

Ferinject (Iron Infusion) Information

Due to your iron stores being below normal, Dr Peres will arrange for you to have an iron transfusion. You have been booked into the Prince Of Wales Private Hospital 9650 4444 on.....

To ensure that a bed is available, please ring the ward on 9650 4444 at 730am on the morning of your planned admission. This is to confirm a bed is available and to arrange a time for you to arrive. On arrival please book in at reception level 5 then come up to the in at the 6th floor Delivery Suite ward for admission. Here are some answers to some of the questions you may have.

What is Ferinject?

It is special form of iron which can be given directly into your blood stream to replenish iron stores which are essential for the production of haemoglobin. It is used for women who are unable to take oral iron or are unresponsive to oral iron, or have side effects with iron.

Can the infusion have any effects on my baby?

No harmful effects have been reported.

Can the infusion have any harmful effects on me?

It is uncommon (approximately 1%) to have a reaction to this solution and normally these are reported as minor, such as a mild headache, nausea or diarrhoea. Serious allergic reactions are very rare (>1:1000). Talk to your doctor if you have any allergies or infections.

What is the process?

You will have a cardiotocograph (CTG) recording will be completed to check your baby prior to the infusion commencing. You will meet the midwife at delivery suite, a cannula inserted into your arm and the infusion commenced. Once the infusion is commenced it should take no longer than 30 minutes to infuse.

Can I eat and drink during the infusion?

Yes you can eat and drink normally.

How is it administered?

The iron is diluted into a bag of saline and given via an intravenous cannula which goes directly into your vein and is absorbed into your body.

How long does it take?

After completion of a nursing and medical admission from then it will take approximately 30 minutes.

When can I go home?

You can go home as soon as we check your baby.

Do I have any after effects?

Some women feel a little tired and the urine will be a darker colour as approx 5% of the iron is excreted through the kidneys the day after the infusion. The infusion does not affect you being able to drive home.

How long does it take for my haemoglobin levels to improve?

Most women notice any symptoms of low iron (anaemia) such as tiredness, shortness of breath and dizziness get better within a few days although the full effect may not be for several weeks.