



A 75-year old man was admitted having had syncope earlier that day and feeling unwell afterwards, but without chest pain. He had no past medical history and was on no medication. On admission his heart rate was 44bpm and BP 170/80. Blood chemistry was normal. A simple definitive procedure was done in the cardiac catheterisation laboratory. This ECG was done on arrival back in the cardiac ward after the cardiac procedure. He was now asymptomatic.

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

- (a) Congratulations, excellent pacing; let's send him home
- (b) Accelerated idioventricular rhythm, a re-perfusion arrhythmia after percutaneous cardiac intervention for lateral myocardial infarction
- (c) Transfer to coronary care unit due to the high risk of Torsade
- (d) Check potassium level again
- (e) Pacing problem! Send him back to the cardiac cath.lab
- (f) The pacemaker needs re-programming

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

ANSWER on page 182