



NEONATAL

# AMIODARONE

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)




**Highly Restricted:** Requires Neonatologist or Cardiologist approval before commencing

**⚠ HIGH RISK Medication**

<b>Presentation</b>	Ampoule: 150mg/3mL Oral Suspension: 5mg/mL (KEMH/PCH Pharmacy)
<b>Classification</b>	Antiarrhythmic
<b>Indication</b>	Control of ventricular and supraventricular arrhythmias
<b>Contraindications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypersensitivity to amiodarone, iodine, or any component of the formulation.</li> <li>• Severe sinus-node dysfunction causing marked sinus bradycardia</li> <li>• Second and third degree heart block</li> <li>• Bradycardia causing syncope</li> <li>• Cardiogenic shock</li> </ul>
<b>Precautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hepatic disease</li> <li>• Pulmonary disease</li> <li>• Thyroid disorder</li> <li>• Electrolyte imbalance (Hypokalaemia)</li> </ul>
<b>Dose</b>	<p><b><u>Antiarrhythmic</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IV Infusion:</u></b></p> <p><b>Loading dose:</b> 5 mg/kg over 30 to 60 minutes then;</p> <p><b>Continuous Infusion:</b> 5 microgram/kg/minute, gradually increase to 15 microgram/kg/minute according to response.</p> <p><b><u>SVT:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Oral:</u></b></p> <p><b>Initial Dosing:</b> 5–10 mg/kg twice daily for 7–10 days Then reduce to 5–10 mg/kg once daily.</p>

<b>Monitoring</b>	ECG monitoring, Electrolytes, Urea & Creatinine, Liver Function Tests, Thyroid Function Tests, Chest X-Ray, Eye examination, Blood Pressure.
<b>Dose Adjustment</b>	Adjust dose in severe hepatic impairment
<b>Compatible Fluids</b>	Glucose 5%
<b>Preparation</b>	<p><b><u>IV Infusion:</u></b> Compatible Fluid: Glucose 5%.</p> <p><b>Loading Dose:</b> Dilute 50mg (1mL) of amiodarone 150mg/3mL to a final volume of 50mL <u>Concentration = 1mg/mL</u></p> <p><b>Continuous Infusion:</b> Withdraw 15 mg per kilogram of body weight of amiodarone (0.3mL/kg) and dilute to 50mL with compatible fluid. Concentration = 300 microgram/kg/mL This will give the following infusion rate: <u>1 mL/hour = 5 microgram/kg/minute</u></p>
<b>Administration</b>	<p><b><u>IV Infusion:</u></b> Central line is recommended. If only peripheral access available, use for a maximum of 24 hours before attaining a central line. NON-PVC tubing should be used. Amiodarone is incompatible with heparin.</p> <p><b>Loading Dose</b> Recommended to be administered over 30 to 60 minutes. Alternatively, it may be infused between 20 to 120 minutes depending on clinical need. Adjust administration rate to patient's clinical condition and urgency; give slowly to patients who have a pulse (ie, perfusing arrhythmia - atrial fibrillation, stable ventricular tachycardia), do not exceed recommended IV concentrations or rates of infusion (severe hepatic toxicity may occur). Slow the infusion rate if hypotension or bradycardia develops</p> <p><b><u>Oral:</u></b> Amiodarone should be given with feeds</p>

<b>Adverse Reactions</b>	<p><b>Common:</b> extravasation, injection site reactions Raised serum transaminases, jaundice, bradycardia, pneumonitis, pulmonary fibrosis, tremor, hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, reversible corneal microdeposits, phototoxicity, persistent slate-grey skin discolouration.</p> <p>Rapid IV administration is associated with hypotension and dysrhythmias.</p> <p><b>Rare:</b> Worsening of arrhythmia, sinus arrest, peripheral neuropathy and myopathy, bronchospasm, benign intracranial hypertension, haemolytic or aplastic anaemia, thrombocytopenia, rash, hypersensitivity including vasculitis, anaphylaxis on rapid injection.</p>
<b>Storage</b>	Store at room temperature, below 25°C, protect from light
<b>Interactions</b>	Incompatible with Sodium Chloride 0.9%
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Ampoules contain benzyl alcohol that is associated with “gasping syndrome” in prolonged treatment.</p> <p>Presents as metabolic acidosis, respiratory distress, gasping respirations, convulsions, intracranial haemorrhage, hypotension and cardiovascular collapse</p>
<b>Guidelines &amp; Resources</b>	<p><a href="#">Arrhythmias</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cardiac Dysrhythmias</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arrhythmias and Cardiac Arrest on NICU: Treatment Algorithms</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cardioversion and Defibrillation</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cardiac: Complications Management Following Surgery</a></p>
<b>References</b>	<p>Takemoto CK, Hodding JH, Kraus DM. Pediatric &amp; neonatal dosage handbook with international trade names index : a universal resource for clinicians treating pediatric and neonatal patients. 24th ed. Hudson (Ohio): Lexicomp; 2401. 2, p117.</p> <p>Australian Medicines Handbook.. Amiodarone. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2019 [cited 2019 Jul 03]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a></p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Amiodarone. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2017 [cited 2019 Jul 03]. Available from: <a href="http://aidh.hcn.com.au">http://aidh.hcn.com.au</a></p>

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