

PHARMACY

Drug Information

Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®)



What is Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®)?

- Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) is a form of injectable iron that is recommended as a treatment for iron deficiency anemia in patients with heart failure.
- It supplies iron for the production of red blood cells which improves transport of oxygen around the body. This may help to improve exercise capacity and reduce fatigue.
- A blood test is done to determine whether you require Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®).

How is Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) Administered?

- Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) is usually given as an infusion into the vein (intravenous) over a period of time.
- The first dose is administered over 1 hour, while the repeat dose can be administered over a shorter time.

Can Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) be Administered With Other Medications?

- Please inform your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking other medications, including supplements, traditional or herbal remedies.

What are the Important Side Effects of Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®)?

- Medications prescribed by your doctor should be beneficial for your condition even though they may result in some inevitable side effects.

Side Effects	Management
Changes in blood pressure (e.g. dizziness, headache, face flushing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your blood pressure regularly. • Get up slowly from sitting or lying position to minimise dizziness. • Inform your doctor if headache is persistent. • Your doctor may prescribe medicines to control blood pressure if necessary.

Side Effects	Management
Nausea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat small frequent meals • Suck hard, sugar-free candy
Muscle aches and joint pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild pain can be relieved by taking Paracetamol (e.g. Panadol®). Inform your doctor if the pain is not controlled by Paracetamol (e.g. Panadol®).
Infusion site reaction (e.g. pain, bruising, redness, irritation, numbness around the infusion site)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not rub the injection site. Contact your doctor if the redness, pain or itch worsens.

If you develop rashes, facial swelling or shortness of breath after administration of the medication, you could be allergic to the medication. Please seek medical attention immediately.

Do I Need Regular Monitoring When Taking These Medicines?

- Trained staff will monitor your blood pressure, heart rate and for signs of allergic reactions at regular intervals during the infusion, and after the infusion is completed.
- Your doctor may do a blood test to check your iron level at the next clinic visit and order an additional dose of Ferric Carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) if your iron has not been sufficiently replaced.

Are There any Special Precautions That I Need to Take?

- It is important to inform your doctor if you intend to conceive or breastfeed while receiving this medication.

If you have any problem with your treatment, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse clinician.