

CSL Vifor



Patient leaflet

This patient leaflet is to be
given by clinicians to patients
prescribed Ferinject®.



Why have you been given this leaflet?

You have been given this leaflet because you have been found to have low levels of iron in your body and your doctor believes that Ferinject® (ferric carboxymaltose) is an appropriate treatment for you.

This leaflet explains what Ferinject is, how it is used and what you can expect from your treatment. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please speak to your doctor or nurse.

Please note that this leaflet does not replace the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) that comes with your medicine. Please ask your doctor or nurse to give you the PIL, 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, where red blood cells are either smaller and/or fewer than normal. This may mean that your blood does not transport oxygen through the body as well as it should.

What is Ferinject used for?

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

How does Ferinject work?

Ferinject contains iron in the form of tiny particles of iron with a sugar coating. This prevents rapid release of iron into the bloodstream, as would occur without the sugar coating, and ensures iron is released gradually for use by the body.

What will your doctor want to know before you start treatment?

Your doctor will want to talk to you before you start treatment as not all medicines are suitable for all people. Before you are given Ferinject, your doctor may ask you about the following:

- Your full medical history.
- Whether you are taking any other medicines, including those that don't need a prescription.
- If you are pregnant or if you are planning to become pregnant during your treatment.

Your treatment with Ferinject

How will you receive your treatment?

You will be treated with Ferinject by your doctor or nurse in two possible ways:

- By injection, directly into a vein in your arm.
- By infusion, diluted and given directly into a vein in your arm through a drip.

Your doctor or nurse will decide on the most appropriate way to give you your treatment.

You must not receive Ferinject

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

Warnings and Precautions

Talk to your doctor or nurse before receiving Ferinject:

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

Ferinject should not be given to children under 1 year of age.



Your treatment with Ferinject

What possible side effects might you 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:

- There is a low risk with all iron treatments given directly into your arm that you could experience an allergic reaction. Tell your doctor immediately if you 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 less than 1 in 1,000 people) may become severe. Your doctor is aware of these possible side effects and will monitor you during and after the administration of Ferinject.
- Common side effects you may experience from treatment with Ferinject include headache, dizziness, feeling hot (flushing), high blood pressure, nausea, and injection/infusion site reactions.
- **During administration, be alert for signs of the drug 'leaking' and inform the nurse immediately if it happens, as it may lead to irritation of the skin and potentially long lasting brown discolouration at the site of administration.**
- Ferinject may also cause blood phosphate levels to fall. Tell your doctor if you develop worsening of tiredness or any muscle or bone pain (pain in your arms or legs, joints or back) as these may be signs of a decrease in blood phosphate.

Your doctor will discuss possible side effects with you and will also monitor how you are while your treatment is being given.

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

Please note that there is more information on possible side effects in the PIL provided with your medicine.

What happens next?

You may only need a single dose of Ferinject or you may need to return for further treatments to complete your course. Once you have finished your course of treatment you may be asked to return to have a further blood test to assess your progress. At future appointments, your doctor or nurse will continue to check that the amount of iron in your body stays within the right range for you. You 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 next appointment and any questions you may have or points you would like to discuss with your doctor or nurse.

Appointment date tracker

Next appointment	Notes Points to discuss

Use the space below to note down emergency numbers and contact details for your nurse and/or doctor so you can get help quickly if you need it. **If at any time you feel unsure about anything or need information or advice, contact your nurse or doctor.**



Further Information

For information on use of Ferinject during pregnancy or breast feeding please refer to the Patient Information Leaflet.

For further information on Ferinject please refer to the Patient Information Leaflet and/or speak to your doctor or nurse.

For medical information enquires contact Vifor Pharma UK:

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

Email: **medicalInfo_UK@viforpharma.com**

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your 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 YellowCard 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 medicine.

This patient leaflet has been produced by Vifor Pharma UK Ltd.

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