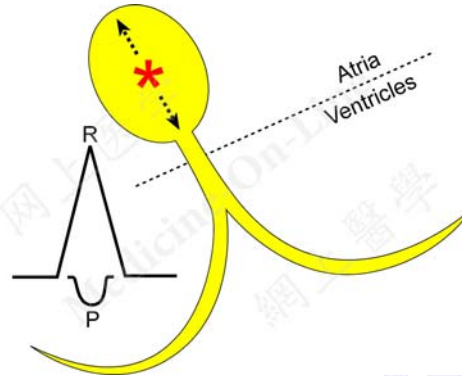
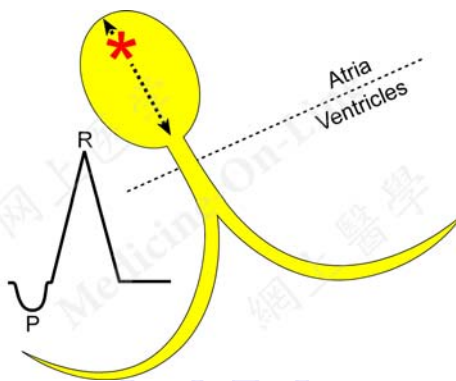


Conceptually the visibility and position of the P wave in junctional beat or rhythm can be explained as follows:

- ✧ If the ectopic junctional focus is in the center of the node, the depolarization impulse has to travel an equal distance up and down the node to depolarize the atria and the ventricles. Hence activation of atria and ventricles is simultaneous (conduction down the His bundle and bundle branch is very fast) and the P wave is buried within the QRS complex.



- ✧ If the ectopic focus is high up in the AV node, the depolarization wave reaches the atria before the ventricles and atrial activation precedes ventricular activation. As a result, the P wave is in front of the QRS complex.



- ✧ If the ectopic focus is low down in the AV node, ventricular activation precedes atrial activation and the P wave follows the QRS complex.

