# **Iron Supplements – Injectable** Iron Sucrose, Sodium Ferric Gluconate, Ferric Derisomaltose



## What it does:

Your body needs iron to make red blood cells, which carry oxygen to your tissues. If you are low on iron, you might develop anemia. You may feel tired, cold, dizzy, or short of breath. You might even notice your skin looking paler or experience headaches, irritability, or restless legs. Your doctor can easily check your iron levels with a simple blood test. If they are low, they might suggest iron supplements to help you feel better. If you are taking medications like erythropoietin or darbepoetin, you might need extra iron supplements because your body is using up iron to make more red blood cells.

#### How it works:

Iron injections boost the body's iron stores, so that there is more iron available to make red blood cells.

#### How to take it:

Before receiving the infusion, a nurse will measure your blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, and breathing. The iron supplement will be given intravenously (IV) so that it can be delivered directly into your bloodstream.

### What to do if you miss a dose:

 If you miss a dose of this medication, take is as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule.

## **Possible side effects:**

During the infusion, you will be closely monitored for side effects and signs of allergic reactions. Common side effects include muscle cramps, nausea, and vomiting. Rarely, some people experience signs of allergy, such as dizziness or lightheadedness, chest pain, swelling of the tongue or airway, rash, hives, severe vomiting, and abdominal pain. If you experience any of these side effects, have any signs of infection such as fever above 38°C, or notice staining or irritation at the IV site, notify your nurse or doctor immediately.

After the infusion, some individuals may experience a delayed reaction that starts within a few hours to a few days after the infusion. Symptoms of this reaction include muscle aches, joint aches, and sometimes fever. These symptoms usually last for two to four days and go away on their own. If they persist, or if you experience any other bothersome symptoms or side effects, contact your nurse or doctor.

## Why I am taking this medicine: