

Stimulating Peripheral Activity to Relieve Conditions (SPARC)

OVERVIEW

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

RESEARCH FUNDING

PUBLICAT



National Institutes of Health
Office of Strategic Coordination - The Common Fund



AUTONOMIC REGULATION OF CARDIAC EXCITABILITY: SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATIONS & HUMAN ARRHYTHMIAS

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UCLA Health System

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA & Samueli School of Engineering & Applied Sciences

UCLA

Cardiac Arrhythmia Center

UCLA

Neurocardiology Research Center of Excellence



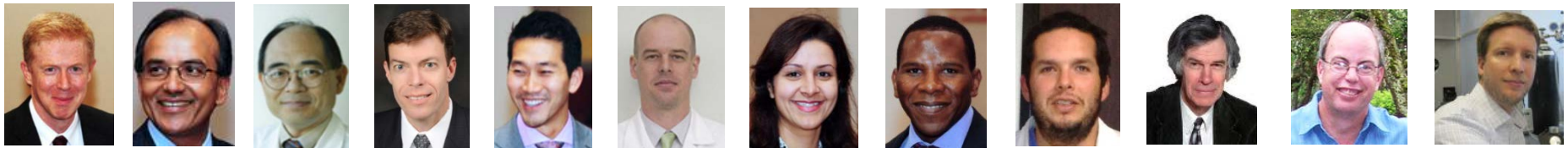


Acknowledgements

- ***American Heart Association***
- ***NIH***
- ***NIH-(Bio Engineering Research Partnership)***



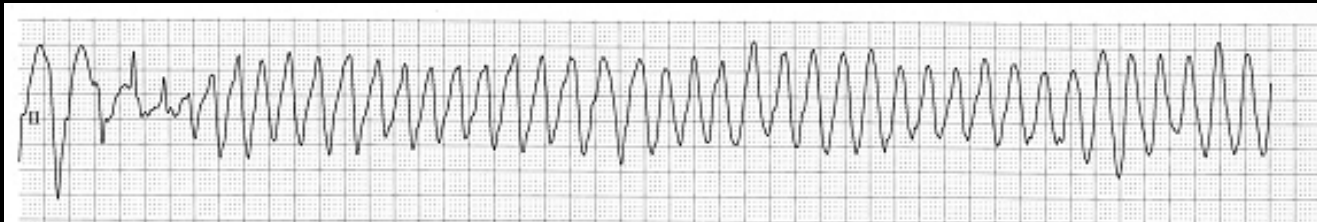
DISCLOSURES: University of California (UCLA campus) has patents developed by my group in the areas of catheter technology, embolism prevention technology, minimally invasive methods for cardiac interventions, cardiac neural diagnostics and therapeutics





OUR PATIENT TODAY--

- 32 year old male with 'ARVC' (previous failed ablation) presents with incessant VT (multiple morphologies)-received 160 shocks-skin burns-intubated sedated-unstable death is imminent



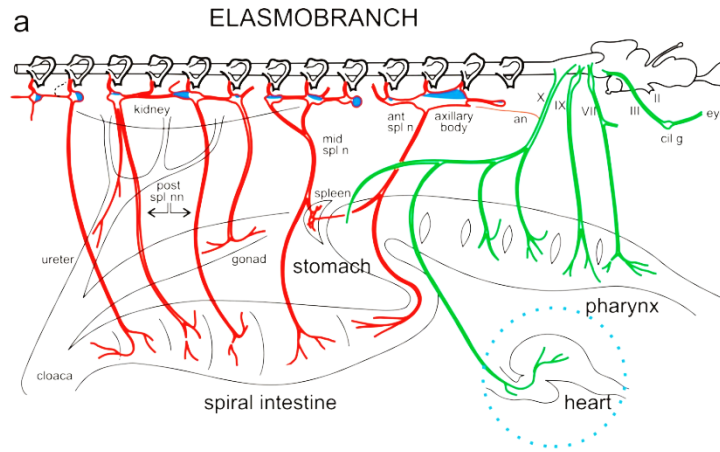
BEDSIDE TO BENCH.....

AUTONOMIC REGULATION OF THE HEART

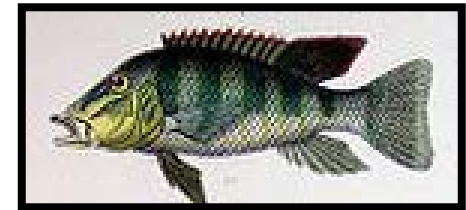
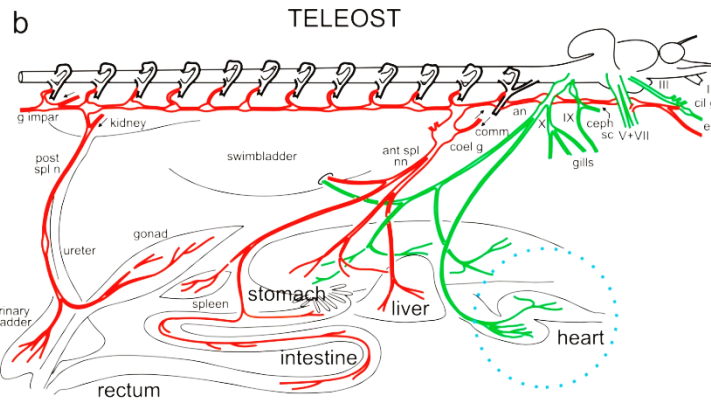
- **Physiology and Current Understanding**
- **Neural Response to Cardiac Injury**
- **Neuraxial Therapeutic Strategies**

THE BRAIN-HEART AXIS IN EVOLUTION

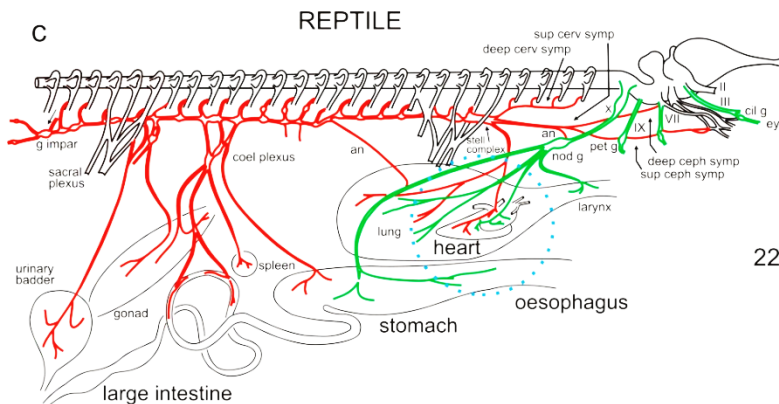
Parasympathetic
Sympathetic



530 mil years



450 mil years



220 mil years

**Jänig 2012 Neuroscience
(after Nilsson 1983)**

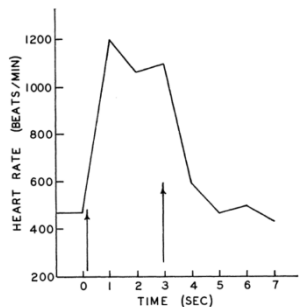
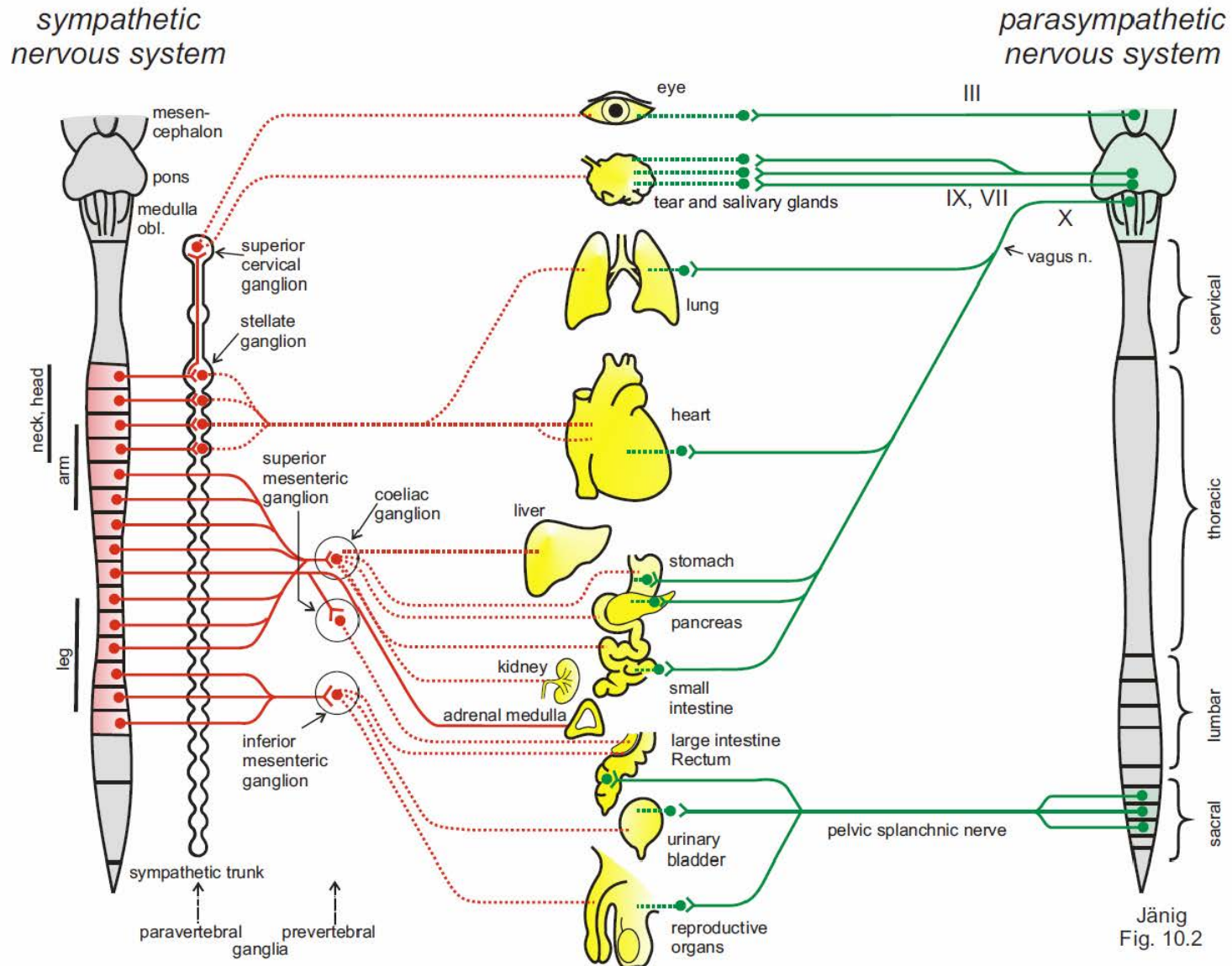


FIG. 1.—Rate of heart beat of *E. fuscus* before, during, and after flight. Arrows mark beginning and end of flight.

THE AUTONOMIC INNERVATION OF THE VISCERA



CARDIAC NEUROTRANSMISSION



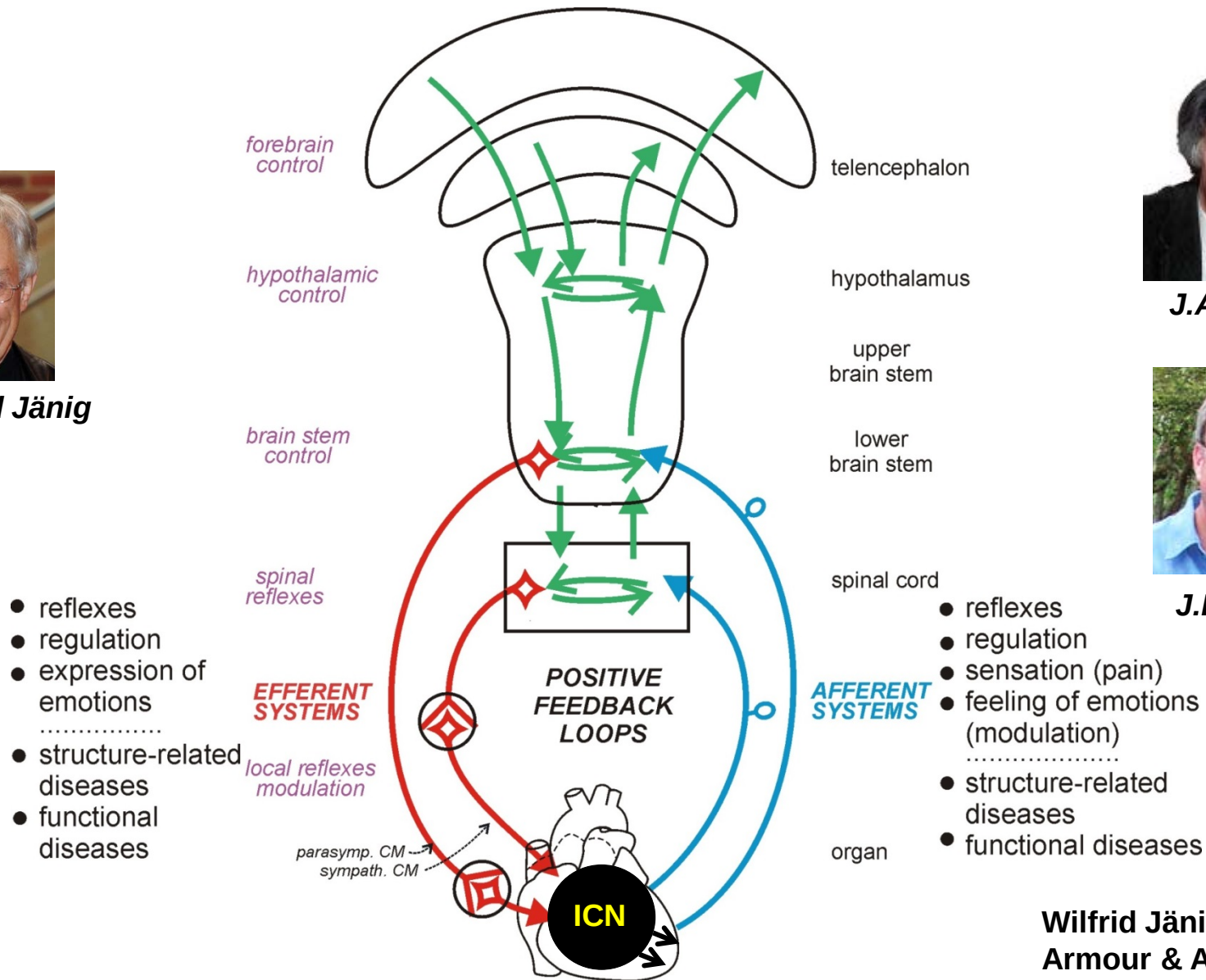
Wilfrid Jänig



J.A. Armour



J.L. Ardell



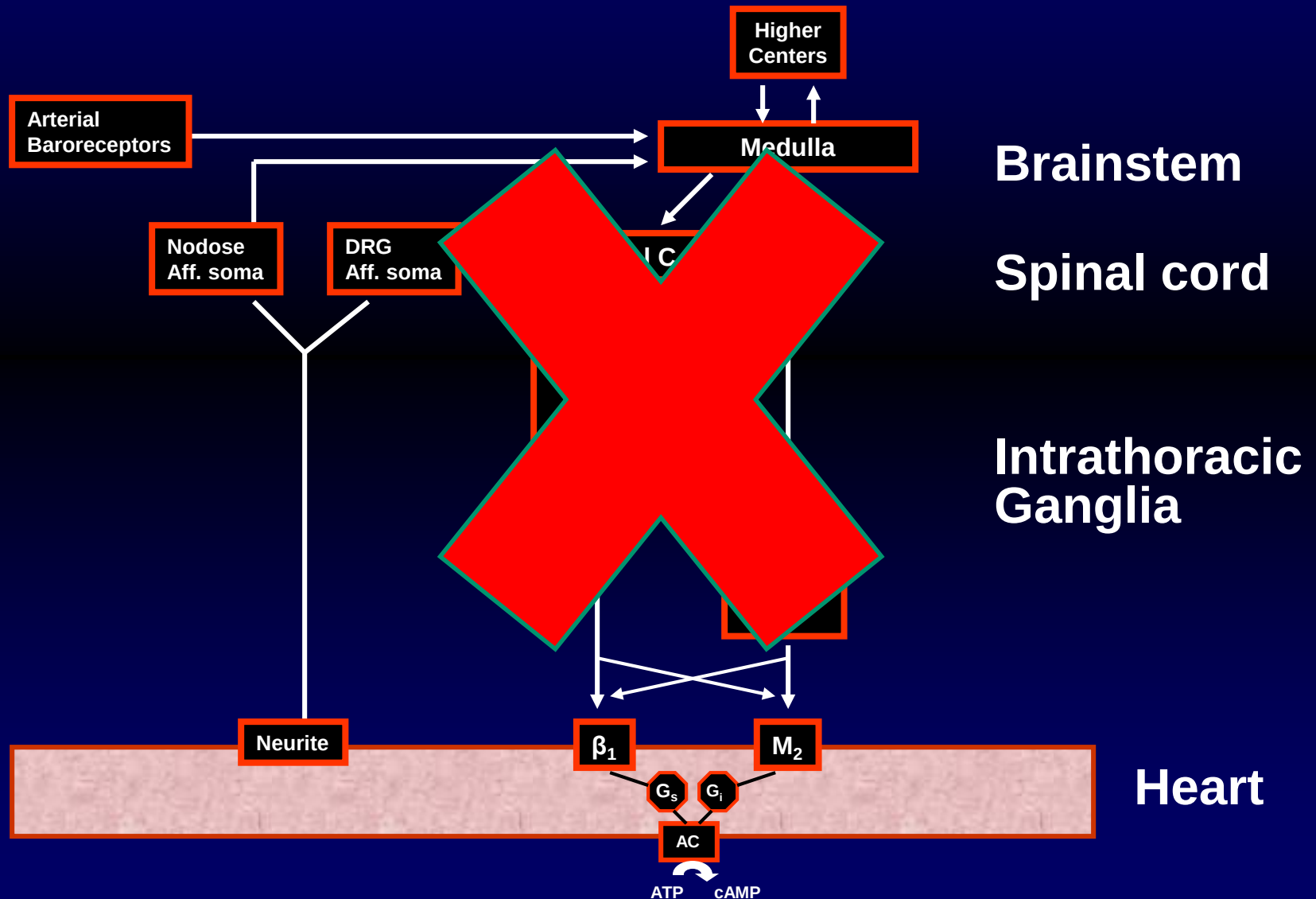
**Wilfrid Jänig 2012
Armour & Ardell 2013**



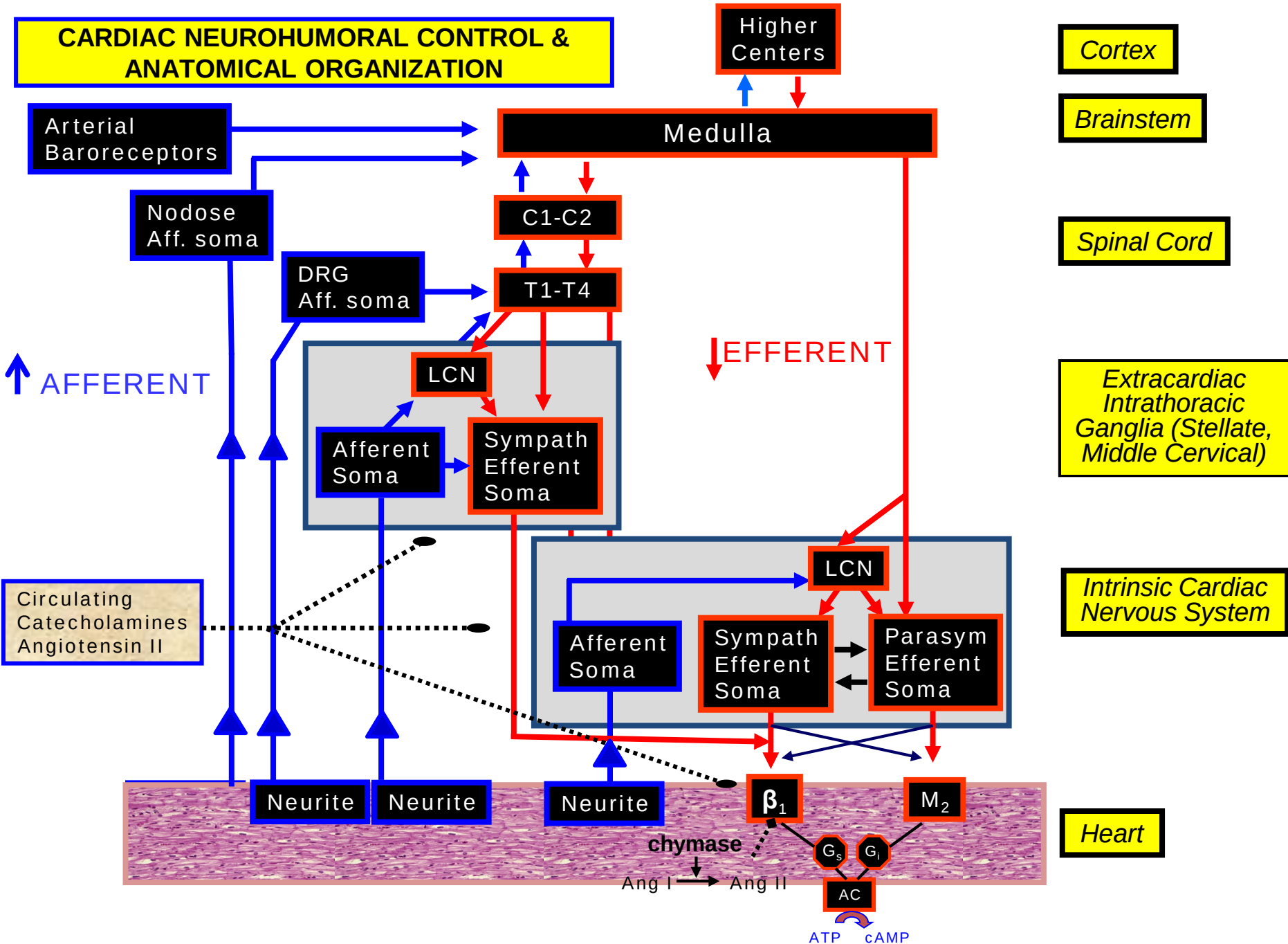
The Autonomic Nervous System regulates all cardiac physiological functions

- Chronotropy
- Dromotropy (depolarization, repolarization)
- Inotropy
- Lusitropy

Neural Control of the heart: Historical perspective



CARDIAC NEUROHUMORAL CONTROL & ANATOMICAL ORGANIZATION



RESEARCH-APPROACHES

**EXPERIMENTAL
DATA: ANIMAL**

**EXPERIMENTAL
DATA: HUMAN**

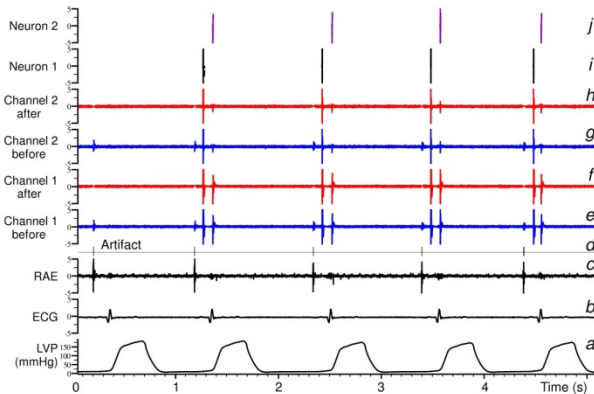
fMRI

**Direct brainstem
recordings**

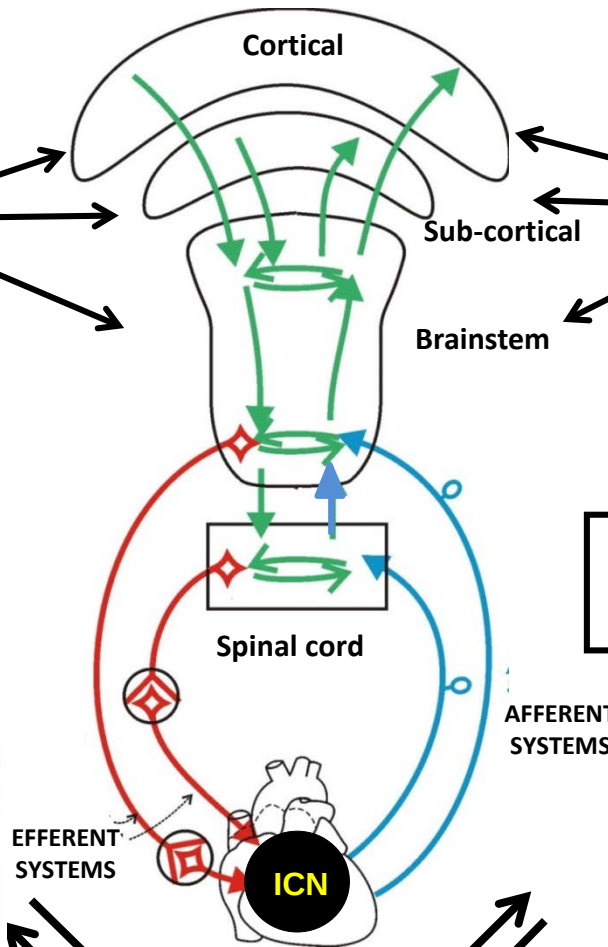
**Direct spinal cord
recordings**

**Human
functional
studies**

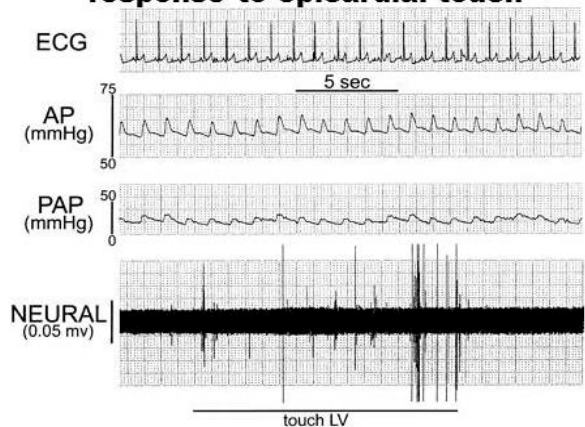
**Direct stellate
recordings**



**Direct cardiac
neural recordings**

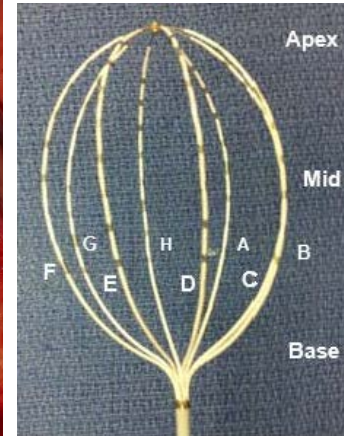
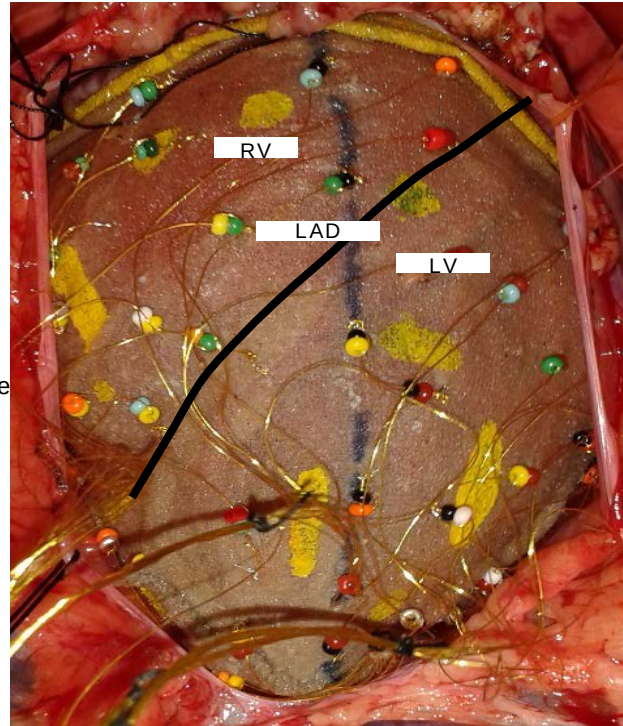
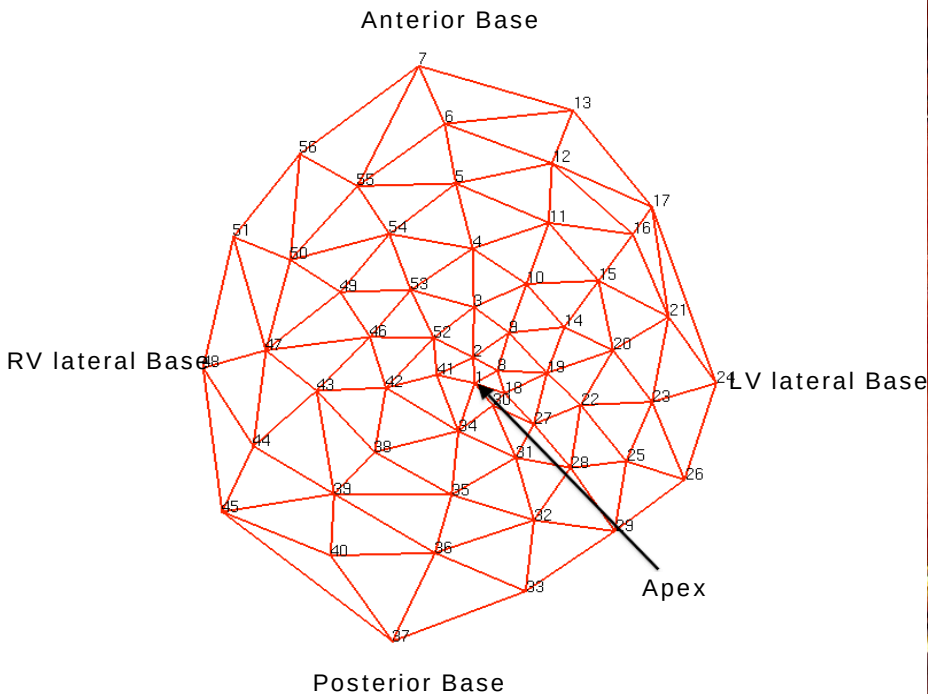


**NETWORK MODELING &
ANALYTICS**



**Direct cardiac
neural recordings**

HIGH DENSITY EPICARDIAL AND ENDOCARDIAL MAPPING STUDIES OF AUTONOMIC MODULATION



Ajjola OA, Yagishita D, Patel KJ, Vaseghi M, Zhou W, Yamakawa K, So E, Lux RL, Mahajan A, Shivkumar K. Focal myocardial infarction induces global remodeling of cardiac sympathetic innervation: Neural remodeling in a spatial context. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol.* 2013;305:H1031-1040

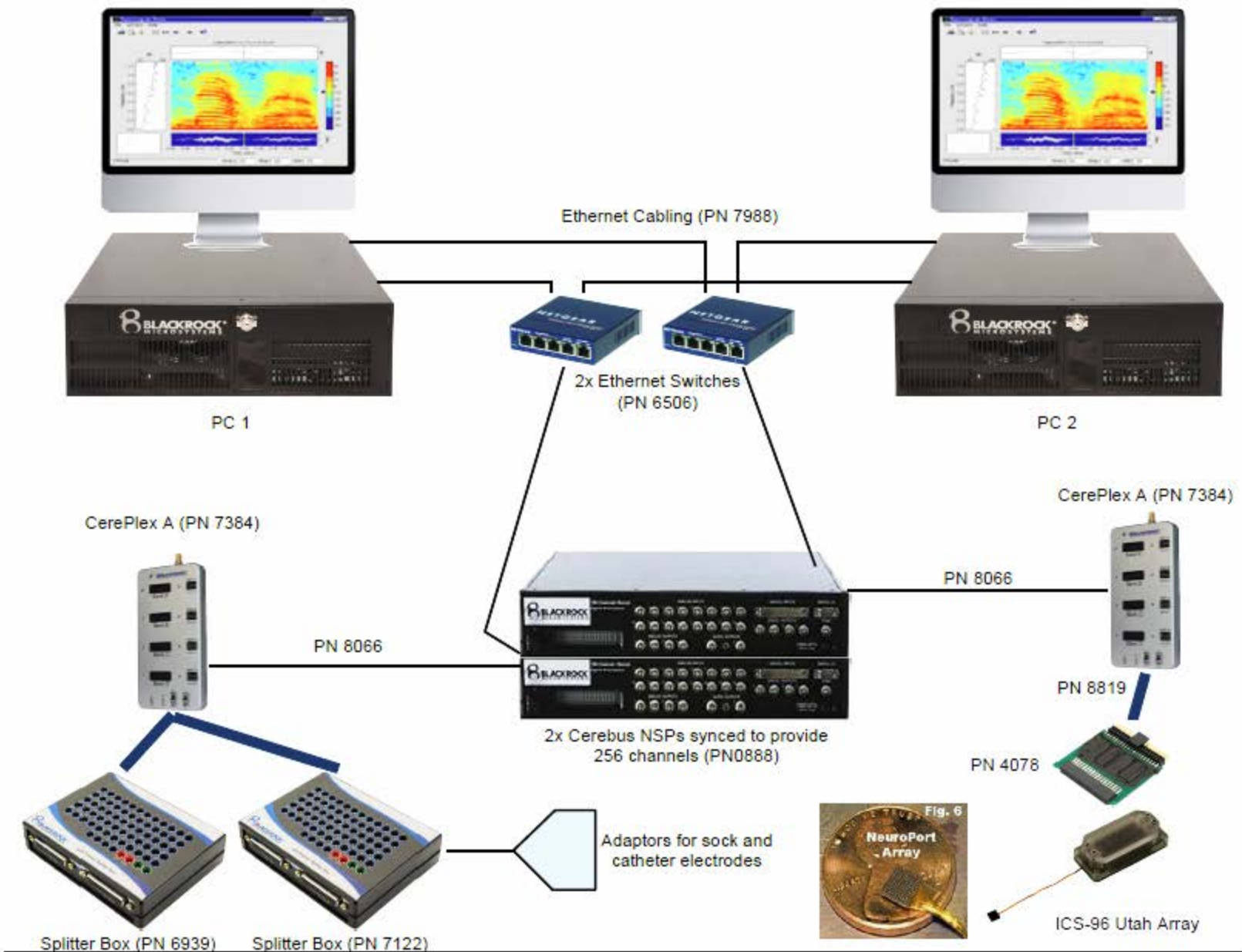
Ajjola OA, Vaseghi M, Zhou W, Yamakawa K, Benharash P, Hadaya J, Lux RL, Mahajan A, Shivkumar K. Functional differences between junctional and extrajunctional adrenergic receptor activation in mammalian ventricle. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol.* 2013;304:H579-588

Vaseghi M, Yamakawa K, Sinha A, So EL, Zhou W, Ajjola OA, Lux RL, Laks M, Shivkumar K, Mahajan A. Modulation of regional dispersion of repolarization and t-peak to t-end interval by the right and left stellate ganglia. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol.* 2013;305:H1020-1030

Zhou W, Yamakawa K, Benharash P, Ajjola O, Ennis D, Hadaya J, Vaseghi M, Shivkumar K, Mahajan A. Effect of stellate ganglia stimulation on global and regional left ventricular function as assessed by speckle tracking echocardiography. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol.* 2013;304:H840-847

Vaseghi M, Zhou W, Shi J, Ajjola OA, Hadaya J, Shivkumar K, Mahajan A. Sympathetic innervation of the anterior left ventricular wall by the right and left stellate ganglia. *Heart Rhythm.* 2012;9:1303-1309

CARDIO-NEURAL MAPPING



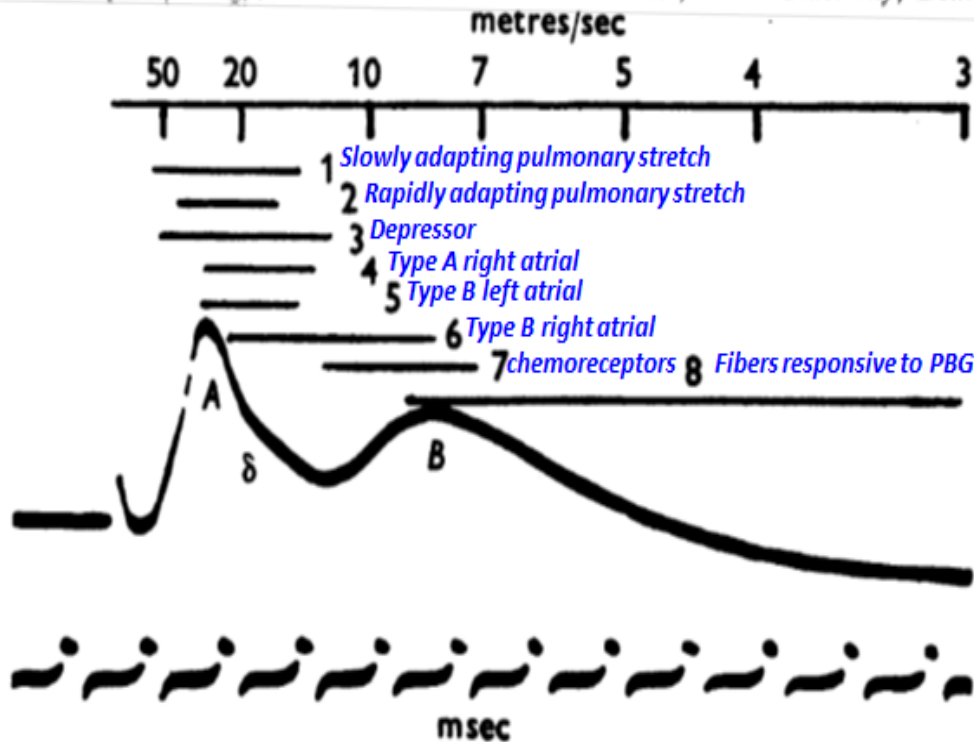
CARDIAC PARASYMPATHETIC AFFERENT & EFFERENT SYSTEMS

Vagal Sensory Receptors and their Reflex Effects

A. S. PAINTAL

PHYSIOLOGICAL REVIEWS
Vol. 53, No. 1, January 1973
Printed in U.S.A.

