



Book Supplement

Differential Diagnosis of Supraventricular Tachycardia Based on Electrocardiographic Features

Disease	Notes
Atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter	Atrial fibrillation is an irregular rhythm with no definitive P waves. Atrial flutter typically has saw-tooth pattern flutter waves most noticeable in the inferior leads.
Atrial tachycardia (re-entrant)	Long R-P tachycardia. Commonly associated with structural heart disease.
AV-nodal re-entrant tachycardia	In the typical variety, the atria and ventricles are simultaneously activated, and either no P wave is visible, or a small pseudo r-prime deflection in lead V1 and a pseudo S-wave deflection inferiorly are seen.
AV re-entrant tachycardia	In this short R-P tachycardia, the P wave is usually located within the ST segment. Accessory AV pathways can conduct either anterograde (atrium to ventricle), retrograde (ventricle to atrium), or in both directions. Only accessory pathways with anterograde conduction will show pre-excitation (Wolff-Parkinson-White pattern) on the sinus rhythm ECG.

AV = atrioventricular; ECG = electrocardiogram.

Table from *Physicians Information and Education Resource (PIER)*, Supraventricular Tachycardia module.