

Parenterally administered iron medicinal products are used to treat iron deficiency when oral preparations are ineffective or cannot be used.

Parenterally administered iron preparations can cause hypersensitivity reactions including serious and potentially fatal anaphylactic / anaphylactoid reactions.

This essential prescription information guide can assist you in managing and minimising this risk.

**Contraindications to the use of IV iron include:**

- hypersensitivity to the active substance or any of its excipients.
- known serious hypersensitivity to other parenteral iron products.
- anaemia not caused by iron deficiency
- evidence of iron overload or disturbances in the utilisation of iron.

See the Summary of Product Characteristics of individual IV iron medicinal products for full product information.

**Reporting of suspected adverse reactions**

Please report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the Yellow Card scheme. You can report via:  
the Yellow Card website <http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard>, or the free Yellow Card app available from the Apple App Store Google Play Store, or some clinical IT systems (EMIS/SystemOne/Vision/MiDatabank) for healthcare professionals.

Alternatively you can report a suspected side effect to the Yellow Card scheme by calling 0800 731 6789 for free, Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. You can leave a message outside of these hours. When reporting please provide as much information as possible.

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

# IV iron

## Essential Prescription and Administration Information to Minimise the Risk of Serious Hypersensitivity Reactions

ferric carboxymaltose, iron dextran, ferric derisomaltoside, iron sucrose

This essential prescription information guide is brought to you by the European IV iron suppliers.

**Please read carefully and review each time when prescribing IV iron medicinal products.**

**BEFORE each administration of IV iron, you should inform your patient so that they are aware that...**

... parenterally administered iron preparations can cause hypersensitivity reactions including serious and potentially fatal anaphylactic / anaphylactoid reactions.

... these reactions have also been reported after previously uneventful doses of IV iron.

... they may have an increased risk of experiencing a hypersensitivity reaction if they have:

- known allergies including drug allergies\*
- a history of severe asthma\*, eczema\* or other atopic allergies\* or
- immune or inflammatory conditions (e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus)\*.

\* In these patients, IV iron products should only be used if the benefit is clearly judged to outweigh the potential risk.

... IV iron should not be used during pregnancy unless clearly necessary. Treatment should be confined to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> trimester if the benefit is judged to outweigh the potential risk for both the mother and the foetus.

... they should report any signs or symptoms suggestive of a hypersensitivity reaction (e.g.: hives, pruritus, dyspnoea, wheezing, swelling of

the lips, tongue, throat or body) to their doctor / nurse immediately.

The patient should also be given a copy of the patient information leaflet provided with the individual IV iron product to be administered.

**... and remember that IV iron is contraindicated and should not be administered if your patient...**

... has known hypersensitivity to the IV iron product, the active substance or to any of its excipients.

... has previously experienced a serious hypersensitivity reaction to any IV iron preparations.

... has anaemia not caused by iron deficiency.

... has evidence of iron overload or disturbances in the utilisation of iron.

See the Summary of Product Characteristics of individual IV iron medicinal products for full product information.

**BEFORE each administration of IV iron make sure that...**

... staff trained to evaluate and manage anaphylactic reactions are immediately available.

... cardio-pulmonary resuscitation facilities and equipment for handling acute anaphylactic / anaphylactoid reactions, including an injectable 1:1000 adrenaline solution, are immediately available onsite. Additional treatment with antihistamines and/or corticosteroids should be given as appropriate.

**DURING administration of IV iron remember that...**

... if hypersensitivity reactions or signs of intolerance occur during administration, the treatment must be stopped immediately and appropriate management initiated.

... IV iron products should be administered in accordance with the posology and method of administration described in the product information for each individual product.

**AFTER you have administered IV iron...**

... the patient must be closely observed for signs and symptoms of a hypersensitivity reactions for at least 30 minutes after each administration.