Department of Physiology, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi University, Delhi, India



Higher Centers

Cortex

Brainstem

Nodose Aff. soma

AFFERENT

Intrinsic Cardiac Nervous System

Parasymp Efferent Soma

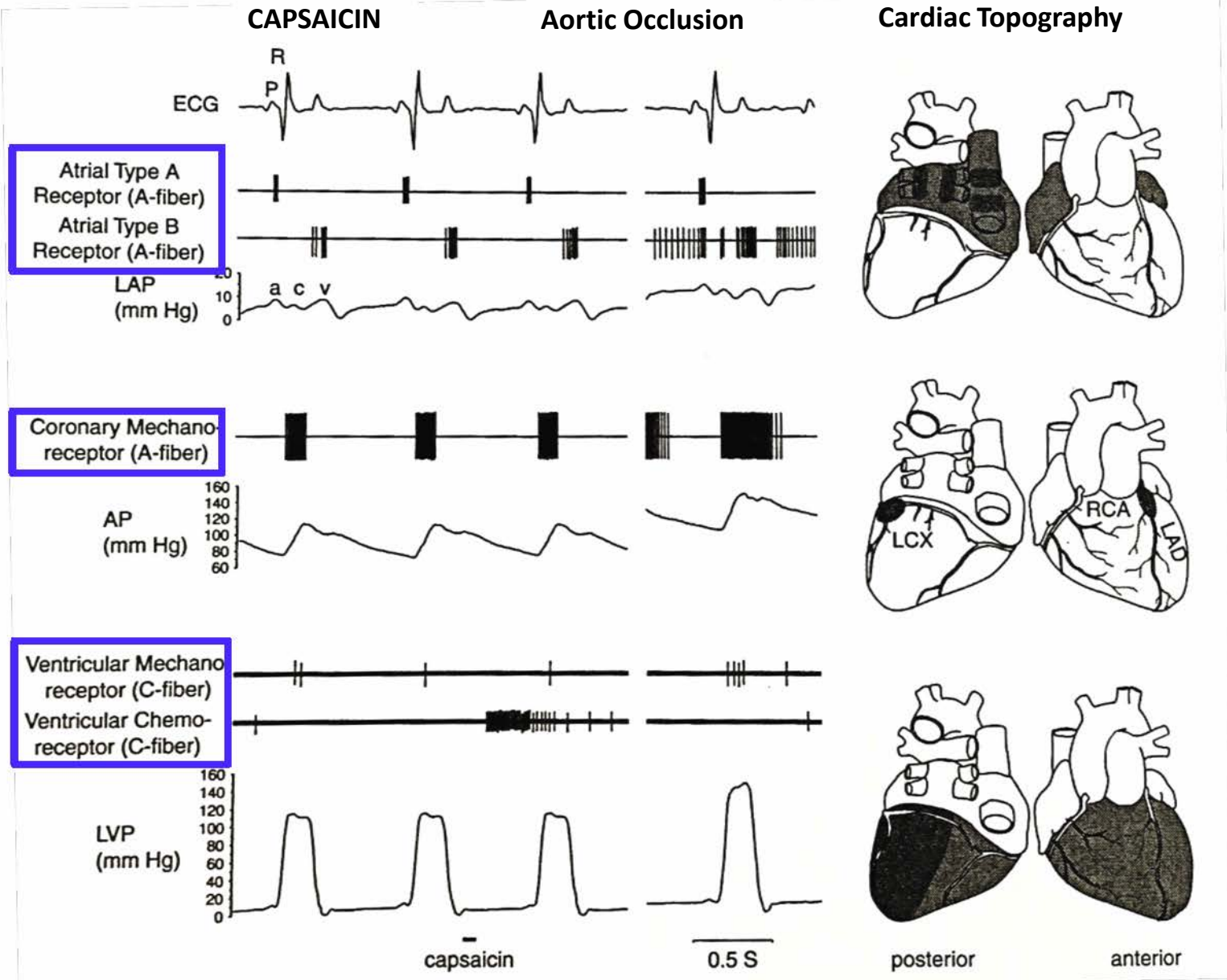
M₂

Neurite

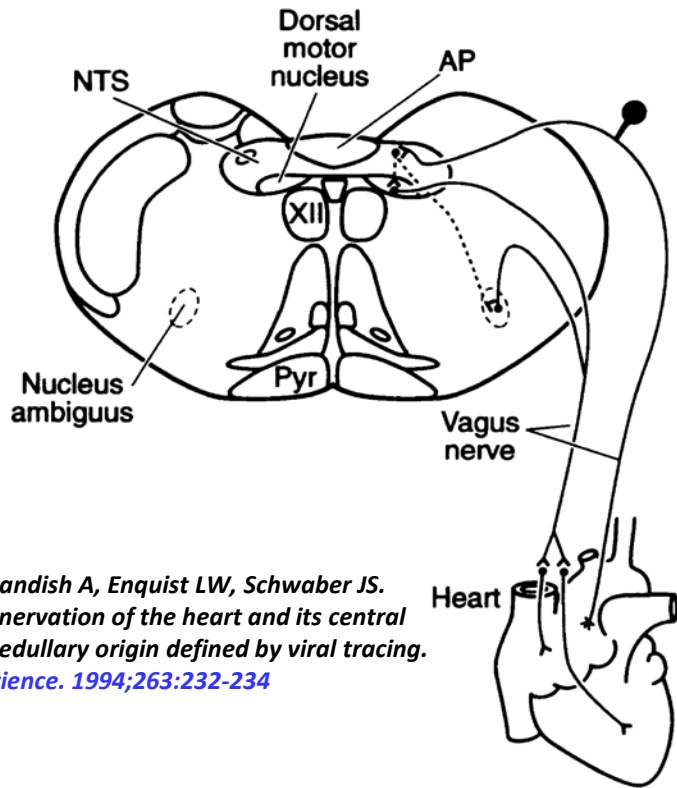
Heart

ATP → cAMP

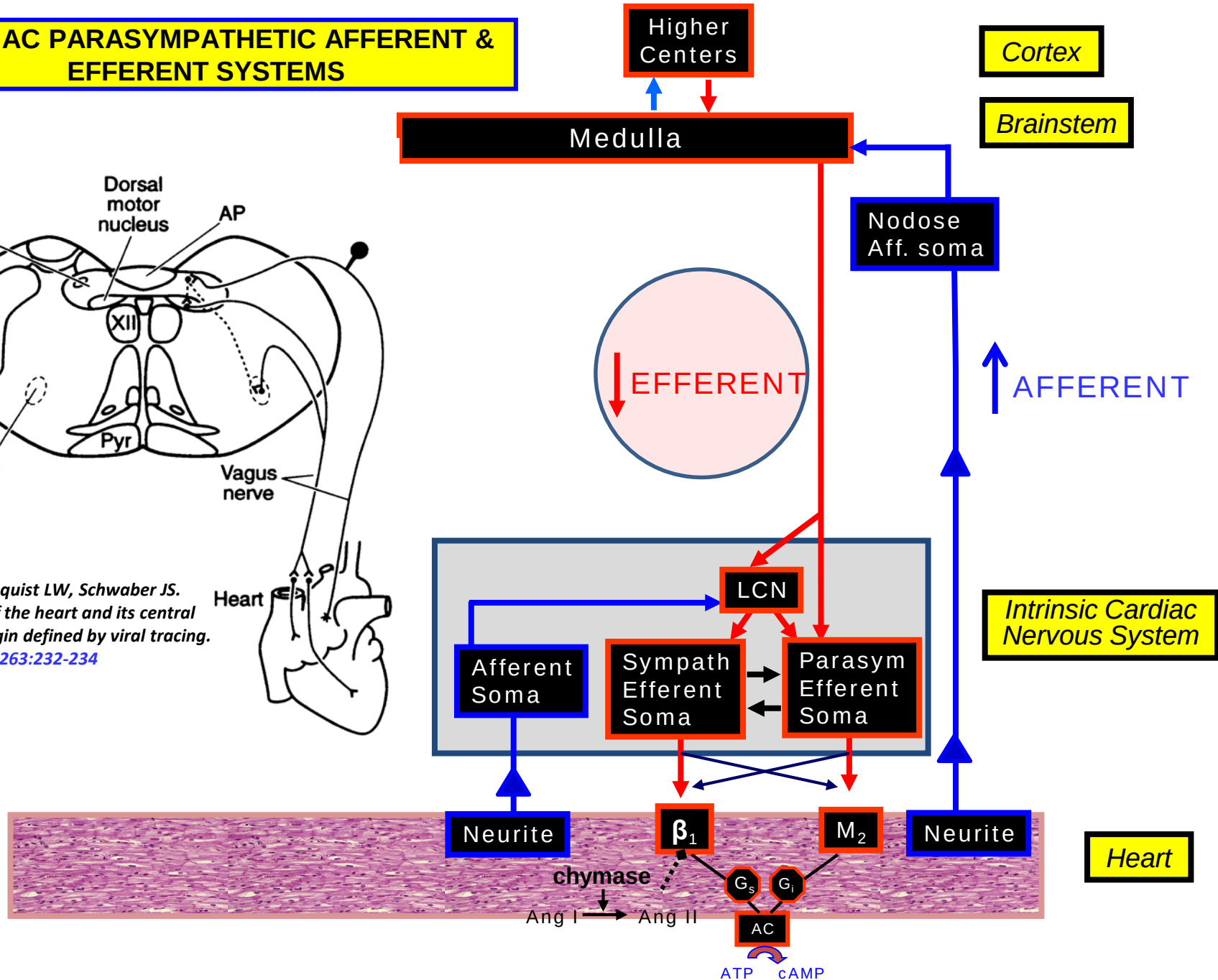
CARDIAC AFFERENT NEUROTRANSMISSION-VAGAL



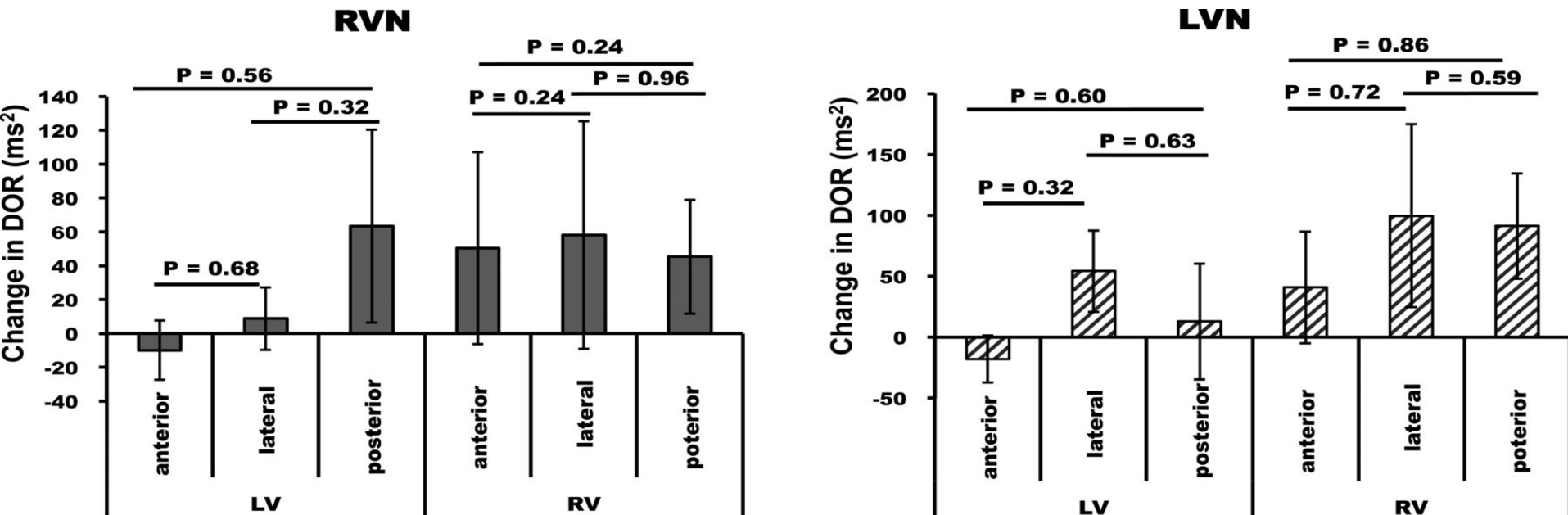
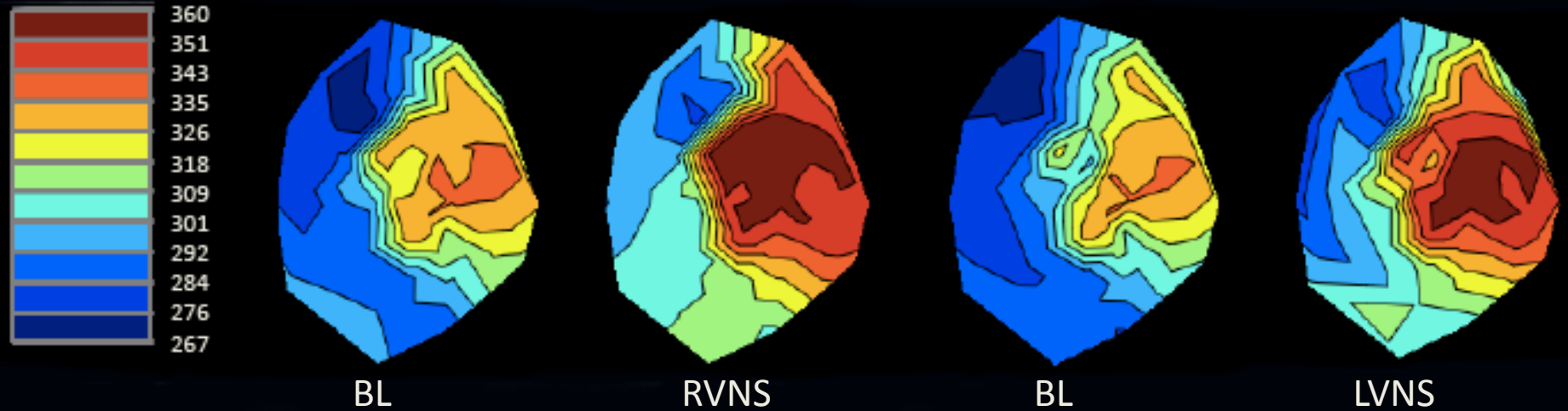
CARDIAC PARASYMPATHETIC AFFERENT & EFFERENT SYSTEMS



Standish A, Enquist LW, Schwaber JS. Innervation of the heart and its central medullary origin defined by viral tracing. *Science*. 1994;263:232-234



VENTRICULAR ELECTROPHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF VAGAL STIMULATION

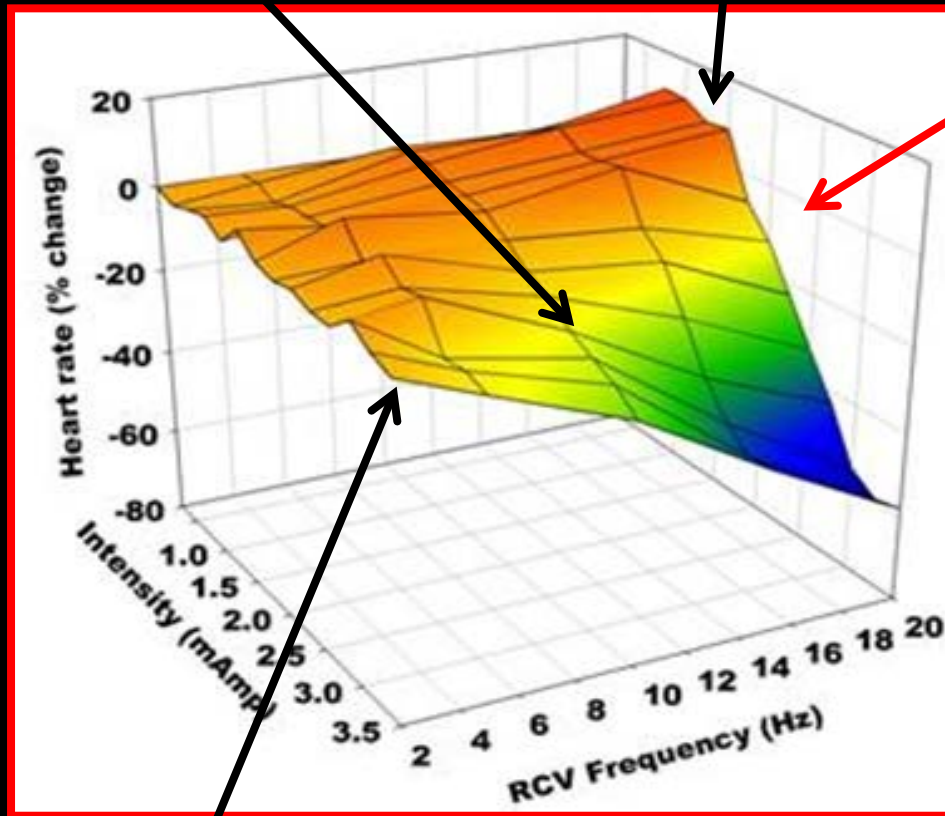


Yamakawa K, So EL, Rajendran PS, Hoang JD, Makkar N, Mahajan A, Shivkumar K, Vaseghi M. Electrophysiological effects of right and left vagal nerve stimulation on the ventricular myocardium. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol*. 2014;307:H722-731

