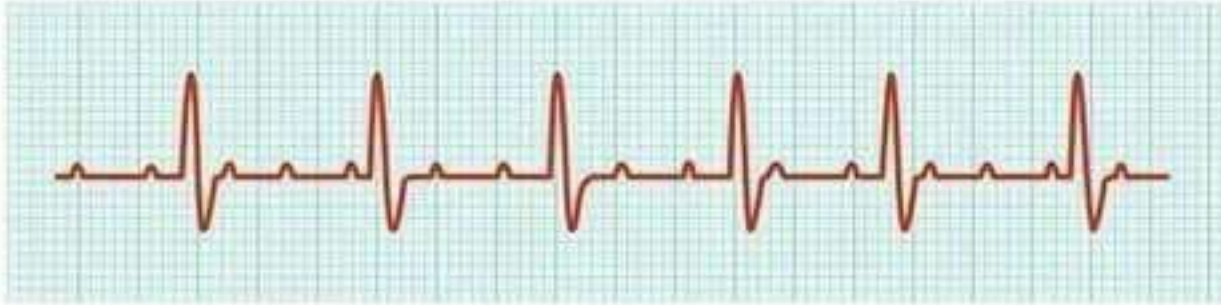




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Note how half of the P waves are not followed by the QRS complex and T waves while the other half are.

Question: What would you expect to happen to heart rate (pulse)?

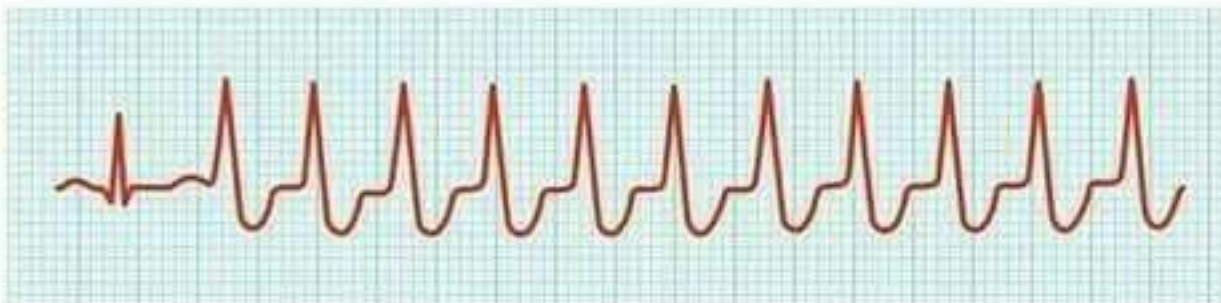
(a) Second-degree (partial) block



Note the abnormal electrical pattern prior to the QRS complexes. Also note how the frequency between the QRS complexes has increased.

Question: What would you expect to happen to heart rate (pulse)?

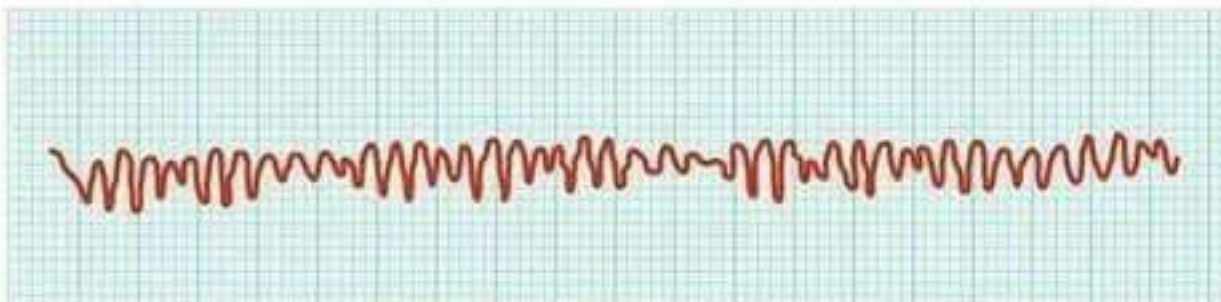
(b) Atrial fibrillation



Note the unusual shape of the QRS complex, focusing on the "S" component.

Question: What would you expect to happen to heart rate (pulse)?

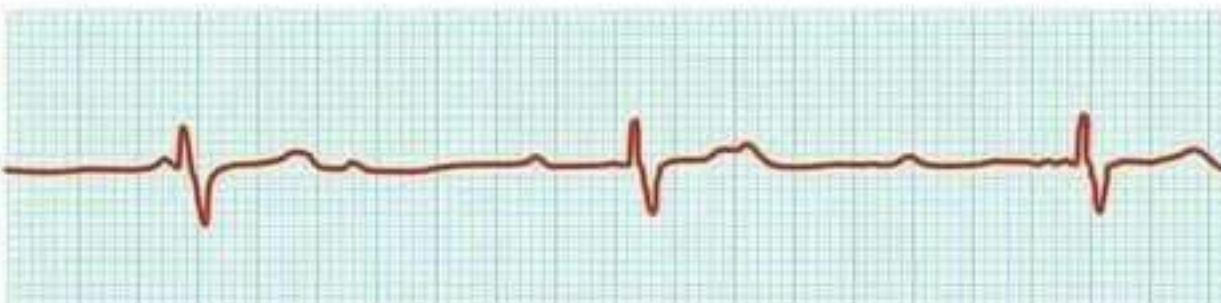
(c) Ventricular tachycardia



Note the total lack of normal electrical activity.

Question: What would you expect to happen to heart rate (pulse)?

(d) Ventricular fibrillation



Note that in a third-degree block some of the impulses initiated by the SA node do not reach the AV node while others do. Also note that the P waves are not followed by the QRS complex.

Question: What would you expect to happen to heart rate (pulse)?

(e) Third-degree block