



J. G. Mendel



Sudden cardiac death  
(USA 400.000 deaths/year)

# Paris prospective study

>7000 males followed cca 23 years

Multivariant analysis of relative risk of sudden cardiac death (SCD)

	RR	P
BMI	1,21	0,03
Smoking	1,34	0,0001
Diabetes	2,21	0,02
Heart rate	1,22	0,007
Systolic BP	1,23	0,02
Cholesterol	1,23	0,0001
Fam. history of MI	1,16	-
Family history of SCD		
- in one parent	1,8	0,01
- in both parents	9,4	

# Familial occurrence of SCD in common population

- Being aware of external risk factors shared in a particular family it is obvious that genetically determined variations of physiological processes must exist that increase the risk of SCD.
- In these cases mutations of single genes does not play crucial role. Etiology is much more complicated.

# **Pathophysiology of SCD on molecular level**

- 1) processes of electric impulse creation and propagation in myocardium
- 2) processes and factors of atherosclerotic plaque stability, thrombosis and ischemia in coronary vessels
- 3) central and local control of myocardial excitability and vascular motorics

Hereditary arrhythmic diseases

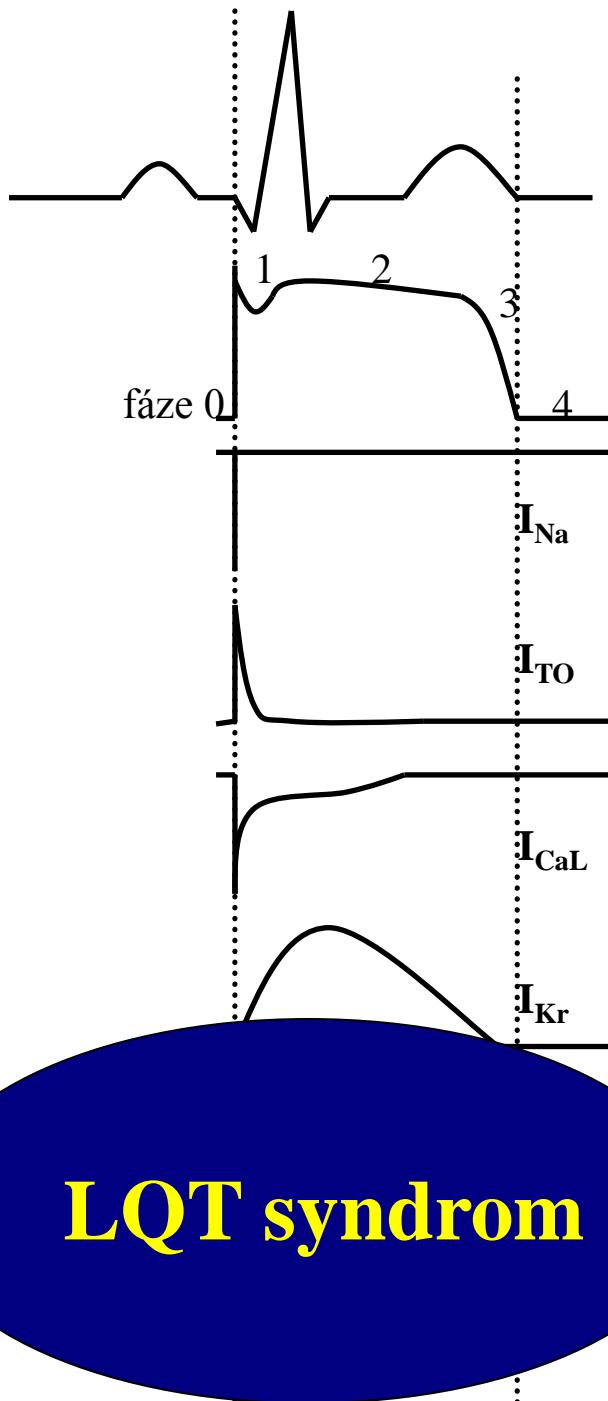
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a model of arrhythmogenesis

# Congenital long QT syndrome (LQTS)

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- prolongation of QT interval on surface ECG
- syncopi or even sudden death due to polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (torsades de pointes)
- structurally normal heart



