

The Heart of the Ultramarathoner



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Overview

- ▶ Revision on cardiac physiology
- ▶ Chronic adaptation in the ultramarathoner
- ▶ Acute cardiac response to exercise

IS THERE CAUSE FOR CONCERN?

PHILIPS

MI 1.0
TIS 0.5

OX1
S5-1
33Hz
18cm
2D
HGen
Gn 25
C 50
3/2/0

to the LUNGS

to the BODY

Right Ventricle

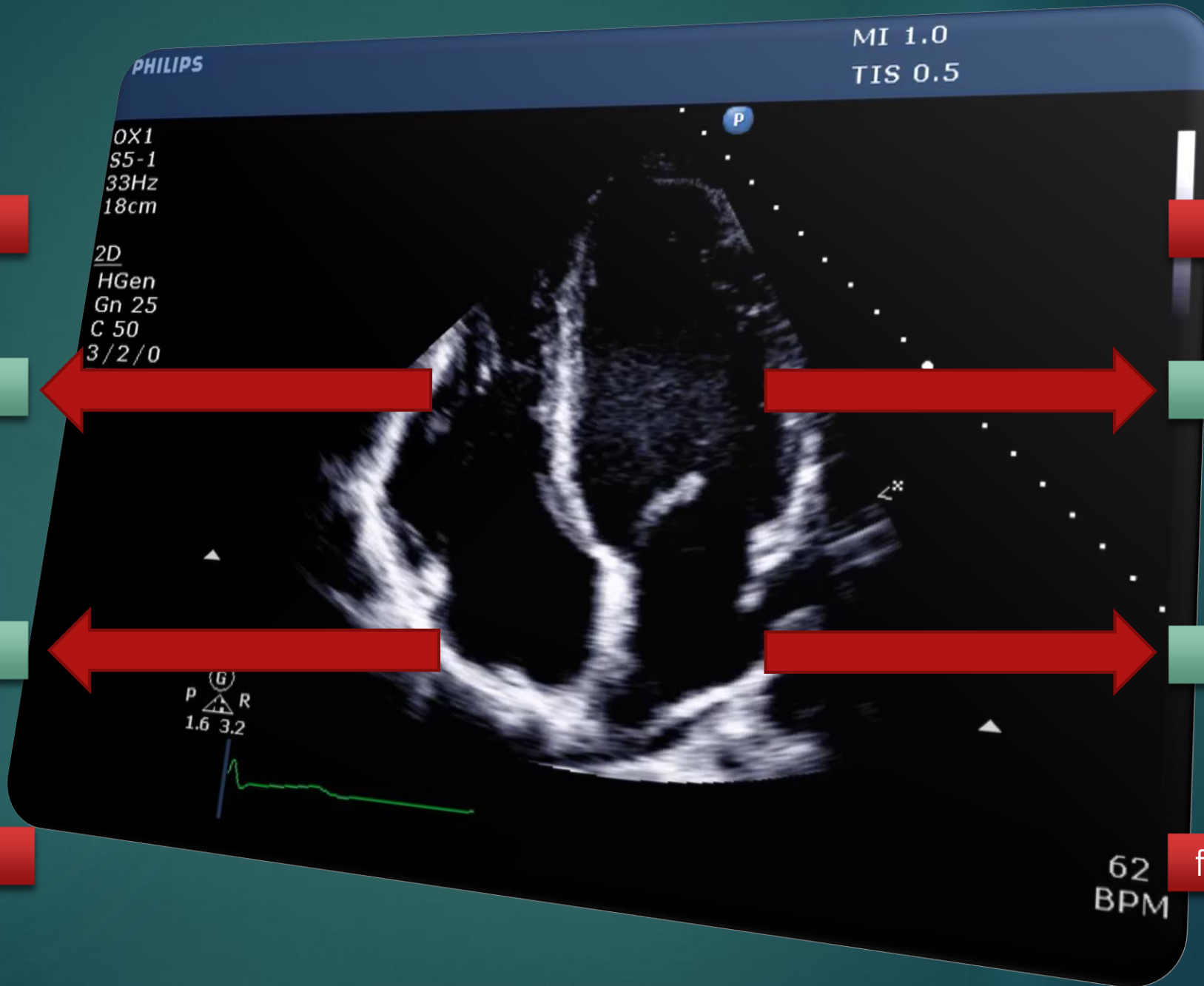
Left Ventricle

Right Atrium

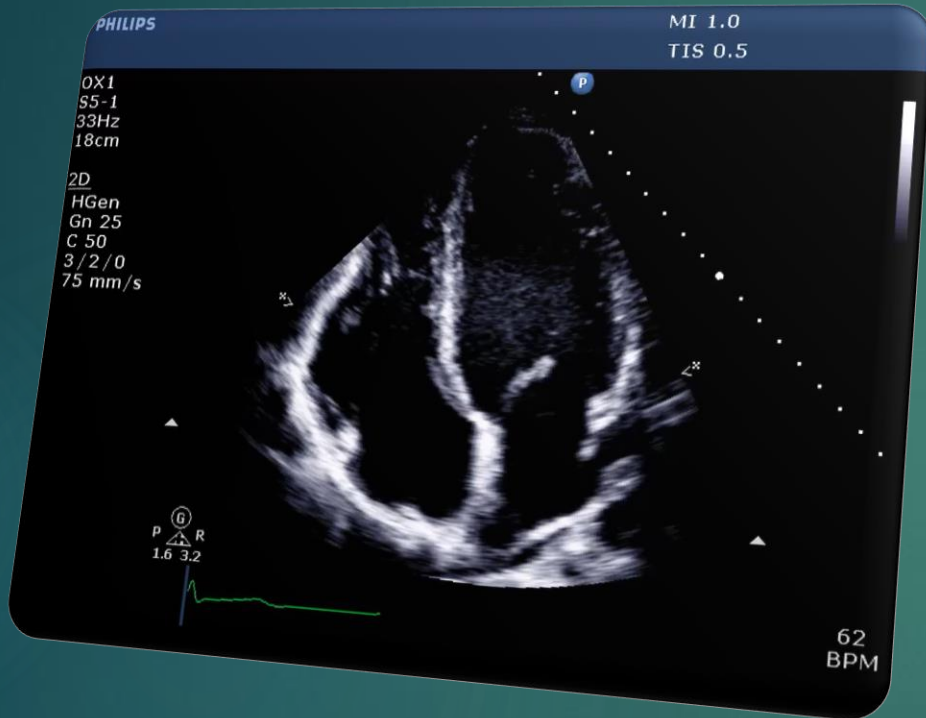
Left Atrium

from the BODY

from the LUNGS



62
BPM



Respond to Body Requirements

Ability to modify STROKE VOLUME /
CARDIAC OUTPUT



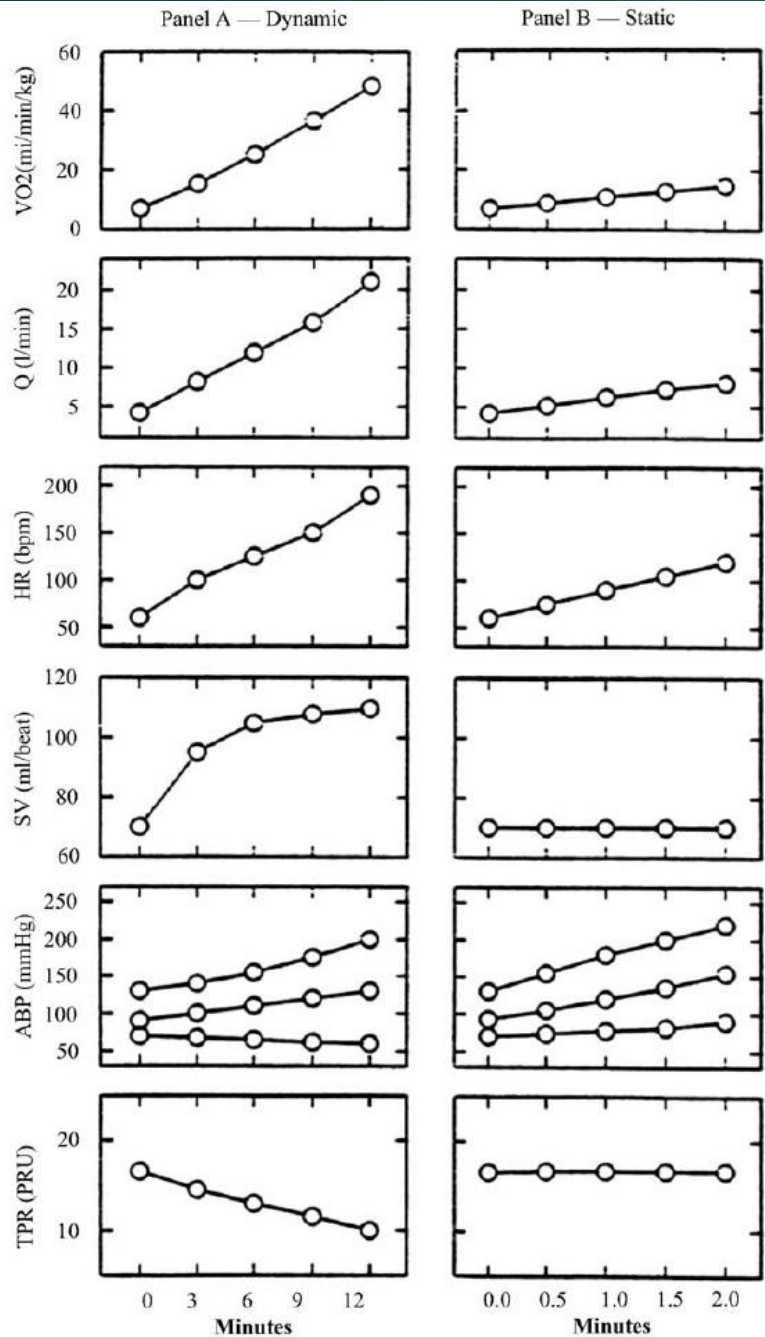
WALL
STRESS

PRELOAD

AFTERLOAD

CONTRACTILITY / RELAXATION

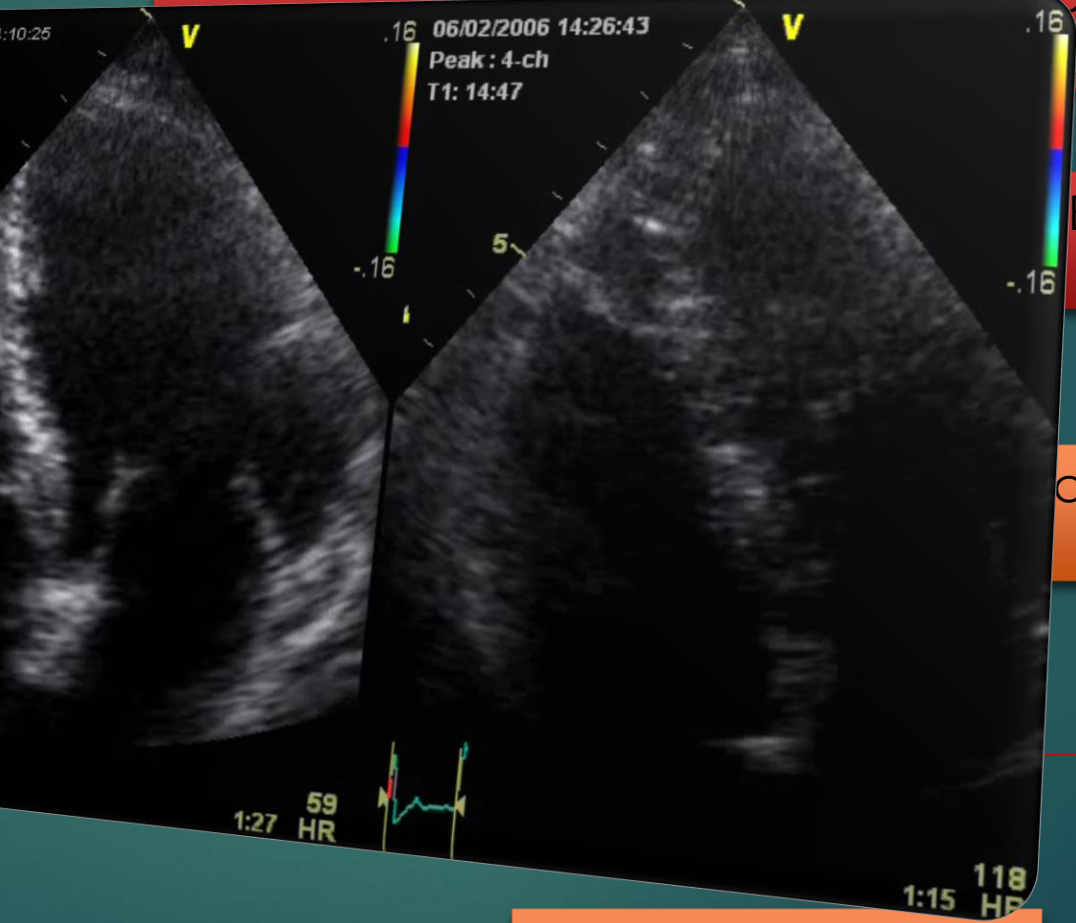
HEART RATE



Sympathetic Stimulation

Systemic and

Increased Heart Rate



Enhanced Myocardial Perfusion

Increased Myocardial Relaxation

Increased Stroke Volume / Cardiac Output

Chronic Adaptation



Increasing Static Component ↑

I. Low (<20% MVC)	II. Moderate (20-50% MVC)	III. High (>50% MVC)
Billiards, Bowling, Cricket, Curling, Golf, Riflery	Archery, Auto racing*†, Diving*†, Equestrian*†, Motorcycling*†	Bobsledding/Luge*†, Field events (throwing), Gymnastics*†, Martial arts*, Sailing, Sport climbing, Water skiing*†, Weight lifting*†, Windsurfing*†
Baseball/Softball*, Fencing, Table tennis, Volleyball	American football*, Field events (jumping), Figure skating*, Rodeoing*†, Rugby*, Running (sprint), Surfing*†, Synchronized swimming†	Body building*†, Downhill skiing*†, Skateboarding*†, Snowboarding*†, Wrestling*
Badminton, Cross-country skiing (classic technique), Field hockey*, Orienteering, Race walking, Racquetball/Squash, Running (long distance), Soccer*, Tennis	Basketball*, Ice hockey*, Cross-country skiing (skating technique), Lacrosse*, Running (middle distance), Swimming, Team handball	Boxing*, Canoeing/Kayaking, Cycling*†, Decathlon, Rowing, Speed-skating*†, Triathlon*†

Increasing Dynamic Component →

A. Low
(<40% Max O₂)

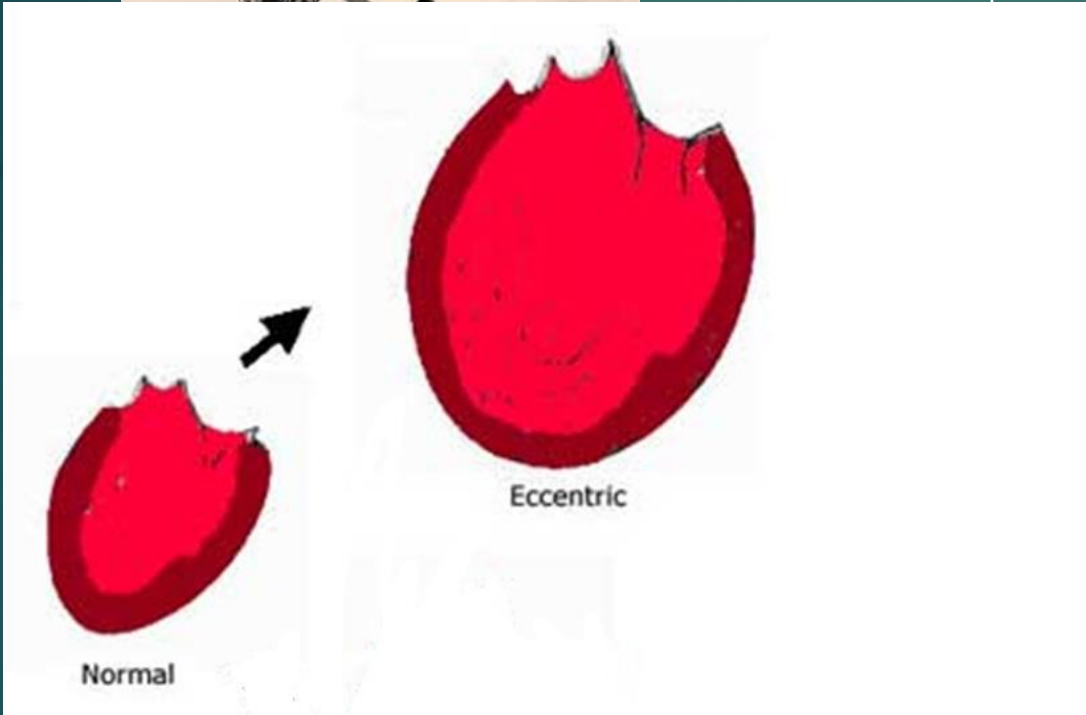
B. Moderate
(40-70% Max O₂)

C. High
(>70% Max O₂)

Isotonic Exercise
CHRONIC



Increased Preload



Hypertrophy
Increased wall th

Atrium



Improved R

Improves with Exercise
Cardiac Reserve

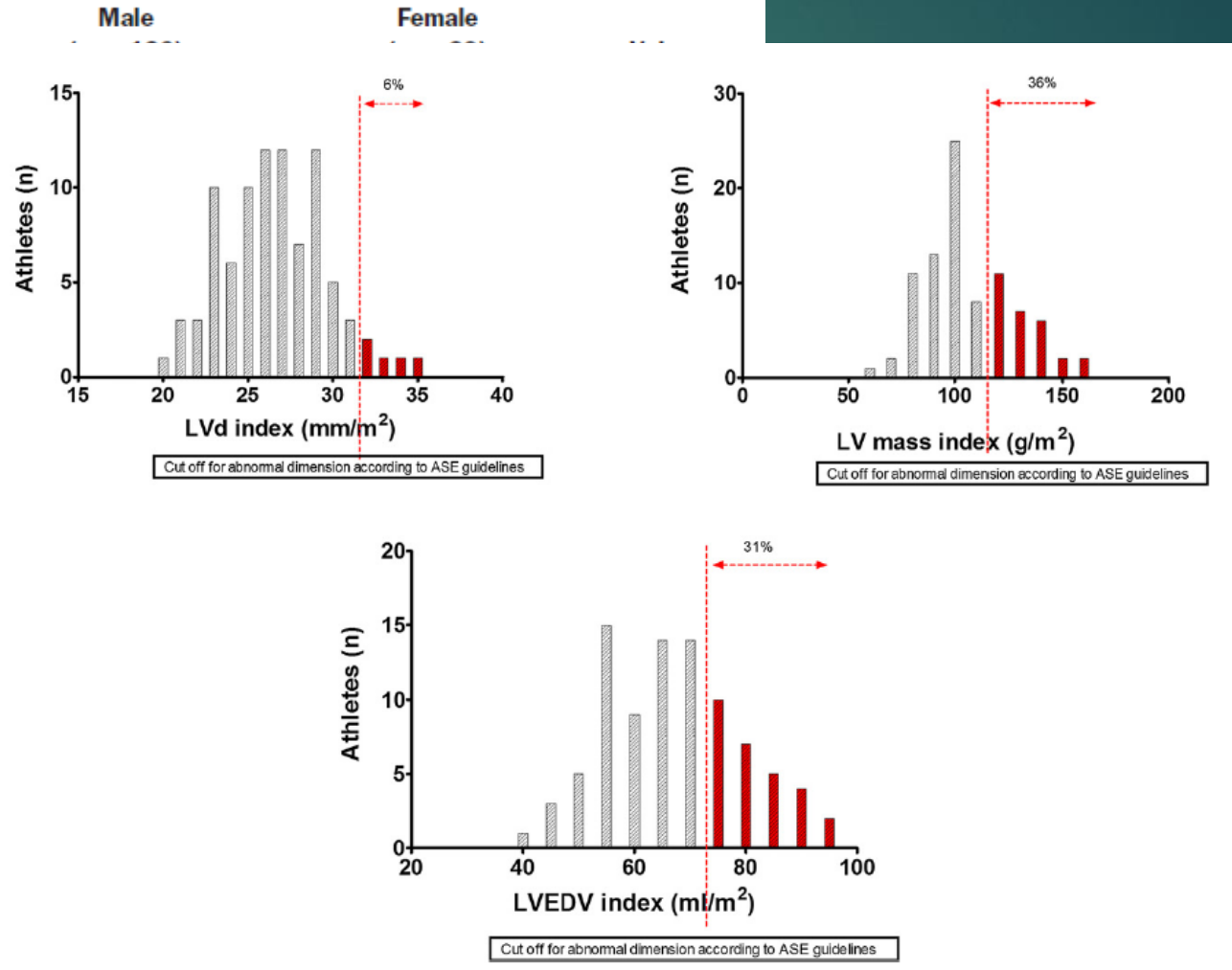


Table 1 LV Structural and Functional Data in Male and Female Ultramarathoners

	Whole Cohort (n = 165)
LVIDd (cm)	5.2 ± 0.4 (4.2–6.2)
LVIDd/BSA ^{0.5}	3.8 ± 0.3 (3.2–4.5)
IVSd (cm)	1.1 ± 0.2 (0.6–1.4)
IVSd/BSA ^{0.5}	0.8 ± 0.1 (0.5–1.0)
PWTd (cm)	0.9 ± 0.1 (0.6–1.2)
PWTd/BSA ^{0.5}	0.7 ± 0.1 (0.5–0.9)
LV mass (g)	180 ± 46 (89–300)
LV mass/BSA ^{1.5}	70 ± 13 (39–105)
LAD (cm)	3.6 ± 0.4 (2.5–4.7)
LAD/BSA ^{0.5}	2.7 ± 0.3 (1.9–3.5)
AoRt (cm)	2.8 ± 0.4 (1.7–3.8)
AoRt/BSA ^{0.5}	2.0 ± 0.3 (1.3–2.9)
LVEDV (ml)	131 ± 28 (70–222)
LVEDV/BSA ^{1.5}	52 ± 10 (26–90)
LVESV (ml)	46 ± 19 (18–87)
LVESV/BSA ^{1.5}	18 ± 7 (8–38)
EF (%)	65 ± 10 (49–82)
E/A	1.44 ± 0.37 (0.72–2.84)
S' (cm/s)	9 ± 2 (6–14)
E' (cm/s)	11 ± 2 (6–18)
E/E'	7.16 ± 1.95 (3.80–16.71)

Data are mean ± SD (range).

AoRt = aortic root dimension; BSA = body surface area; E' = velocities; EF = ejection fraction; IVSd = interventricular septal thickness; LVIDd = left ventricular end-diastolic diameter; LVEDV = left ventricular end-diastolic volume; LVESV = left ventricular end-systolic volume; PWTd = posterior wall thickness at end-diastole; S' = peak septal velocity.



ages for the General Population

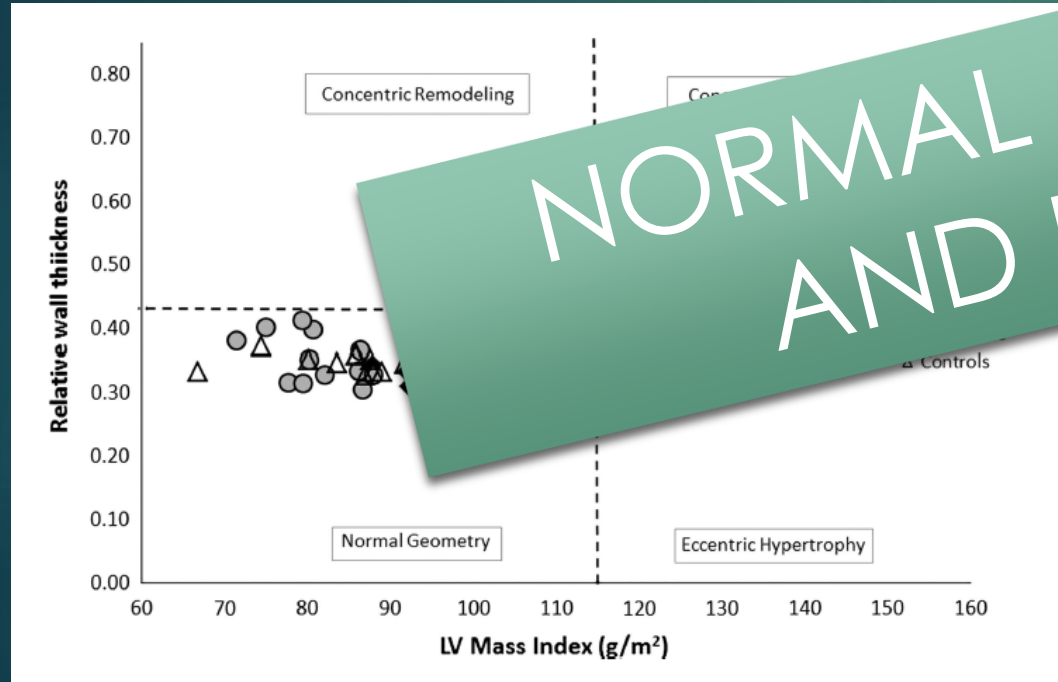
< 6 cm, f < 5.4 cm)

n < 225 g, f < 162 g)

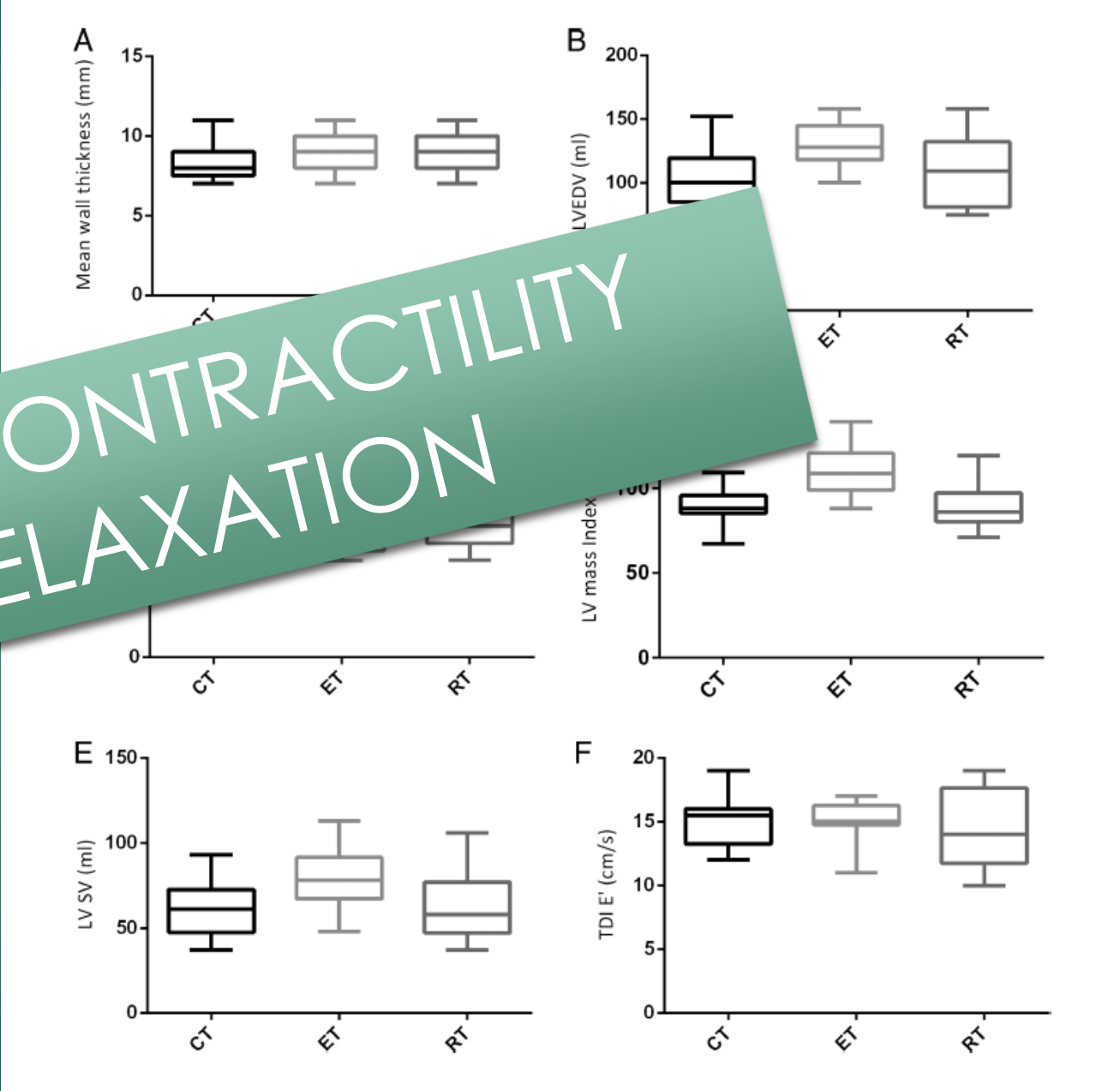
< 155 ml, f < 104 ml)

Predominance of normal left ventricular geometry in the male 'athlete's heart'

Victor Utomi,¹ David Oxborough,¹ Euan Ashley,² Rachel Lord,¹ Sarah Fletcher,³ Mike Stemberge,⁴ Rob Shave,⁴ Martin D Hoffman,⁵ Greg Whyte,¹ John Somauroo,^{1,6} Sanjay Sharma,⁷ Keith George¹



NORMAL CONTRACTILITY AND RELAXATION



PHILIPS

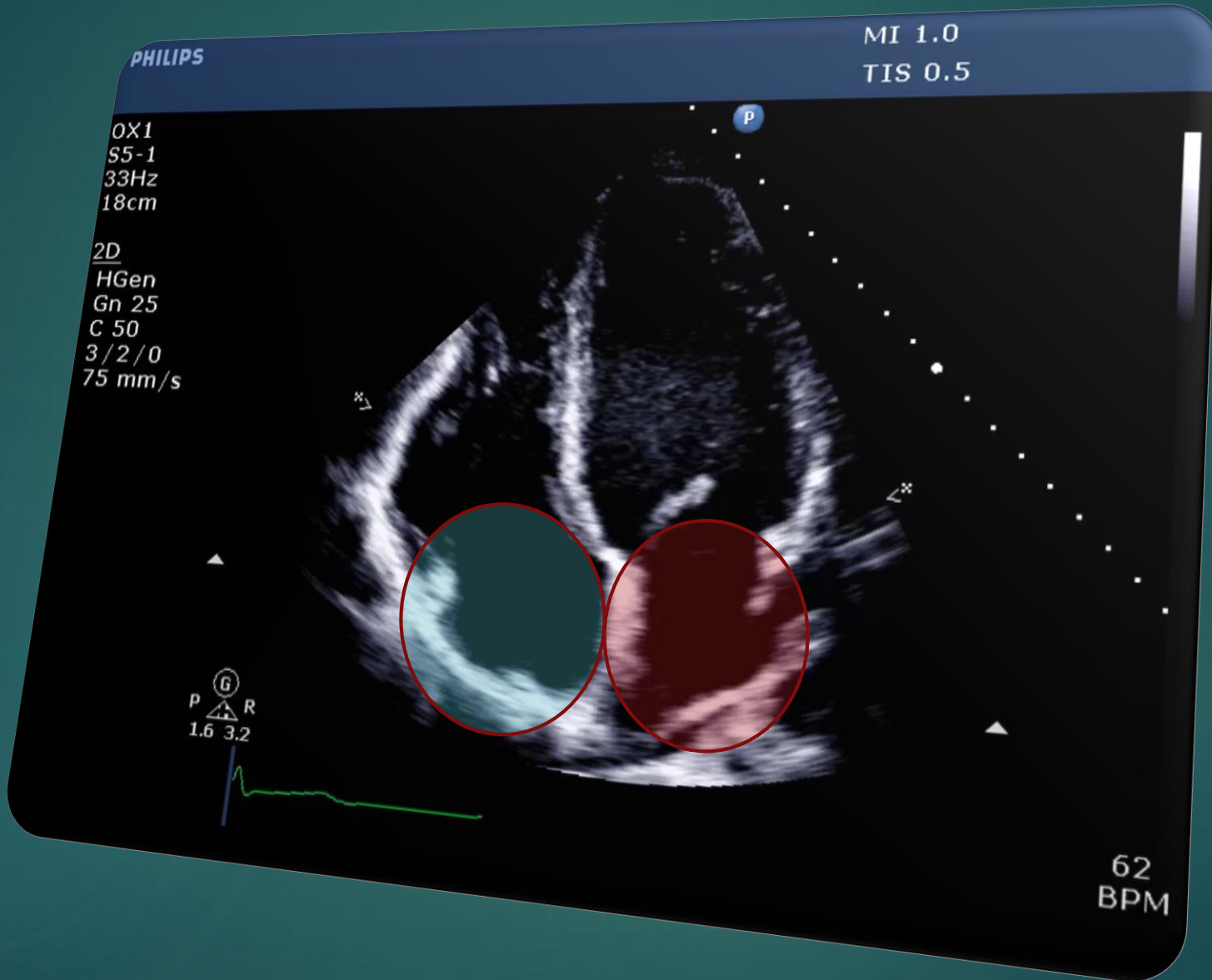
MI 1.0
TIS 0.5

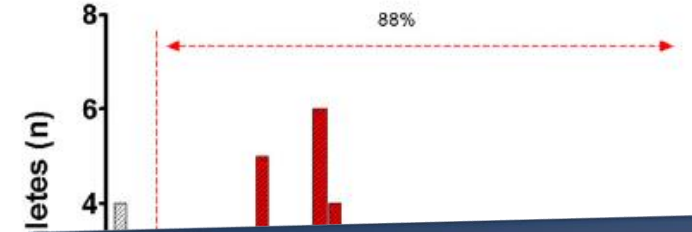
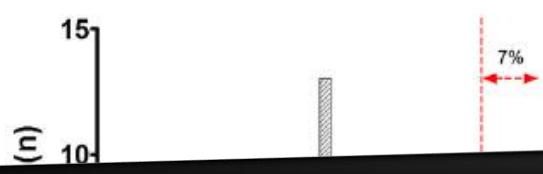
OX1
S5-1
33Hz
18cm

2D
HGen
Gn 25
C 50
3/2/0
75 mm/s

G
P R
1.6 3.2

62
BPM





Speckle tracking echocardiography of LA and RA strain between HDHS, LDHS and controls

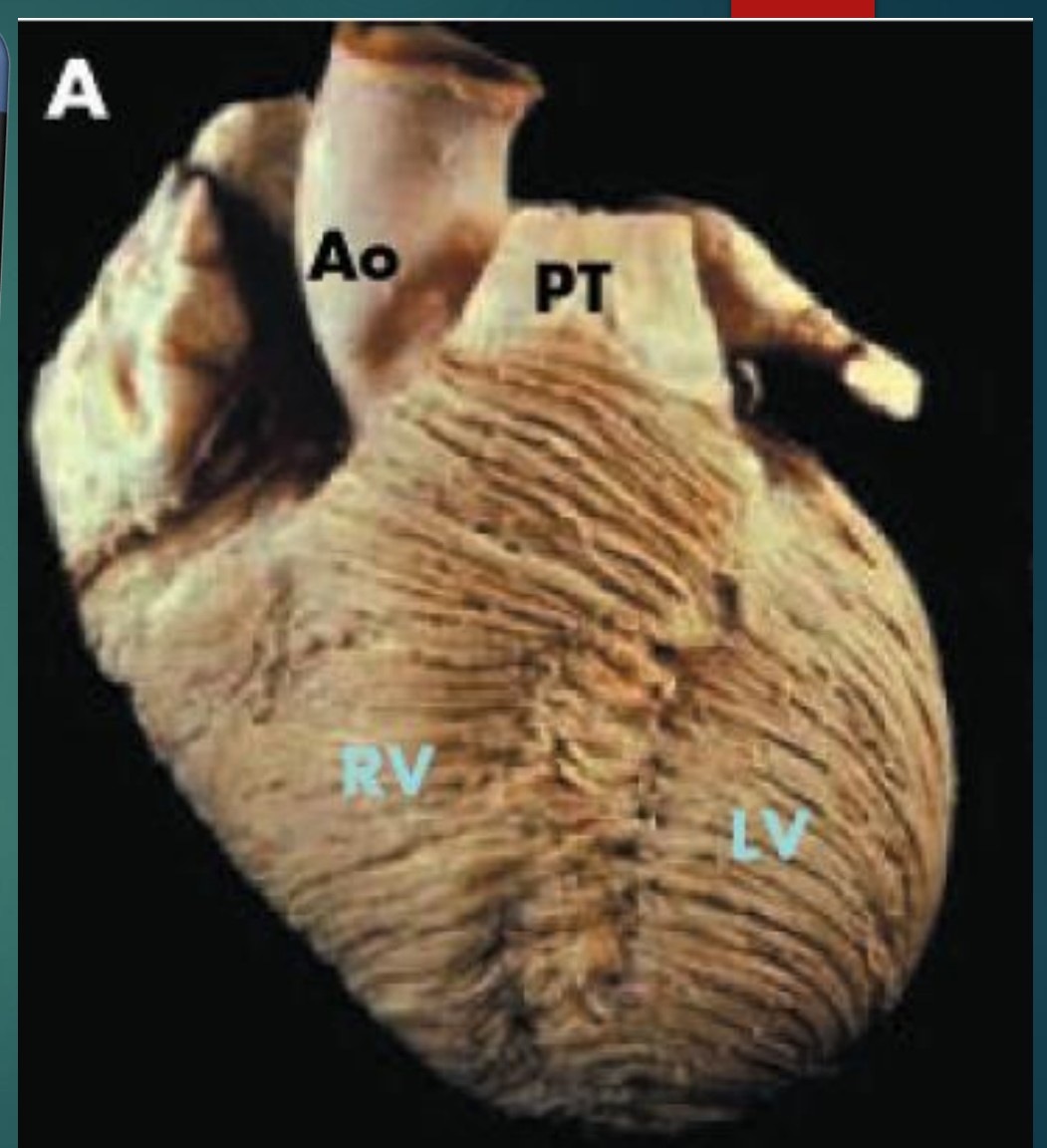
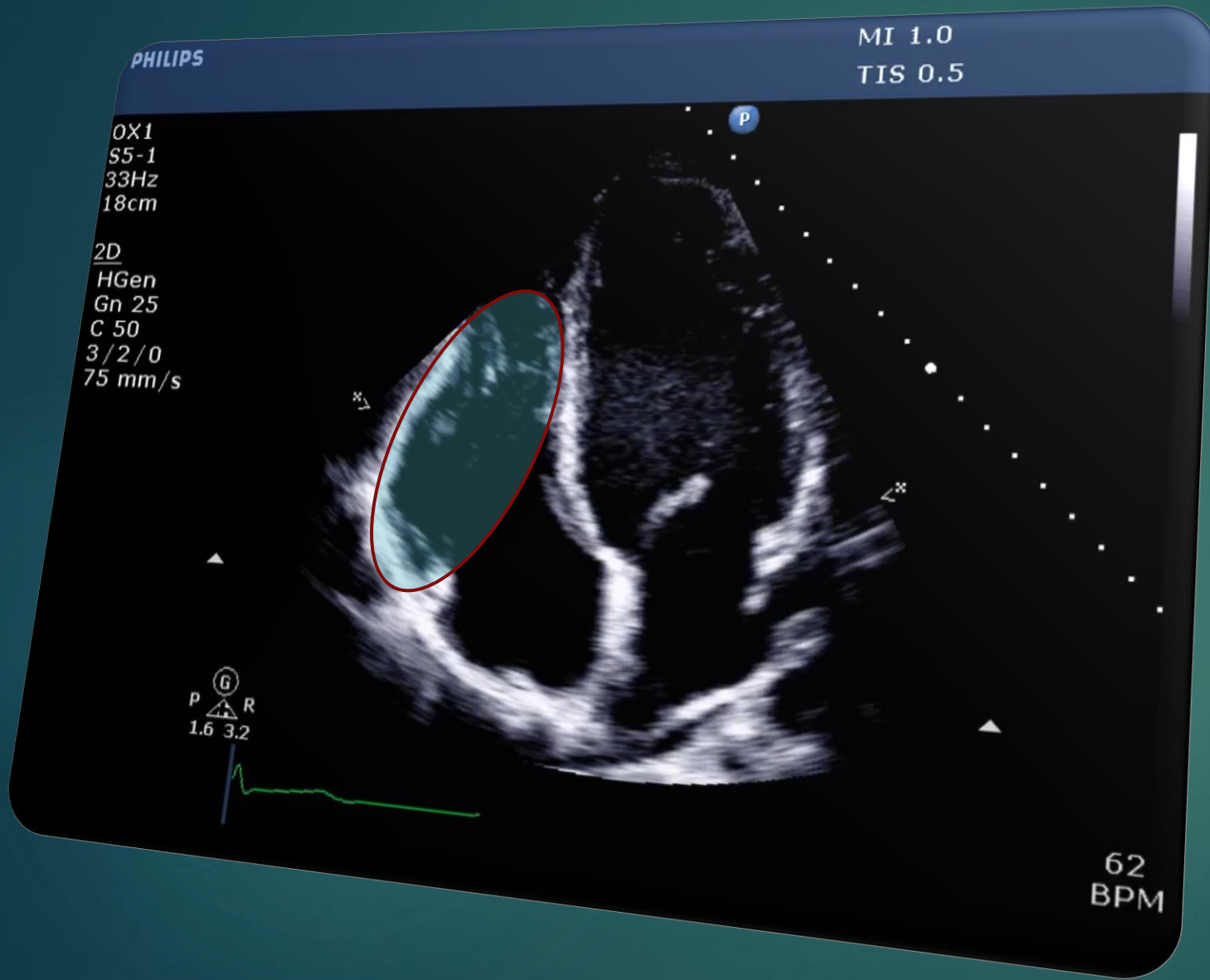
Parameter	HDHS (n = 18) (mean±SD)	LDHS (n = 18) (mean±SD)	Controls (n = 18) (mean±SD)
LARES strain (%)	27 ± 7	32 ± 6	32 ± 6
LAVOL strain (%)	24 ± 7	22 ± 6	22 ± 6
RAVOL strain (%)	11 ± 3	13 ± 5	11 ± 4
RACON strain (%)	33 ± 9	37 ± 10	32 ± 8
RABOSS strain (%)	22 ± 8	22 ± 8	24 ± 9
RABOSS strain (%)	12 ± 6	13 ± 8	10 ± 5

NORMAL FUNCTION



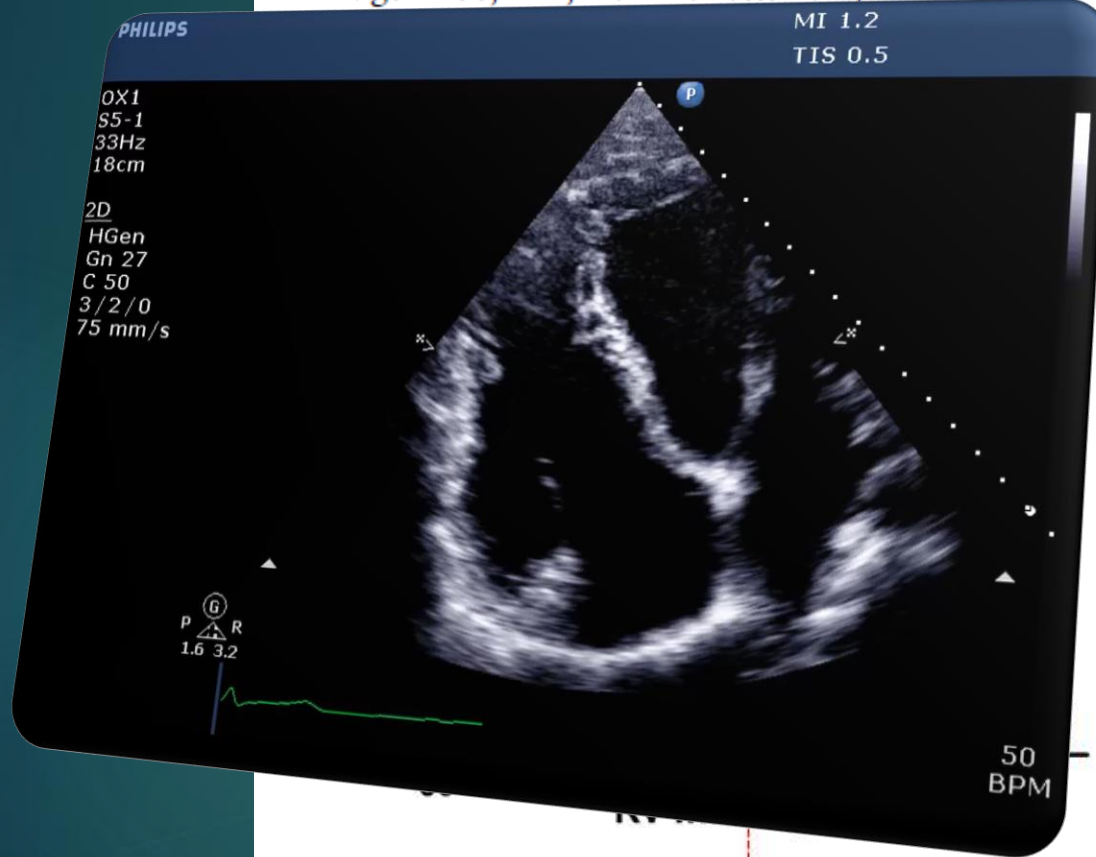
LAVOLpre
LAVOLpost
RAVOLpre
RAVOLpost

Unpublished data

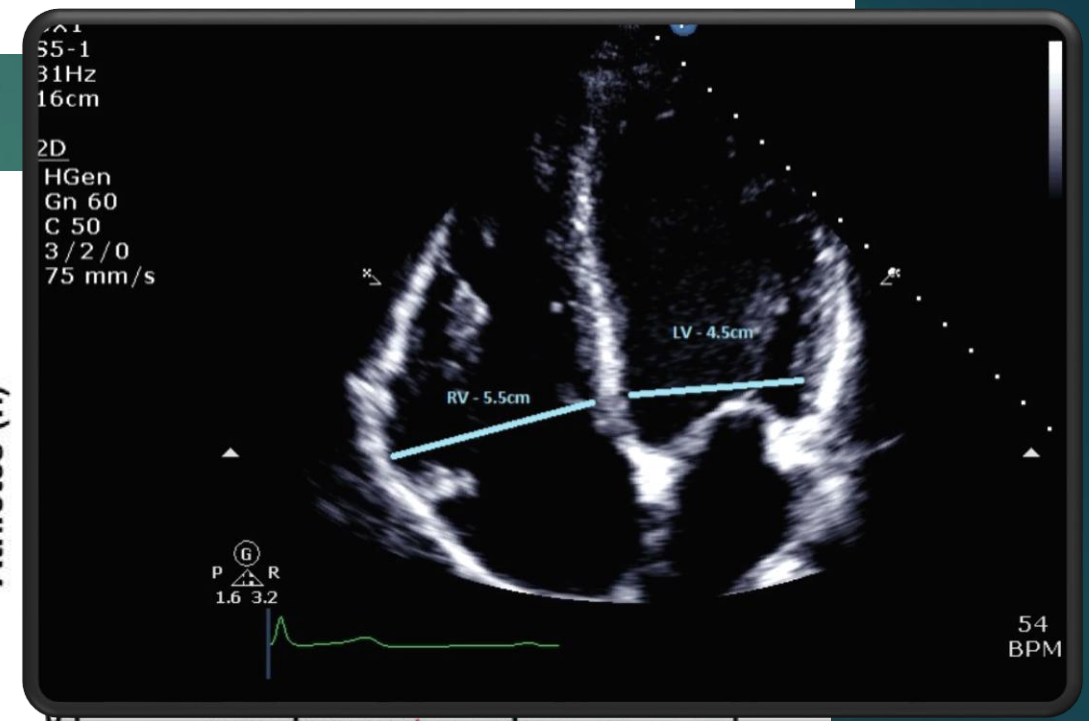


The Right Ventricle of the Endurance Athlete: The Relationship between Morphology and Deformation

David Oxborough, MSc, Sanjay Sharma, MD, Robert Shave, PhD, Greg Whyte, PhD, Karen Birch, PhD, Nigel Artis, MD, Alan M. Batterham, PhD, and Keith George, PhD, *Leeds, London, Cardiff, Uxbridge, Liverpool, United Kingdom*



Cut off for abnormal dimension according to ASE guidelines



Athletes (n)

20 30 40 50

RV outflow (mm)

Cut off for abnormal dimension according to ASE guidelines

54 BPM

BbW
24

Parameter	ET	RT	CT	
RVOT PLAX (mm)	31 ± 4 [23:37]	29 ± 4 [22:35]	30 ± 4 [23:38]	
RVOT PLAX (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	21 ± 3 [17:26]	20 ± 3 [16:24]	21 ± 2 [17:25]	
RVOT1 (mm)	32 ± 5 [24:40]	31 ± 5 [22:42]	32 ± 3 [23:36]	
RVOT1 (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	22 ± 3 [18:27]	21 ± 3 [16:25]	22 ± 3 [17:27]	
RVOT2 (mm)	Parameter	ET	RT	CT
RVOT2 (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	RVFAC (%)	50 ± 10 [40:62]	50 ± 10 [42:60]	
RVD1 (mm)	TAPSE	24 ± 3 [21:29]	24 ± 3 [21:29]	
RVD1 (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	RVOT VTI	18 ± 3 [15:21]	18 ± 3 [15:21]	18 ± 3 [15:20]
RVD2 (mm)	RVSV (ml)	99 ± 33 [42:149]	99 ± 33 [42:149]	99 ± 33 [42:149]
RVD2 (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	RVSV (ml/m ²)	32 ± 10 [21:49]	32 ± 11 [22:51]	32 ± 11 [22:51]
RVD3 (mm)	RVA' (cm/s)	15 ± 2 [13:18]	14 ± 2 [11:17]	14 ± 2 [11:17]
RVD3 (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})	RVA' ([cm/s]/cm)	1.7 ± 0.3 [1.1:2.3]	1.8 ± 0.3 [1.4:2.2]	1.7 ± 0.3 [1.3:2.3]
RV diastolic area (cm ²)	RVE' ([cm/s]/cm)	15 ± 2 [13:19]	16 ± 3 [14:19]	14 ± 3 [9:17]
RV diastolic area (cm ² /m ²)	RVA' cm/s	1.7 ± 0.3 [1.2:2.4]	1.7 ± 0.4 [0.5:2.8]	1.7 ± 0.4 [1.0:2.5]
	RVA' ([cm/s]/cm)	12 ± 2 [10:17]	12 ± 1 [9:14]	12 ± 2 [9:14]
RV systolic area (cm ²)		1.5 ± 0.4 [0.9:2.4]	1.3 ± 0.4 [0.7:2.4]	1.4 ± 0.3 [0.7:2.0]
RV Systolic area (cm ² /m ²)		14 ± 2 [10:18] [†]	13 ± 3 [8:18]	11 ± 3 [7:18]
RV wall thickness (mm)		9 ± 2 [7:13] [†]	8 ± 2 [5:13]	7 ± 2 [5:13]
RV wall thickness (mm/[m ²] ^{0.5})		4 ± 1 [3:5] [†]	4 ± 1 [3:5]	3 ± 1 [2:4]
		2.8 ± 0.4 [2.1:3.2] [†]	2.3 ± 0.4 [1.1:3.1]	2.1 ± 0.5 [1:3]

NORMAL FUNCTION



Cardiac Adaptation in the Ultramathoner

- ▶ Chamber enlargement
 - ▶ Predominantly right ventricle and atria
 - ▶ To a lesser degree the left ventricle

Enables higher stroke volumes during exercise

More efficient cardiac function

NORMAL FUNCTION

Cardiac Adaptation – The Electrocardiogram

The Seattle Criteria increase the specificity of preparticipation ECG screening among elite athletes

Maria Brosnan,^{1,2} Andre La Gerche,^{1,2} Jon Kalman,³ Wilson Lo,⁴ Kieran Fallon,⁵ Andrew Maclsaac,¹ David Prior^{1,2}

Electrocardiographic Findings in Endurance Athletes

Jon Kalman, PhD, MBBS^c, and David L. Prior, PhD, MBBS^{a,b}

ESC classification of ECG abnormalities

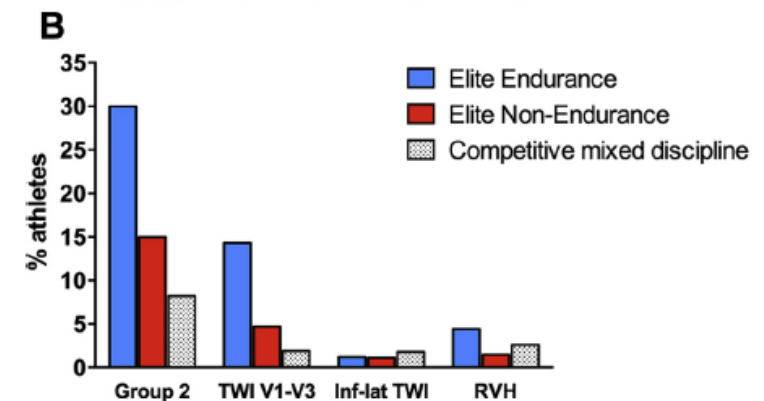
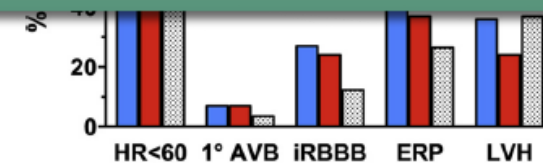
Group 1 (training-related)

- Sinus bradycardia
- First degree AV block
- Incomplete RBBB
- Early repolarisation
- Isolated QRS voltage criteria for LVH

Using this criteria 4% of athletes had 'abnormal ECG' but had a normal heart following further investigations

- Right axis deviation / left posterior hemiblock
- Right ventricular hypertrophy
- Ventricular pre-excitation
- Complete LBBB or RBBB
- Long-QT or short-QT interval
- Brugada-like early repolarization

LVH = left ventricular hypertrophy; LBBB = left bundle branch block; RBBB = right bundle branch block.

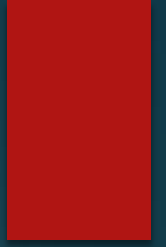


ECG data from Western States 2013

ABNORMAL ATHLETE CRITERIA (Seattle)	Numbers of Veteran Athletes (%) (WS100 n = 48)	Number of Young Athletes (%) (Brosnan et al 2013 n = 1078)
T Wave Inversion >1mm (2 or more adjacent (V2-V6 / II and AVF, I and AVL))	1 (2)	25 (2.3)
ST Depression	0 (0)	2 (0.2)
Pathologic Q Waves	0 (0)	2 (0.2)
Intraventricular Conduction Delay or complete LBBB	1 (2)	1 (0.1)
Left Axis Deviation	3 (6)	6 (0.6)
Left Atrial Enlargement	1 (2)	5 (0.5)
Right Ventricular Hypertrophy	1 (2)	5 (0.5)
Right Atrial Enlargement	0 (0)	6 (0.6)
Ventricular Pre-Excitation	0 (0)	1 (0.1)
Long QT Interval	0 (0)	0 (0)
Short QT Interval	0 (0)	0 (0)
Brugada type 1 ECG Pattern	0 (0)	0 (0)
Premature Ventricular Extra-systoles (more than 2 per strip)	1 (2)	1 (0.1)
Ventricular Arrhythmias	0 (0)	0 (0)
TOTAL	8 (17)	48 (4.5)

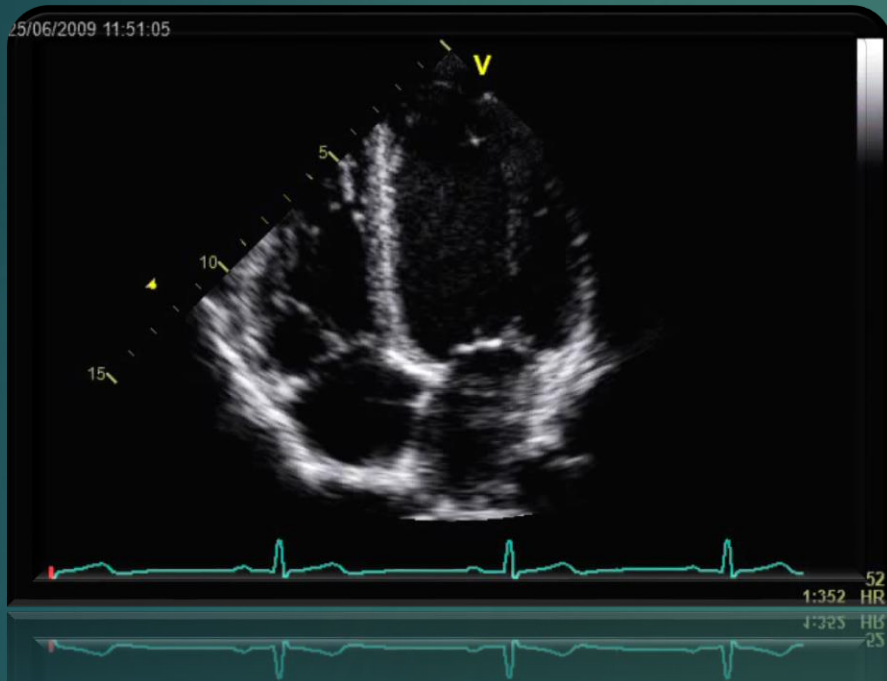
Unpublished Data

ACUTE CARDIAC RESPONSE TO AN ULTRAMARATHON

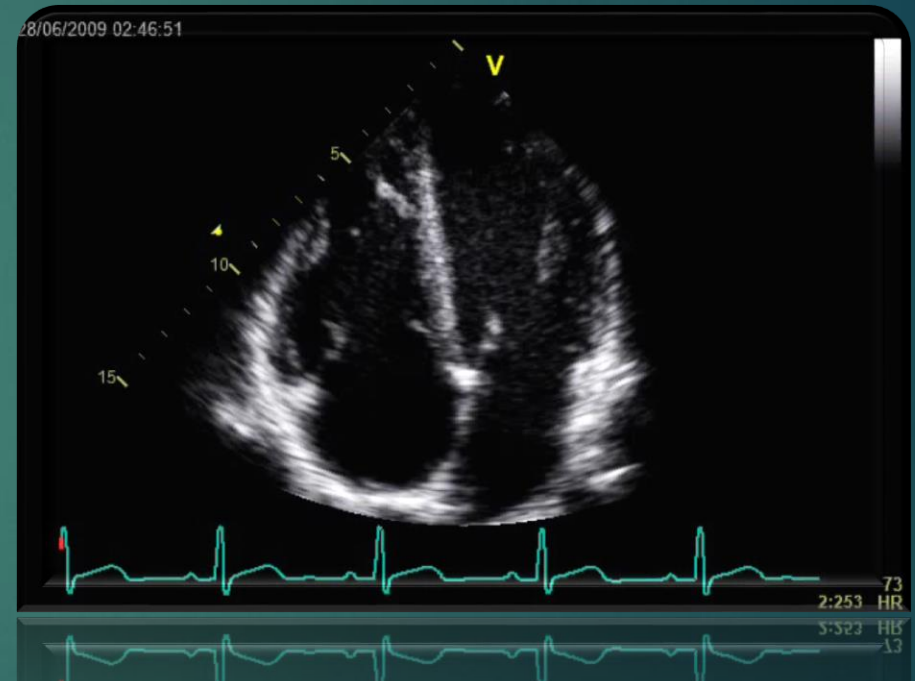


What is the Echocardiographic Diagnosis?

