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The Impact of Clinical and Genetic Findings on The Management of Young Brugada Syndrome Patients

Antoine ANDORIN MD, Elijah R. BEHR MA, MBBS, MD, FRCP, Isabelle DENJOY MD, Lia CROTTI MD, PhD, Federica DAGRADI MD, Laurence JESEL MD, Frederic SACHER MD, Bertrand PETIT MD, Philippe MABO MD, Alice MALTRET MD, Leonie C.H. WONG MD, Bruno DEGAND MD, Géraldine BERTAUX MD, Philippe MAURY MD, Yves DULAC MD, Béatrice DELASALLE MS, Jean-Baptiste GOURRAUD MD, PhD, Dominique BABUTY MD, PhD, Nico A. BLOM MD, PhD, Peter J. SCHWARTZ MD, Arthur A. WILDE MD, PhD, Vincent PROBST MD, PhD



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The impact of clinical and genetic findings on the management of young Brugada

Syndrome patients

Antoine ANDORIN¹, MD, Elijah R. BEHR², MA, MBBS, MD, FRCP, Isabelle DENJOY³, MD, Lia CROTTI^{4,5}, MD, PhD, Federica DAGRADI⁴, MD, Laurence JESEL⁶, MD, Frederic SACHER⁷, MD, Bertrand PETIT⁸, MD, Philippe MABO⁹, MD, Alice MALTRET¹⁰, MD, Leonie C. H. WONG², MD, Bruno DEGAND¹¹, MD, Géraldine BERTAUX¹², MD, Philippe MAURY¹³, MD, Yves DULAC¹³, MD, Béatrice DELASALLE¹, MS, Jean-Baptiste GOURRAUD¹, MD, PhD Dominique BABUTY¹⁴ MD, PhD, Nico A. BLOM^{15,16}, MD, PhD, Peter J. SCHWARTZ⁴, MD, Arthur A. WILDE^{17,18}, MD, PhD and Vincent PROBST¹, MD, PhD.

¹ CHU Nantes, Institut du Thorax, Nantes, France

² Saint George's University of London, London, United Kingdom

³ AP-HP, Hôpital Bichat, Paris, France

⁴ Center for Cardiac Arrhythmias of Genetic Origin, IRCCS Istituto Auxologico Italiano, Milan, Italy

⁵ University of Pavia, Department of Molecular Medicine, Pavia, Italy

⁶ CHU Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France

⁷ CHU Bordeaux, Hôpital Cardiologique du Haut Lévêque, Bordeaux, France,

⁸ CHR-GHSR La Réunion, Saint Pierre, France

⁹ CHU Rennes, Hôpital Pontchaillou, Rennes, France

¹⁰ AP-HP, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, Paris, France

¹¹ CHU Poitiers, Poitiers, France

¹² CHU Dijon, Dijon, France

¹³ Hôpital des Enfants, Toulouse, France

¹⁴ CHU Tours, Hôpital Trousseau, Tours, France

¹⁵ Leiden University Medical Centre, Pediatric cardiology, Leiden, Netherlands,

¹⁶ Academic Medical Centre, Heart Centre, Dept of Pediatric cardiology, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

¹⁷ Academic Medical Centre, Heart Centre, Dept of Clinical and Experimental cardiology, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

¹⁸ Princess Al-Jawhara Al-Brahim Centre of Excellence in Research of Hereditary Disorders, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Short Title: Brugada Syndrome in the young: New data

Address for Correspondence: Antoine ANDORIN, Service de Cardiologie, CHU de Nantes - Hôpital Nord -Laennec, Bvd Jacques Monod, 44093 Nantes Cedex, France ; email : antoine.andorin@gmail.com ; tel +33 240165009 ; fax +33 240165024

Conflict of Interest : none

Abstract

Background: Brugada Syndrome (BrS) is an arrhythmogenic disease associated with sudden cardiac death (SCD) which seldom manifests or is recognized in childhood.

Objective: To describe the clinical presentation of pediatric BrS to identify prognostic factors for risk stratification, and propose a data-based approach management.

Methods: We studied 106 patients, under 19 years of age at diagnosis of BrS from 16 European hospitals.

Results: At diagnosis, BrS was spontaneous (n=36) or drug-induced (n=70). Mean age was 11.1±5.7 years and most patients were asymptomatic [family screening (n=67), incidental (n=13)] while 15 had experienced syncope, 6 aborted SCD or symptomatic ventricular

tachycardia and 5 others symptoms. During follow-up (median: 54 months), 10 patients had life-threatening arrhythmias (LTA) including 3 deaths. Six experienced syncope and 4 SVT. Fever triggered 27% of LTA events. An ICD was implanted in 22 with major adverse events in 41%. Of the 11 patients treated with hydroquinidine, 8 remained asymptomatic. Genetic testing was performed in 75 patients and *SCN5A* rare variants were identified in 58; 15 out of 32 (47%) tested probands were genotype positive. Nine out of the 10 patients with LTA underwent genetic testing and all were genotype positive whereas the 17 *SCN5A* negative patients remained asymptomatic. Spontaneous BrS type 1 ECG ($p=0.005$) and symptoms at diagnosis ($p=0.001$) were predictors of LTA. Time to the first LTA event was shorter in patients with both symptoms at diagnosis and spontaneous BrS type 1 ECG pattern ($p=0.006$).

