

Incidence and Type of Pauses Longer Than 2 Seconds During 24 Hours EKG Recording

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Introduction: 24 hour EKG recording (Holter EKG or ambulatory electrocardiography device) is offering great possibility in diagnostic of disorders of the rhythm or conduction. During this recording significantly increase possibility to notice pauses in cardiac rhythm.

Aim: Aim of this study is to show frequency of pauses during 24 hour EKG recording, type of cardiac rhythm and analysis of the impairment of the conduction.

Methods: We follow up all pauses longer than 2 seconds in patients with different cardiology disorders, who were diagnosticated with 24 hour EKG recorder. Study includes time period from 2010-2011, and was enveloped in Cardiology department of the Health Center in Gracanica (Serbia).

Results: Totally we have 395 patients, 147 (37,22%) males and 248 (62,78%) females. Middle age of patients was 59 years. Totally we found 25 patients with pauses (6,33%), 17 males (68%) and 8 females (32%). In male group pause frequency was 11,56%, in female 3,22%. Most of patients have atrial fibrillation. In patients with disorders of the electrical conduction system of the heart, second-degree AV block was dominant. Pauses were most frequent during sleeping time. Longest pause duration was 7,34 seconds. Average number of pauses was 168 per patient, but 12 (48%) patients have less than 10 pauses for 24 hours. Patient with most pauses have 3190 for 24 hours.

Conclusion: Pauses are more often in males. During analysis we can notice that atrial pathological rhythms are most frequent. Disorders of the electrical conduction of the heart are most common, especially second degree AV block.