DAY 1

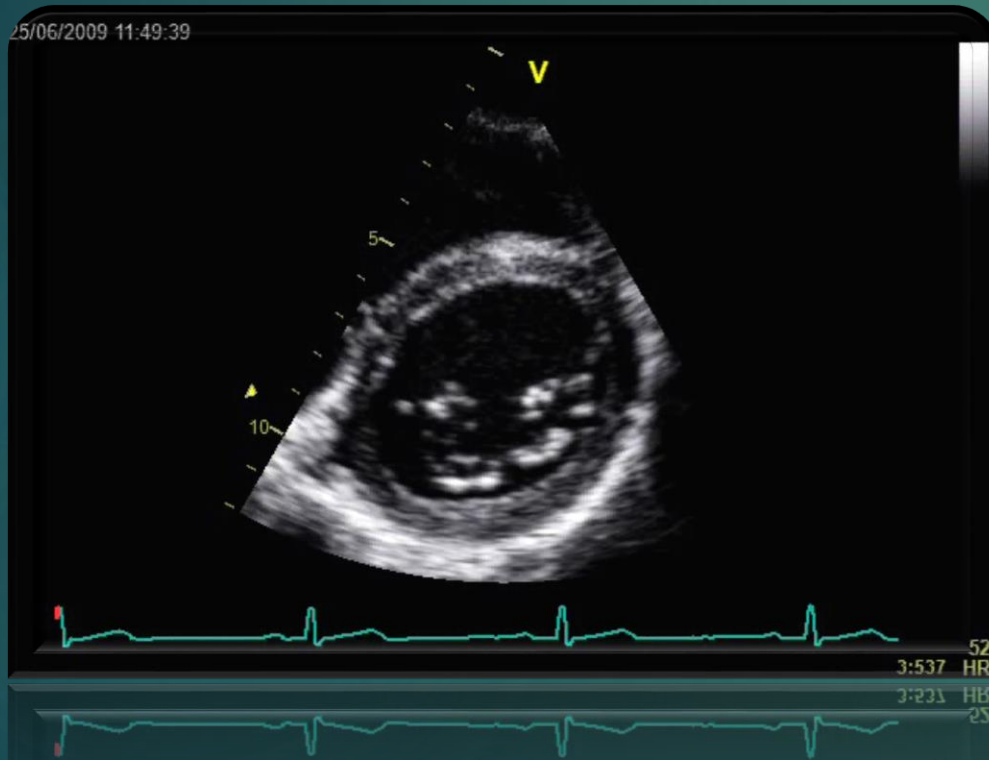


24 Hours Later

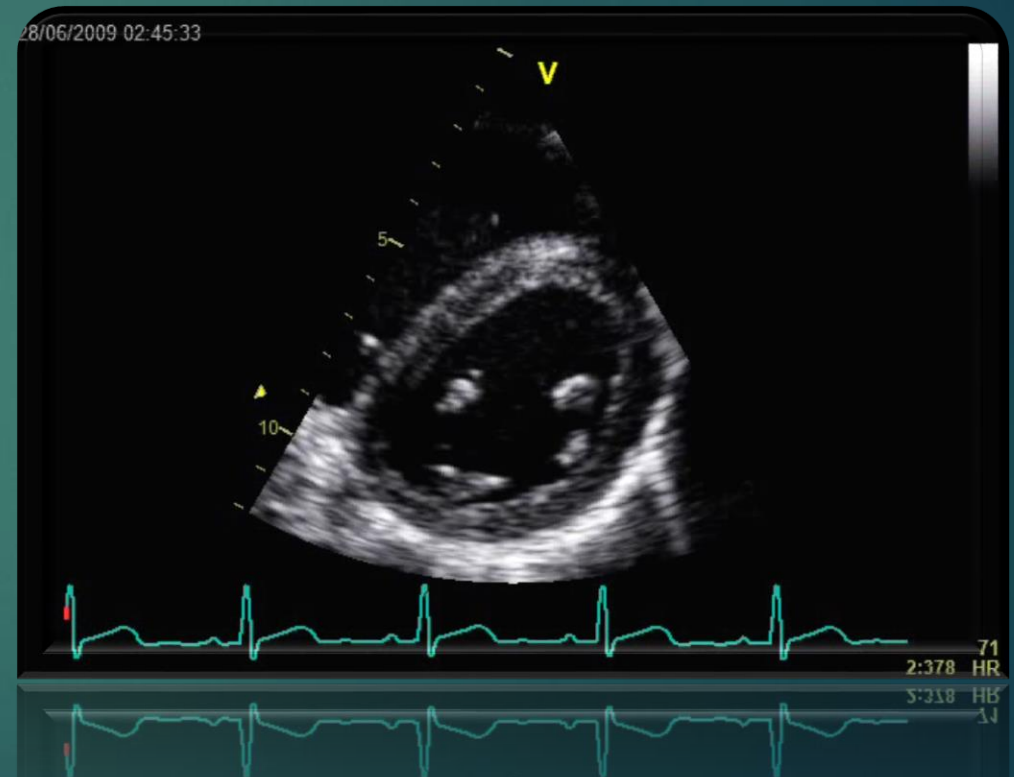


What is the Echocardiographic Diagnosis?

DAY 1

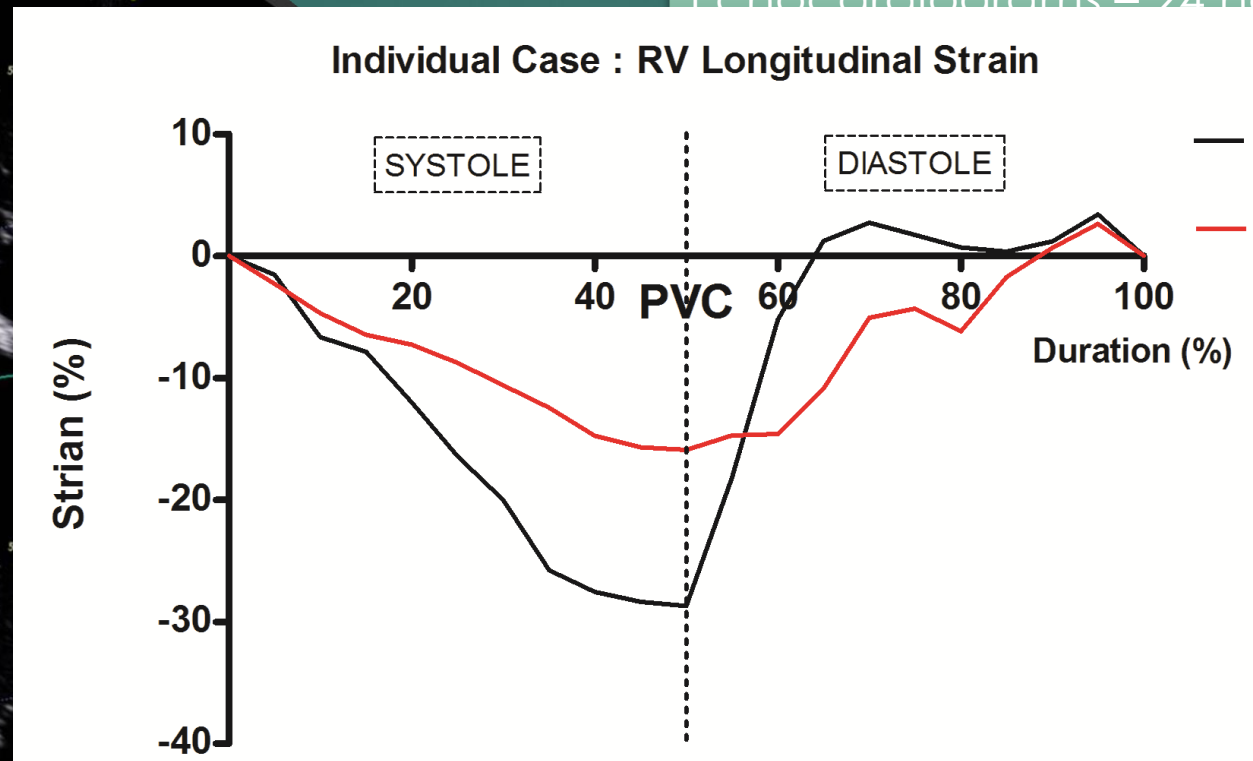


24 Hours Later



What is the Echocardiographic Diagnosis?

Echocardiograms – 24 hours



What is the Echocardiographic Diagnosis?

Echocardiograms – 48 hours apart



POST WESTERN STATES

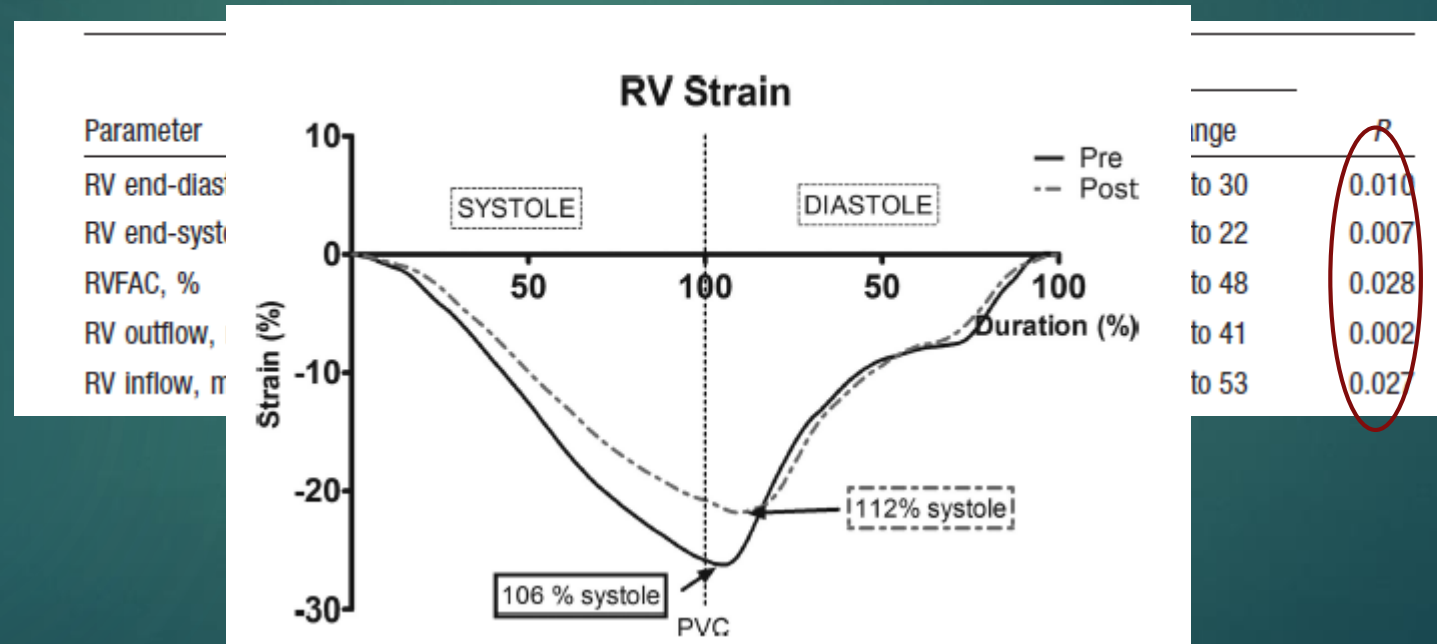
- ? Pulmonary Embolism
- ? Acute RV Obstruction
- ? RV volume overload

Dilatation and Dysfunction of the Right Ventricle Immediately After Ultraendurance Exercise

Exploratory Insights From Conventional Two-Dimensional and Speckle Tracking Echocardiography

David Oxborough, MSc; Robert Shave, PhD; Darren Warburton, PhD; Karen Williams, MSc;
Adele Oxborough, BSc; Sarah Charlesworth, PhD; Heather Foulds, MSc; Martin D. Hoffman, MD;
Karen Birch, PhD; Keith George, PhD

(*Circ Cardiovasc Imaging*. 2011;4:253-263.)



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(*Circ Cardiovasc Imaging*. 2011;4:253-263.)

Table 4. Major Significant Bivariate Correlations

Parameter	Bivariate Correlation	
	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i>
RV ϵ :long SRe'	0.560	0.024
RV ϵ :circ SRe'	0.482	0.050
LVEI:RVFAC	-0.457	0.034
LVEI:RV SRs'	-0.466	0.042
Finishing time:RV inflow	-0.637	0.008
Finishing time:RV diastolic area	-0.604	0.017
No. ultramarathons:RV inflow	-0.577	0.002
No. ultramarathons:RV diastolic area	-0.529	0.035
Training status:LVEI	-0.541	0.030

Exercise-induced right ventricular dysfunction and structural remodelling in endurance athletes

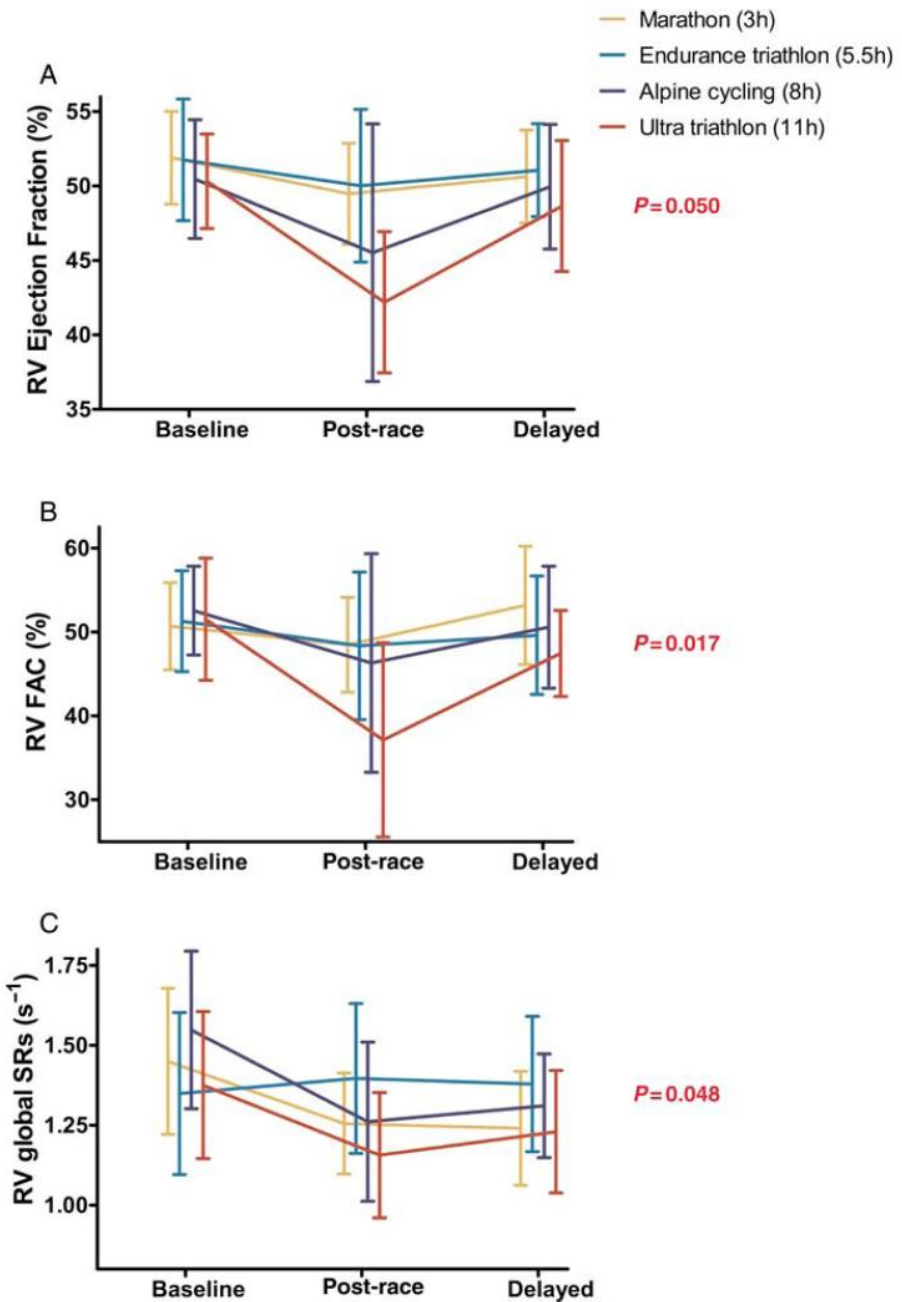
André La Gerche^{1,2*}, Andrew T. Burns³, Don J. Mooney³, Warrick J. Inder¹, Andrew J. Taylor⁴, Jan Bogaert⁵, Andrew I. Maclsaac³, Hein Heidbüchel², and David L. Prior^{1,3}

Right ventricular measures

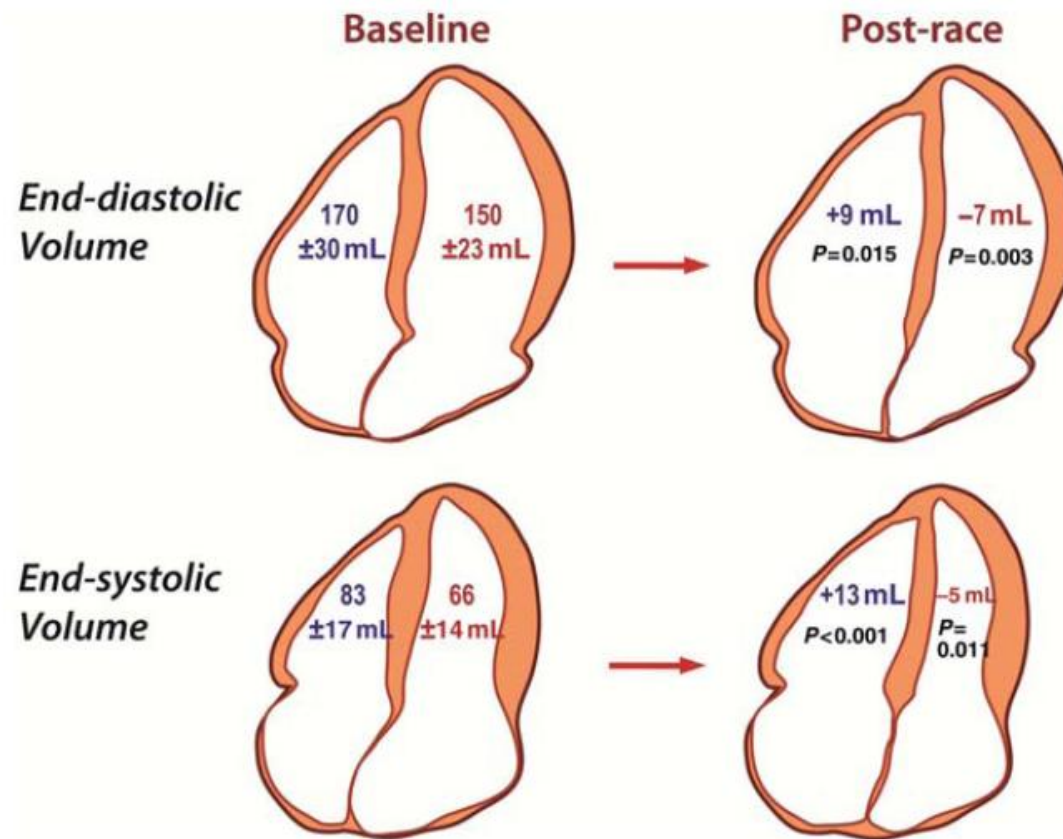
RVEF (%)	51.0 ± 3.6	<u>46.4 ± 6.5</u>	50.0 ± 3.8	<0.0001
RVFAC (%)	51.5 ± 6.0	<u>44.3 ± 11.2</u>	49.8 ± 6.6	<0.0001
TAPSE (mm)	24.9 ± 3.9	<u>24.0 ± 4.5</u>	26.5 ± 4.1	0.035
RV strain (%)	-27.2 ± 3.4	<u>-23.7 ± 3.7</u>	-25.6 ± 3.0	0.001
RVSRs (s ⁻¹)	-1.42 ± 0.24	<u>-1.26 ± 0.23</u>	-1.29 ± 0.19	0.008

Ventricular interaction

RV end-systolic diameter (mm)	20.2 ± 5.2	<u>23.8 ± 6.1</u>	21.5 ± 5.1	0.018
LV end-systolic diameter (mm)	37.7 ± 3.8	<u>35.2 ± 3.2</u>	37.5 ± 3.6	0.003
RV:LV end-systolic diameter ratio	0.54 ± 0.14	<u>0.69 ± 0.19</u>	0.58 ± 0.13	<0.0001
Eccentricity index	1.04 ± 0.13	<u>1.10 ± 0.15</u>	1.01 ± 0.10	0.006



La Gerche et al 2011



La Gerche et al 2011

Relation of Biomarkers and
Negareh Mousavi, MSc,
Matthew Lytr...

...ac Performance

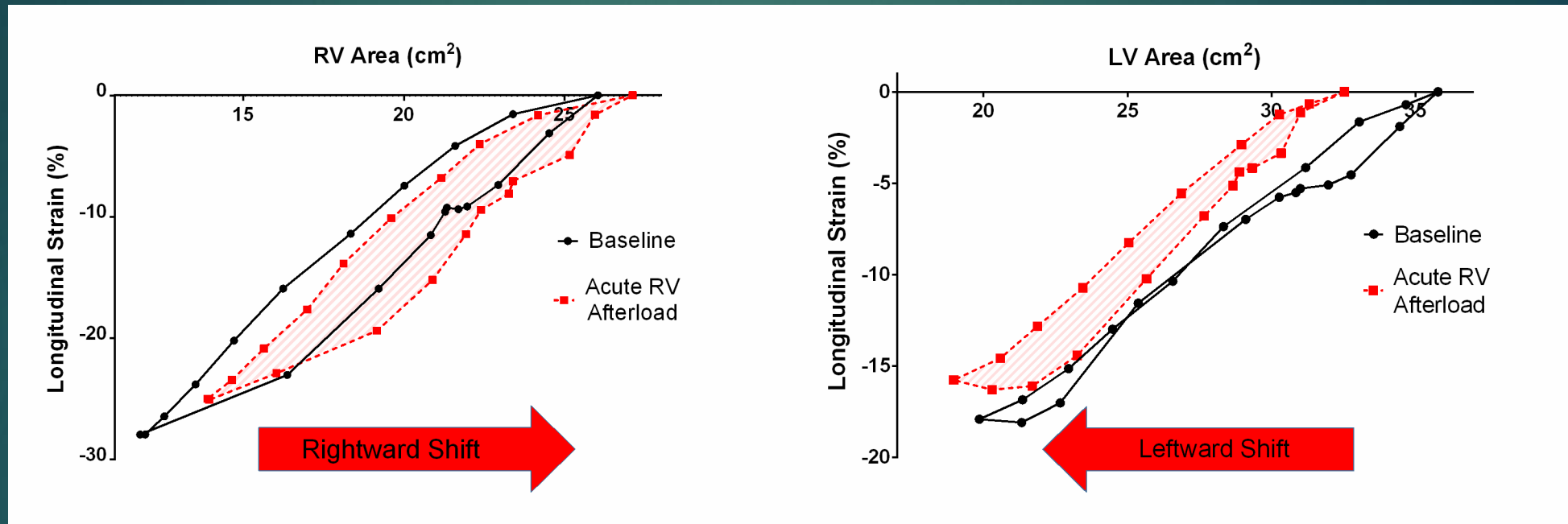
Persistent and reversible cardiac amateur marathon runners

Tomas G. Neilan¹, Danita M. Yoerg...
David Lawlor², Michael H. Pir...

The Impact of Marathon Running Upon Ventricular Function as Assessed by 2D, Doppler, and Tissue-Doppler Echocardiography

David Oxborough, B.Sc.,* Robert Shave, Ph.D.,† Natalie Middleton, MSc.,† Gregory Whyte, Ph.D.,‡
Jan Forster, MSc.,* and Keith George, Ph.D.§
...an F. Halpern³,
...azanin Fallah-Rad, BSc^f,
Jonathan R. Walker, BSc^f,
...arma, MD^c, and
... Imaging

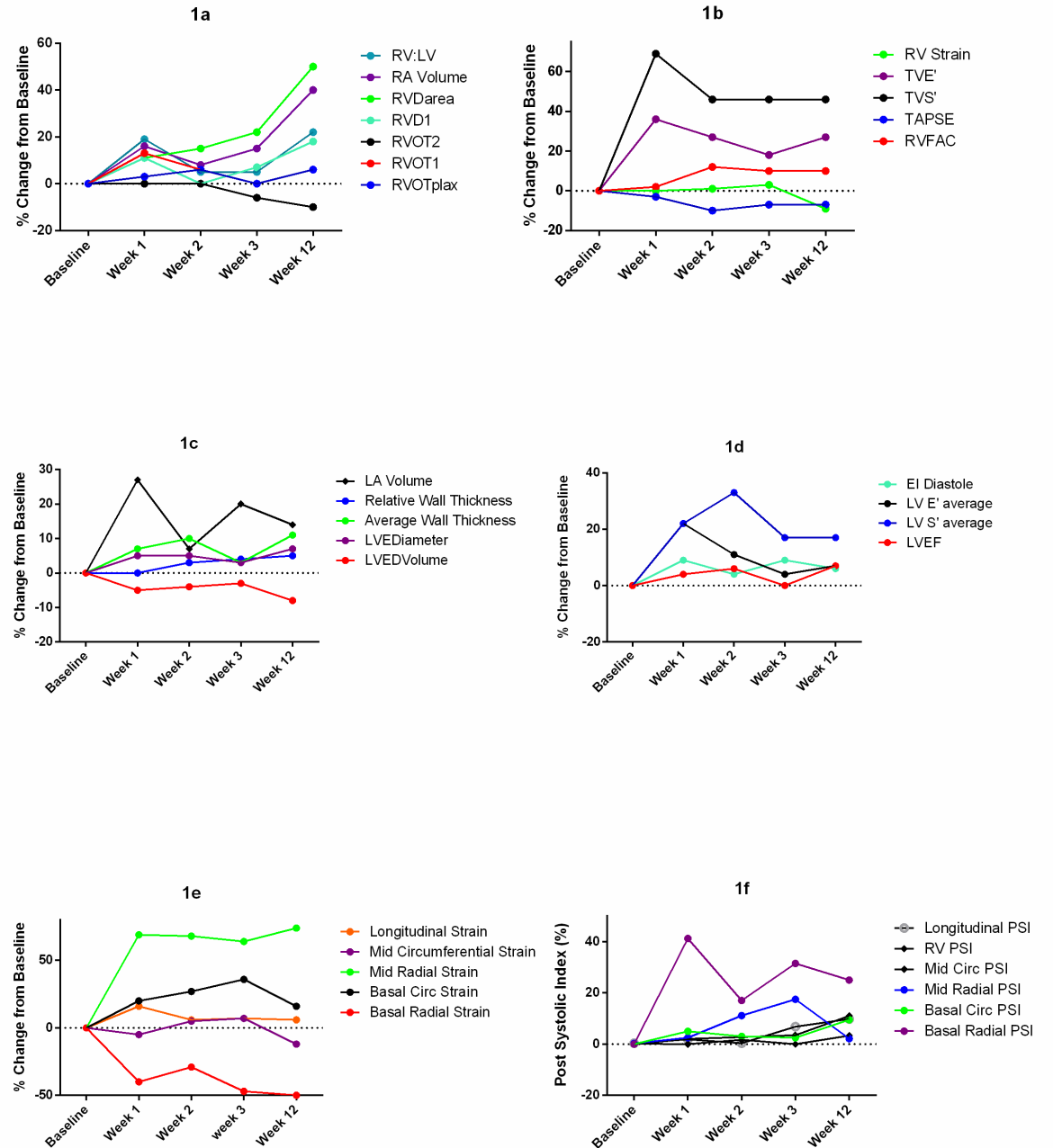
Right Heart Post-Ultramarathon



Unpublished Data

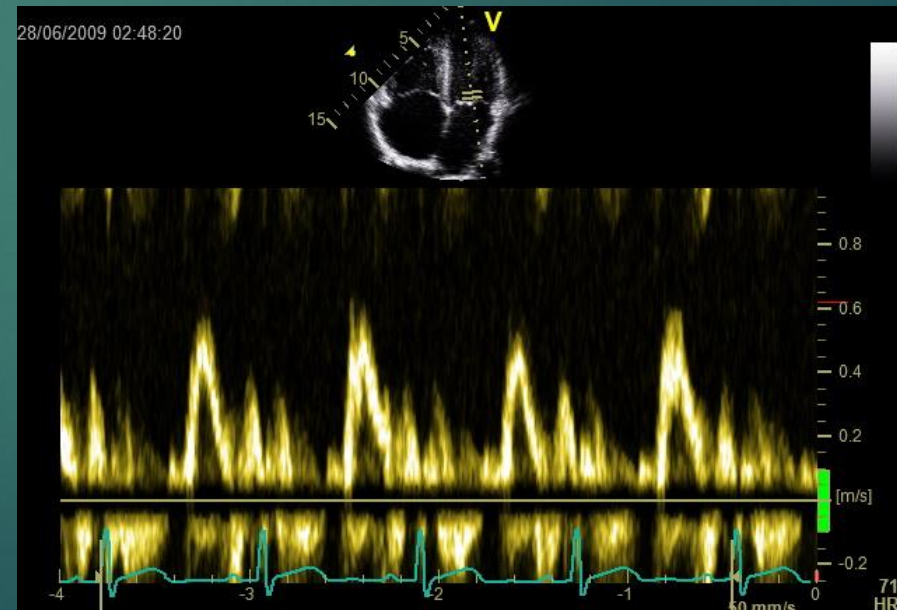
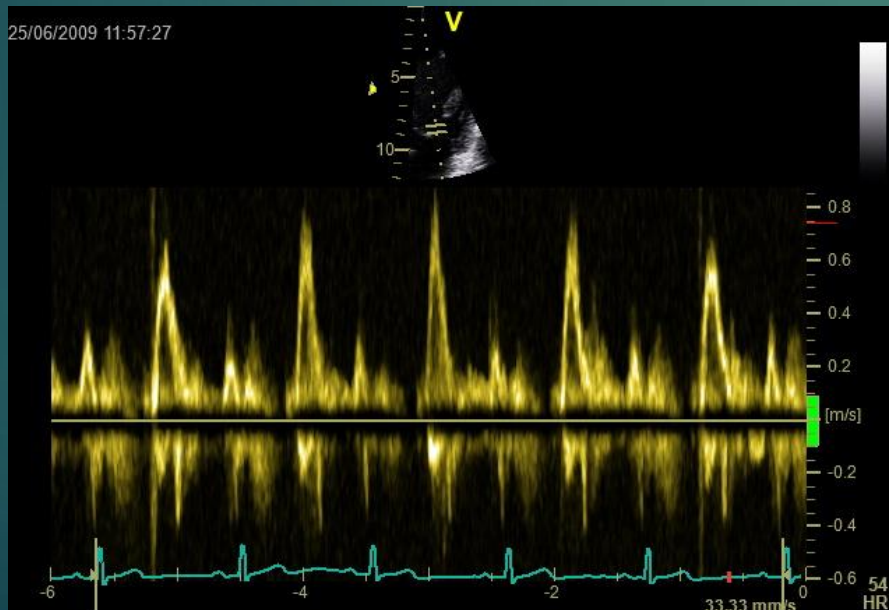
Acute response and chronic stimulus for cardiac structural and functional adaptation in a professional boxer

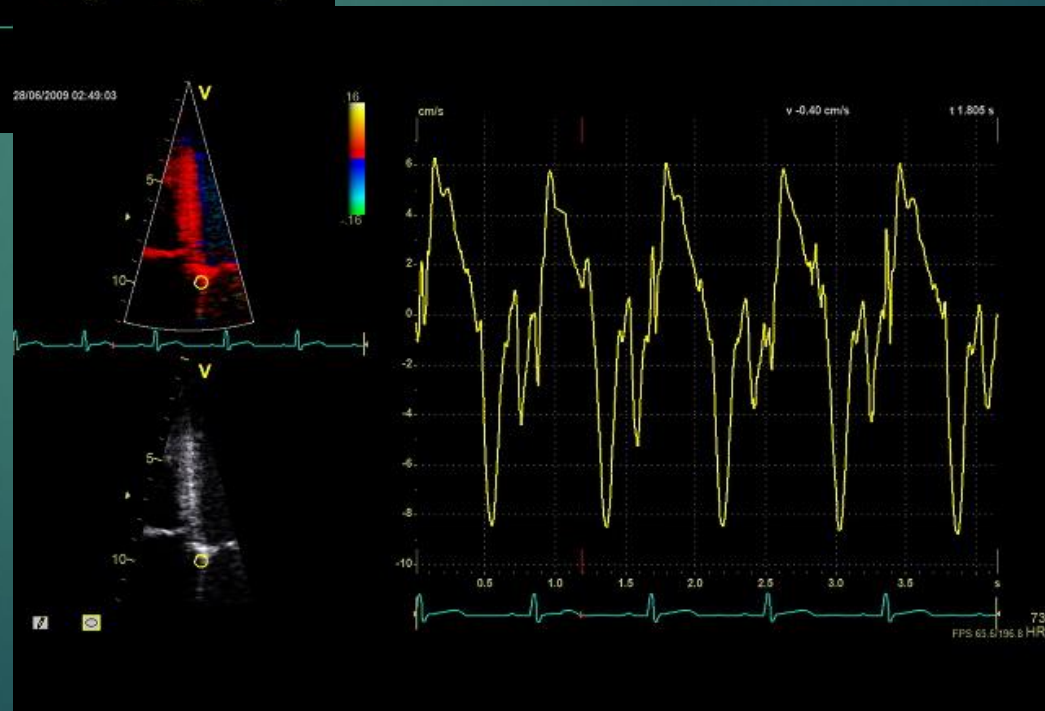
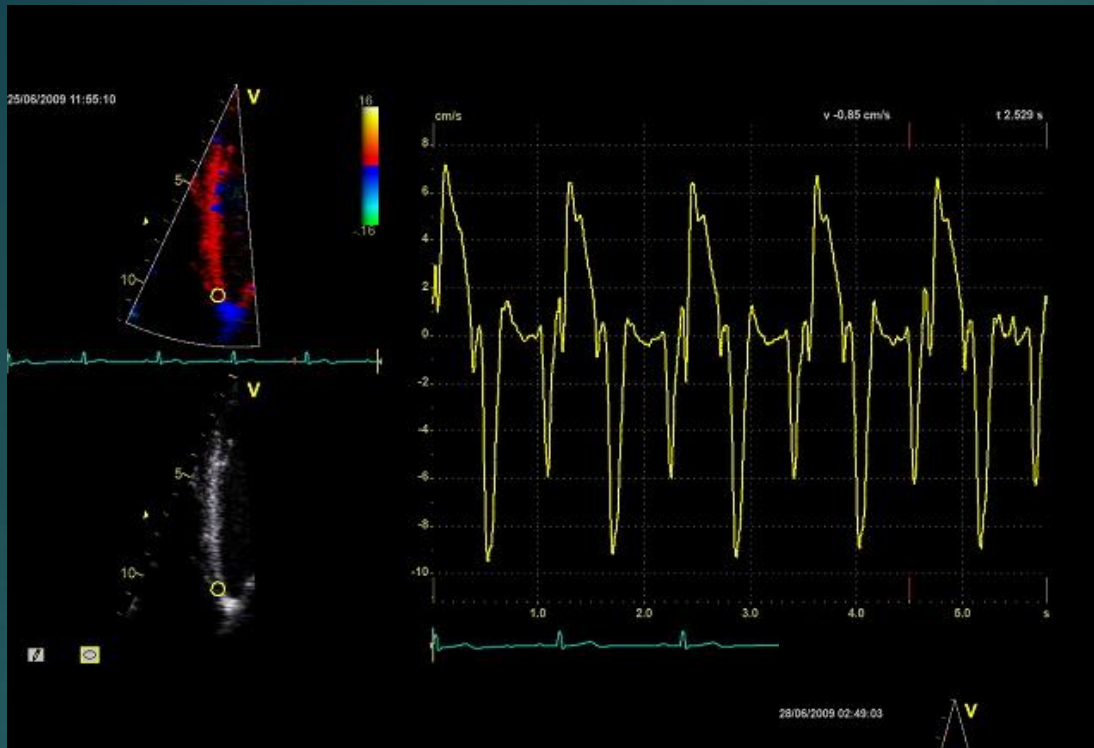
David Oxborough^{1,*}, Keith George¹, Victor Utomi¹, Rachel Lord¹, James Morton¹, Nigel Jones² and John Somauroo^{1,3}

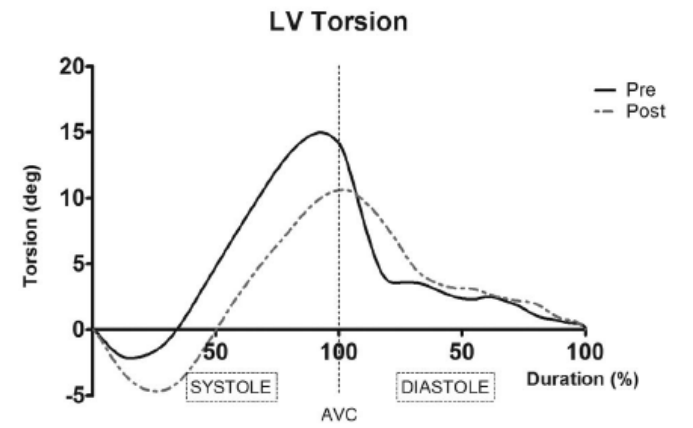
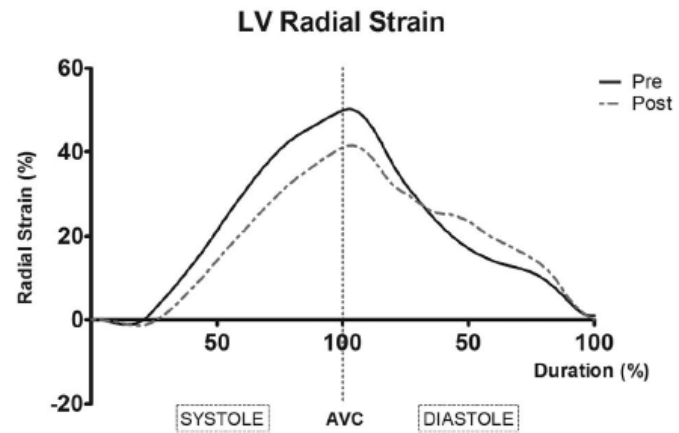
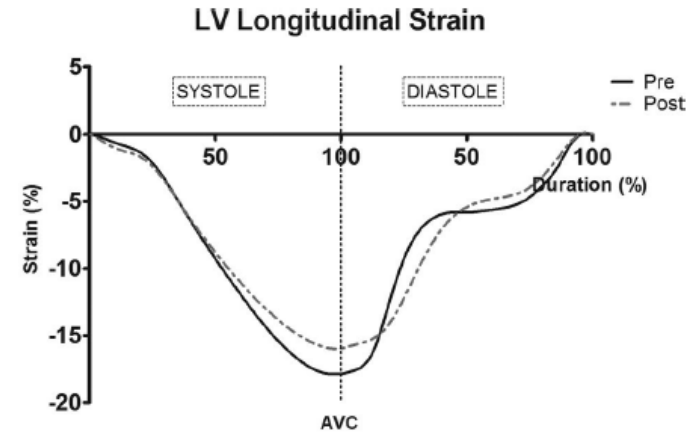
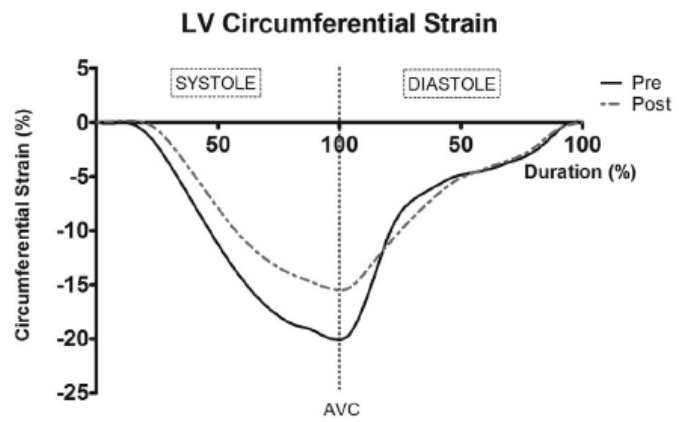


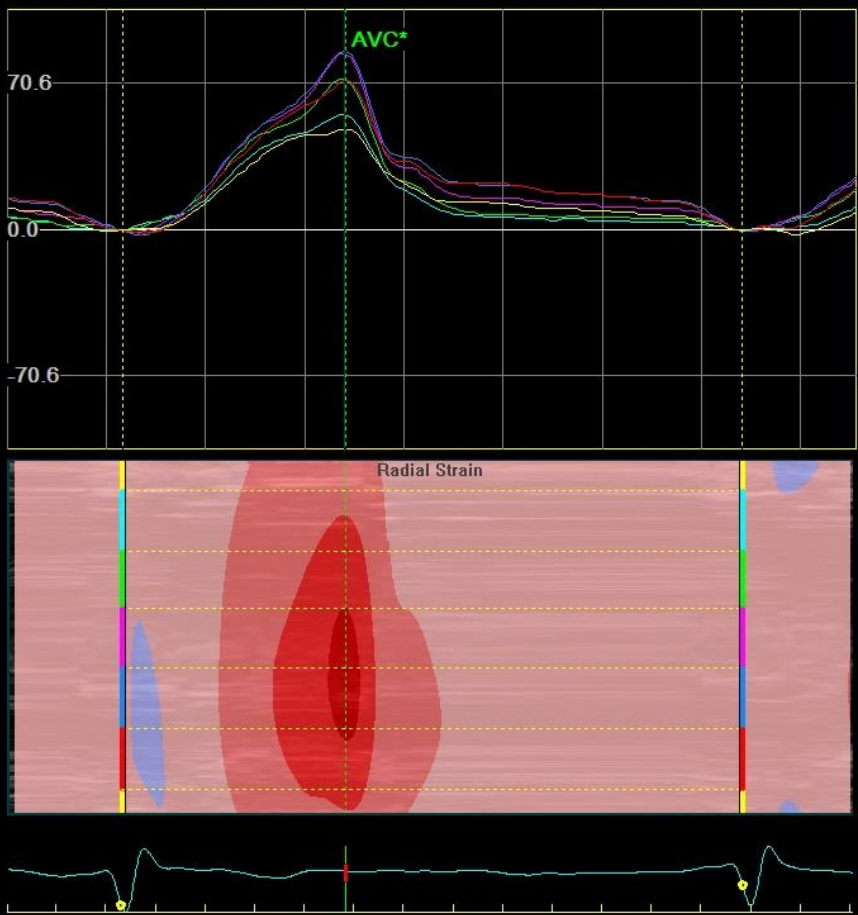
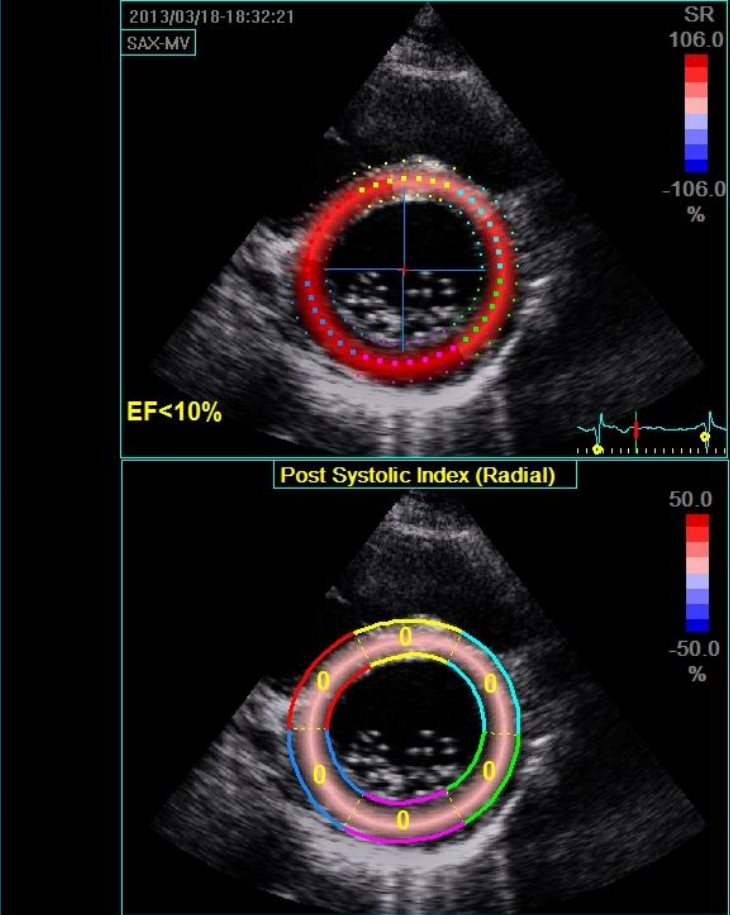
The Left Ventricle

