

Shark Fin Sign.. *An Electrocardiographic Sign of Massive Infarction!*

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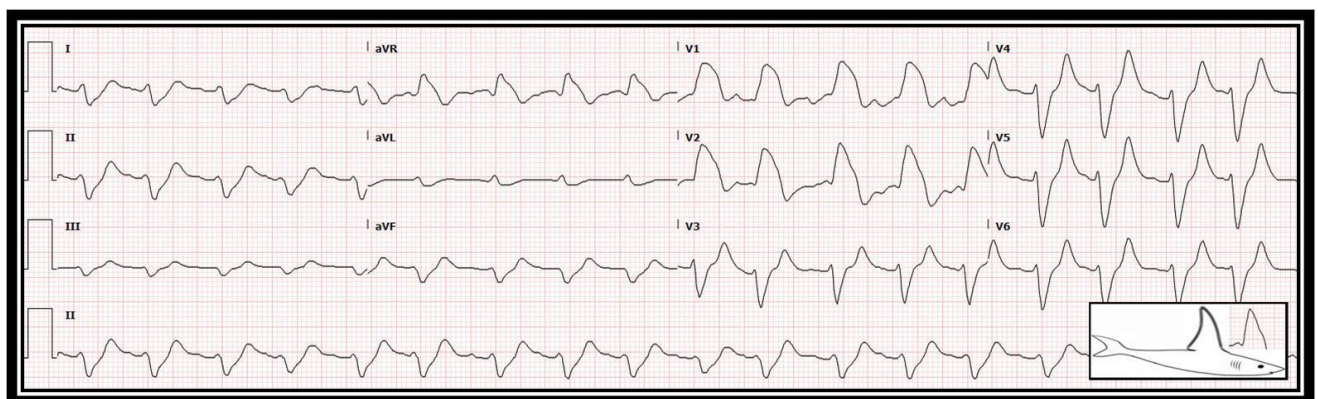
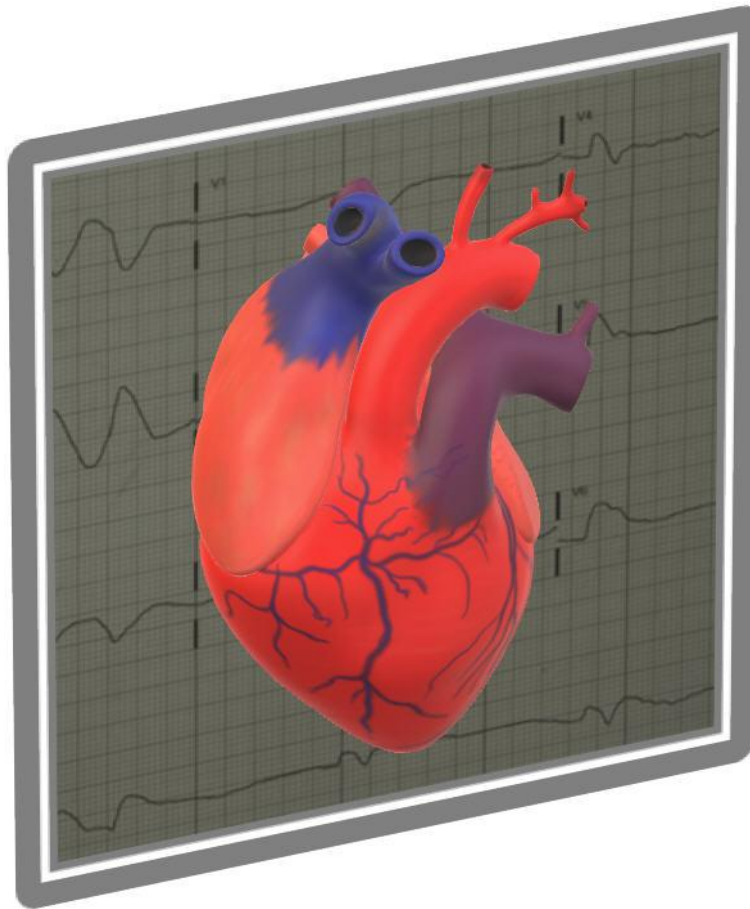


Figure. Sinus tachycardia with broad and bizarre R waves in leads V1 & V2 mimicking a shark fin (insert).

Introduction

The shark fin sign has been described as indicative of massive myocardial infarction, involving the left anterior descending (LAD) or the left main (LM) coronary arteries. Jaiswal and Shah [1] reported a 48 year old patient with chest pain and a shark fin EKG who has a proximal LAD occlusion requiring intervention. Miranda et al [2] reported transient triangular QRS-ST-T wave form consistent with shark fin pattern in a 54 year old patient who was found to have subtended LM on coronary angiography. Janaki Rami Reddy and Garg [3] reported shark fin sign on an EKG of a 75 year old patient who was found to have diffuse LAD and right coronary artery (RCA) spasms, which resolved with intracoronary nitroglycerin with residual mild to moderate coronary obstruction; this was attributed to blood-containing pericardial effusion caused by underlying pericarditis. Verdoia et al. [4] reported a shark fin sign on the EKG of a 51 year old female patient being treated for sepsis who developed ventricular tachycardia and

apical ballooning on echocardiography; but with minimal coronary disease; indicative of Takotsubo cardiomyopathy. EKG and echocardiographic changes resolved slowly over few days with conservative management. Madias [5] described giant R waves, reminiscent of the shark fin sign, as a pattern seen early in the course of an acute myocardial infarction. Takahashi et al. [6] reported lambda waves on EKG, a shark fin pattern, during tachycardia in an 80 year old male with angina, who was found to have severe proximal LAD disease successfully treated with a drug eluting stent guided by intravascular ultrasound (IVUS).

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<http://cardiofellows.com/newsletter-july-2021.html>

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KEYWORDS: Electrocardiography; Shark Fin; Giant R Waves; Lambda Waves; Massive Infarction.

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