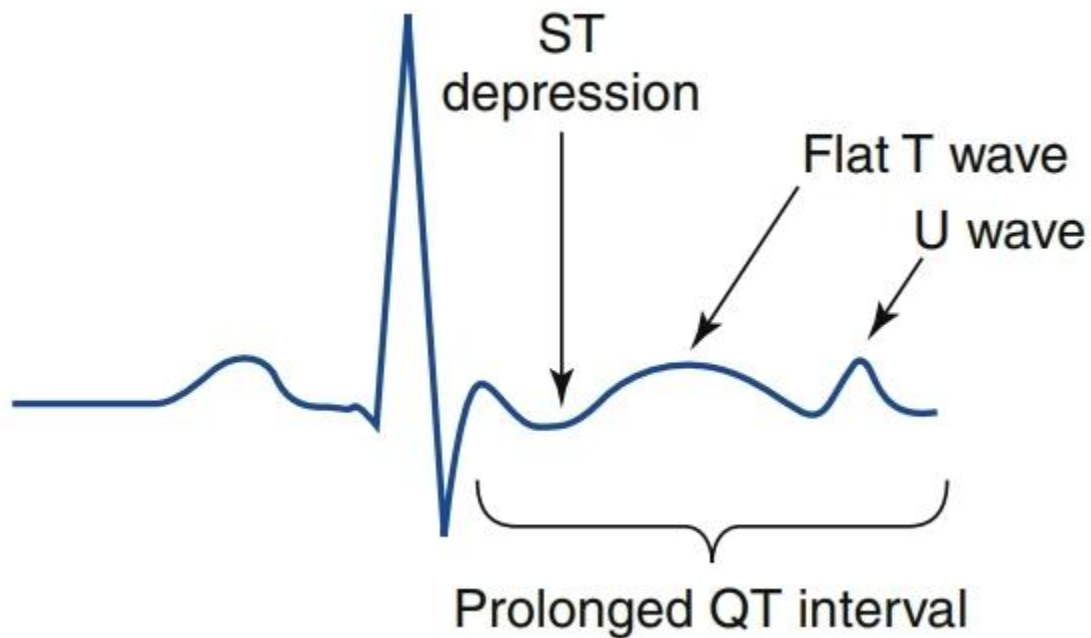


Hypokalemia

- T wave flattening
- U waves - Best seen in V2,V3, If hypokalemia is severe may become larger than T wave.
- Non specific ST & T wave changes
- Marked QT Prolongation

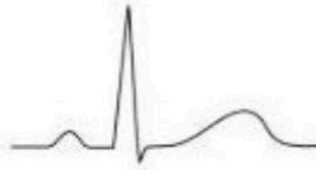


Hyperkalemia

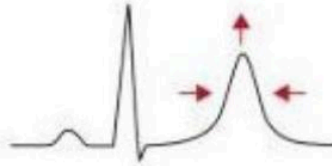
- 6.5 -7.5 : Prolonged PR Interval, tall peaked T waves, short QT interval
- 7.5 - 8.0 : Flattening of the P wave, QRS widening
- 10 - 12 : QRS complex degradation into a sinusoidal pattern

