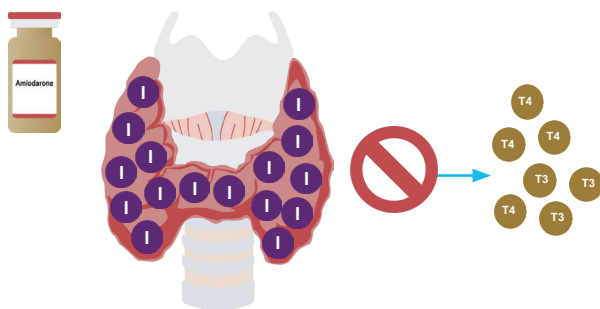


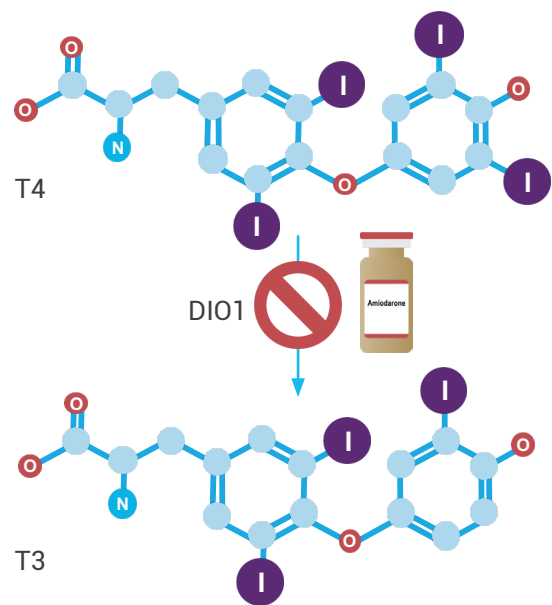
# AMIODARONE

## Explaining the effects of amiodarone

Amiodarone has a number of effects on the normal thyroid. The high iodine content initially invokes the **Wolff-Chaikoff effect**, with decreased thyroid hormone production.



Amiodarone blocks the conversion of T4 → T3.



Amiodarone also blocks the uptake of T4 into the cell, and blocks the action of T3 at the cardiac tissue.

These changes can affect thyroid function tests, and alter a patient's risk for developing thyroid disease, which is important to understand for monitoring patients on amiodarone therapy.

### Further reading

Loh KC. Amiodarone-induced thyroid disorders: a clinical review. *Postgrad Med J.* 2000. 76:133–140.