Novel Method of Discriminating Between Ventricular and Supraventricular Tachyarrhythmias

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Technology description

This invention provides a method to discriminate between ventricular arrhythmia and supraventricular tachycardia by detecting an earliest arriving electrical signal following antitachycardia pacing. Also disclosed is an implantable cardiac defibrillator that is capable of simultaneous atrioventricular anti-tachycardia pacing bursts and detecting an earliest arriving electrical signal. The discrimination capability reduces the incidence of inappropriate shocks from dual-chamber implantable cardiac defibrillators to near zero and provides a method to differentially diagnose supraventricular tachycardia from ventricular tachycardia.

Advantages

1) Better descrimination between VT and SVT which decreases the rate of inappropriate shocks for SVT.

2) Provides a better understanding of the patient's AV and VA conduction system under various autonomic conditions (high sympathetic or vagal tones) over long periods of time.

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