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Unit II: Dysrhythmia Case Study

F.B is a 70 y.o. retired gentleman who was admitted with worsening heart failure with decompensation. He experienced a cardiac arrest on the floor (pulseless V-Tach) and was defibrillated with one shock. He is a patient in the ICU, and is under your care today. He is on an amiodarone gtt and is scheduled for evaluation in the cath lab today.

PMH: CAD, HTN, hyperlipidemia, previous MI

Subjective Data: Reports dyspnea with activity, and residual chest discomfort from the defibrillation

Objective Data: Appears pale, weak, anxious

Temp 100.4 Oral, HR 70, RR 26, BP 104/56

Lungs: Bibasilar rales, shallow inspiratory effort

Heart: Audible S3

Diagnostics: 2D echo: EF 25%

K⁺ = 2.9

EKG:



Directions:

- 1) Interpret the rhythm above:
NSR with 2 PVCs
- 2) Why do you think there is ectopy?
The patients low potassium, heart failure, and cardiac arrest that has occurred
- 3) Is F.B. at risk for sudden cardiac death? Why or why not?
Yes, because of the pulseless V-tach, EF 25%, PVCs, CAD, and MI
- 4) Why is F.B. on an amiodarone gtt?
It is an antiarrhythmic to prevent more arrhythmias like V-Tach, stabilize his heart rhythm after the cardiac arrest, and reduce the frequency of the PVC's.
- 5) Is F.B. a candidate for cardiac resynchronization therapy and an ICD? Why or why not?
Yes because of the cardiac arrest, EF 25%, and V-tach. These will help his hearts function and prevent SCD.