



Conduction System

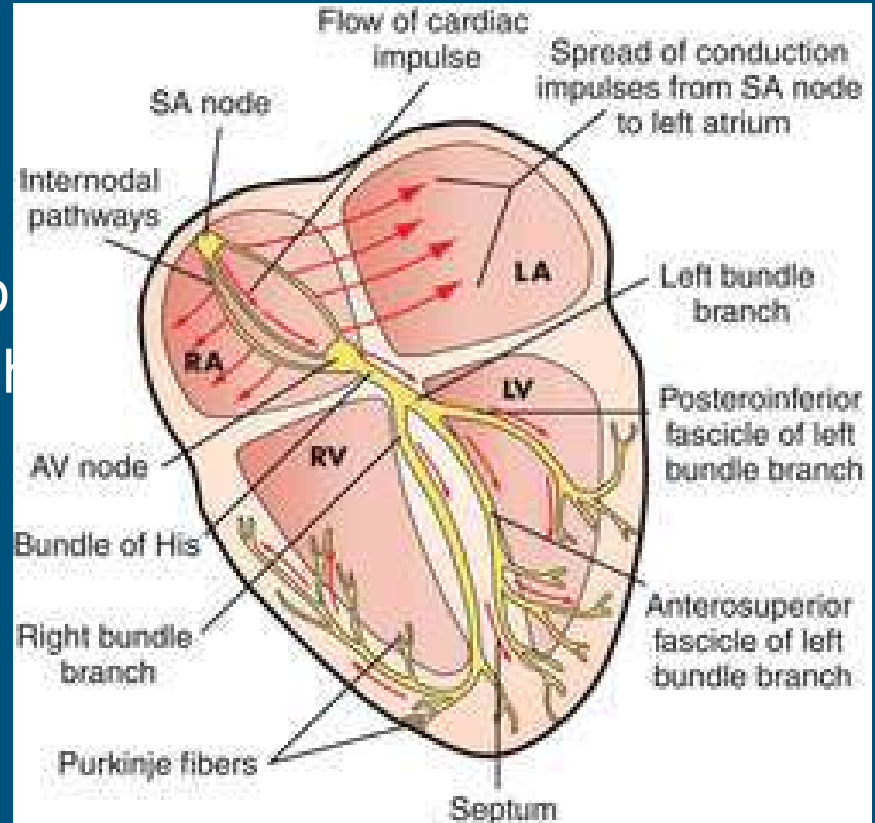


Warm-up: Review blood flow



Parts of heart conduction

- SA (sinoatrial) node
- AV (atrioventricular) node
- Bundle of His (atrioventricular bundle)
 - Left and right bundle branches
- Purkinje fibers



Helpful videos

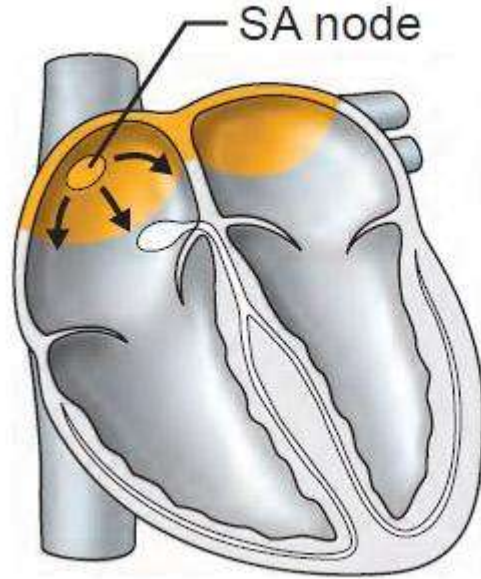
[conduction 1](#)