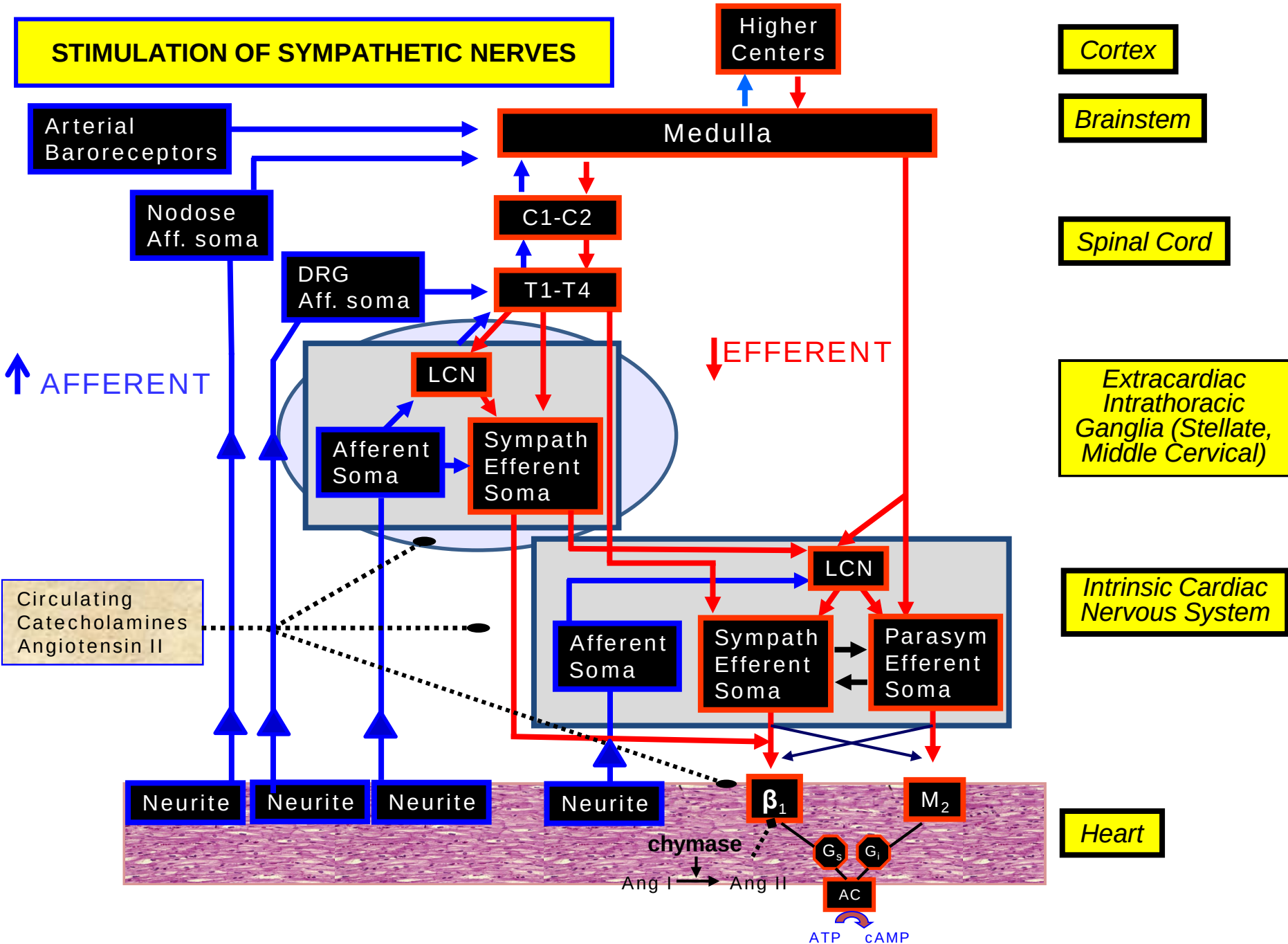
NEED FOR A MECHANISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF VAGAL STIMULATION: THE INITIAL HUMAN STUDIES

ANTHEM-HF

NECTAR-HF



INOVATE-HF

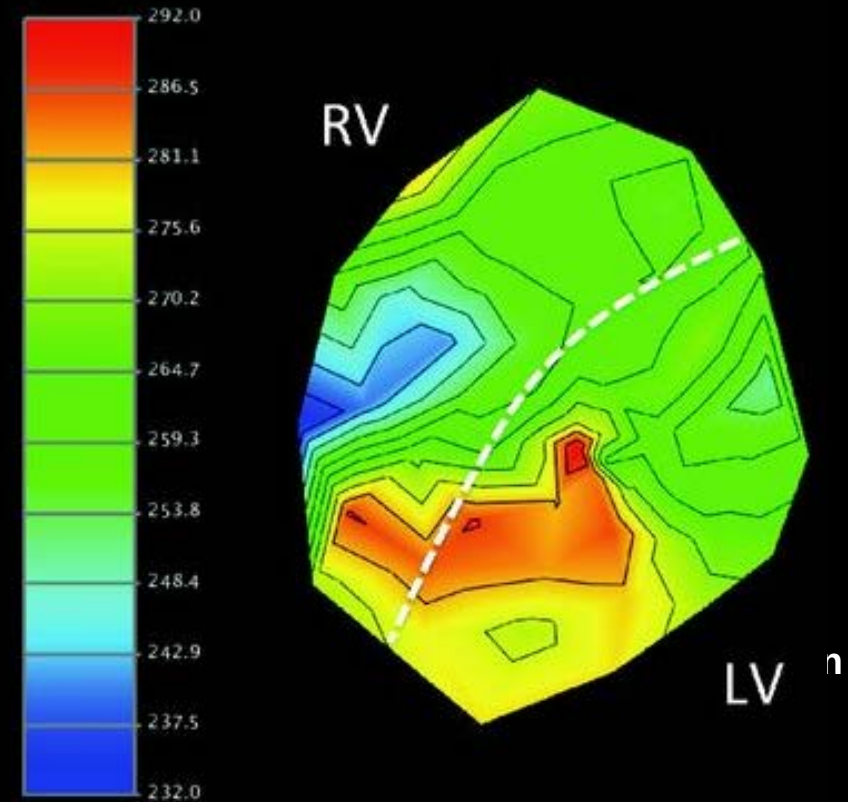
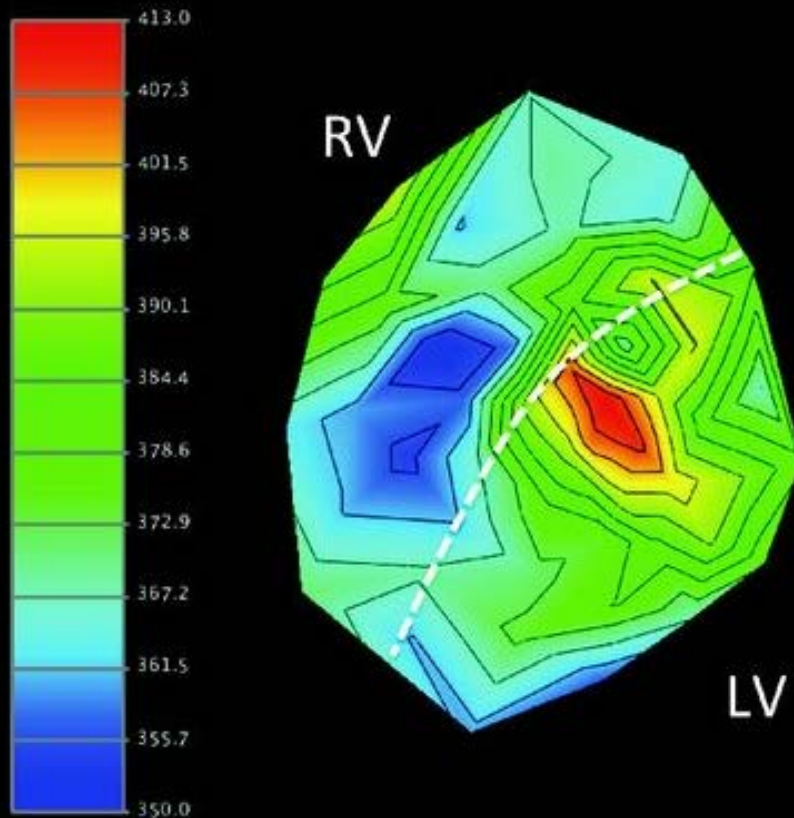


EFFECT OF SYMPATHETIC EFFERENT NERVE STIMULATION : JUNCTIONAL vs. EXTRA-JUNCTIONAL EFFECTS IN SPATIAL CONTEXT



BASELINE

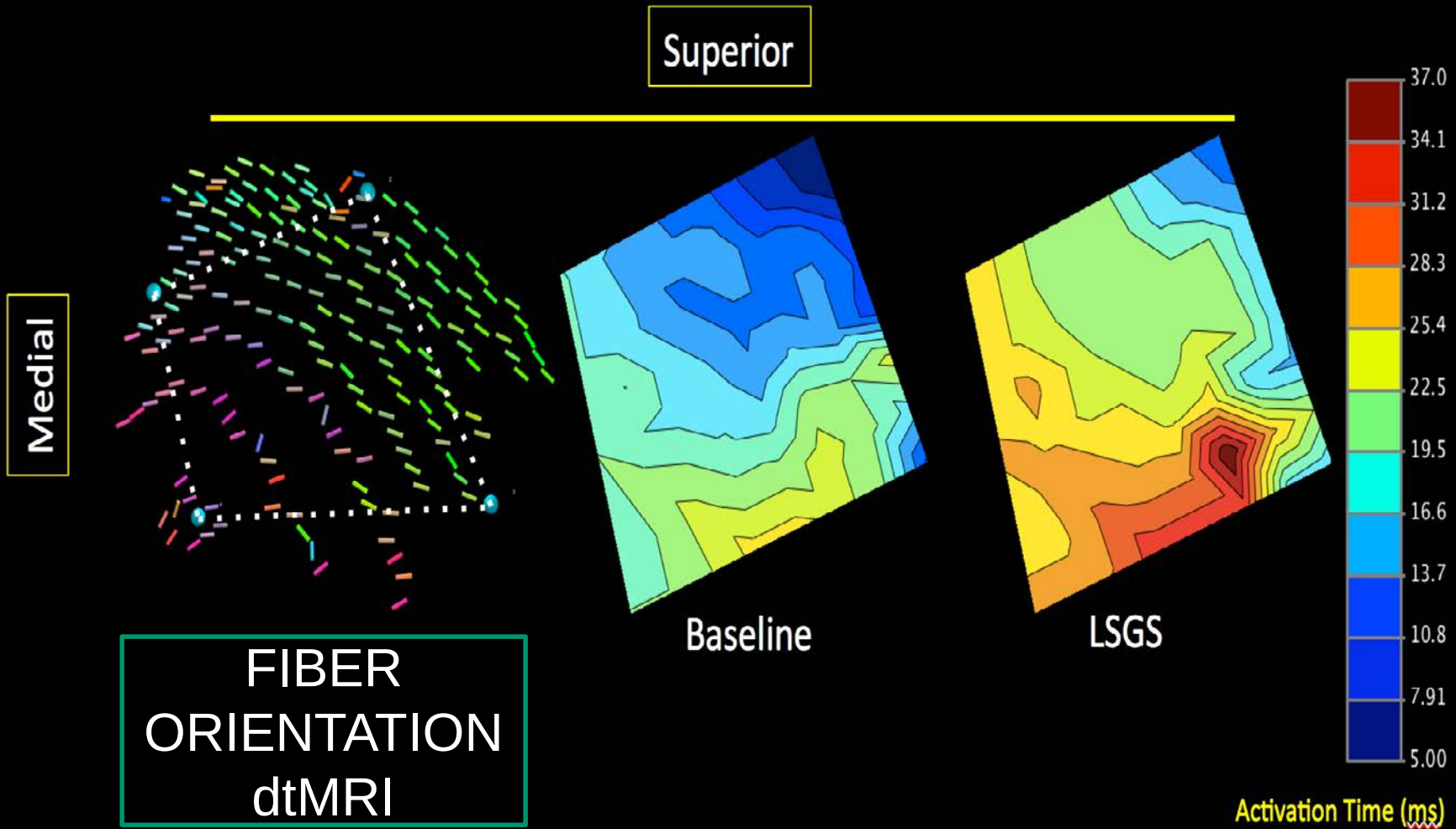
BSS



5 ms pulse width
5 ms delay
5 Hz
5 10 Volts

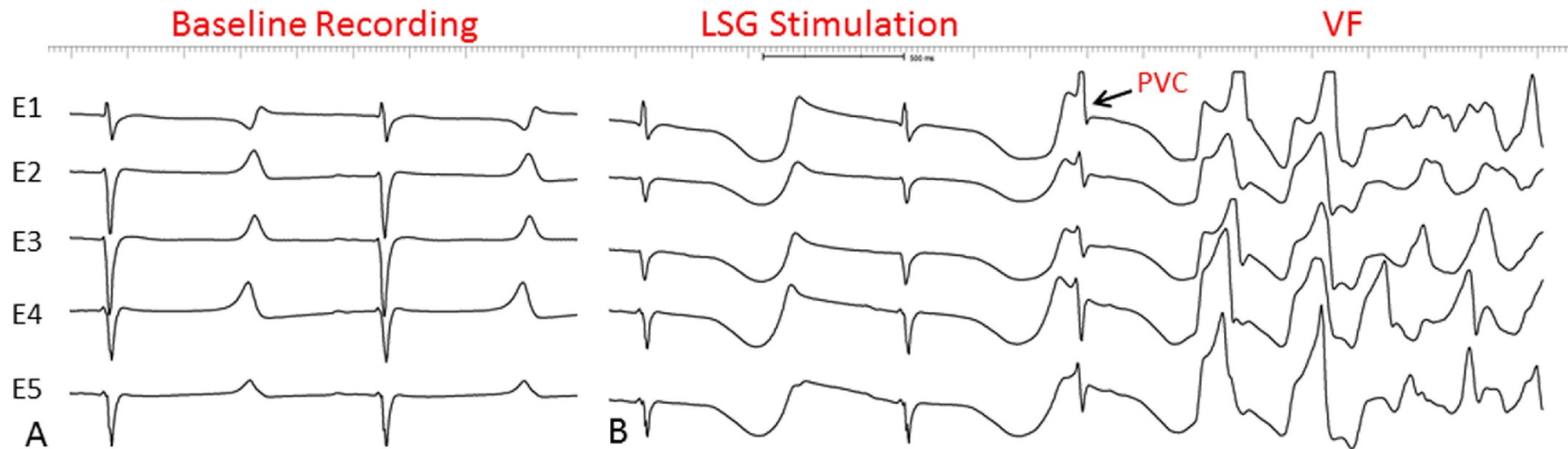
Ajjola OA, Vaseghi M, Zhou W, Yamakawa K, Benharash P, Hadaya J, Lux RL, Mahajan A, Shivkumar K. Functional Differences Between Junctional and Extra Junctional Adrenergic Receptor Activation in Mammalian Ventricle . *American Journal of Physiology (Heart & Circulatory Physiol)* 2013;304:H579 588

CARDIAC NERVES POWERFULLY CONTROL MUSCLE PROPAGATION



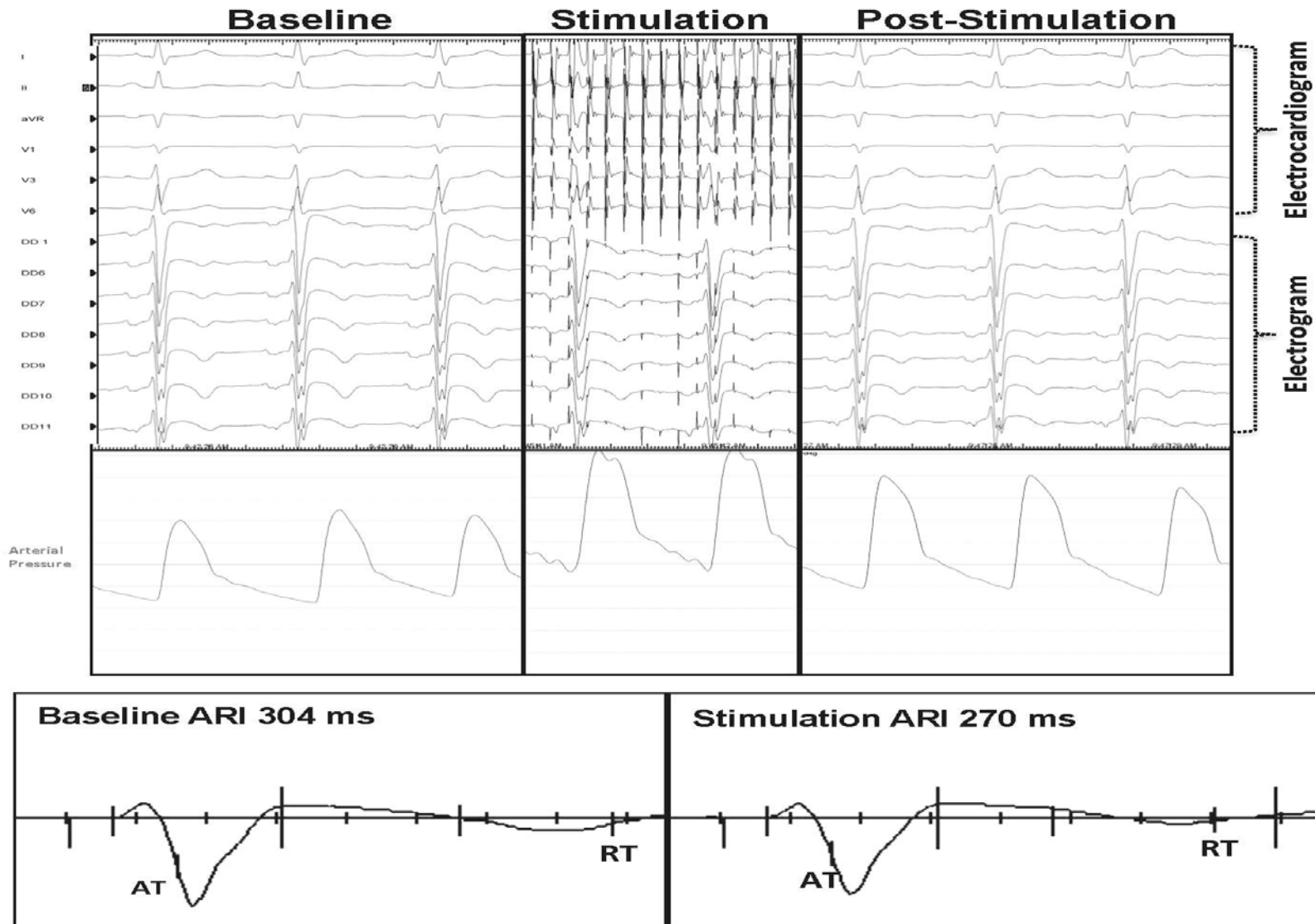
Aijola OA, Aliotta E, Kwon OJ, Nakamura K, Yamakawa K, So E, Khahera A, Irie T, Ennis D, and Shivkumar . Functional Control of Electrical Propagation in Ventricular Myocardium. 2015 (submitted)

