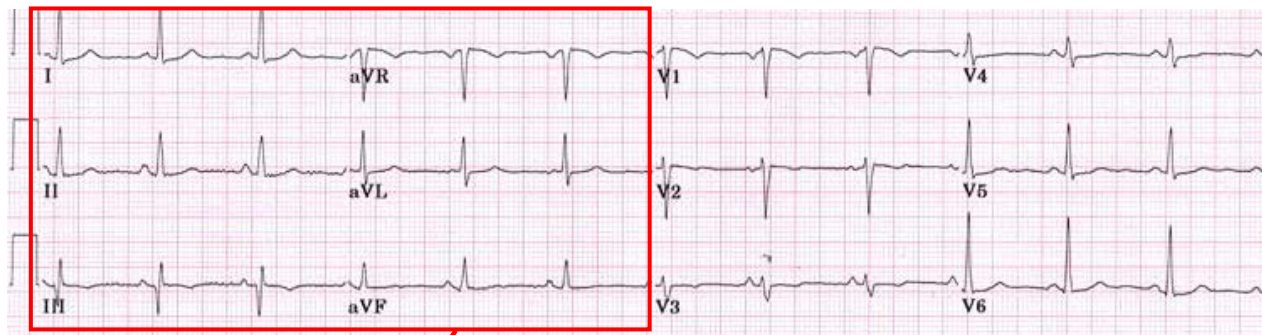
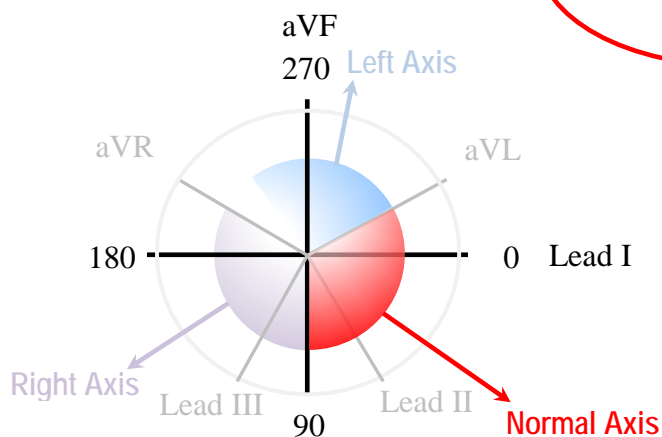


## The QRS Axis: the Isoelectric Lead Method



The AXIS is the chief direction of QRS propagation in the vaguely coronal plane.

To find the Axis in two steps, one must focus on the left side of the ECG.



1) Select the lead with the most isoelectric trace;  
i.e. the lead in which Q and R waves are of the same height.

In the ECG above, that happens to be lead III.

The axis will be **perpendicular** to that lead orientation.

You need another lead to determine which direction the QRS is pointing in.

2) Select the lead which is perpendicular to the isoelectric lead  
This is the lead which will give you the direction.

In this example, aVR is the perpendicular lead.

If the QRS were predominantly upward in aVR, this would be extreme right axis deviation.

In the ECG above, the aVR is totally downward-facing.  
This suggests a completely normal axis.

Memorise The Perpendiculars:

- Lead I is perpendicular to aVF
- Lead II is perpendicular to aVL
- Lead III is perpendicular to aVR

