**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