# IRON (as ferric carboxymaltose)

*eye-on (as fer-rik car-boxy-malt-ose)*

## What does it do?

*Iron* (as ferric carboxymaltose) is used to treat some types of anaemia. It increases the amount of *iron* in your body.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have a condition called haemochromatosis or thalassaemia.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

## How is it given?

*Iron* is given as an infusion or a slow injection into a vein. It is given to you by a health professional.

You will need to stay for 30 minutes once the infusion is completed, to check you do not have any side effects.

## What if you forget a dose?

If you are unable to attend an appointment, contact your health professional.

## Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *iron* including:

- products containing *iron* (e.g. Ferro-Tab®) – these are not usually needed while receiving *iron* injections

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing<br>Dark stain around injection site | Tell your health professional immediately |
| Muscle or bone aches and pains, tiredness or weakness (may be signs of low phosphate) | Tell your doctor |
| Irritation or pain at injection site<br>Flushing<br>Nausea<br>Dizziness | Tell your health professional if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.