

- **Atrial Pacing**



- Pacemaker stimulus followed by an atrial depolarization.
- If the rate of the intrinsic rhythm falls below that of the pacemaker, atrial paced beats occur and will be separated by a constant A-A interval.

- Appropriately, sensed intrinsic atrial activity (P wave) resets the pacemaker-timing clock: after an interval of time (A-A interval) with no sensed atrial activity, an atrial paced beat occurs. Remember, atrial pacing is present when an atrial spike captures the atrium, but it does not imply that pacing is exclusively from a single-chamber atrial pacemaker. Atrial pacing with a normal PR interval and QRS activation (no ventricular pacing) may also occur with a dual-chamber pacemaker (leads in both the atrium and ventricle) when the PR interval is shorter than the programmed A-V interval and ventricular activation occurs naturally (before the programmed time for ventricular pacing).

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