NERVE STIMULATION CAN INDUCE LETHAL ARRHYTHMIAS IN A NORMAL HEART



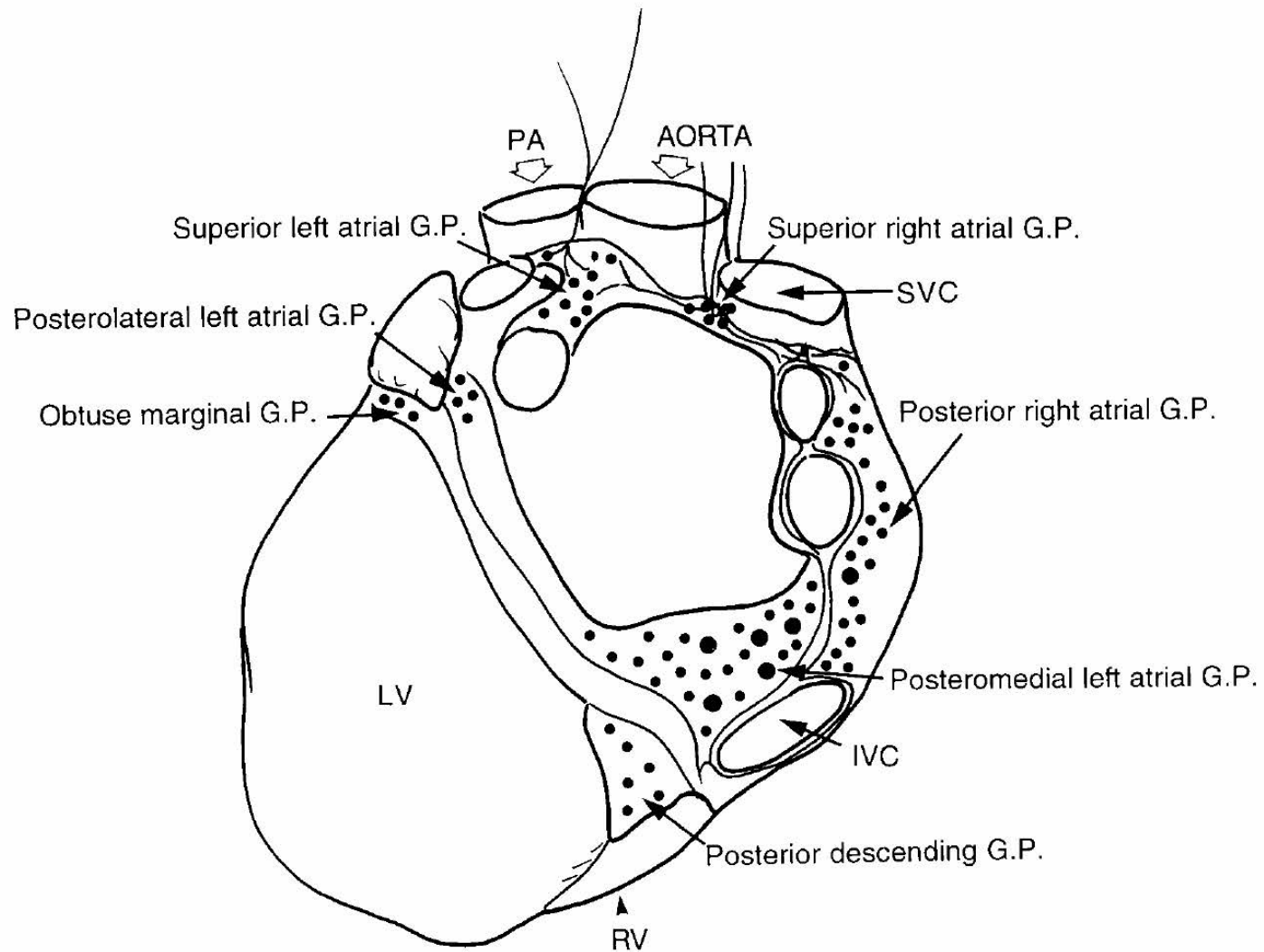
Vaseghi M, Zhou W, Shi J, Ajjola OA, Hadaya J, Shivkumar K, Mahajan A. Sympathetic innervation of the anterior left ventricular wall by the right and left stellate ganglia. *Heart Rhythm*. 2012;9:1303-1309

PERCUTANEOUS STIMULATION OF THE STELLATE GANGLION IN HUMANS



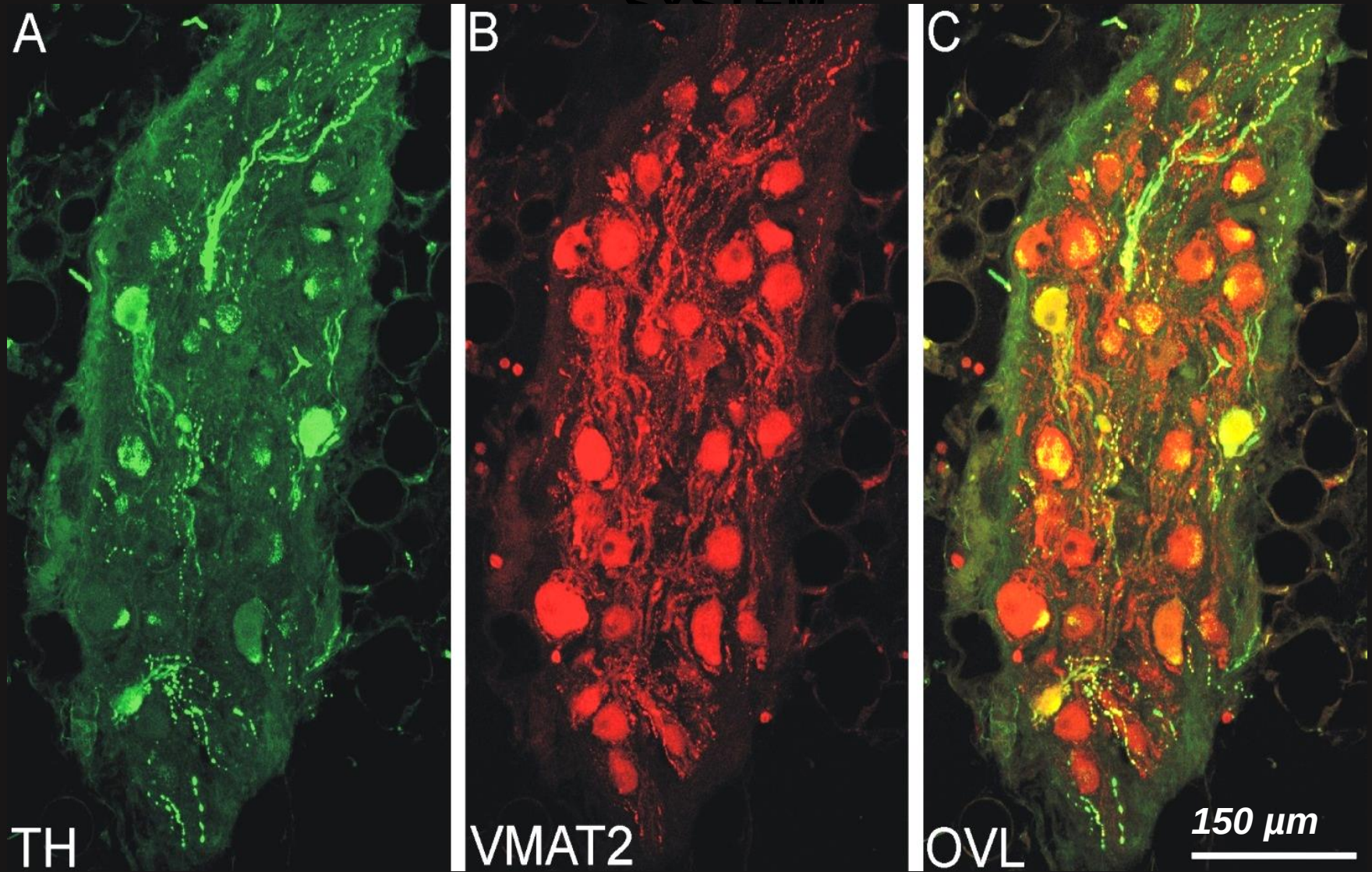
Aijola OA, Howard-Quijano K, Scovotti J, Vaseghi M, Lee C, Mahajan A & Shivkumar K. Augmentation Of Cardiac Sympathetic Tone By Percutaneous Low Level Stellate Ganglion Stimulation In Humans: A Feasibility Study. **Physiological Reports** 2015 (in press)

Human Cardiac Intrinsic Nervous System



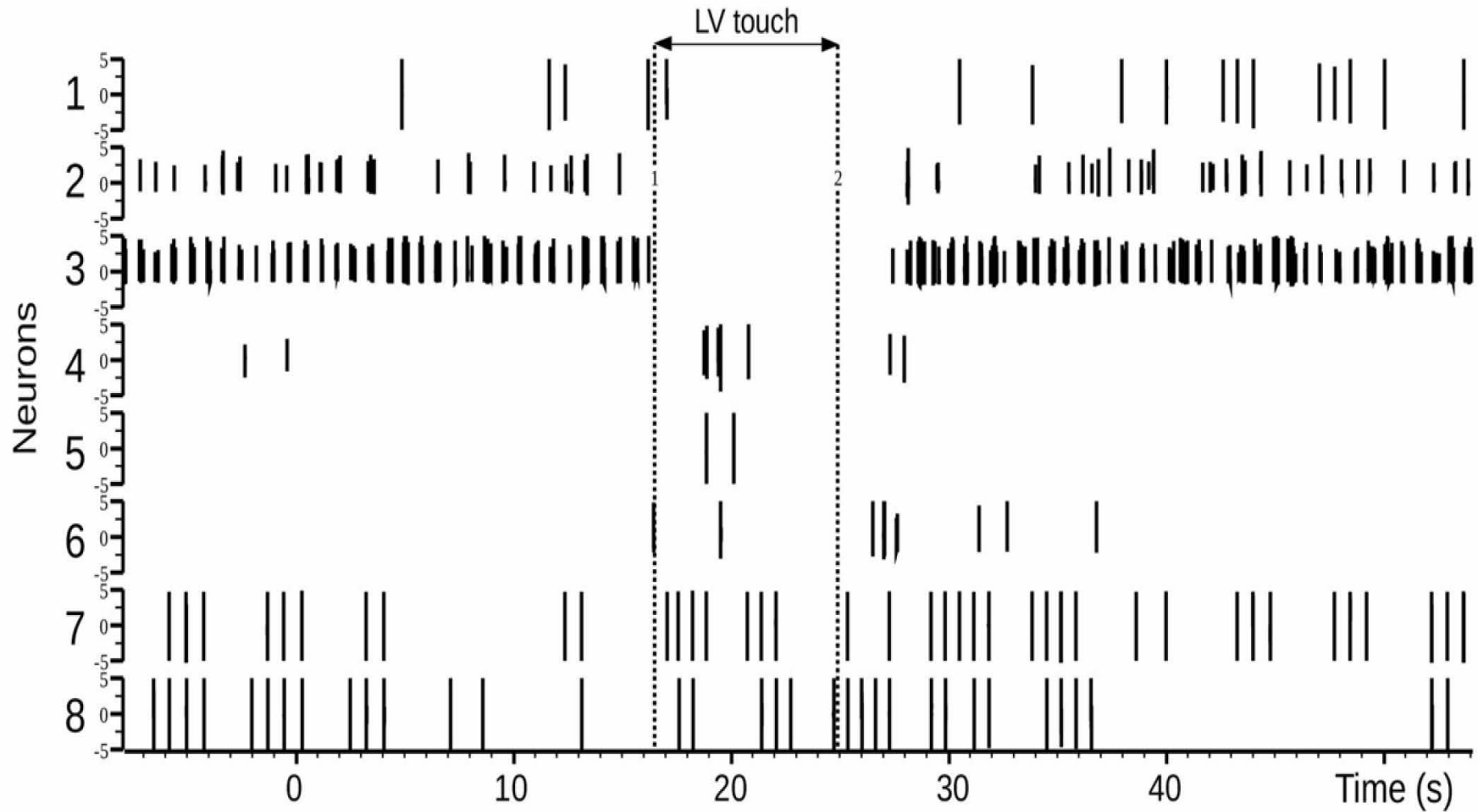
Armour JA, Murphy DA, Yuan BX, MacDonald S, Hopkins D. Gross and Microscopic Anatomy of the Human Intrinsic Cardiac Nervous System. *The Anatomical Record* 247:289–298 (1997)

HUMAN CARDIAC INTRINSIC NERVOUS SYSTEM



Hoover DB, Isaacs ER, Jacques F et-al. Localization of multiple neurotransmitters in surgically derived specimens of human atrial ganglia. *Neuroscience*. 2009;164 (3): 1170-9

