



Lékařská  
fakulta

Univerzita Palackého  
v Olomouci



# FEASIBILITY OF EVALUATION OF POLAR H10 CHEST- BELT ECG IN PATIENTS WITH A BROAD RANGE OF HEART CONDITIONS

Skála T, Vícha M, Rada M, Vácha J, Flašík J, Táborský M

*I. Dep. of Internal Medicine – Cardiology, Uni Hospital Olomouc, CZ*

# The search for AF – WHY?

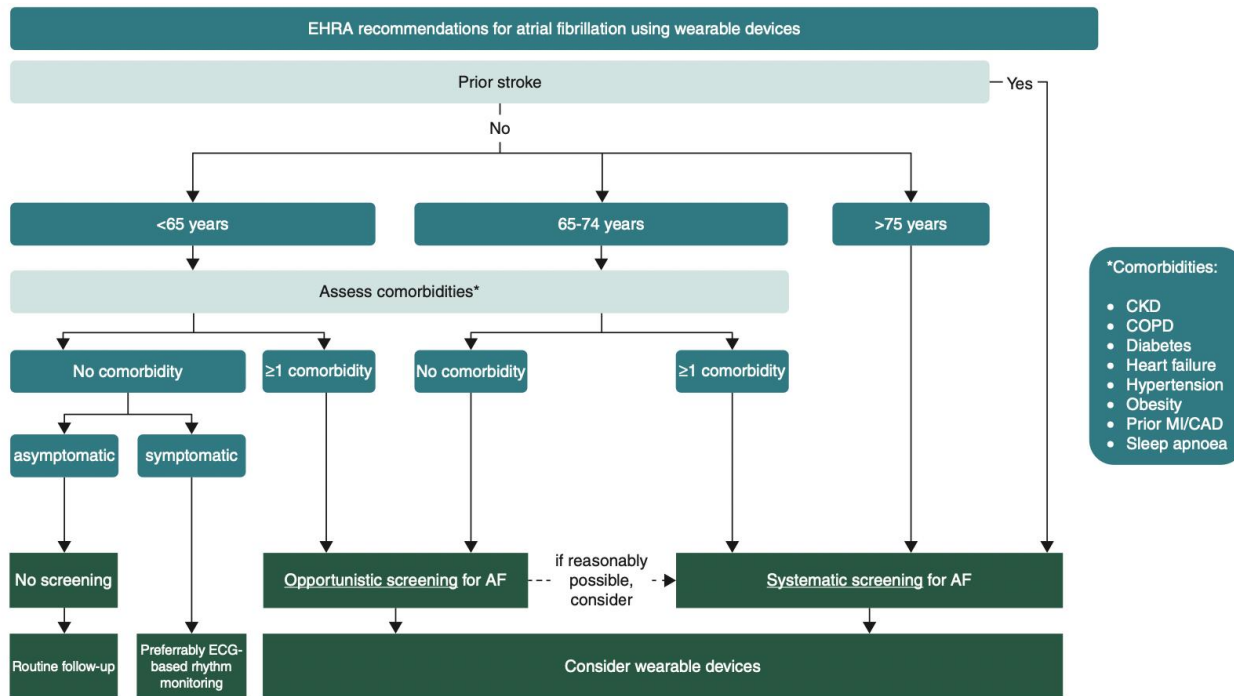
- Early detection of AF → Treatment → ↓ stroke, hospitalizations, mortality<sup>1-3</sup>

1. Wallenhorst C, et al. *Thromb Haemost* 2022;122:277–85.

2. Proietti M, et al. *Thromb Haemost* 2021.

3. Kirchhof, P, et al. *NEJM* 383.14 (2020): 1305-1316.

# The search for AF – In WHOM?



# The search for AF – can we rely on symptoms?

- **EAST-AFNET4** - 30,4 % without symptoms <sup>1</sup>
- 52 % asymptomatic episodes in symptomatic pts
- 44 % with symptoms – no AF evidence
- In verified AF pts - 61 % without AF > 3 months <sup>2</sup>

= a lot of pts have no symptoms

= a lot of symptomatic episodes are not AF

= short EKG recordings ≠ AF detection certainty

1. Kirchhof, P, et al. *NEJM* 383.14 (2020): 1305-1316.

2. Israel CW, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2004;43:47–52.

# The search for AF – HOW LONG?

## 1month vs 24-hrs HolterEKG

*(Pts after TIA/cryptogenic stroke without known AF po TIA - EMBRACE)<sup>1</sup>*

- 16,1 % vs. 3,2 % detection rate

## ILR vs HolterEKG<sup>2</sup>

- 6 months      8,9 % vs 1,4 % detection rate
- 3 years        30 % vs 3 %    detection rate

*The longer and more often you measure, the more you find...*

1. Gladstone DJ, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2014;370:2467–77.

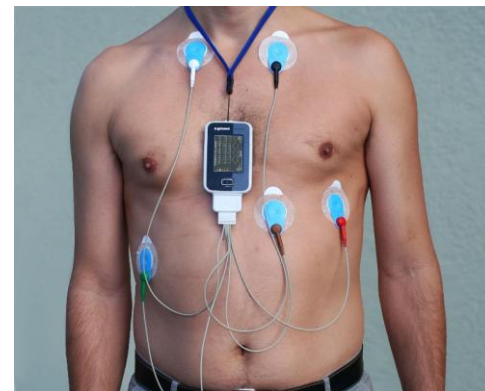
2. Sanna T, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2014;370: 2478–86.

# The search for AF – HOW?

## Scheduled by doctor:

- **ILR** – expensive, in limited supply
- **HolterEKG, EKG-patches, loop recorders** – unavailable anytime during the year for the majority of patients

HolterEKG – 1/3 of pts are reluctant to wear week-long EKG Holters repeatedly <sup>1</sup>

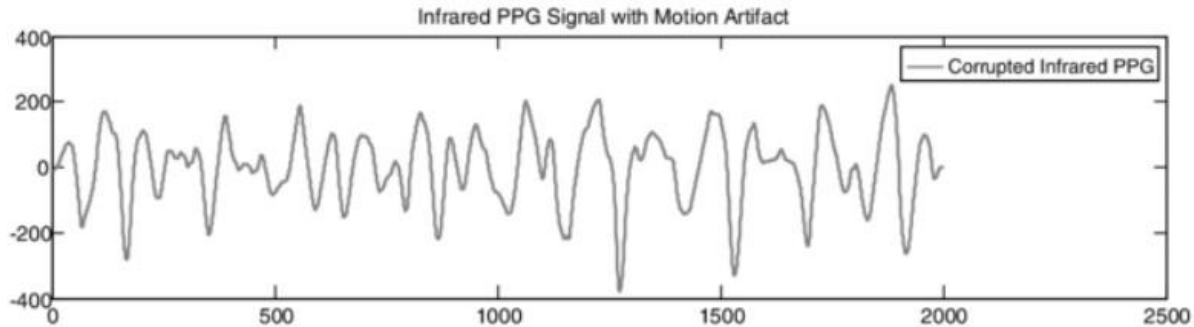


1. Wachter R, et al. *Lancet Neurol* 2017;16:282–90.

# The search for AF – HOW?

Owned by the patient (= available anytime):

PPG - unreliable



# The search for AF – HOW?

## Owned by the patient (= available anytime):

PPG - unreliable

**EKG** – short recordings (<1 min, no aggregation of all measurements, PPG based measurements in asymptomatic)



Apple iWatch

Pulse-ON





# The search for AF – HOW?

## Owned by the patient (= available anytime):

PPG - unreliable

**EKG** – short recordings (<1 min, no aggregation of all measurements, PPG based measurements in asymptomatic)



Alive-Cor

# The search for AF – HOW?

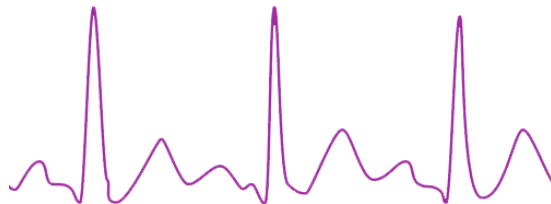
Owned by the patient (= available anytime):

PPG - unreliable

EKG – short recordings (<1 min, no aggregation of all measurements, PPG based measurements in asymptomatic)



Awario



# The search for AF – HOW?

## Owned by the patient (= available anytime):

PPG - unreliable

**EKG** – short recordings (<1 min, no aggregation of all measurements, PPG based measurements in asymptomatic)



CardioSignals

# The search for AF – HOW?

## Most at-home EKG monitoring devices:

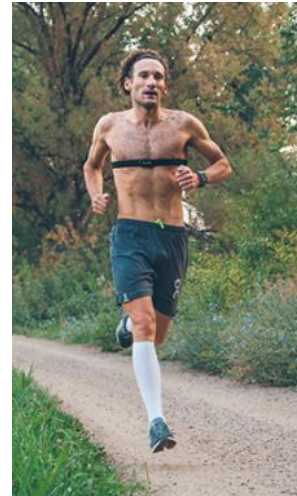
Short (< 1 min) “EKG” recordings at rest or longer unreliable PPG recordings

### A need for:

- ✓ a low-cost, *patient-owned* device
- ✓ EKG-based
- ✓ is easy to use
- ✓ is suitable for *long sample* periods
- ✓ provides *automatic evaluation* using AI
- ✓ *automatic aggregation* of all measurements into one conclusion
- ✓ does not increase the burden on doctors

# Chest-belt ECG

- Originally designed for heart-rate analysis
- Possibility of continuous 1-lead EKG recording
- **EKG RR intervals vs HolterEKG <1ms in 99.6% of QRS** <sup>1</sup>
- With **increase in activity** (sports), belt EKG is **even more accurate** (fewer artifacts) than HolterEKG <sup>1</sup>



# Our trial

## Validation of a chest-belt to date:

- healthy athletes + AF patients - short recordings, at rest, selected groups

## Aim: To test the feasibility of evaluating:

- longer chest-belt EKG recordings
- in unselected patients in a large cardiology department and in an arrhythmology out-patient clinic
- for all types of rhythm (not just AF)

# Patient group

A – hospitalized pts (n=54)

B – Out-patient arrhythmology dep. (n=53)

C – healthy controls without CV dg (n=54)

Table 1 – Baseline characteristics of the population

	Hospitalized (A), n = 54	Outpatient (B), n = 53
Male gender	31 (57.4%)	41 (75.9%)
Height (cm)	176.9±8.5	178.6±7.2
Weight (kg)	86.4±14.1	86.8±14.2
BMI	27.5±3.5	27.2±3.7
QRS <120 ms	33 (61.1%)	54 (100%)
LBbB	11 (20.4%)	5 (9.3%)
RBbB	4 (7.4%)	2 (3.7%)
Stimulated QRS	6 (11.1%)	0 (0.0%)
Pacemaker	6 (11.1%)	0 (0.0%)
Defibrillator	1 (1.9%)	1 (1.9%)
Ischemic heart disease	19 (35.2%)	5 (9.3%)
Arterial hypertension	41 (75.9%)	16 (29.6%)
Diabetes mellitus	22 (40.7%)	7 (13.0%)
Heart failure	20 (37.0%)	4 (7.4%)
Acute myocardial infarction	7 (13.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Infective endocarditis	3 (5.6%)	0 (0.0%)
Acute arrhythmia	14 (25.9%)	0 (0.0%)

# Patient group

- The aim was to **obtain more than 1 million heartbeats** from longer recordings lasting **1-2 hours for each patient**
- **Patient** movement was **not restricted in any way**, including the ability to be transported to any examinations and/or interventions

*The study was approved by a multicentre ethics committee and all patients signed the ICF*



# Trial goal - I

**Determination of rhythm (SR/AF/Unclear) and comparison of methods**

## **Hospitalized:**

A: 12-lead EKG

B: Telemetry (live EKG)

X1: Chest belt: live EKG (phone app) - quick diagnosis

X2: Chest belt: evaluation of the entire measurement record (web-based)

## **Out-patients:**

A: 12-lead EKG

X: Chest belt: evaluation of the entire measurement record (web-based)

# Trial goal - II

**In-patients, out-patients and healthy controls:**

Evaluation of all QRS complexes (SR/AF/APB/VPB/NOISE)

% of heartbeats that can be reliably evaluated by an experienced cardiologist  
(= % NOISE ?)

**NOISE = unrecognizable + recognizable rhythm but unpleasant**

# Results - I

**1-lead EKG from chest-belt vs 12-lead. EKG:**  
excellent agreement in decision on heart rhythm

**Hospitalized:** 94.4% agreement  
*(3 failed cases in patients with paced rhythm)*

**Outpatients:** agreement in all cases (100%)

# Results - I

## Live ECG from chest-belt phone app vs telemetry

**Hospitalized:** agreement in 53/54 patients (98.1%)

*Including 3 cases that were assessed as unclear from both telemetry and live-ECG in the app*

*In 1 case, the correct diagnosis of AFLU was made from telemetry but the live-ECG from the app was assessed as unclear*

## Results - II

**Of the 1,153,229 QRS complexes:**

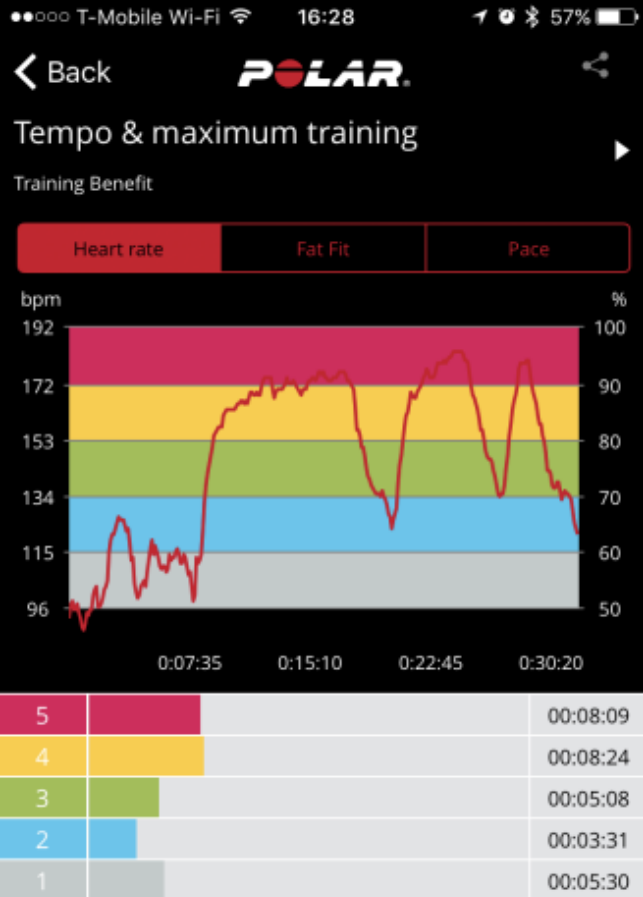
**1,128,319 (97.84%)** evaluated by a cardiologist as **easily recognizable and categorizable**

In real-world conditions, **only 2.16% of all QRS** evaluated as artifacts or as interpretable, but uncomfortable due to noise/artifacts for rapid determination of QRS presence and rhythm type

