ECG Challenge - Answer

Wide QRS Tachycardia

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Abstract

56 years old male patient presenting with palpitation to emergency room. On examination: tachycardic, BP 96/70. What is the diagnosis?

Rhythm strip shows wide and narrow QRS tachycardias alternating. It could either be a narrow QRS tachycardia with intermittent aberrant conduction or two simultaneous tachycardias. It is more likely one tachycardia since the rate and regularity is not changing.

Keywords: wide QRS tachycardia, narrow QRS tachycardia, ECG

56 years old male patient presenting with palpitation to emergency room. On examination: tachycardic, BP 96/70. What is the diagnosis?
ECG shows a regular tachycardia at a rate of 220 beats per minute. QRS complexes are alternating between wide and narrow complexes without change in the rate (noted well in the rhythm strip).

**Question:** Is it same tachycardia or two tachycardias occurring simultaneously?

Two possibilities are:

1) SVT which is conducted with wide / aberrant complexes intermittently.
2) Double tachycardia with an SVT and a VT at the same rate.

It is more likely one tachycardia since the rate and regularity is not changing.