Early repolarization pattern characterized by right precordial T-wave inversion in a healthy African-Japanese athlete.

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Introduction: A 20-year old asymptomatic professional football player with no past medical history was referred to our institute for early repolarization pattern and right precordial lead T-wave inversion (Figure). The football team doctor suspected a cardiomyopathy (e.g., arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy) or an arrhythmogenic disorder such as Brugada syndrome. Family history was noncontributory, and echocardiography and blood tests did not suggest the presence of any cardiomyopathy nor arrhythmogenic disorder. In the Japanese population, precordial lead T-wave inversion is considered to be abnormal findings and treatment is often necessary. However, according to previous reports, precordial lead T-wave inversion subsequent to early repolarization is thought to be normal and frequently observed in African athletes. With the increasing number of foreign people living in and traveling to Japan, it is becoming crucial for Japanese physicians to know the abnormal ECG change in African athletes.

Methods: N/A

Result: N/A

Conclusion: N/A