

## Approach to Tachycardia

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- 1) Is this a sinus rhythm with a P wave before every QRS (sinus tachycardia)
- 2) Is this a narrow regular rhythm
  - SVT – tx with vagal or adenosine
  - Orthodromic WPW - *tx with adenosine*
  - Atrial flutter – *tx by slowing AV conduction (diltiazem)*
- 3) Is this a narrow irregular tachycardia
  - Almost always a-fib – *tx by slowing AV conduction (diltiazem)*
- 4) Is this a wide and regular tachycardia
  - V-Tach until proven otherwise – *tx with cardioversion*
  - Antidromic WPW - *tx with adenosine*
  - Any narrow complex tachycardia + a bundle branch block
- 5) Is this a wide and irregular tachycardia
  - Most commonly a-fib with a bundle branch block
  - Atrial fibrillation with antidromic WPW - *tx with adenosine*

### Quick Facts

- Unstable patients with non sinus tachycardia NEED CARDIOVERSION
- In sinus tachycardia find and treat the underlying problem
- Aberrancy describes abnormal intraventricular conduction (a bundle branch block)