

Pericardial Disease: Tamponade and Constriction

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

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Questions

- In a patient with pericardial effusion, how can I diagnose tamponade (i.e., who needs an urgent pericardiocentesis?)
- Why is there no Kussmaul sign in tamponade? Why is there loss of Y-descent?
- What are the echo clues to constriction?
- Why is septal > lateral e' in constriction?
- In constriction, why does hepatic vein flow reversal increase with *expiration* but JVP goes up with *inspiration* (+Kussmaul)?

Cardiac tamponade

Case presentation

- 52-year-old woman with malaise, CP
 - » Low-grade fever, malaise, fatigue x 2 weeks
 - » CP x 1 week, pleuritic, worse when supine, better when sitting forward, positional
 - » No lightheadedness, dizziness, orthopnea, PND, syncope, or palpitations
- No prior medical history, no medications

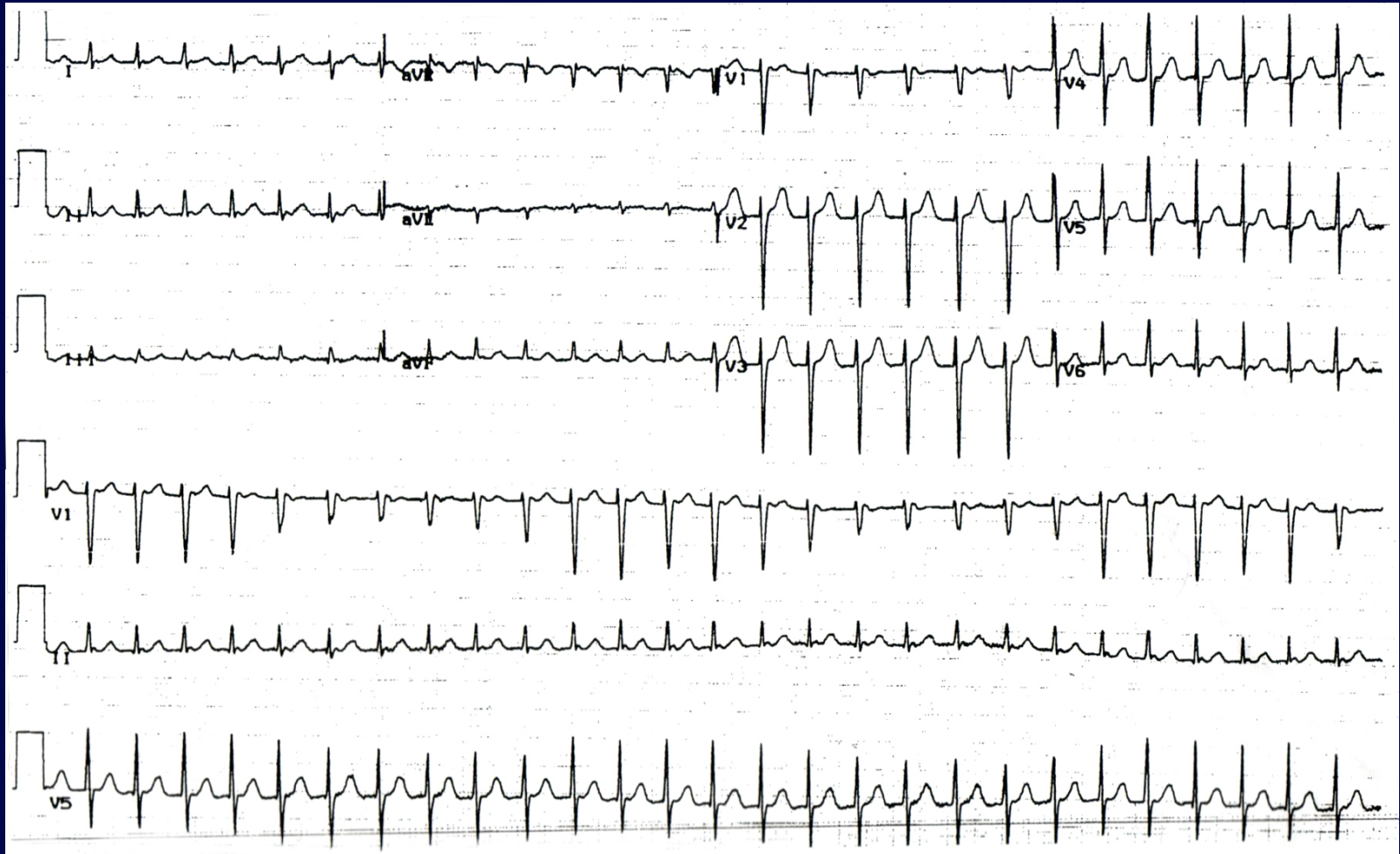
Case presentation (continued)

- Laboratory work-up:
 - » ANA, rheumatoid factor: normal
 - » Chem panel, CBC: normal
 - » PPD: nonreactive; HIV: negative
- Echocardiogram: normal
- Prescribed NSAIDs
- Symptoms resolved within 2-3 days

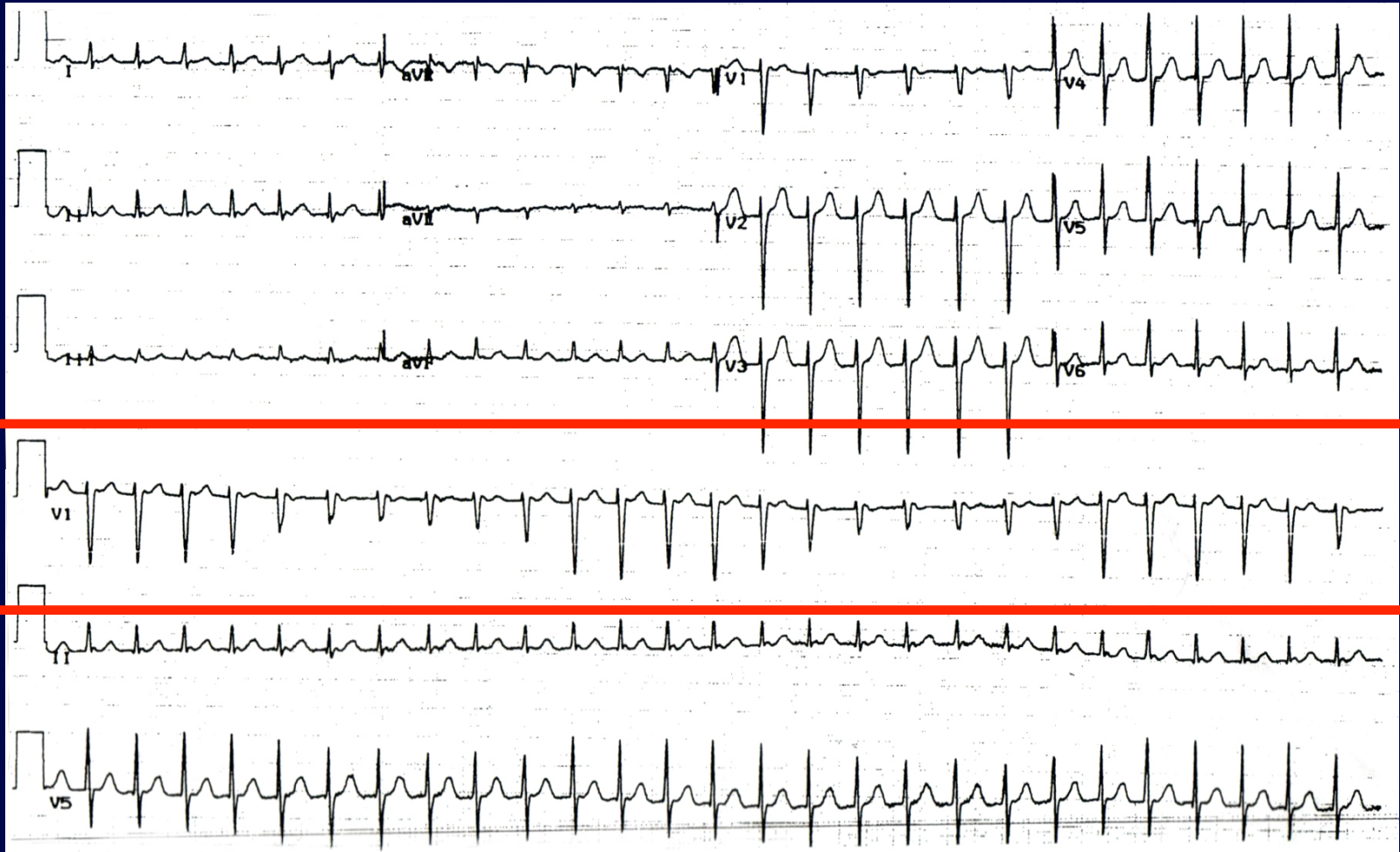
Case presentation (continued)

- 2 weeks later: recurrence of malaise, fatigue, low grade fevers, pleuritic CP; +SOB/dizziness
- Physical exam:
 - » 99.8, 98/80, 110, 22, 96% on RA
 - » JVP to earlobes
 - » Lungs CTA bilaterally
 - » Distant HS, tachy, regular, no m/g/r
 - » Abdominal exam: benign
 - » Ext: 1+ edema to knees

Electrocardiogram



Electrocardiogram



It's 2am in ER: What now??

- STAT echocardiogram
- STAT chest CT
- STAT cardiac MRI
- Insert IJ central line at bedside
- None of the above

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Cardiac tamponade... a clinical Dx

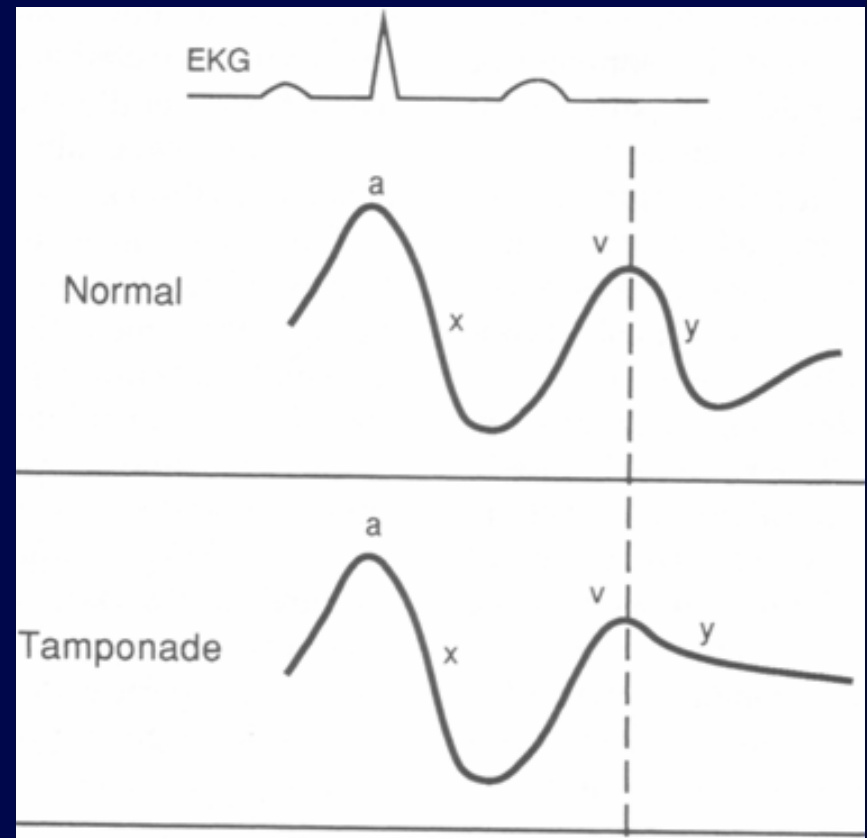
- Don't forget pulsus paradoxus at the bedside...
 - » Inflate BP cuff until you can't hear Korotkoff sounds
 - » Start deflating until you hear sounds intermittently (sounds disappear with inspiration) - Note SBP #1
 - » Keep deflating until you hear sounds continuously (during inspiration and expiration) - Note SBP #2
 - » Pulsus paradoxus = SBP #1 - SBP #2
 - Value > 10 mmHg? sens 98%, spec 70%, +LR 3.3, -LR 0.03
 - Value > 12 mmHg? sens 98%, spec 83%, +LR 5.9, -LR 0.03

Case presentation (continued)

- Pulsus paradoxus done at bedside:
 - » Value = 18 mmHg
- ER team calls for STAT echocardiogram
- While waiting, R IJ central line placed...

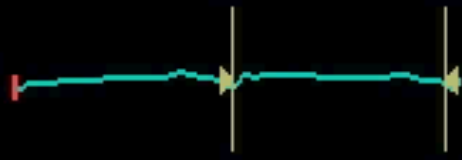
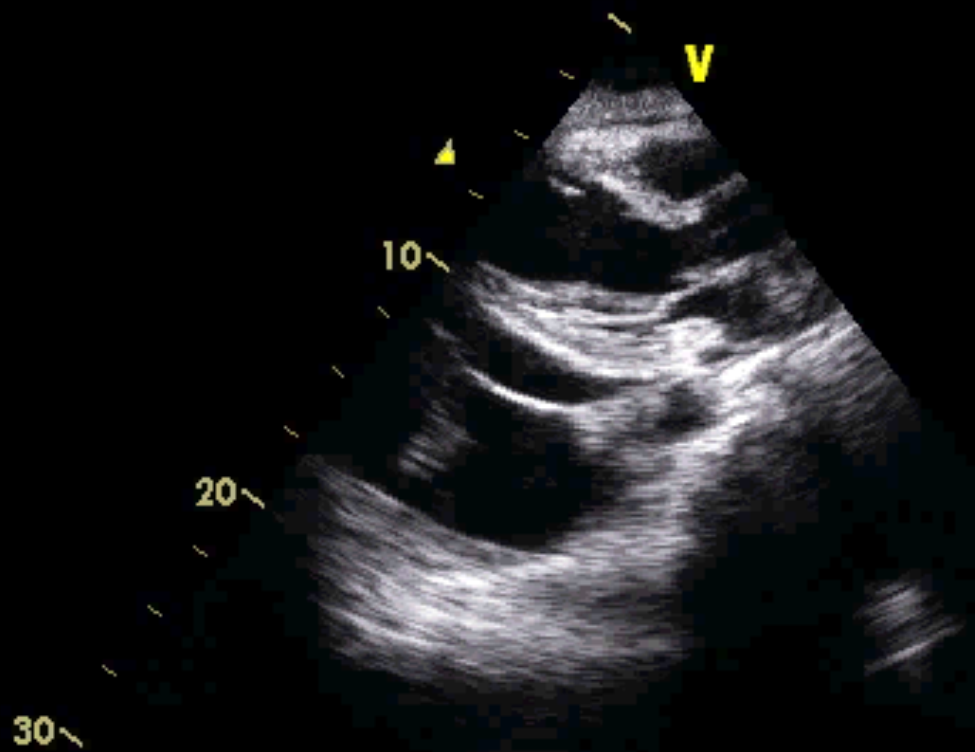
CVP tracing in tamponade

- V wave:
 - » Passive filling of the RA during RV systole
- Y descent:
 - » TV opens, passive RA emptying
- A wave:
 - » RA contraction
- X descent:
 - » RA relaxation
- Tamponade:
 - » Blunted Y descent
 - » Passive emptying of RA is dependent on pressure difference between RA and RV: *in tamponade, the pericardial pressure takes over all other diastolic pressures (= loss of Y descent)*

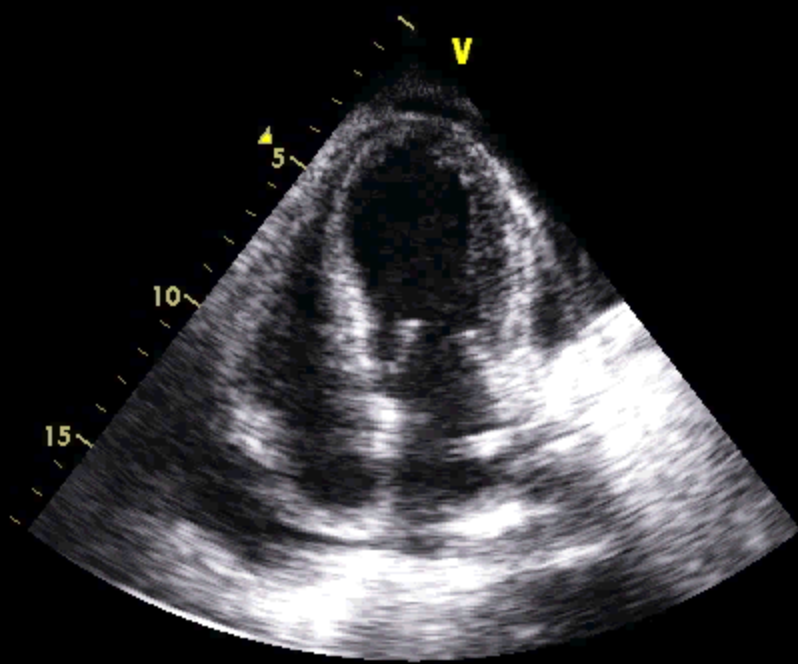


Cardiac tamponade: echo signs

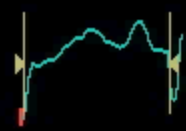
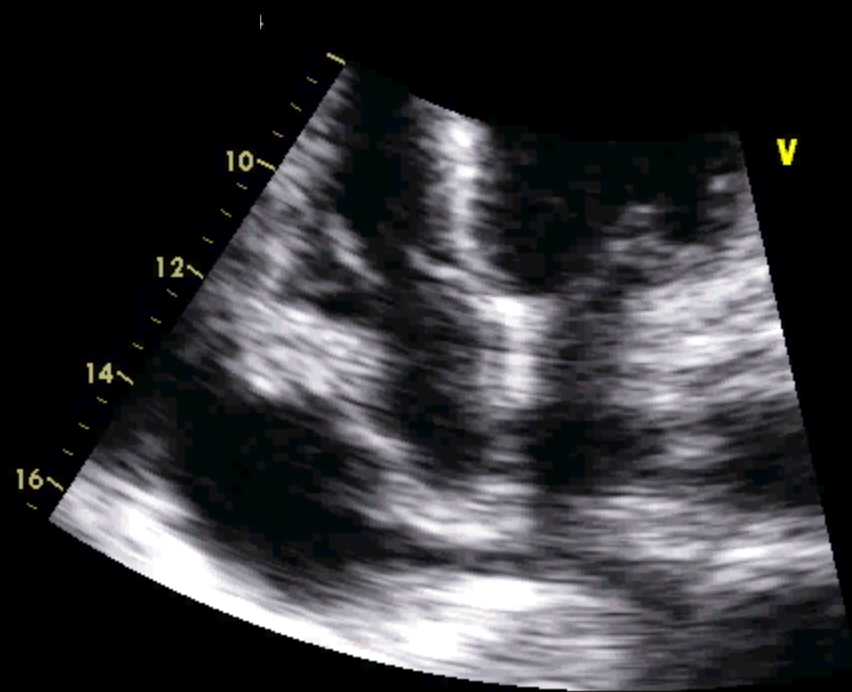
- Early signs:
 - » IVC dilated, not collapsing
 - » Increased respiratory variation in mitral (> 25%) and tricuspid (> 40%) inflows
- Late signs:
 - » RA/RV collapse
- Very late signs:
 - » LA/LV collapse