Conclusions: Spontaneous type 1 ECG and symptoms at diagnosis are predictors of LTA events in the young affected by BrS. The management of BrS should become age-specific and prevention of SCD may involve genetic testing, aggressive use of anti-pyretics and quinidine with risk-specific consideration for the ICD.

Keys Words

Brugada syndrome; Pediatrics; Arrhythmia; Death sudden; Genetics

Abbreviations List

aSCD: aborted Sudden Cardiac Death

BrS: Brugada Syndrome

DNA: Deoxyribonucleic Acid

ECG: Electrocardiogram

EPS: Electrophysiological Study

HR: Hazard Ratio

LTA: Life Threatening Arrhythmias

ICD: Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator

NSVT: Non-Sustained Ventricular Tachycardia

PCR: Polymerase Chain Reaction

SCD: Sudden Cardiac Death

SVT: Supra Ventricular Tachycardia

VF: Ventricular Fibrillation

VT: Ventricular Tachycardia

Introduction

The Brugada Syndrome (BrS) is an arrhythmogenic disease¹, with a heterogeneous genetic background²⁻⁵, usually diagnosed during adulthood. Spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and symptoms are predictive risk factors for life-threatening arrhythmias (LTA) in adults² but, given the rarity of BrS in the pediatric population, risk stratification in the young is difficult.

In a Japanese study⁶ screening elementary school children, only 0.02% of 22,000 displayed a Brugada type related ECG with only one case of spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern. The largest pediatric BrS population studied so far included 30 European children and suggested that fever, symptoms and spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern were associated with LTA⁷. Drug-induced BrS in children has been reported⁸. In the largest series of BrS in adulthood², very few patients were below age 20.

Our aim was to describe the clinical presentation of BrS below age 19, to identify prognostic factors useful to improve risk stratification, and to propose a data-based approach to management of this specific population.

Methods

Clinical Data

Data on 106 patients below age 19 were collected from 16 European tertiary centers; 29 of them had been described originally in 2007⁷. Inclusion required a type 1 Brugada ECG pattern either spontaneously or after challenge with a sodium channel blocker (ajmaline or flecainide). Patients displaying only fever-induced Brugada type 1 ECG pattern were included in the spontaneous group. The type 1 ECG pattern was defined according to consensus guidelines as coved ST-elevation $\geq 0.2\text{mV}$ at its peak in at least one right precordial leads (V₁ to V₃ in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th intercostal spaces)^{9,10}.

Recorded data included: family history; past medical history; follow-up data from hospitalization reports, specialist and general cardiology clinical letters; and direct follow-up contact with patients. Syncope was considered of arrhythmic origin when a sudden loss of consciousness occurs without any other explanation.

Twelve-lead ECGs at baseline and, if needed, during drug-challenge, were performed according to the guidelines¹⁰. The 12-lead ECGs were first analyzed by an expert cardiologist in the referring hospital. ECG parameters were then collected at baseline and during drug challenge. Either intravenous ajmaline (1mg/kg body weight) or flecainide (2mg/kg body weight) were used depending on drug availability at the participating centers.

A baseline electrophysiological study (EPS) was performed in 22 patients at the clinical judgment of the expert cardiologist. A maximum of three ventricular extrastimuli with a minimum coupling interval of 200ms were delivered from at least one right ventricular site unless VF and/or sustained VT were induced at an earlier stage.

At diagnosis, patients were considered symptomatic if they had experienced aborted SCD (aSCD), ventricular arrhythmias [non-sustained VT (NSVT), VT or VF] or syncope.

During follow-up, patients were considered to have a LTA event if sudden death, documented VT or VF occurred or if an appropriate ICD shock was documented.

Genetic Analysis

Genetic testing was conducted according to guidelines and was approved by local ethics committees for research or regular clinical purposes. Informed written consent was obtained either from the parents or the patient (if above age 18). Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood leukocytes using standard protocols. All exons of *SCN5A* were amplified by PCR. PCR products were screened for an *SCN5A* mutation using denaturing high-performance liquid chromatography and/or direct DNA sequencing. In probands, all exons of *SCN5A* were screened whereas only the specific exon was sequenced if a rare variant had been identified previously in the family.

Statistical Analysis

Data were analyzed with SAS packages (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC). The Chi2 or Fisher exact tests were used to compare categorical variables. The t-test, Mann-Whitney, Kruskal Wallis tests were performed to test for differences in continuous parameters. ECG baseline data were corrected for age using linear regression model. Mean data were presented with standard deviation. Time data were presented with median [1st-3rd quartile]. Time from diagnosis to the first event was analyzed with Cox proportional hazards model. Hazards ratios (HR), confidence intervals (CI) and p-values were calculated in univariate analysis. Log-rank p-value was used if Cox model was not relevant. Multivariate analysis was adjusted on variable with p-value<0.15 in univariate analysis using Cox model. Survival curves were plotted by the Kaplan Meier method. A p-value <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

The authors had full access to and take full responsibility for the integrity of the data. All authors have read and agree to the manuscript as written.

