

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 08/05/23. Last revised 20/01/23.
2. Summary of Product Characteristics – Cordarone X 150mg/3ml Solution for Injection. Accessed via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1441/smpc> on 08/05/23. Last revised 30/06/2022.
3. Injectable Medicines Guide – Amiodarone. Accessed on 08/05/23. Last revised 15/03/2023.
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 08/05/23.

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