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: MES, The York Hospital, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE, telephone 01904 721062 or email MESpatientenquiries@york.nhs.uk.

Teaching, training & 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.

Iron Infusions

Information for patients, relatives and carers

Please telephone or email if you require this information in a different language or format

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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.

In iron deficiency haemoglobin, which contains iron, cannot be formed.

The main symptoms include tiredness and a lack of energy.

Information about Ferinject

Ferinject 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, Ferinject is either a once only infusion or two infusions a week apart.

Information about your Infusion

Ferinject 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 Ferinject will be calculated by using your weight, and will be given over 30 minutes. After completion of your infusion a saline flush will be administered.

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

Uncommon side-effects include:

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

On very rare occasions an 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 if any of these symptoms occur.

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 pals@york.nhs.uk. An answer phone is available out of hours.