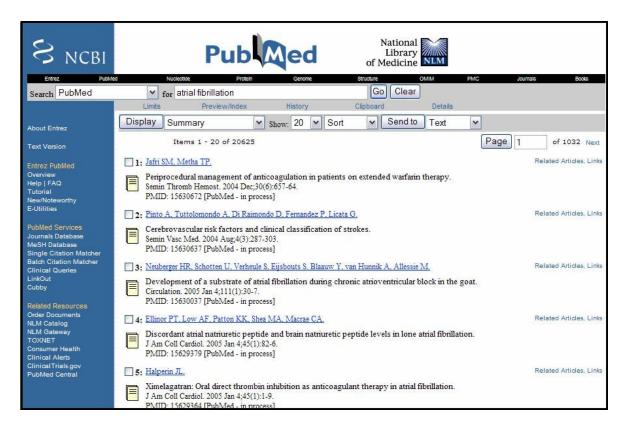
User interface images for each study-related educational decision support feature.



**ABA**, Antibiotic Advisor, triggered from positive blood cultures. Provided antibiotics recommendations based on organism-specific and institutional drug sensitivity patterns.



**MSH**, triggered from an active diagnosis order. Performed a real-time keyword search in the online interface to the PubMed database.

## Chemistry and Stability

## Chemistry

Amiodarone hydrochloride is an iodinated benzofuran-derivative antiarrhythmic agent.(1-6,13,25) The drug differs structurally and pharmacologically from other currently available antiarrhythmic agents.(1-6,13,25)

Amiodarone hydrochloride occurs as a white to cream-colored, crystalline powder(1,355) and has solubilities of approximately 0.72 mg/mL in water and 12.8 mg/mL in alcohol at 25DGC (241) The drug is highly lipophilic.(1,241) Amiodarone hydrochloride contains 37.3% iodine; each 200-mg tablet of the drug or each mL of the commercially available injection contains approximately 75 or 18.7 mg of iodine, respectively.(1,2,13) Amiodarone has a pKa of approximately 6.6 (2,241,283)

## Stability

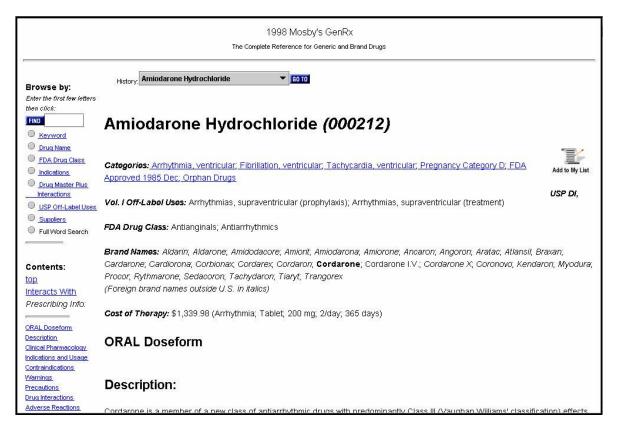
Amiodarone hydrochloride tablets should be protected from light(1,242) and stored in tight containers(1,283) at room temperature (about 25DGC).(1) Commercially available amiodarone tablets have an expiration date of 3 years following the date of manufacture.(283)

Commercially available amiodarone hydrochloride injection should be stored at room temperature (i.e., 15-25DGC) and protected from light and excessive heat. (355) Ampuls containing the injection should be stored in the carton to protect the solution from light until used. (355) Diluted solutions of amiodarone hydrochloride injection do not need to be protected from light during administration. (355)

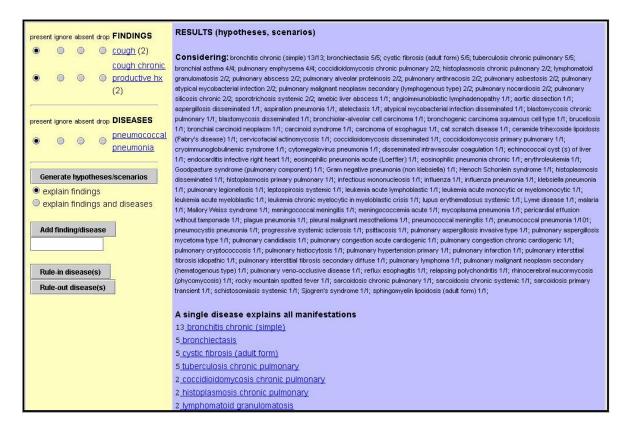
Although amiodarone hydrochloride adsorbs to polyvinyl chloride (PVC) tubing, the parenteral drug doses and administration schedule studied in clinical trials were designed to take this fact into account.(355) Therefore, the manufacturer recommends using PVC tubing and closely following the suggested infusion regimen when administering amiodarone hydrochloride by IV infusion.(355)

Following dilution of amiodarone hydrochloride injection to a concentration of 1-6 mg/mL in 5% dextrose in a PVC container, there is physical compatibility, with a loss of less than 10% of drug at 2 hours.(355) Following dilution of amiodarone hydrochloride injection to a concentration of 1-6 mg/mL in 5% dextrose in a glass or polyolefin container, there is physical compatibility, with no loss of drug at 24 hours.(355) Therefore, the manufacturer states that

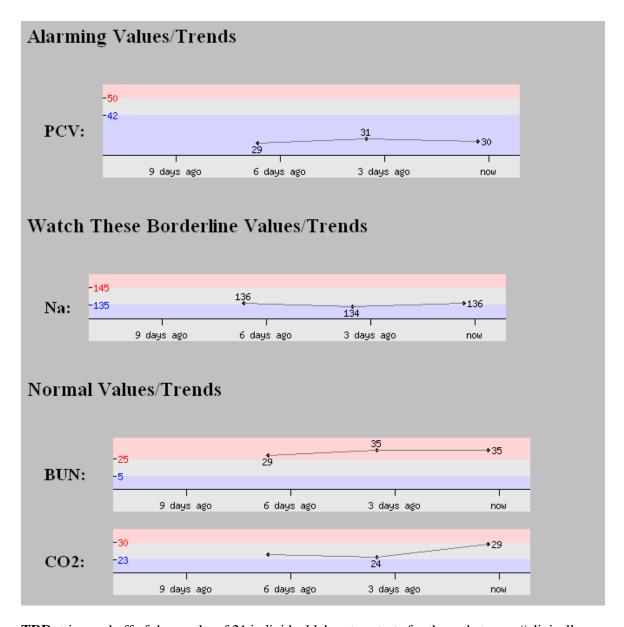
**WRX**, triggered from new medication orders. Displayed drug monographs from the American Hospital Formulary Service (AHFS) Drug Information reference database.



**MSB**, triggered from new medication orders. Displayed drug monographs from Mosby's GenRx® drug information reference.



QMR, triggered from active diagnosis and medication orders. Provided access to an internal medicine diagnostic knowledge base and diagnostic expert system listing the findings that have been reported to occur in 600 diseases in Internal Medicine, and the differential diagnosis of over 4,500 individual clinical findings



**TRD**, triggered off of the results of 21 individual laboratory tests for those that were "clinically abnormal" or those having a trend suggesting that an abnormal value would occur within the next 72 hours. Provided access to graphical display of pertinent laboratory trends.

dep.	order	instances	cost per instance	cost
LAB	CBC / PLT CT	1	63.00	63.00
РНМ	AMIODARONE: CORDARONE	10	11.28	112.80
Total for new lab tests, medications, radiology exams:				\$175.80

**LMR**, triggered off of orders for laboratory tests, medications and radiology procedures. Provided access to a display that gave a detailed tally of "estimated expenditures" from during the current order entry session.