intermediate dopamine tone in a medial–front–striatal activation system\(^2\) and by inhibition of the right hemisphere promoting dominance of the left hemisphere associated with cardiac arrhythmia, vasoconstriction\(^3\) and violence\(^4\). It is also supported by a report that anger attacks in eating disorders manifested by impulsiveness, a surge of autonomic arousal including such symptoms as tachycardia, sweating, flushing, and a feeling of being out of control, may reflect central hyposerotonergic function\(^5\). These findings prompt an evaluation of the neurochemistry\(^6\) of drug therapy designed to reduce cardiac mortality and alter the circadian pattern\(^7\).

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References


The human and feline sinus node

We read with great interest the splendidly performed study by Alings and his colleagues in the November 1995 issue of the Journal\(^1\). There must be some mistake with the depiction of the sinus node shown in Figure 1. The authors state, quite rightly, that the node is located 'at the junction of the vena cava superior and the right atrium, beneath the epicardium of the sulcus terminalis'. Their drawing, however, bears no resemblance to this description. We have redrawn the figure to show the site of the node discovered by Keith and Flack (their reference\(^2\)), and also as demonstrated by our own reconstructions\(^3\). It should be noted, nonetheless, that in 10% of our material the node extended anteriorly to sit in horseshoe fashion astride the cavoatrial junction. It is crucial that this discrepancy be clarified, since any who search for the site of the node, as depicted by Alings et al.\(^4\), are going to be very disappointed. This is the more surprising since the remainder of their paper shows that these authors are experts of the highest order with regard to the histological structure of the node. Yet another indication of the importance of gross morphology being ignored?

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References


A reply

We thank Drs Anderson and Ho for their interest in our study.

Ninety years after its first description, the projection of the only microscopically recognizable

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