Results

Population

A total of 106 patients from 91 families were enrolled. The mean age at diagnosis was 11.1 ± 5.7 years with a median [1st-3rd quartiles] follow-up of 54 [15-99] months which was longer (117 [87-142]; $p < 0.0001$) among the 29 children described in 2007⁷. Forty-six (43%) had a familial history of SCD. Sixty-seven children were diagnosed below 15 years of age, including 35 below age 8. Fifty-eight (55%) were male. No gender difference was observed under 15 years of age (sex ratio=1.03; 34M/33F) but there was a trend for males to be more common above age 15 (sex ratio=1.60; 24M/15F [$p=0.32$]).

Symptoms (supplemental material; Table 2): Twenty-one (20%) patients were considered symptomatic at diagnosis: 15 (14%) syncope; 4 aSCD; and 2 with VT. They were predominantly male (sex ratio=2.5). Five out of the 6 patients with aSCD or VT were under 5 years of age. Most patients were completely asymptomatic at diagnosis (67 [63%] diagnosed during familial screening and 13 [12%] incidentally). In addition, 2 patients who presented with supra-ventricular tachycardia (SVT) and 3 who experienced subjective symptoms (presyncope or palpitations) were considered asymptomatic at diagnosis for the purposes of our survival analyses.

ECG findings at diagnosis (supplemental material; Table 3): Thirty-six (34%) patients presented with a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern, of whom 14 (39%) were symptomatic at diagnosis. Among these 36 patients, 7 displayed the type 1 ECG pattern only during a fever episode (*Figure 1*). The 70 (66%) remaining patients presented with a type 1 pattern after provocation testing, of whom only 7 (10%) were symptomatic at diagnosis. Males were more common in the spontaneous group (sex ratio= 2.6) whereas females were more common in the drug-induced group (sex ratio=0.84 [$p=0.013$]). A spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern was significantly associated with male gender ($p=0.013$) and symptoms at diagnosis ($p=0.0007$).

Genetics (Table 1): Seventy-five patients, belonging to 62 families, underwent *SCN5A* analysis. Thirty-two (43%) were pediatric probands in whom all exons were tested: fifteen (47%) tested positive. In 43 patients, direct sequencing was performed to detect the *SCN5A* mutation identified in the family. Overall 58/75 (77%) were genotype positive (*Supplemental material Table 1*).

Drug Challenge/EPS

Drug challenges were performed in 70 (66%) patients with ajmaline (n= 42) or flecainide (n=27; unknown=1). Median ages at challenges were 14.3 ± 3.7 years for ajmaline and 13.4 ± 4.5 years for flecainide ($p=0.38$). Two patients (15.6 and 16.7 years of age both *SCN5A* positive) developed NSVT for which no specific therapy was needed. No other adverse events were observed. ECG parameters at baseline, before and during drug challenge are summarized in *Supplemental material; Table 4*. EPS were performed in 22 (21%) patients, nine of whom were symptomatic at diagnosis, and were reported as “positive” or VF inducible in 9 (41%).

Treatment

An ICD was implanted in 22 (21%) patients, of whom 18 received an endocardial ICD and 3 a system with an epicardial ventricular lead and a subcutaneous or intercostal coil. Eighteen ICDs were implanted as primary prevention whilst four patients were implanted after an aSCD or VT. Four pacemakers were implanted in *SCN5A* positive patients with symptomatic sinus node dysfunction.

Hydroquinidine was started in 11 (10%) patients: 9 (8%) with a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern; and 8 following arrhythmic events. Blood concentrations of quinidine were only available in 3 patients, and in the therapeutic range as defined by the local laboratory. No side effects were reported for hydroquinidine.

Follow-up

During a median follow-up of 54 [15-99] months 10 (9%) patients had 15 LTA events. Fever was associated with 4 (27%) of these events. Three patients died, 5 suffered VT and 2 both VT and VF. The mean age at diagnosis was 6.5 ± 7.0 years with a median follow-up of 42 [6-73] months (*Table 2*). Two had a drug-induced type 1 ECG pattern at diagnosis. Seven (70%) were symptomatic at diagnosis [aSCD (n=3), syncope (n=3) and VT (n=1)]. Nine (90%) carried a *SCN5A* mutation.

A LTA during follow-up was experienced by 2 out of 9 (22%) patients with a positive EPS, and by 1 of 13 (8%) patients who had a negative EPS ($p=0.85$). Two (11%) from the 18 primary prevention ICD patients had appropriate ICD shocks. Eight (73%) of the 11 patients receiving hydroquinidine remained free from LTA after initiation of therapy.

Another 6 (6%) were syncopal without documented arrhythmia. Four (4%) had SVT: two atrial flutter treated by catheter ablation and two atrial tachycardia. A flow-chart of clinical presentation and follow-up is presented in *Figure 2* and a clinical description of LTA events during follow-up can be found in *supplementary data*.