## **Ion channel genes**

**$\alpha$  subunit**

**SCN5A**

**KCND3, KCNA4**

**CACNA1A**

**KCNH2**

**KCNQ1**

**KCNJ2, KCNJ12**

**$\beta$ - subunit**

**SCN1B**

**CACNB1, B2**

**KCNE2**

**KCNE1**

**LQT syndrom**

# LQTS types - genes and proteins

LQTS typ chromozom gen protein

**Romano - Ward sy (1:10 000)**

LQT 1

## Prevalence of the Congenital Long-QT Syndrome

Peter J. Schwartz, MD\*; Marco Stramba-Badiale, MD, PhD\*; Lia Crotti, MD, PhD;  
Matteo Pedrazzini, PhD; Alessandra Besana, PhD; Giuliano Bosi, MD; Fulvio Gabbarini, MD;  
Karine Goulene, MD, PhD; Roberto Insolia, PhD; Savina Mannarino, MD;  
Fabio Mosca, MD; Luigi Nespoli, MD; Alessandro Rimini, MD; Enrico Rosati, MD;  
Patrizia Salice, MD; Carla Spazzolini, DVM, MS

LQT 2

LQT 3

LQT 4

LQT 5

ECG was performed in 44 596 infants 15 to 25 days old  $\beta$  I<sub>Ks</sub>

LQT 6

(Andersen)

prevalence of at least 1:2534 apparently healthy live births

Jerven - 1

*Conclusions*—This study provides the first data-based estimate of the prevalence of LQTS among whites. On the basis of the nongenotyped infants with QTc betw close to 1:2000. ECG-guided molecular relatives, thus allowing effective preven

Circulation 2009;120:1761-1767

JLN 1

JLN 2

21q22.1-22.2 KCNE1

$\alpha$  I<sub>Ks</sub>

$\alpha$  I<sub>Kr</sub>

$\alpha$  I<sub>Na</sub>

ankyrin B

IIRP ( $\beta$  I<sub>Kr</sub>)

$\alpha$  I<sub>Ks</sub>

$\beta$  I<sub>Ks</sub>

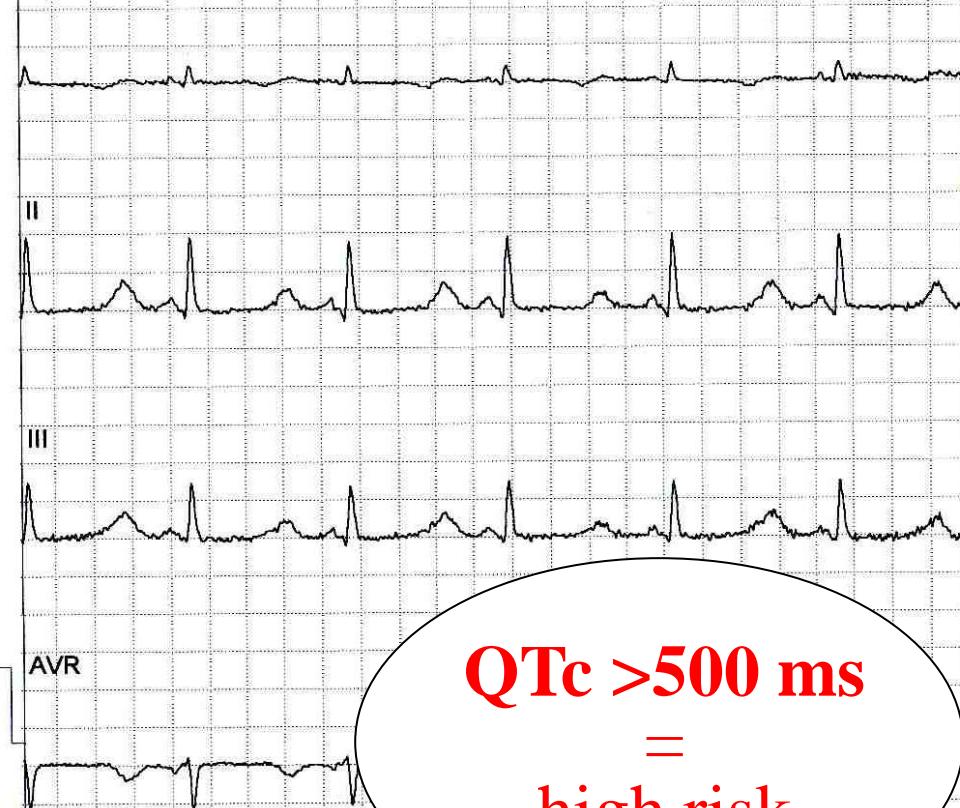
## LQTS diagnostic score (Schwartz et al., 1993)