118
HR

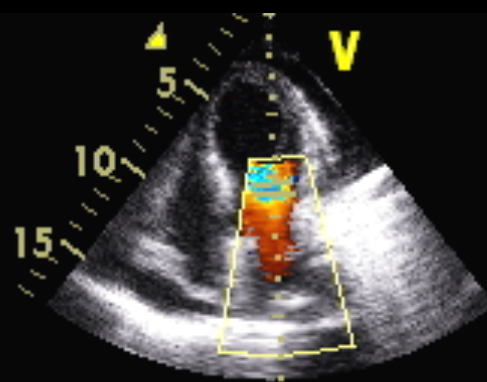


106
HR

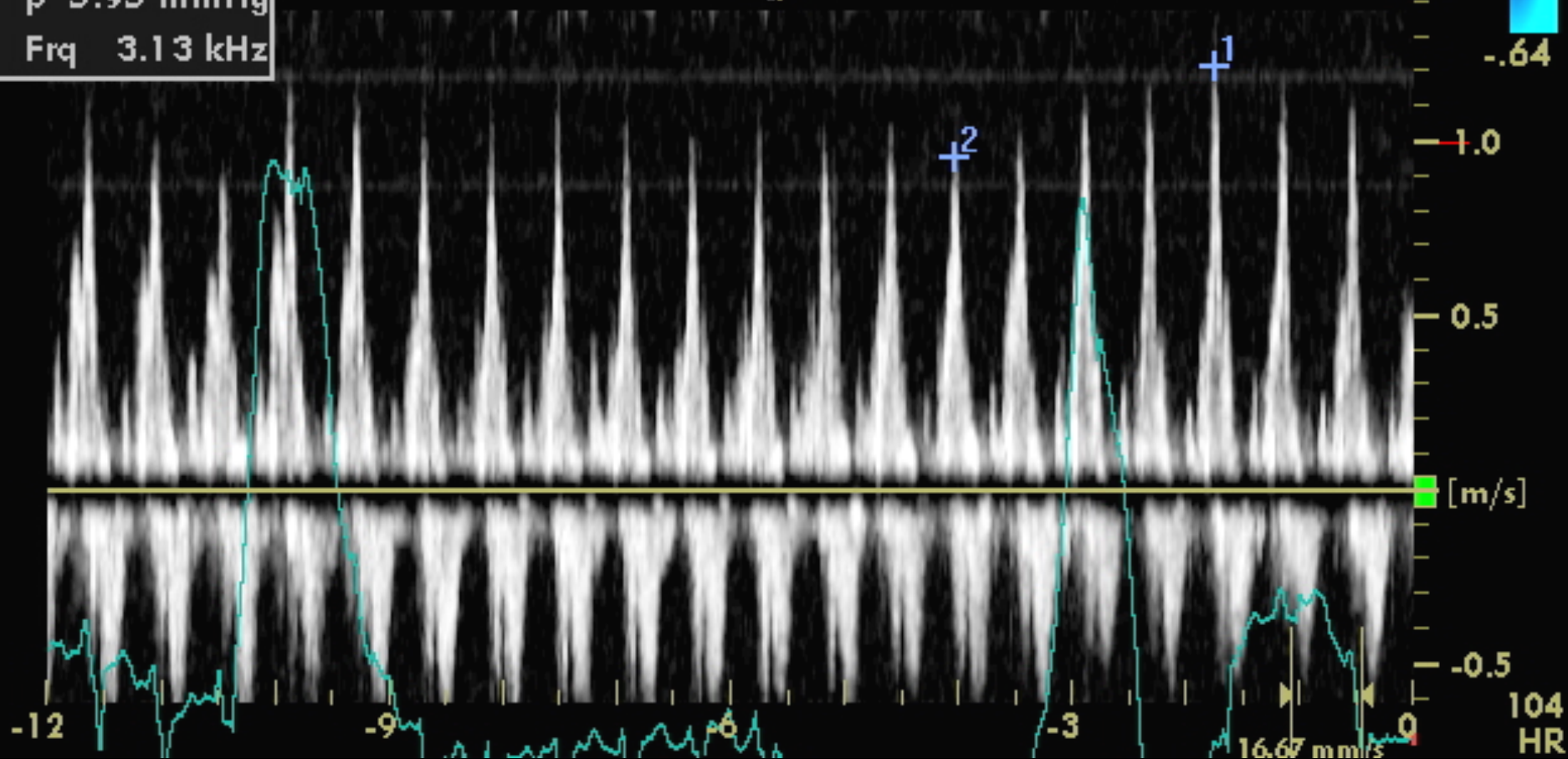


107
HR

●	⊞
2 v	0.96 m/s
p	3.67 mmHg
Frq	2.46 kHz
1 v	1.22 m/s
p	5.95 mmHg
Frq	3.13 kHz



21% variation in mitral inflow with respiration



05/22/2008 11:19:17AM TIS0.6 MI 1.4
S5-1/Adult

FR 37Hz
24cm

2D
77%
C 50
P Low
HGen

SUB COST

M3

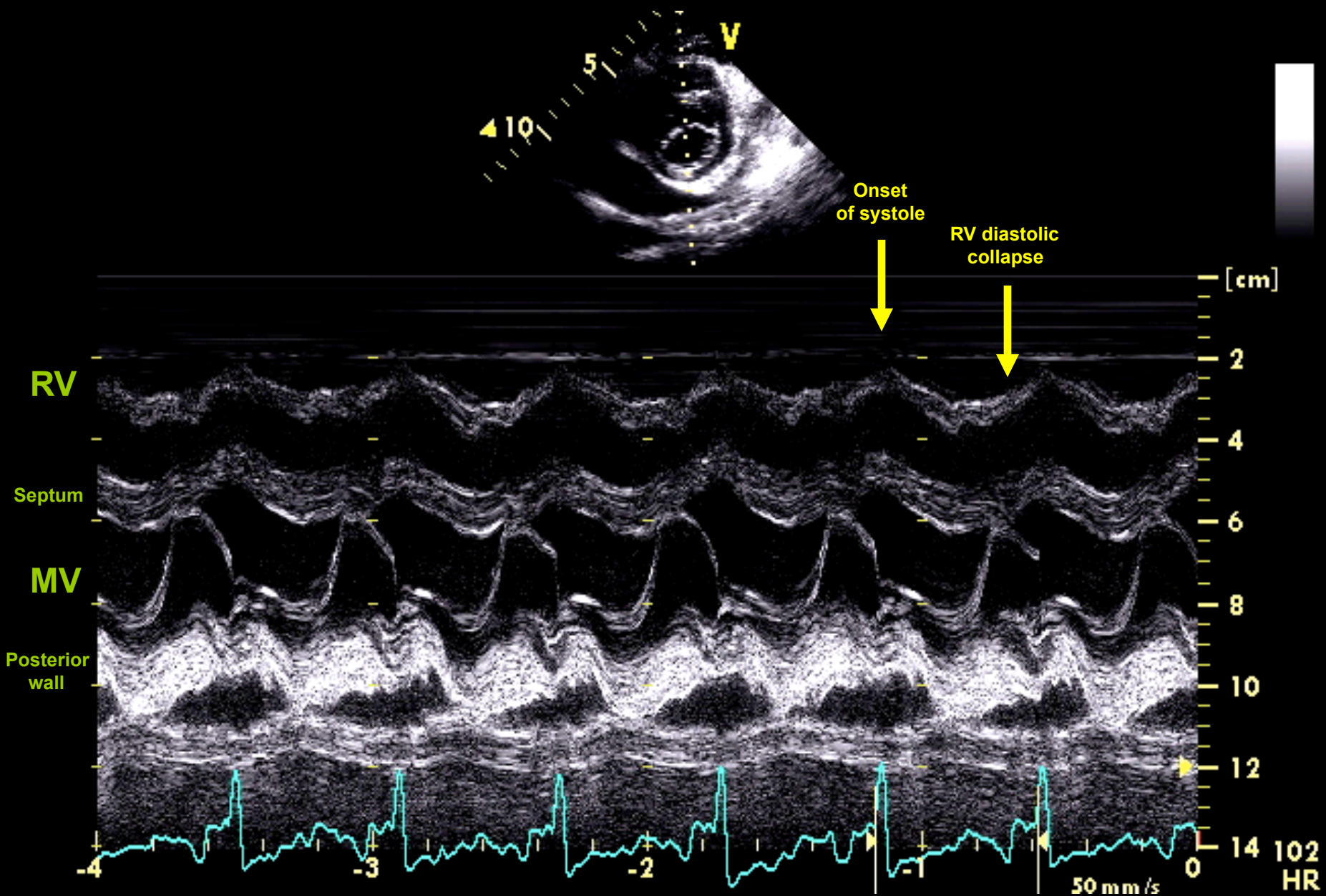


JPEG

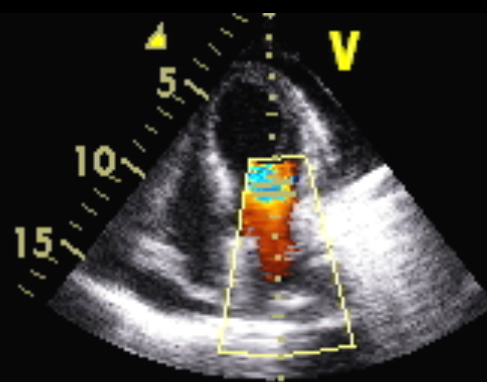
95 bpm

Urgent pericardiocentesis?

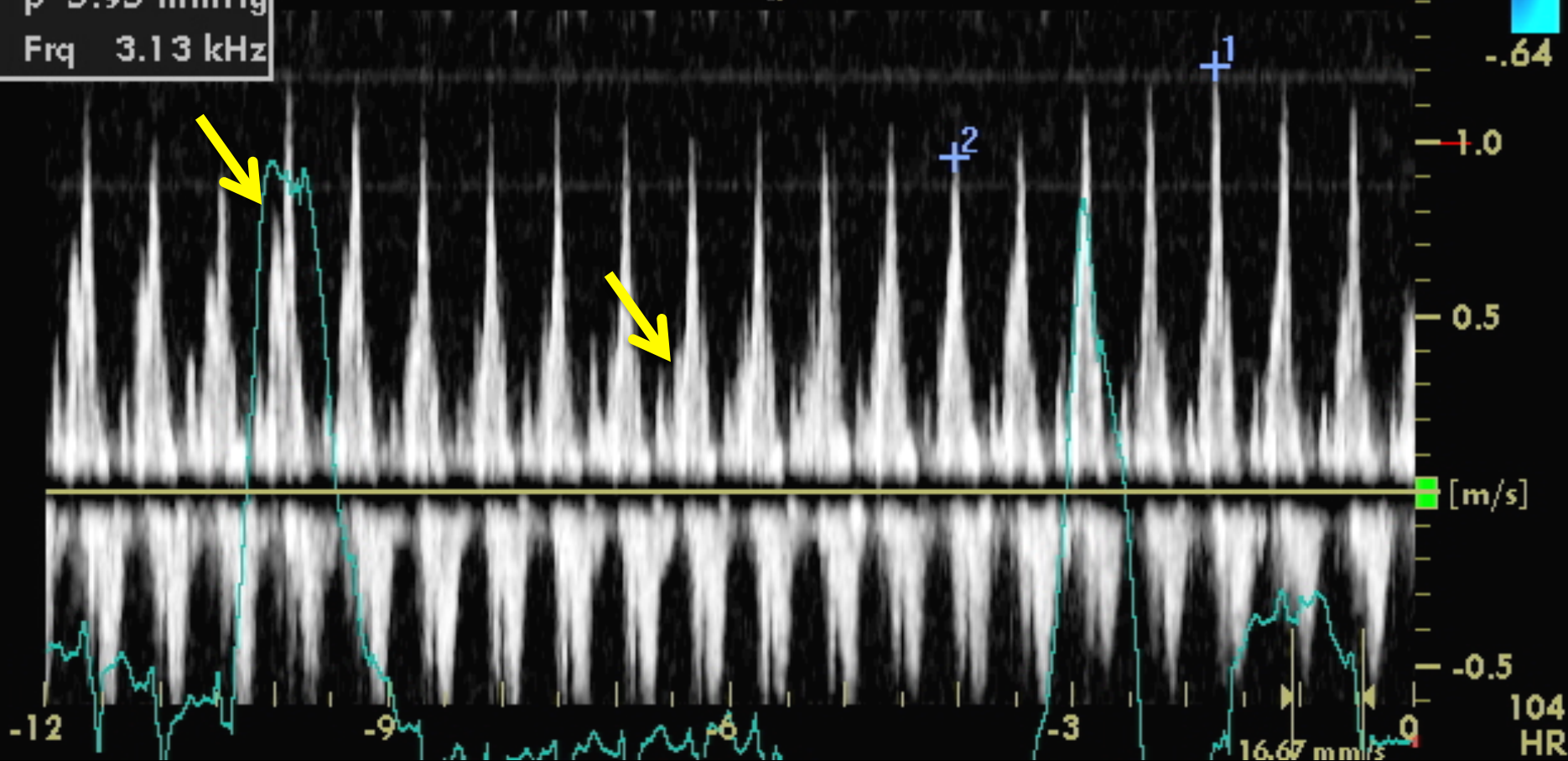
- Is the IVC dilated?
- Is there increased respiratory variation in the MV, TV inflows?
- Is there RV/RA collapse?
- Is pulsus paradoxus present?

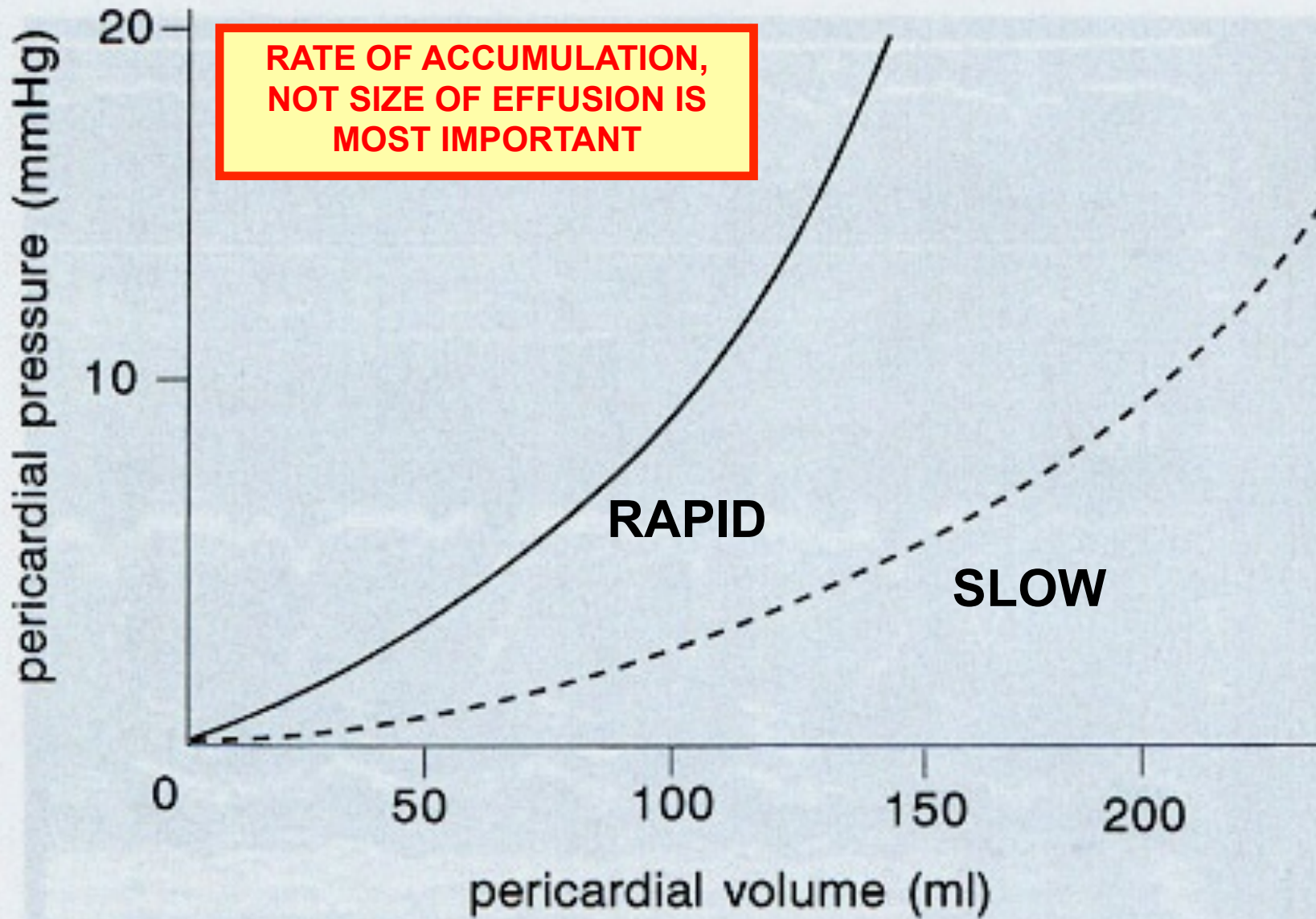


●	⊞
2 v	0.96 m/s
p	3.67 mmHg
Frq	2.46 kHz
1 v	1.22 m/s
p	5.95 mmHg
Frq	3.13 kHz



~57% variation in mitral inflow with respiration





Tamponade: take home points

- **Cardiac tamponade is a clinical diagnosis:** integrate echo with pulsus paradoxus and other clinical findings to determine need for pericardiocentesis
- **Pericardial pressure takes over everything in tamponade:** diastolic pressure equalization; \uparrow JVP, doesn't change with respiration (-Kussmaul sign); no Y descent
- **Rate of accumulation is more important than size of effusion**

Constrictive pericarditis

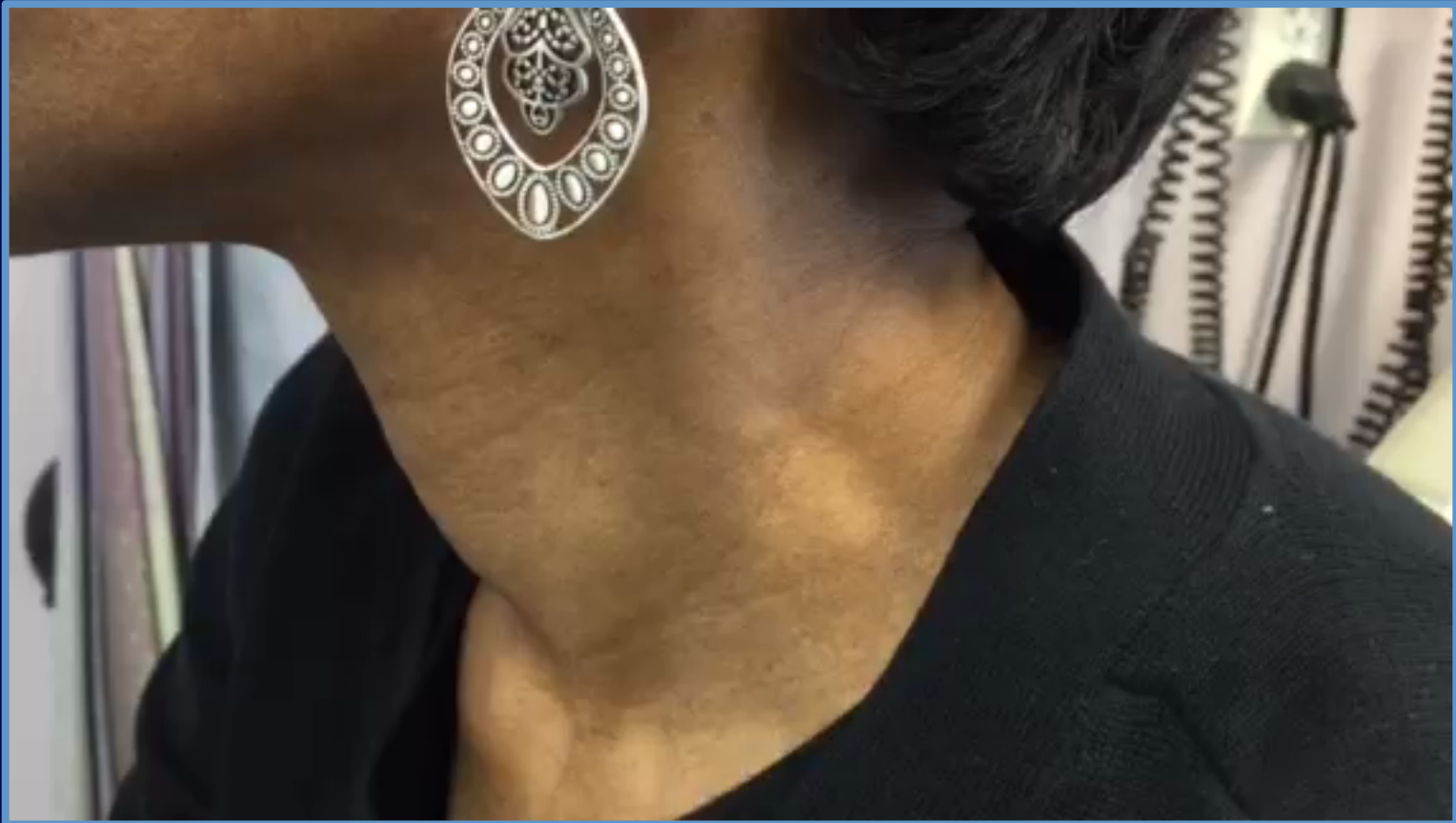
Case presentation (continued)

- The patient underwent successful pericardiocentesis (750 cc straw-colored fluid)
- Pericardial drain left in for 2 days and then successfully removed
- Transudate by Light's criteria
- Cytology negative
- 6 months later... admitted with progressive right-sided heart failure

