



BMH Med. J. 2017;4(3):111-112 **ECG Challenge - Answer**

## Wide QRS Tachycardia

Syamkumar Divakara Menon

Associate Professor of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University, Canada

**Address for Correspondence:** Dr. Syamkumar Divakara Menon, MBBS, MD, DM, MSc, Associate Professor of Medicine, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada. Email: mdsmenon@gmail.com

### Abstract

56 years old male patient presenting with palpitation to emergency room. On examination: tachycardic, BP 96/70. What is the diagnosis?

Rhythm strip shows wide and narrow QRS tachycardias alternating. It could either be a narrow QRS tachycardia with intermittent aberrant conduction or two simultaneous tachycardias. It is more likely one tachycardia since the rate and regularity is not changing.

**Keywords:** wide QRS tachycardia, narrow QRS tachycardia, ECG

56 years old male patient presenting with palpitation to emergency room. On examination: tachycardic, BP 96/70. What is the diagnosis?

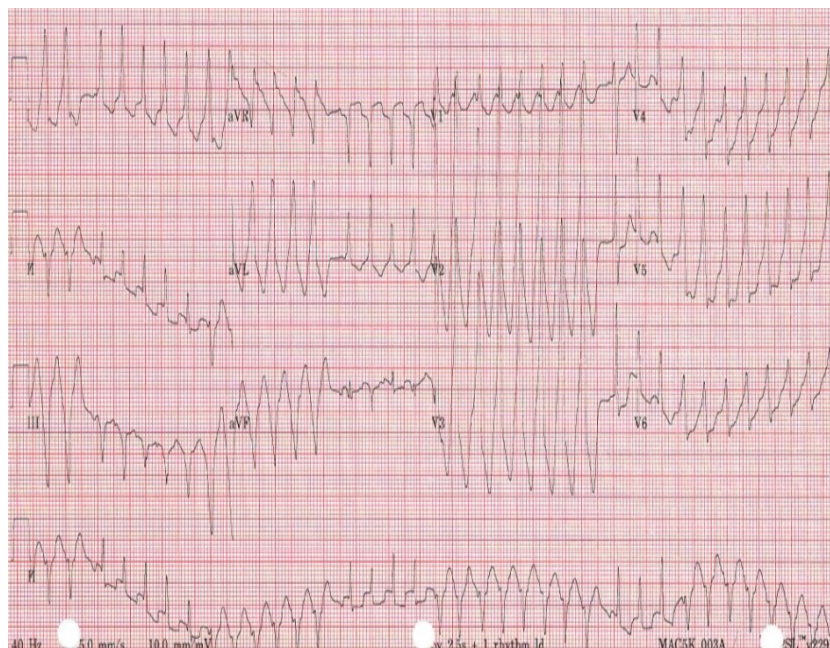


Figure 1

ECG shows a regular tachycardia at a rate of 220 beats per minute. QRS complexes are alternating between wide and narrow complexes without change in the rate (noted well in the rhythm strip).

**Question:** Is it same tachycardia or two tachycardias occurring simultaneously?

Two possibilities are:

- 1) SVT which is conducted with wide / aberrant complexes intermittently.
- 2) Double tachycardia with an SVT and a VT at the same rate.

It is more likely one tachycardia since the rate and regularity is not changing.