ECG signs:	A. QT <sub>c</sub> (Bazett) ≥ 480 ms	3
	460 - 470 ms	2
	450 ms in male	1
	B. Torsades de pointes	2
	C. T wave alternans	1
	D. Notched T wave in 3 leads	1
	E. Low heart rate in children	0,5
History	A. Syncope with exercise	2
	without exercise	1
	B. Congenital deafness	0,5
Family H.	A. Direct relative with dg. LQTS	1
	B. Sudden death in family below age 30	0,5

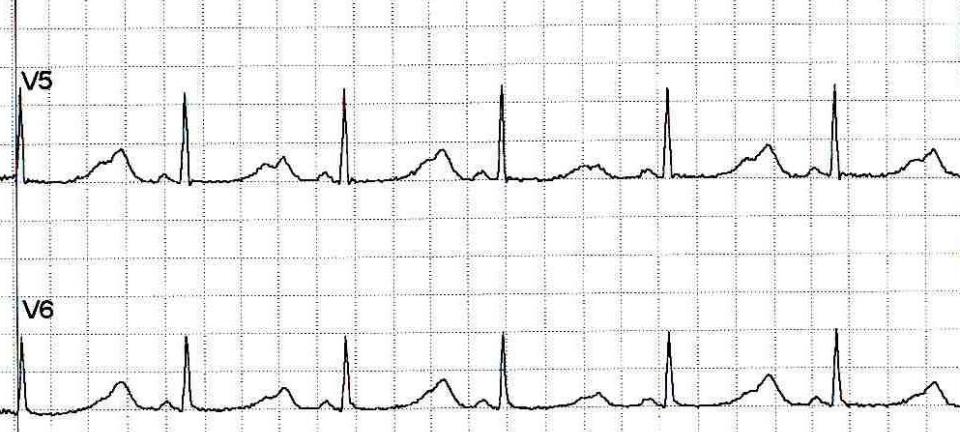
**Scoring:** **<1 point** – low, **2-3 points** – intermediate,  
**≥3,5** – high probability of the dg