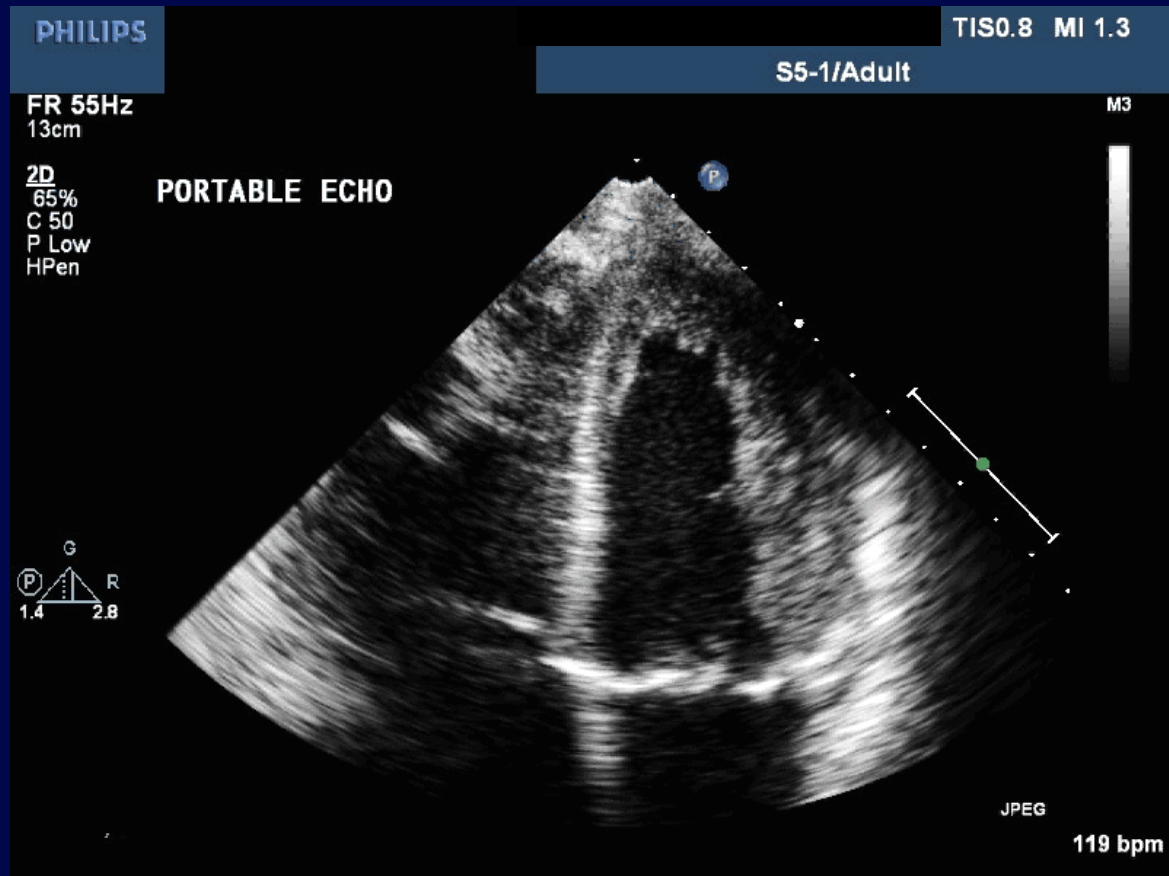
Case presentation (continued)

- 110/62, 92, 24, 94% on RA
- JVP 14 cm, increases with inspiration
- Lungs CTA bilaterally, decr BS at bases
- Irreg irreg, nl S1 S2, no murmurs, +diastolic extra sound
- Abd:+ascites
- Ext 2+ edema to thighs

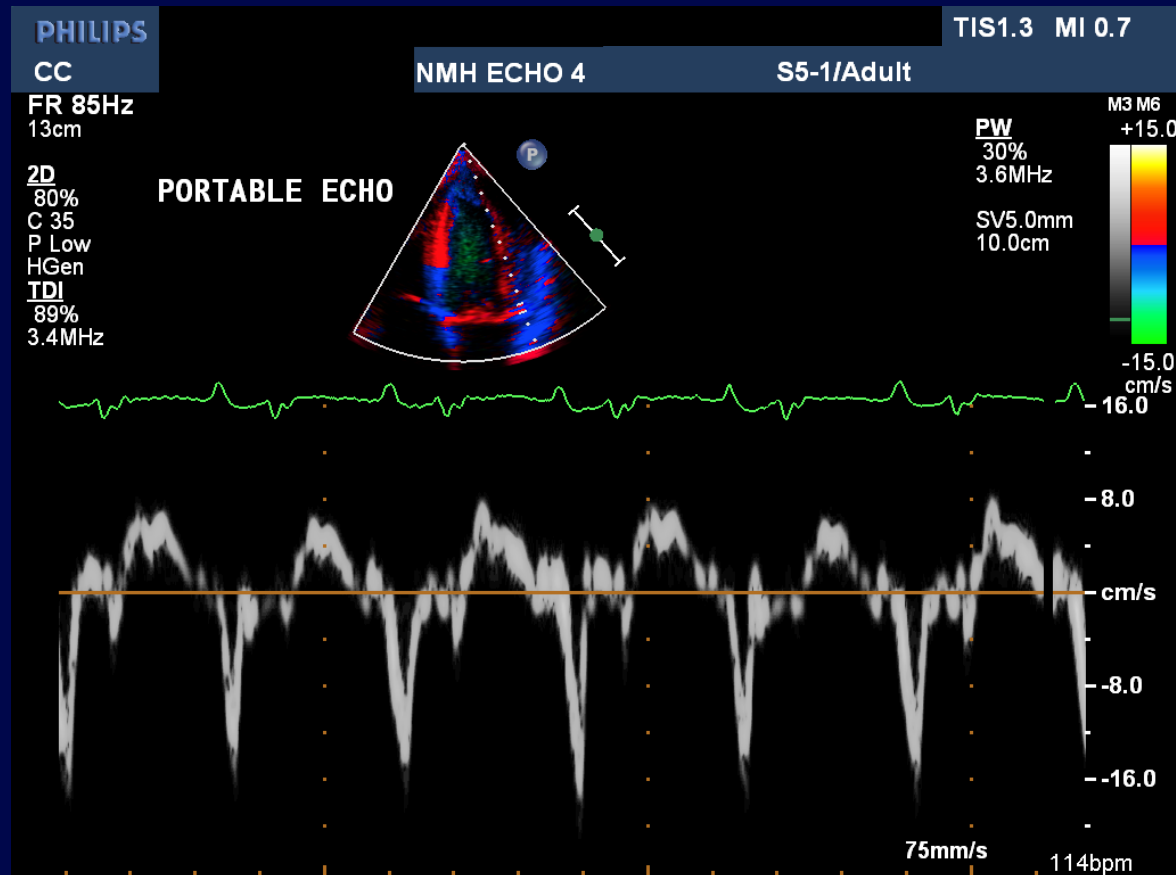
Kussmaul's sign: JVP rises with inspiration



Case presentation (continued)

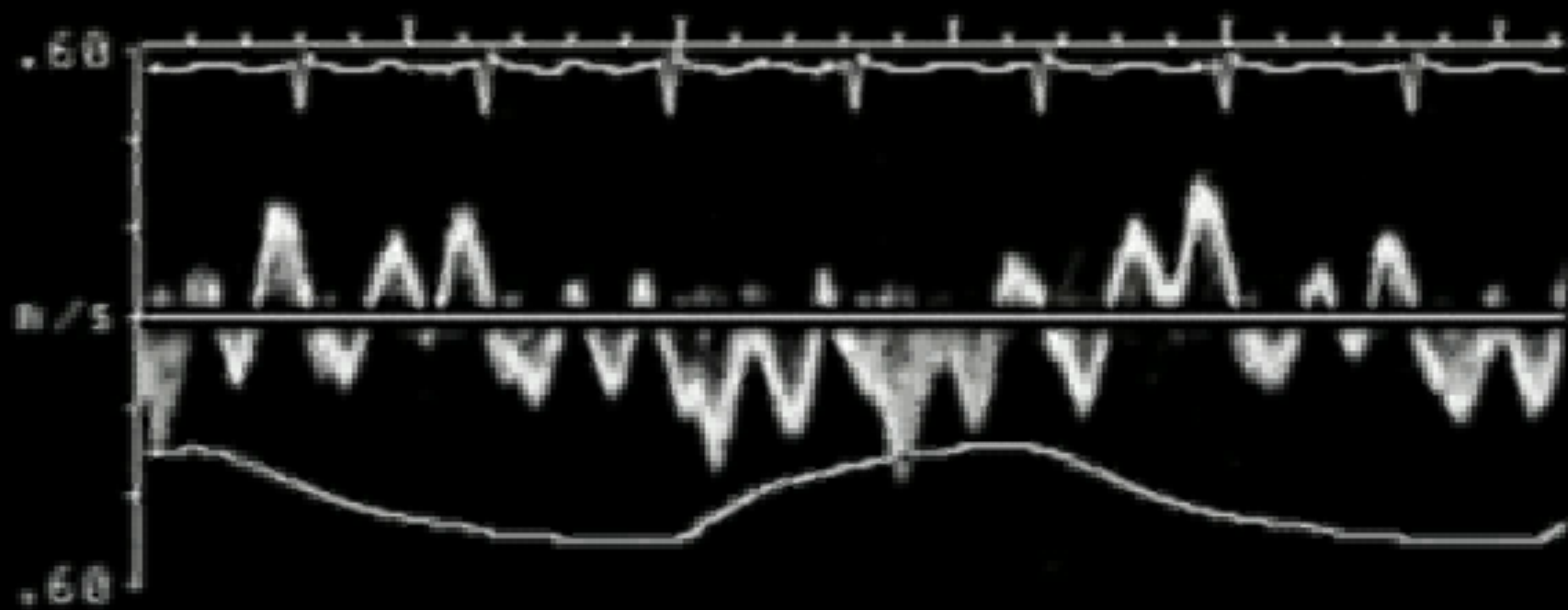


Case presentation: tissue Doppler imaging

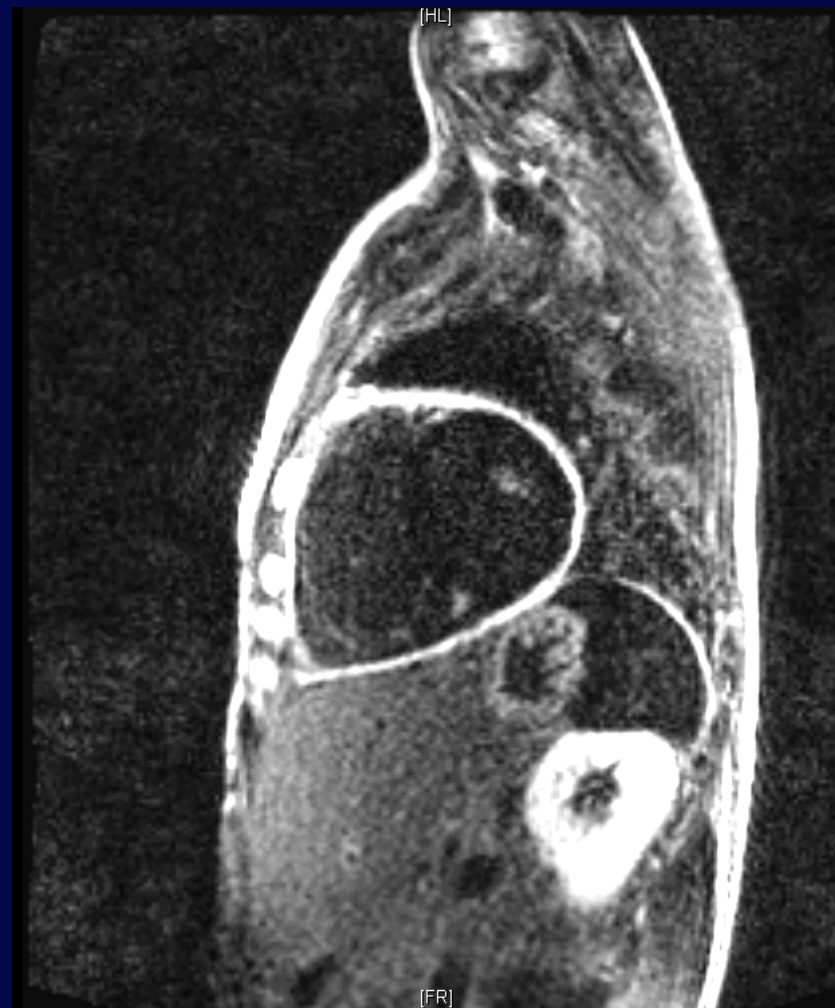


$e' = 16 \text{ cm/s}$

Hepatic Vein

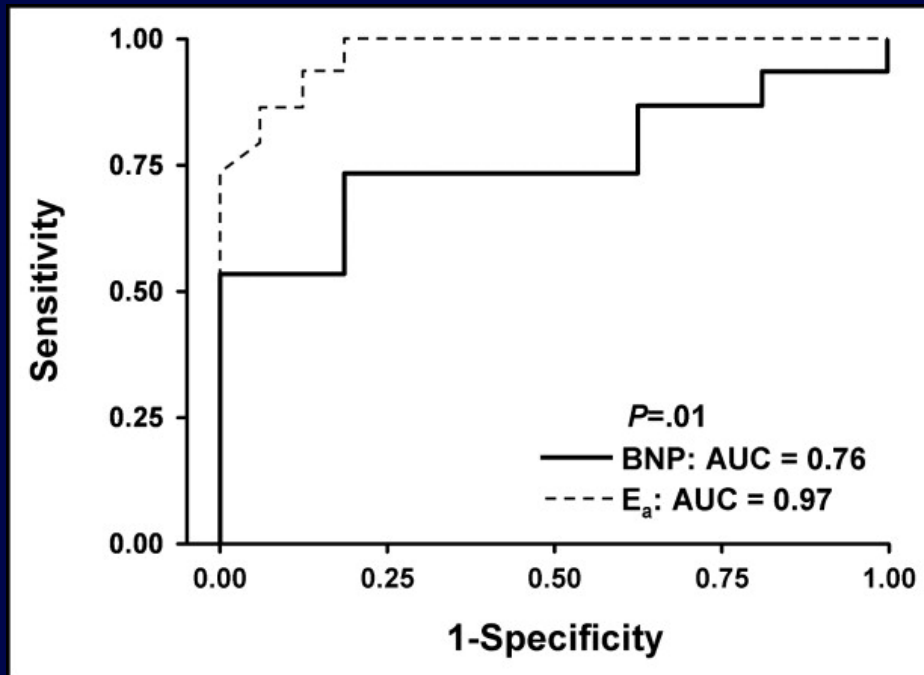


Cardiac MRI

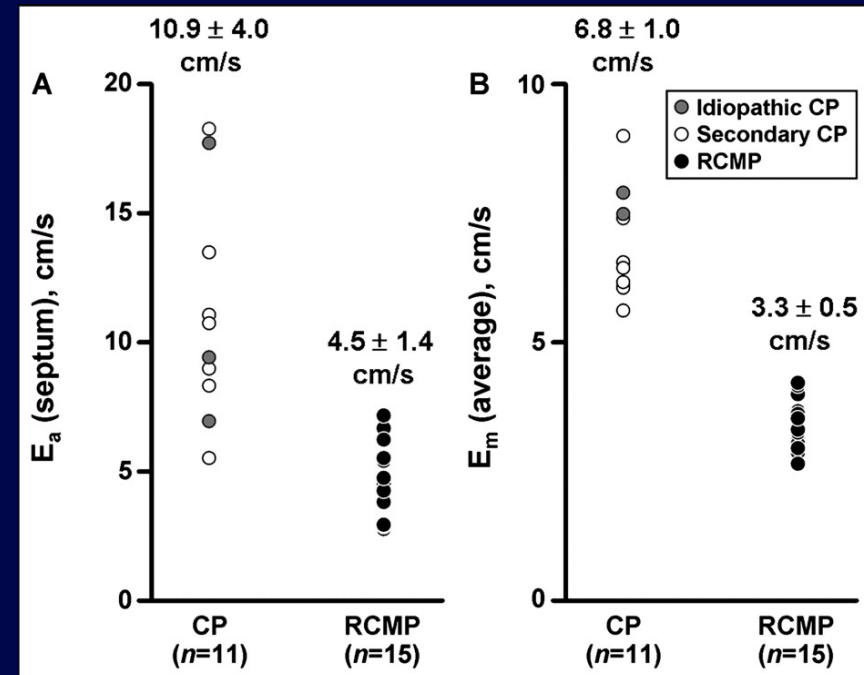


Constriction vs. restriction

Echo is better than BNP



Average the e' velocities



Constriction vs. restriction

Parameter	Constriction	Restriction
↑↑E velocity, ↑E/A Short E decel time	Present	Present
Mitral inflow respiratory variation	Present	Absent
Tissue Doppler e' velocity	Normal or increased	Severely reduced
PA systolic pressure	Normal	Increased
Hepatic vein imaging	Flow reversal during <i>expiration</i>	Flow reversal during <i>inspiration</i>

Kussmaul / hepatic vein discordance?

- In constriction:
 - JVP increases with *inspiration*
 - Hepatic vein flow reversal increases with *expiration*
- During inspiration:
 - IVC flow competes with SVC flow
 - Diaphragm squeezes abdomen → ↑ IVC flow

Kussmaul / hepatic vein discordance?

- In constriction:
 - JVP increases with *inspiration*
 - Hepatic vein flow reversal increases with *expiration*
- During inspiration:
 - IVC flow competes with SVC flow
 - Diaphragm squeezes abdomen → ↑IVC flow
 - IVC flow pushes blood up into RA, impedes SVC flow coming into RA → pushes blood up into neck veins → Kussmaul's sign

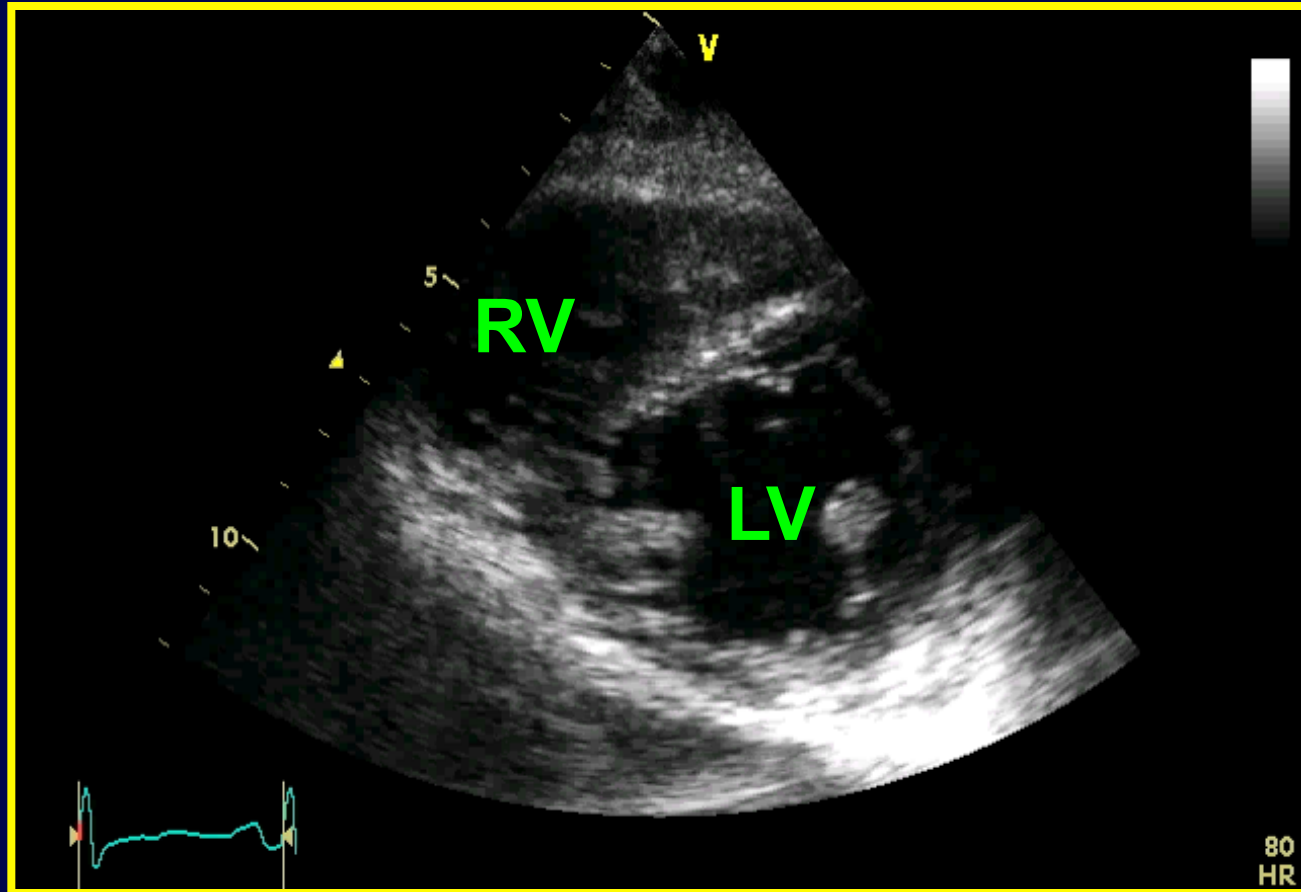
Case #1:

