



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Iron Infusions

Information for patients, relatives and carers

① For more information, please contact:

Medical Elective Services

York Hospital

Telephone: 01904 721062

Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE

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Information about Iron Deficiency Anaemia

Iron deficiency anaemia occurs when there are a reduced number of red blood cells in the body.

This occurs when absorption of iron is insufficient to keep up with your body's needs. This is quite common in kidney patients.

The main symptoms include tiredness and a lack of energy.

Information about Intravenous Iron

Intravenous (iv) iron is a preparation used to treat iron deficiency anaemia. The aim of the therapy is to replenish iron stores in your body. Depending on your weight and recent blood results, you will be prescribed a suitable iron preparation. The dose and frequency of intravenous iron injections vary from patient to patient.

Administration and monitoring

You should not be given iv iron if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to the product or any of its ingredients
- You have experienced serious allergic (hypersensitive) reactions to other iv iron in the past (it is important to know that a reaction can still happen even if you have not had an allergic reaction)

Your doctor will check your medical history and allergies and decide whether iv iron is indicated. You must let a member of staff know if you have any allergies.

Intravenous iron will be given by the nurses on the Medical Elective Services (MES).

Once you have been admitted onto MES a cannula will be inserted into a vein in your arm. You may have a blood sample taken from this if requested by your Consultant.

The dose of intravenous iron will be given over 5 to 30 minutes depending on the iron preparation that is prescribed.

Following a 30 minute period of observation your cannula will be removed and you will be discharged home.

Side effects are rare but may include:

Headache, dizziness, rash, injection-site reaction and gastrointestinal disturbances.

On very rare occasions a serious allergic reaction may occur (anaphylaxis). Symptoms include feeling light-headed or faint, swelling of the face or difficulty breathing.

It is very important to inform a member of staff immediately if you feel unwell or have any of these symptoms.

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact:
Sister Laura Rycroft, MES, The York Hospital, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE, telephone 01904 721062 or email laura.rycroft@nhs.net

Teaching, training and research

Our Trust is committed to teaching, training and research to support the development of health and healthcare in our community. Healthcare students may observe consultations for this purpose. You can opt out if you do not want students to observe. We may also ask you if you would like to be involved in our research.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS offers impartial advice and assistance to patients, their relatives, friends and carers. We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email yhs-tr.patientexperienceteam@nhs.net

An answer phone is available out of hours.

Leaflets in alternative languages or formats

Please telephone or email if you require this information in a different language or format, for example Braille, large print or audio.

如果你要求本資 不同的 或 式提供 , 電
或發電

Jeżeli niniejsze informacje potrzebne są w innym języku lub formie, należy zadzwonić lub wysłać wiadomość e-mail

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Owner	Matt Cooke and San Balasubramanian
Date first issued	August 2017
Review Date	May 2026
Version	2 (Issued May 2023)
Approved by	Renal Developments Meeting
Document Reference	PIL 1114 v2
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