14:41 0 W 71 BPM 130/70 mmHg

V1



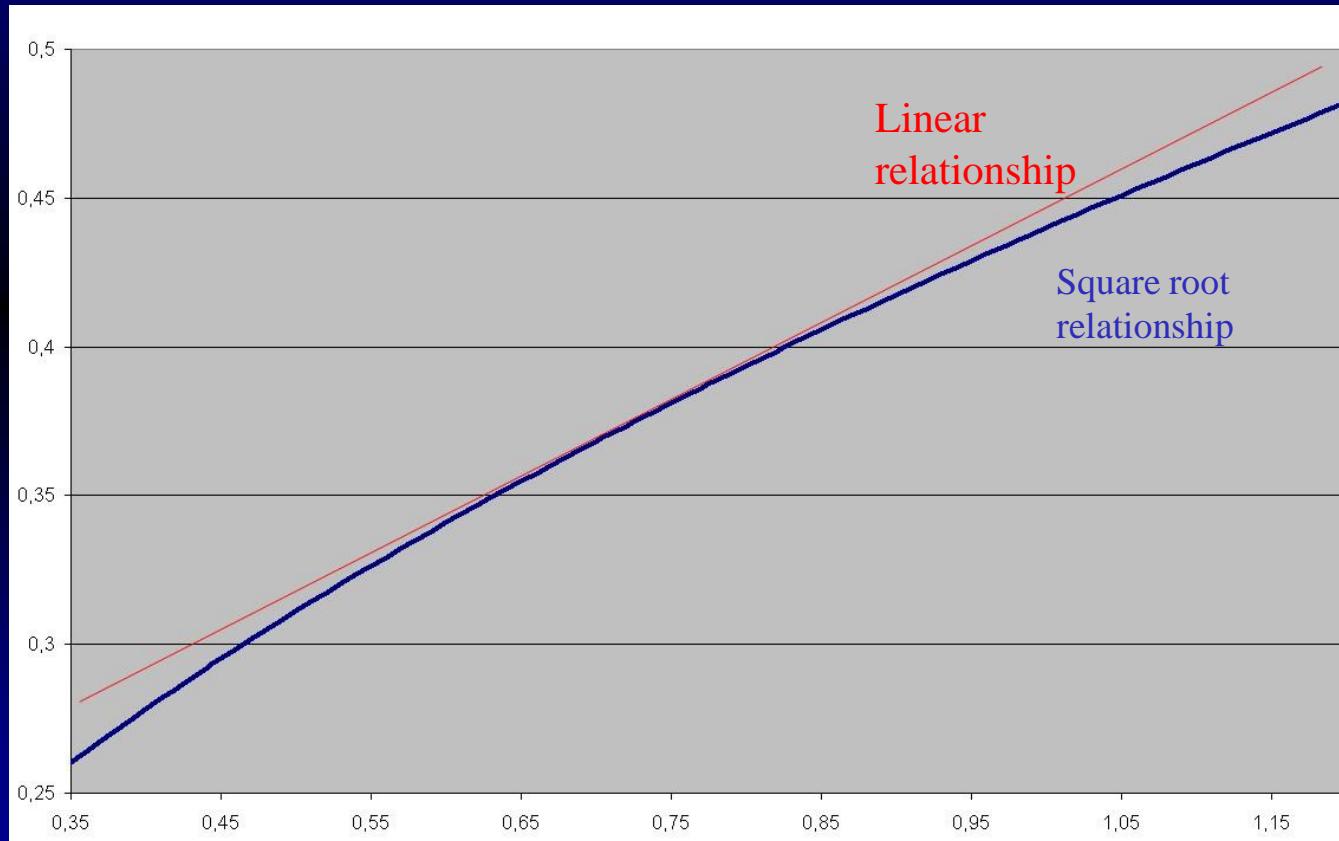
**QTc >500 ms**  
=  
high risk



# QT interval correction to the heart rate

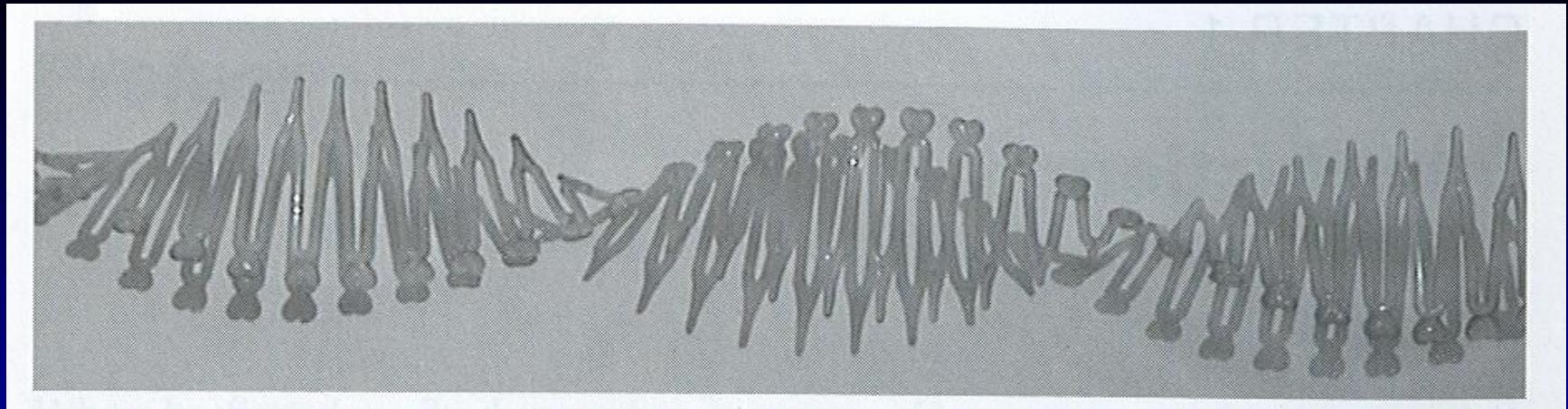
$$\text{Bazett} - \frac{\text{QT}}{\sqrt{\text{RR}}}$$

$$\text{Fridericia} - \frac{\text{QT}}{\sqrt[3]{\text{RR}}}$$



Any formula represents a substantial simplification of a much more complicated natural reality!!