**The binge drinker
who almost got a
liver transplant...**

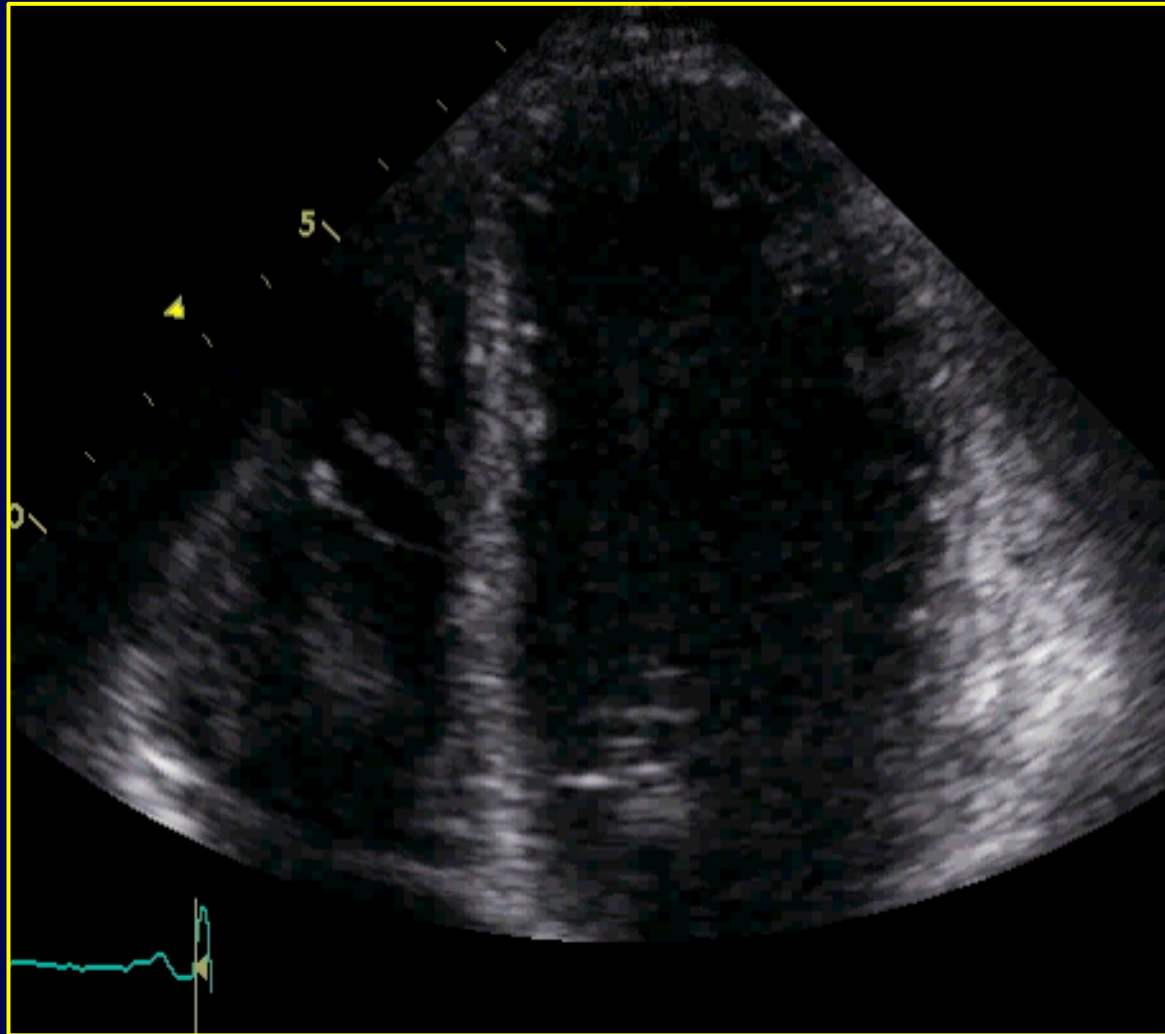
Constriction: checklist

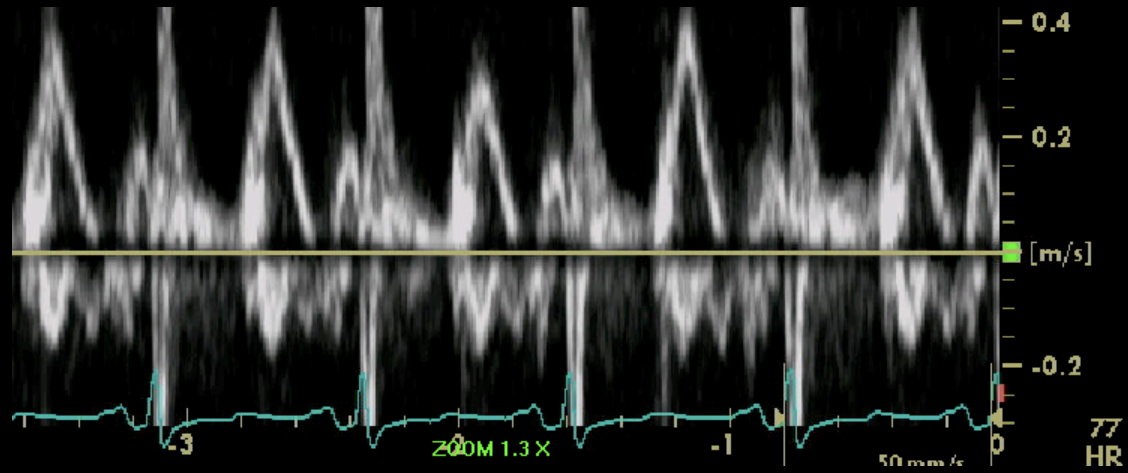
- Echo diagnosis of constriction is all about pattern recognition:
 - ✓ Diastolic septal bounce
 - ✓ Mitral inflow \uparrow resp. variation, \uparrow E/A, decreased E deceleration time
 - ✓ Preserved e' velocity (septal \geq lateral)
 - ✓ Dilated IVC
 - ✓ Diastolic flow reversal during expiration
 - ✓ Reduced radial function, preserved longitudinal function

44-year-old man with chronic ascites



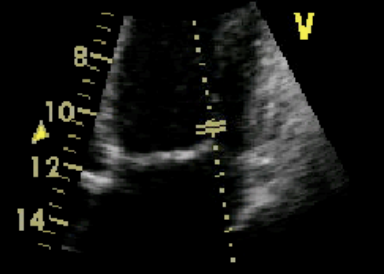
44-year-old man with chronic ascites

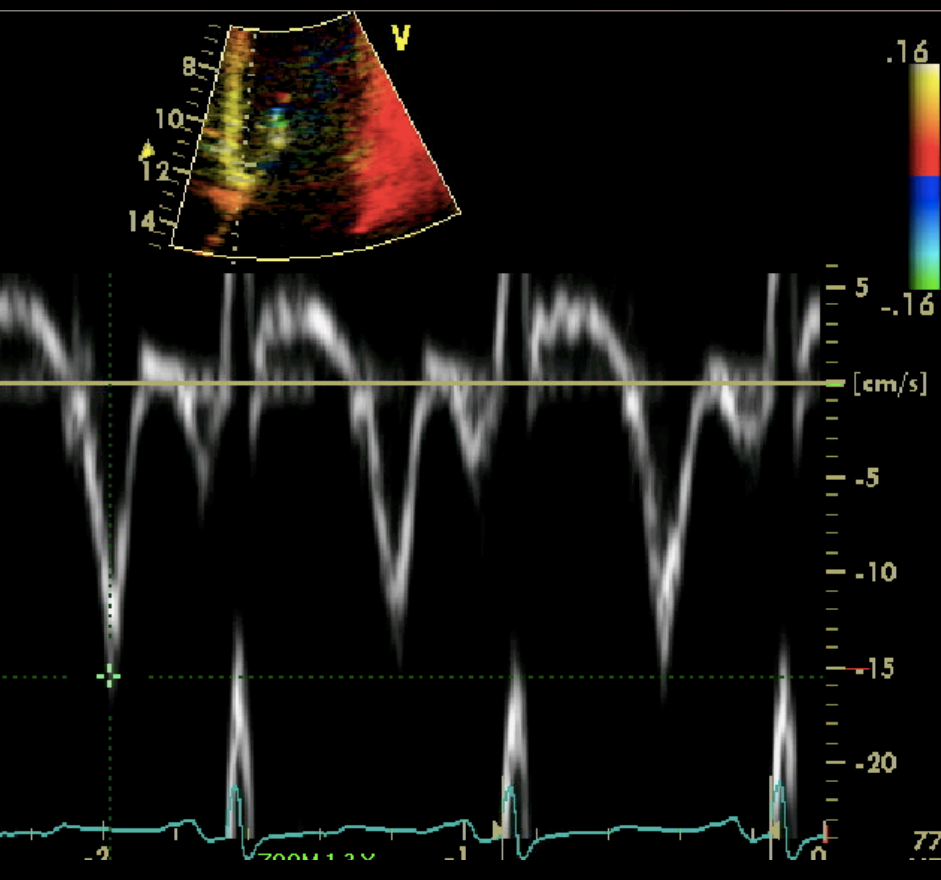




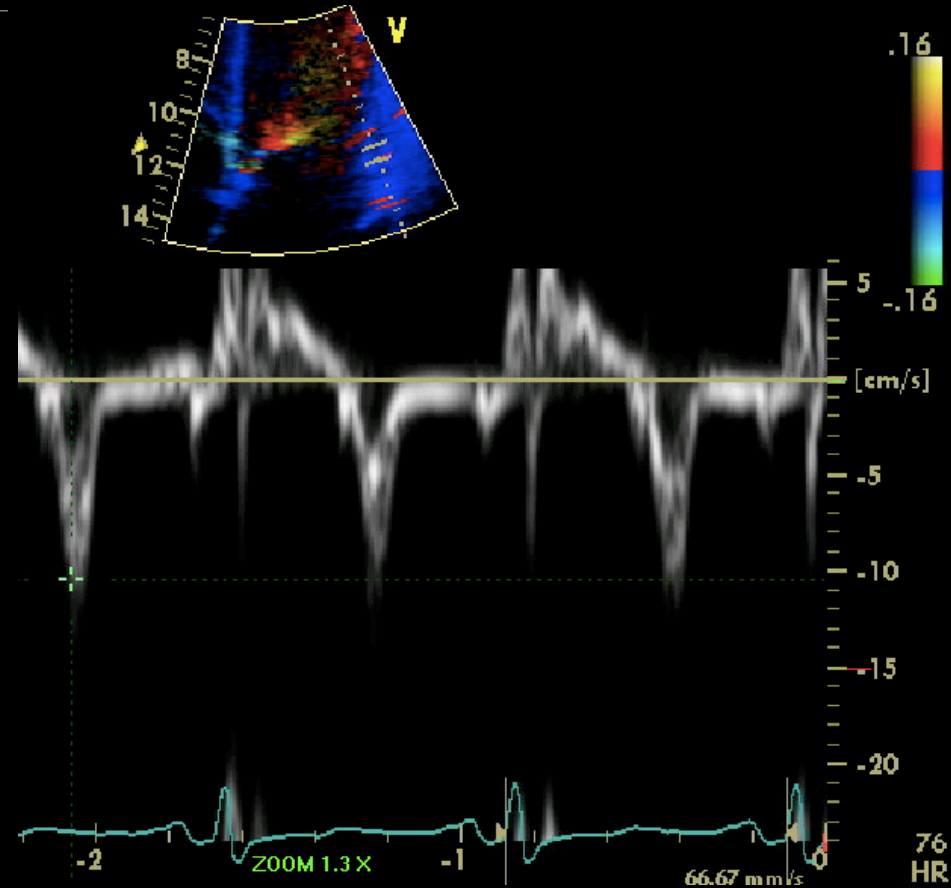
BPM: 76

●	📏	
1	MV E Vel	0.41 m/s
	MV DecT	154 ms
	MV Dec Slope	2.6 m/s ²
	MV A Vel	0.19 m/s
	MV E/A Ratio	2.09
	MV PHT	45 ms
	MVA By PHT	4.9 cm ²



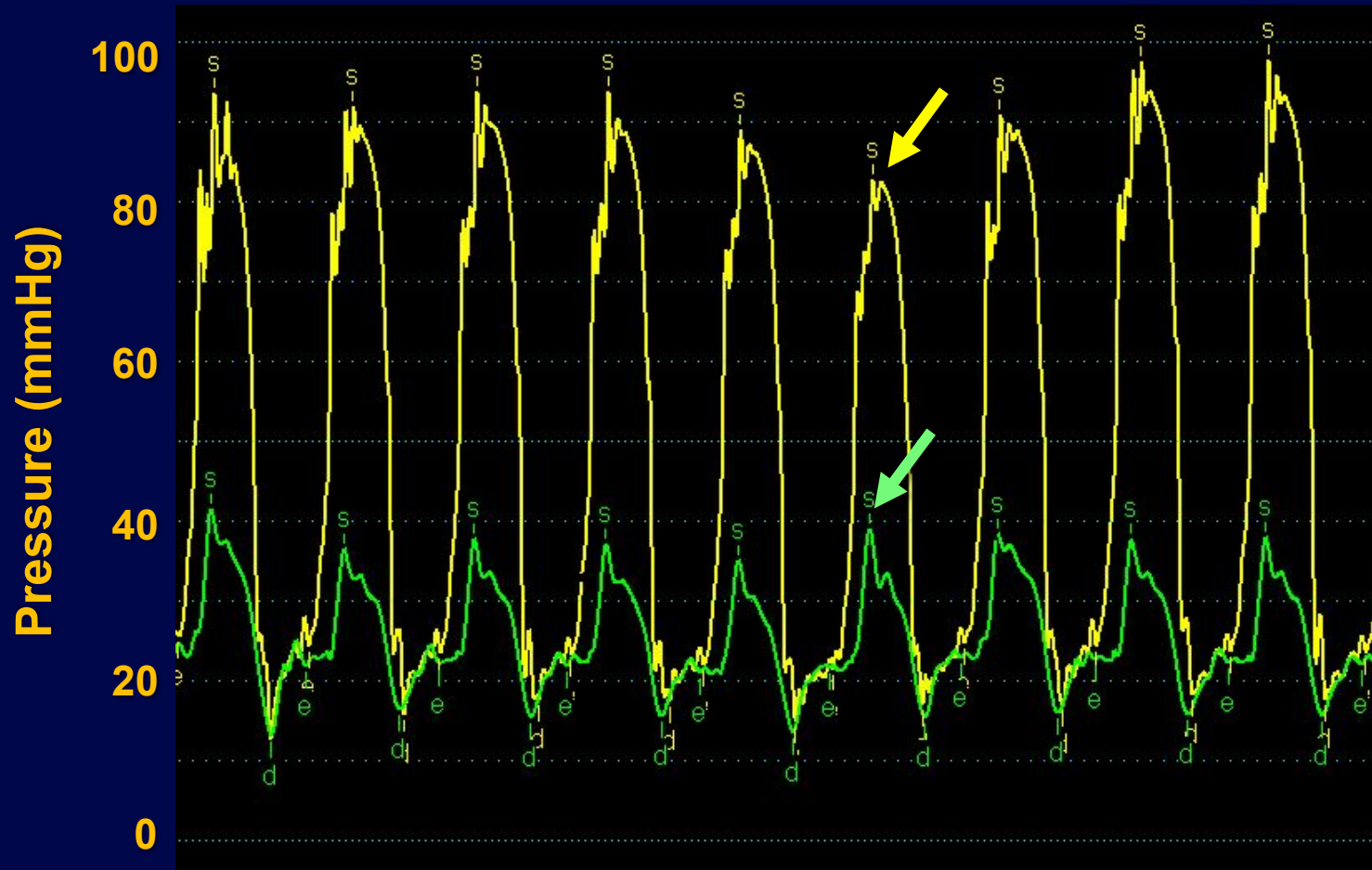


Septal $e' = 15$ cm/s

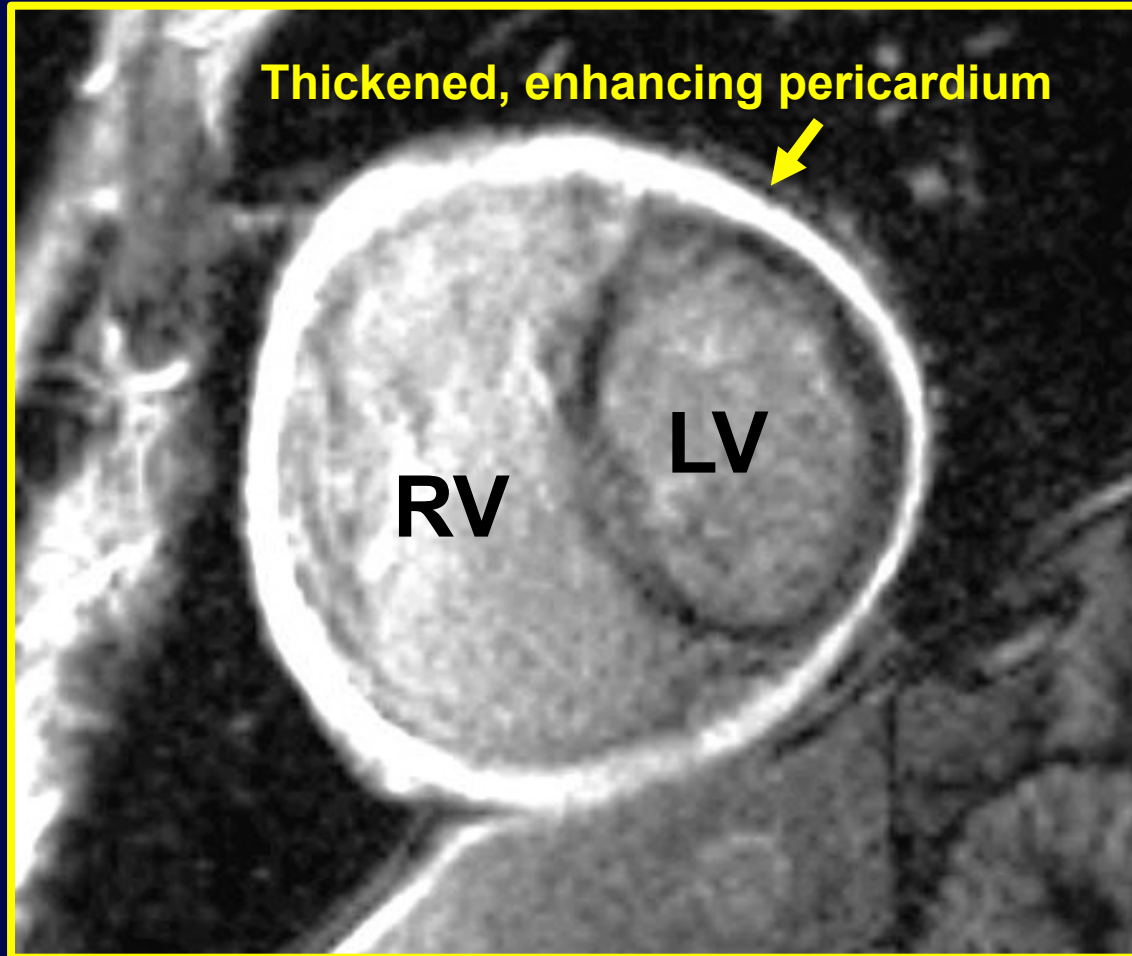


Lateral $e' = 10$ cm/s

44-year-old man with chronic ascites

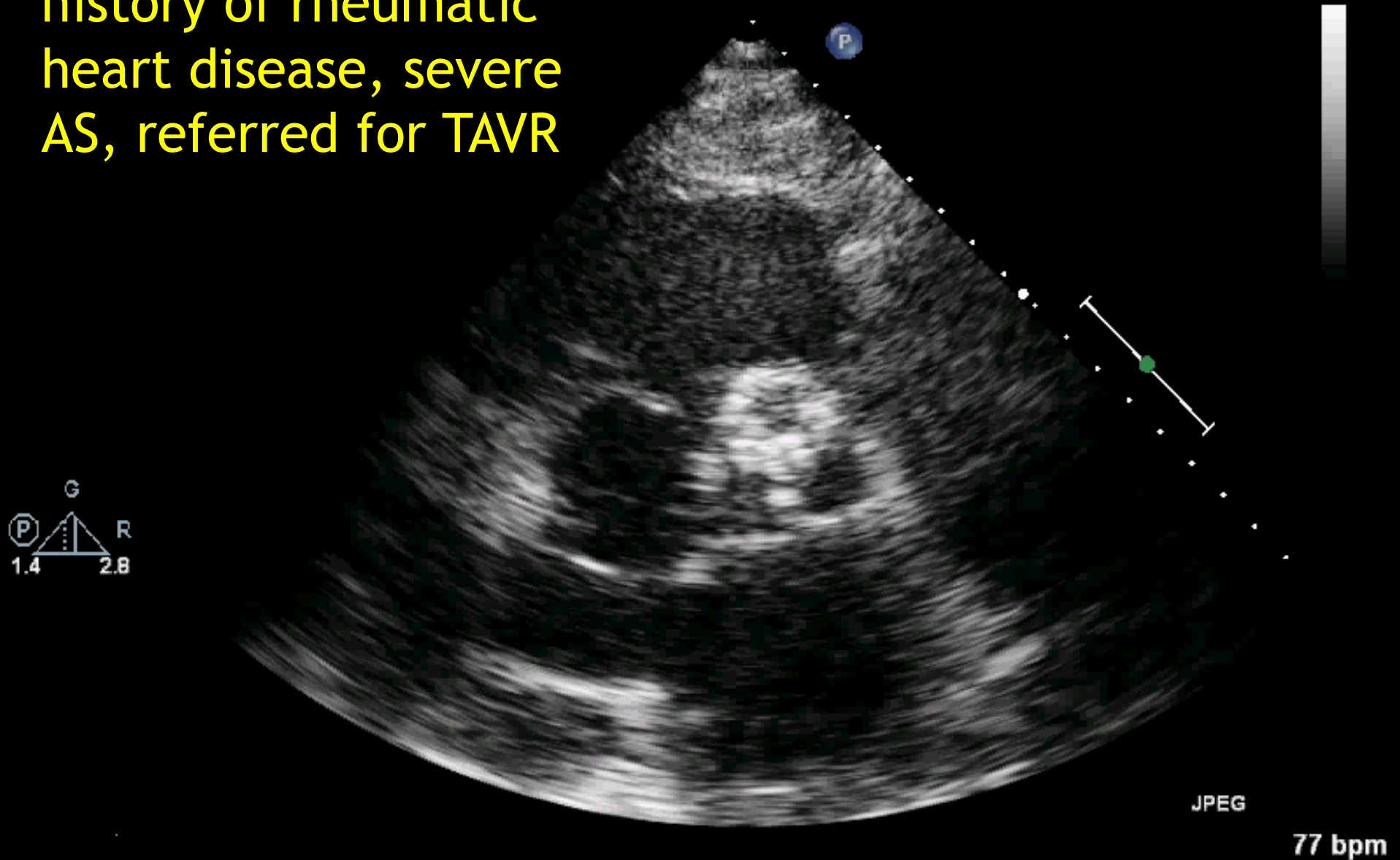


44-year-old man with chronic ascites



Case #2:
Low-flow,
low-gradient
aortic stenosis...
with a twist

63-year-old man with a history of rheumatic heart disease, severe AS, referred for TAVR