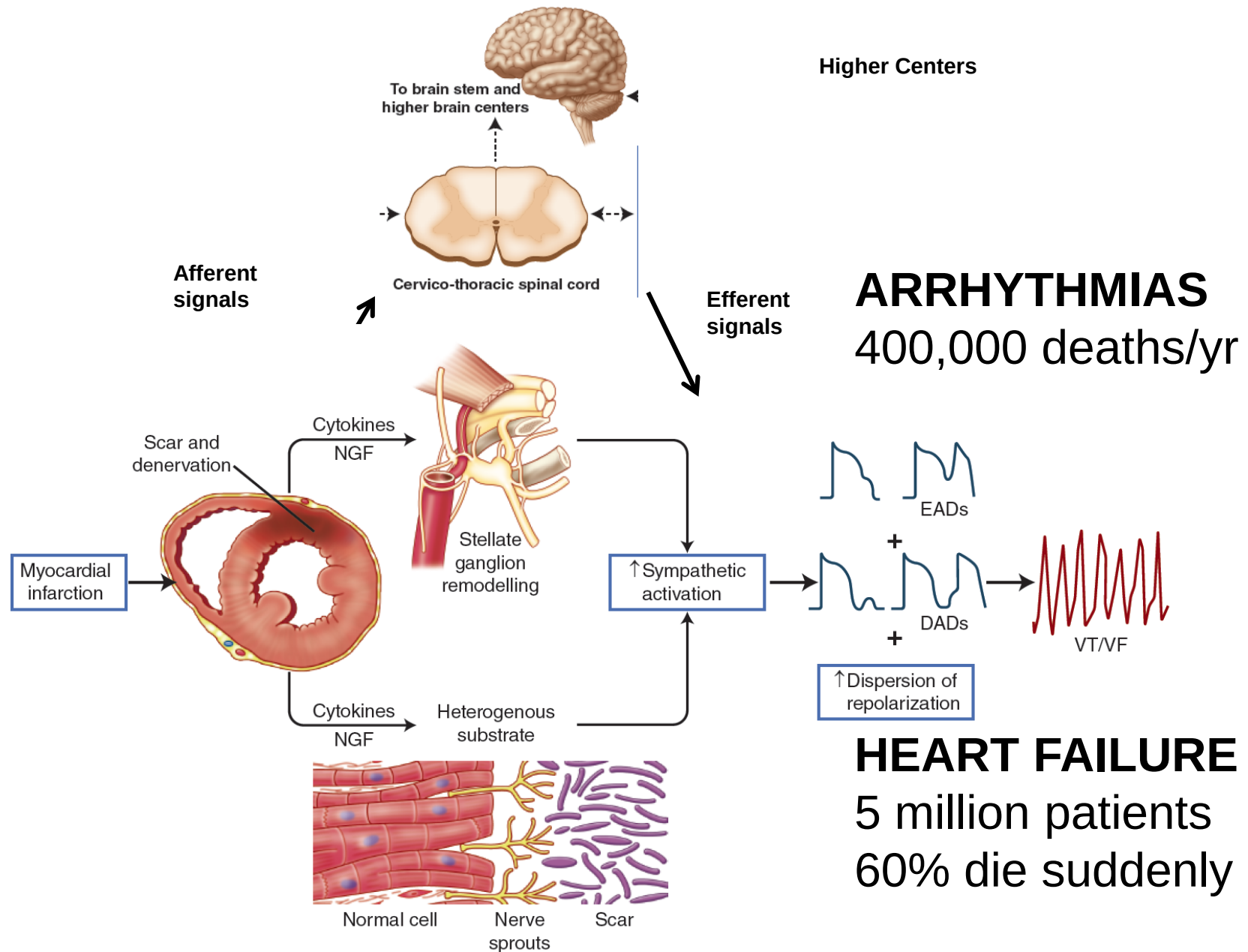
NETWORK INTERACTIONS WITHIN THE CARDIAC INTRINSIC NERVOUS SYSTEM



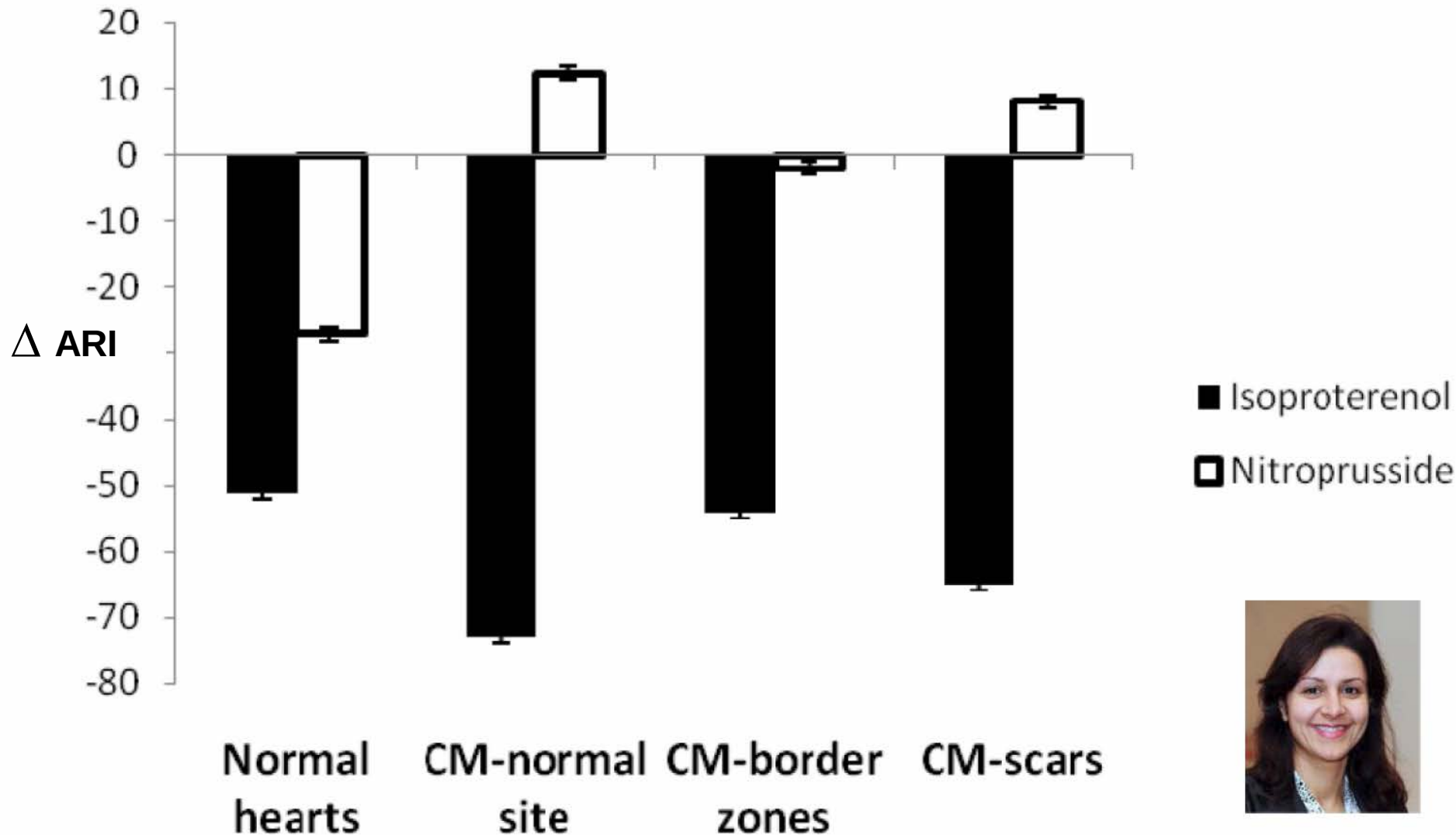
AUTONOMIC REGULATION OF THE HEART

- Physiology and Current Understanding
- Neural Response to Cardiac Injury
- Neuraxial Therapeutic Strategies

STRUCTURE -FUNCTION INTERPLAY: SUDDEN DEATH AND HEART FAILURE

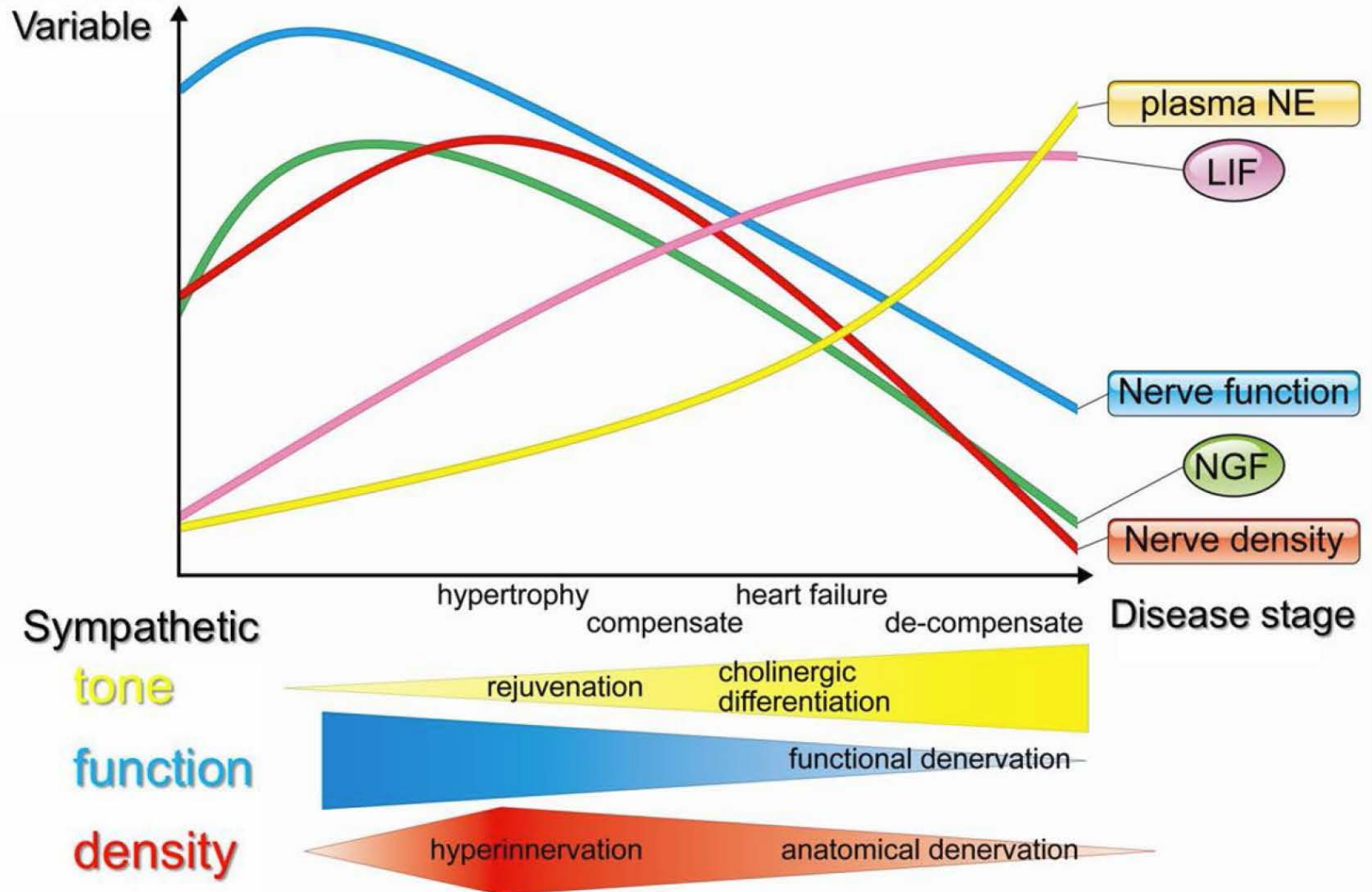


HUMAN POST INFARCT HEARTS SHOW HETEROGENEITY IN INNERVATION & REMOTE REGION REMODELING

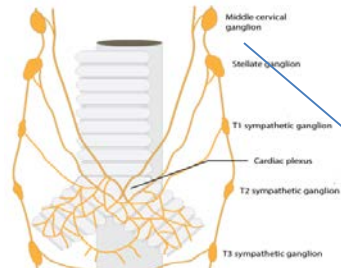


Vaseghi M, Lux R, Mahajan A & Shivkumar K: Heterogeneity in Repolarization Response to Sympathetic Stimulation. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol.* 2012;302(9):H1838-1846.

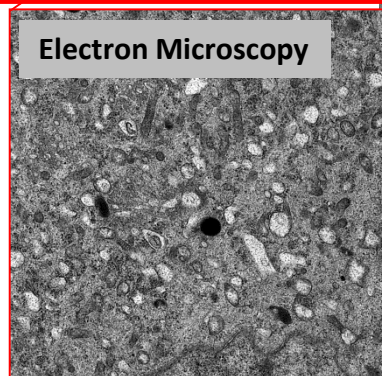
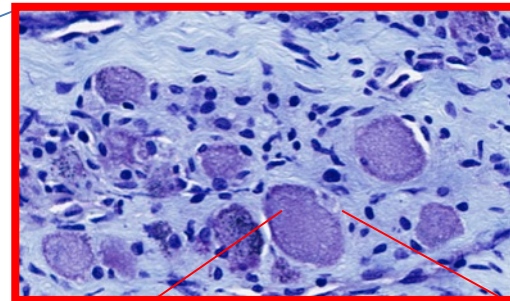
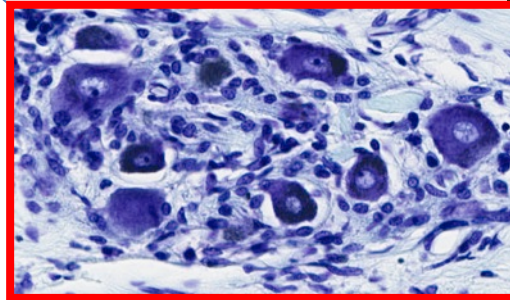
TEMPORAL CHANGES IN CARDIAC INNervation WITH DISEASE PROGRESSION



CARDIOMYOPATHY-INDUCED REMODELING OF STELLATE GANGLION NEURONS IN HUMANS

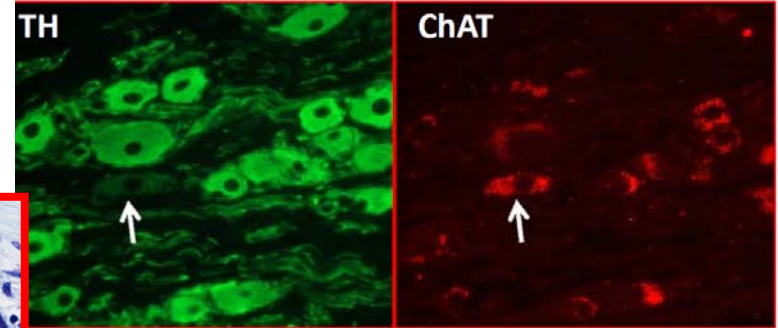


Normal Heart

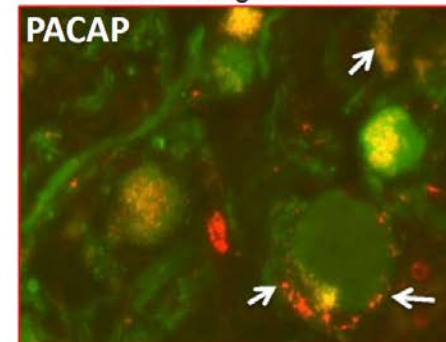


Electron Microscopy

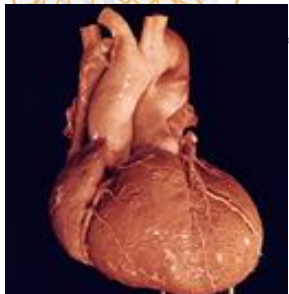
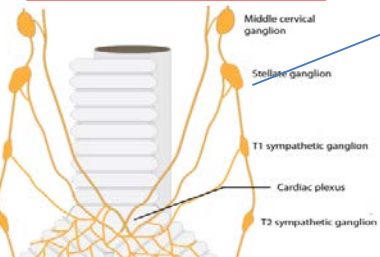
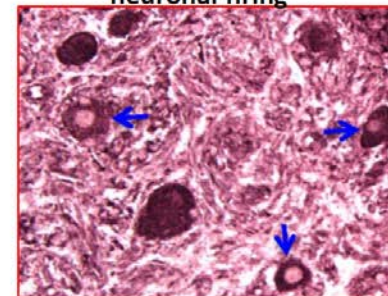
Adrenergic to Cholinergic Transdifferentiation



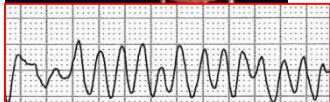
Excitatory synapses densest around large neurons



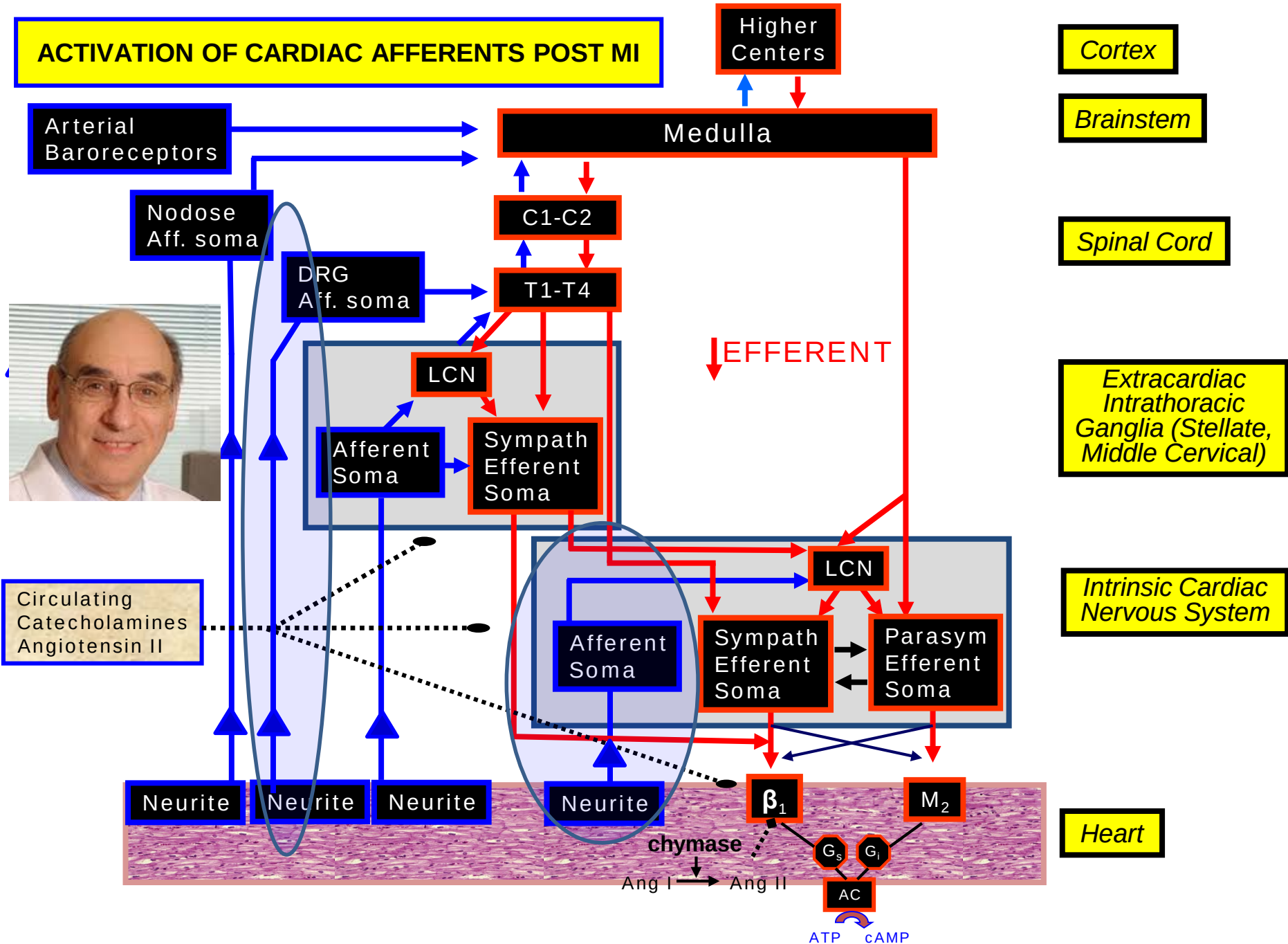
Heterogeneity in oscillatory neuronal firing



Cardiomyopathic Heart



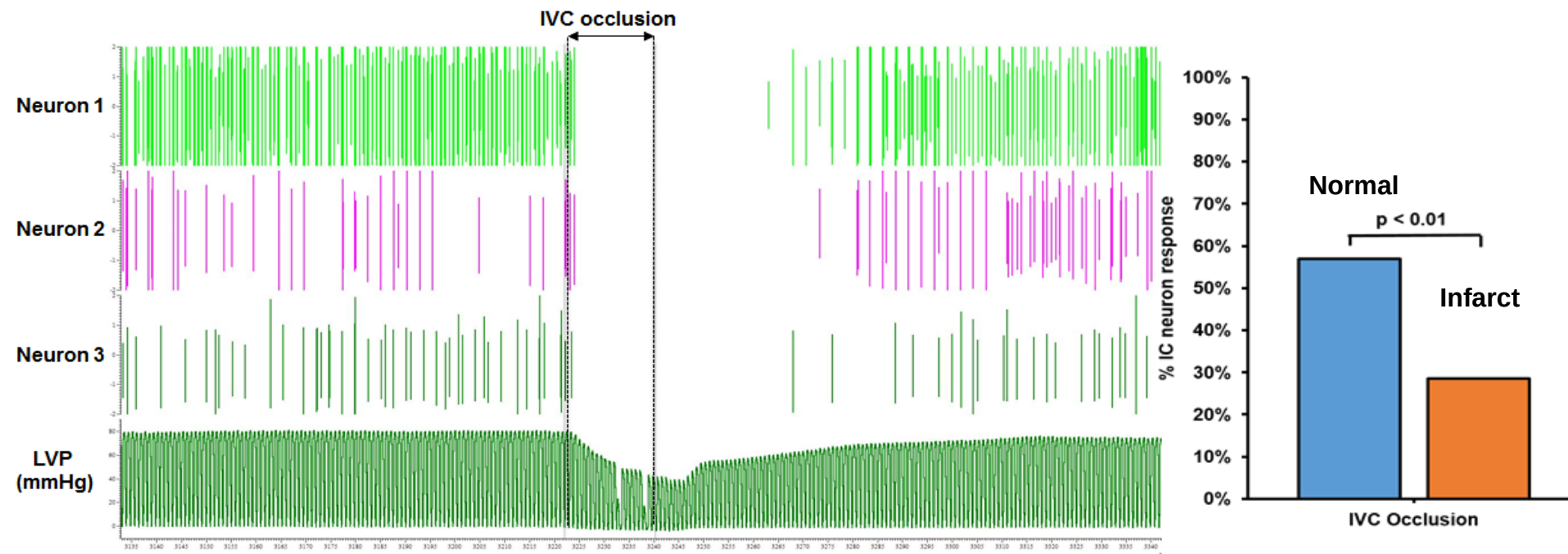
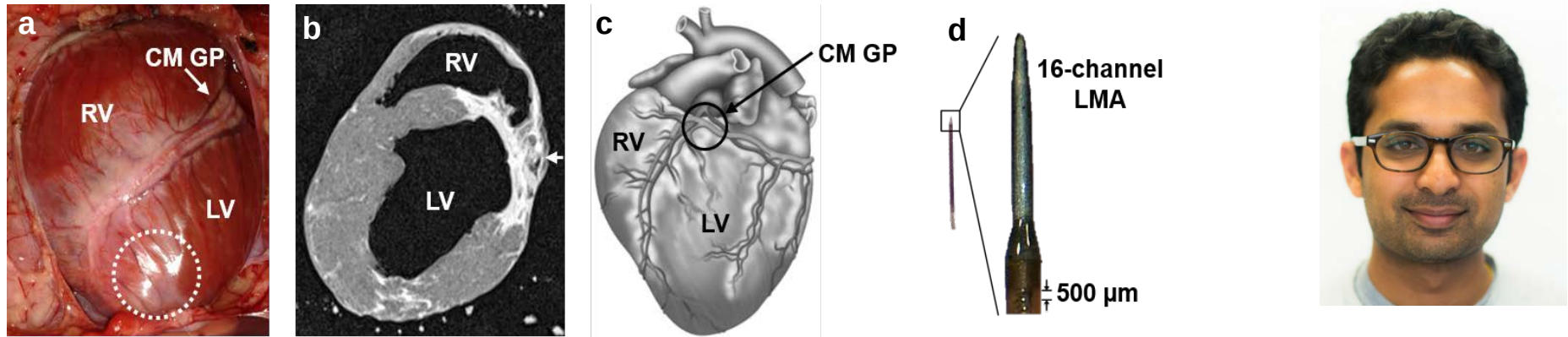
ACTIVATION OF CARDIAC AFFERENTS POST MI