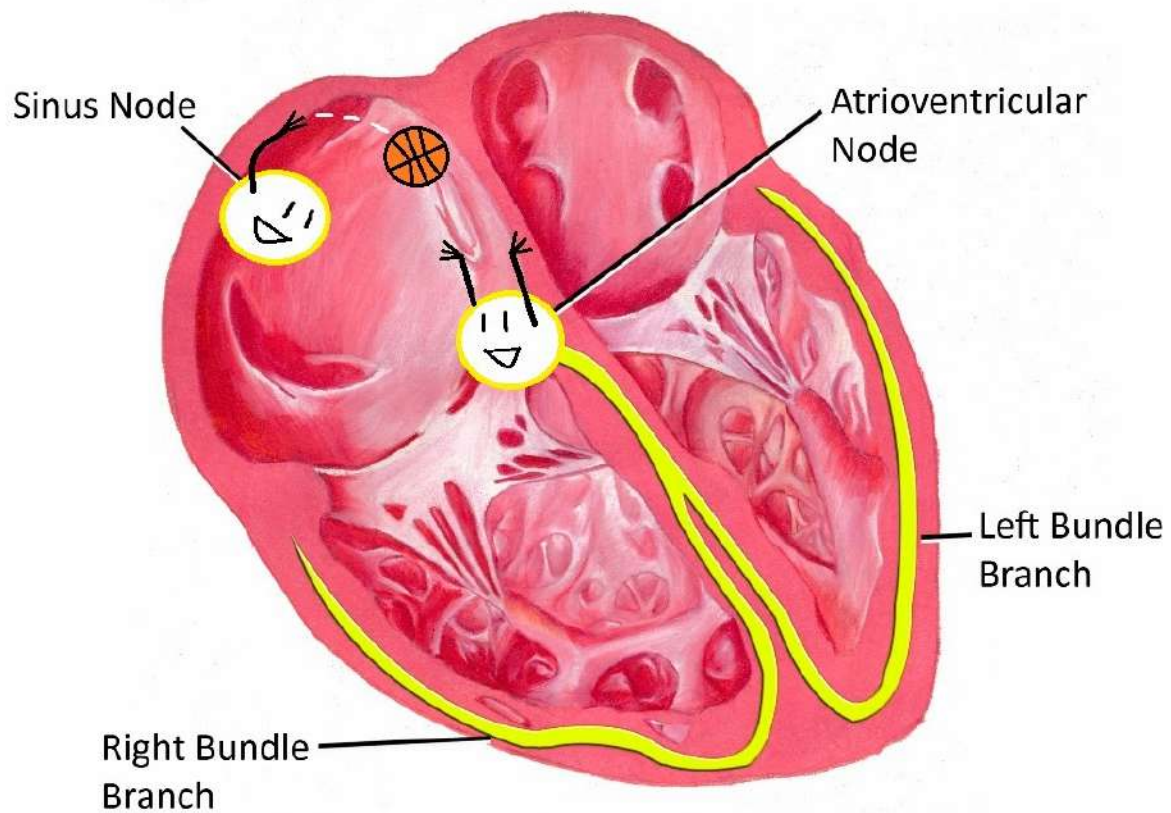
[conduction 2](#)

[best conduction video](#)

Sinoatrial node (SA)

- Found in the right atrium
- Known as the primary pacemaker
- Fires 60-100x/minute
- Pathway to the left atrium
via “Bachman’s bundle”



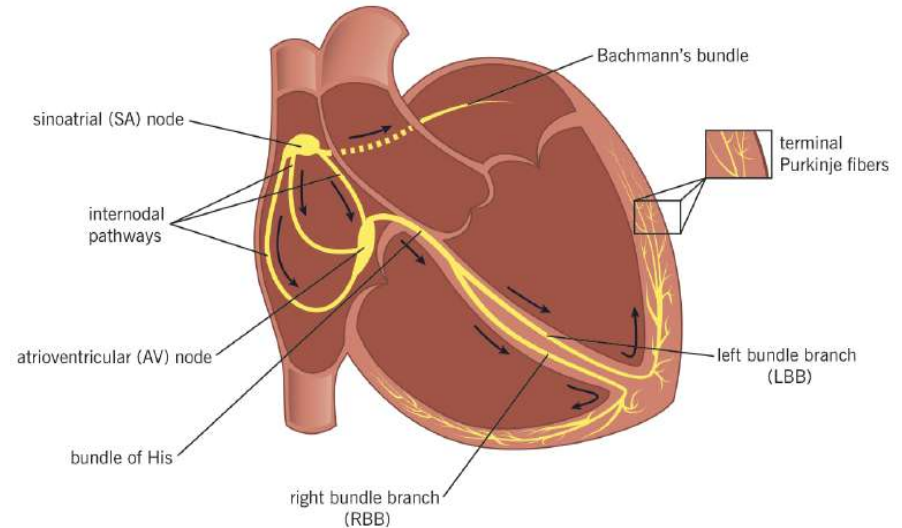


Atrioventricular node (AV)

- Only part that connects the atria to the ventricles
- The AV node connects to the bundle of His via the AV junction
 - The junction is the backup pacemaker if the SA node fails
- It “holds” the signal until the ventricles have completely filled with blood
- If the SA node fails, it will fire 40-60 time/min

