

AMIODARONE

Additional Names: Cordarone, Nexterone

Classification: Antiarrhythmic (Class III)

Indications: Ventricular Tachycardia, Ventricular Fibrillation

Contraindications: Known hypersensitivity
Cardiogenic Shock
Severe Sinus Bradycardia, AV Block without a functioning pacemaker
B and Ca²⁺ Channel Blocker OD, with widened QT segment

Dosages:

Adult:
Cardiac Arrest – VF/pVT
Initial: 300mg IV/IO
2nd: 150mg IV/IO, q 3-5 minutes after 1st dose

Post ROSC
Loading Dose: 150mg IV/IO infusion over 10 minutes if two boluses (300 mg followed by 150 mg) were not already given during resuscitation
Maintenance Infusion: 1mg/min IV/IO infusion

Wide Complex Tachycardia
Regular/Irregular Rhythm:
Loading Dose: 150mg IV/IO infusion over 10 minutes
Maintenance Infusion upon conversion: 1mg/min IV/IO infusion

Pediatric:
Cardiac Arrest – VF/pVT
Initial: 5mg/kg IV/IO, max 300mg, may repeat bolus x2 prn, max 450mg total

Ventricular Tachycardia
If rhythm is regular and monomorphic:
Initial: 0.1mg/kg IV, q 1-2min, max 6mg
2nd: Double first dose, max 12mg

Infusion Set-up:

Loading Dose Infusion: 150mg over 10min: Add 150mg Amiodarone to 150mL NS/D5W, using a 10 gtt/ml macro drip set, administer 2.5gtts/sec (aka 150 gtt/min). If using a 15 gtt/ml macro drip set, administer 3.75 gtts/sec (aka 225 gtt/min)

Maintenance Infusion: 1mg/min: Add 150mg Amiodarone to 150 mL NS/D5W, using a 60 gtt/ml micro drip set, administer 1gtt/sec (aka 60 gtt/min)

Side Effects: Bradycardia, hypotension, Torsades de pointes (particularly with patients using beta blockers and/or digoxin)