

# Examination of thorax III

## - valvular diseases

Josef Korinek

2nd department of internal medicine  
- Cardiology and Vascular medicine

General University Hospital

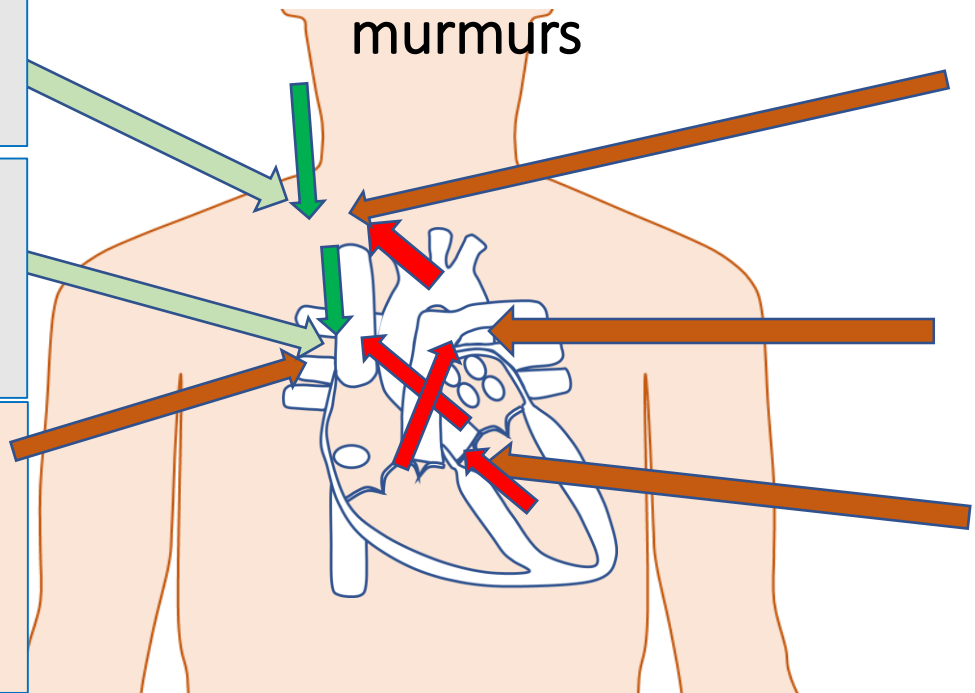
1. Faculty of Medicine

Charles University in Prague

Czech Republic



# Innocent systolic and continuous murmurs



**Cervical venous hum** (continuous)  
 - Faster flow from *jugular veins*  
 - *Right supraclavicular region* (louder in diastole)  
 - Disappears after compression

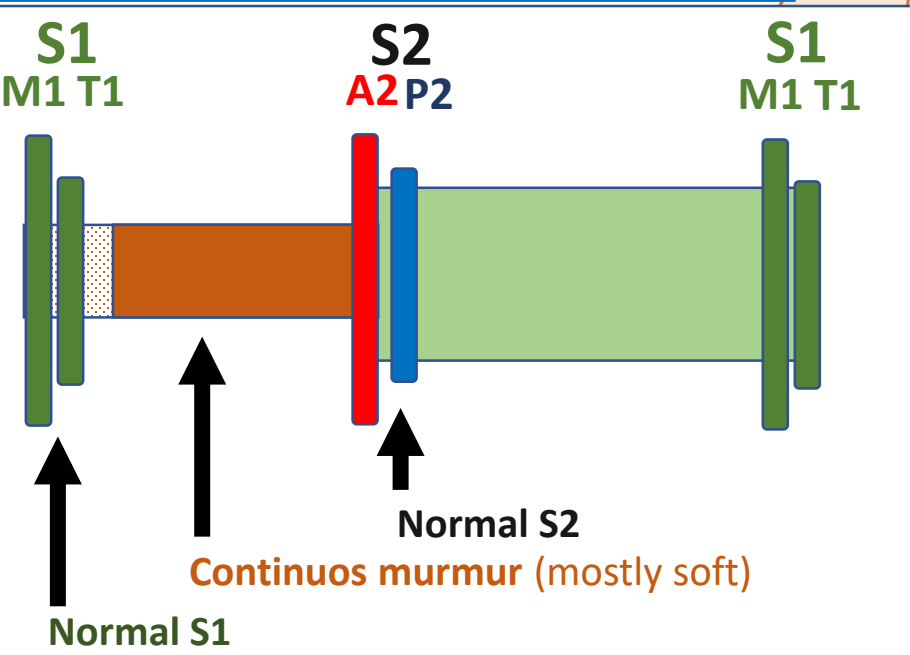
**Mammary souffle** (continuous)  
 - *2nd right intercostal space*  
 - *Mammary artery (pregnancy)*  
 - Begins after S1!, louder in systole

**Innocent aortic ejection murmur**  
 „Athlete’s murmur“  
 - *2nd right intercostal space*  
 - Faster flow across *aortic valve*  
 - Frequently associated with physiologic S3

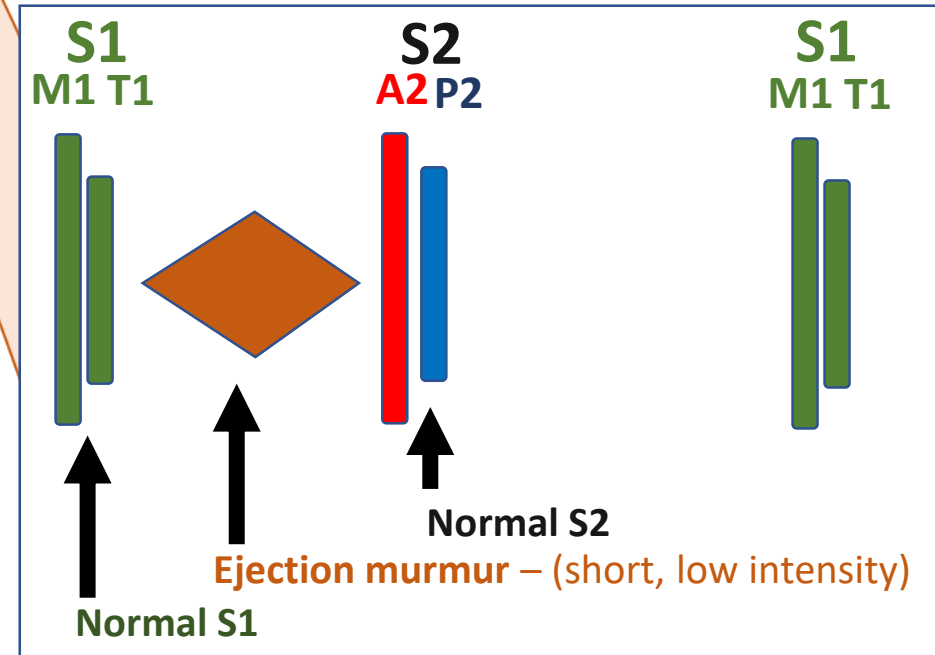
**Supraclavicular systolic (ejection) murmur**  
 - *Right supraclavicular region*  
 - Turbulent flow in *truncus brachiocephalicus*

**Physiological pulmonary ejection murmur**  
 - *2nd left intercostal space*  
 - Turbulent flow in *pulmonary artery*

**Still’s vibratory systolic murmur**  
 - (*ejection*, in Erb’s point)  
 - Turbulent flow in *LVOT*



- No other pathological physical exam findings
- **Children**
  - Still’s (*ejection*)
  - Supraclavicular (*ejection*)
  - Pulmonary (*ejection*)
  - Cervical venous hum (*contin.*)
- **Athletes (exercise, anemia...)**
  - Aortic (*ejection*)
- **Pregnancy**
  - Mammary souffle (*contin.*)



