


**Catheter Ablation in Patients With Cardiac Arrhythmias**

The special report entitled “Current Role of Catheter Ablative Procedures in Patients with Cardiac Arrhythmias” reviewed worldwide experience with these techniques up until about mid 1990. Since the manuscript was written and reviewed by our committee, dramatic progress in the treatment of supraventricular arrhythmias, in particular atrioventricular nodal reentrant tachycardia and tachycardias involving accessory atrioventricular connections, has taken place. As documented in several large, recently published series,2–4 success rates of 90% or higher with a low incidence of significant complications are now achievable with radiofrequency catheter ablation.

It is the uniform opinion of the members of the American Heart Association Subcommittee on Electrocardiography and Electrophysiology that catheter ablation should now be considered the primary nonpharmacological therapy option for patients with these conditions. Although further laboratory and clinical investigation will no doubt improve many aspects of the procedure, current experience confirms that the early promise of catheter ablation for these arrhythmias referred to in the special report has been fulfilled.

**References**


