

Pharmacologic properties:

Amiodarone is considered a class III antiarrhythmic. It possesses electrophysiologic characteristics of sodium, potassium and calcium channel blockade, as well as alpha and beta adrenergic blocking activity. These properties prolong action potentials and repolarization, stabilizing myocardial membranes.

Indications:

- Ventricular fibrillation/pulseless ventricular tachycardia
- Ventricular tachycardia without overt signs of shock (SBP > 90)
- Wide complex tachycardia of unknown etiology
- Pediatric ventricular fibrillation/pulseless ventricular tachycardia

Contraindications:

Patients with known hypersensitivity to Amiodarone, or in patients with cardiogenic shock, marked sinus bradycardia, and second or third degree AV block. Contraindicated in patients with iodine hypersensitivity.

Patients taking Coumadin (Warfarin)

Precautions:

- Solution is extremely viscous, Do Not Shake
- Administer the medication slowly

Side effects/ adverse reactions:

Adverse reactions include fever, bradycardia, CHF, cardiac arrest, hypotension, ventricular tachycardia, nausea, and abnormal liver function.

Dosage and administration:

- Adult cardiac arrest
 - 300 mg, IV/IO bolus
 - For persistent VF/VT repeat 150 mg, IV/IO bolus (maximum total dose 450 mg)
- Adult non-cardiac arrest
 - 150 mg IV over 10 minutes. May repeat 150 mg IV (over 10 min) every 10 minutes.
- Pediatric cardiac arrest
 - 5 mg/kg, IV/IO bolus (maximum individual dose 300 mg)
 - For persistent VF/VT repeat 5 mg/kg, IV/IO bolus (maximum total dose 15 mg/kg)

How to mix

150 mg of medication in 50 ml IV bag of NS. Use a 10gtts/ml (macro) set give 1 gtts/sec to achieve 150mg over 10 min.