

For the dog of this report, the exact role of these pathophysiologic processes in the development of the atrial flutter is unclear because after pericardiocentesis, all dogs undergo an increase in cardiac output as well as increases in atrial stretch and vagal tone to the heart. Therefore, it seems likely that the atrial flutter developed secondary to a combination of these processes with some possible influence of the right atrial mass as well as treatment with the lidocaine.

Treatment of atrial flutter in humans typically involves catheter ablation of the reentrant circuit because medical management of atrial flutter is often unsuccessful.^{2,3,11} A study¹² in dogs with experimentally induced atrial flutter revealed that administration of D-sotalol had the highest conversion rate of atrial flutter to normal sinus rhythm (14/15 dogs), followed by administration of quinidine (9/15) and lidocaine (2/10). Treatment with procainamide, digoxin, quinidine, and sotalol have been reported to successfully convert naturally occurring atrial flutter in dogs.^{13–15} To our knowledge, this is the first report of administration of lidocaine to convert atrial flutter to normal sinus rhythm in a dog. The optimal antiarrhythmic strategy for dogs with atrial flutter requires further investigation.

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Correction: ECG of the Month

In the ECG of the Month article published in the May 1, 2013, issue (*J Am Vet Med Assoc* 2013;242:1222–1224), the authors' names were listed incorrectly. The authors' names should have appeared as follows:

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