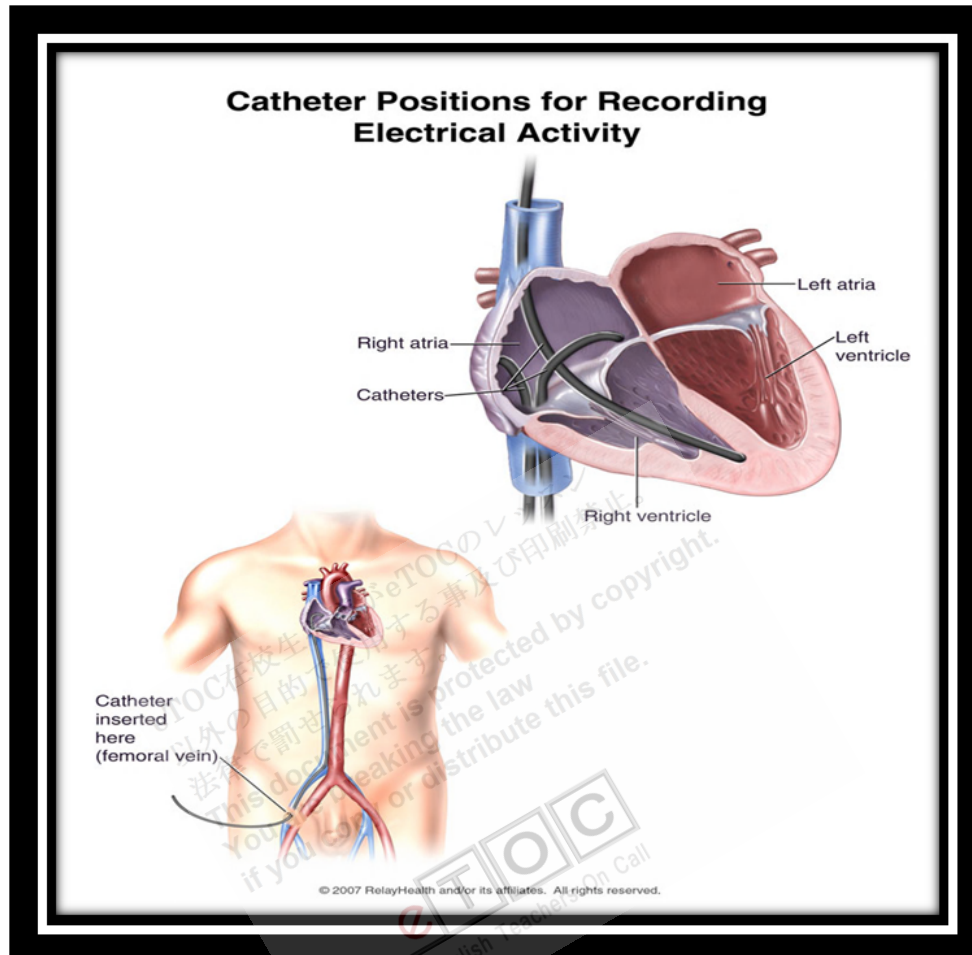


Electrophysiologic Studies (EPS)



http://media.summitmedicalgroup.com/media/db/relayhealth-images/elp_2.jpg

In **electrophysiologic studies**, recording and stimulating **electrodes** are inserted via right- or left-sided cardiac catheterization into all 4 cardiac chambers. Atria are paced from the right or left atrium, ventricles are paced from the right ventricular apex or right ventricular out-flow tract, and cardiac conduction is recorded. Programmed stimulation techniques may be used to trigger and terminate a reentrant arrhythmia.

Electrophysiologic studies are indicated primarily for evaluation and treatment of arrhythmias that are difficult to capture, serious, or sustained. These studies may be used to make a primary diagnosis, to evaluate the efficacy of antiarrhythmic drugs, or to map **arrhythmia foci** before **radiofrequency catheter ablation**. Various mapping techniques are available.

Reference: <http://www.merckmanuals.com>