## Systolic (ejection) murmur

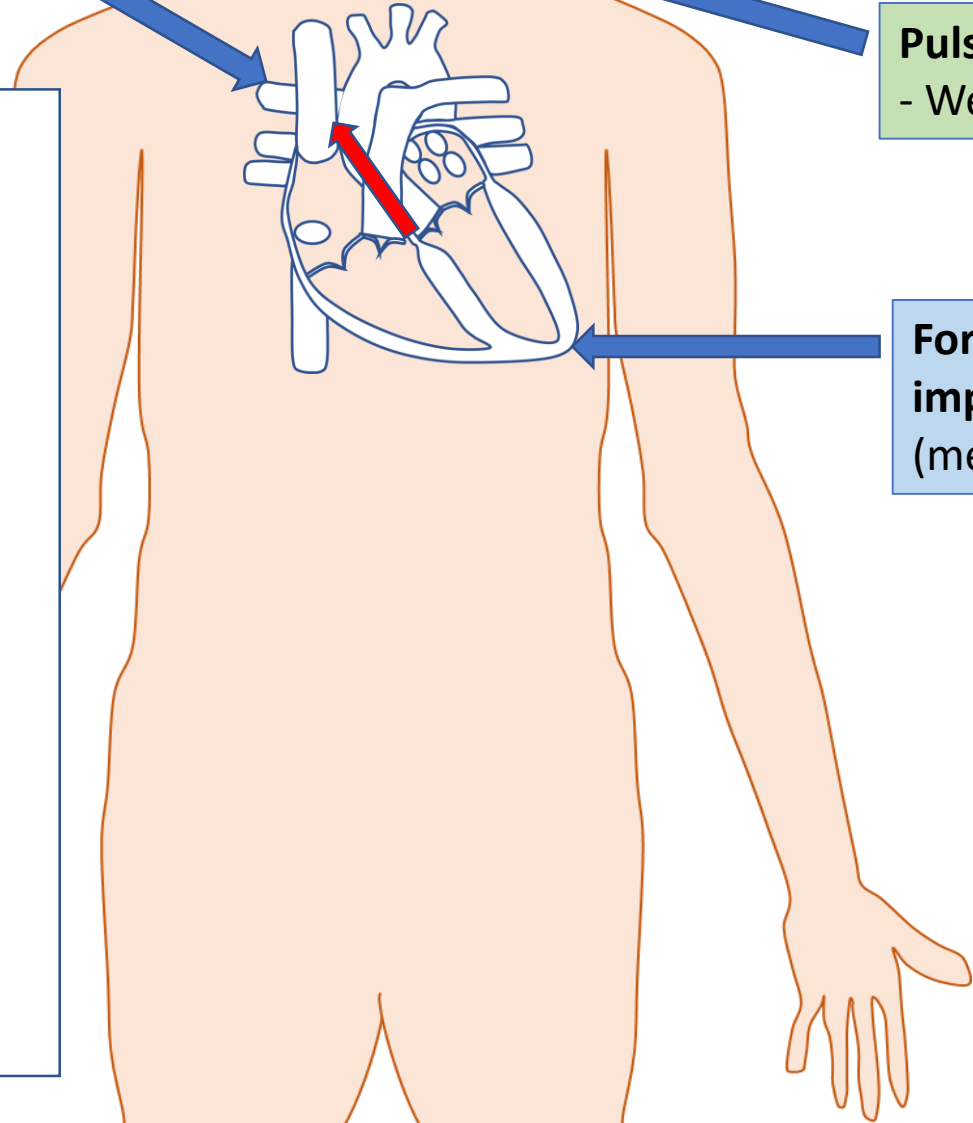
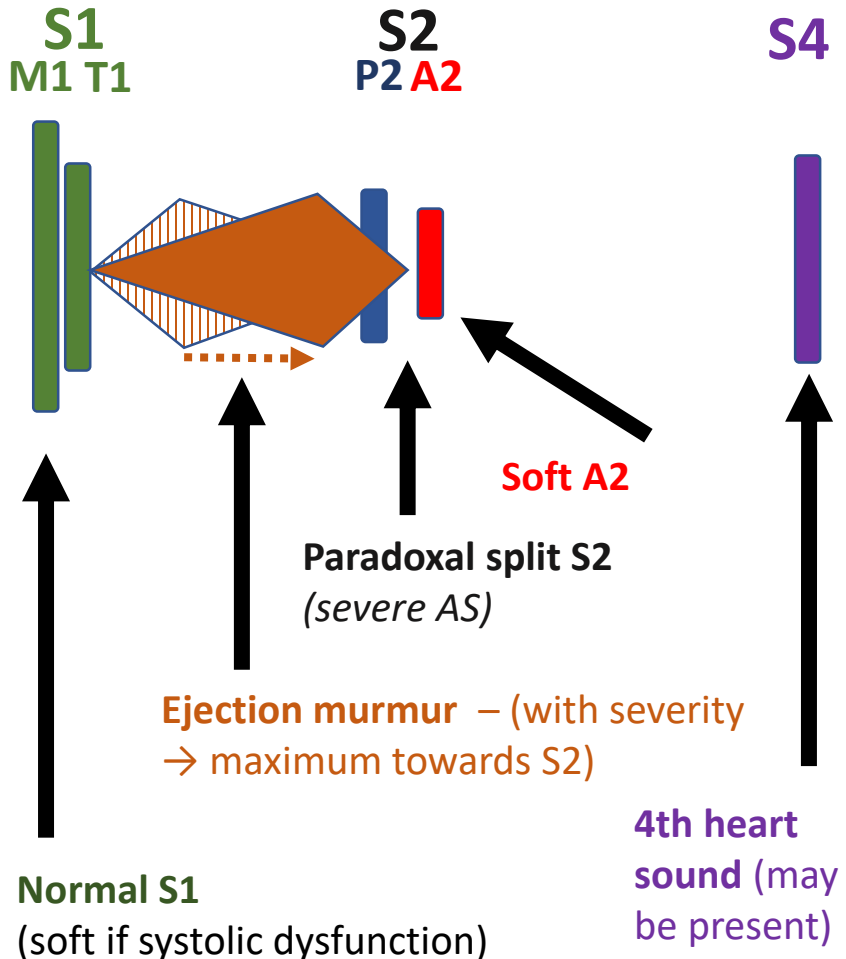
- 2. right intercostal space
- diamond shape configuration of murmur

## Aortic stenosis (severe)

Systolic murmur above carotid aa.  
- radiation from aorta

Pulsus parvus et tardus  
- Weak and delayd pulse

Forceful + not displaced apical impulse  
(medially from midclavicular)



# Coarctation of aorta (severe)

## Systolic (ejection) murmur

- between scapulas
- may extend beyond S2 if the diastolic pressure is high

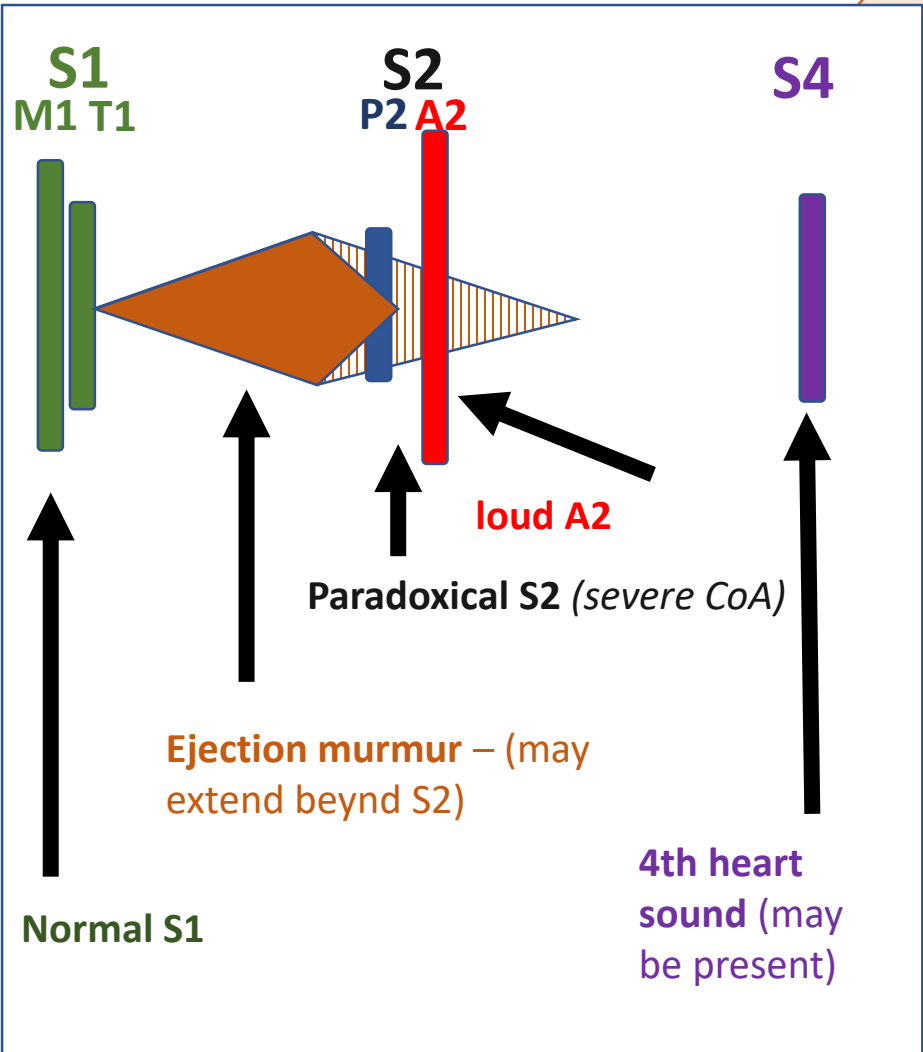
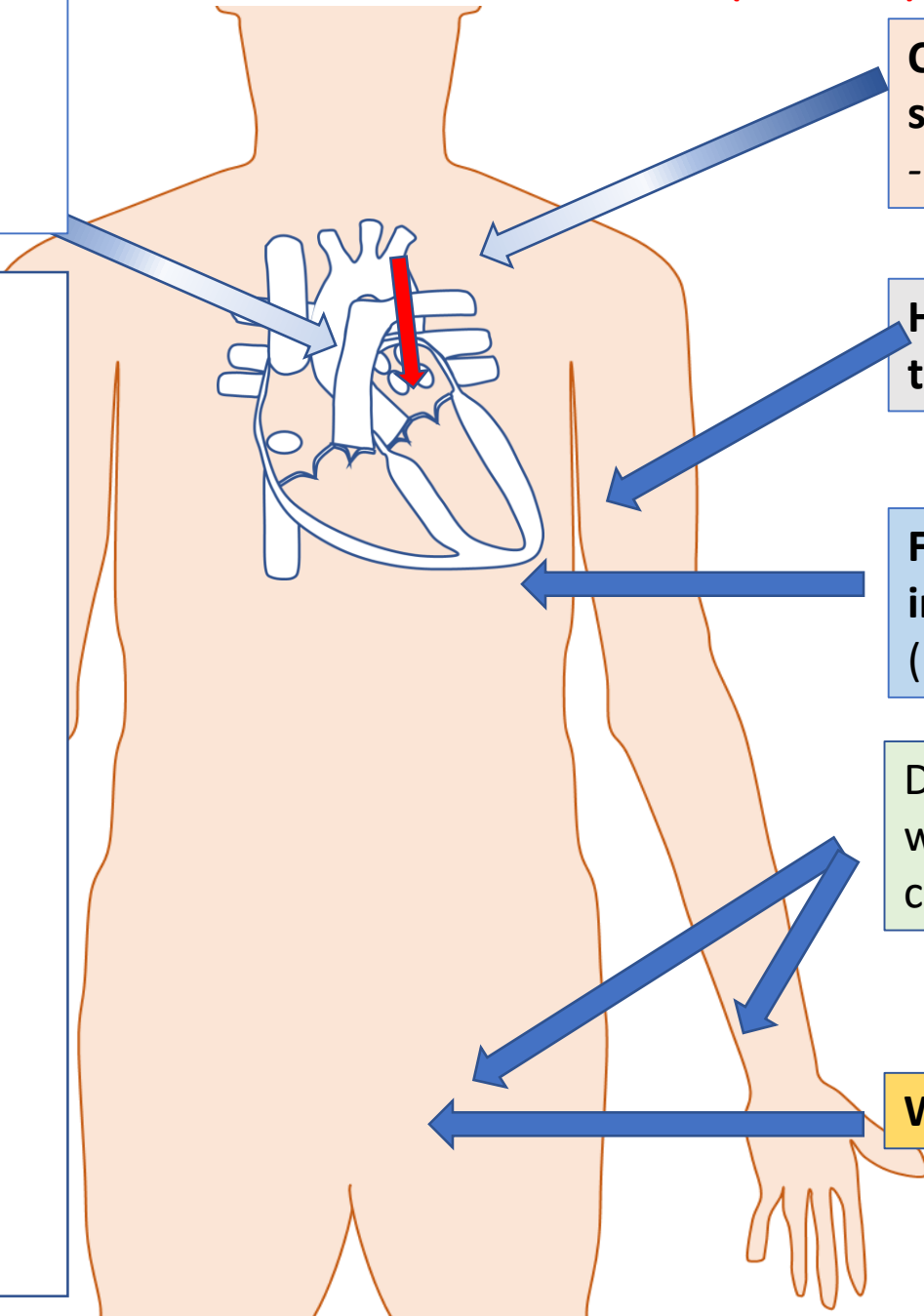
Continuous murmur above scapulas  
- caused by collaterals

Higher blood pressure in arms than legs

Forceful + not displaced apical impulse  
(medially from midclavicular)

Delayed pulse of femoral arteries when compared to femoral or carotid aa.

