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A ‘fishy’ ECG in a patient with chest pain

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A 71-year-old man with a past medical history of diabetes mellitus and obesity presented to his primary care physician complaining of sudden-onset anterior chest pain, which radiated to the upper left arm and was associated with nausea. Hospital transportation was complicated by three short episodes of cardiac arrest in pulseless electrical activity/asystole, which reverted after appropriate advanced life support measures, and extreme bradycardia, requiring external transcutaneous pacemaker therapy. Sedation and ventilation were required during transportation. At hospital admission, the patient had a blood pressure of 90/85 mmHg and a heart rate of 119 bpm, with signs of poor peripheral perfusion. The electrocardiogram (ECG) obtained at admission is shown in Fig. 1.

How is this electrocardiography pattern called, and what lesion is it associated with?

Answer

You will find the answer elsewhere in this issue.

Conflict of interest V. Devesa Neto, J.M. Santos, J.G. Pereira, L.Ferreira Santos and B. Marmelo declare that they have no competing interests.

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Fig. 1 Electrocardiogram at hospital admission

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