preparing for the World Cup in Qatar in November.



# Keyontae Johnson 2020 collapse



All underwent cardiac screening



Bronny James



Damar Hamlin



# Cardiac Care of the Athlete: New Frontier or refining the focus?

- Both!
- Refining the focus
  - Athlete natural history and longitudinal follow up
  - Risk assessment knowledge and development of tools
  - Improving access to experts in the field in a timely manner
- New frontier
  - Athlete evaluations and RTP decision making
  - Better understanding of SDM (applications, uniformity)
  - On field safety



# Thank you

Matthew W. Martinez, MD FACC  
Sports Cardiology Medical Director  
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