Increasing
potassium level

Normal potassium levels



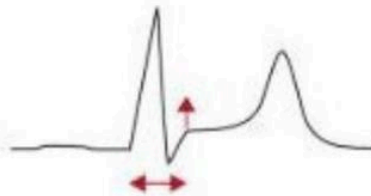
Normal potassium levels



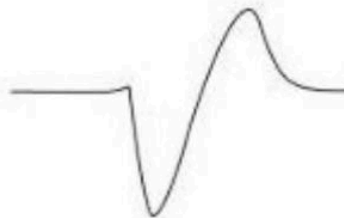
Normal potassium levels



Normal potassium levels

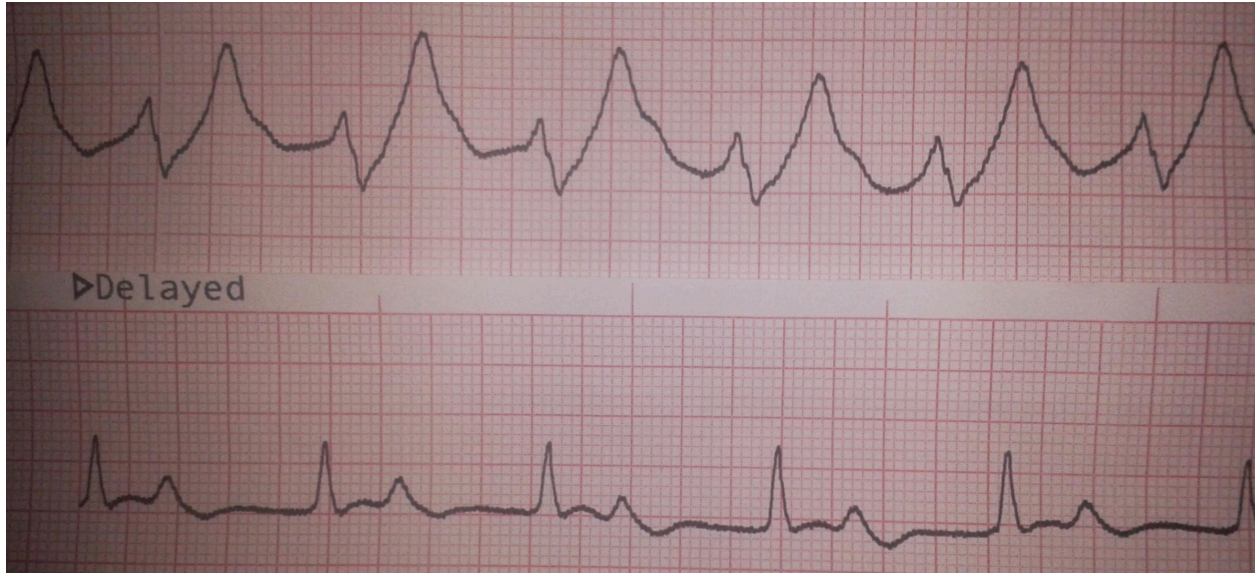


Sine wave pattern



Mathematical sine wave





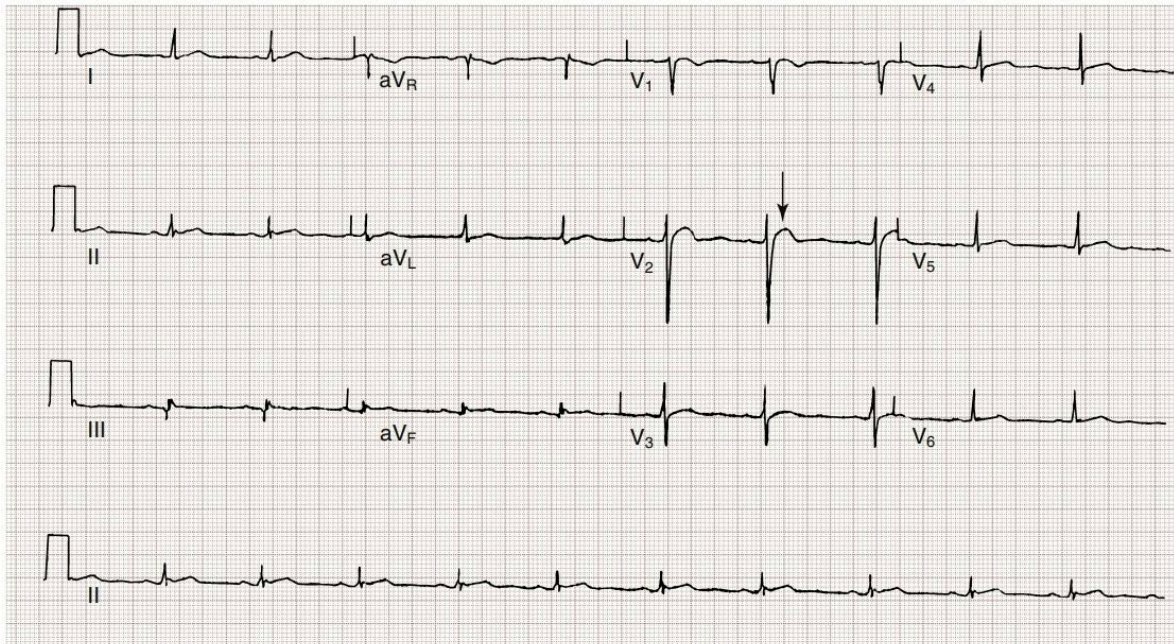
ECG of a patient with hyperkalemia showing sine wave pattern (1st Row), ECG after antihyperkalemic measures shows P wave flattening and appearance of QRS back (2nd row).

Hypocalcemia

- QT prolongation
- Rarely it can produce AV Block, sinus bradycardia, SA block, VF.

Hypercalcemia

- Shortened QT Interval
- PR & QRS prolongation
- AV Block and may progress to Complete Heart Block
- Bradycardia
- Osborn like waves, AV Blocks, VT, VF, Tordase pointes may be seen rarely.



Short QT interval (*arrow*) in a patient with multiple myeloma and a calcium level of 14.2 mg/dL. (Courtesy Dr. Barton Campbell.)

Hypomagnesemia

- Torsades pointes

Hypermagnesemia

- QRS widening
- QT & PR prolongation

Updated 13/8/2025

Reference

- Rosen's Emergency Medicine. Concept and Clinical Practice. 10th Edition