Weak pulse of femoral arteries



# LVOT obstruction (severe)

## Ejection systolic murmur

- 3.- 4. left intercostal space

Pulsus bisferiens

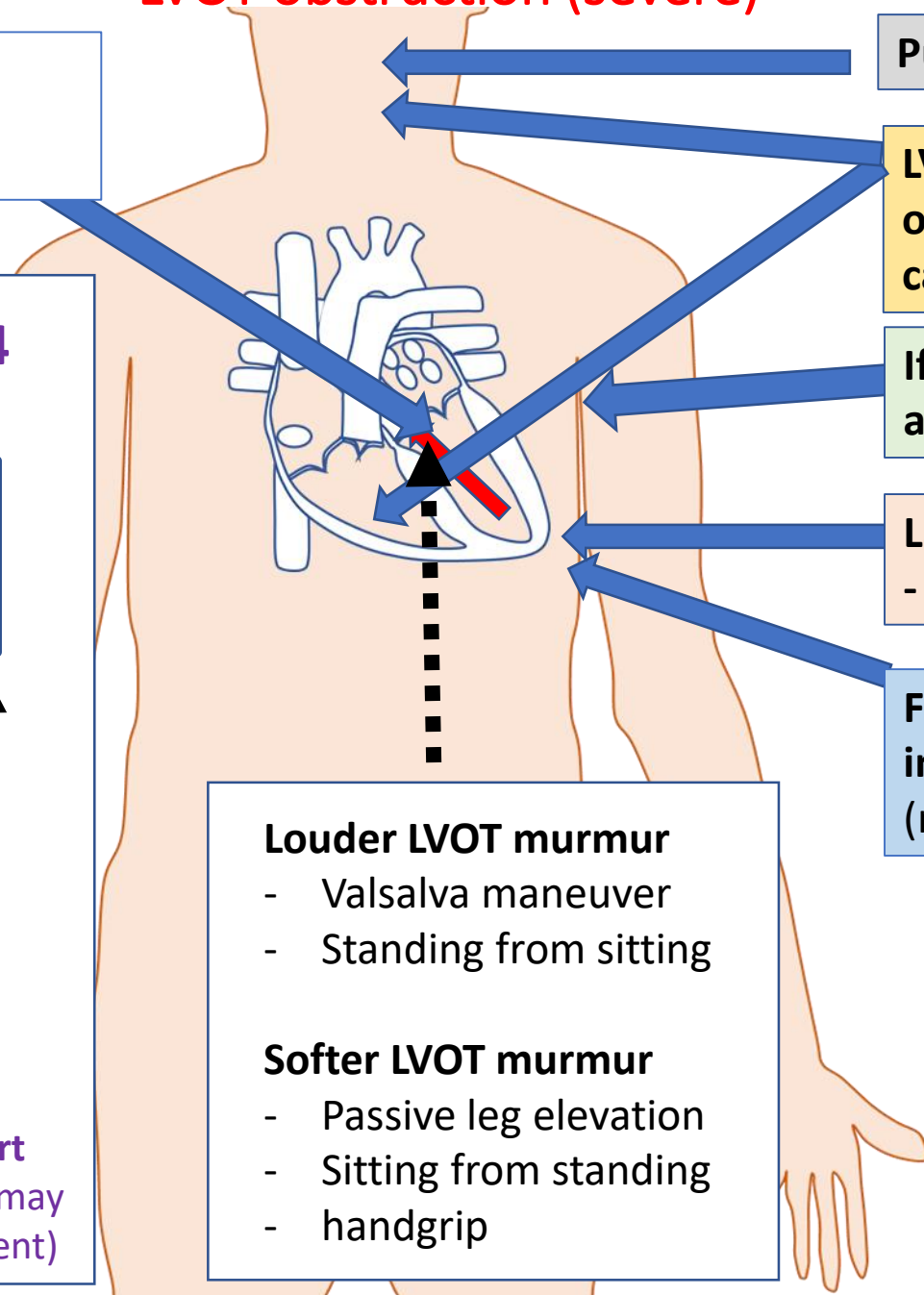
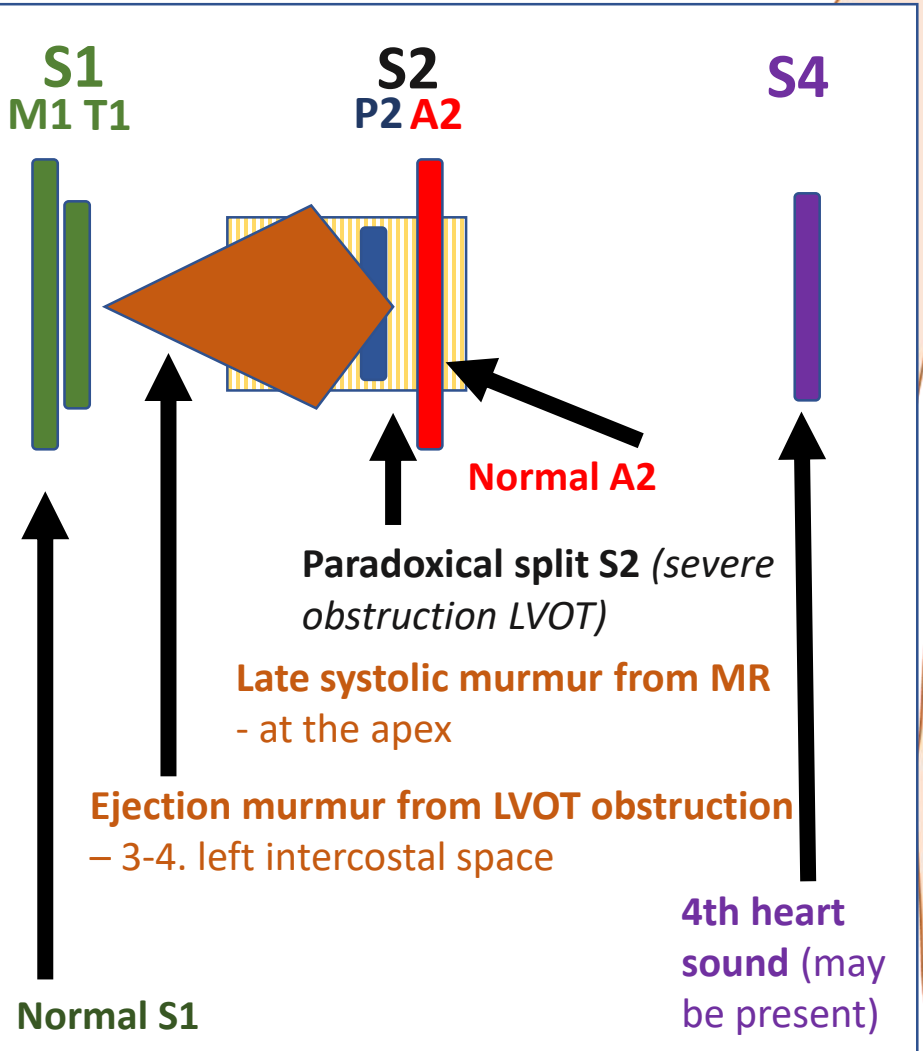
LVOT murmur radiation to basis of the heart and weakly to carotid aa.

If MR → murmur radiation to axilla

Late systolic murmur - caused by MR

Forceful + not displaced apical impulse (medially from midclavicular)

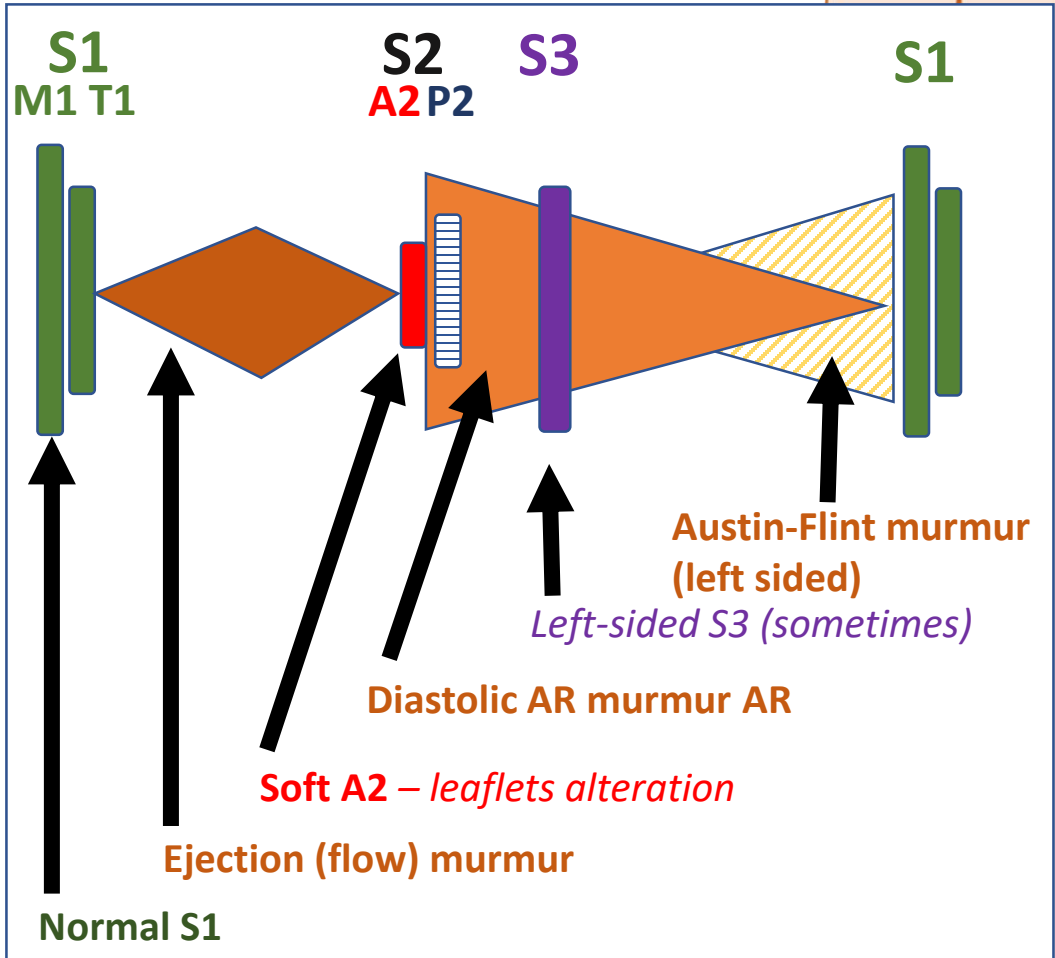
- Louder LVOT murmur**
  - Valsalva maneuver
  - Standing from sitting
- Softer LVOT murmur**
  - Passive leg elevation
  - Sitting from standing
  - handgrip



