

**ALDERFER & TRAVIS CARDIOLOGY, PC**  
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AMIODARONE - ORAL

OTHER NAMES: Cordarone Aratec, Corderone

USES: This medication is used to treat irregular heart rhythms (arrhythmias) and maintain a normal heart rate.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION: This is best taken on an empty stomach with a full glass of water, but may be taken with food or milk if stomach upset occurs.

This medication works best when there is a constant level of the drug in your body. To do this, take each dose exactly as prescribed at evenly spaced intervals throughout the day and night. Try to take each dose at the same time each day.

Do not stop taking this medication or change the dose without first consulting your doctor. Some conditions may become worse when the drug is suddenly stopped.

SIDE EFFECTS: Constipation, loss of appetite, bitter taste in mouth, dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, flushing of face or decreased sexual interest may occur as your body adjusts to the medication. If these effects persist or worsen, inform your MD.

Notify your doctor if you develop painful breathing, shortness of breath, cough, slight fever, blue-gray coloring of skin, coldness, sweating, irregular pulse, skin rash, yellowing eyes or skin or vision changes while taking this medicine.

This medication can increase sensitivity to sunlight.

PRECAUTIONS: Tell your doctor your complete medical history especially of any liver, kidney, heart or lung disease, thyroid problems or of any allergies, especially any drug allergies. breast-feeding.

This medication may make you more prone to sunburn. Wear protective clothing and a sunscreen.

This drug is not recommended for use during pregnancy. Consult your doctor before using this drug. Amiodarone is excreted into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding because taking this drug while breast-feeding is not recommended.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Inform your doctor about all the medicines you use (both prescription and nonprescription) especially if you take other medicine to treat irregular heartbeats (antiarrhythmics), "blood thinners" warfarin (Coumadin), beta-blockers (propranolol or Inderal like drugs usually used for

high blood pressure), digoxin (Lanoxin), phenytoin (Dilantin) or theophylline (for asthma) because your dose may need to be changed or you may need to be more closely monitored.

NOTES: Your doctor may want you to check your pulse rate every day while you take this medication. Learn how to monitor your pulse.

Eye exams are required with this drug.

To evaluate the effectiveness of this medication, your doctor may periodically take a blood sample to measure the amount of the drug in your body. Chest X-rays or electrocardiogram (EKG) may also be done. Keep all appointments with your doctor.

MISSED DOSE: If you miss a dose, do not take the missed dose at all and do not "double-up" the next dose. Instead, resume your usual dosing schedule. If 2 or more doses in a row are missed, contact your doctor.

STORAGE: Store at room temperature away from moisture and sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom.

Your condition can cause complications in a medical emergency. For information on enrollment call Medic Alert(TM) at 1-800-854-1166. In Canada call 1-800-668-1507.