Fukuda K, Kanazawa H, Aizawa Y, Ardell JL & Shivkumar K: Cardiac Innervation and Sudden Cardiac Death

Circulation Research 2015 (in press)

MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION ALTERS CARDIAC AFFERENT NEURONAL SIGNALING: RECORDING FROM INTRINSIC NEURONS ON THE HEART

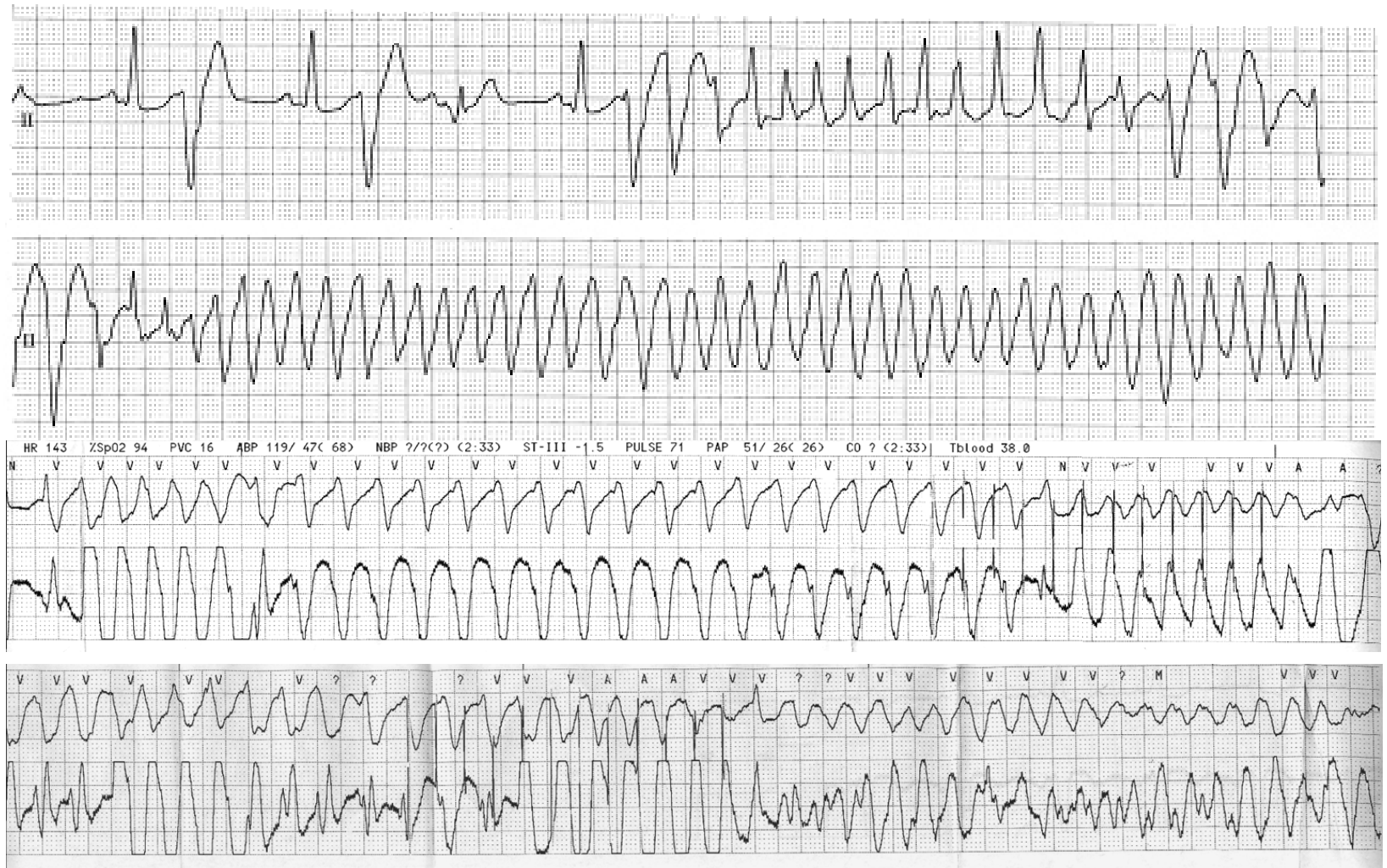


Rajendran P, Vaseghi M, Armour JA, Ardell JL, Shivkumar K: Myocardial Infarction Alters Neural Processing Of Afferent Inputs Within The Intrinsic Cardiac Nervous System *AHA* 2014

AUTONOMIC REGULATION OF THE HEART

- **Physiology and Current Understanding**
- **Neural Response to Cardiac Injury**
- **Neuraxial Therapeutic Strategies**

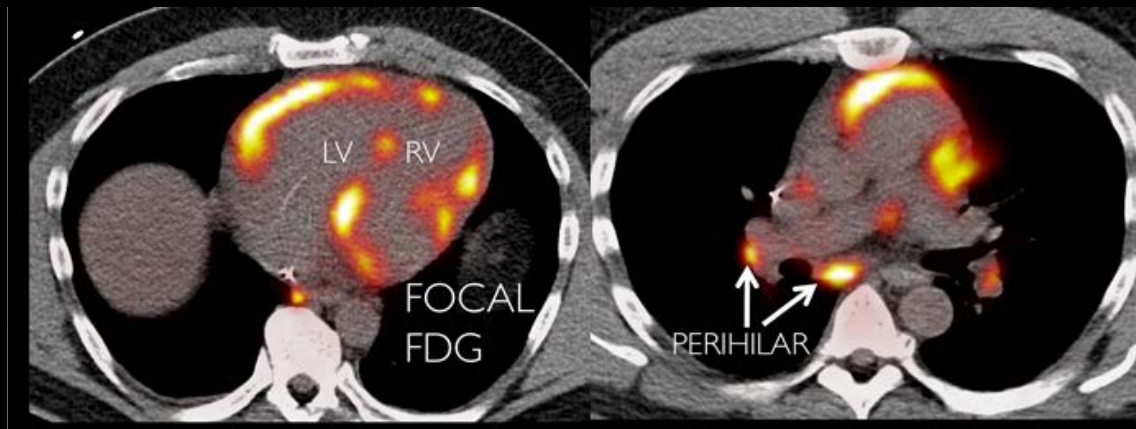
BACK THE PATIENT-CONTINUING CRISIS!



Mahajan A, Moore J, Cesario DA, Shivkumar K. Use of thoracic epidural anesthesia for management of electrical storm: A case report. *Heart Rhythm*. 2005;2:1359-1362

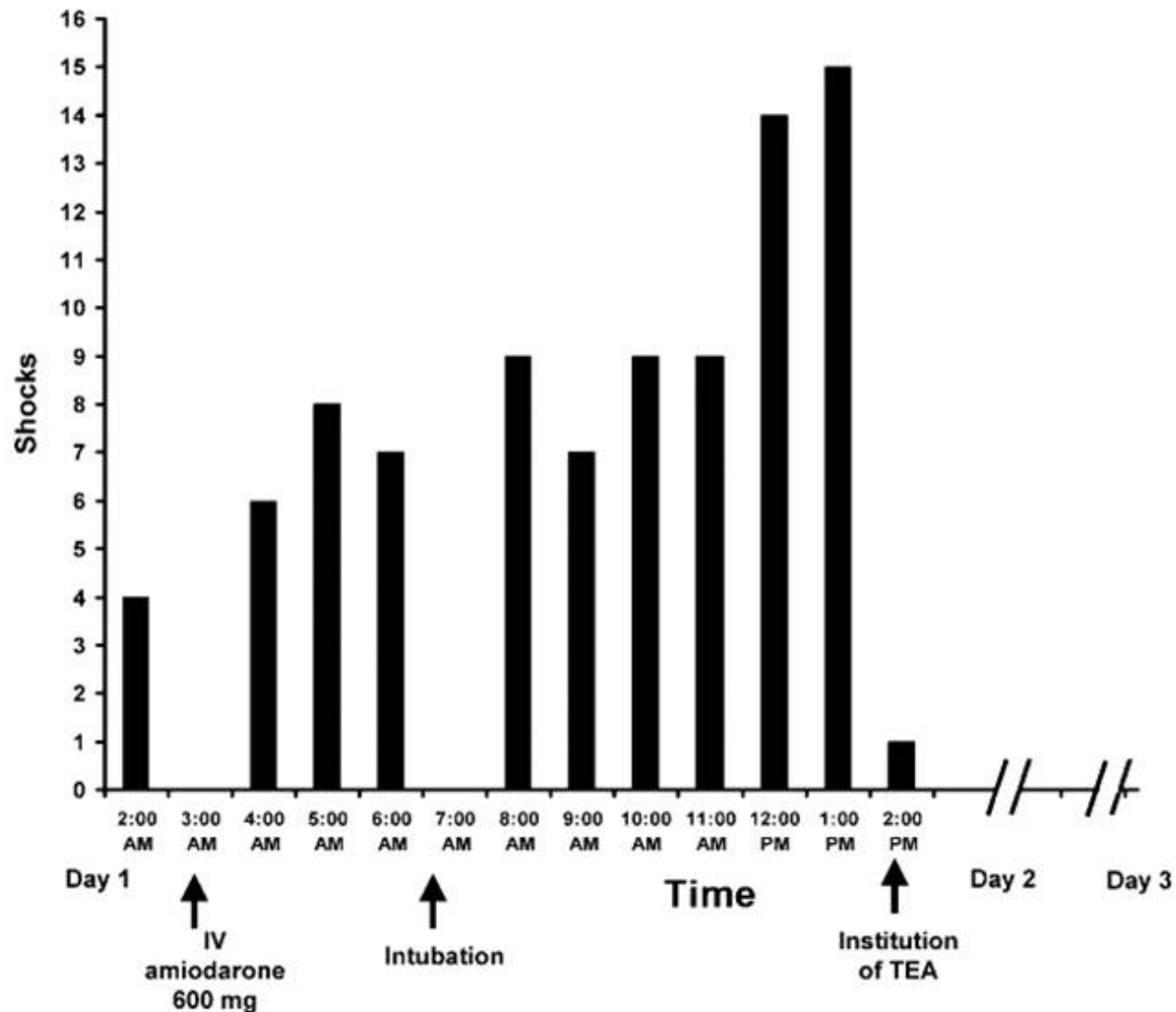
HOSPITAL COURSE

- 32 year old male with 'ARVC' (previous failed ablation) presents with incessant VT (multiple morphologies)-received 160 shocks-skin burns-intubated sedated-unstable death is imminent
- Patient was stabilized with TEA, underwent a PET scan, and biopsy (showed sarcoidosis) and was treated with IV steroids and subsequently underwent catheter ablation and surgical sympathectomy. Stable after 2 years with no further shocks EF improved.



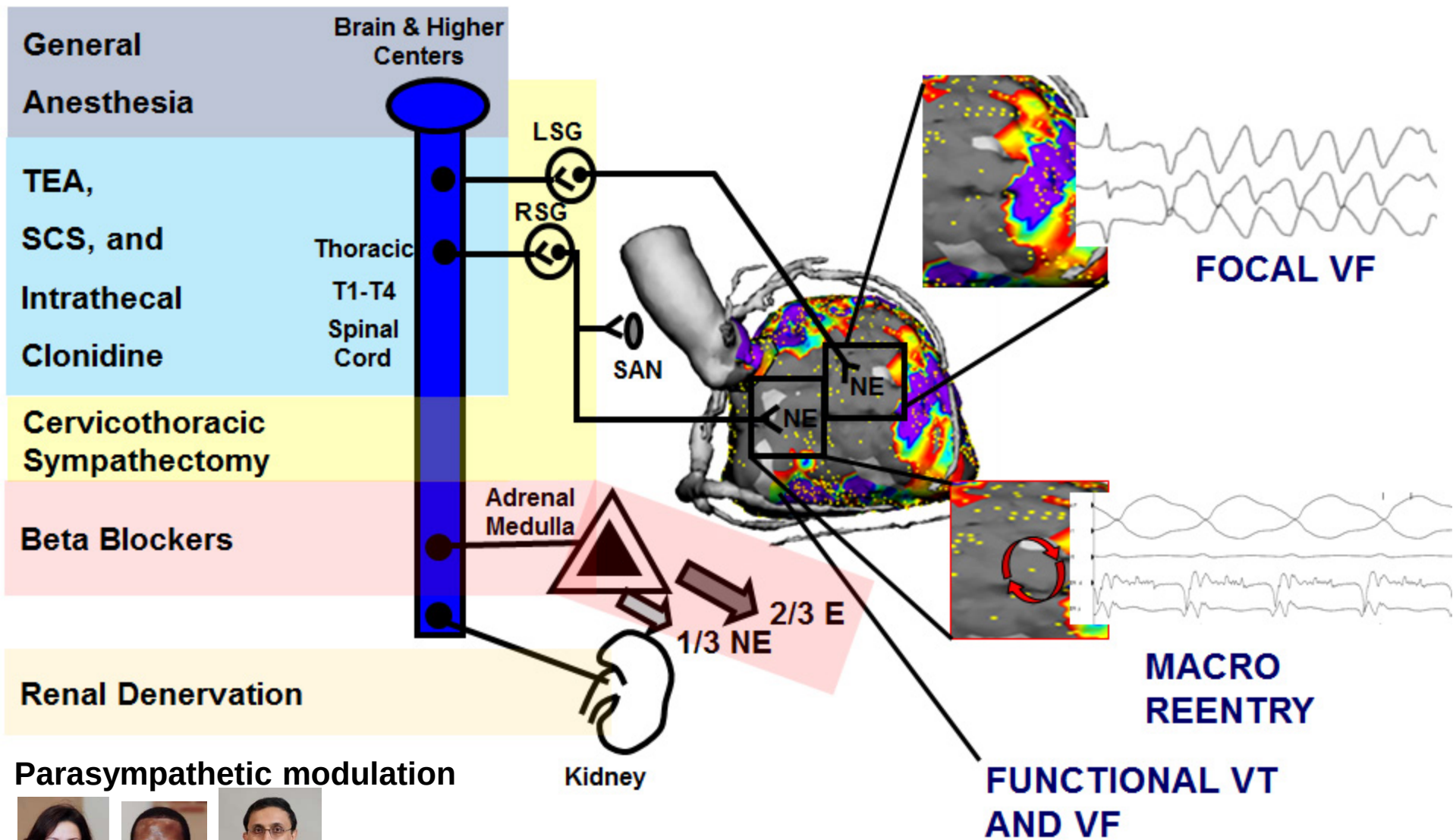
Bauer B, Tung R, Bradfield J, Auerbach M, Schelbert H, Buch E, Vaseghi M, Fujimura O, Mandapati R, Lynch J, Boyle N, Shivkumar K: Ventricular Arrhythmias Due To Isolated Cardiac Sarcoidosis And Arrhythmogenic Inflammatory Cardiomyopathy (AIC) Identified By Abnormal Positron Emission Tomography In Patients With Idiopathic Cardiomyopathy (presented HRS 2014)

VT-VF STORM- CLINICAL COURSE



Mahajan A, Moore J, Cesario DA, Shivkumar K. Use of thoracic epidural anesthesia for management of electrical storm: A case report. *Heart Rhythm*. 2005;2:1359-1362

NEURAXIAL MODULATION TO TREAT VENTRICULAR ARRHYTHMIAS



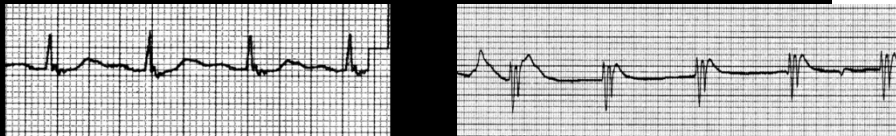
What happens to the transplanted heart?

