



THE PRACTITIONER LE PRATICIEN

Country cardiograms case 38

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A 40-year-old female patient presents to a remote northern British Columbia emergency department with a history of sudden-onset palpitations. She has experienced similar symptoms before but has not sought medical attention for them until now, as they have been of short duration. She is hemodynamically stable, but has a very rapid pulse. Her initial electrocardiogram (ECG) is shown in Figure 1. Before

treatment can be instituted, the arrhythmia terminates spontaneously. The follow-up ECG is shown in Figure 2, which the computer report indicates as showing “inferior infarct, age undetermined.” What is the ECG diagnosis, and what further management should be considered?

For the answer, see page 169.

Competing interests: None declared.

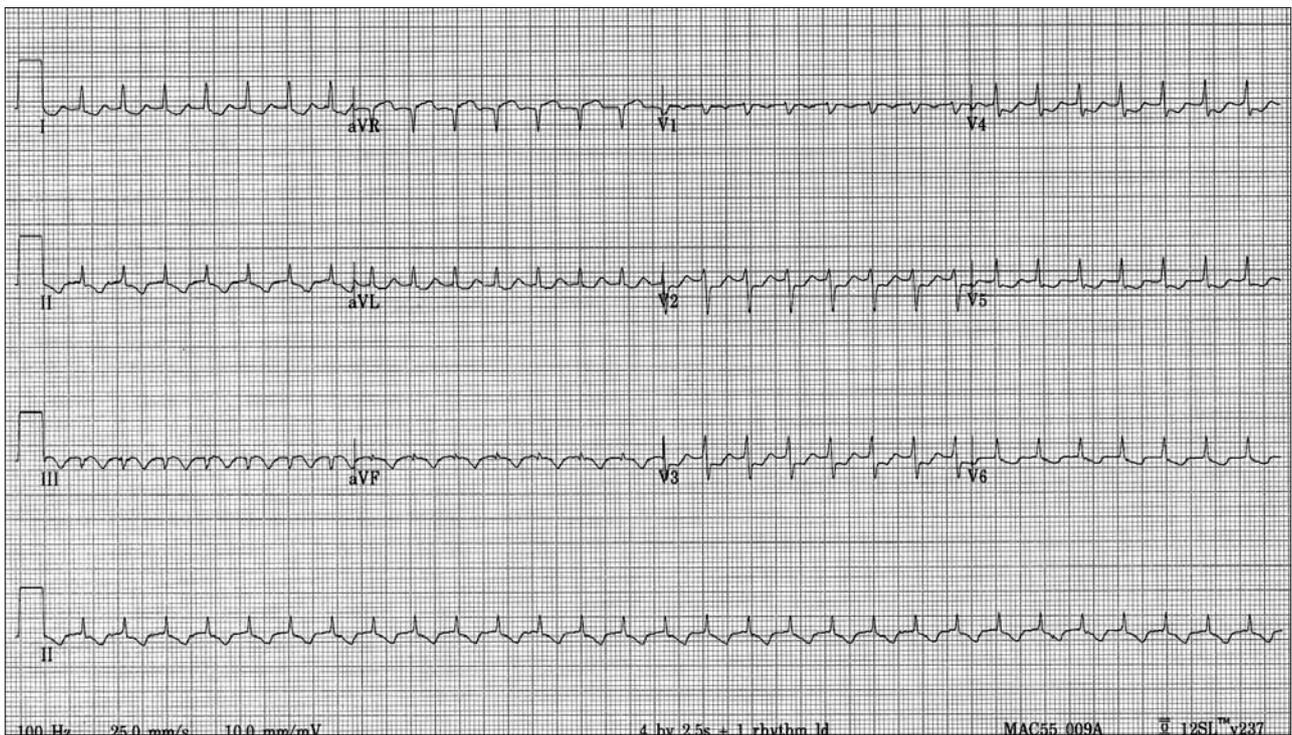


Fig. 1. Initial electrocardiogram of a 40-year-old woman who presented to the emergency department with a history of sudden-onset palpitations.

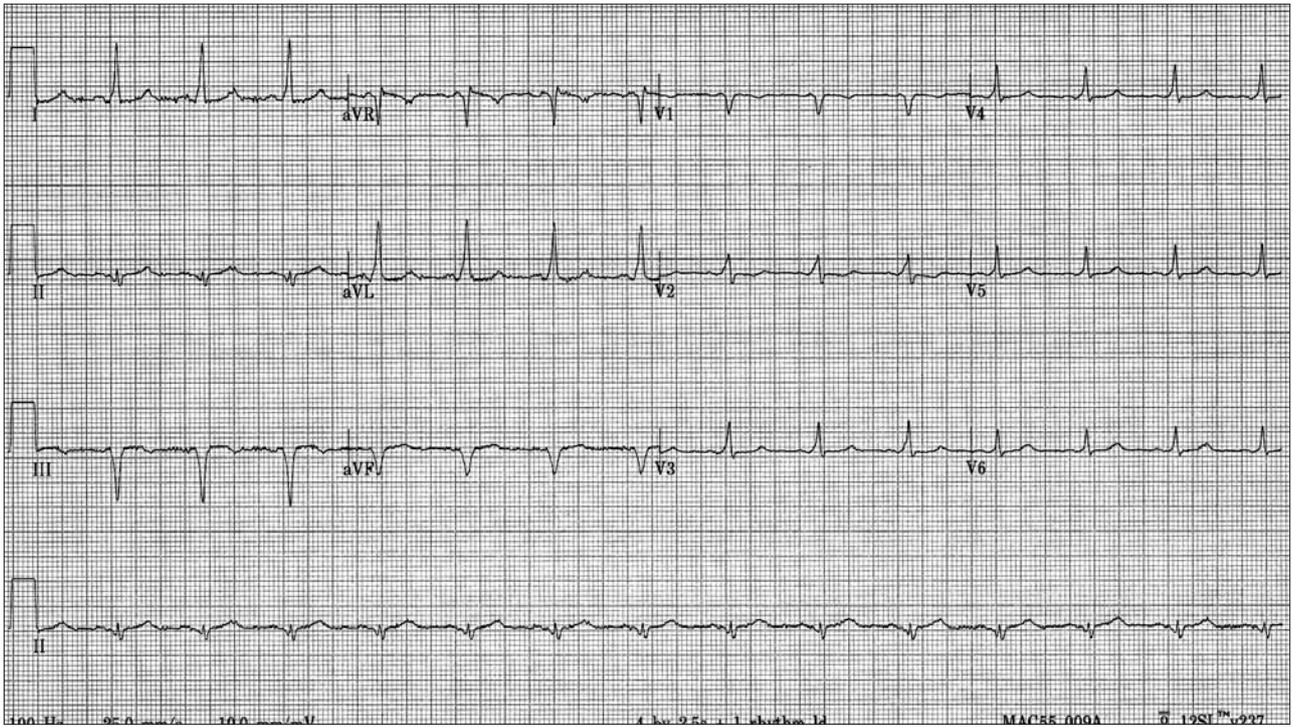


Fig. 2. Follow-up electrocardiogram, interpreted by the computer as showing “inferior infarct, age undetermined.”

Country Cardiograms

Have you encountered a challenging ECG lately?

In most issues of *CJRM* an ECG is presented and questions are asked.

On another page, the case is discussed and the answer is provided.

Please submit cases, including a copy of the ECG, to Suzanne Kingsmill,
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