
Department of Cardiology/Pharmacy

Amiodarone

Action

Amiodarone is used to treat fast or irregular heartbeats.

Amiodarone works by slowing down the electrical impulses that cause fast or irregular heartbeats.

Taking your amiodarone

When first starting amiodarone, you may take a reducing course such as one tablet three times a day for a week, then one tablet twice a day for a week.

For most patients who then need to continue to take amiodarone the regular dose will usually be one tablet each day.

Problems to watch for

- Amiodarone may make your skin more sensitive to sunlight. Cover your head with a hat. If possible, wear a long-sleeved top. Wear sunscreen (Factor 25) on exposed skin. You should also avoid using sunbeds whilst taking amiodarone.
- Amiodarone may cause some patients to develop small deposits on the cornea. This does not interfere with daytime vision but you might be dazzled by headlights at night. Be very careful if you drive. Tell your doctor if this becomes a problem.

Other side effects which can occur with amiodarone are: -

- Muscle pain
- Shortness of breath
- Numbness in fingers or toes
- General tiredness, weight loss or fever.
- Metallic taste
- Blue/grey discoloration of the skin
- Headache
- Cough

Tell your doctor if these side effects occur.

Whilst taking amiodarone you will have regular tests of your eyesight, thyroid gland, and liver.

Note: Avoid grapefruit juice if you are taking amiodarone as it may increase the risk of side-effects. Always read the patient information leaflet provided by the manufacturer

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format:
01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Potete chiedere di ottenere queste informazioni in altre lingue, in stampato grande o in audiocassetta.

Italian

若你需要本信息的繁體中文、大字體或音訊格式的版本，請要求索取。

Cantonese

तमने आ माहिती वीछ भाषाओमां, मोटा अक्षरोमां अथवा सांभजी शकाय जेवा माध्यम
(ओडीओ इमेज)मां जेठती छोय तो कृपा करीने पूछो.

Gujarati

تکایہ پرسیار بگہ تہ گہر نہ وزانیاریہت دہوی بہ زمانیکی تر ، بہ پیتی گہورہ یانیش بہ شیوہی دہنگ

Kurdish

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات دوسری زبانوں میں، بڑے الفاظ کی اشاعت میں یا آڈیو ٹیپ پر درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی اس کیلئے درخواست کریں۔

Urdu



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Document history

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