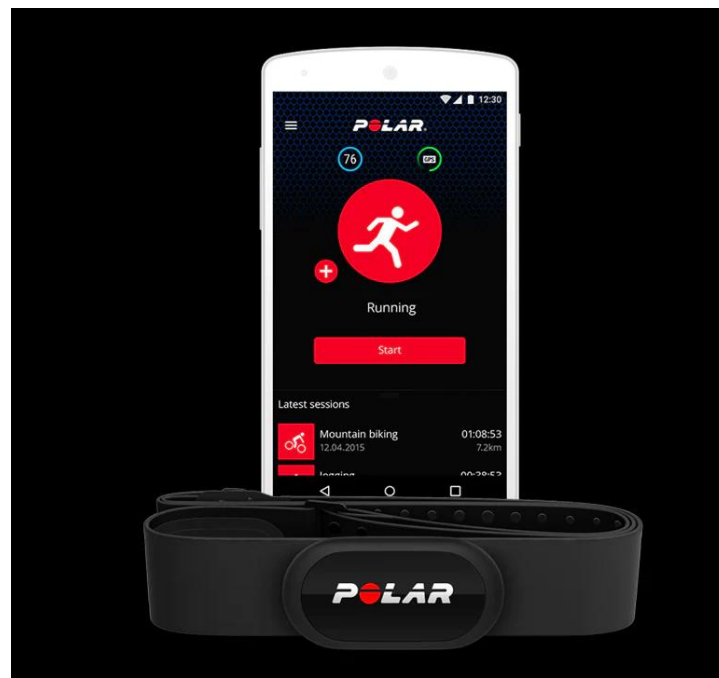
# Pitfalls

## Possibility of misinterpretation of the rhythm:

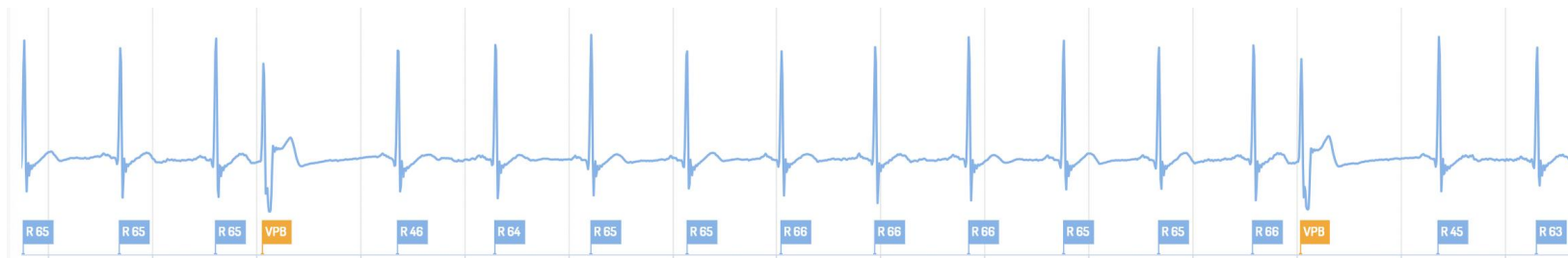
- 100% paced QRS complexes
- AFLU with regular RR intervals and rapid ventricular response
- VPBs of septal localization (differentiation from APBs)



# Native applications – just Heart Rate



# EKG from Polar H10 chest-belt





# KARDI-AI

- Polar H10 chest-belt + mobile app + cloud-based AI and algorithms + web-based environment for analysis

# KARDI-AI

- Polar H10 chest-belt + mobile app + cloud-based AI and algorithms + web-based environment for analysis



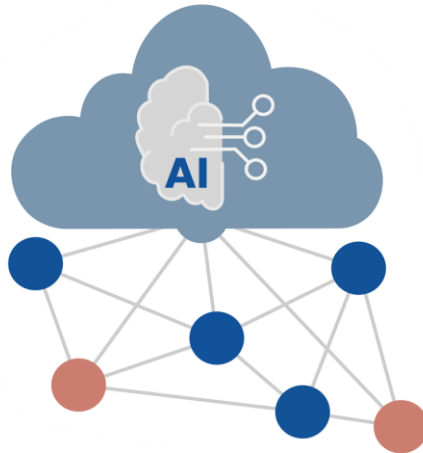
# KARDI-AI

- Polar H10 chest-belt + mobile app + cloud-based AI and algorithms + web-based environment for analysis



# KARDI-AI

- Polar H10 chest-belt + mobile app + cloud-based AI and algorithms + web-based environment for analysis



A screenshot of the 'MY KARDI' mobile app interface. At the top, it shows the time '21:47' and signal strength. The user's name 'Jan Novák' is displayed with a profile picture and a status 'Measurement in progress'. Below this, there are statistics: 'Initial health condition' with a notification icon and '1', 'Routine check-up', 'Elapsed time' of '00:02:45' with a battery icon and '80', and 'Live ECG' with a heart icon and '86'. A red ECG waveform is shown. A warning message states: 'If you feel your condition has changed during measurement, please click on the button Alert and log you condition.' Below the message are two buttons: 'Alert' (white with blue border) and 'Stop measurement' (blue). At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with icons for 'Dashboard', 'Measurements', 'New measurement', and 'Settings'. The footer contains logos for 'KOMPLEXNÍ KARDIOVASKULÁRNÍ CENTRUM' and 'FAKULTNÍ NEMOCNICE OLOMOUČ'.

### User detail



1969  
Male

### Measurements



Measurements count: 61  
Duration: 58h 20m  
Beats: 228,040  
LAST MEASUREMENT: NOV. 27, 2022, 6:36 P.M.

### Patient Alerts



Patient with AF in past: Yes  
Email alert in case of new AF episode: On

[CHANGE E-MAIL ALERT SETTINGS](#)

### ECG strips saved by Doctor



Number of saved strips: 20

[\(CLICK TO SHOW DETAIL\)](#)

- Dashboard
- List of Measurements
- List of patients

#### ADMIN

- Super Admin
- User Settings
- Experimental mode
- Application Settings
- My institution
- Logout

#### AI ACTIONS

- AI Request AWS
- AI Request KAFKA
- Copy Calculation
- Compare Calculation
- Restore Calculation
- Resubmit Main
- Detector

### AF Summary - Summary of last 6 months

#### [\*] AF Detection

Measurements with AF: 5 (8.2%)  
Num of Measurements: 61

#### [\*] AF - Longest Episode

DURATION: 1H 13M  
SEPT. 13, 2022, 10:22 P.M.  
[\(CLICK TO SHOW DETAIL\)](#)