# Aortic regurgitation (chronic)

## Early diastolic decrescendo murmur

- maximum 3.- 4. left intercostal space (Erb's point)



**Systolic murmur at carotid aa.**  
(radiated from aorta due to ↑ stroke volume)

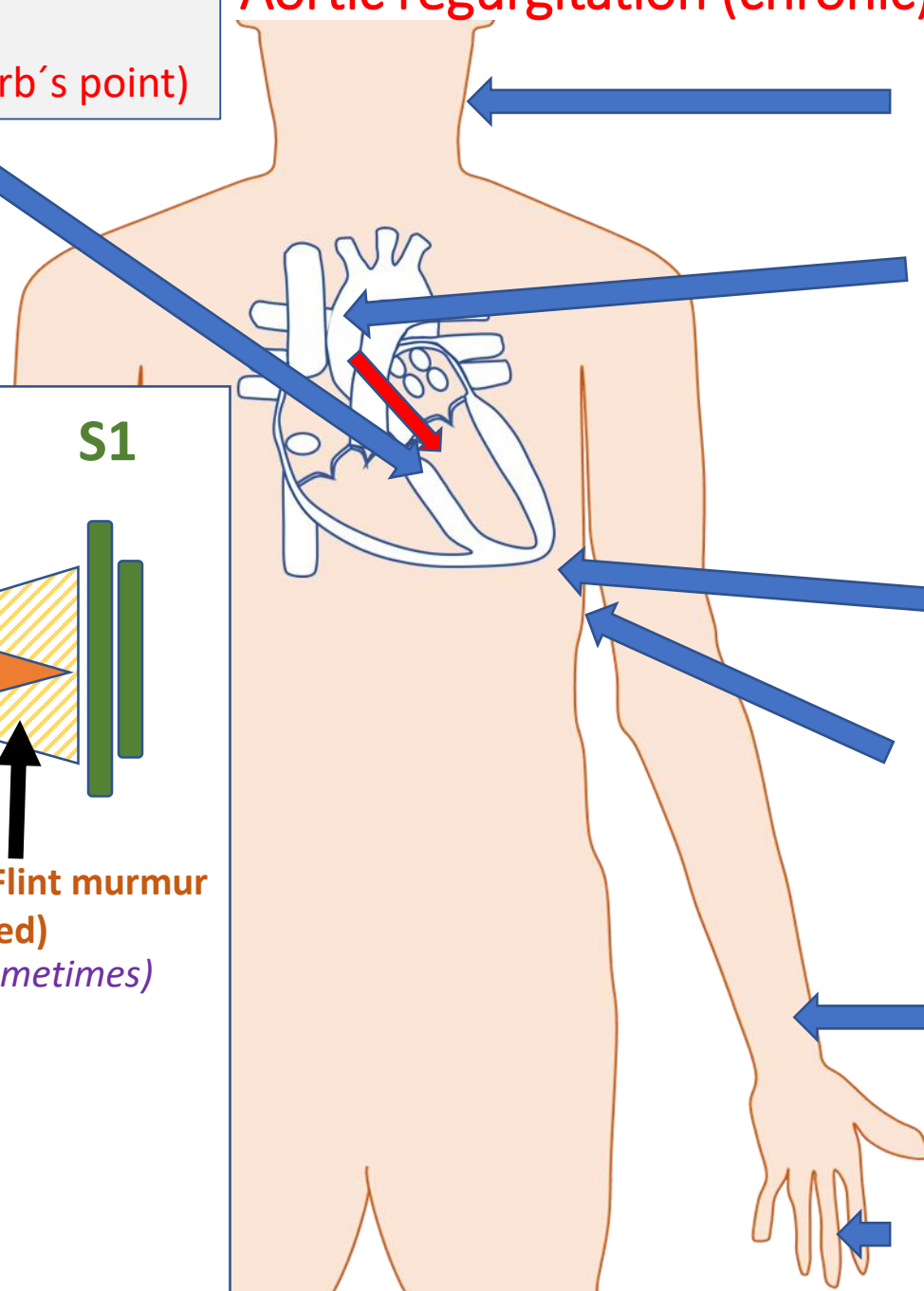
**Ejection murmur**  
- 2nd right intercostal space  
- ↑ stroke volume,  
- crescend-descendo

**Mid (late) diastolic crescendo murmur = Austin-Flint murmur**  
- AR jet hitting mitral anterior leaflet  
- at the apex  
- No opening snap (DDx from MS)

