



## Iron Infusions at Westside Medical Centre

Westside Medical Centre is happy to offer iron infusions for new patients to the practice.

Iron infusion (Ferinject) can provide significant benefit for patients with anaemia related to low iron.

### **We charge \$100 out-of-pocket fee for iron infusion**

**To ensure this procedure is appropriate for you, we request that you bring the following along to your scheduled appointment with us:**

- 1. Referral letter from you treating doctor – requesting infusion and clinical need**
- 2. Most recent pathology – including iron studies and full blood count**
- 3. Ferinject medication – you will need to have this prescribed by your treating doctor and collect the script from the chemist**

*If the medication and above information is not brought to the consultation, the infusion will need to be rescheduled for a later date when this is available.*

What to expect at your consultation:

- You will meet a Westside Medical doctor who will review your referral letter and pathology.
- The doctor will explain the risks and benefits of the procedure before initiating the infusion
- In our procedure room you will have an intravenous line inserted by our nurse (or doctor)
- Infusion will be given
- During and after the procedure you will have blood pressure and pulse monitoring

After the infusion:

- Westside Medical Centre will write a letter to your usual doctor informing them that the infusion has been completed
- You will need to attend a follow up visit with your *regular GP clinic* within 4 weeks to have further blood tests arranged to check the infusion has improved your condition.
- If further iron infusions are indicated, your regular doctor can write another referral to us and we can arrange this for you.

Risks of iron infusion

Iron infusion is generally a safe and beneficial procedure. However, there are some important risks to be aware of. Please discuss any concerns with your doctor.

- Staining to arm from iron (this can be a permanent) (1 in 100-1000)
- Allergic reaction, can be mild or occasionally life threatening (1 in 1000-10,000)
- Infusion reactions – headache, nausea, metallic taste, low blood pressure
- Delayed reactions (after 1-2 days)– Joint aches, muscle aches, dizziness, fever, headache

IF CHEST PAIN, BREATHING DIFFICULTY, MOUTH SWELLING develop after infusion – CALL 000