# polymorphic ventricular tachycardia „torsade de pointes“



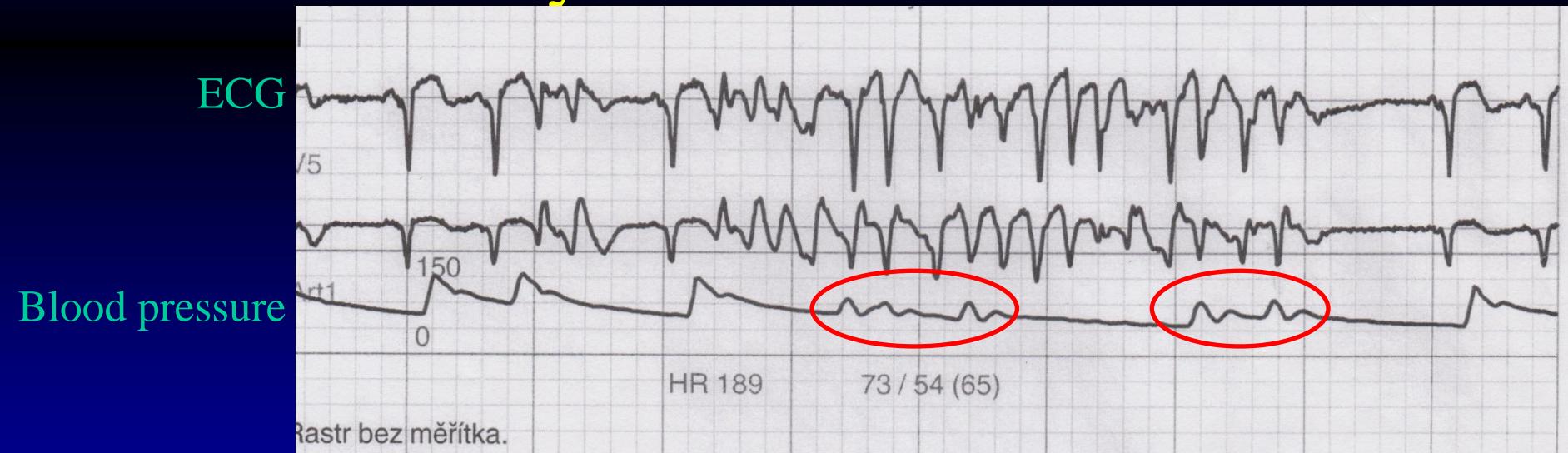
Dessertenne F. Le tachycardie ventriculaire a deux foyers opposes variables. Arch Mal Coeur Vaiss. 1966;59:263-72.

Camm AJ, Malik M, Yap YG. Acquired long QT syndrome. Blackwell Futura, 2004.