ICD complications

Serious ICD-related complications occurred in 9 (41%) of the 22 patients including lead failures (n=4), inappropriate shocks (n=4), endocarditis with re-implantation (n=2) and hemothorax (n=1). Two patients had both lead failure and inappropriate shocks or endocarditis. All complications were related to endocardial devices except the hemothorax, which appeared in the early post-operative period after epicardial ventricular lead implantation.

Predictive factors for LTA

Nine of the 10 patients who experienced LTA were *SCN5A* carriers (*Table 3*), the remaining patient having not undergone genetic screening. LTA did not occur in the 17 genotype-negative patients.

In a univariate analysis, a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern (HR=9.1; CI [1.9-42.96]; $p=0.005$) and symptoms at diagnosis (HR=9.65; CI [2.48-37.49]; $p=0.001$) were predictive of a shorter time to first LTA event whereas a family history of SCD ($p=0.28$), gender ($p=0.72$) and positive *SCN5A* ($p=0.08$) genotype were not (*Table 3*). Due to the low number of patients undergoing EPS (n=22), no statistical difference could be demonstrated between patients with positive or negative EPS. The presence of an ICD ($p=0.003$) was associated with LTA events but denoted an already high-risk subgroup and could not be considered a predictive factor.

The *Figure 3* shows the time to first LTA event in the following groups: symptomatic at diagnosis (S+); asymptomatic at diagnosis (S-); spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern (ECG+) and drug induced type 1 ECG pattern (ECG-) (*global p-value=0.006*).

Following univariate analysis, we divided patients in different groups (*Table 3*): group S+/ECG+ (n=14); group S+/ECG- (n=7); group S-/ECG+ (n=22) and group S-/ECG- (n=63). These four groups showed differences in time to first LTA event (*global p-value=0.006*; *Figure 4*). Group S+/ECG+ had a shorter time to first LTA event compared to group S-/ECG- (HR=31; CI [3.8-265]; $p=0.001$). No difference was found when making other comparisons. In a second univariate analysis, we divided the spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern group into two groups: type 1 ECG pattern only with fever and other spontaneous type 1 ECG patterns. Whilst there was no difference between them in time to first LTA event ($p=0.08$) both of these groups showed a shorter time to LTA event compared to the drug-induced group (*global p-value=0.002*).

Multivariate analyses were adjusted for age and ICD. In a first multivariate analysis, a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern (HR=5.9; CI [1.2-30.4]; $p=0.03$) and symptoms at diagnosis (HR=4.7; CI [1.2-19.4]; $p=0.03$) were predictive of LTA events.

In a second multivariate analysis of time to first LTA event, a difference was found between the four groups (*global p-value*=0.006). Group S+/ECG+ had a shorter time to first LTA event compared to group S-/ECG- (HR=28.9; CI [3.4-242.6]; $p=0.002$). No difference was found when making other comparisons.

Discussion

Three of the 8 patients reported in the first description of BrS¹ were under 8 years of age. However, few data are available on the natural history in children^{7,8,11} and the management of this special population has been inconsistent¹². This study represents the largest series of pediatric BrS patients described as yet. As in the adult population, we show that a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and symptoms at diagnosis are predictive of a shorter time to first LTA event.

Brugada syndrome in children

Our cohort showed no significant gender difference in BrS carriers up to age 15. A trend in male predominance then develops after this age and presumably continues into adulthood. This reflects the likely role of androgens in BrS, which may involve circadian rhythm of testosterone release^{13,14}.

More than half of our population was diagnosed during family screening using sodium channel blocker challenge. Recently, Conte et al⁸ reported their experience of 40 positive sodium channel blocker challenges in children below age 12. During a follow-up of 83 months, only 1 arrhythmic event occurred whereas 10% of tests were complicated by arrhythmia. In our experience this risk was lower (2/70; 2 NSVT in 2 *SCN5A* carriers among

70 tests). Their use at a very young age appears questionable, however, due to the low risk of LTA in asymptomatic patients without a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and the potential arrhythmogenic risk and psychological impact of provocation tests¹⁵.

Fever is known to associate with arrhythmic events¹⁶ and unmask the type 1 ECG pattern¹⁷, which is 20 times more common in febrile patients¹⁸. In this study, fever triggered up to a quarter of all arrhythmic events. Dumaine et al¹⁹ have demonstrated a diminished inward current through mutant cardiac sodium channels due to changes in biophysical properties at higher temperatures. Despite this evidence the mechanism of fever-induced BrS remains incompletely understood. Early childhood might be a period of high risk because of the frequent occurrence of fever. Even if the rate of arrhythmic events during fever is unpredictable we still advise aggressive treatment with antipyretics. We also advise the recording of a standard ECG when BrS children are admitted to hospital with a fever. If the ECG is abnormal, they should be monitored until their ECG returns to its usual baseline.

