Cordarone X Tablets

Amiodarone hydrochloride

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

• Keep this leaflet. You may need to refer to it again.

If you have any doubts or questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not give it to anyone else. It may harm them, even if the symptoms are the same as yours.

If you get any side effects or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

1. What Cordarone X Tablets are and who they are for

Cordarone X Tablets (100mg or 200mg tablets called Cordarone X Tablets) contain amiodarone hydrochloride. This belongs to a group of medicines called antiarrhythmics.

It works by controlling the uneven beating of your heart (called ‘arrhythmia’). Taking this medicine helps your heartbeat to return to normal.

Cordarone X Tablets can be used to:

• Treat fast heartbeats which may happen suddenly
• Treat other types of fast or uneven heartbeats known as ‘tachycardia’ or ‘tachyarrhythmia’
• Treat an illness called Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome.

It works by controlling the uneven beating of your heart (called ‘arrhythmia’). Taking this medicine helps your heartbeat to return to normal.

Cordarone X Tablets are used:

• when you have a faster than normal heartbeat (called ‘sinus bradycardia’) or an illness called ‘sino-atrial’ heart block
• when you have a pacemaker fitted and do not use the pacemaker
• when you have had a pacemaker fitted and your doctor tells you to stop the pacemaker before giving you this medicine
• when you are taking certain other medicines which could affect your heartbeat (see ‘taking other medicines’ below)
• when you are pregnant or breast-feeding (see ‘taking special care with Cordarone X Tablets’ below)

• when you are allergic (hypersensitive) to:

2. Before you take Cordarone X Tablets

If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

• Have you given birth recently or are you planning to have a baby? Do not use this medicine. This is because drinking grapefruit juice while taking Cordarone X Tablets can increase the chance of getting side effects.

• Have you a slower than usual heartbeat (called ‘sinus bradycardia’) or an illness called ‘sino-atrial’ heart block

• Have you a pacemaker fitted?

• Do you have a pacemaker or implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD)? Your doctor will check that your device is working properly when you start taking Cordarone X Tablets or if your dose is changed.

• Do you have any other problems with your heartbeat?

• Do you have a condition which may make your heart beat too fast?

• Do you have heart failure?

• Do you have any other conditions which may affect your heart?

• Do you have any problems with your liver?

• Do you have a lung problem?

• Do you have diabetes?

• Do you have asthma?

• Do you have Problems with your thyroid gland?

• Do you have a slower than normal heartbeat (called ‘sinus bradycardia’) or an illness called ‘sino-atrial’ heart block

• Do you have any problems with your blood pressure?

• Do you have any other conditions which make your heart beat too fast?

• Do you have a faster than usual heartbeat?

• Do you have any conditions which affect your liver?

• Do you have any problems with your blood pressure?

• Do you have any other conditions which make your heart beat too fast?

• Do you have any other conditions which affect your liver?

• Do you have any problems with your blood pressure?

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If you take more Cordarone X Tablets than you should
If you take more Cordarone X Tablets than you should tell your doctor or go to a hospital casualty department straight away. This is because the medicine in Cordarone X Tablets can cause problems to your liver. It is very rare for this to happen, but if it does you may need urgent medical treatment. This is the sort of doctor you should see. The following effects may happen:

• Feeling unwell, confused or weak, feeling sick (nausea), loss of appetite, feeling irritable. This could be because of a blood disorder (called 'thrombocytopenia').
• You may bleed or bruise more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood disorder (called 'thrombocytopenia').
• Feeling upset, confused or weak, feeling sick. This could be because of an illness called 'optic neuropathy' or 'hyperthyroidism'.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you have any of the following side effects — you may need urgent medical treatment:
Uncommon (affects less than 1 in 10 people)

• Feeling faint, dizzy, unusually tired and short of breath. This could be because of respiratory problems (called 'asthma').
• Feeling less hungry
• Muscle cramps, stiffness or spasm
• Dry mouth
• Nightmares
• You have bladder symptoms (difficulty in urinating or involuntary urination)
• Changes in the amount of liver enzymes at the start of treatment. This can be seen in blood tests and an increase in a type of white blood cell (eosinophilia) and enlarged lymph nodes.

Very rare (affects less than 1 in 10,000 people)

• You have flu-like symptoms and a rash on the face or body. This could be due to an inflammation of the body which is seen by X-ray (rheumatoid arthritis)
• You have blistering or peeling of the skin around the eyes, mouth and arms. This could be due to an illness called Stevens-Johnson syndrome.
• Blue or grey marks on parts of your skin exposed to sunlight' in Section 2

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side-effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or manufacturer. This includes any possible side-effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side-effects by calling the Yellow Card Scheme at: 0800 206 172.