Data supplement 3

original papers

What clinicians need to be able to do – interpreting electrocardiograms

1. Measure heart rate: identify the RR interval (in large squares of 0.2s) 300 divided by RR interval gives heart rate.
2. Mark out QT interval: from the beginning to the Q wave to the end of the T wave. QT interval=number of small squares/25 (or number of large squares/5)
3. If machine has rate and QT right, then QTc is generally reliable. QTc calculation is done in various ways, but Bazett's formula is $QT/\sqrt{RR}$ (square root of RR interval)
4. Consensus is emerging of a normal QTc upper limit of 450 ms for males and 470 ms for females