

## **AMIODARONE**

**PRESENTATION** 150mg in 3ml injection/infusion (50mg/ml)

**INDICATION** Amiodarone is an anti-arrhythmic drug used in the treatment of all types of tachyarrhythmias including supraventricular, nodal and ventricular tachycardias, atrial flutter and fibrillation, ventricular fibrillation and tachyarrhythmias associated with Wolff-Parkinson – White Syndrome.

### **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **ICU STANDARD INTRAVENOUS INFUSION**

The standard recommended dose is an initial infusion of 5mg/kg (usually 300mg) given over 1 hour.

This may be followed by a continuous maintenance infusion of up to 15mg/kg (usually 900mg) over 23 hours.

Maximum total dose in 24 hours is 1200mg.

**The initial and maintenance doses should be prepared and administered as separate infusions.**

#### **Initial Infusion**

For central administration, the 300mg dose should be added to 250ml glucose 5% infusion and given over one hour.

For peripheral administration, the 300mg dose should be added to 250ml glucose 5% infusion and given over one hour.

#### **Maintenance infusion**

The 900mg dose should be added to 500ml glucose 5% infusion.

If a 300mg initial dose has been administered then 900mg should be given over 23 hours.

If a 300mg initial dose has not been administered immediately prior to the continuous maintenance infusion then 900mg should be administered at 21ml/hour over 24 hours.

Repeated or continuous infusions should be administered via a central line. If the loading dose is to be given peripherally due to lack of central venous access, use a large peripheral vein and monitor the injection site closely.

**STABILITY** Physically and chemically stable for 24 hours.  
Amiodarone diluted to a concentration of less than 0.6mg/ml is unstable and should not be used.  
Amiodarone is incompatible with sodium chloride infusions.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

In an extreme clinical emergency the drug may be given as a slow intravenous injection of 150mg-300mg in 10ml-20ml glucose 5% over a minimum of 3 minutes. This should not be repeated for at least 15 minutes.

The need for amiodarone should be reviewed after 24 hours treatment.

Amiodarone should be prescribed as a regular IV with a review date.

## REFERENCES

1. Summary of Product Characteristics - Amiodarone Hydrochloride 50mg/ml Concentrate for Solution for Injection/Infusion. Accessed via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/3940/smpc> on 01/12/20. Last revised 04/2020.
2. Summary of Product Characteristics – Cordarone X 150mg/3ml Solution for Injection. Accessed via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1441/smpc> on 01/12/20. Last revised 26/05/2020.
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4. Standard Medication Concentrations in Adult Critical Care; ICS Standards committee, Version 3, May 2020. Accessed via <https://medusa.wales.nhs.uk/docs/2020-05-11-%20ICS%20Guidance%20-%20Standard%20Concentrations%20List%20FINAL.pdf> on 01/12/20.

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