

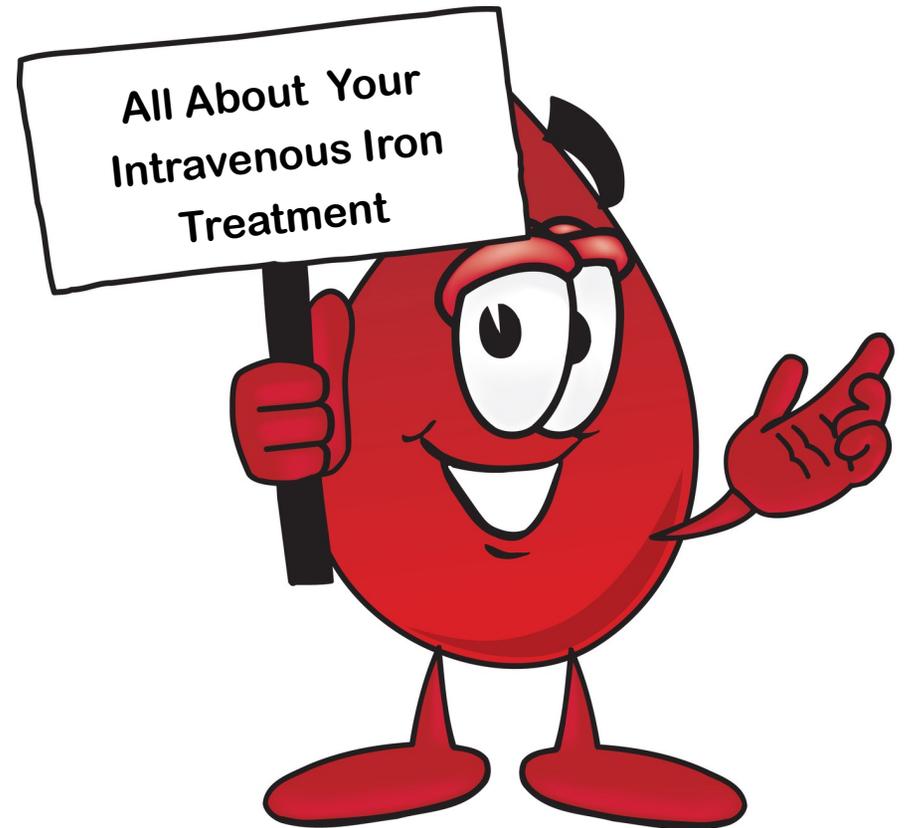
### Allergic reactions

Allergic reactions are rare with the administration of Venofer® (<1%). These reactions usually occur within the first 10 minutes of infusion. Signs and symptoms of a reaction include:

- ◆ Chest pain or tightness
- ◆ Flushing or fainting
- ◆ Difficulty breathing
- ◆ Hives, rash or itching

*Once discharged, if you develop any difficulties with breathing, chest pain or develop a large number of hives at any time, go to the nearest emergency department (or call 911 if needed).*

If you are unable to make your appointment or need to re-scheduled please contact the numbers provided;



**BLOOD**   
MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Suite 200-1155 Concordia Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2K 2M0  
[Tel:204-926-8006](tel:204-926-8006) Fax: 204-940-3255

# Intravenous iron therapy

**Appointment (s)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Location

Health Sciences Center Clinic E located in the “Purple Bear Zone”.

Please enter through the 700 William Street entrance and go to admitting. You will need have your Manitoba health card with you. Once you receive your ID bracelet and papers bring these to the Clinic E clerk.

## Treatment

You are receiving iron sucrose (Venofer<sup>®</sup>) as a treatment for iron deficiency anemia. The intravenous route is an alternative to oral iron. You will fall into one of the following categories;

- ◆ You may not tolerate oral iron
- ◆ You may need oral iron and IV iron to replenish your iron stores before surgery
- ◆ You are having surgery and the oral iron you have been taking may not be well absorbed in your body
- ◆ You are iron deficient with a low hemoglobin and have a surgery date coming soon. To try and avoid a transfusion your iron stores need to be quickly replenished to help your body increase your

## Procedure

Intravenous iron is given in a physician-supervised clinic by a nurse of following surgery on a hospital ward.

The treatment takes 2-3 hours. Your blood pressure, and heart rate will be checked during the procedure.

Please feel free to bring a book to read or an electronic device to watch during your appointment.

Prior to your appointment please use the washroom. Dress comfortably.

The Nurse you will meet will start your Intravenous and start the infusion of iron which is dark brown in color.

When the infusion is complete a small bag of normal saline will be infused over 20-30 minutes. When your treatment is complete the intravenous will be removed and you will be discharged to go home.

## Potential Side Effects

Although rare, Venofer may cause side effects. Some of these include;

- ◆ Generalized achiness or cramps
- ◆ Painful IV site
- ◆ Metallic or black licorice taste
- ◆ Swelling in hands, arms or legs
- ◆ Nausea, headache +/- diarrhea

## Actions to take in case of side effects

- ◆ Acetaminophen (Tylenol<sup>®</sup>) for aches
- ◆ Benadryl<sup>®</sup> for mild rashes or hives