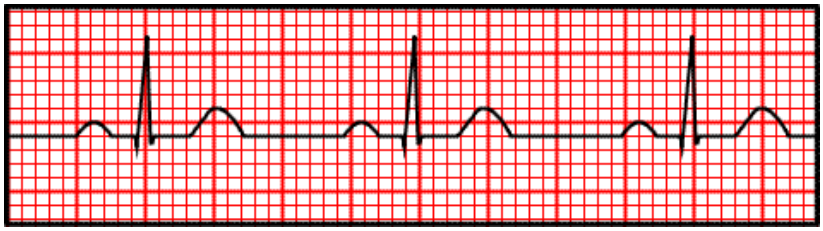
Interpreting ECG

- An ECG is printed on paper covered with a grid of squares.
- Notice that five small squares on the paper form a larger square. The width of a single small square on ECG paper represents 0.04 seconds.
- To successfully interpret ECGs, you must have this value committed to memory. Do this now. If each small square represents 0.04 seconds, then a second will be 25 small squares across.
- If you print out a minute's worth of your heart's electrical activity, the paper would be 1500 small squares wide.
- If something on an ECG is, let's say, 12 small squares in width that means that it lasted 12 x 0.04, or almost half a second.
- A common length of an ECG printout is 6 seconds; this is known as a "six second strip."

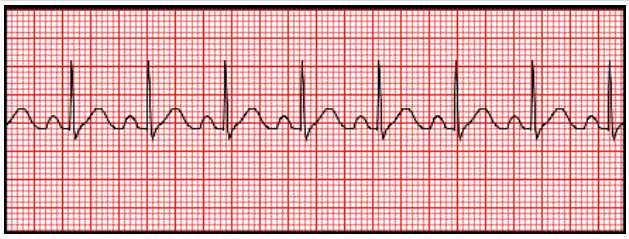
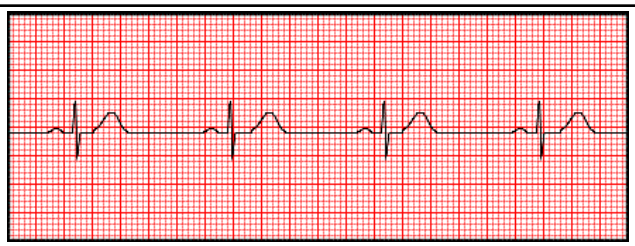
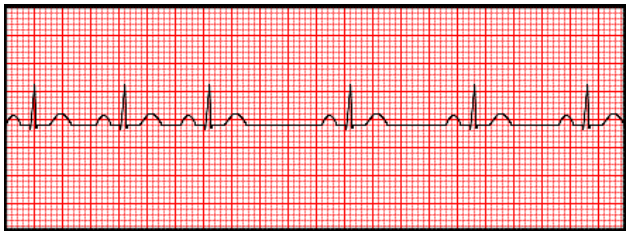


	P wave: The first little hump is known as the P wave. It occurs when the atria depolarize (i.e. trigger). (Contraction) **QRS complex**: The next three waves constitute the QRS complex. They represent the ventricles depolarizing (Contraction). These three are lumped together because a normal rhythm may not have all three. Many times, you'll only see a R and an S. This is not abnormal **T wave**: The last little hump is known as the T wave. It occurs when the ventricles relax. Also known as recovery.

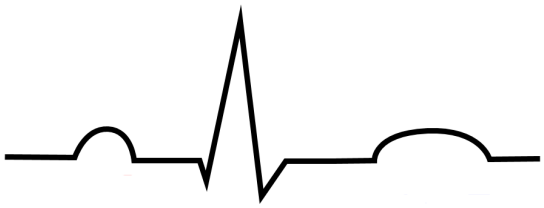
	Name of the Condition _____ _____ _____

ANALYZE ECG's

Each one of the figures represents an ECG pattern displaying three types of abnormal rhythms: **Tachycardia** (fast heartbeat), **Bradycardia** (slow heartbeat), and **Arrhythmia** (irregular heartbeat). Identify each.

Dysrhythmia strip	Heart Rate	Abnormal Condition
		
		
		

1. Label the following ECG complex



2. Look at the following dysrhythmia strips and answer the questions below each.



A. The rate of this dysrhythmia can genarally be described as:
   a. Fast
   b. Slow
   c. Normal

d. Extremely Fast

B. Conditions that could lead to this type of heart rate could be:
   a. Sleeping
   b. Stress, Anxiety, Nervousness
   c. Meditation
   d. Pacemaker

C. The heart rate of this dsyrhtythmia is:
   a. 120
   b. 180
   c. 80
   d. 200



This is a six-second tracing.

D. The heart rate of this dsyrhtythmia is:
   a. 95
   b. 50
   c. 75
   d. 80

E. With this rhythm the:
   a. duration of the R-R intervals changes
   b. duration of the P-P intervals is the same
   c. P waves are not identifiable
   d. P waves are not all followed by a QRS complex

F. This dysrhythmia has a/an _____ rhythm
   a. Regular
   b. patterned irregular
   c. occasionally irregular
   d. irregularly irregular

Common Heart Rhythm disorders: