

Parent and caregiver leaflet

Find out what Ferinject is, how the treatment is given and what to expect



This leaflet is to be given by clinicians to parents and caregivers of children (aged 1 to 13 years) who have been prescribed Ferinject for the treatment of iron deficiency (low iron levels in the blood)



Why have you been given this leaflet?

You have been given this leaflet because your child has low levels of iron and their doctor believes that Ferinject[®] (ferric carboxymaltose) is an appropriate treatment for them.

Please note that this leaflet does not replace the Patient Information Leaflet that comes with the medicine. Please ask your child's doctor or nurse to give you the Patient Information Leaflet, which you should read in addition to this leaflet.

What is Ferinject?

Ferinject is a treatment for patients who have low levels of iron in the body. Over time, low levels of iron can lead to a condition called anaemia, which is when the body can't make enough red blood cells. The red blood cells may also be smaller than they should be. This may mean that the blood does not transport oxygen through the body as well as it should, which can result in symptoms like tiredness.

What is Ferinject used for?

Ferinject is used to treat iron deficiency by increasing the amount of iron in the body to normal levels. Increasing the iron in the body is intended to reverse or prevent anaemia. Your child's doctor has prescribed Ferinject to your child as they believe it to be an appropriate treatment for them.

How does Ferinject work?

Ferinject contains iron in the form of tiny particles of iron, with a sugar coating. This means that the iron is released gradually and can be used by the body.

What will your child's doctor want to know before they start treatment?

Your child's doctor will want to talk to you before your child starts treatment as not all medicines are suitable for all people. Before your child starts treatment, they may ask for their medical history. They will also want to know if your child is taking any other medicines, including those that don't need a prescription.



Your child's treatment with Ferinject

How will your child receive treatment?

Your child will be treated with Ferinject by their doctor or nurse in two possible ways:

- by injection, directly into a vein in the arm.
- by infusion, given directly into a vein in the arm through a drip.

Their doctor or nurse will decide on the most appropriate way to give them their treatment.

Your child must not receive Ferinject if:

- they are allergic (hypersensitive) to ferric carboxymaltose or any of the other ingredients of this medicine.
- they have experienced serious allergic (hypersensitive) reactions to other injectable iron preparations.
- they have anaemia not caused by iron deficiency.
- they have an iron overload (too much iron in the body) or disturbances in the utilisation of iron (where the body cannot process iron properly).

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your child's doctor or nurse before they receive Ferinject if they have:

- a history of medicine allergy.
- systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis, severe asthma, eczema or other allergies.
- an infection.
- liver disorders.
- low levels of phosphate in the blood (or if they have had low levels of phosphate in the blood in the past).

Ferinject should not be given to children aged 1-13 years if they are on dialysis.

This medicine is not appropriate for children under 1 year of age.



What possible side effects might your child experience?

As with all medicines, Ferinject can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them. Please be aware of the following information regarding possible Ferinject side effects:

- **Allergic reaction:** There is a low risk of allergic reaction with all iron treatments given directly into the arm. Tell your child's doctor immediately if they experience any of the following: rash (e.g. hives), itching, difficulty breathing, wheezing and/or swelling of the lips, tongue, throat or body, and chest pain. In some patients these allergic reactions (affecting fewer than 1 in 1,000 people) may become severe. Your child's doctor is aware of these possible side effects and will check them during and after Ferinject is given.
- **Common side effects:** These include headache, dizziness, feeling hot (flushing), high blood pressure, nausea, and injection/infusion site reactions (such as pain or redness where Ferinject has been given).
- **Product leakage:** Incorrect administration of Ferinject may cause leakage of the product at the administration site, which may lead to irritation of the skin and potentially long lasting brown discolouration at the site of administration. The administration must be stopped immediately when this occurs.
- **Blood phosphate levels:** Ferinject may also cause blood phosphate levels to fall. Tell your child's doctor if they develop worsening of tiredness or any muscle or bone pain (pain in the arms or legs, joints or back) as these may be signs of blood phosphate levels dropping.

Your child's doctor will discuss possible side effects with you both, and they will check how your child is doing while their treatment is being given.

Please tell your child's doctor or nurse if they feel unwell or you think they may be experiencing any side effects whilst being treated with Ferinject.

Please note that there is more information on possible side effects in the Patient Information Leaflet provided with this medicine.

What happens next?

Your child may only need a single dose of Ferinject, or they may need to return for further treatments to complete the course. Once they have finished their course of treatment, they may be asked to return to have a further blood test to see how they are doing.

At future appointments, your child's doctor or nurse will continue to check that the amount of iron in their body stays within the right range for them. They may also need further courses of treatment in the future.

Appointment date tracker

You might find the table below useful to make a note of your child's next appointment and any questions you may have or points you would like to discuss with their doctor or nurse.

If at any time you feel unsure about anything or need information or advice, contact your child's nurse or doctor.

Appointment date tracker

Next appointment	Notes: points to discuss

Use the space below to note down emergency numbers and contact details for your child's nurse and/or doctor so you can get help quickly if you need it.

Contact details

Further information

For further information about Ferinject, please refer to the Patient Information Leaflet and/or speak to your child's doctor or nurse.

For medical information enquiries contact:

Telephone: **+44 (0)1276 853633**

Email: **medicalInfo_UK@viforpharma.com**

Reporting of side effects

If your child gets any side effects, talk to their doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the package leaflet.

You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/> or search for MHRA Yellow Card in Google Play or Apple App Store.

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Always read the Patient Information Leaflet provided with your child's medicine.

All images in this leaflet are used for illustrative purposes only and all people depicted are models.

CSL Vifor

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