



A 56-year-old woman with a past history of hypertension and a stroke 2 years ago, currently only on a thiazide, attended a peripheral hospital clinic complaining of lethargy and dizziness for the past 2 weeks. An ECG was done and sent through for an opinion regarding management.

Please analyse the ECG carefully before reading the question.

**QUESTION: Which ONE of the following is the best assessment?**

- (a) The heart rate is 102;
- (b) The heart rate is 96 with intermittent interpolated ventricular premature beats;
- (c) The heart rate is 96 with ECG artefacts;
- (d) The heart rate is 42 with complete heart block;
- (e) The heart rate is 24 with 4:1 (second degree) AV block;
- (f) The heart rate is 24 with a malfunctioning pacemaker;
- (g) The heart rate is 0 with complete heart block; or
- (h) The ECG is technically poor and the rate cannot be determined.

This question will also test your understanding of the recording and documentation of ECGs. Please commit yourself to an answer before checking the explanation.

**ANSWER** on page 122