

Possible side effects of an Iron Infusion

As with all medications, there can be some side effects from an Iron Infusion.

Common:

- Headache, nausea, vomiting
- Muscle and joint pain
- Itchiness, rash
- Diarrohea or constipation
- Dizziness
- Pain in the stomach
- Temporary change in taste (e.g. metallic taste)

Less common:

- Burning, swelling, and/or discolouration at the injection site
- Permanent skin staining due to leakage of the drug into the tissues around the injection site.



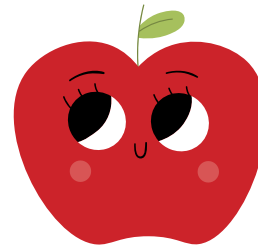
NOTE: If you have chest pain, difficulty breathing, dizziness or neck/mouth swelling
SEEK URGENT MEDICAL ATTENTION

Your Appointment:

Date:

Time:

FEES



An iron infusion procedure at Appletree Family Practice will be billed as a:

Long Consult with a General Practitioner:
Which will incur a fee of \$135 with a Medicare rebate of \$75.75

As well as a NON-claimable fee of \$50.00 which covers the cost of the consumables used during the procedure

Reference

1. The Royal women's hospital. Victoria Australia. Iron Infusions. July 2018.
2. IV Iron Infusion in Primary Care. Community HealthPathways Hunter New England. 2020.

Iron Infusion Clinic



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Why is Iron Important?

Iron is essential for the body to make haemoglobin (Hb). Hb is found in red blood cells. It transports oxygen from your lungs to the rest of your body, and it helps your muscles store and use oxygen. If your Hb or iron is low your muscles and organs don't get all the oxygen they need, which can cause you to feel fatigued.



What is an Iron Infusion?

The most common way to treat iron deficiency is to take iron by mouth in a tablet or liquid form. Oral iron should be tried first.

An iron infusion might be recommended by your Doctor if you can't tolerate, don't respond to or aren't absorbing the oral iron.

An iron infusion is a minor procedure. The medication containing the iron is infused directly into the blood circulation via an intra-venous cannula. The medication mixes with your blood and is delivered to the organs that require iron for normal functioning.

Before your Iron Infusion

Before your appointment at Appletree Family Practice you will need to provide us with the following

- A referral from your GP or Specialist
- A summary of your medical history
- A copy of relevant pathology results and investigations
- A prescription for Ferinject. (Please have the prescription filled prior to your appointment and bring it with you on the day)

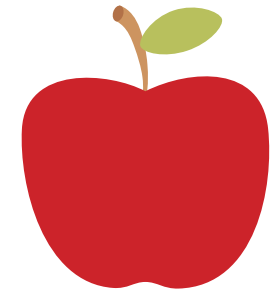
On The Day

- Allow 1.5 hours for your appointment
- Eat and drink as normal, you don't need to fast
- Take all your regular medications



After Your Iron Infusion

- You will be required to wait 30 minutes for observation straight after the infusion
- You can drive home after your infusion and resume your regular activities
- You will be provided with a discharge summary to give to your regular GP



The time it takes for your iron levels to improve is different for everyone. Some people report improvement within 24-48 hours, for others, it can take up to a week.

Your regular doctor should continue to monitor your Iron/HB levels to ensure you are responding to the infusion and your levels are within the correct range.

Please contact your GP to arrange a follow up appointment as appropriate.