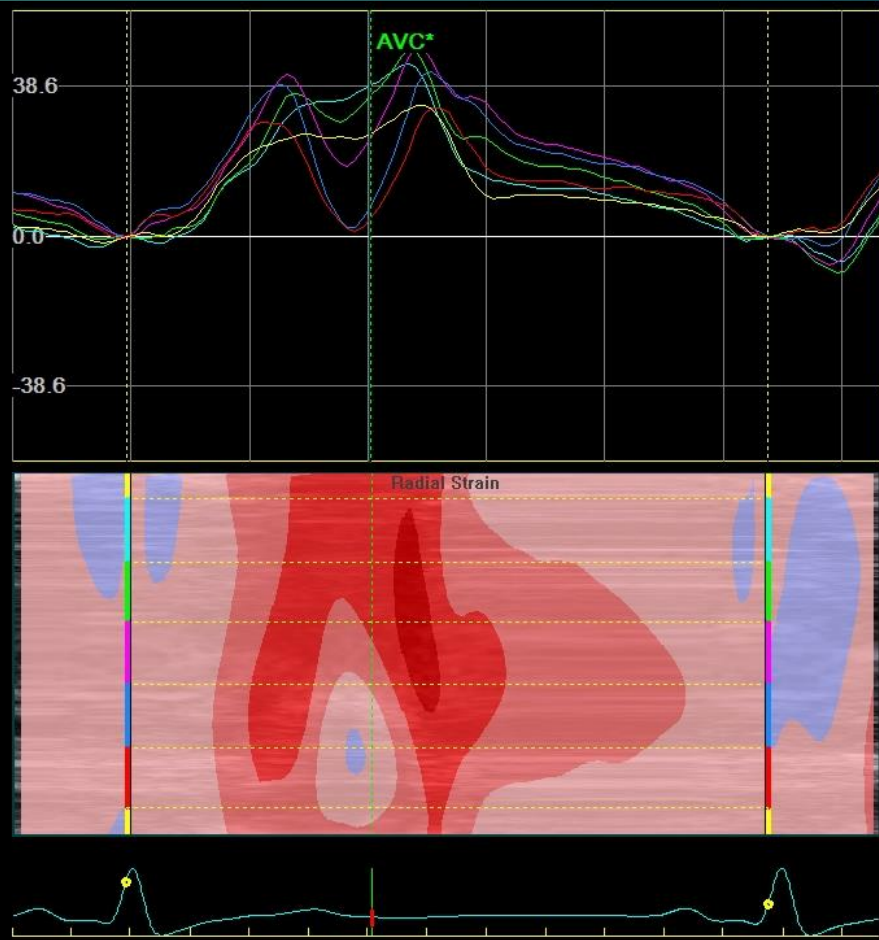
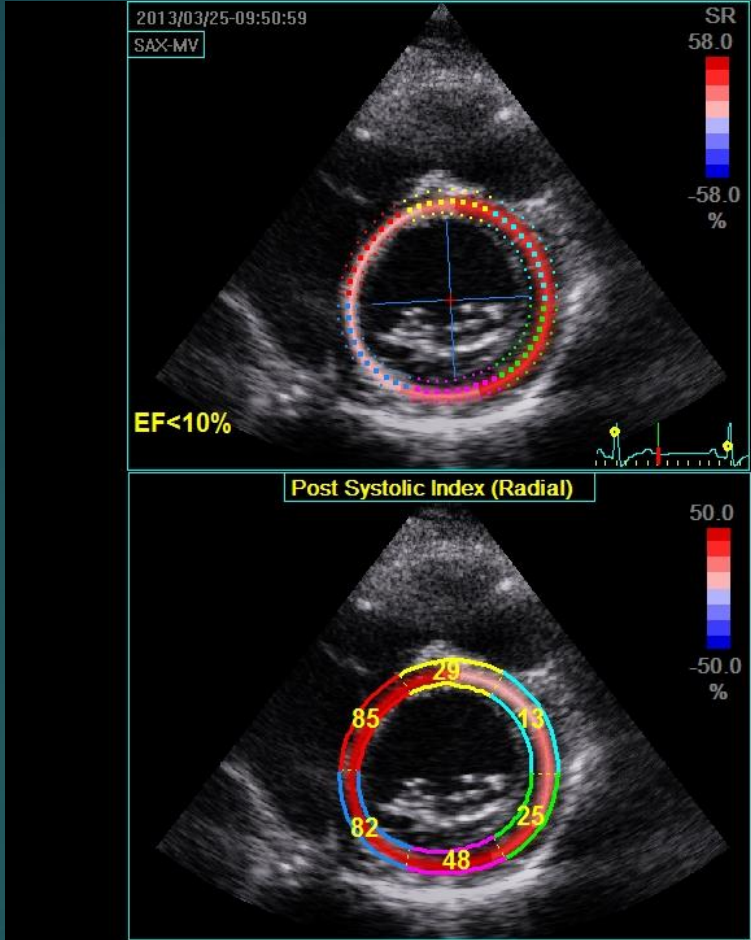
- ▶ Reduction in Diastolic Filling
- ▶ Reduction in Systolic function (at higher exercise volumes)
 - ▶ Strain imaging
 - ▶ Torsion











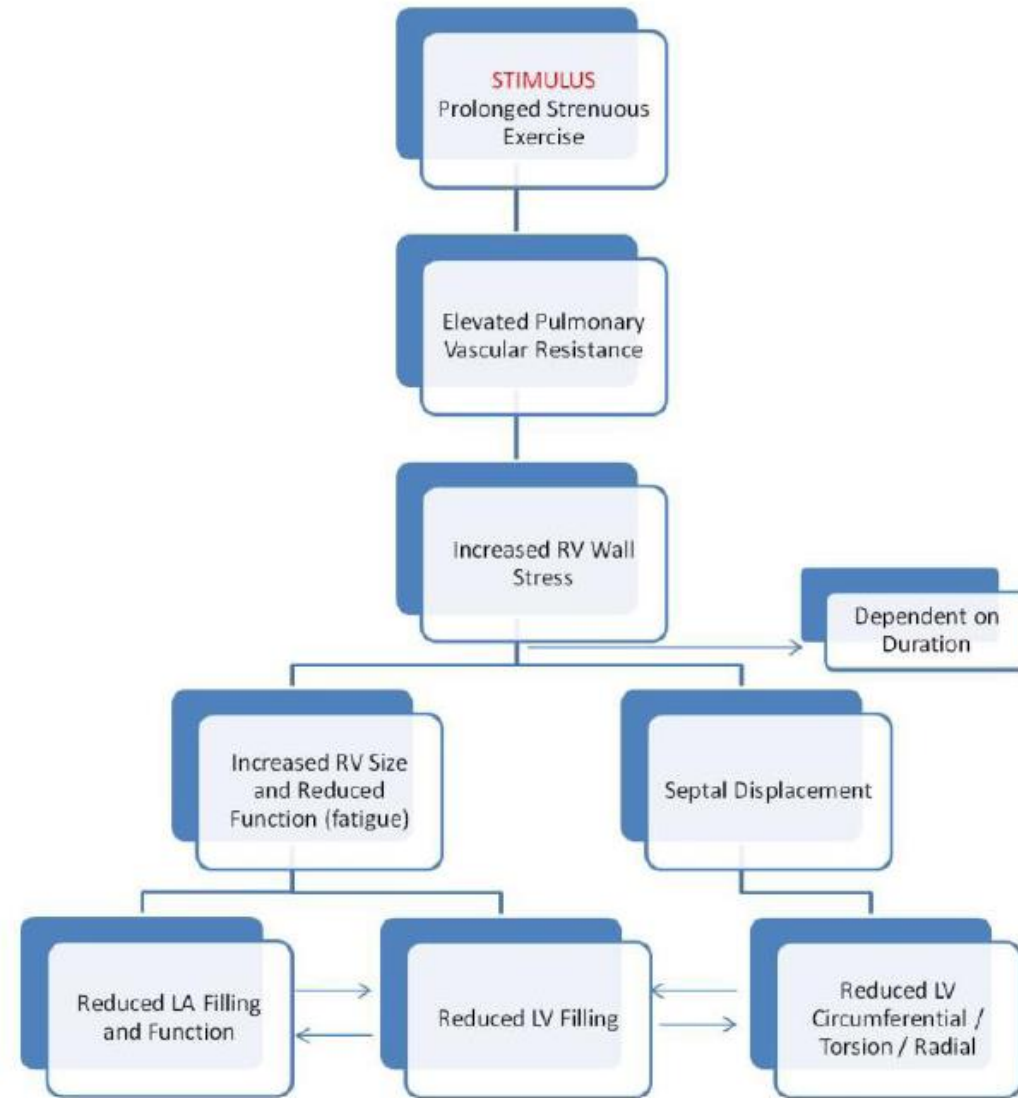
A Depression in Left Ventricular Diastolic Filling following Prolonged Strenuous Exercise is Associated with Changes in Left Atrial Mechanics

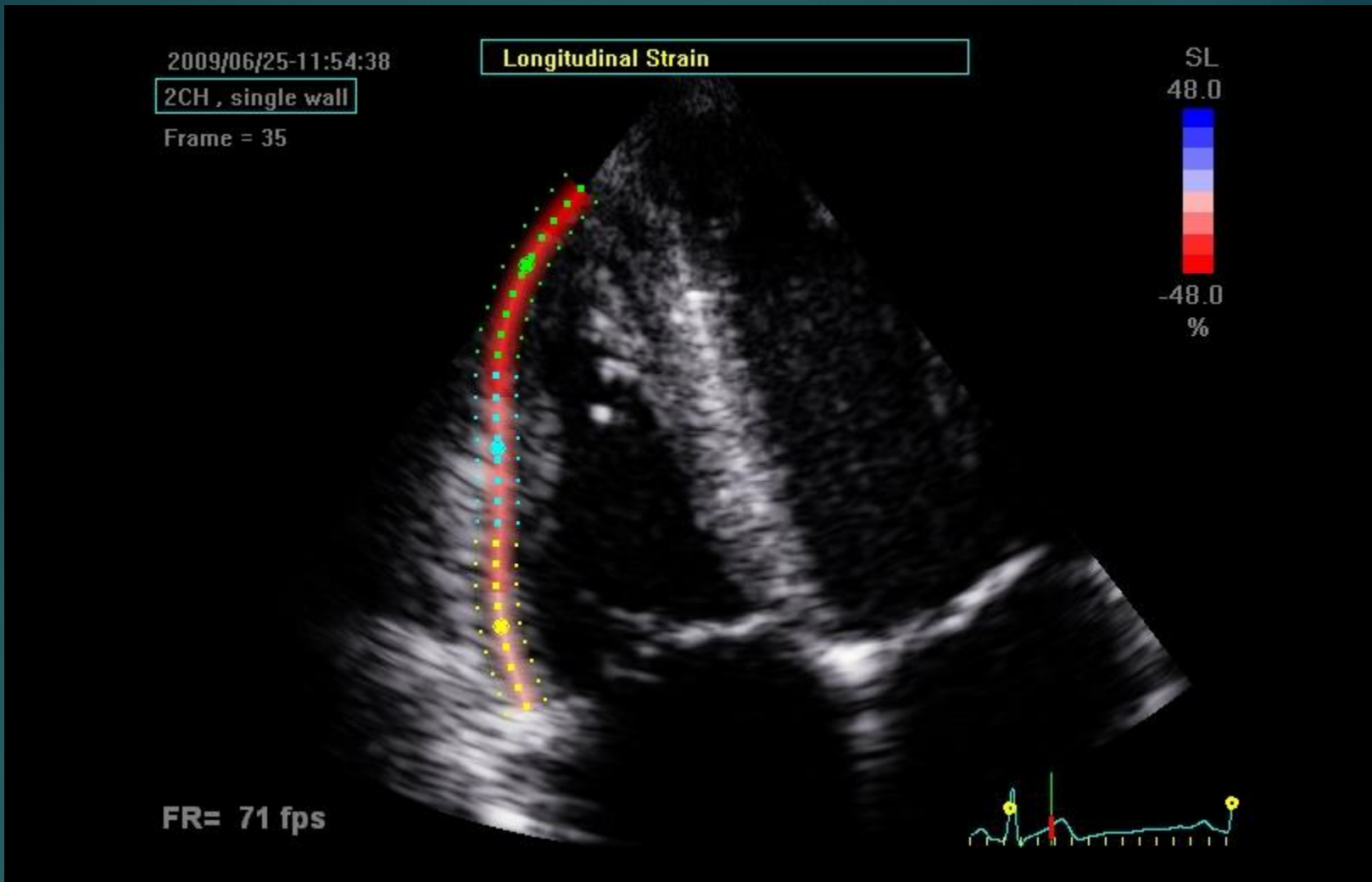
David Oxborough, MSc, Greg Whyte, PhD, Mathew Wilson, MPhil, Rory O'Hanlon, MRCPI, Karen Birch, PhD, Robert Shave, PhD, Gillian Smith, MSc, Richard Godfrey, PhD, Sanjay Prasad, MRCP, and Keith George, PhD, *Leeds, Liverpool, Walsall, and London, United Kingdom*

Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography
Volume 23 Number 9

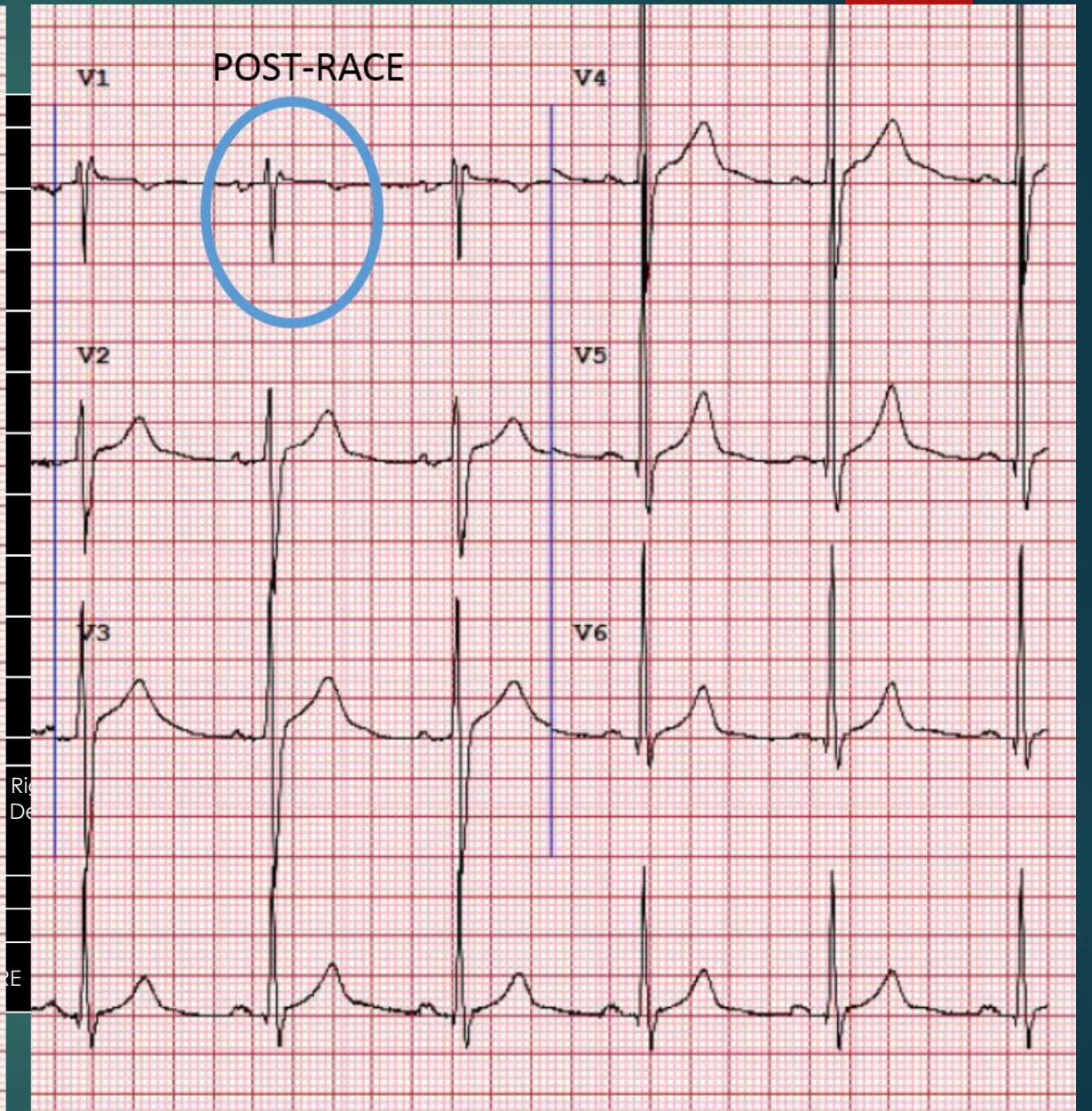
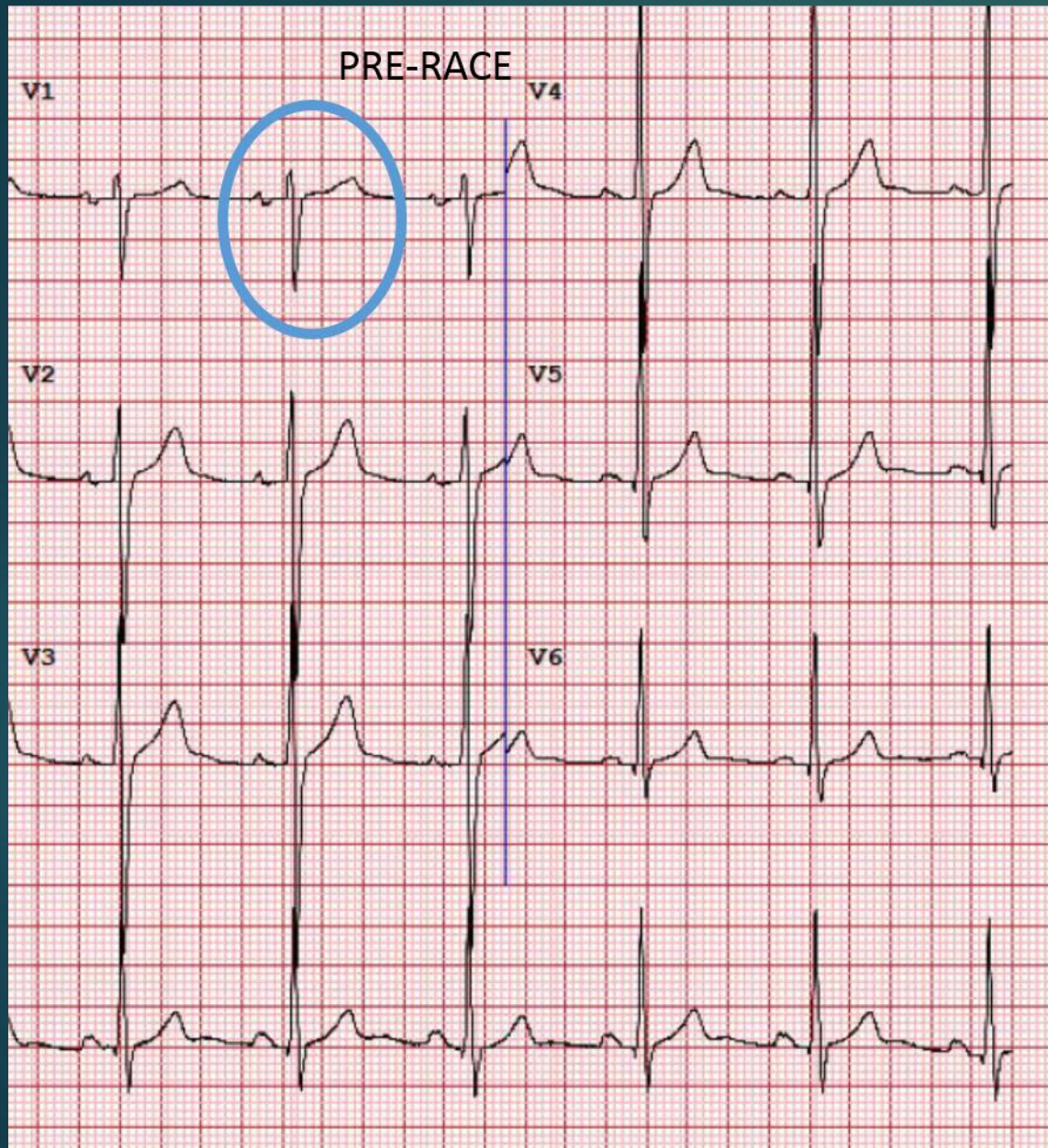
Table 2 LA functional data

