

Chapter 11

AVNRT Cryoablation and Comparison with RF Ablation

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KEY POINTS

- Cryolesions are smaller and show less thrombus than radiofrequency (RF) lesions when a similar tip size is used.
- Cryomapping is possible only at -30°C ; deeper temperatures cause persistent damage.
- Acute results are comparable with both techniques; atrioventricular nodal reentry tachycardia (AVNRT) can be effectively and safely ablated with cryoenergy.
- Collateral damage such as permanent atrioventricular (AV) block is nonexistent with cryoablation and 4-mm tips, if mapping at -30°C is performed before ablation.
- Long-term results of cryoablation in AVNRT are as good as RF results.
- Cryoablation allows a safe approach in noninducible patients.