JPEG

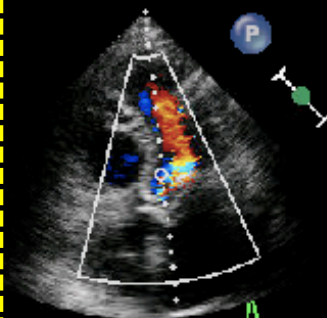
77 bpm

✦ LVOT VTI

Vmax 68.1 cm/s
Vmean 51.2 cm/s
Max PG 2 mmHg
Mean PG 1 mmHg
VTI 18.9 cm

MVA (VTI) 1.17 cm²

SV (LVOT) 59 ml

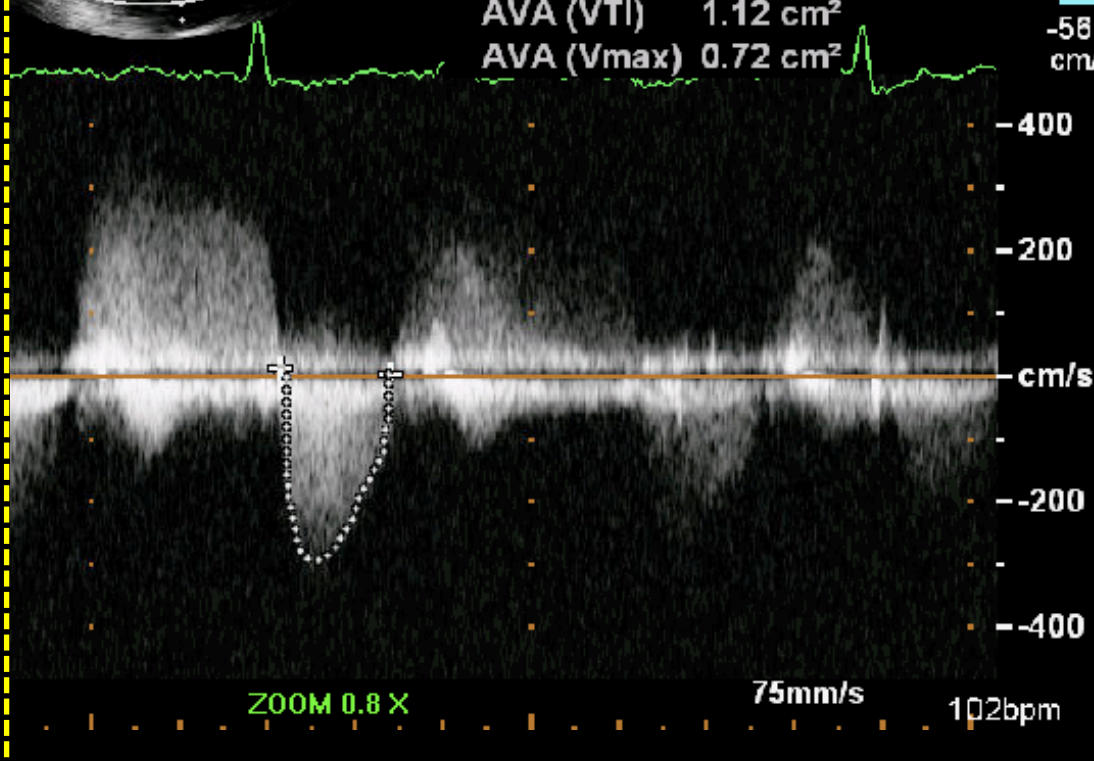
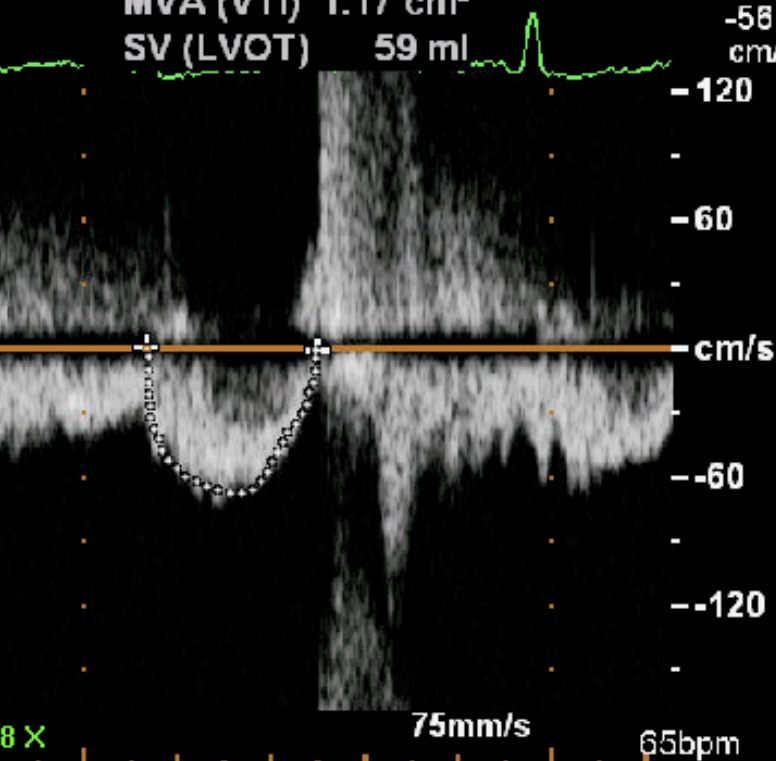
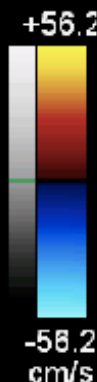


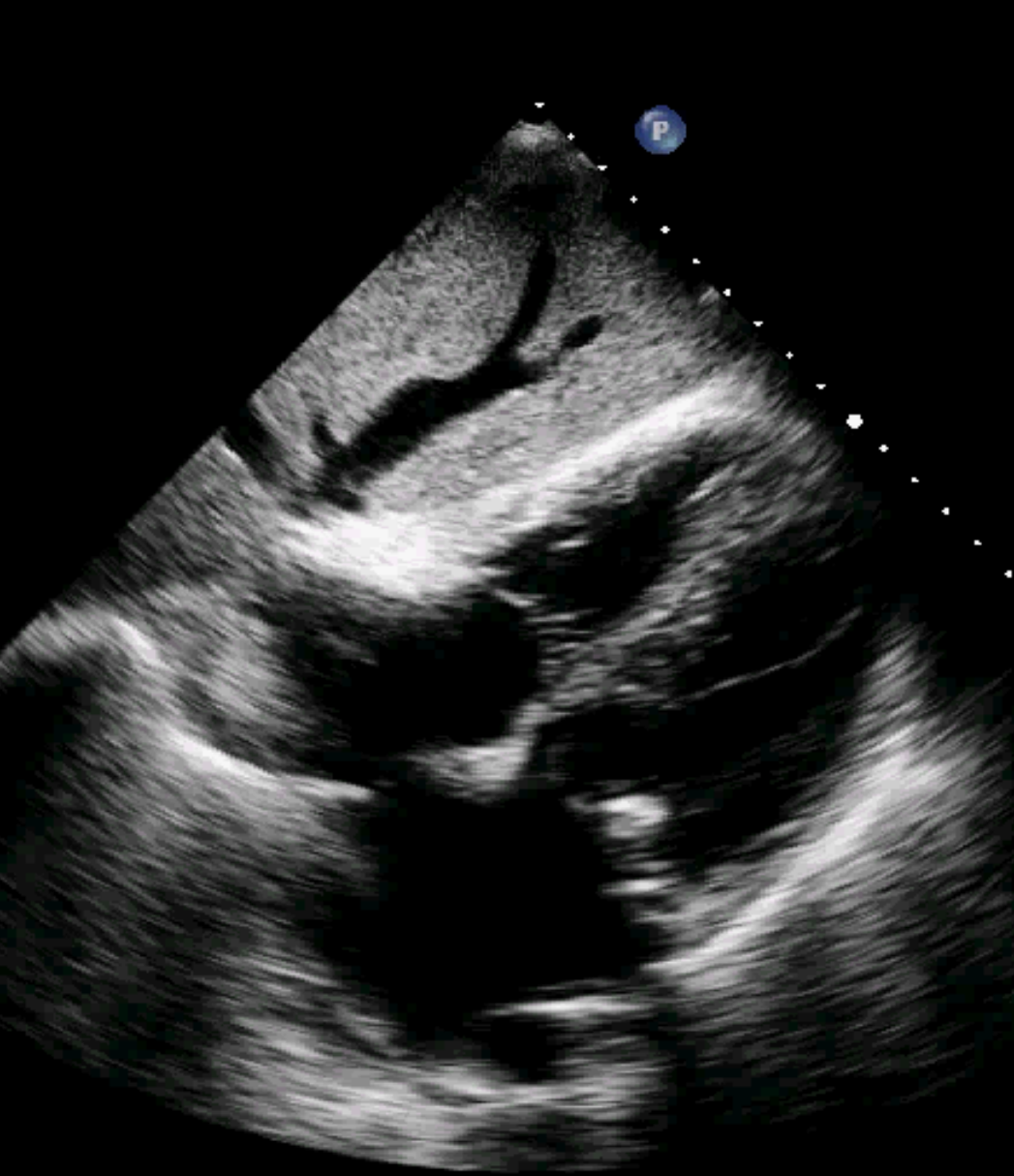
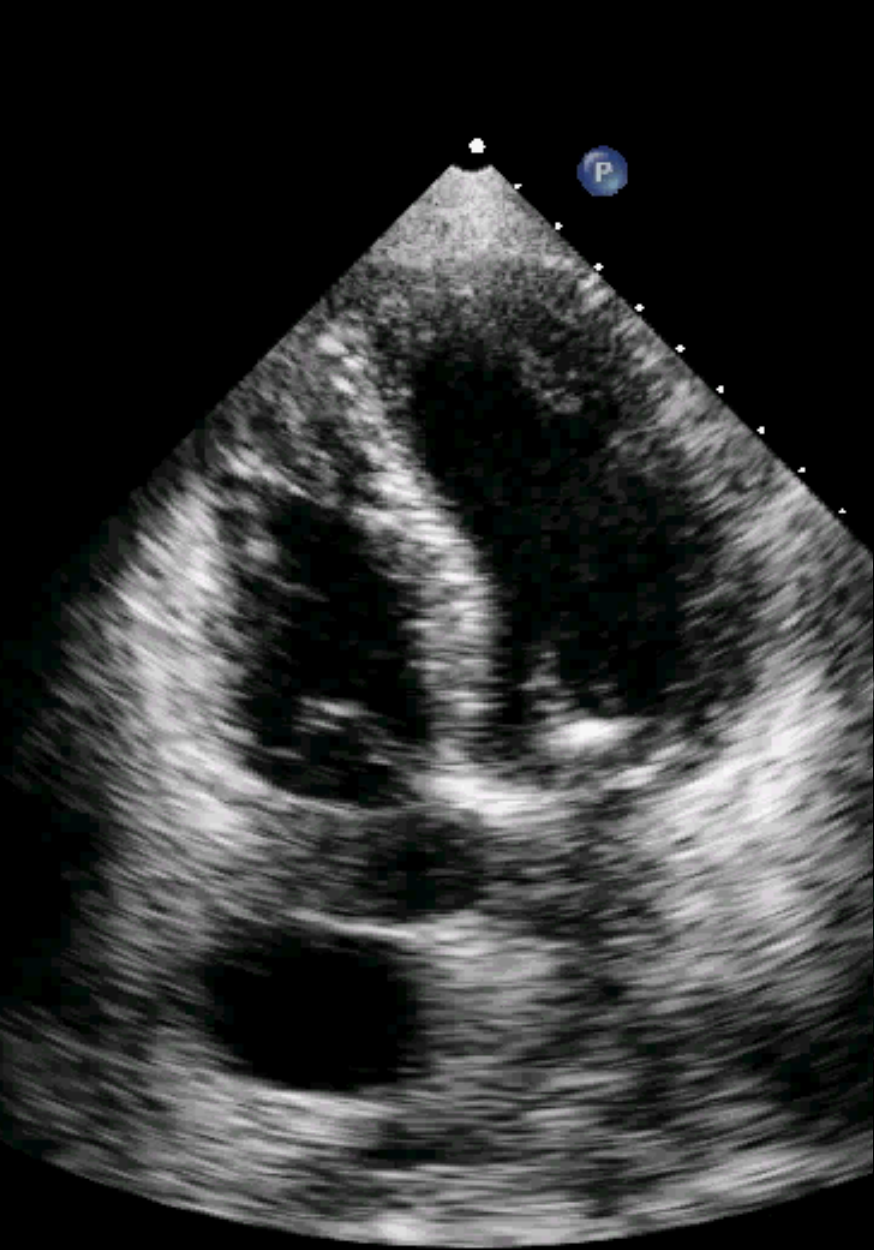
✦ AV VTI

Vmax 295 cm/s
Vmean 209 cm/s
Max PG 35 mmHg
Mean PG 20 mmHg
VTI 52.9 cm

AVA (VTI) 1.12 cm²

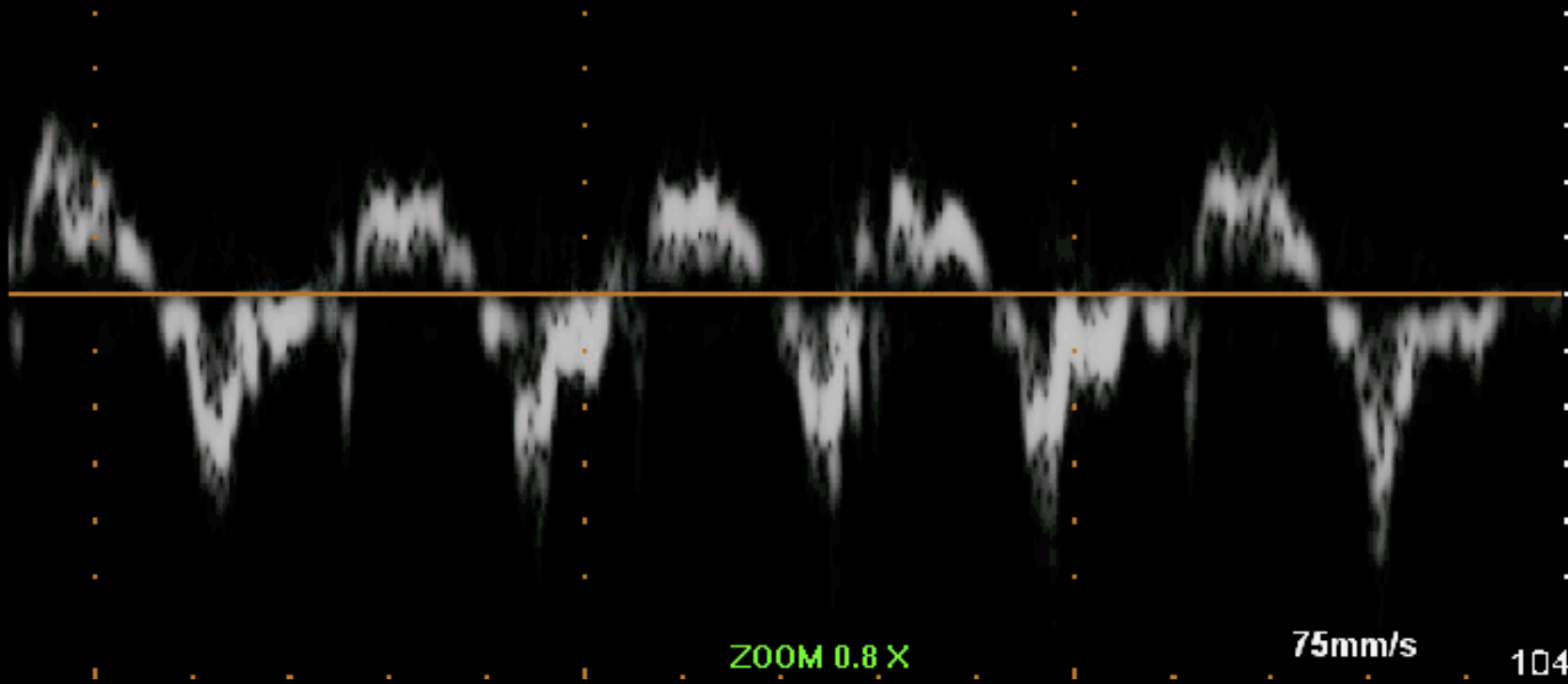
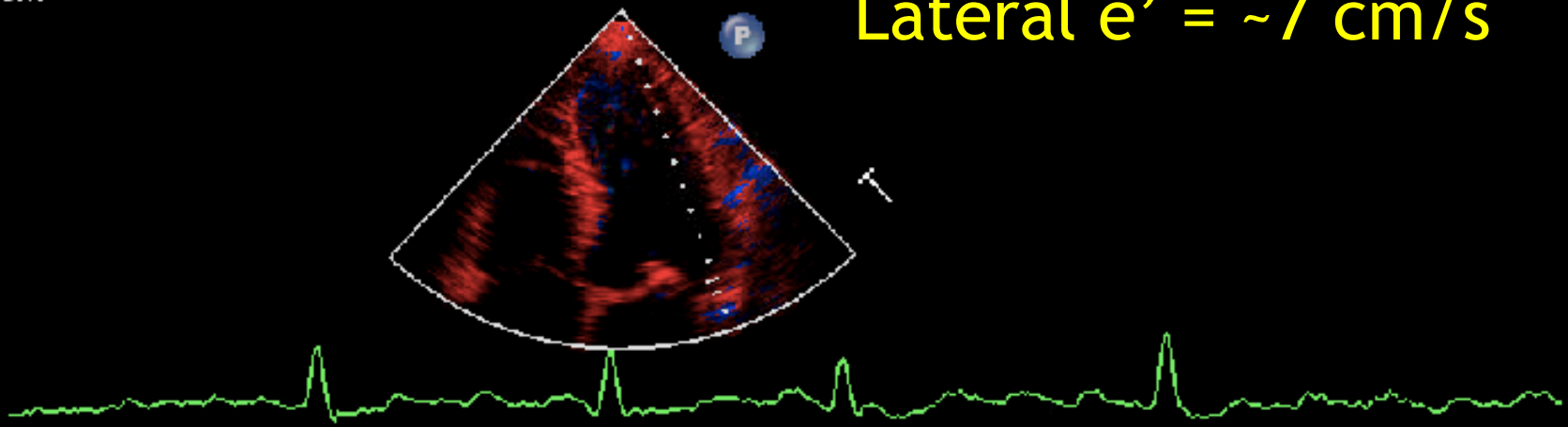
AVA (Vmax) 0.72 cm²