Parameter	Before exercise	Immediately after exercise	6 hours after exercise
Aact (TS-onset) (ms)	33.5 (25.6 to 41.4)	53.5 (42.4 to 64.6)*	51.1 (41.5 to 60.8) [†]
Aact (TS-peak) (ms)	108.8 (97.9 to 119.7)	118.3 (106.3 to 130.2)	114.2 (104.7 to 123.6)
A ϵ (%)	53.1 (42.8 to 63.2)	44.2 (37.1 to 51.1)*	51.7 (43.1 to 60.4) [†]
ASRs (L/s)	2.79 (2.35 to 3.25)	2.62 (2.15 to 3.09)	2.77 (2.24 to 3.3)
ASRe (L/s)	-4.37 (-5.12 to -3.63)	-3.24 (-3.84 to -2.64)*	-3.90 (-4.66 to -3.14)
ASRa (L/s)	-2.95 (-3.56 to -2.33)	-3.24 (-4.02 to -2.54)*	-2.88 (-3.66 to -2.10)
LAES (mL)	65 (43 to 79)	57 (43 to 76)*	67 (45 to 85) [†]
LApreA (mL)	47 (32 to 64)	49 (37 to 65)	49 (35 to 67)
LAED (mL)	37 (26 to 48)	35 (27 to 46)*	38 (28 to 48) [†]
Reservoir volume (mL)	28 (16 to 37)	23 (10 to 47)*	29 (14 to 47) [†]
Conduit volume (mL)	74 (50 to 112)	66 (36 to 103)*	66 (35 to 103)
Booster volume (mL)	10 (5 to 17)	14 (4 to 29)*	11 (4 to 25)





RV involvement is
significant



Ri
De
E

Cardiac Biomarkers

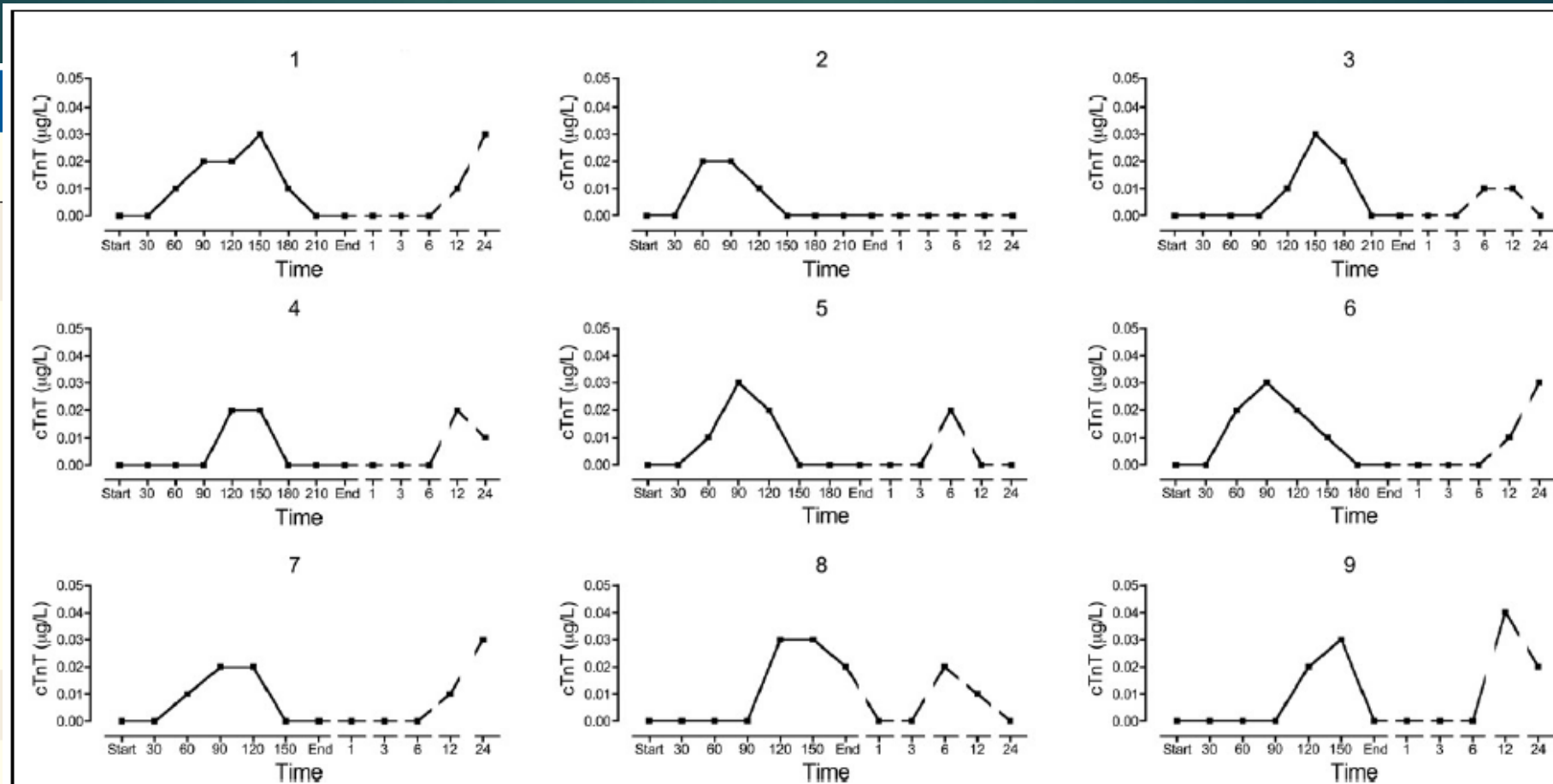


Figure 3 Individual cTnT Release During and After Completion of a Marathon

Individual cardiac troponin T (cTnT) release during (min) and after (h, after exercise) completion of a marathon. Reprinted with permission from Middleton et al. (2).

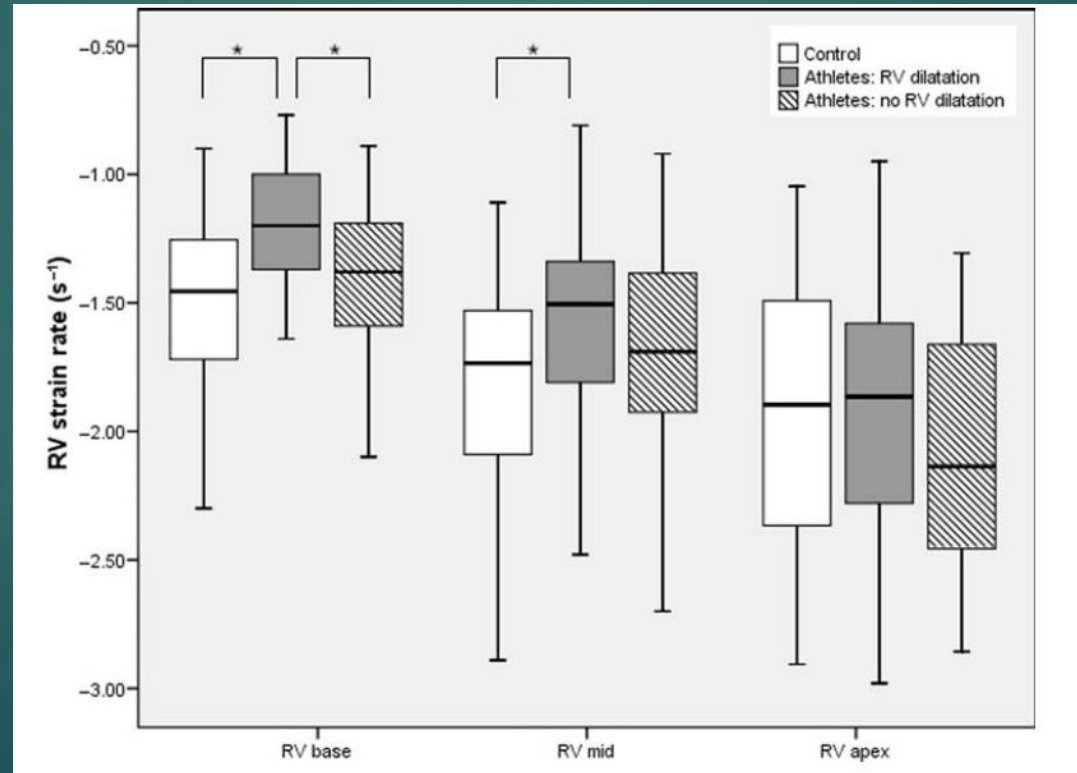
Summary

- ▶ Big hearts functioning well
- ▶ Completing an ultramarathon leads to some acute changes in structure and function – particularly the right ventricle
- ▶ Cardiac biomarker release appears to be a physiological phenomenon
- ▶ This acute event is likely to act as a stimulus for PHYSIOLOGICAL cardiac adaptation

DOES REPEATED EXPOSURE AND INSUFFICIENT RECOVERY TIME LEAD TO PATHOLOGICAL CARDIAC ADAPTATION?

Echocardiographic tissue deformation imaging of right ventricular systolic function in endurance athletes

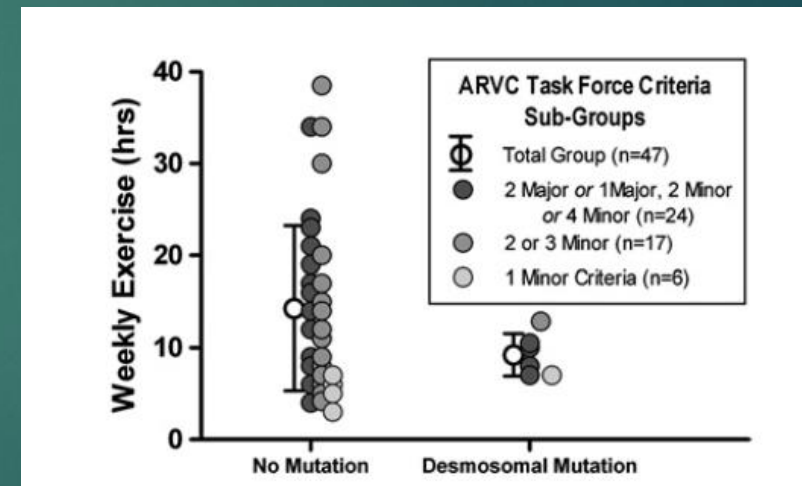
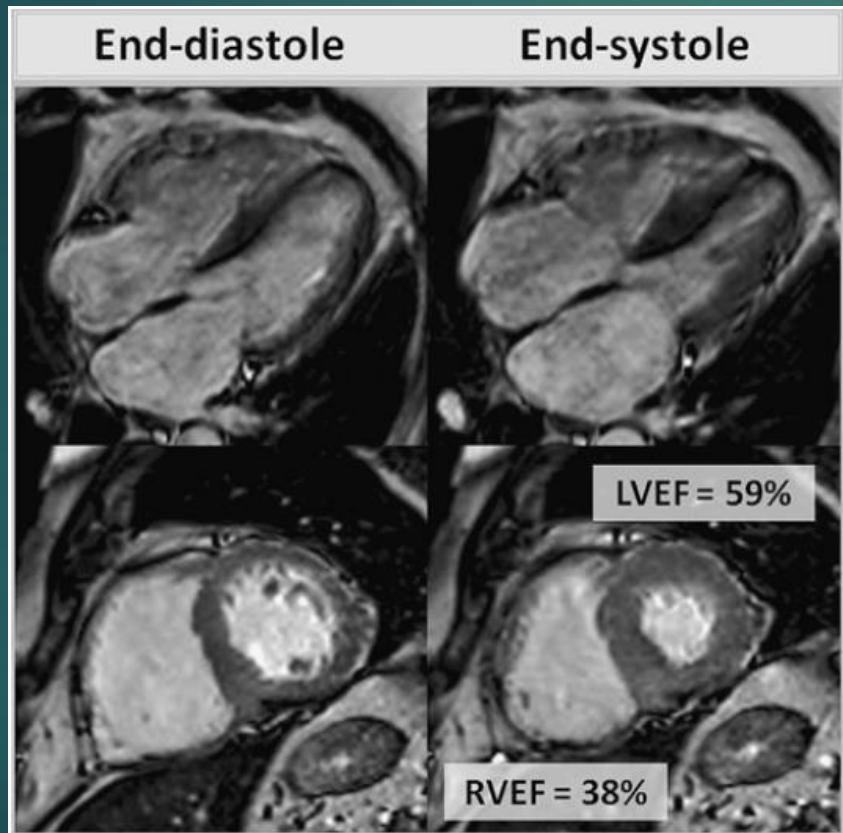
Arco J. Teske^{1*}, Niek H. Prakken², Bart W. De Boer¹, Pieter A. Doevendans¹, and M. European Heart Journal (2009) 30, 969–977



Lower than expected desmosomal gene mutation prevalence in endurance athletes with complex ventricular arrhythmias of right ventricular origin

A La Gerche,^{1,3} C Robberecht,² C Kuiperi,² D Nuyens,¹ R Willems,¹ T de Ravel,² G Matthijs,² H Heidbüchel^{1,3}

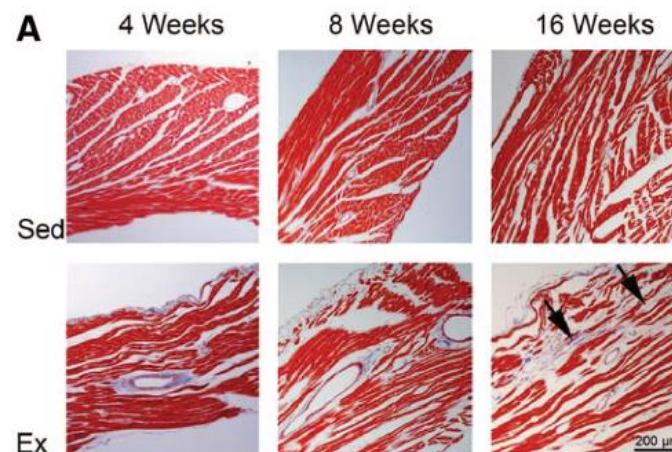
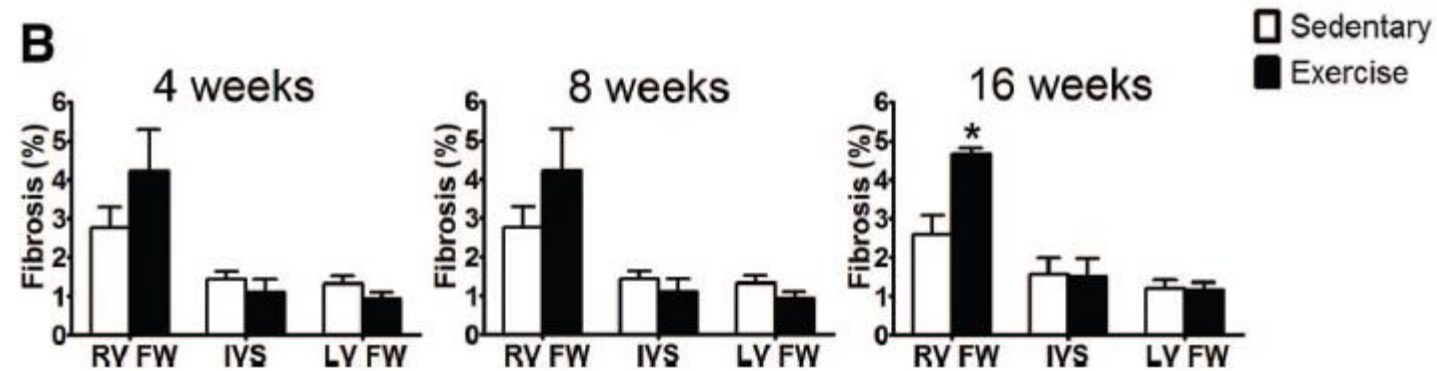
Heart 2010;**96**:1268–1274



Cardiac Arrhythmogenic Remodeling in a Rat Model of Long-Term Intensive Exercise Training

Begoña Benito, MD*; Gemma Gay-Jordi, PhD*; Anna Serrano-Mollar, PhD; Eduard Guasch, MD; Yanfen Shi, MD; Jean-Claude Tardif, MD; Josep Brugada, MD, PhD; Stanley Nattel, MD†; Lluís Mont, MD, PhD†

(*Circulation*. 2011;123:13-22.)



Diverse patterns of myocardial fibrosis in lifelong, veteran endurance athletes

M. Wilson,¹ R. O'Hanlon,^{2,3} S. Prasad,² A. Deighan,⁴ P. MacMillan,⁵ D. Oxborough,⁶ R. Godfrey,⁷
G. Smith,² A. Maceira,⁸ S. Sharma,⁹ K. George,¹⁰ and G. Whyte¹⁰

J Appl Physiol 110: 1622–1626, 2011.