We chose to include in the same group patients who displayed a type 1 ECG pattern spontaneously or only with fever due to a lack of power resulting from low numbers. These 2 subgroups may not, however, have the same arrhythmic risk and need to be evaluated separately in a larger cohort.

SCN5A mutation status and its implications

SCN5A mutations were found in a higher proportion of patients than expected. In particular we found a 47% prevalence of *SCN5A* mutations in index patients, more than double that seen in adults with BrS²⁰. Given the important role of conduction defects and increasing age in the pathophysiology of the disease^{21,22}, one can speculate that the impairment of conduction associated with *SCN5A* mutations facilitates the development of BrS in the pediatric population.

All 9 genotyped patients who experienced LTA had a *SCN5A* mutation, but 7 also displayed a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern. By contrast, none of the 17 genotype-negative patients, suffered a LTA event. Thus, in our cohort the presence of a *SCN5A* mutation may be necessary, but is insufficient on its own for the development of LTA^{23,24}. These results should, however, be treated cautiously due to the low number of patients and the high prevalence of *SCN5A* mutations. Further studies are needed to assess if the presence or absence of a *SCN5A* mutation may be useful for risk assessment in the young.

Therapy in the young

An ICD was implanted in 22 patients with a high subsequent complication rate (41%). This high risk for adverse events is probably compounded in this young population by rapid physical growth and a high level of physical activity. The incidence may be decreased by using the subcutaneous ICD or subcutaneous coil²⁵. In a small and selected group of paediatric patients, Pettit et al.²⁶ suggests a lower incidence of inappropriate shocks or reoperations with a subcutaneous ICD compared to a transvenous ICD.

Hydroquinidine may be an attractive alternative, and most of our patients treated with hydroquinidine remained asymptomatic. In the adult population hydroquinidine tends to be a safe alternative^{28,29} but given the small number of patients and the relatively short follow-up in this cohort, larger-scale studies are needed.

Nonetheless we advise consideration of ICD implantation or quinidine therapy in patients with a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and symptoms. The prognosis of the asymptomatic patients as well as patients presented with a drug-induced type 1 ECG pattern seems to be good. Thus those with drug-induced type 1 ECG pattern without symptoms should be only considered for clinical follow-up. There is more uncertainty when symptoms or a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern are present. Therapy should then be discussed on a case by case basis. Fig. 5 shows a flow-chart of our recommended approach.

Conclusion

A spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and symptoms at diagnosis are predictive of a shorter time to first LTA event in the young. The risk of LTA is especially high in patients with both symptoms and a spontaneous type 1 ECG. These patients need to be considered for ICD implantation and/or chronic therapy with quinidine or hydroquinidine. Patients with a drug-induced type 1 ECG and without symptoms have a low arrhythmic risk and a good prognosis. In this population, regular clinical follow-up without specific treatment seems to be sufficient.

In asymptomatic patients with a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and in symptomatic patients without a spontaneous pattern, the risk appears to be relatively low and the decision to eventually implant an ICD or to introduce hydroquinidine therapy needs to be discussed case by case in highly experienced centers. The absence of a *SCN5A* mutation may then denote a lower risk of events and might be taken into account. Fever remains the most important trigger for LTA events and parents need to be advised to treat it aggressively with anti-pyretics.

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Clinical Perspectives

This study provides evidence-based indications useful for the cardiologist who may face difficult management decisions when dealing with a Brugada syndrome (BrS) in children. As suspected, a spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern and symptoms at diagnosis are predictive of life-threatening arrhythmia (LTA) events in children affected by BrS. Patients with both are at the high risk and need to be considered for ICD implantation. Asymptomatic patients with a drug-induced type 1 ECG pattern have a good prognosis and regular clinical follow-up seems to be sufficient. Other clinical situations need to be considered on a case by case basis in experienced centers and there may be a role for hydroquinidine as well as aggressive anti-pyretic therapy. *SCN5A* negative genotype may be associated with less LTA events, but this remains to be proven. Given the rarity of BrS in the young, larger studies are required to confirm and then apply these results in daily clinical practice. As undertaken for BrS in adults, specialized centers need to collaborate to evaluate larger cohorts in the future.

Figures Titles and Legends

Figure 1: 12-lead ECG at baseline (up) and during a febrile episode (down) in a 2.5 years old female. During fever, ST-segment elevation occurred with coved-type morphology in lead V₁ and V₂, leading to diagnosis of BrS.

Figure 2: Flow-chart of patients clinical characteristics and events during follow-up.

Figure 3: Kaplan-Meier curves of LTA events during follow-up in four different groups (*global p-value* =0.006). Patients with spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern (ECG+) OR symptoms (S+) at diagnosis had a shorter time to first LTA event.

Figure 4: Kaplan-Meier curves of LTA events during follow-up in four different groups (*global p-value* =0.006). Patients with spontaneous type 1 ECG pattern (ECG+) AND symptoms (S+) at diagnosis had a shorter time to first LTA event.

Figure 5: Flow-chart for management of the young with a known BrS in the family.

