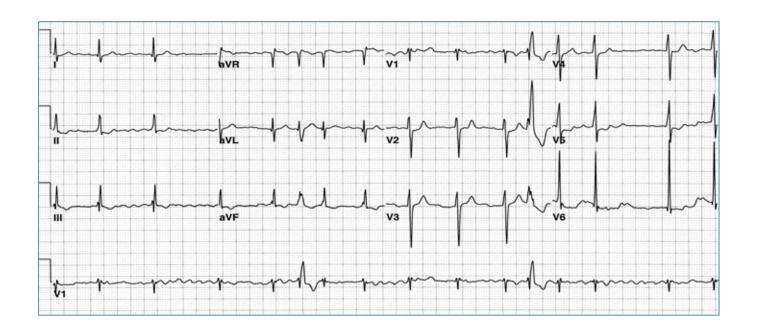




R. Scott Millar

Cardiac Clinic, University of Cape Town / Groote Schuur Hospital Cardiac Arrhythmia Society of Southern Africa (CASSA)



The rhythm is clearly atrial fibrillation (AF). The ventricular response is randomly irregular (average 90/minute) and the baseline between QRS complexes shows chaotic atrial activity – irregular, very rapid (300 - I 000/minute), with marked variation in the morphology of the atrial depolarisation waves.

QUESTION: What is the mechanism of the wide QRS complexes (numbers 6 and 12)?

- a) AF with complete right bundle branch block (RBBB);
- b) AF with premature ventricular complexes (PVCs);
- c) AF with rate-related RBBB; or
- d) AF with Ashman phenomenon.

Please analyse the ECG carefully and commit yourself to an answer before checking the explanation.

ANSWER on page 284