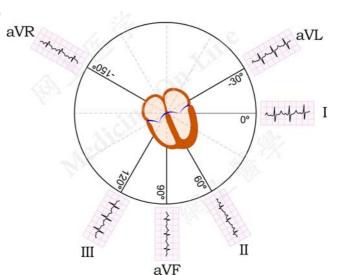
The ECG Leads

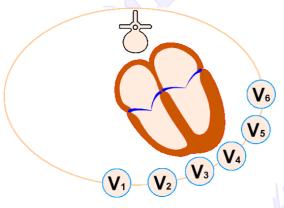
The heart occupies a position in the center of the thorax and a 12-lead ECG is simply a recording of the current flux of cardiac depolarization and repolarization obtained from 12 different sites on the body surface.

There are six limb leads:

- ♦ Lead I records from the left at a coordinate of 0°.
- ♦ Lead III records from the foot at a coordinate of 120°.
- ♦ Lead aVR records from the right shoulder at a coordinate of -150°.
- Lead aVL records from the left shoulder at a coordinate of -30°.
- Lead aVF records directly from the feet below at a coordinate of 90°.



There are also six chest leads with sensing electrodes positioned horizontally around the left anterior hemi-thorax between the 4th and 5th interspaces:



- Leads V1 and V2 record the current flux over the right ventricle directly.
- Leads V3 and V4 record directly the electrical activities of the ventricular septum and the anterior wall of the left ventricle.
- Leads V5 and V6 record the current flow generated by the left ventricle directly.