13cm

Lateral $e' = \sim 7$ cm/s

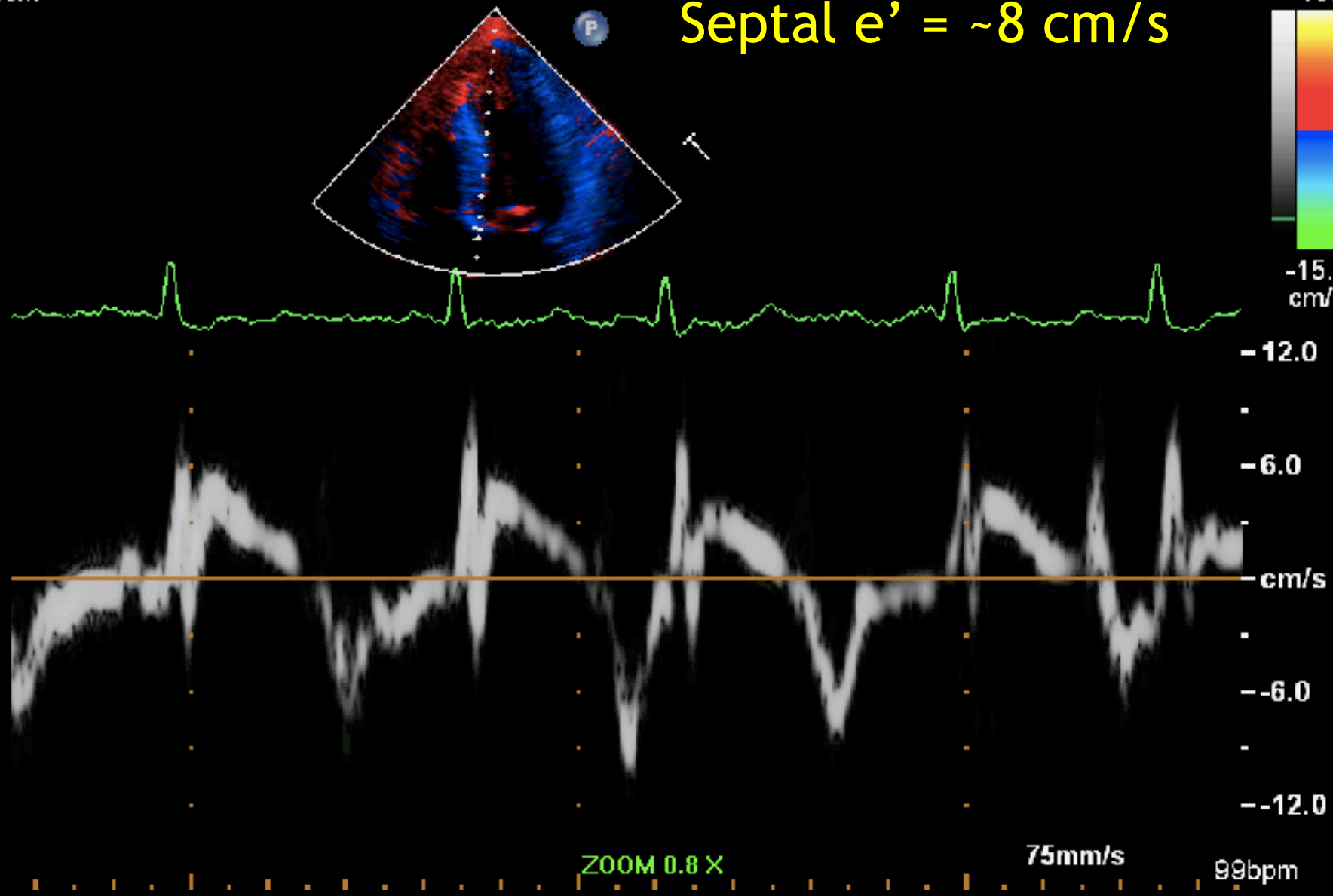
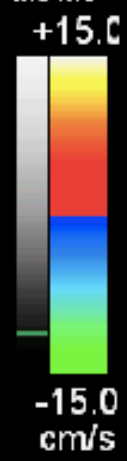


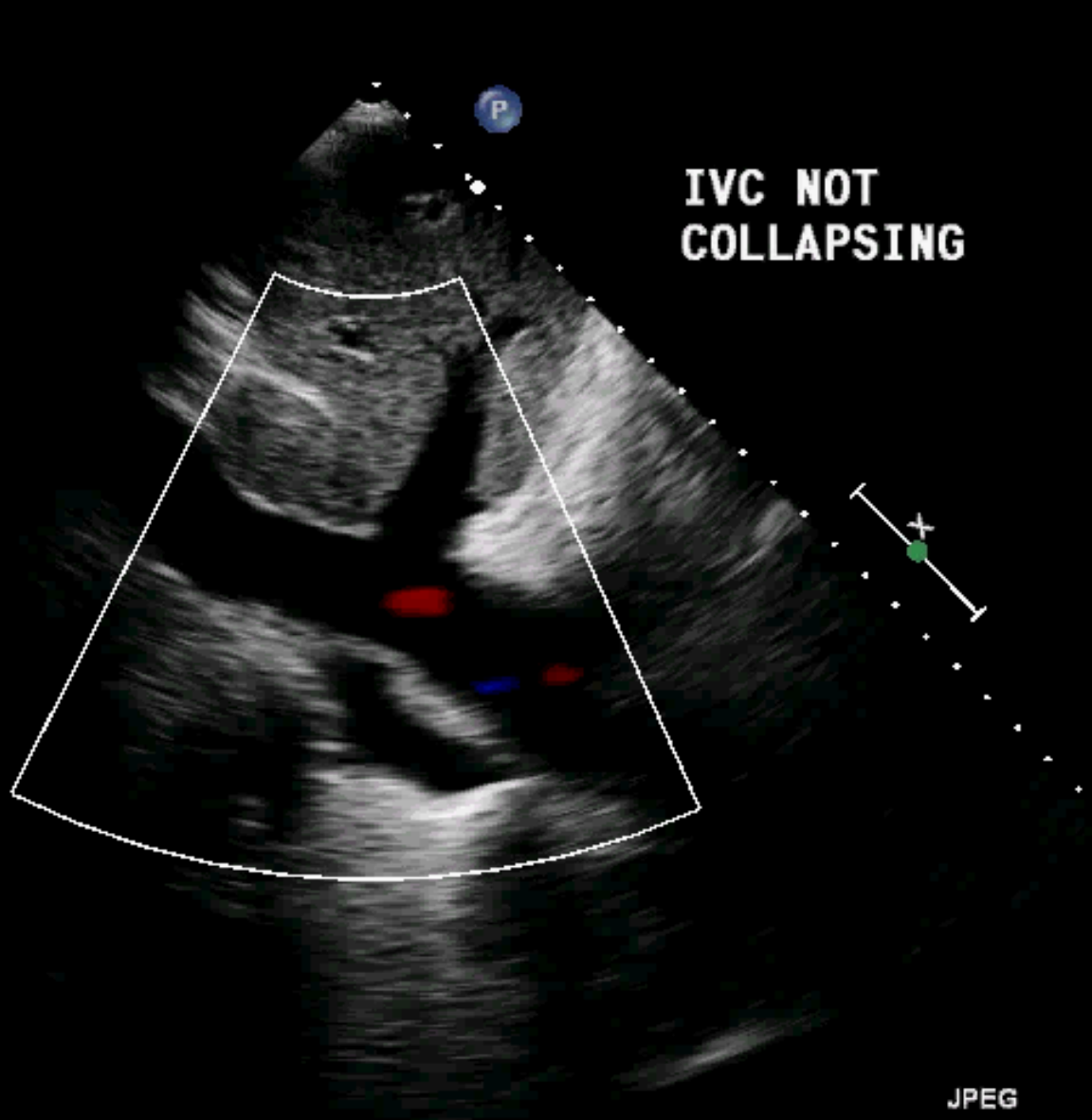
75mm/s

104bpm

13cm

Septal $e' = \sim 8 \text{ cm/s}$





IVC NOT COLLAPSING

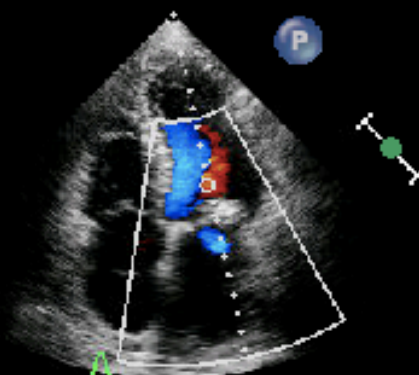
+57.9

-57.9
cm/s

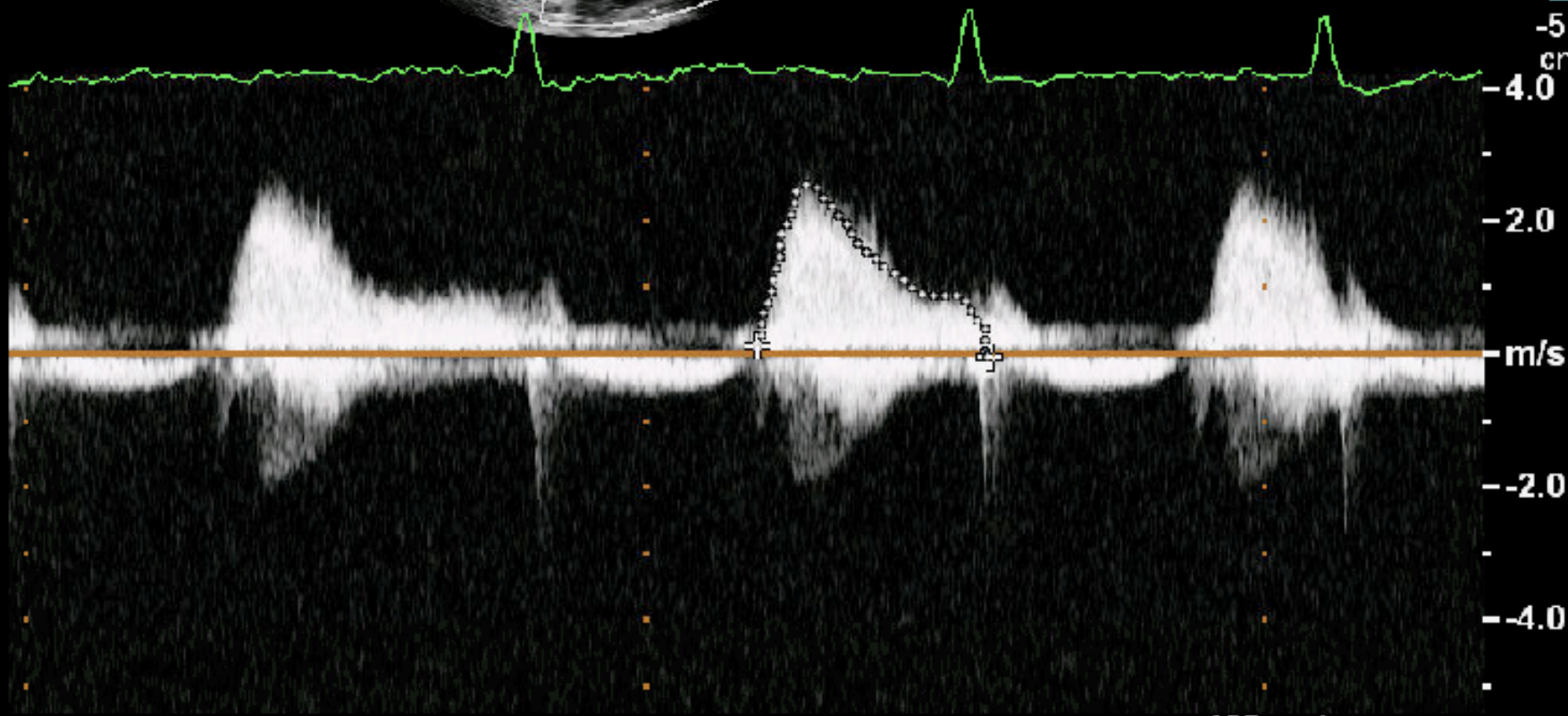
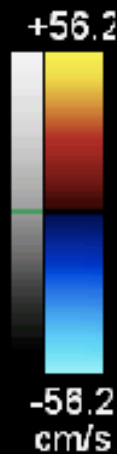
JPEG

87 bpm

19cm



✦ MV VTI
Vmax 251 cm/s
Vmean 134 cm/s
Max PG 25 mmHg
Mean PG 9 mmHg
VTI 50.6 cm



ZOOM 0.8 X

100mm/s

66bpm

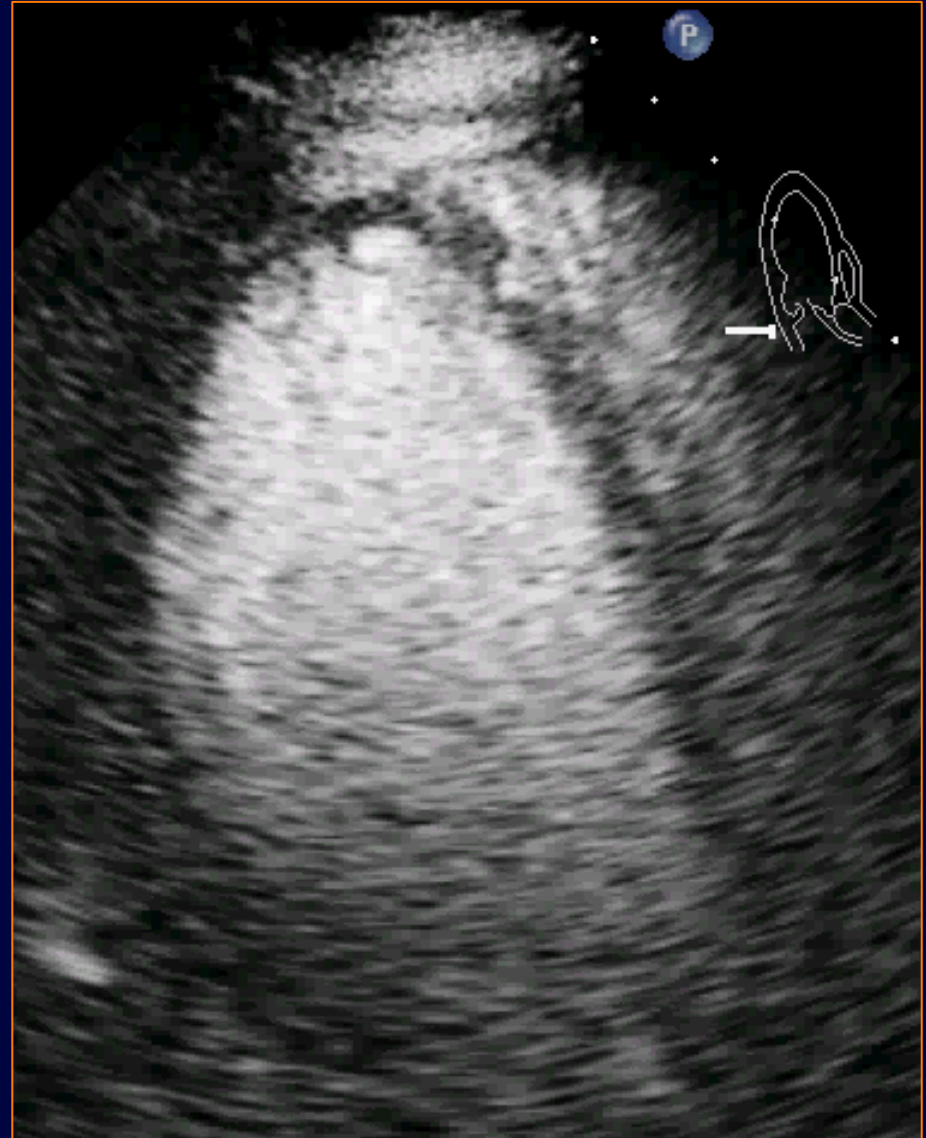
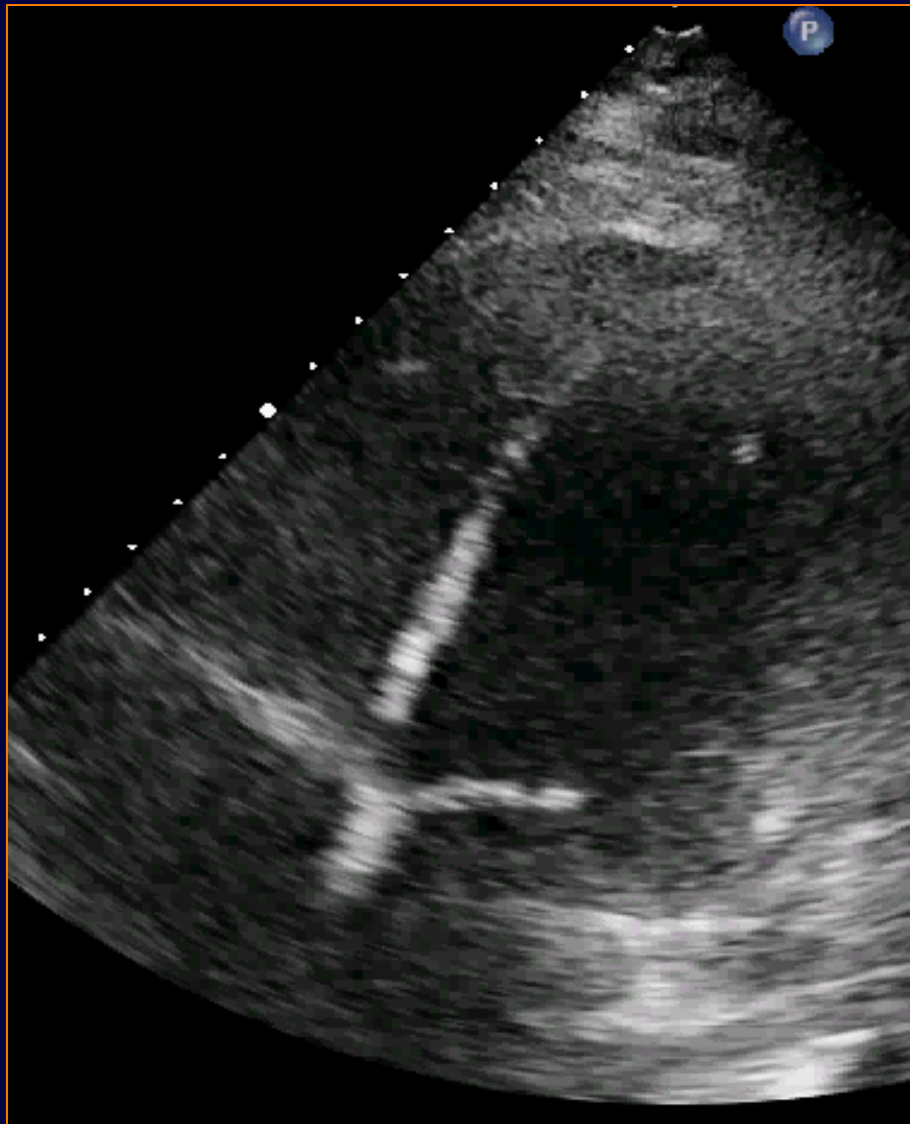
63-year-old man with low-flow, low-gradient AS

- Cardiac catheterization:
 - » Discordant RV and LV pressures
- CT: pericardial thickening (8 mm)
- Went to OR for AVR, MVR, pericardial stripping (“thick, leathery, adherent pericardium”)
- Improved symptoms but still with heart failure symptoms (NYHA class II)

Case #3:

**“Get with the guidelines”
gone bad...
(i.e., try not to be a
guideline-directed robot)**

Case #2: 74-year-old man with history of CAD s/p CABG, HFrEF, progressively worsening dyspnea, and exertional dizziness



74-year-old man with HFrEF

- ACE-I and beta-blocker stopped
- Diuresed 5L, feels much better
- Attending switches on day of discharge
 - » “Start guideline-directed medical therapy”
 - » Low-dose ACE-I and beta-blocker started
 - » Pt has syncope while walking in room, develops subdural hematoma...

