

Cordarone (amiodarone)

Indications: Ventricular Fibrillation (Cardiac Arrest) & Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia

Must be mixed in glass or Aviva container (a non-latex plastic container that does not contain PVC, DEHP, or other plasticizers) if infusion exceeds 2 hours (i.e. a bolus can be put in a bag)

Stable for 5 days at room temperature.

Standard Bolus: 150mg in 100ml of Dextrose 5% (1.5mg/ml).

Standard Infusion concentration: 1.8mg/ml in Dextrose 5% mixed in a glass bottle or Aviva container

Dosing:

150mg over 10 minutes (15mg/min) bolus (Rate = 600ml/hr)(1.5mg/ml),

then 1mg/min for 6 hours (Rate = 33.3ml/hr) (1.8mg/ml),

then 0.5mg/min (Rate = 16.7ml/hr) (1.8mg/ml)

In the event of breakthrough ventricular fibrillation, the patient may be re-bolused at 150mg over 10 minutes (15mg/min)

Adverse reactions: hypotension, nausea/vomiting, alveolitis, pulmonary fibrosis, interstitial pneumonitis, hypo- or hyperthyroidism, cardiac arrhythmias

Drug interactions: Numerous; any medication that may prolong the QT interval

Contraindications: AV Block, Benzyl alcohol hypersensitivity, cardiogenic shock, sick sinus syndrome, and *iodine hypersensitivity*

Nursing Considerations:

1. Monitor ECG, HR, BP
2. Use a 0.22 micron filter
3. Use glass bottle for continuous infusion. A bag may be used for the bolus as long as it is given within one hour of mixing.