Tables

Table 1: Patients Characteristics According to their *SCN5A* status (n=75)

	Positive (n=58)	Negative (n=17)	<i>p-value</i>
Male, n (%)	33 (57)	10 (59)	0.78
Age at diagnosis, y	9.8 ± 6.0	12.7 ± 4.4	0.02
Symptoms at diagnosis, n (%)	10 (17)	3 (18)	1
Follow-up, mo	63 [20-102]	66 [24-117]	0.70
LTA events during follow-up, n (%)	9 (16)	0 (0)	0,08*
Probands, n (%)	15 (26)	16 (94)	<0.0001
Spontaneous Type 1 ECG Pattern	20 (34)	8 (47)	0.40
Familial history of SCD, n (%)	25 (43)	6 (35)	0.78
Baseline ECG parameters			
Heart Rate (bpm)	83 ± 23	85 ± 20	0.06
PR (ms)	171 ± 34	155 ± 20	0.01
QRS (ms)	103 ± 16	94 ± 14	0.34
QTc Bazett (ms)	431 ± 33	402 ± 34	0.15
Maximum ST Elevation (mm)	1.8 ± 2.0	2.7 ± 2.6	0.03

ICD, n (%)	14 (24)	3 (18)	0.75
Quinidine, n (%)	8 (14)	2 (12)	0.83
EPS performed, n (%)	14 (24)	6 (35)	0.47
<i>positive, n=20</i>	7 (12)	1 (6)	0.32

* *log-rank p-value*

Table 2: Patients Characteristics According to LTA Events during Follow-up and Predictive Factors for LTA in Univariate Analysis (n=106)

	LTA events (n=10)	No LTA event (n=96)	HR [CI 95 %]	<i>p-value</i>
Male, n (%)	6 (60)	52 (54)	0.79 [0.22-2.81]	0.72
Age at diagnosis, y	6.5 ± 7.0	11.6 ± 5.4	0.86 [0.76-0.96]	0.009
Age at diagnosis < 15y, n (%)	7 (70)	60 (62)	0.74 [0.19-2.89]	0.66
Follow-up, mo	42 [6-73]	55 [15-103]	-	-
Symptoms at diagnosis, n (%)	7 (70)	14 (15)	9.65 [2.481-37.49]	0.001
Spontaneous Type 1 ECG Pattern (%)	8 (80)	28 (29)	9.1 [1.9-42.96]	0.005
Familial history of SCD, n (%)	3 (30)	43 (45)	2.12 [0.55-8.21]	0.28
ICD, n (%)	5 (50)	17 (18)	3.85 [1.11-13.36]	0.003
SCN5A mutations, n (%)	9 (90)	49 (51)	-	0.08*
* <i>log-rank p-value</i>				

Table 3: Patients Characteristics According to Clinical Presentation and Type 1 ECG
(n=106)

	Symptomatic & spontaneous	Symptomatic & drug induced	Asymptomatic & spontaneous	Asymptomatic & drug induced	<i>p-value</i>
	Group S+/E+ (n=14)	Group S+/E- (n=7)	Group S-/E+ (n=22)	Group S-/E- (n=63)	
Male, n (%)	10 (71)	5 (71)	16 (73)	27 (43)	0.03
Age at diagnosis, y	6.0 ± 5.4	14.3 ± 5.6	7.5 ± 5.5	13.1 ± 4.6	< 0.04
Follow-up, mo	70 [5-125]	91 [23-138]	46 [8-106]	47 [18-93]	0.83
LTA event during follow-up, n (%)	6 (43)	1 (14)	2 (9)	1 (2)	0.006*
Familial history of SCD, n (%)	2 (14)	4 (57)	7 (32)	33 (52)	0.041
Baseline ECG parameters					
<i>Heart Rate (bpm)</i>	89 ± 25	66 ± 13	91 ± 22	78 ± 18	0.22
<i>PR (ms)</i>	176 ± 25	174 ± 25	161 ± 30	162 ± 33	0.38
<i>QRS (ms)</i>	108 ± 19	99 ± 19	105 ± 22	96 ± 14	0.10
<i>QTc Bazett (ms)</i>	423 ± 29	400 ± 41	423 ± 29	420 ± 36	0.48
<i>Maximum ST Elevation (mm)</i>	3.8 ± 2.1	1.9 ± 1.2	3.9 ± 2.2	0.6 ± 0.9	< 0.001
ICD, n (%)	5 (36)	3 (43)	5 (23)	9 (14)	0.13
Quinidine, n (%)	5 (36)	0	4 (18)	2 (3)	0.003
Genetic test performed, n (%)	11 (79)	2 (29)	17 (77)	45 (71)	0.03
SCN5A mutations, n (%)	9 (64)	1 (14)	11 (50)	37 (59)	0.15
EPS performed, n (%)	7 (50)	2 (29)	3 (14)	10 (16)	0.25
<i>positive, n=22</i>	2 (14)	1 (14)	1 (5)	5 (8)	0.91

