

Advanced Dysrhythmias

Contact Hours: 5.5 CE

Introduction

The analysis of dysrhythmias is an important part of the care of cardiac patients. While many professionals take a basic class and begin reading monitors, there are numerous rhythms which were not covered in that initial class or that require a higher level of knowledge to interpret.



This seminar reviews the physiology involved in the electrical system of the heart and then explains the mechanism behind the formation of rhythms. Participants will get a more advanced understanding of some of the basic rhythms learned before and some rarely seen (or not recognized) rhythms.

Other rhythms include some of the more difficult ones such as AV dissociation, parasystoles, aberration and rate dependent bundle branch blocks. In addition, some aspects of 12-lead ECG interpretation will be reviewed and then applied to the interpretation of supraventricular and ventricular tachycardias, including those involving accessory pathways. Pacemaker rhythms are reviewed such as normal function, problems with sensing and capture, and biventricular pacing.

(Please note: This seminar is an advanced level session. Participants should have an understanding of dysrhythmias prior to attending. 12-lead ECG knowledge is also helpful but not mandatory.)

Objectives

1. Describe the physiology and clinical significance of electrical generation and conduction in cardiac tissue.
2. Identify the potential treatment options used in patients with dysrhythmias.
3. Verbalize an enhanced understanding of some of the more common dysrhythmias.
4. Identify some of the more rarely seen dysrhythmias caused by changes in conduction and automaticity.
5. Verbalize the ability to recognize the characteristics of complex supraventricular dysrhythmias.
6. Describe the difference between the ventricular dysrhythmias and other wide complex tachycardias.
7. Recognize the various rhythm patterns that can be seen in patients with temporary or permanent pacemakers.

Recent seminar participants had this to say about “Advanced Dysrhythmias”:



“This was a great review which will enable me to provide better care for my cardiac patients. I have been reading rhythms for a long time and I finally understand some I had been having trouble with.”

“I enjoyed this class very much. It was a great refresher of many rhythms commonly seen with an advanced understanding of them. Some of the advanced rhythms, I have seen but was unable to recognize.”

“Fantastic refresher course with advanced material presented to further my knowledge.

Very interesting and educational and presented in a way I could understand it!”

“I was not aware of some of these types of rhythms but I know we do see them in our patients. This is a complex topic that I will need to go back and review and then continue to look at rhythm strips. Thank you for presenting this class!”

“Thank you for a very professional and excellent class! I gained a lot of knowledge in this session that I will continue to develop. I never realized how important looking at multiple leads was in rhythm analysis!”



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