

King of Hearts Express® Recorder – Case Study

“I Get Dizzy and My Heart Goes Crazy.”

Situation:

A 44-year-old man complained of palpitations and dizzy spells.

History:

The patient had no previous history of heart disease, and physical examination was unremarkable. He was taking no medications, and had three normal resting ECGs. He was given the King of Hearts Express® looping memory cardiac event recorder.

Outcome:

Over the next few days, the patient transmitted several events showing isolated premature ventricular contractions.

Sensitized to the possibility of arrhythmia, he felt each ectopic beat, but was not symptomatic. He was reassured by the receiving nurse and advised to continue wearing the event recorder.

On the fourteenth day of monitoring, he experienced a dizzy spell and activated his King of Hearts Express® recorder. He transmitted the recording just over two hours later, complaining that he was dizzy and his "heart goes crazy."

The transmission showed a symptom-correlated sustained run of supraventricular tachycardia at a rate of 220 beats per minute.

The patient was successfully treated with oral Verapamil HCL three hours after his transmission.

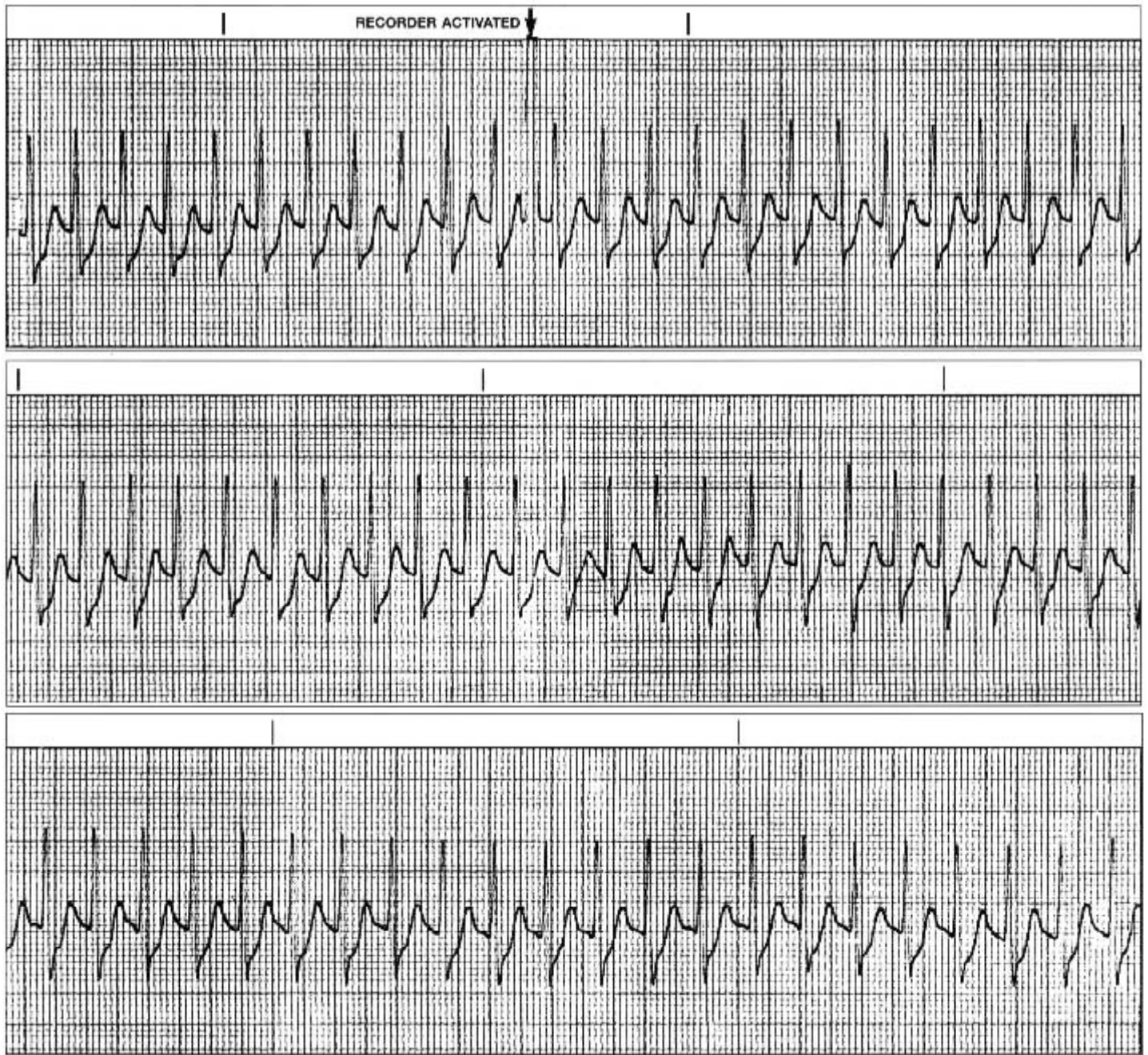
Once again the usefulness of long-term cardiac event recording was affirmed.

Equipment:

The King of Hearts Express Cardiac Event Recorder.

*From case files of Melrose-Wakefield Hospital, Melrose, MA
Courtesy of: Margaret A. Gephard and Bruce Watrous, MD*

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