* *p-value* calculated by cox model

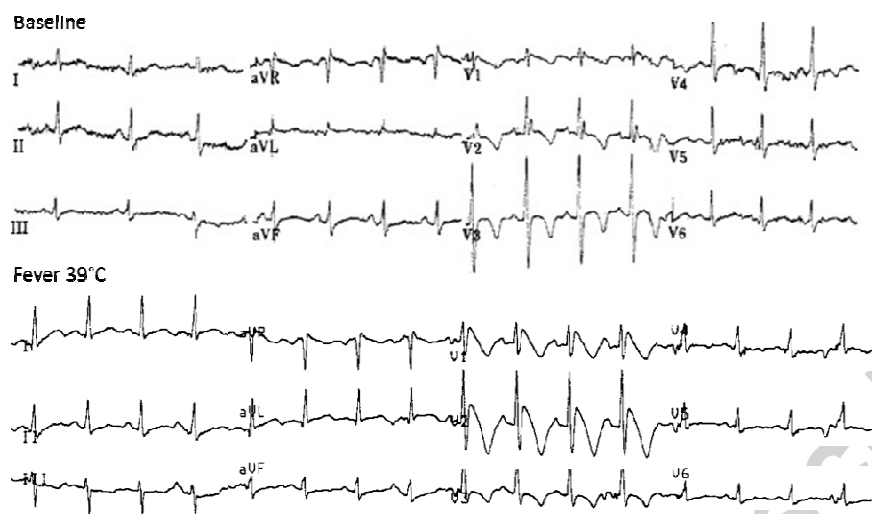
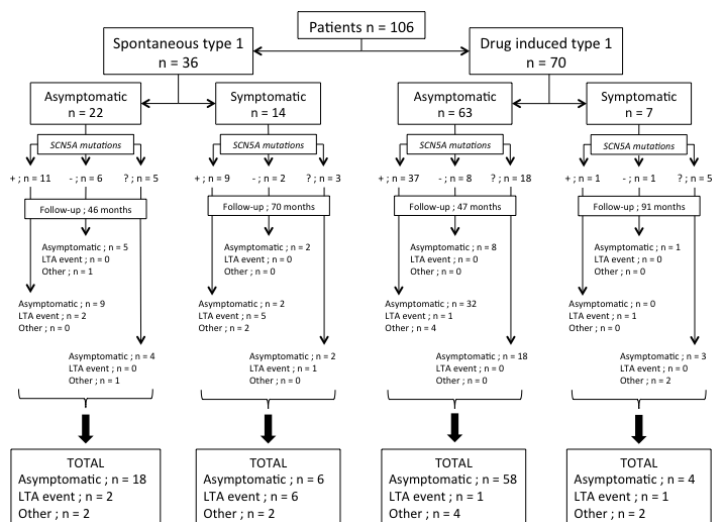
Figures**Figure 1**

