

AMIODARONE (*Cordarone X*) (C)

(Revised: December 2013)



TYPE: Potent anti-arrhythmic agent [S4]

PRESENTATION: 150mg in 3ml – glass ampoule

ACTIONS: Complex electrophysiological and pharmacological profile:

1. Prolongs the action potential duration; increases the refractoriness of all cardiac tissues
2. Blocks Na⁺ channels (class I action)
3. Has some anti-adrenergic effects (class II action)
4. Ca²⁺ blockade (class IV action)
5. Prolongs QT interval – reflects global prolongation of repolarisation
6. When given IV, there is a significant effect on the AV node which causes a delay in nodal conduction
7. Also effective for accessory pathway conduction

USES: Effective for both supraventricular and ventricular arrhythmias. ACTAS uses:

ICP 1. To slow the ventricular rate in atrial fibrillation and flutter

ICP 2. To treat VF and VT

ADVERSE EFFECTS: When given IV, can cause vasodilation, negative inotropic effects and hypotension (dose and rate dependent).
Occasionally may cause:

1. Bradycardia (especially in older patients)
2. Phlebitis
3. Hot flushes / sweating

CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

1. Known hypersensitivity
2. Cross sensitivity to iodine

continues over

AMIODARONE (C) – cont.



DOSES:

VF / VT CARDIAC ARREST

ADULT:

ICP 300mg IV/IO – over 30-60 seconds

PAEDIATRIC:

ICP 5mg/kg IV/IO (to maximum 300mg) – over 30-60 seconds

VT, AF & A.FLUTTER – WITH CARDIAC OUTPUT

ADULT:

ICP 150mg IV via Springfusor (made up to 7ml total volume with normal saline; 7ml will run over 10 minutes)
(VT – if *extremely* compromised, may be given over 5 minutes by slow IV injection)
No repeat dose for either treatment regime.

PAEDIATRIC:

ICP 5mg/kg IV (to maximum 150mg) via Springfusor (made up to 7ml total volume with normal saline; 7ml will run over 10 minutes)
(VT – if *extremely* compromised, may be given over 5 minutes by slow IV injection)
No repeat dose for either treatment regime.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Significant potential drug interactions.

The following may potentiate the actions of amiodarone:

- digoxin
- phenytoin (*Dilantin*)
- β blockers
- Ca^{2+} channel blocker
- other antiarrhythmics