


## EKGs and Ecgs (Speedy Study Guides)

Speedy Study Guides

# EKGs & ECGs



An electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) is a test that checks for problems with the electrical activity of your heart. An EKG translates the heart's electrical activity into line tracings on paper. The spikes and dips in the line tracings are called waves.

**Why It Is Done**

An electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) is done to:

- Check the heart's electrical activity
- Find the cause of unexplained chest pain, which could be caused by a heart attack, inflammation of the sac surrounding the heart (pericarditis), or arrhythmia
- Find the cause of symptoms of heart disease, such as shortness of breath, dizziness, fainting, or rapid, irregular heartbeats (palpitations)
- Find out if the walls of the heart chambers are too thick (hypertrophied)
- Check how well medicines are working and whether they are causing side effects that affect the heart
- Check how well mechanical devices that are implanted in the heart, such as pacemakers, are working to control a normal heartbeat
- Check the health of the heart when other diseases or conditions are present, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cigarette smoking, diabetes, or a family history of early heart disease.

**Electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) results**

<b>Normal:</b>	The heart beats in a regular rhythm, usually between 60 and 100 beats per minute. The tracing looks normal.
<b>Abnormal:</b>	The heart beats too slow (such as less than 60 beats per minute). The heart beats too fast (such as more than 100 beats per minute). The heart rhythm is not regular. The tracing does not look normal.

**Terminology Used in EKG/ECG**

- Amplifier**- enlarges the heart's electricity
- Asystole**- flatline
- Augmented voltage -vV**
- AVF**- Augmented voltage of foot
- AVL**- Augmented voltage of left
- AVR**- augmented voltage of right
- Chest electrodes**- 6
- Depolarization**- contraction
- EKG clip/ alligator clips**- snaps on the electrodes during EKG
- Electrodes**- Sticky tabs attached to skin. Has electrolytes
- Electrodes**- 10
- Galvanometer**- converts heart's electricity to ECG machine
- LCD screen**- area where patient's data is entered
- MAL**- Mid axillary line
- P-Atrial depolarization**
- QRS**- Ventricle depolarization
- Repolarization**- relaxation
- Sa**- node natural pacemaker of the heart
- Stylus**- pen like device used to record the activity of the heart
- T**- ventricle repolarization

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### Reviews

*This is the very best pdf i actually have study right up until now. I could possibly comprehend almost everything using this created e book. Your daily life span will be enhance as soon as you total looking over this publication.*  
**(Prof. Johnson Rutherford)**

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