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Essentials of canine and feline electrocardiography.

Author(s) : [Tilley, L. P.](#)

Author Affiliation : Anim. Med. Center, Coll. Physicians, Columbia Univ., New York, N.Y.

Book : [Essentials of canine and feline electrocardiography.](#) 1979 pp.xi + 337pp. r

Abstract : As long ago as 1912, Sir Thomas Lewis wrote: "The time is at hand when an examination of the heart is incomplete if this new method is neglected." Also, the author of this book considers that every veterinary practitioner should have at least an oscilloscope and a single-channel electrocardiograph. Both statements may be correct, but nobody should underestimate the difficulties involved in interpreting ECGs. It is good to read that: "In general, the person best qualified to interpret ECGs is the person who has the most experience with the interpretation of ECGs."

ECG is the clinician in charge of the patient" but, unless this clinician has worked at the theory and practice of electrocardiography his examination is likely to be superficial. Nevertheless, ECGs could play a useful part in practice and those who wish to become proficient in their use would do well to buy Tilley's book. The basic principles of recording and studying the ECG are covered before two sections on interpretation of the ECG in dog and cat. After that, there is a section on arrhythmias and their aetiology. The book concludes with a self-assessment section in which the reader is invited to interpret ECGs. The book is suitable in the hands of an intelligent, hard-working reader would be valuable - but only if you are prepared to take ECGs seriously.

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