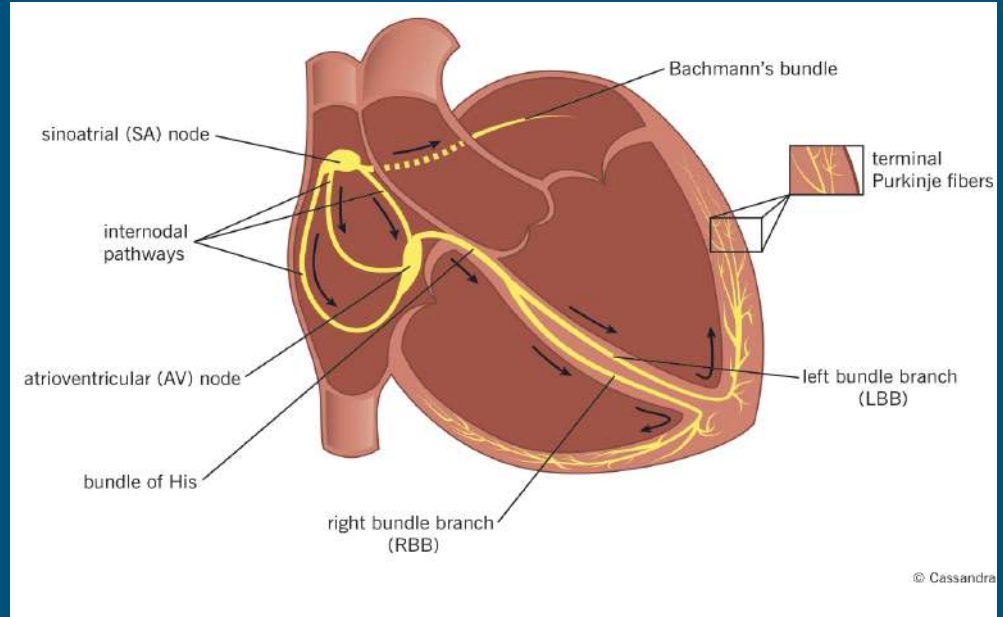
Bundle of His

- Also called interventricular bundle (on the septum)
- It transmits to the right and left bundle branches



Right bundle branch (RBB)

- Carries the electrical impulse from the AV node to Purkinje fibers of the RIGHT ventricle
- Supplied blood from the LAD

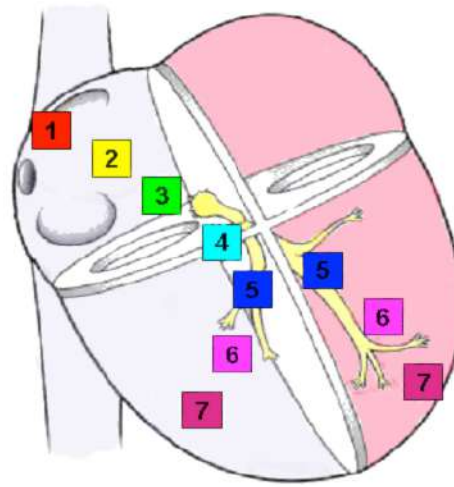


Left bundle branch (LBB)

- Also in the interventricular septum
- Carries from AV node to the Purkinje fibers of left ventricle
- Both bundle branches receive OXYGENATED blood from the LAD
- Left post fascicle receives additional blood supply from the RCA
 - Results in more resistant to ischemia

Purkinje Fibers

- Network of conduction pathways
- Traverse the surface of the ventricles and depolarizes them
- In absence of SA and AV nodes, the purkinje fibers will fire at a rate of 20-40 times/min



Normal Activation Sequence	Structure	Conduction velocity (m/sec)	Pacemaker rate (beats/min)
1	SA node	< 0.01	60 – 100
2	Atrial myocardium	1.0 – 1.2	None
3	AV node	0.02 – 0.05	40 – 55
4	Bundle of His	1.2 – 2.0	25 – 40
5	Bundle branches	2.0 – 4.0	25 – 40
6	Purkinje network	2.0 – 4.0	25 – 40
7	Ventricular myocardium	0.3 – 1.0	None

Exit: critical writing

If a patient has a dysfunctional SA node, what problems do you think your patient will present with?

Warm-up

Define:

1. Myocyte
2. Automaticity
3. Action Potential
4. Ectopic

Understanding Depolarization and Repolarization (helpful videos)

[Action potential of SA and AV nodes](#)

[review of action potentials](#)

[understanding sodium \(\$\text{Na}^+\$ \)/Potassium \(\$\text{K}^+\$ \) channels](#)

[New: cardiac action potential](#)

Depolarization

Loss of polarization; especially loss of the difference in charge between the inside and outside of the plasma membrane of a muscle or a nerve cell due to a change in permeability and migration of sodium ions to the interior

Repolarization

Restoration of the difference in charge between the inside and outside of the cell membrane following depolarization