Mode and mechanisms of death after orthotopic heart transplantation

Marmar Vaseghi, MD,* Nicolas Lellouche, MD,* Harry Ritter, BS,* Gregg C. Fonarow, MD,[†] Jignesh K. Patel, MD, PhD,[‡] Jaime Moriguchi, MD,[‡] Michael C. Fishbein, MD,[§] Jon A. Kobashigawa, MD,[‡] Kalyanam Shivkumar, MD, PhD*

*From the *UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, [†]Ahmanson UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, [‡]UCLA Heart Transplantation Program, and [§]Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, California.*

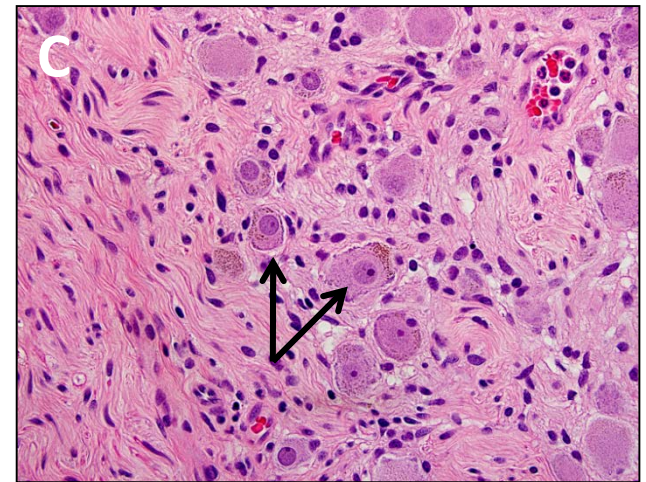
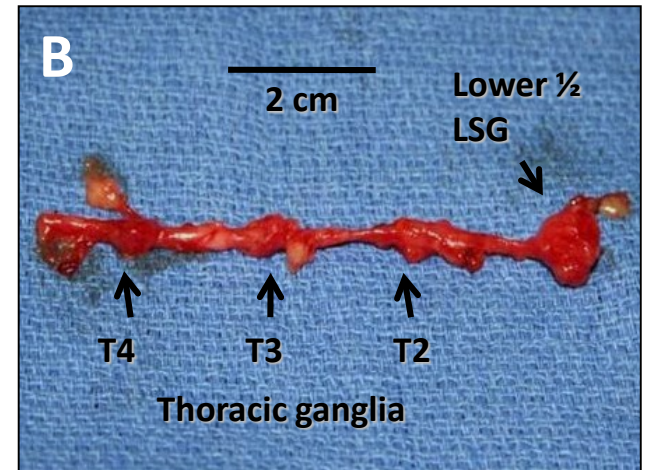
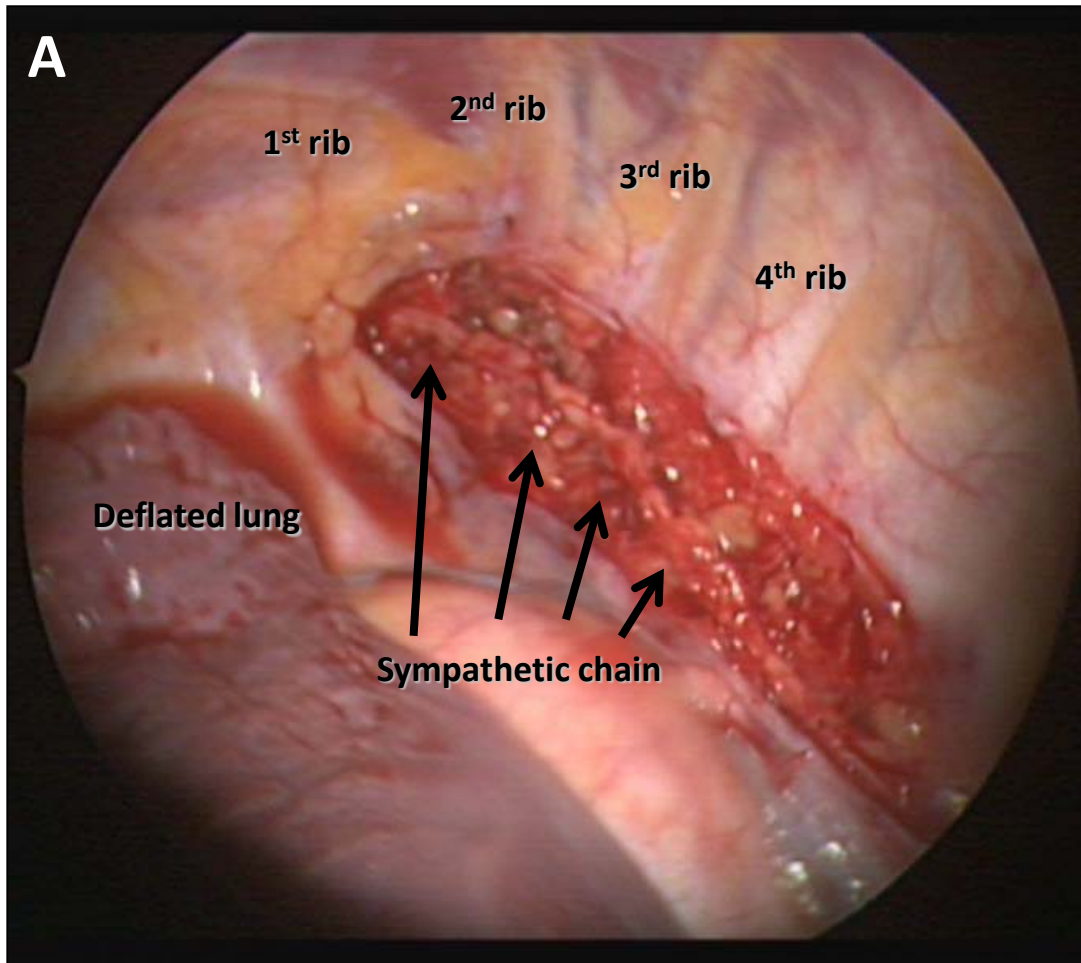
(Heart Rhythm 2009;6:503–509) © 2009 Heart Rhythm Society. All rights reserved.



Left Main

**VF IS VERY RARE IN
PATIENTS WITH A
TRANSPLANTED HEART
EVEN WITH ACUTE
CORONARY OCCLUSION!**

Anatomy and histology of left sympathetic chain



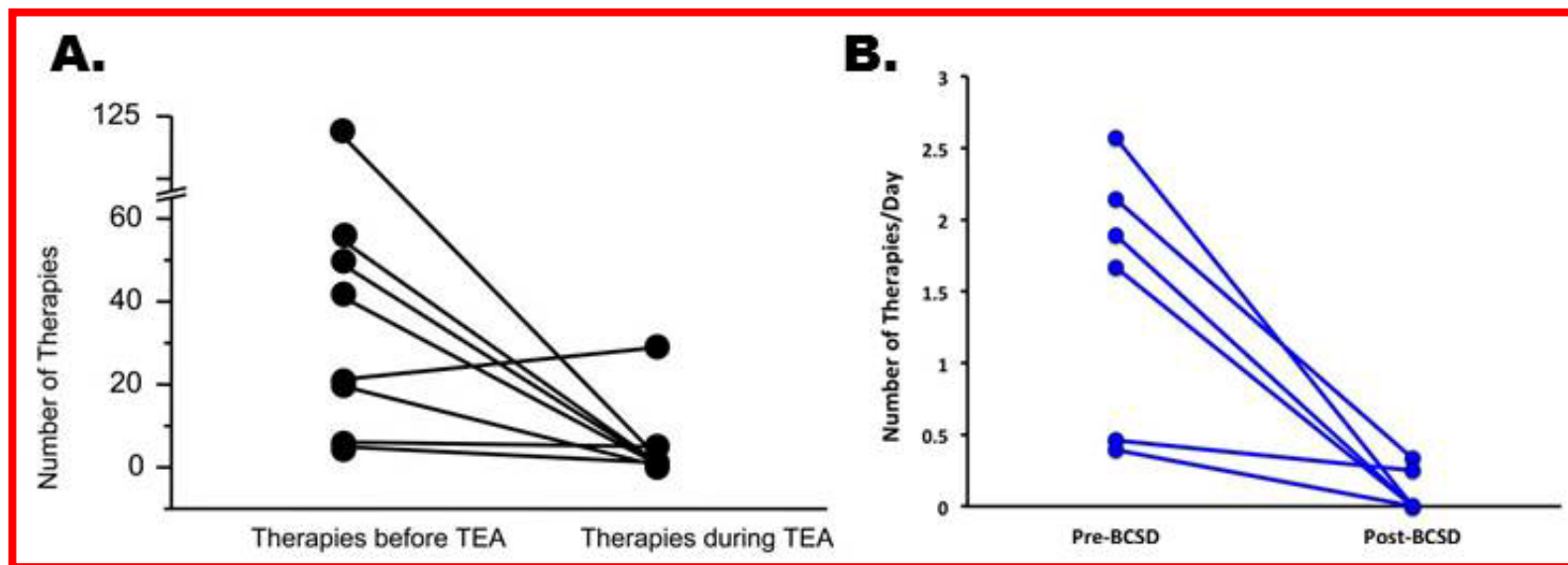
Bourke T, Vaseghi M, Michowitz Y, Sankhla V, Shah M, Swapna N, Boyle NG, Mahajan A, Narasimhan C, Lokhandwala Y, Shivkumar K. Neuraxial modulation for refractory ventricular arrhythmias: value of thoracic epidural anesthesia and surgical left cardiac sympathetic denervation. *Circulation*. 2010;121(21):2255-2262.

Arrhythmia/Electrophysiology

Neuraxial Modulation for Refractory Ventricular Arrhythmias

Value of Thoracic Epidural Anesthesia and Surgical Left Cardiac Sympathetic Denervation

Tara Bourke, MD; Marmar Vaseghi, MD; Yoav Michowitz, MD; Vineet Sankhla, MD; Mandar Shah, MD; Nalla Swapna, MD; Noel G. Boyle, MD, PhD; Aman Mahajan, MD, PhD; Calambur Narasimhan, MD, DM; Yash Lokhandwala, MD, DM; Kalyanam Shivkumar, MD, PhD

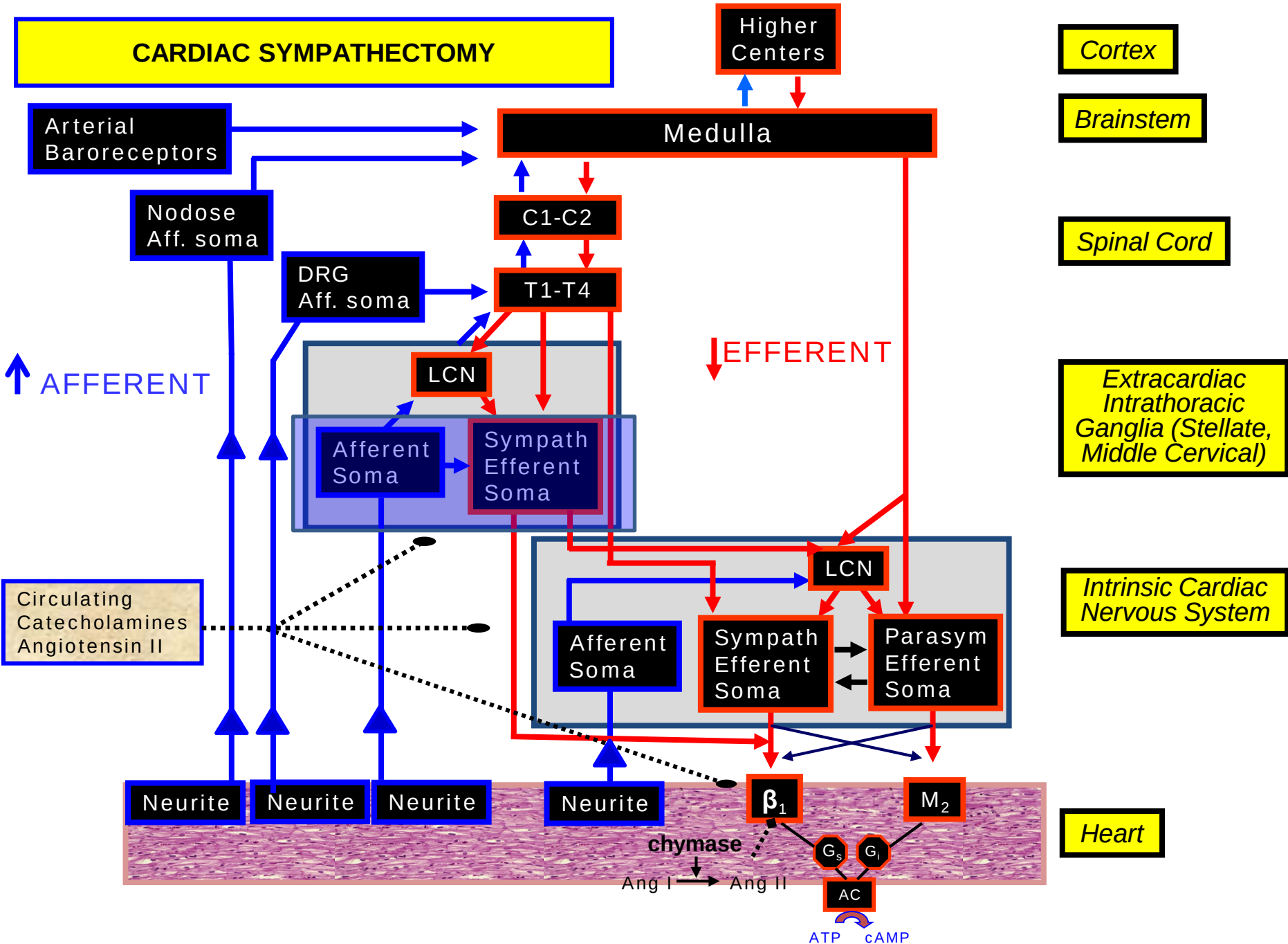


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Ajjola OA, Lellouche N, Bourke T, Tung R, Ahn S, Mahajan, Shivkumar K: [Bilateral Cardiac Sympathetic Denervation For The Management Of Electrical Storm](#) *JACC* 2012;59(1):91-92

Vaseghi M, Gima J, Kaanan C, Ajjola O, Marmureanu A, Mahajan A, Shivkumar K. [Cardiac sympathetic denervation in patients with refractory ventricular arrhythmias or electrical storm: Intermediate and long term follow up.](#) *Heart Rhythm.* 2014;11:360-366

BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?



Synergistic application of cardiac sympathetic decentralization and comprehensive psychiatric treatment in the management of anxiety and electrical storm

Sahib S. Khalsa^{1,2}, Leila Shahabi³, Olujimi A. Ajijola², Alexander Bystritsky¹, Bruce D. Naliboff³ and Kalyanam Shivkumar^{1,2}*

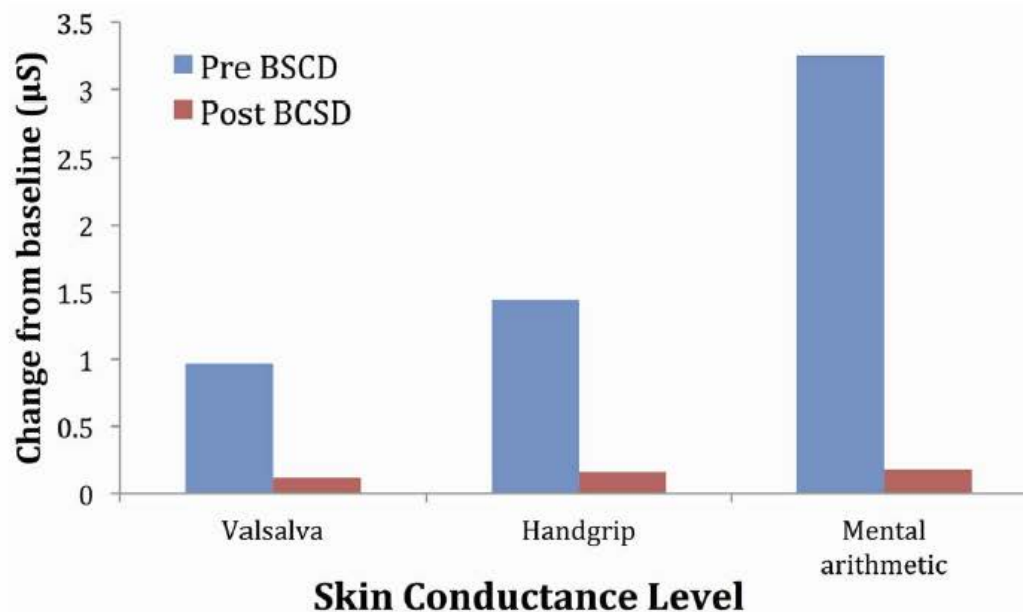


FIGURE 7 | Mean changes in skin conductance level from baseline during autonomic challenge before and after bilateral cardiac sympathetic decentralization (BSCD) in case 2. μS , microsiemens.



PREVENT VT TRIAL

PRophylactic Cervicothoracic Sympathectomy for Pr**EV**ENTion of
Ventricular **T**achyarrhythmias

ICM or NICM
**With recurrent ICD shock s/p at least 1 VT ablation procedure
or ICD shock/VT/VF that is not ablatable**



Medical Therapy

Medical Therapy + CTS

Follow-up
Surgical Visit: 2-4 weeks post D/C
ICD Visits every 6 mo till 24 mo.

CONCLUSIONS

- **Multiple levels of the neuraxis are involved in cardiac regulation. The heart also has an important regulatory neural network in place**
- **Neural remodeling occurs in the heart and extra-cardiac structures following cardiac injury and modulates cardiac arrhythmias**
- **Neuromodulation therapies show great therapeutic promise and need in-depth mechanistic understanding**
- **Cardiac sympathectomy is showing efficacy in humans effective and needs intense study to develop it**

CONCLUSIONS-II-NEEDS

- **A neurovisceral map of the heart**
- **Better electrode technology for recording and stimulation**
- **Integrative physiology studies in small and large animal models to guide therapies.**
- **Mechanistic studies in humans**

UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center & EP Programs
Neurocardiology Research Center of Excellence

Executive Committee

Administrative Core

Research Staff

Neural Substrate
Core (structure
and function)

Cardiac Substrate
Core (metabolism,
ISF, anatomy and function)



Research
Support core

EP
core

Molecular Biology
Immuno-
histochemistry

Anatomy/
Imaging
core

Neurocardiology
Network modeling

Human/
Clinical

Atrial arrhythmias
Ventricular arrhythmias
HF (systolic vs diastolic)

Animal Models/
preclinical

PUBLIC HEALTH
The War
on Ebola

PLANETARY SCIENCE
Oceans from
the Skies

TECHNOLOGY
A World
without Secrets

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

ScientificAmerican.com
MARCH 2015

Electric Cures

Bioelectronic medicine could create
an "off switch" for arthritis,
diabetes, even cancer



Kevin J. Tracey is president of the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research at the North Shore-LIJ Health System in Manhasset, N.Y., where he directs the Laboratory of Biomedical Science. He is professor of molecular medicine and neurosurgery at Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine.



Autonomic Control (the higher centers)



Bodh Gaya, India



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