Amiodarone

Amiodarone dosing may be weight based; ensure accuracy of documented weight before administration	
CAUTION: High Administration Risk Rating	
Form	300mg per 10mL prefilled syringe (resuscitation trolley) 150mg per 3mL ampoule
Reconstitution	Already in solution • **Draw up using a 5micron filter needle** • **Use gloves when opening ampoules**
Compatibility & Stability	**Glucose 5% ONLY** Do not over-dilute. Solutions containing less than 300mg amiodarone in 500mL (i.e. less than 600 micrograms per mL) are unstable and should not be used. **Incompatible with PVC** A non-PVC infusion container (Baxter Viaflo®, Braun Ecoflac®) and a non-PVC infusion set should be used.
Administration	**Slow IV injection – extreme clinical emergency only** • Use 300mg per 10 mL prefilled syringe. Does not require further dilution. • If prefilled syringe is unavailable the 150mg in 3mL preparation can be used. **Dilute to 10mL** by adding 300mg (2 ampoules: 6mL) to 4mL glucose 5%. Give over a minimum of 3 minutes. Flush with 10mL of glucose 5%. This should not be repeated for at least 15 minutes. Patient must be closely monitored, e.g. in ICU/CCU/ED setting. **Intermittent IV infusion (Loading dose)** Preferably administer via a central venous access device to avoid potential venous irritation. If given peripherally, choose a large vein and monitor the injection site closely. Dilute required dose in 250mL glucose 5% and infuse over one hour. **Continuous IV infusion** Add required amiodarone dose (usually 900mg, max 1200 mg) to 500mL glucose 5% and infuse using an electronically controlled pump over 23 – 24 hours (900mg) and 24 hours (1200mg). When repeated or continuous infusion is anticipated, administration via a central venous catheter is recommended. The maximum concentration for continuous infusion via peripheral veins is 2mg/mL.
Monitoring	• Blood pressure, heart rate and ECG must be monitored during administration. • Should only be administered where facilities exist for cardiac monitoring, defibrillation and cardiac pacing.
Extravasation	• Infusion site reactions may occur, monitor site closely. • Extravasation is likely to cause tissue damage. Repeated or continuous infusions should be given via central line.
Additional Information	• Amiodarone is often administered as a **loading dose** followed by a smaller **maintenance dose**.

Information provided relates to Cordarone® manufactured by Sanofi, Aurum and Hameln Pharmaceuticals.

This information has been summarised to act as a guide for those administering IV medication. The monograph should be used in conjunction with the drug data sheet and BNF for information on dose, adverse effects, cautions and contra-indications. Further information is available from Pharmacy on 22146 or 22542