#### [\*] AF - Episode with highest BPM

PRŮMĚRNÝ TEP: 135  
SEPT. 24, 2022, 9:54 A.M.  
[\(CLICK TO SHOW DETAIL\)](#)

#### [\*] AF - Last Episode

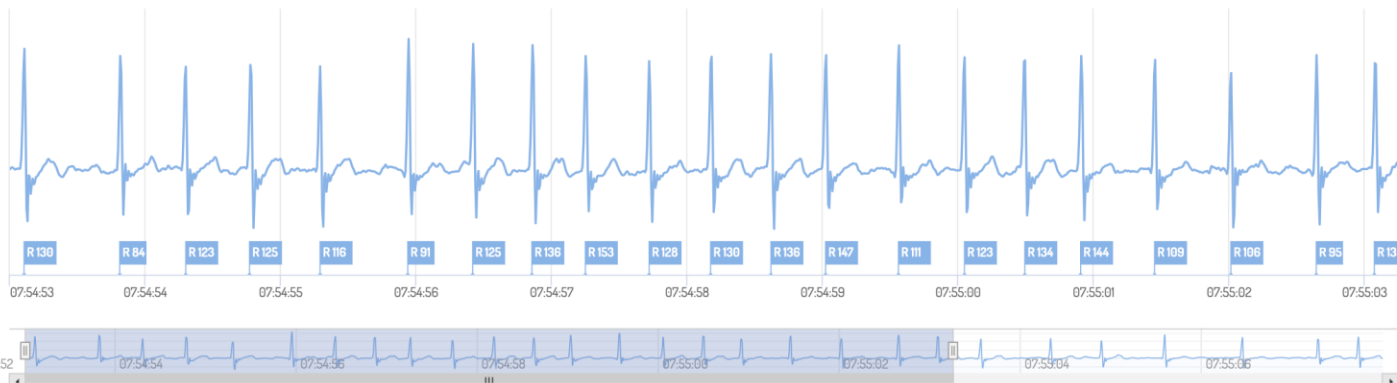
DATE: SEPT. 24, 2022, 9:54 A.M.  
[\(CLICK TO SHOW DETAIL\)](#)