**Forceful + displaced apical beat**  
- Laterally from midclavicular line  
- 6th intercostal space

**Pulsus magnus, celer et altus – Corrigan's pulse**  
- fast, strong, rapidly collapsing

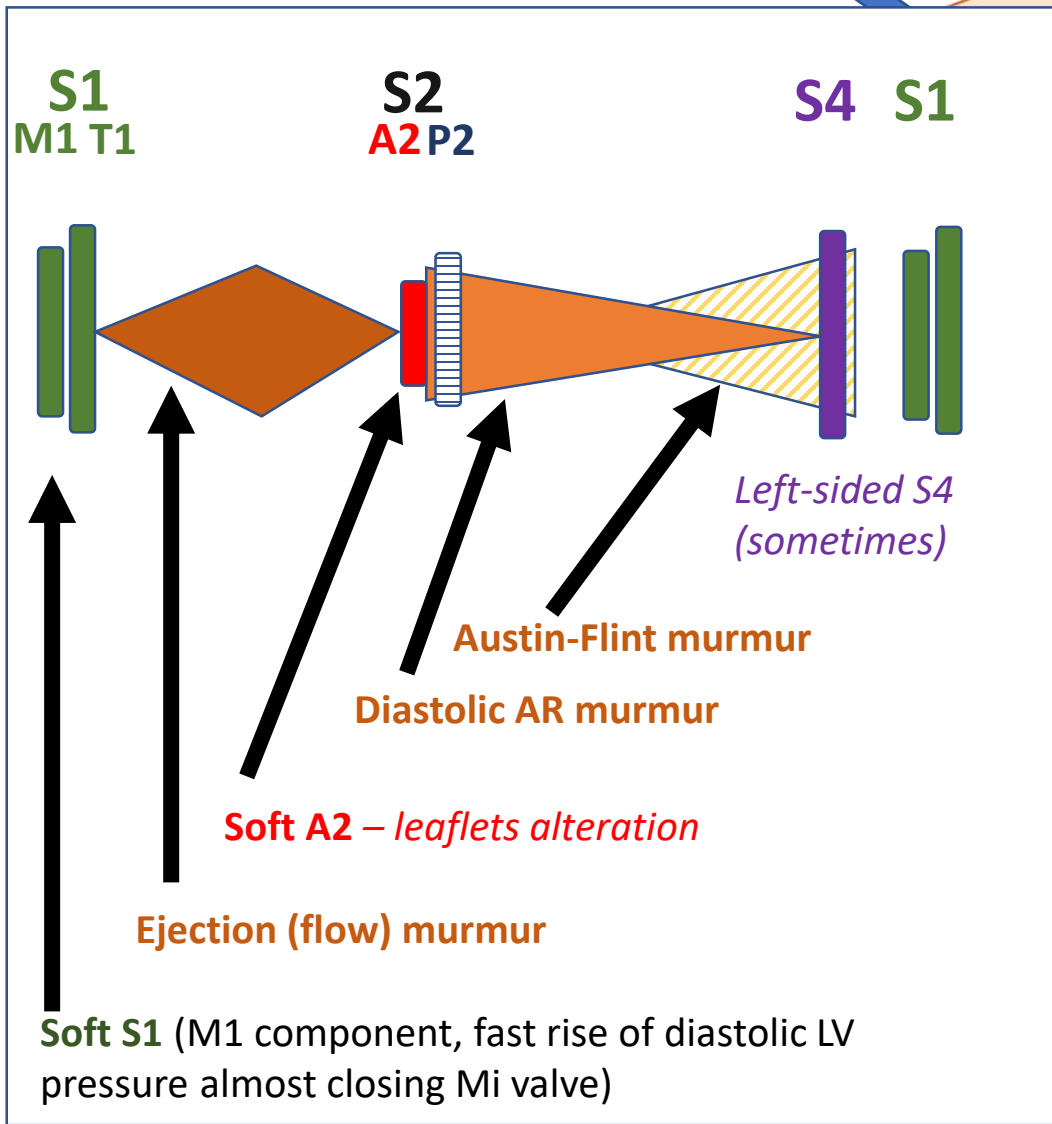
**Quincke capillary pulsation**





# Aortic regurgitation (acute)

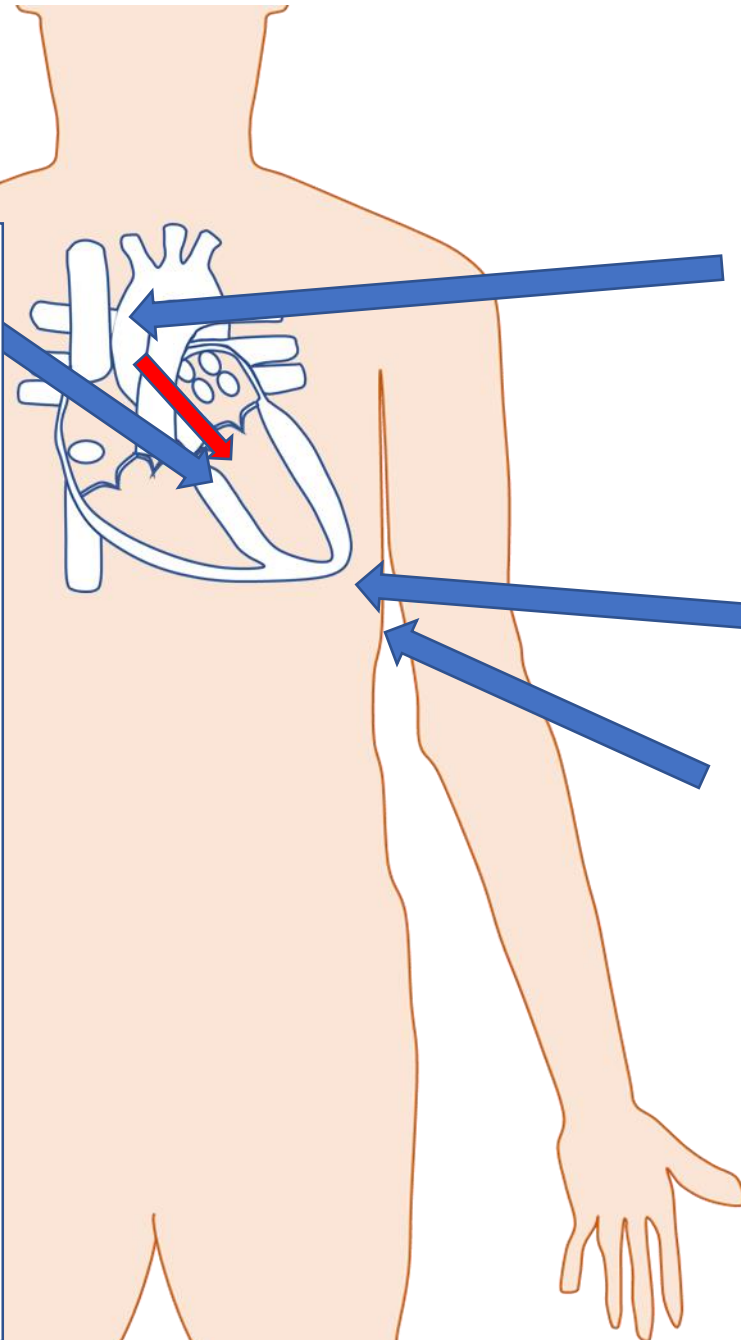
**Early diastolic decrescendo murmur**  
- maximum 3.- 4. left intercostal space (Erb's point)



**Ejection flow murmur**  
- 2nd right intercostal space  
- ↑ stroke volume,  
- crescend-descendo

**Diastolic murmur – apex = Austin-Flint murmur**  
- AR jet hitting mitral anterior leaflet  
- crescendo, at the apex  
- No opening snap (difference from MS)

**Not displaced apical beat, even normal intensity possible!**



# Mitral stenosis

## Diastolic murmur – at the apex

- mezo to late diastolic,
- presystolic crescendo (if sinus rhythm)
- Low pitch, rumbling

**Facies mitralis**

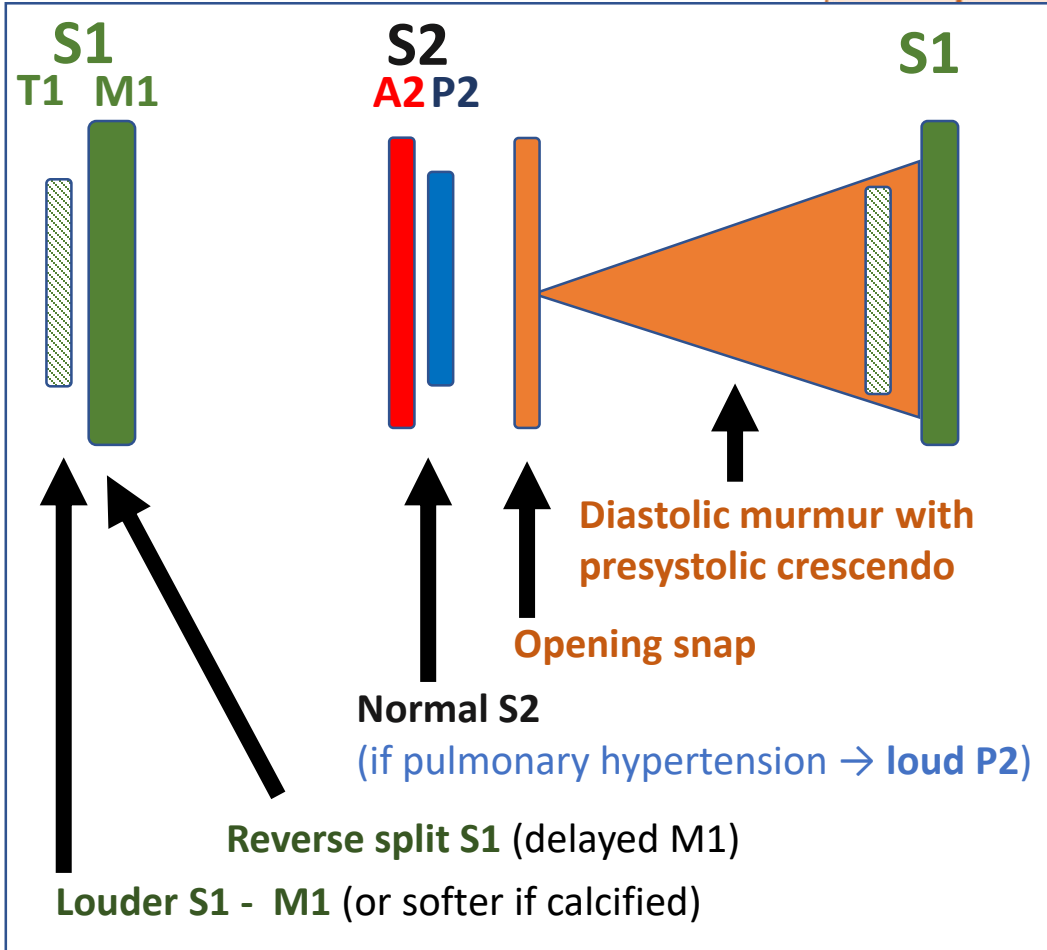
**Not displaced apical beat, even normal intensity!**

**Opening snap** (early diastolic click)  
**+ modification of diastolic murmur**  
- Expiration - LOUDER  
- Inspiration - SOFTER

**Normal arterial pulse puls**  
(may be also weak)

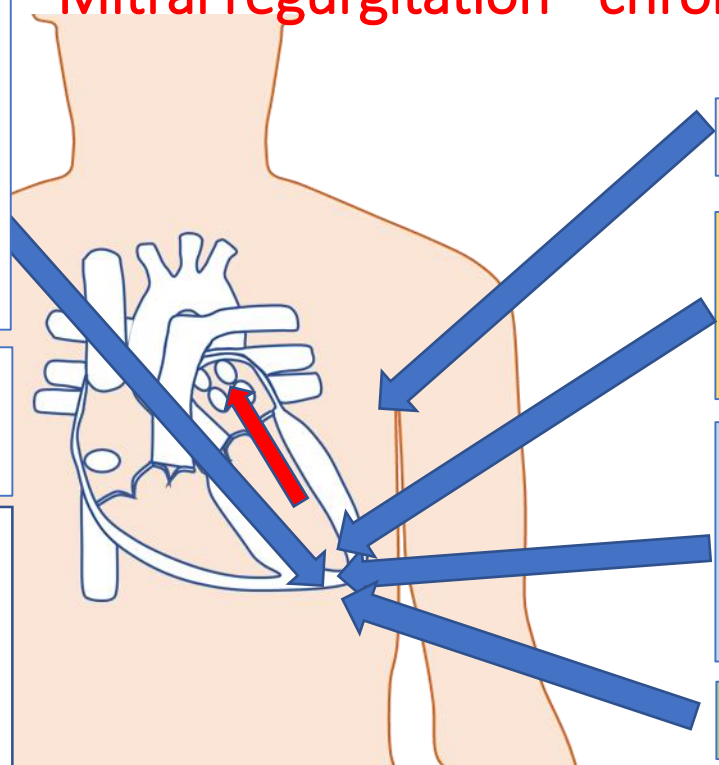
### Possible other findings (right heart):

- S4 not present**  
- generation of S4 requires moving leaflets)
- Loud P2** - pulmonary hypertension
- Graham-Steell diastolic murmur** – PR
- Right – sided S4**– ↑right atrial systole  
+ **presystolic jugular vein pulsation**
- Left parasternal heave** – hypertrophy and dilatation of RV
- Systolic murmur due to TR**  
+ systolic jugular vein pulsation
- Right sided heart failure**





# Mitral regurgitation - chronic



**Murmur radiation to axilla**

**Left-sided S3**  
 - Severe MR  
 - systolic LV dysfunction)

**Forceful (hyperdynamic) + displaced apical beat**  
 - Laterally from midclavicular line  
 - 6th intercostal space

**Palpable thrill at the apex**

**Possible other findings :**  
**Diastolic flow murmur** - short rumbling, sometimes present, due to ↑ flow across the valve  
**Left parasternal heave** – caused by expanding left atrium in severe MR  
**Signs of pulmonary hypertension**  
 – with severity progression  
**Signs of right sided HF**  
 – with further severity progression

