

Q?

Neuropharmacology

- Acute atrial fibrillation is BEST controlled with which of the following medications?
 - A. Lidocaine
 - B. Adenosine
 - C. Atenolol
 - D. Amiodarone

A.

Neuropharmacology

- The correct answer is C, Atenolol.
- According to the AFFIRM and RACE trials, acute atrial fibrillation is best managed by controlling the **HEART RATE rather than the rhythm**.
- This is best established with beta blockers and/or calcium channel blockers.
- Lidocaine is an antiarrhythmic used for VT.
- Adenosine is used to terminate reentrant SVT involving the AV node.
- Amiodarone is used for AF/VT prevention.

Q?

Neuropharmacology

- A 65 year-old male with a past medical history of atrial fibrillation presents to your office with a chief complaint of lethargy and bilateral symmetrical numbness in his fingers and toes. Which of the following antiarrhythmics is MOST commonly associated with his current complaints?
 - A. Procainamide
 - B. Adenosine
 - C. Digoxin
 - D. Amiodarone

A.

Neuropharmacology

- The correct answer is D, Amiodarone.
- The side effects associated with **amiodarone** are tremor, peripheral neuropathy, **pulmonary inflammation**, **hyper and hypothyroidism**, and photosensitivity.
- **Procainamide** is associated with **lupus erythematosus-like syndrome**, anorexia, nausea, and neutropenia.
- Adenosine is associated with cough and flushing.
- **Digoxin** is associated with anorexia, nausea, vomiting, and **visual changes**.