Supraventricular tachycardia

Weekitt Kittisupamongkol

To the Editor: I read with interest the article by Medi and colleagues,[1] but note that the authors do not mention the effect of supraventricular tachycardia on atrial natriuretic peptide — a hormone that causes vasodilation and renal excretion of sodium and water. Plasma levels of atrial natriuretic peptide increase markedly during supraventricular tachycardia.[2] Pacing studies reveal that release of atrial natriuretic peptide occurs when the heart rate is greater than 120 beats/min.[3] The resultant diuresis would lead to an urge to urinate and, in a prolonged episode of tachycardia, to polyuria.[4,5]

Weekitt Kittisupamongkol, Research Associate
Research Affairs, Chulalongkorn University,
Faculty of Medicine, Bangkok, Thailand.
weekitti@gmail.com

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