PBL Situation 2 – Biopotentials in the heart: Clinical

The summer has been unusually exciting with a lot of travelling, sunshine and bathing - a real vacation with good weather and no obligations. Although some events were very tough. It started with my cousin Roger who suddenly died early in the summer during a soccer game. Twenty-five years old and his life has already ended. He was the archetype of a healthy strong athletic person that always was attending some sport or exercise, although he had a cold the last time I saw him a few days earlier.

Then my father went ill, complaining about a pressure in the chest and some odd stomach pain. The way he stresses and works, it is no wonder if he gets gastric ulcer or a heart attack. However, it was neither of these; at least they did not find any evidence of a heart attack at the ECG examination. We have to wait and see if he can slow down after the summer.

As if this was not enough, my grandmother was found unconscious at the block of service apartments for the elderly last week. The personnel could not find any pulse, although the paramedics claimed that it was very weak, slow and irregular. Now she is at the cardiac intensive care unit for investigation and maybe she will have a pacemaker surgery.