## (V.) Signal detection by PowerLab system instruction (VII.) Examination of pulse by palpation

Physiology I - practicals

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## Biosignal

- Signal which is produced by living systems
- According to physical properties:
  - Mechanical (e.g. pulse wave, arterial blood pressure)
  - Electrical (e.g. electrocardiography, electroencephalography)
  - Acoustic (e.g. heart sounds)
  - Chemical (e.g. partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Optical (e.g. saturation of haemoglobin by pulse oximetry)

## Biosignal detection and recording Teaching system PowerLab

- PowerLab is complete system for acquisition and assessment of biosignals
- Fundamental part of the system is amplifier connected to various sensors
- Examined person should be informed about the procedure and be prepared for examination

## Pulse (pulsus)

- Mechanical manifestation of heart activity
- Mechanical wave (**pulse wave**) arises after each contraction of LV and propagates along the arterial wall

## Palpation of pulse

- Where:
  - A. radialis
  - A. carotis
  - A. femoralis
  - A. brachialis
  - A. poplitea
  - A. tibialis posterior
  - A. dorsalis pedis



## Examination of pulse

- Frequency: number of pulses per one minute = **pulse rate**
- Qualities: regularity, compressibility
- According qualities, we can describe:
  - Pulsus regularis
  - Pulsus irregularis
  - Pulsus celer (Corrigan's pulse: P. celer, altus, frequens)
  - Pulsus tardus
  - Pulsus durus hardly compressible pulse hypertension
  - Pulsus mollis easily compressible pulse hypotension
  - *Pulsus magnus* high amplitude of pulse
  - Pulsus parvus small amplitude of pulse
  - Pulsus filiformis threadlike pulse circulatory failure

#### Heart rate

- Physiological values: 60 100 beats per minute (BPM)
- Tachycardia: increased heart rate
- Bradycardia: decreased heart rate

# Modulation of HR by autonomic nervous system (ANS)

- ANS modulates heart automaticity by modulation of SA node activity
  - Parasympathetic system vagus nerve "nervi retardantes"
    - Via M2 receptors
    - Negative chronotropic effect
    - Decreased tonus of vagus nerve = increased HR
  - Sympathetic system sympathetic cardiac nerves "nervi accelerantes"
    - via β1 receptors
    - Positive chronotropic effect
    - Increased sympathetic activity = increased HR

## Baroreflex

- Mechanism for rapid control of arterial pressure
- Mean arterial pressure (MAP) is detected by baroreceptors in aortic arch and carotic sinus
  - stretch-receptors (mechanoreceptors)
- Afferent fibres: vagus nerve (n. X.)
- Centre: rostral part of nucleus solitarius in medulla oblongata
- Efferent fibres: parasympathetic fibres of vagus nerve (+ SS)
- Mechanism: ↓MAP ↓afferentation from baroreceptors processing - ↓vagus tonus (+ ↑sympathetic tonus) - ↑HR - ↑MAP



## Respiratory arrhythmia

- Changes of heart rate in accordance with breathing
- During inspiration ↓ intrathoracic pressure → ↑venous return (due to ↑ pressure gradient) → ↑systolic volume → ↑MAP → baroreflex → ↓HR → ↑ (balance of) MAP
- During expiration, all changes are reversed (**↑HR**)
- Time shift of the effect: Discrepancy between expected and measured changes of heart rate may be caused by reaction time of baroreflex, which is approx. 2 sec. In case of resting breathing, both of inspiration and expiration take approx. 2 sec, as well. Therefore, measured changes of HR may seem to be inverse (phase shifted).

## Zdroje obrázků

- Slide 6 <u>https://www.pinterest.com/pin/144537469264742090/</u> [cited 31.8.2015]
- Slide 6 <u>http://www.angiologist.com/general-medicine/pulse-palpation-and-pulse-location/</u> [cited 31.8.2015]
- Slide 12 <u>http://corposcindosis.wikia.com/wiki/File:Baroreflex.jpg</u> [cited 31.8.2015]
- Slide 14 <u>http://www.cardiachealth.org/postural-orthostatic-tachycardia-syndrome-pots</u> [cited 31.8.2015]