Figure 2



ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Figure 3

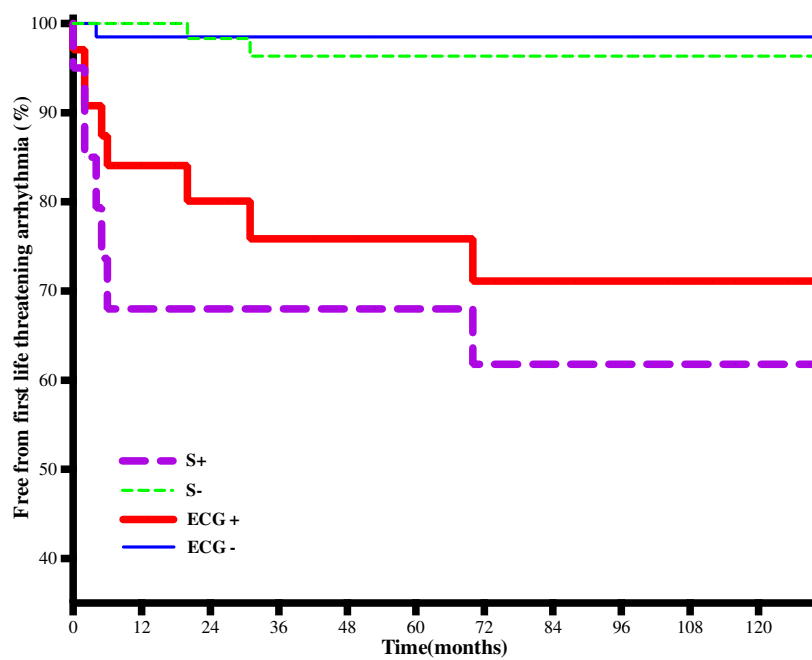
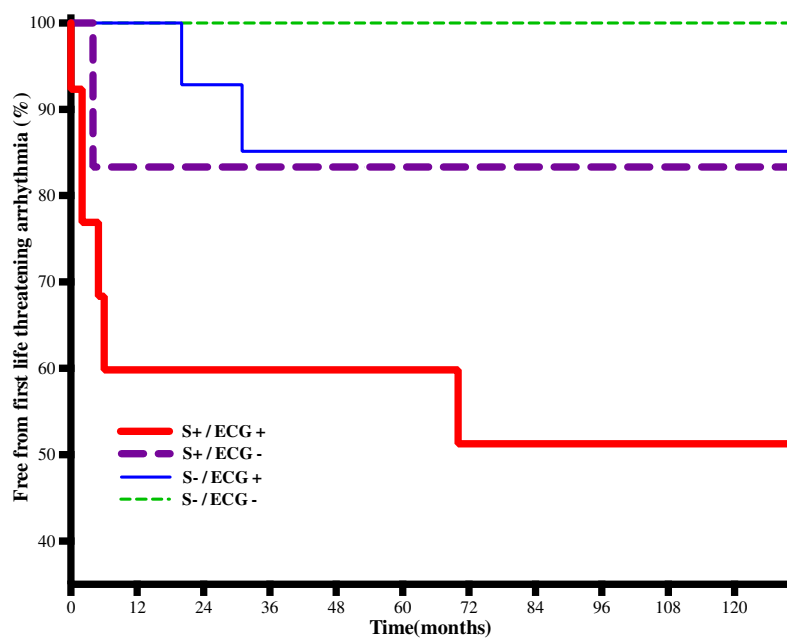
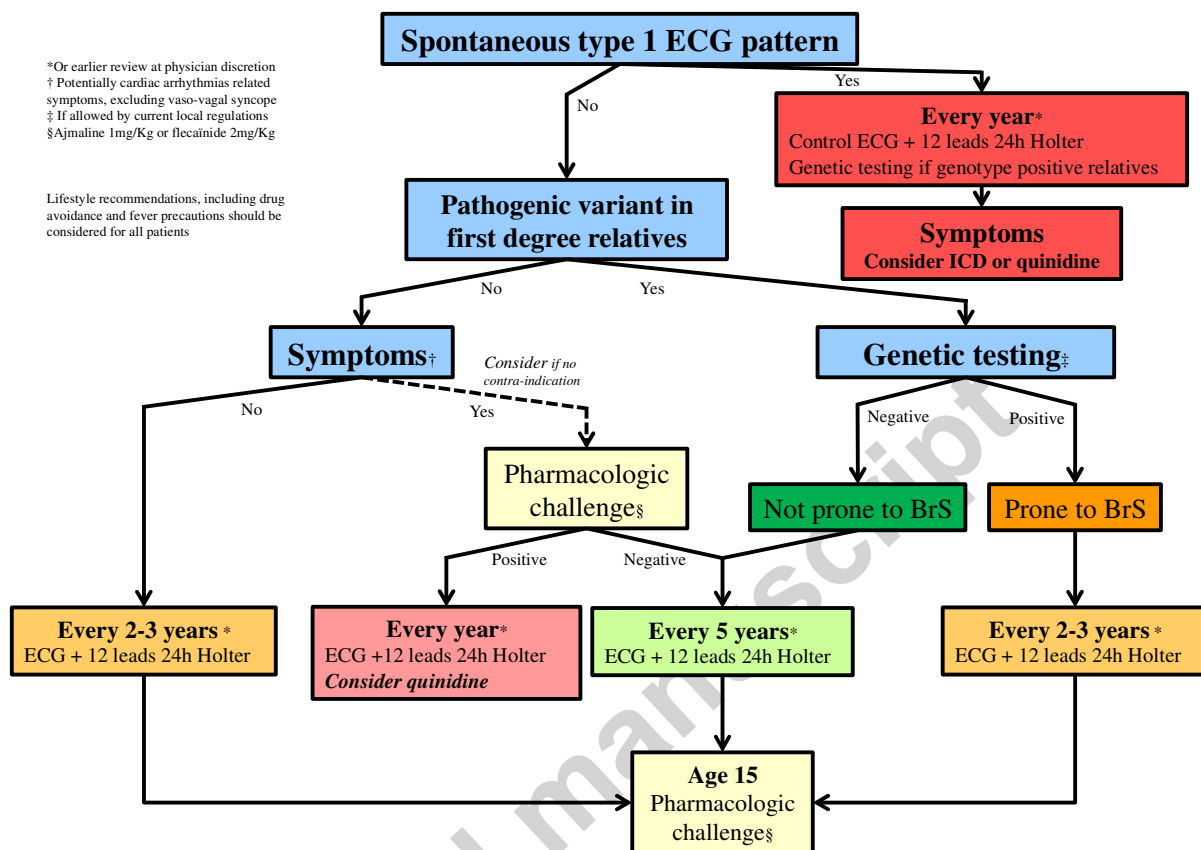


Figure 4



<i>n</i> =106	<i>months</i>					
	0	12	24	60	96	120
<i>S+/ECG+</i> = Symptomatic & Spontaneous Type 1	14	6	6	6	3	2
<i>S+/ECG-</i> = Symptomatic & Drug induced Type 1	7	5	5	4	3	2
<i>S-/ECG+</i> = Asymptomatic & Spontaneous Type 1	22	22	13	11	6	3
<i>S-/ECG-</i> = Asymptomatic & Drug induced Type 1	63	63	63	63	63	63

Figure 5



Management of the Young with a known BrS in the Family