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Prevalence of cardiac arrhythmia in obstructive sleep apnea syndrome

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Abstract: Repetitive transient activation of the parasympathetic and sympathetic systems in obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS) constitutes the basis for development of cardiac arrhythmias. We aimed to examine the prevalence of arrhythmias in OSAS. Materials and methods: Eighty-eight patients with suspected OSAS were included in the study. Polysomnography was performed

overnight in all patients. Patients with apnea-hypopnea index (AHI) < 5 were considered OSAS negative, while patients with AHI ≥ 5 were OSAS positive. Arrhythmia was defined as sinus bradycardia, sinus tachycardia, $> 10/h$ supraventricular premature beats (SVPBs), $> 10/h$ ventricular premature beats (VEBs), complex VPBs (bigeminal, trigeminal VEB or nonsustained VT),