

# AMIODARONE

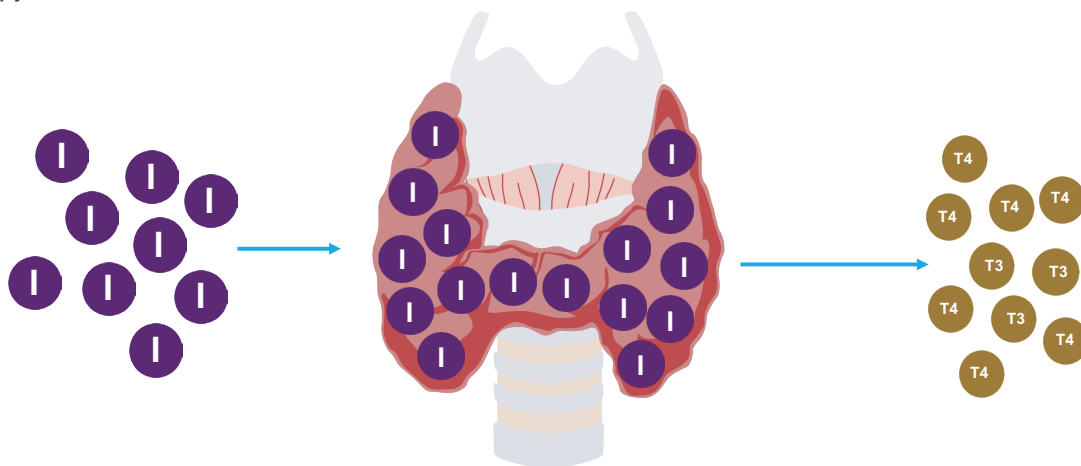
## Unraveling amiodarone-induced thyrotoxicosis

Amiodarone induced thyrotoxicosis (AIT) is more commonly seen in patients from iodine-deficient areas such as parts of Europe, Asia and Africa (in blue).



### *There are two different causes of AIT:*

AIT type 1 is iodine-induced hyperthyroidism. High levels of iodine from the amiodarone trigger increased thyroid hormone production. This is due to failure of the autoregulatory processes that usually prevent this from happening. This is more commonly seen in patients with underlying thyroid abnormalities (early Graves' disease or autonomous nodules). This may occur at any time during, or even following amiodarone therapy.



AIT type 2 is a toxic thyroiditis due to damage to the thyroid cells from the amiodarone itself. This results in release of pre-formed thyroid hormone. This is more often seen in patients with a normal thyroid. It is more likely to occur later in amiodarone therapy (average occurrence at 30 months).