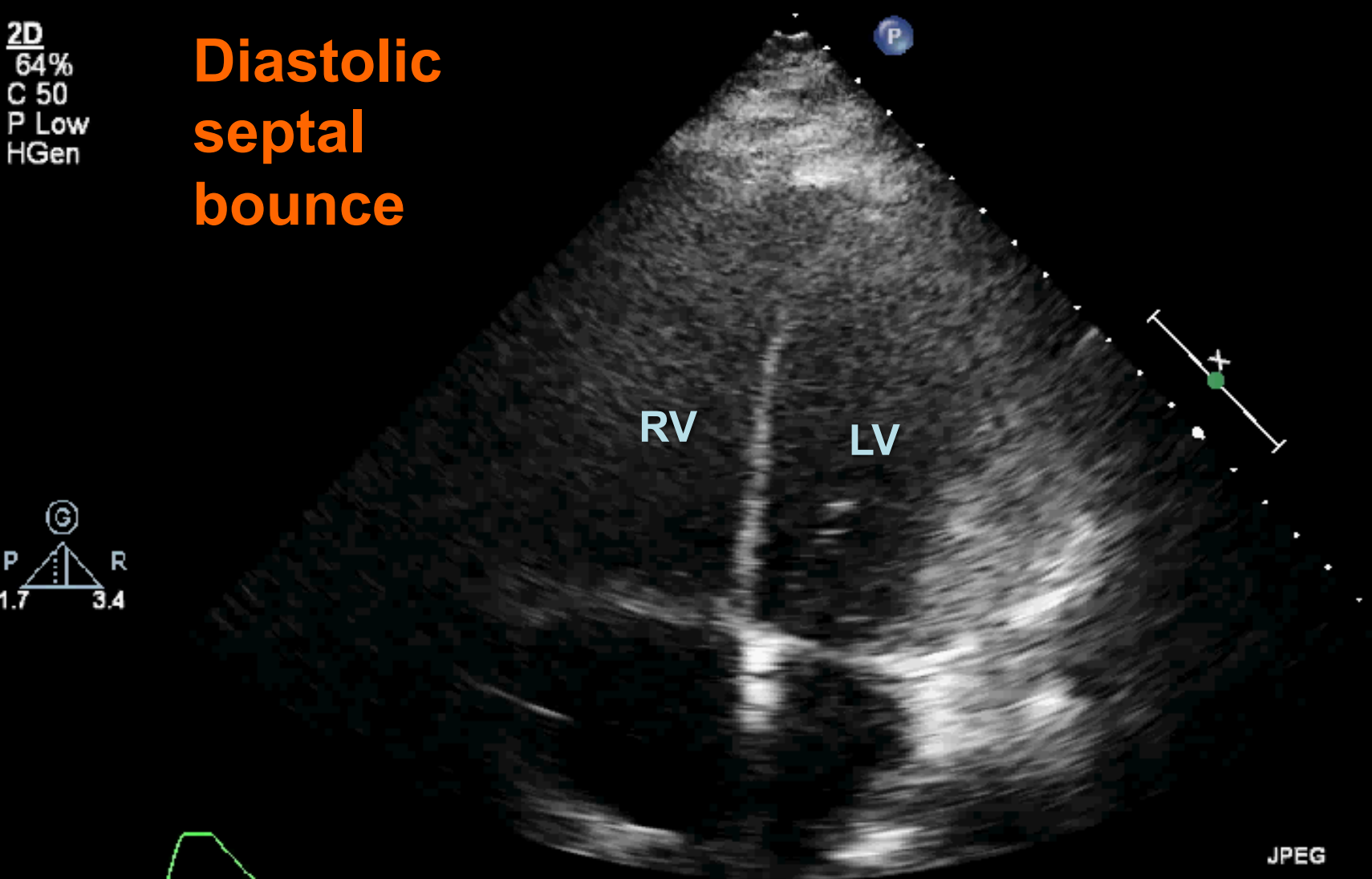
APICAL 4-CHAMBER VIEW

FR 43Hz
19cm

2D
64%
C 50
P Low
HGen

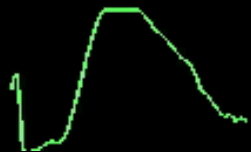
**Diastolic
septal
bounce**

M3



JPEG

82 bpm



APICAL 4-CHAMBER VIEW

FR 29Hz
18cm

LVO
88%
C 50
P Low
Res

**Diastolic
septal
bounce**

M3



RV

LV



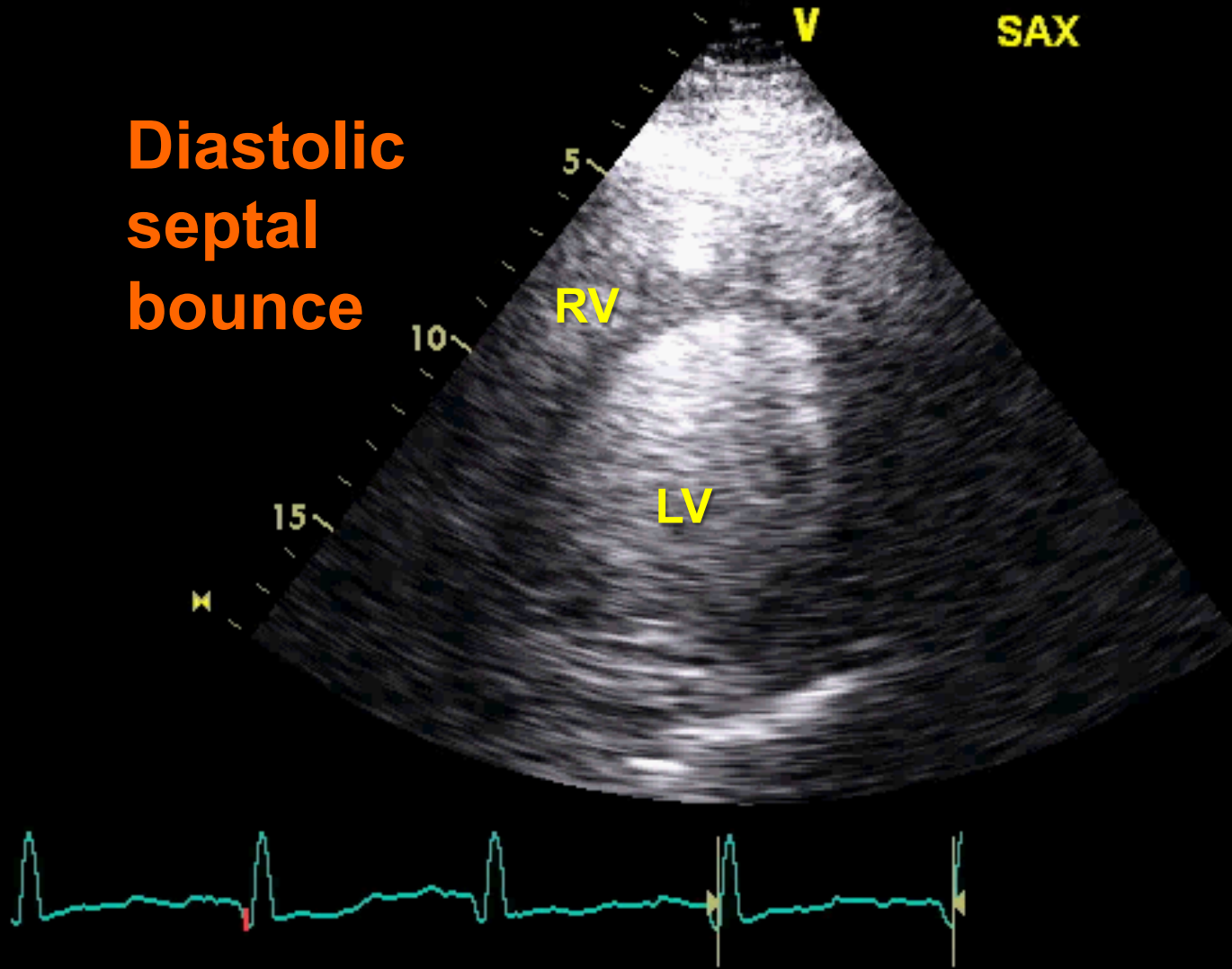
G
P ((O))®
1.6 3.2

JPEG

81 bpm

PARASTERNAL SHORT-AXIS VIEW

Diastolic
septal
bounce

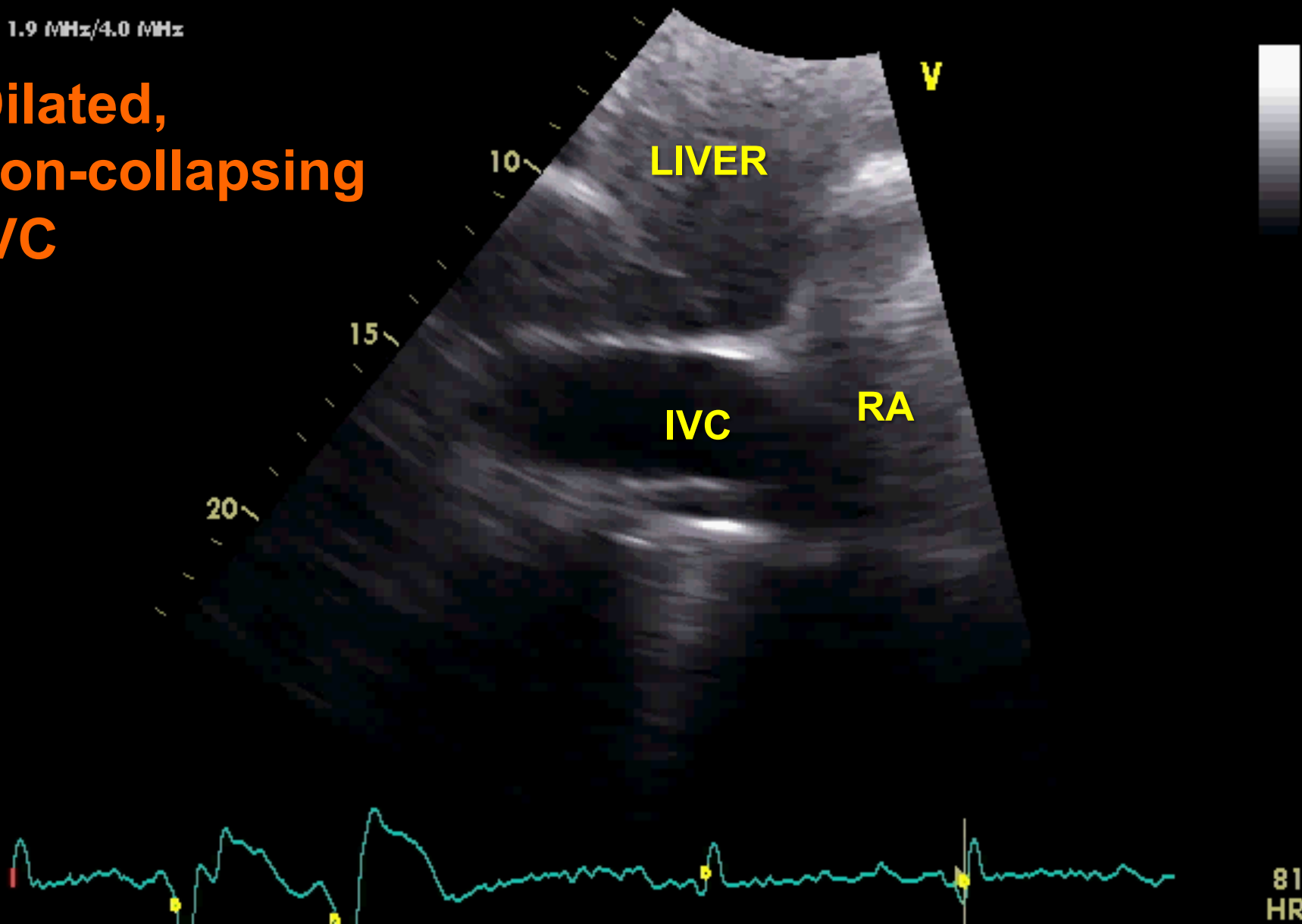


89
HR

SUBCOSTAL VIEW

Freq.: 1.9 MHz/4.0 MHz

**Dilated,
non-collapsing
IVC**



FR 19Hz

18cm

2D

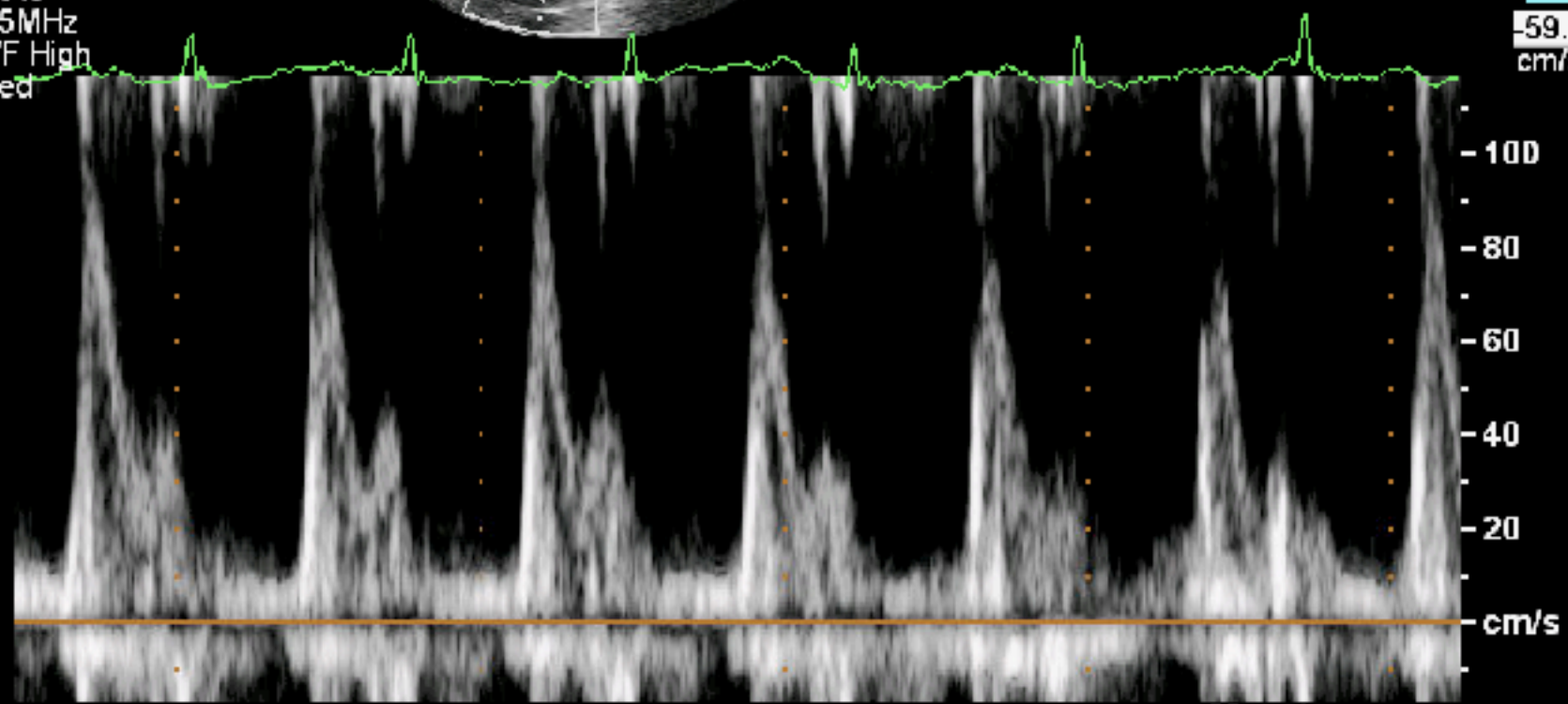
71%
C 50
P Low
HGen

CE

66%
2.5MHz
WF High
Med



PW
50%
1.8MHz
WF 75Hz
SV4.0mm
12.1cm

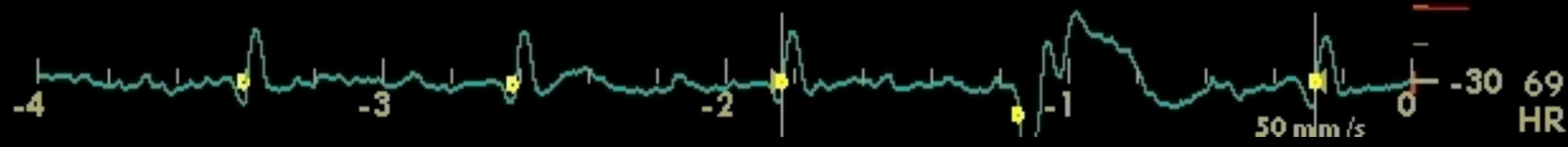
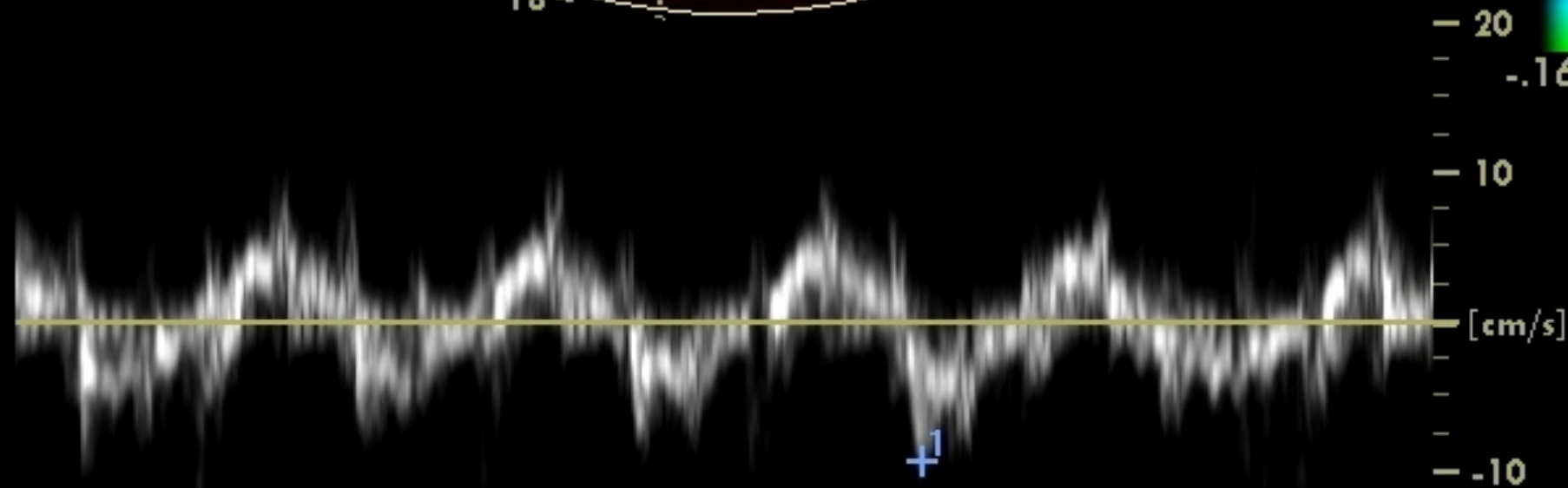
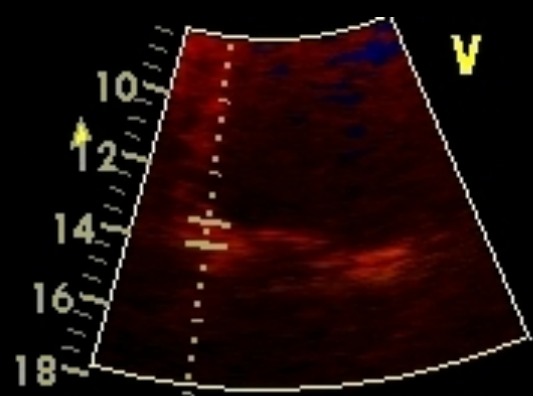