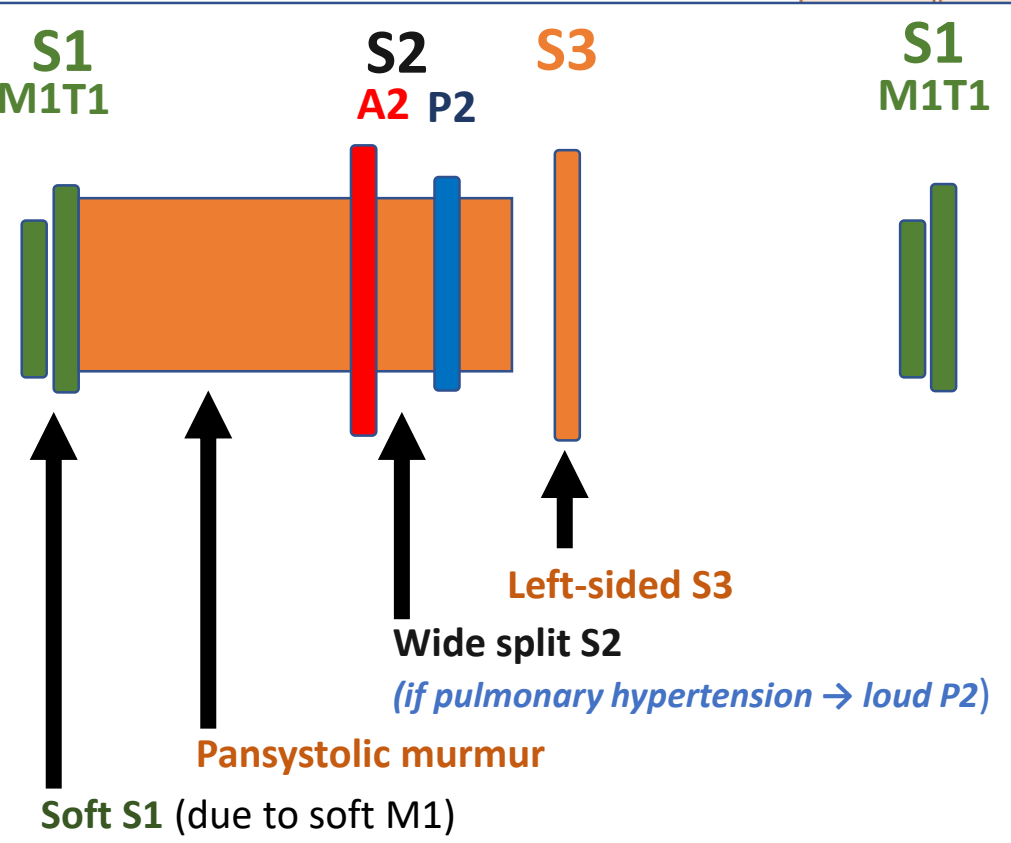
**↑ afterload → Louder murmur**  
 - Handgrip  
 - (Stand to squat)  
**↓ afterload → Softer murmur**  
 - Valsalva  
 - (squat to stand)

## Pansystolic (holosystolic) murmur –

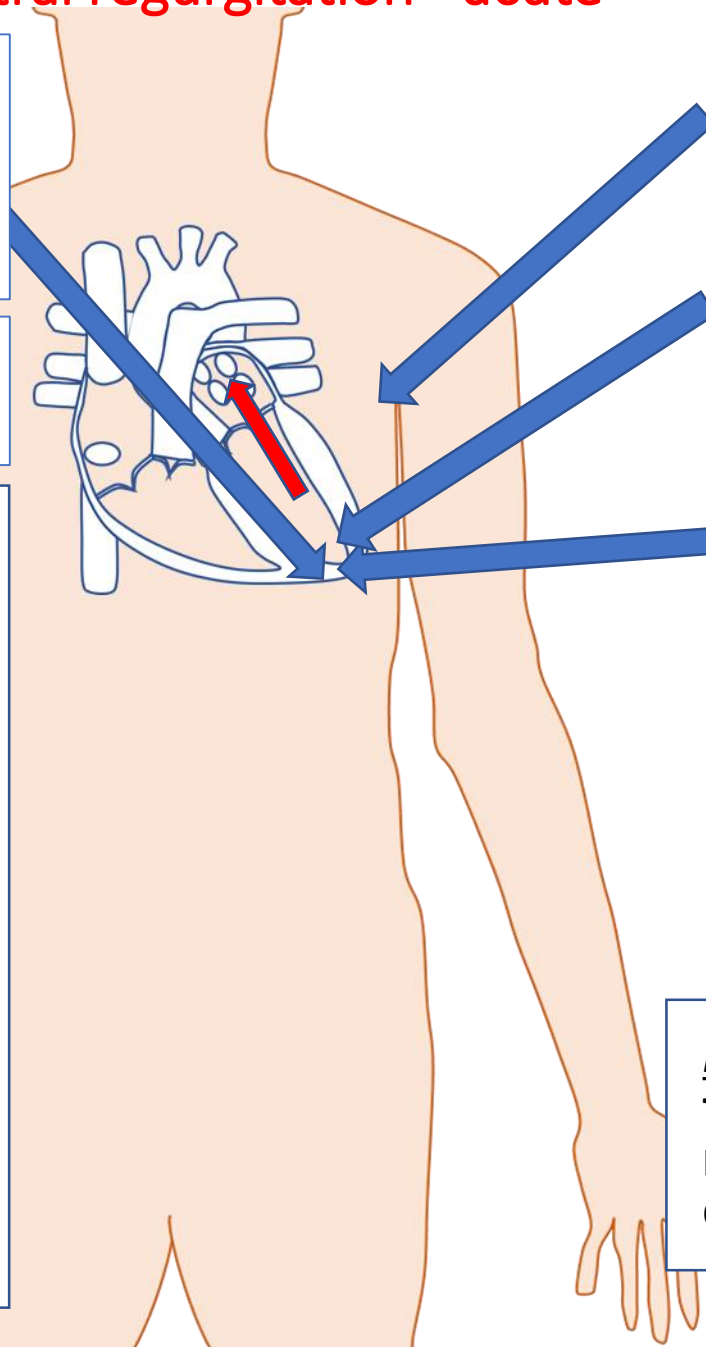
- at the apex best heard in left lateral decubitus position position in expiration,
- **Rectangular (plateau) shape**, blowing, high-pitched  
 : (DDx → ejection murmurs – diamond shape)
- no significant respiratory variation (DDx → TR)

## If prolaps → late systolic murmur

- **mid systolic click** (murmur after the click)



# Mitral regurgitation - acute

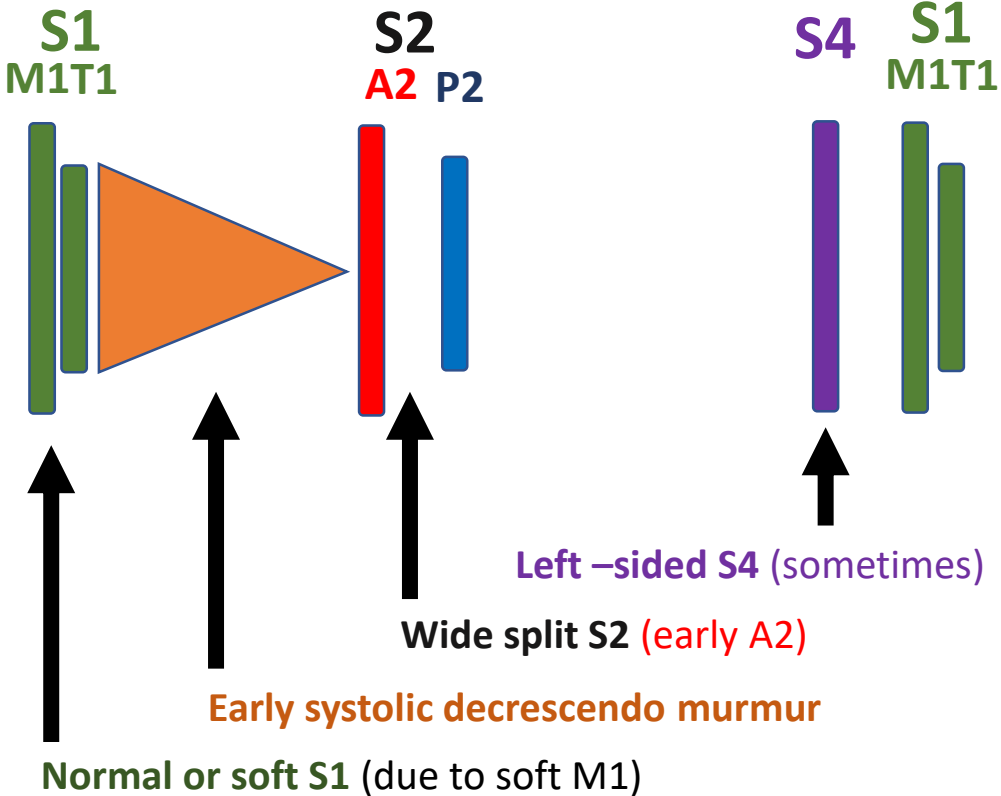


## Early systolic murmur (decrescendo) –

- best heard at the apex in left lateral decubitus position in expiration,
- no significant respiratory variation

## If prolaps → late systolic murmur

- mid systolic click (murmur after the click)



## Murmur radiation to axilla

- or to back – depends on jet direction)

## Left-sided S4

## Forceful (hyperdynamic)

## + not displaced apical beat

- medially from midclavicular line
- 5th intercostal space

## Possible other findings :

Tachycardia

Left sided heart failure - rales...

