Concentration before and during exercise are shown in Figure 1. Plasma ANP concentration was increased by exercise and the increase was greater in patients with higher RA pressure or PA wedge pressure. Significant correlations of RA pressure and PA wedge pressure to plasma ANP concentrations were observed in the points obtained before and during each exercise in these patients (RA pressure $n=18$, $r=0.58$, $p<0.01$, PA wedge pressure $n=18$, $r=0.82$, $p<0.01$). These findings seem to be consistent with the hypothesis that elevated atrial pressure induced by exercise stimulates ANP release from the atrium in patients with chronic respiratory failure. The role of ANP in respiratory failure will be the subject of future studies.

Masakazu Kohno, M.D.; Kou-ichi Murakawa, M.D.; Naotugu Kurihara, M.D.; and Tadanao Takeda, M.D., Osaka City University Medical School; and Yoshiko Araki, M.D., and Haruhiko Matusita, M.D., Osaka Prefectural Habikino Hospital, Osaka, Japan

Reprint requests: Dr. Kohno, First Dept. of Internal Medicine, Osaka City University Medical School, 1-5-7, Asahi-machi, abe-ku, Osaka 545, Japan

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Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia

To the Editor:

Multifocal atrial tachycardia (MAT) has been described as a complication of theophylline toxicity1 as well as in those disease states mentioned by Hazard and Burnett.2 In theophylline toxicity, patient susceptibility to MAT may be due to chronic depletion of magnesium and potassium. Iseri et al3 concluded that MAT can be controlled by replacement with IV magnesium sulfate and potassium.

Donald Forester, M.D.,
Chief, Section on Emergency Medicine,
The Mount Vernon Hospital,
Mount Vernon, New York

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