

Patient information

Ferinject®

What is Ferinject®?

Ferinject® is an intravenous form of iron, used in treating iron deficiency anaemia. Iron is an important element that is required in the body, it can help to increase the production of the haemoglobin (protein found in red blood cells) that helps transport oxygen to cells of the body. Ferinject® is given to those who are unable to tolerate iron in an oral form or where oral preparations have been unsuccessful. The aim of this treatment is to correct the level of iron in your body, which may help to improve your anaemia.

How is it administered ?

Ferinject® is administered in the form of an injection or infusion (medication mixed with solvent i.e. 0.9% sodium chloride that is given through a vein in your arm). The form of administration is decided by the doctor or nurse.

The infusion usually takes 15 to 30 minutes and takes place in the Medical Treatment Unit. You will be observed for a few minutes pre and post infusion. The physician, who is looking after you may follow up with a blood test between two to four weeks' time after the infusion, to check and see if further Ferinject® infusion is required.

Possible side effects

Common side effects:

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Flushing
- Nausea

- Reaction at the site of injection / infusion

In some cases, there is a risk of the iron product leaking outside the vein, this is called extravasation. This could lead to long lasting brown discolouration of the skin and possibly irritation at the site of administration. The time it takes for the discolouration to disappear depends on the amount of drug that was extravasated. If you notice any discolouration or pain during infusion, let a member of the nursing staff know immediately so that the infusion can be stopped and you can be assessed.

Serious side effects (these are rare complications):

Inform a member of the medical team immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- Rash
- Itching
- Difficulty in breathing
- Swelling of the lips, tongue, throat or body

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust is actively involved in clinical research. Your doctor, clinical team or the Research and Development Department may contact you regarding specific clinical research studies that you might be interested in participating in. If you do not wish to be contacted for these purposes, please email info.gov@wsh.nsh.uk. This will in no way affect the care or treatment you receive.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo)

<https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>