### ECG during FS, longer than 30s, confirmed by specialist

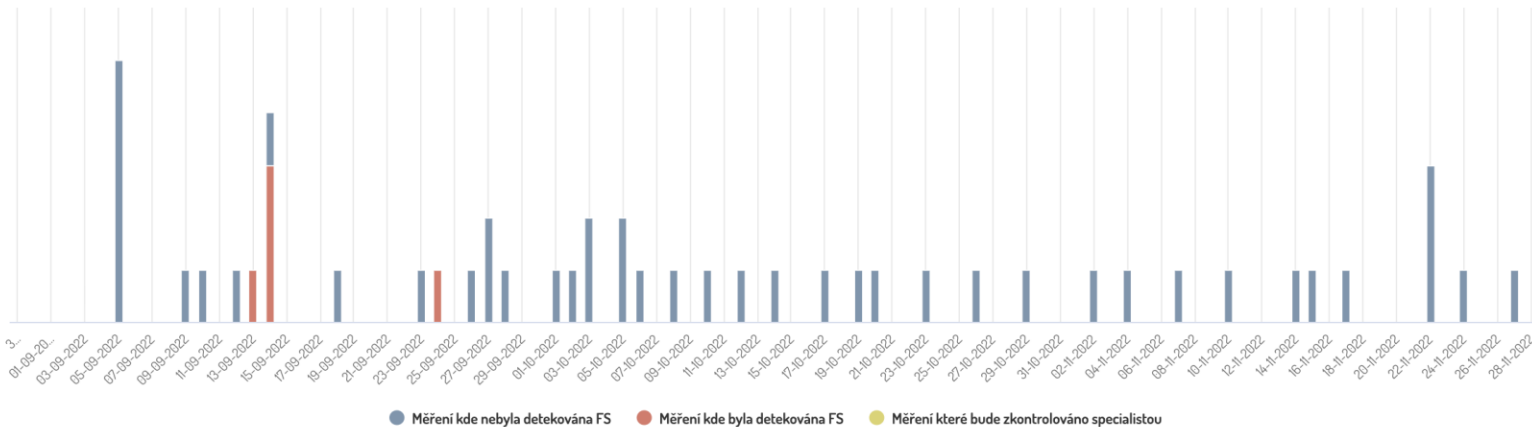
24-09-2022 09:54:53 - 09:55:08

Zoom All 15s 5s 2s

Backwards Forwards



## Number of measurements in last 90 days



## List of all measurements

[\*] AF detected

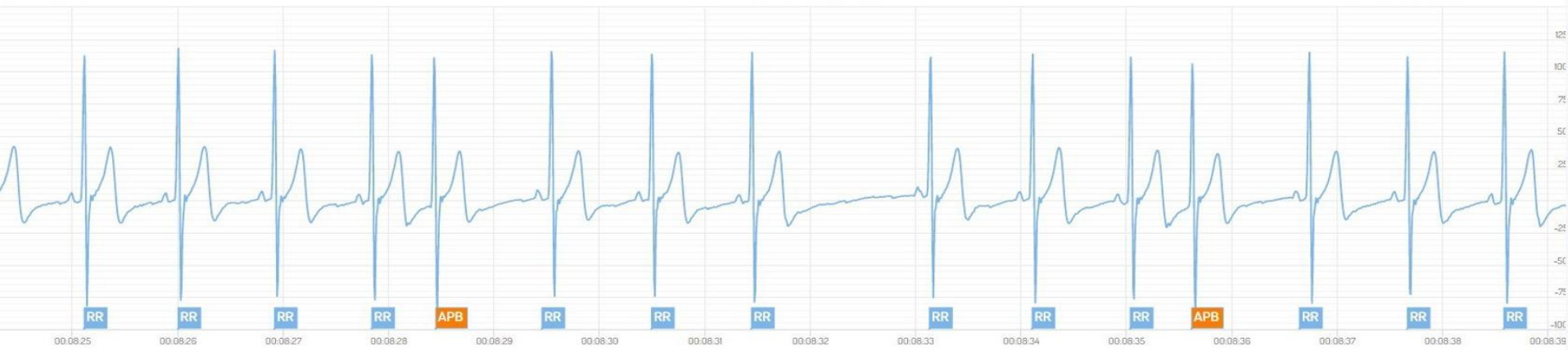
User Alerts

Measurements done in last #days




filter

#	DATE	DURATION HH:MM	[*] AF FOUND	# USER ALERTS	LINK
1	Nov. 27, 2022, 6:36 p.m.	01:03	—	0	>>>
2	Nov. 24, 2022, 7:15 p.m.	01:00	—	0	>>>
3	Nov. 22, 2022, 8:41 p.m.	00:38	—	0	>>>



Možná AF



- Dashboard
- List of Measurements
- List of patients

ADMIN

- Super Admin
- User Settings
- Experimental mode
- Application Settings
- My institution
- Logout

AI ACTIONS

- AI Request AWS
- AI Request KAFKA
- Copy Calculation
- Compare Calculation
- Restore Calculation
- Resubmit Main
- Detector

## Detail of measurement

<b>PATIENT DETAILS</b> [Redacted] <b>1969</b> <b>Male</b>	<b>MEASUREMENT DETAILS</b> <b>17-11-2022</b> <b>18:09 - 20:11</b> <b>Duration 2h 1m 33s</b>	<b>BEATS ANALYSIS</b> <b>Max HR: 84</b> <b>Min HR: 58</b> <b>Avg HR: 63</b>	<b>AF ANALYSIS</b> <b>[*] APB - 0.0 %</b> <b>[*] VPB - 0.25 %</b>
--	--	--	---

19:29 [Load ECG for selected time](#) [Previous 10m](#) [Next 10m](#) [PDF report for this measurement](#)



### Measurements summary with events highlighted - AVG BPM

Zoom All 15m 5m 1m



- Dashboard
- List of Measurements
- List of patients

ADMIN

- Super Admin
- User Settings
- Experimental mode
- Application Settings
- My institution
- Logout

AI ACTIONS

- AI Request AWS
- AI Request KAFKA
- Copy Calculation
- Compare Calculation
- Restore Calculation
- Resubmit Main
- Detector

## Detail of measurement

<b>PATIENT DETAILS</b> <p>██████████  <b>1969</b>  <b>Male</b></p>	<b>MEASUREMENT DETAILS</b> <p><b>24-09-2022</b>  <b>09:54 - 10:58</b>  <b>Duration 1h 4m 37s</b></p>	<b>BEATS ANALYSIS</b> <p><b>Max HR: 137</b>  <b>Min HR: 61</b>  <b>Avg HR: 113</b></p>	<b>AF ANALYSIS</b> <p><b>Detected AF</b>  <b>[*] APB - 0.35 %</b>  <b>[*] VPB - 0.45 %</b></p>
---	---	---	---