# Leading symptome - syncope

- during exercise, jumps in water
- but also at rest, strong acoustic signals

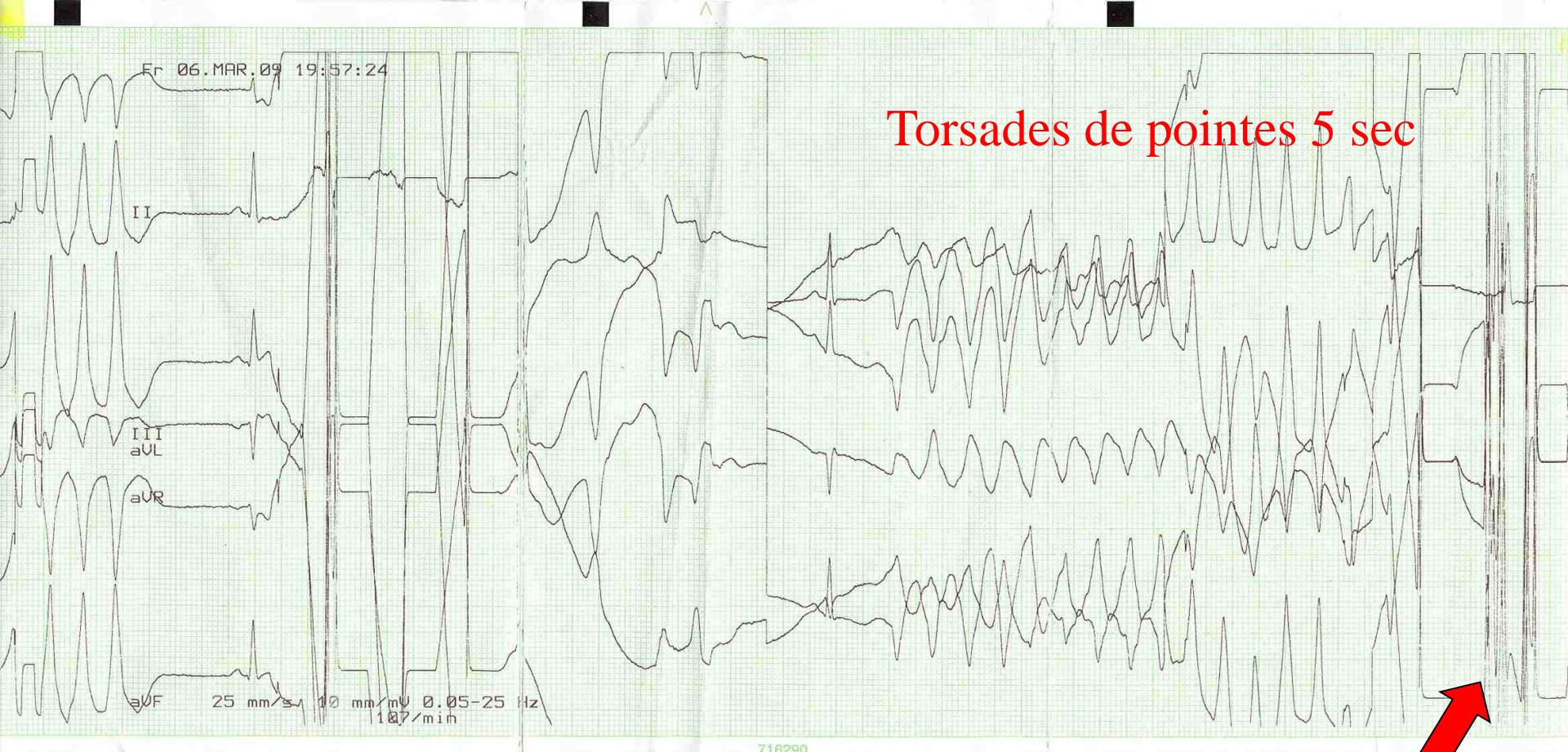
Very often seizures!!!



Torsade is an incomplete circulatory arrest causing non-coordinated muscular acitivity – seizures.

# A case report

47-year old female with repeated seizures classified as status epilepticus at the Emergency



Torsades de pointes 5 sec

Movement artefacts  
= seizures

# Continuing ECG shows QT interval prolongation



The lady had low potassium level and was on antirheumatoid drug plaquenil = drug induced long QT syndrome

# QT interval prolonging drugs

Antiarrhythmics - ajmaline, amiodarone, bretylium, dofetilide, disopyramide, ibutilide, prokainamide, propafenone, chinidin, sotalol

Antibiotics, chemotherapeutics, antimycotics - amantadine, clarytrhomycine, chloroquine, cotrimoxazole, erythromycine, fluconazole, halofantrine, itraconazole, ketoconazole, pentamidine, chinine, spiramycine, sparfloxacine

Antihistaminics - astemizole, loratadine, terfenadine

Psychopharmacs - amitryptyline, clomipramine, clozapine, chlorpromazine, citalopram, desipramine, doxepine, droperidol, fl

m  
pl  
WWW.qtdrugs.org  
thioridazine, tímiperone, trifluoperazone, venlafaxine, zimeldine, ziprasidone

Other - cisapride, indapamide, ketanserine, probucol, plaquenil, sildenafil, vasopresin