Cardiogenic shock – suddenly severe MR

# Pulmonary stenosis (PS; severe) - rare

**Systolic (ejection) murmur**  
 - 2. left intercostal space  
 - diamond shape configuration of murmur  
 - Louder in inspirium

**Presystolic jugular vein pulsation**  
 - strong right atrial contraction  
 - corresponding to S4

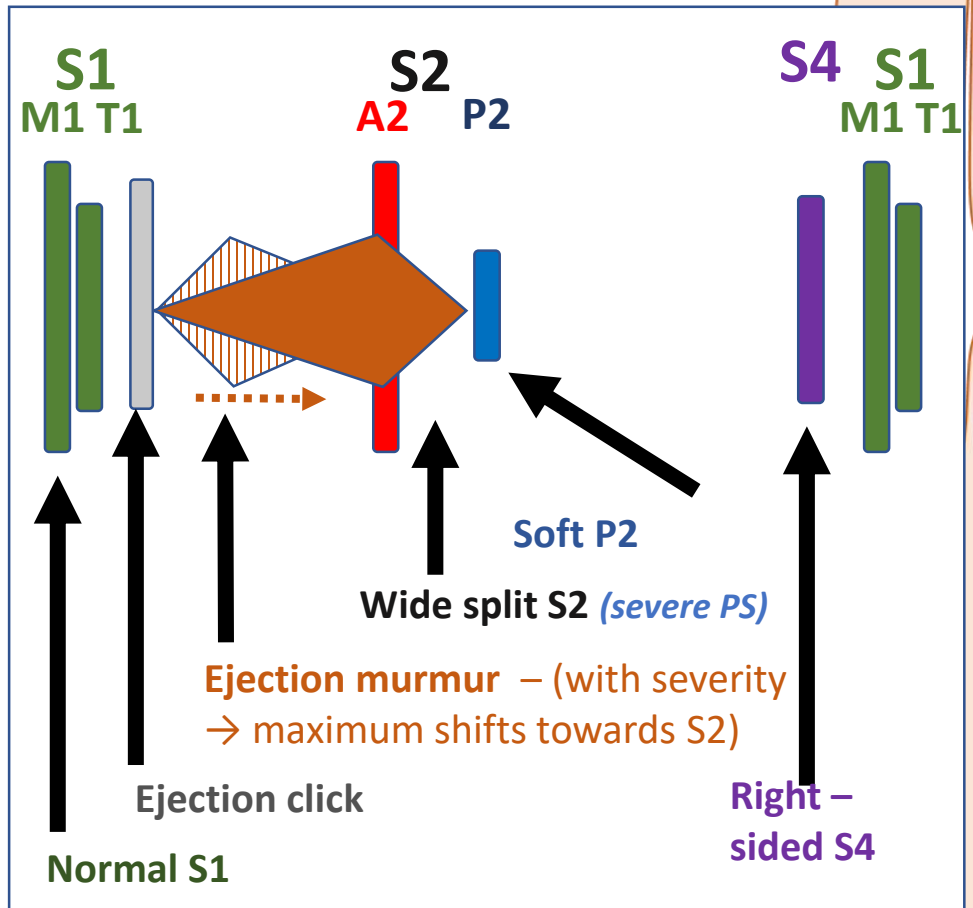
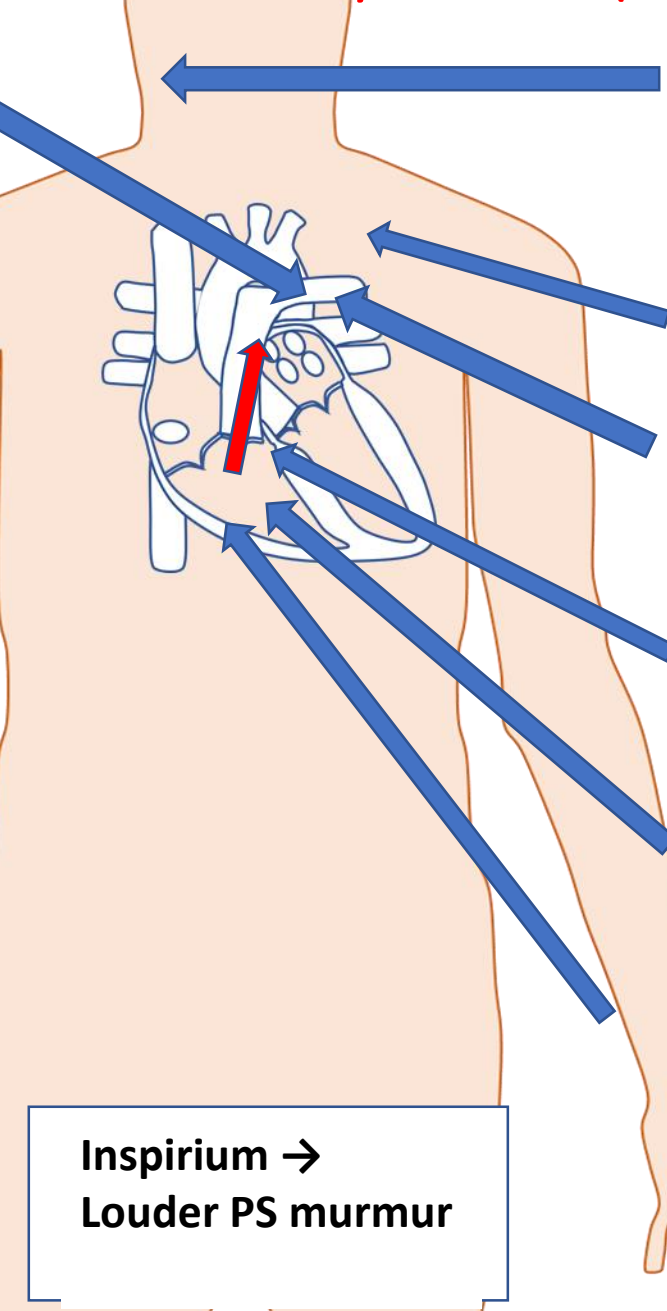
**PS Murmur radiation to subclavian region**

Ejection click - sometimes

**Left parasternal lift (heave) – hypertrophy and dilatation of RV**

**Right-sided S4**

**Possible other findings :**  
 Secondary tricuspid regurgitation – pansystolic murmur above tricuspid valve



Inspirium →  
 Louder PS murmur

## Pulmonary regurgitation (PR; severe) - rare

### Early diastolic decrescendo murmur

- 2. left intercostal space
- High frequency blowing

### Ejection flow murmur

- 2nd left intercostal space
- Possible radiation to subclavial regions
- due to ↑ Rv stroke volume

### PR murmur radiation to Erb's pont

### Left parasternal lift (heave) – hypertrophy and dilatation of RV

### Mid (late) diastolic crescendo murmur = Austin-Flint murmur

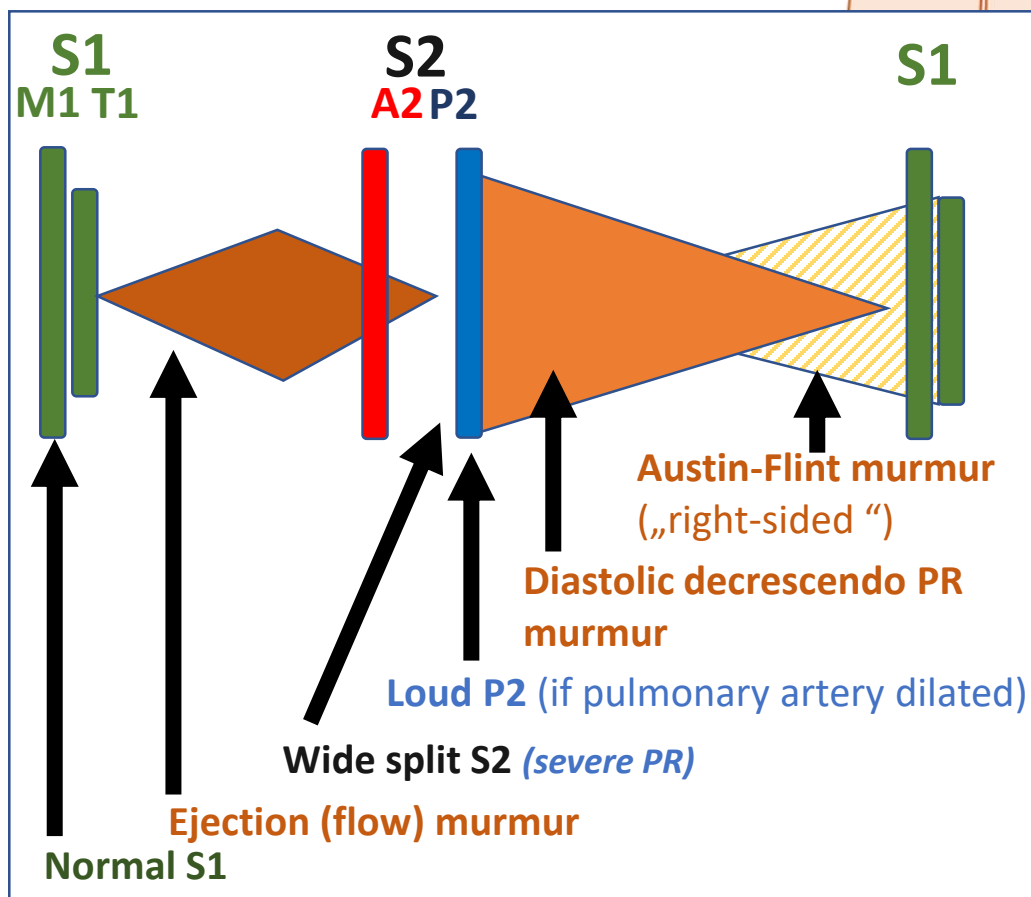
- at the base (left 4. intercostal space)
- PR jet hitting tricuspid anterior leaflet
- No opening snap (DDx from TS)
- No loud S1 (DDx from MS)

### Possible other findings :

- Secondary tricuspid regurgitation – pansystolic murmur above tricuspid valve (in advanced stage of PR)
- Right-sided S3 or S4