Table 3. *Location and extent of LGE in veteran athletes*

Participant No.	Age, yr	Percentage of Total LGE Mass, g	LGE Pattern	Perfusion Defect	Interpretation	Location
1	67	18.9	CAD	Yes	Probable dual infarction	Septal and lateral wall
2	50	8	Non-CAD	No	Probable myocarditis	Epicardial lateral wall
3	66	3	Non-CAD	No	Nonspecific	Basal and midinsertion point
4						nt mid and apical
5						or mid/apical
6						nt

LGE; late

DATA IS SPARSE

HETEROGENEOUS PRESENTATION

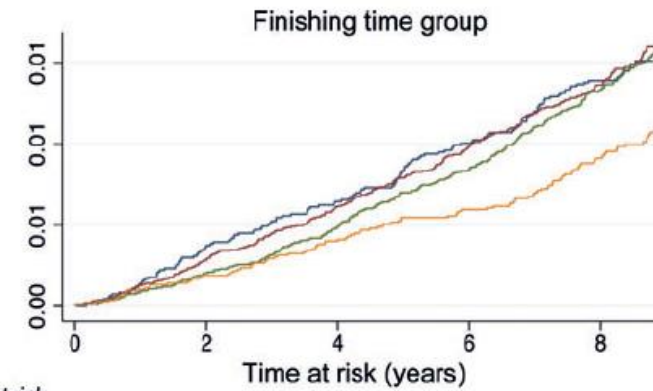
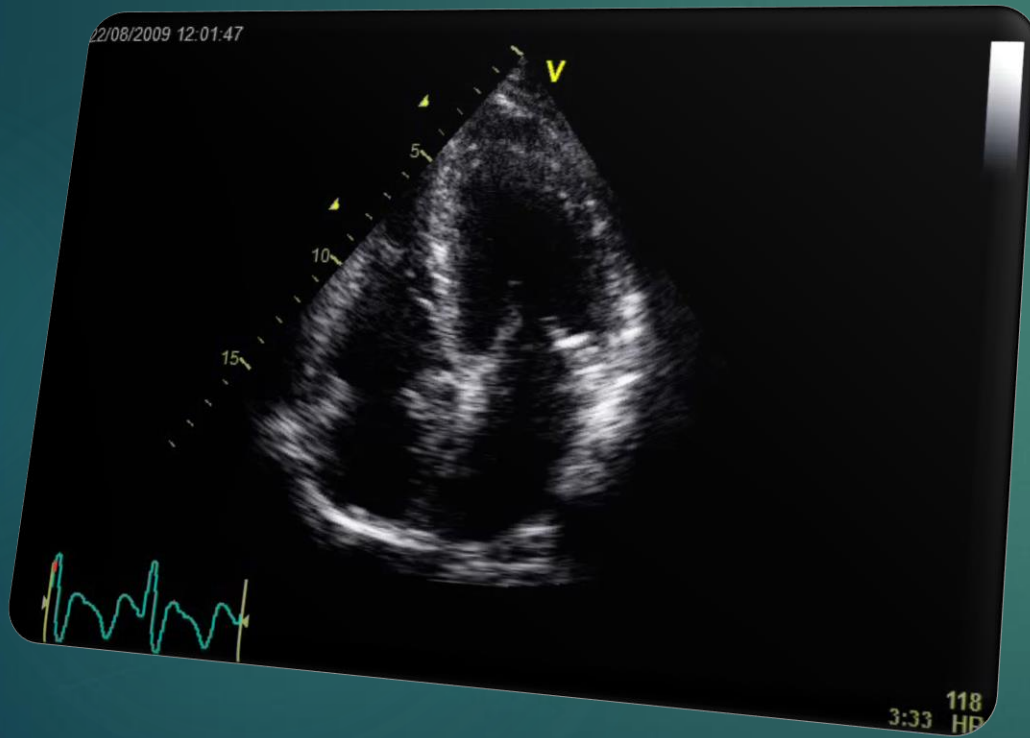
?GENETIC PREDISPOSITION

DEFINITELY FURTHER WORK IS REQUIRED

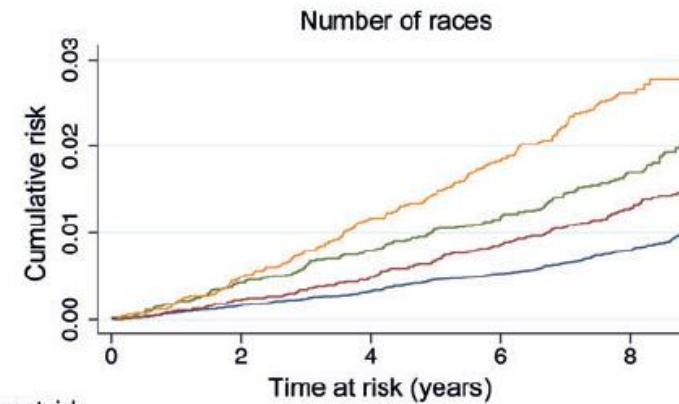


Risk of arrhythmias in 52 755 long-distance cross-country skiers: a cohort study

Kasper Andersen^{1*}, Bahman Farahmand^{2,3}, Anders Ahlbom², Claes Held¹, Sverker Ljunghall¹, Karl Michaëlsson⁴, and Johan Sundström¹



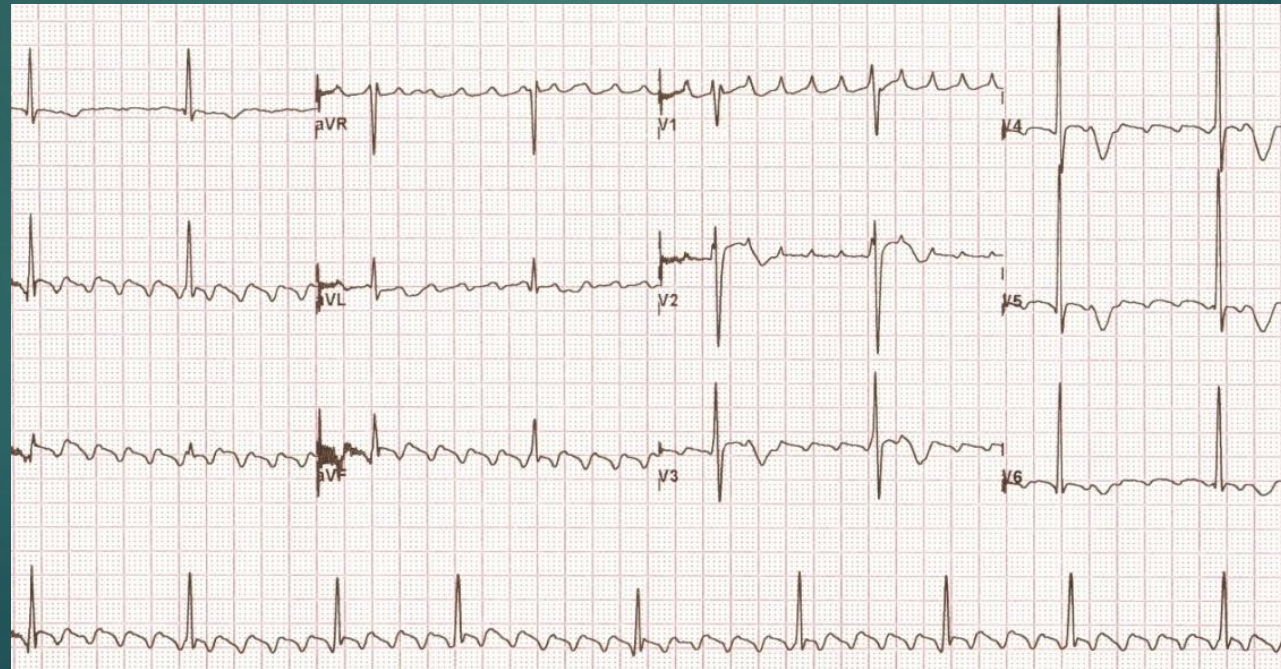
Number at risk	0	2	4	6	8
100-160%	9411	9297	9208	9120	4896
160-200%	17098	16891	16689	16499	10244
160-200%	15673	15500	15309	15119	10201
>240%	10573	10467	10328	10213	6841



Number at risk	0	2	4	6	8
1	27515	27230	26896	26593	20025
2	9838	9715	9604	9495	6137
3-4	8390	8277	8189	8110	4244
≥5	7012	6933	6845	6753	1776

Atrial Arrhythmias

- ▶ Elevated risk of AF in endurance athletes (Furlanello 2008; Sorokin 2009; Abdulla 2009)
 - ▶ LA size, ANS balance, competitive stress ??

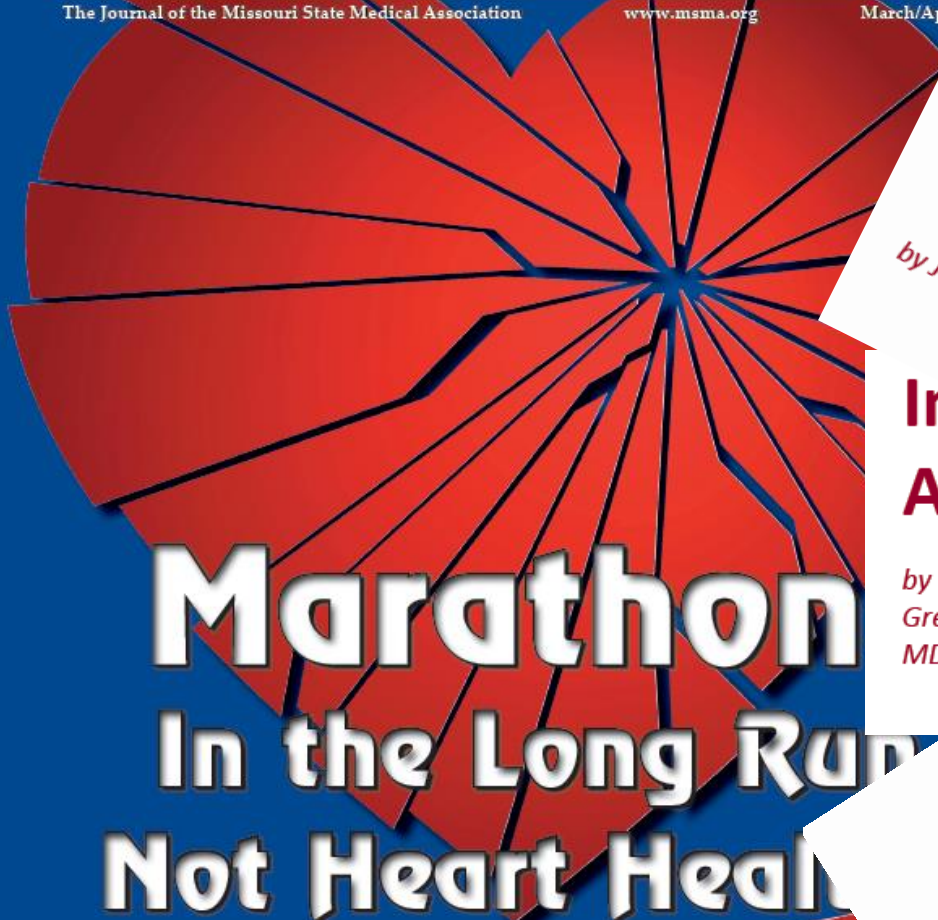


Missouri Medicine

The Journal of the Missouri State Medical Association

www.msma.org

March/April 2014



Marathon In the Long Run Not Heart Health

- ♥ Increased Coronary Plaque in Marathoners
- ♥ Heart Problems in Extreme Endurance Athletes
- ♥ Pheidippides' Final Words: "My Feet Are Killing Me!"

**PHEIDIPPIDES' FINAL WORDS:
"MY FEET ARE KILLING ME!"**
by John C. Hagan, III, MD

Increased Coronary Plaque in Marathoners
Among Male Endurance Athletes
by Robert S. Schwartz, MD,
Gretchen Peichel, MD,
MD, Kevin M. ...

**Coronary Artery
as a Result of Extreme
Endurance Exercise**
by Peter A. McCullough, MD, MPH & Carl J. Lavie

**Cardiotoxicity
of Endurance Exercise**
by ...

"MY FEET ARE KILLING ME!"
by ...
Wickstrom, BS,
Knickelbine,

In the long run, you may
end up with a broken heart.

Men			
Characteristic	Sedentary (n=23)	Marathon (n=50)	p value
Age, years	55.43 ± 10.39	59.44 ± 6.66	NS, 0.051
Systolic BP, mmHg*	134.00 ± 18.35	127.02 ± 13.74	NS
Diastolic BP, mmHg	79.30 ± 10.39	79.04 ± 9.40	NS
Heart Rate, bpm	70.83 ± 10.57	52.36 ± 9.31	< 0.001
Height, inches*	70.39 ± 2.10	70.10 ± 2.44	NS
Weight, kg*	96.8 ± 17.0	76.9 ± 11.5	< 0.001
BMI, kg/m ² *	30.29 ± 5.16	24.16 ± 2.88	< 0.001
Hypertension	15/23 (65.2)	12 / 47 (25.5)	0.001
Hyperlipidemia	19/23 (82.6)	22 / 47 (46.8)	
Diabetes	4 / 23 (17.39)	0 / 47 (0)	
History of Smoking, %	9 / 23 (39.1)	26 / 47 (55.3)	NS
Creatinine, mg/dl*	1.03 ± 0.20	1.11 ± 1.00	NS
Total Cholesterol, mg/dl*	183.56 ± 48.59	186.44 ± 28.83	NS
HDL, mg/dl	46.67 ± 8.86	58.02 ± 11.58	< 0.001
LDL, mg/dl*	108.13 ± 45.23	111.90 ± 26.09	NS
Triglycerides, mg/dl*	130.80 ± 63.00	83.36 ± 38.58	NS

MARATHON RUNNING DOES NOT PROTECT AGAINST CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

- Small sample size
- **'tried'** to match groups for cardiac risk factors
- Not peer reviewed

Table 2
Lesion Prevalence across Study Subjects

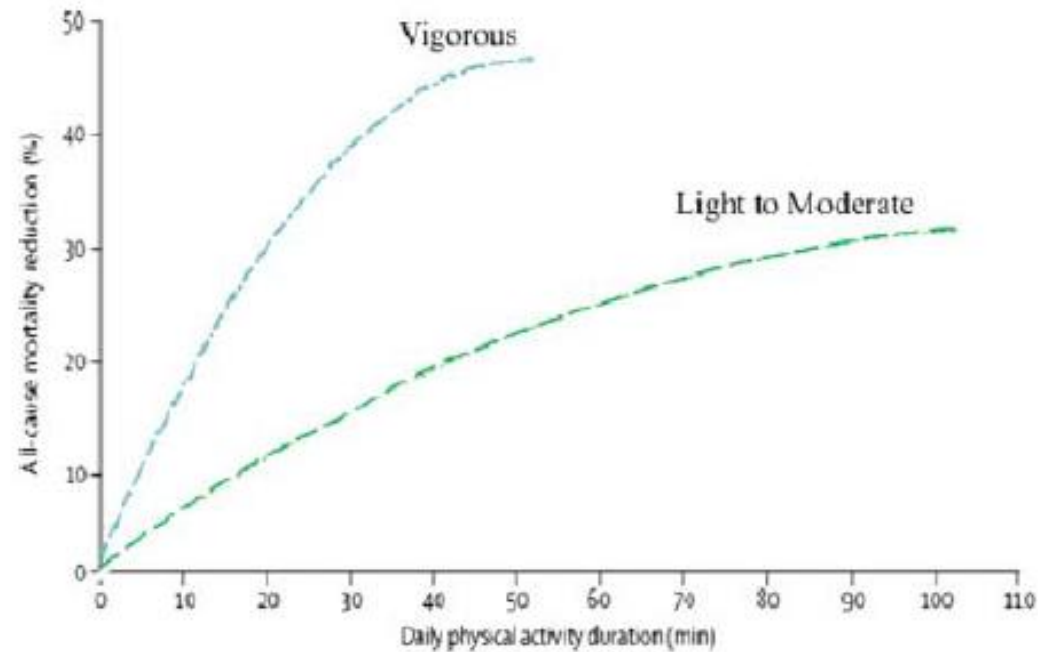
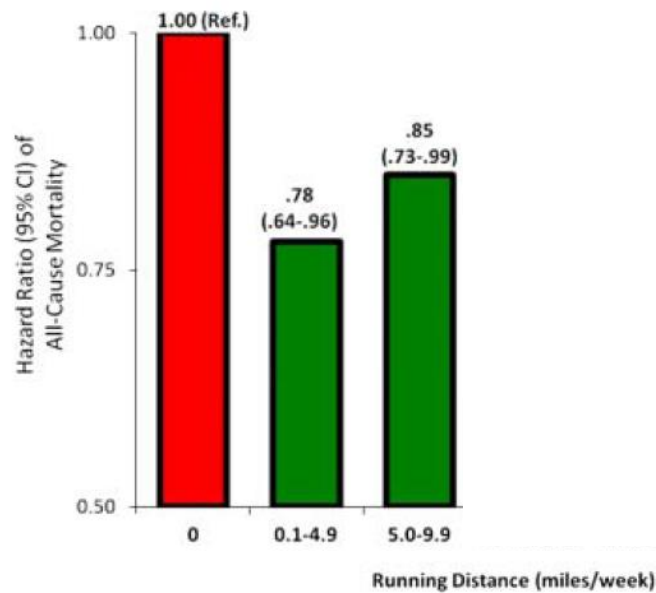
Men			
	Sedentary (n=23)	Marathon (n=50)	p value
Number of lesions	47	95	-
Lesion prevalence	12 (52.2)	30 (60.0)	NS

Values presented are mean ± SD or n (%)
p values from Fisher's Exact Test/T-test

DOES NOT SUGGEST MARATHON RUNNING CAUSES CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Run for your life ... at a comfortable speed and not too far

James H O'Keefe,^{1,2} Carl J Lavie^{3,4}



and for too many
progress towards

All-cause mortality by running distance per week.¹⁶



Minimum amount of physical activity for reduced mortality and extended life expectancy: a prospective cohort study

Chi Pang Wen*, Jackson Pui Man Wai*, Min Kuang Tsai, Yi Chen Yang, Ting Yuan David Cheng, Meng-Chih Lee, Hui Ting Chan, Chwen Keng Tsao, Shan Pou Tsai, Xifeng Wu

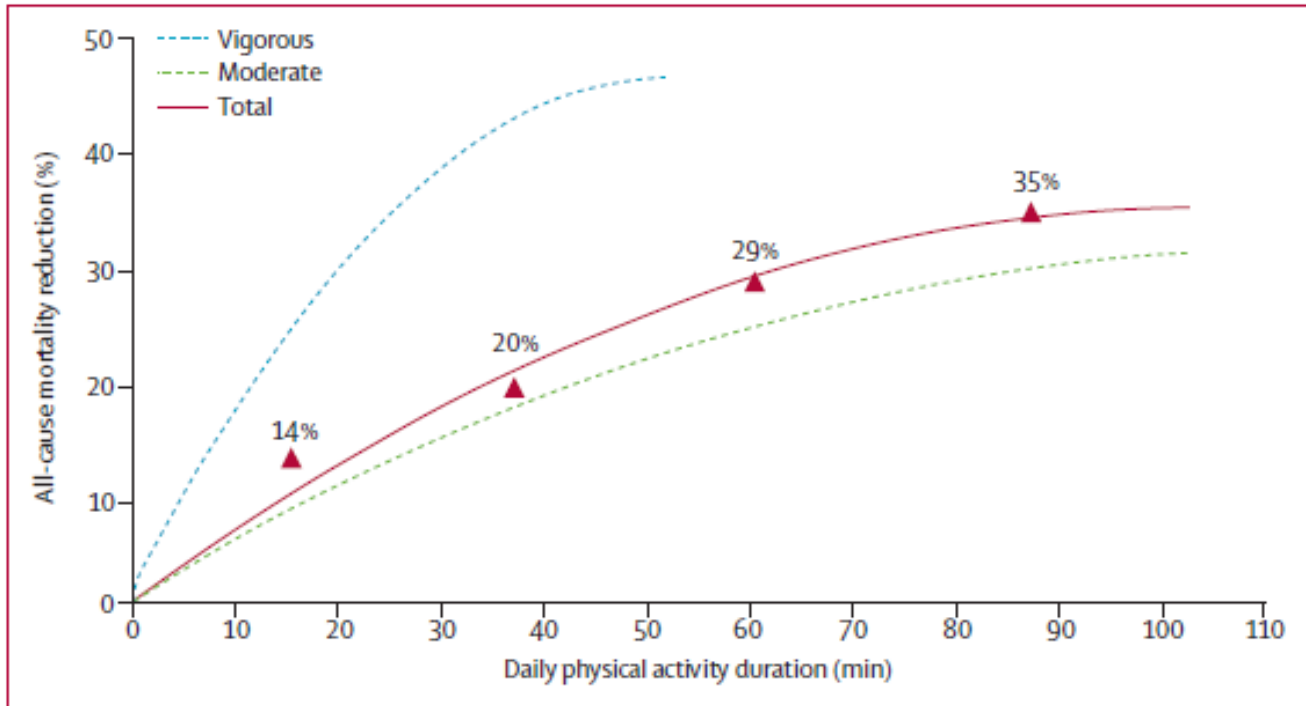


Figure 2: Daily physical activity duration and all-cause mortality reduction

The Lancet

Run for your life ... at a comfortable speed and not too far

James H O'Keefe,^{1,2} Carl J Lavie^{3,4}

O'Keefe JH, et al. *Heart* April 2013 Vol 99 No 8

“One possible explanation for the U-shaped curve observed by Lavie and colleagues is that the authors adjust for body mass index, hypertension and hypercholesterolaemia. Running has been shown to lower those risk factors in a dose-dependent fashion with no sign of negative returns until at least 50 miles/ week. Arguably, adjusting for all these factors is akin to adjusting for low-density lipoprotein (LDL) values in a study analysing the survival benefit of taking statins to treat hypercholesterolaemia. Put simply, this editorial represents a selective interpretation of the available data, at the best.” – **Thomas Weber**

Summary

- ▶ Cardiac structure adapts to running ultramarathons in order to improve efficiency and ability to generate and cope with higher stroke volumes.
- ▶ Cardiac function is generally normal at rest with a high reserve during exercise.
- ▶ There is some minimal evidence of detrimental impact on the myocardium demonstrated by fibrosis – this is in a very small number and may well be no different to control subjects.
- ▶ There is a higher incidence of atrial fibrillation in ultramarathoners.
- ▶ Data on increased mortality and increased prevalence of CAD is unfounded.

The Future



Thank you for listening