

T Wave Alternans and Acute Rheumatic Myocarditis: A Case Report

K S Tan,^{*}MB, MRCP (I), MRCP (UK), Y S Lau,^{**}FAMS, MBBS, M Med (Int Med), W S Teo,^{***}FAMS, M Med (Int Med), MRCP (UK)

Abstract

T wave alternans is an uncommonly recorded cardiac rhythm. We report here an unusual case of a 13-year-old girl with acute rheumatic carditis and acute nephritis, who developed T wave alternans associated with a prolonged QT interval.

These electrocardiographic changes were evident only after the initial acute stage of the disease process and should be borne in mind for patients with acute rheumatic carditis as they may be associated with more malignant arrhythmias.

Ann Acad Med Singapore 1999; 28:455-8

Key words: Acute rheumatic carditis, Prolonged QT interval, T wave alternans

** Consultant*

*Department of Medicine
Changi General Hospital*

*** Consultant*

Mount Alvernia Hospital

**** Consultant*

National Heart Centre

Address for Reprints: Dr Tan Kok Soon, Department of Medicine, Changi General Hospital, 2 Simei Street 3, Singapore 529889.