ZOOM 0.6 X

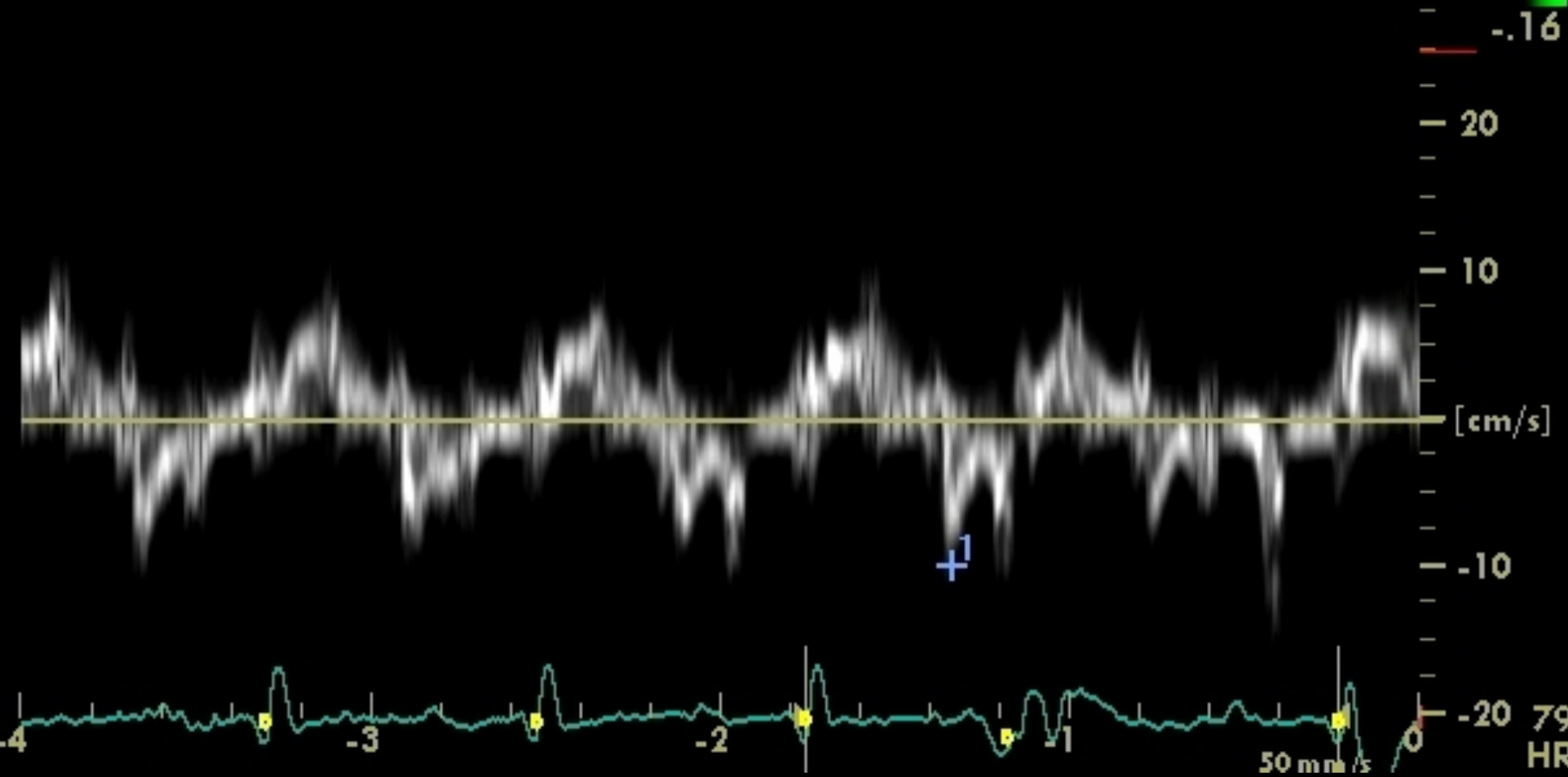
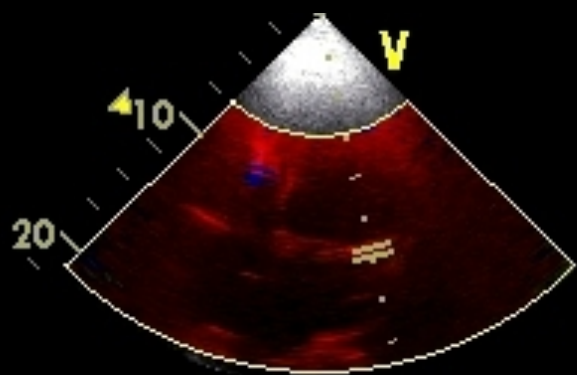
50mm/s

82bpm

1 Septal e' 0.09 m/s



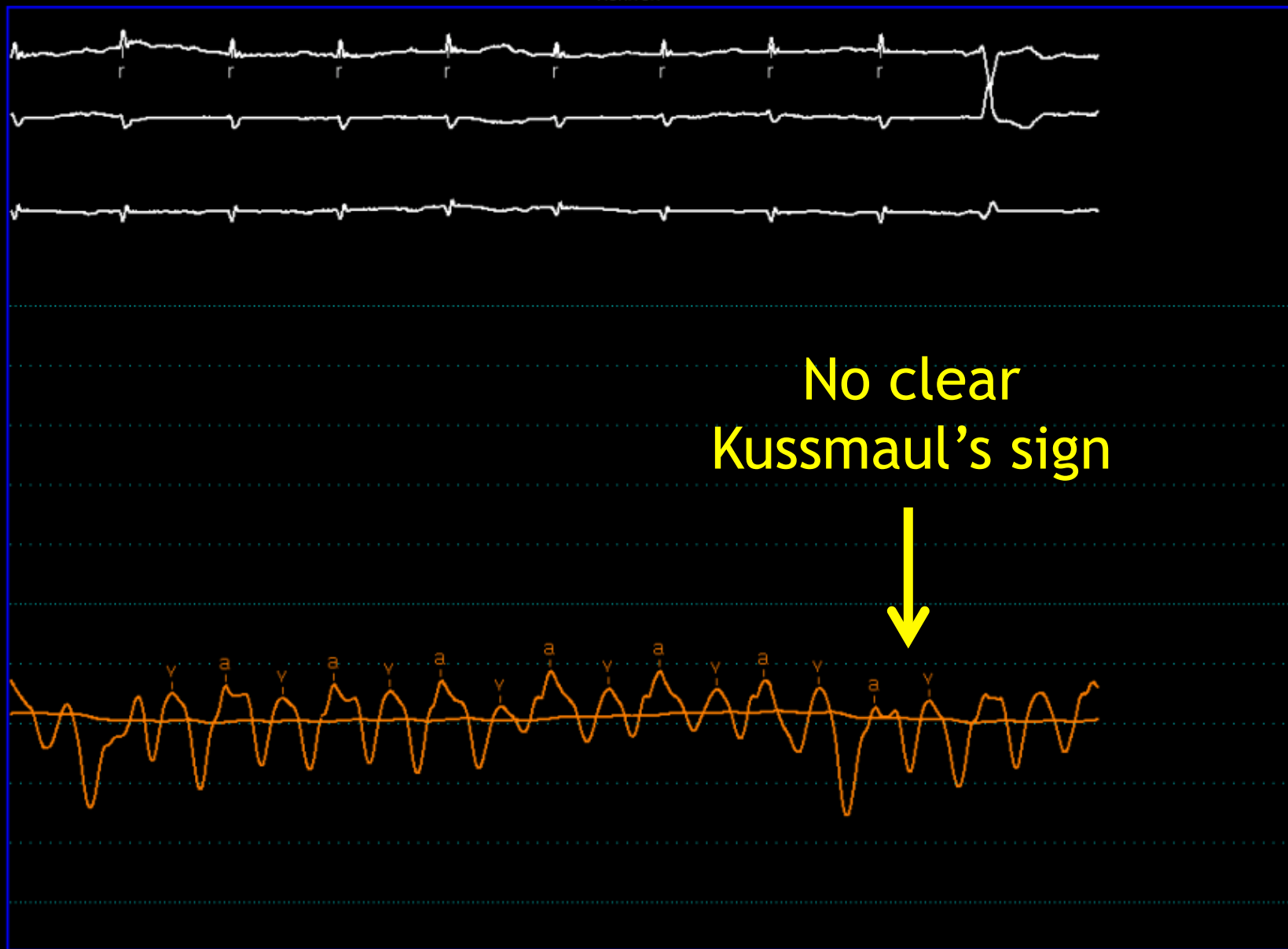
1 Lateral e' 0.10 m/s






RA 18/17 (15)

Ⓞ
F

86 
MONITOR BPM



II (50) 
aL (50) 
V1 (50) 

No clear
Kussmaul's sign



100/56 88 BPM

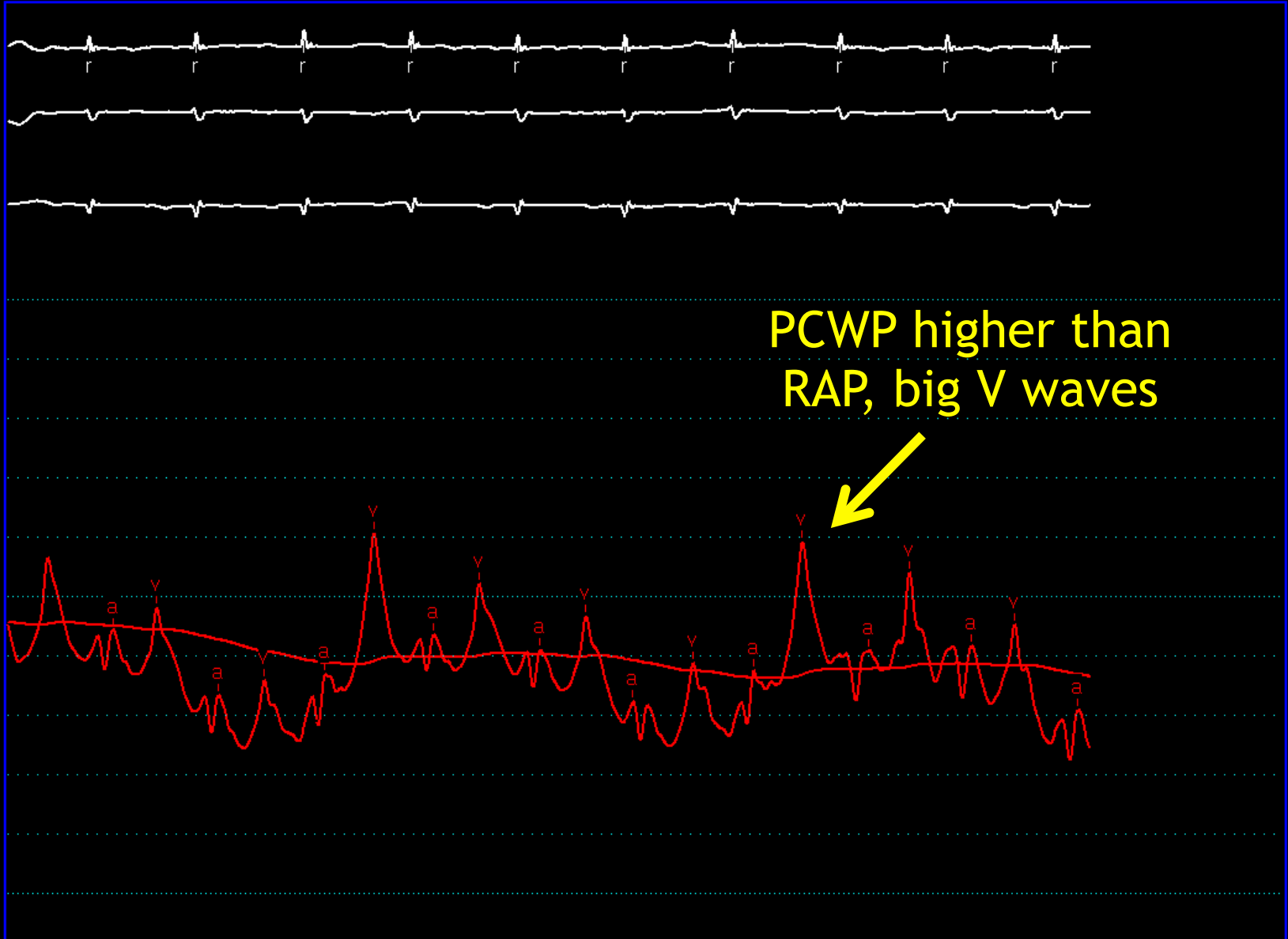
5 
IPM

96% 87 BPM
7 sec

PW 19/25 (18)

F

86 BPM
MONITOR



II (50)

aL (50)

V1 (50)

PCWP higher than RAP, big V waves



50

^

25

v

0

100/56 88 BPM

9 IPM

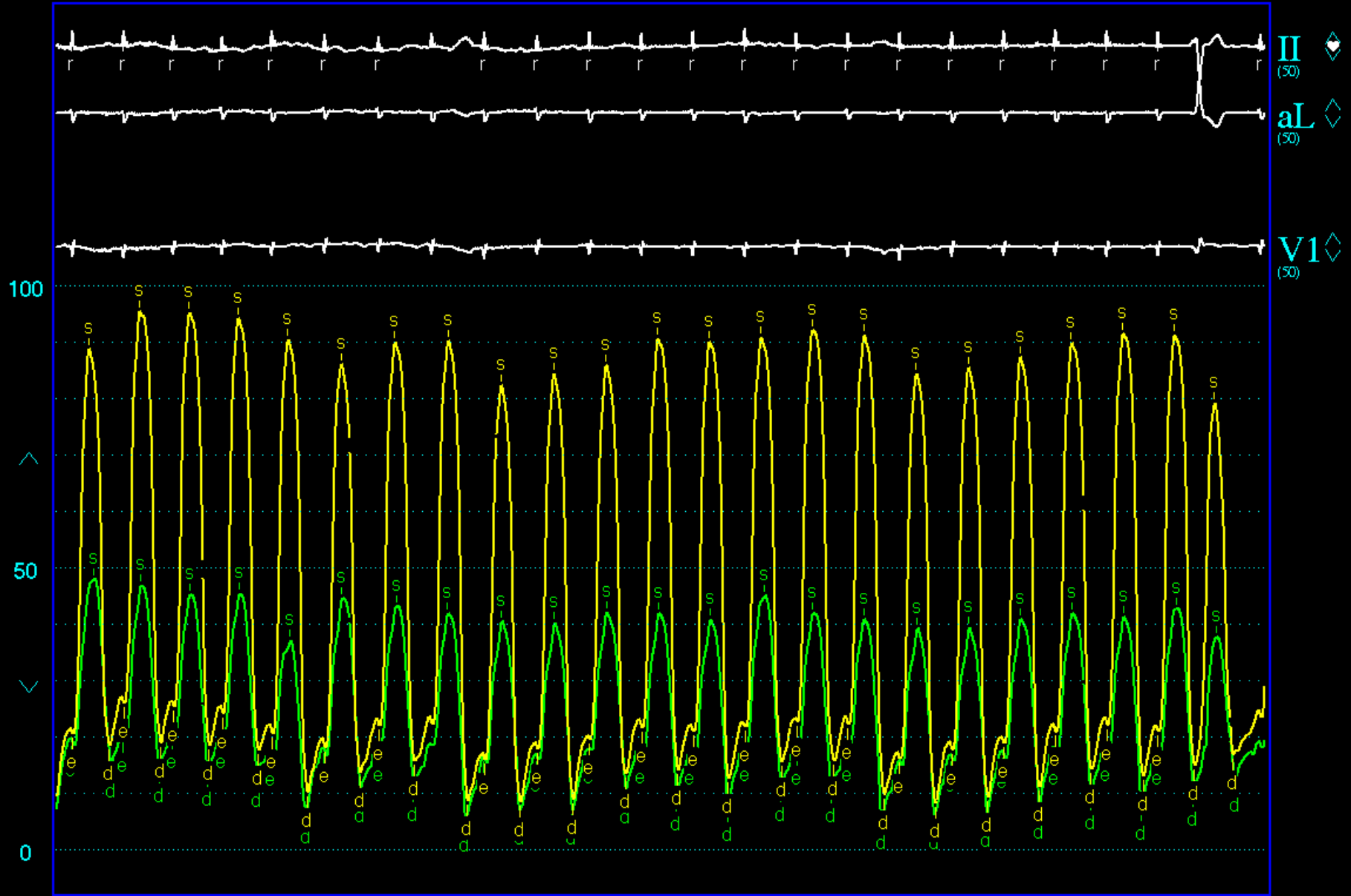
100% 86 BPM 7 sec

RV 41/9, 17



78 BPM
MONITOR

LV 88/13, 20



93/59 85 BPM

10 IPM

100% 83 BPM
20 sec

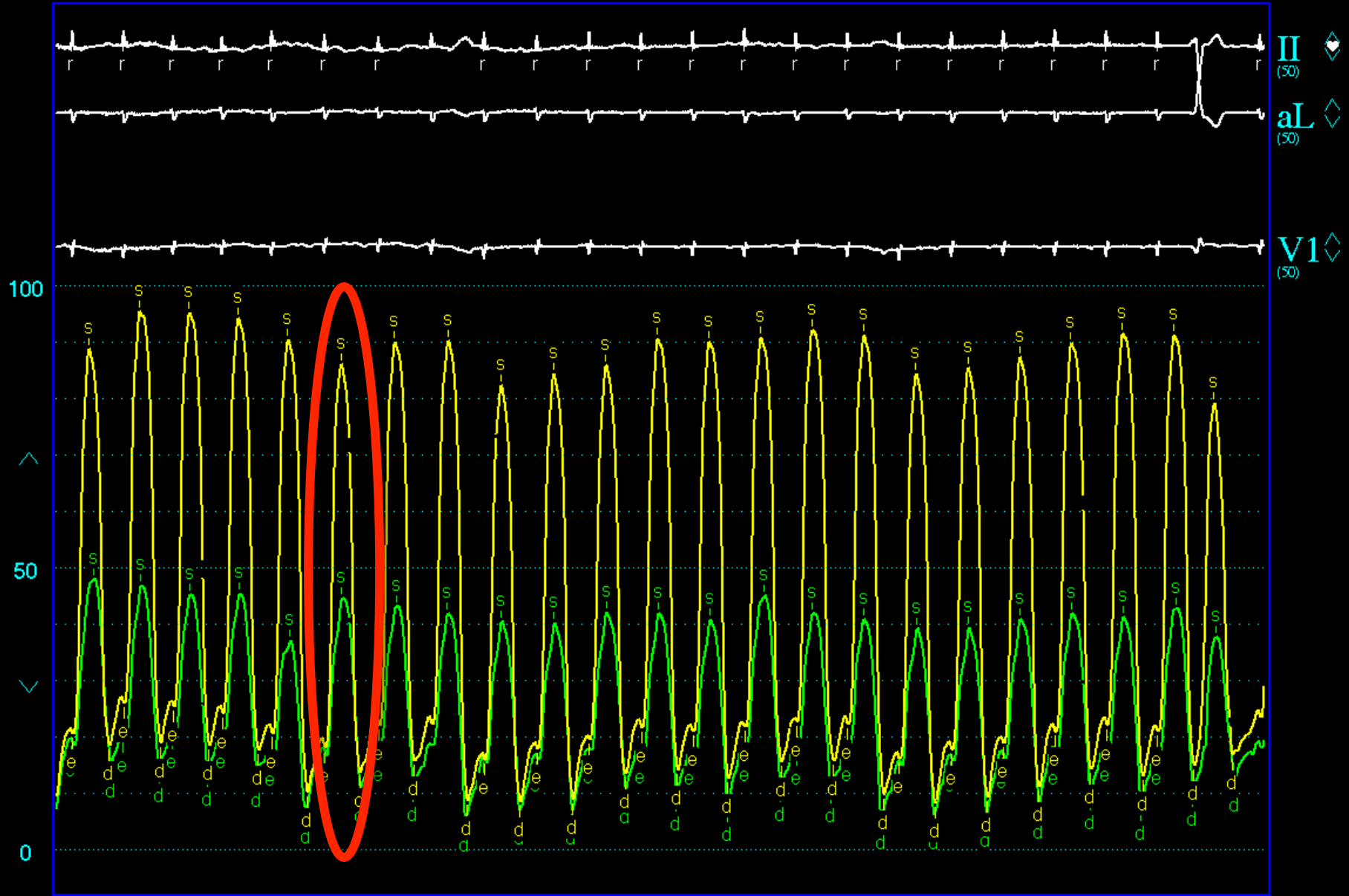
RV 41/9, 17

① F

78  BPM
MONITOR

LV 88/13, 20

② F



93/59 85 BPM

10  IPM

100% ⁸³ BPM
20 sec

74-year-old man with HFrEF

- Constrictive pericarditis diagnosed
- Underwent pericardial stripping
- Still with mild HFrEF but now NYHA class II and no further syncopal events

Constriction: take home points

- Echo diagnosis of constriction is all about pattern recognition:
 - ✓ Diastolic septal bounce
 - ✓ Mitral inflow \uparrow resp. variation, \uparrow E/A, decreased E deceleration time
 - ✓ Preserved e' velocity (septal \geq lateral)
 - ✓ Dilated IVC
 - ✓ Diastolic flow reversal during expiration
 - ✓ Reduced radial function, preserved longitudinal function



thank you!