10:50 [Load ECG for selected time](#) [Previous 10m](#) [Next 10m](#) [PDF report for this measurement](#)



### Measurements summary with events highlighted - AVG BPM

Zoom All 15m 5m 1m

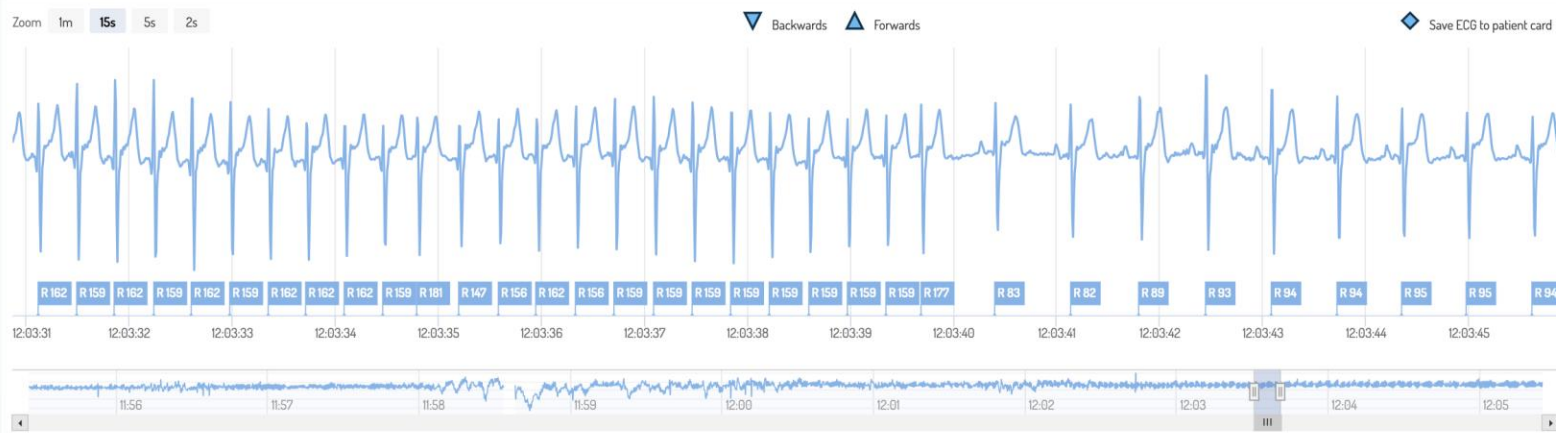
- Dashboard
- List of Measurements
- List of patients

---

- ADMIN
- Super Admin
- User Settings
- Experimental mode
- Application Settings
- My institution
- Logout

---

- AI ACTIONS
- AI Request AWS
- AI Request KAFKA
- Copy Calculation
- Compare Calculation
- Restore Calculation
- Resubmit Main
- Detector



Measurements summary with events highlighted - AVG BPM



- Subscriptions
- Proceeds
- ADMINISTRACE
- Administrátor
- Nastavení uživatele
- Nastavení aplikace
- My institution
- Mobile QRcode
- Odlogovat se
- AJ AKCE
- Ai požadavek
- Zkopíruj výpočet
- Porovnej výpočet

13:13 **Nahraj EKG pro zvolený čas** **Previous 10m** **Next 10m**



- Subscriptions
- Proceeds
- ADMINISTRACE
- Administrátor
- Nastavení uživatele
- Nastavení aplikace
- My institution
- Mobile QRcode
- Odlogovat se
- AI AKCE
- AI požadavek
- Zkopíruj výpočet
- Porovnej výpočet

12:45 **Nahraj EKG pro zvolený čas** **Previous 10m** **Next 10m**



- Subscriptions
- Proceeds
- ADMINISTRACE
- Administrátor
- Nastavení uživatele
- Nastavení aplikace
- My institution
- Mobile QRcode
- Odladovat se
- AI AKCE
- AI požadavek
- Zkopíruj výpočet
- Porovnej výpočet

23:57 **Nahraj EKG pro zvolený čas** **Previous 10m** **Next 10m**



# Conclusion

- The chest belt can be used as a tool for EKG acquisition (and arrhythmia screening)
- When used correctly, most EKGs are easy to interpret
- Caution is needed in interpreting EKGs in patients with paced rhythm and AFLU with regular RR intervals

# Thank you for your attention

