

## Amiodarone

- Classification:** Antiarrhythmic {Class III}
- Actions:** Slows sinus rate, increases PR and QT intervals, decreases peripheral vascular resistance, increases refractory period of the AV node
- Indications:** Prophylaxis of frequently recurring VF and hemodynamically unstable VT in patients refractory to other therapy, indicated for patients who have been prescribed oral cordarone, but are unable to take oral medications.
- Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to the drug, cardiogenic shock, marked sinus bradycardia, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree AV block { unless a functioning pacemaker is available}
- Precautions:** Heart failure, should only be administered when adequate facilities may monitor the effectiveness and side effects of the drug.
- Side Effects:** Hypotension, tremors, fatigue, N/V, dyspnea
- Dosage:** Ventricular arrhythmias { adults} loading dose 300mg IVP, Maintenance dose 150 mg IVP to max cumulative dose of 2.2g/24 hrs, Supplied in ampules of 150mg/3ml
- Route:** IV, Oral

References: Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories  
The Protocol Series  
Prehospital Emergency Pharmacology 5<sup>th</sup> Edition