EKG Machine Setup

Sunnyvale HST

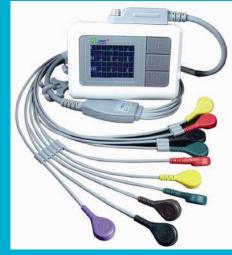
Types of EKG Machines





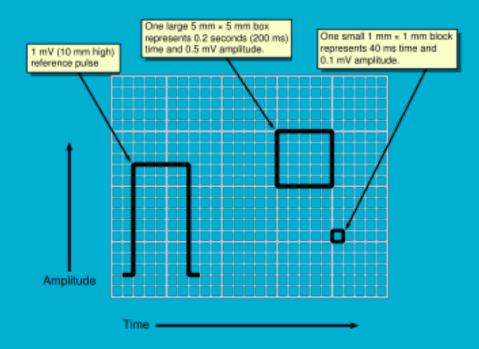




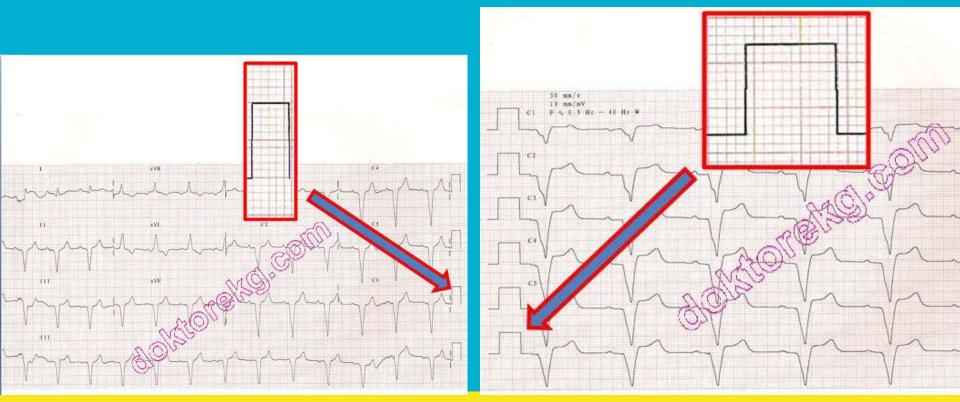


Paper Speed

- How quickly the tracing paper is fed through the EKG machine
- Typically 25mm/second or 50mm/second (for fast HR)
- Faster speed: spaces out waves, used when heart rate is fast
- Slower speed: waves are tighter together, may be used when HR is slower
- MUST verify the paper speed every time--should be located at the top of the EKG printout as calibration block



Paper Speed Example



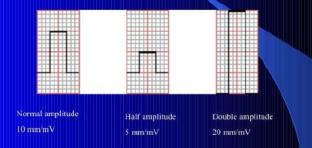
Gain

Relates to the amplitude of the waves

Represented by the height of the calibration box

Also noted as 1x, 2x, 3x at the top of the EKG tracing

STANDARDISATION ECG amplitude scale



EKG Equipment Maintenance

Perform daily user test according to user manual

Clean the machine, keypad, wires, and other components as recommended by the manufacturer

Properly connect device to a grounded power source

Know how to change the paper/change paper when it is low

Maintain a clean work environment (reduces potential for errors)

When the EKG is finished...

- Check the printout for artifact on all leads
- Check the printout printed each lead
- If certain leads did not print:
 - Verify that leads did not fall off/come loose from patient
 - Ensure secure connections between leads, electrodes and EKG machine
 - Ensure wires are plugged in to machine
 - Try changing the cables on the machine
 - If problem persists, call the manufacturer of the EKG device

Uploading/Mounting EKGs

Uploading EKG (attaching an EKG reading electronically to patient record)

- Make sure patient identifiers are entered and are correct
- Follow your institution's policy
- Ensure HIPAA regulations are met
- Mounting EKG (physically attaching an EKG reading to a patient record)
 - Ensure patient identifiers are entered and are correct
 - Ensure stickers/bar codes are correct before attaching
 - Follow your institution's policy
 - Ensure HIPAA regulations are met