

Bundle Branch Blocks & Hemi Blocks

Lecture Notes on BBB:

- Bundle Branches occur when one of the main branches of the bundle branches gets blocked due to heart disease.
- The Bundle of His divides into left and right sides. On the left side, there are additional divisions. These divisions are called fascicles or branches. They divide into the posterior (back) and anterior (front) portions.
- The QRS width will be greater than or equal to 0.12.
- Use V1 to determine the type of BBB. R & R Prime is a right bundle branch block and deep and wide QS wave.
 - Rate related BBB's occur at the critical rate.
 - T Waves will slope off in the opposite direction.

Lecture Notes on Hemiblocks:

- Hemiblocks occur when either the anterior or posterior portions of the left bundle branches fascicles are blocked.
- Hemiblocks don't cause widened QRS complexes but rather axis deviations.
- LAHB = Left Anterior Hemiblock causes Left Axis Deviation. **TIP: USE LA to link Left Anterior and Left Axis.**
- LPHB = Left Posterior Hemiblock causes Right Axis Deviation
- Axis deviation configuration is identical for left and right axis deviation as their counterparts LAHB and LPHB. Use leads I and III.

LAHB	Lead I - Up	Lead III - Down
LPHB	Lead I - Down	Lead III - Up

Exercise:

For this exercise, you will need a partner. If you don't have a partner, write out your explanations on a piece of paper and read it back to ensure it makes sense. Explain to your partner the following concepts:

1. Explain what is a bundle branch block is.
2. Explain what configuration you expect to see with a left bundle branch block as well as a right bundle branch block as well as which lead (s) to use.
3. Explain why a patient with a LBBB can't have a hemiblock.
4. Explain what a hemiblock is and which leads we use to determine it.