If pulmonary hypertension present –

→murmur named **Graham-Steell**

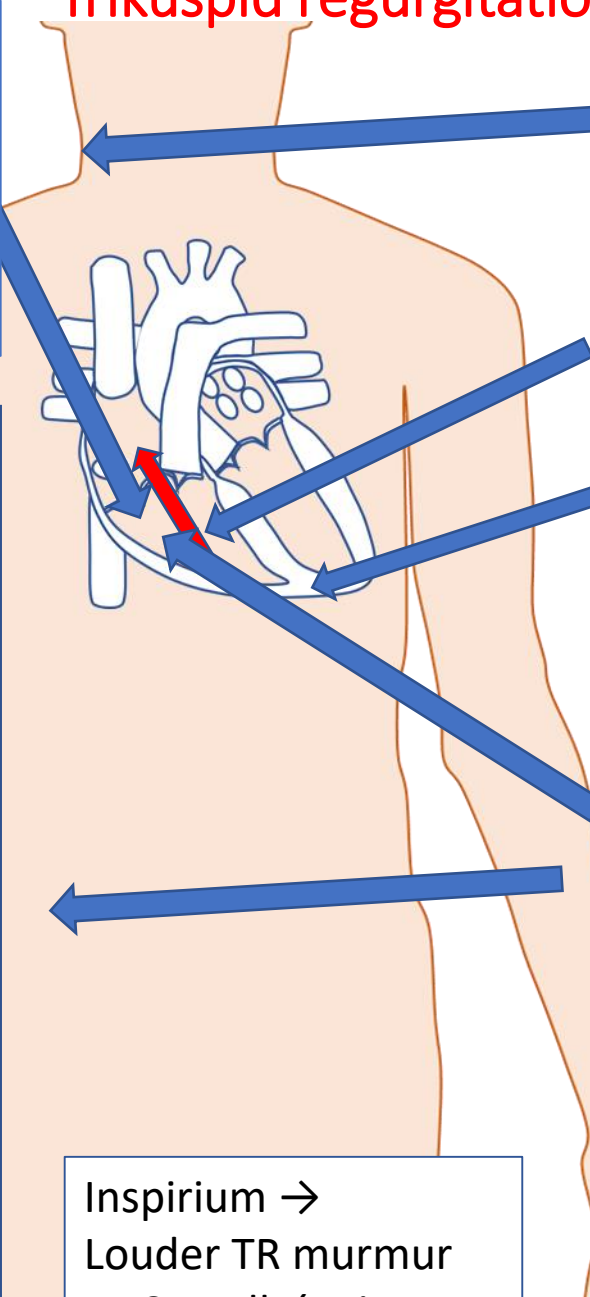


Inspirium → Louder PR murmur  
Valsalva → Softer PR murmur

# Trikuspid regurgitation

## Pansystolic (holosystolic) murmur –

- left 4th intercostal space next to sternum
- **Rectangular (plateau) shape** (in severe TR may not be paradoxically very loud!),
- : (DDx → **ejection murmurs – diamond shape**)
- significant respiratory variation (DDx → MR)



**Systolic jugular vein pulsation**  
+ distension

**Right-sided S3** (variable)  
- Severe TR with RV failure  
- Louder with inspiration

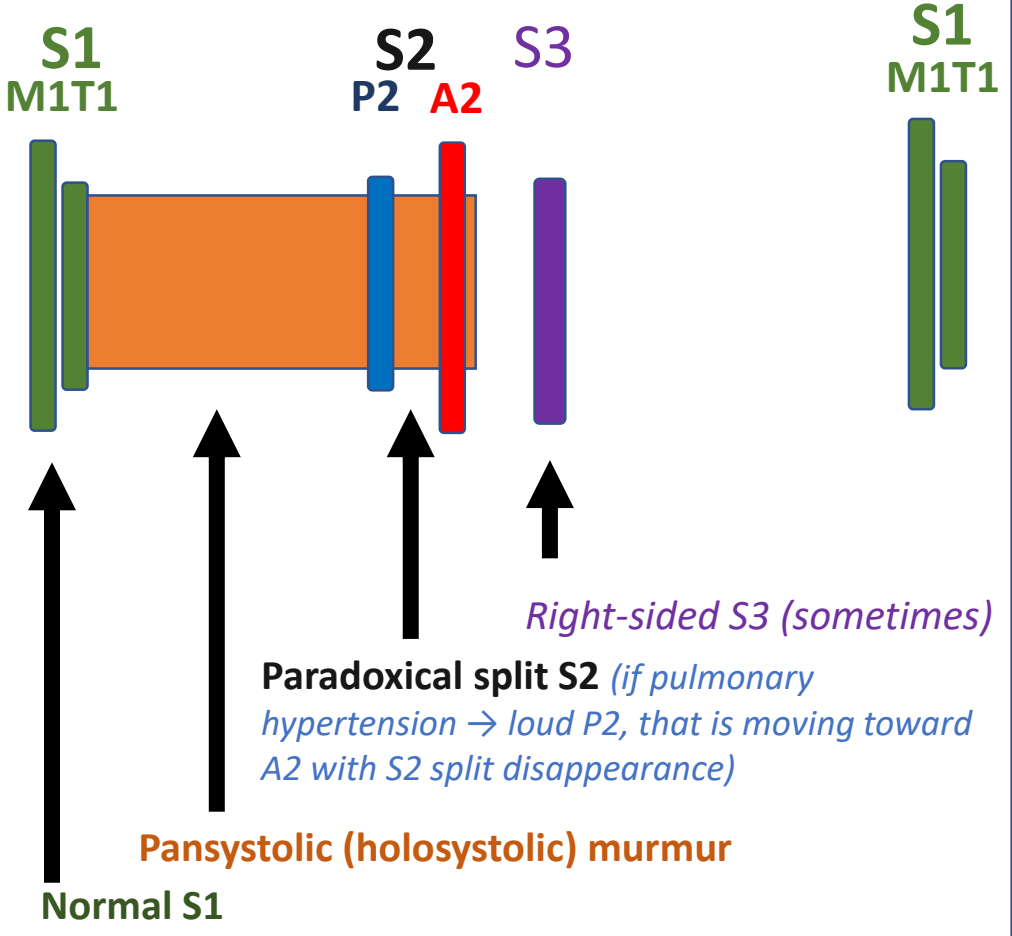
**Normal not displaced apical beat**  
- Shifts only with severe RV dilatation

**Left parasternal heave**  
- due to dilated + hypertrophied RV  
- Sometimes even right lift – due to expanding right atrium in severe TR

**Pulsatile liver (systolic)**

**Possible other findings :**  
**Diastolic flow murmur** - over tricuspid valve, sometimes present, due to ↑ flow across the valve  
**Signs of right sided HF**  
 – with further progression of TR severity  
 - hepatomegaly, peripheral leg edema,, ascites, anasarca)

Inspiration →  
Louder TR murmur  
= „Carvallo’s sign





# Trikuspid stenosis

**Diastolic crescendo murmur**  
 - 4th left intercostal space next to sternum  
 - meso to late diastolic,  
 - presystolic crescendo (if sinus rhythm)

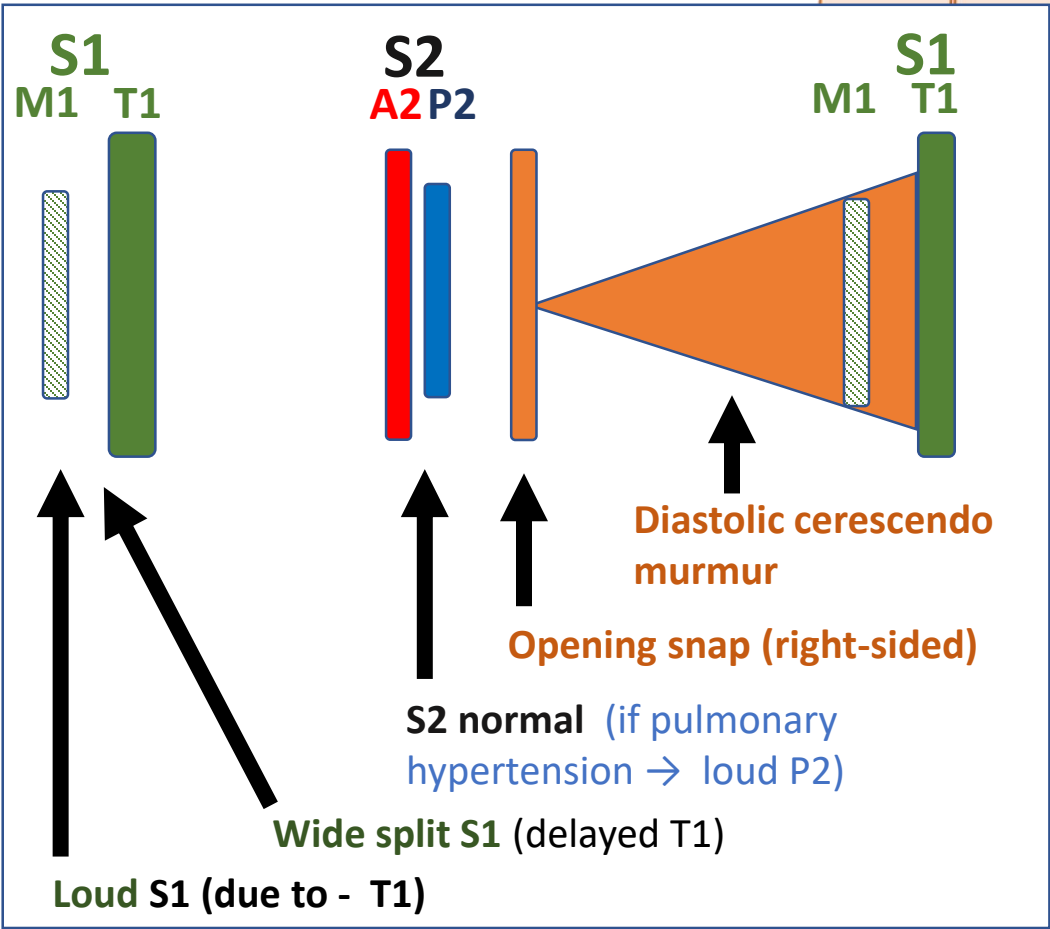
**Presystolic jugular vein pulsation + distension**

**Not displaced apical beat, even normal intensity**

**Opening snap (right-sided) + modification of TS diastolic murmur**  
 - Expiration - SOFTER  
 - Inspiration - LOUDER

**Pulsatile liver (presystolic)**

**Possible other findings :**  
**Signs of right sided HF**  
 - with further progression of TR severity  
 - hepatomegaly, peripheral leg edema, ascites, anasarca  
**S4 (right-sided) not present**  
 - generation of S4 requires moving leaflets)



Inspirium →  
 Louder TS murmur  
 = „Carvallo’s sign