

FAQ and Information Sheet:

How soon can I get in to the clinic?

Mainline aims to offer every new patient a first appointment within 1 week of receiving the referral.

What is Monoferric?

Monoferric is a new form of IV iron that has been available in Canada since early 2019. It has been widely used in Europe for years. Monoferric is unique because it allows for a full 1000mg of iron to be administered in a single 1 hour infusion versus 4 infusions for 1000mg of Iron Sucrose. It has been shown to have an excellent safety profile with a similar incidence of side effects to iron sucrose.

What are the advantages to Monoferric?

Monoferric has several advantages over iron sucrose. The fact that the full course can be given over a single infusion means it is much more convenient and less disruptive for patients. In addition, since Mainline charges a fee for each infusion, it also results in a cheaper overall cost. A 1000mg dose of Monoferric costs \$500 from the pharmacy and an infusion cost of \$235. Iron sucrose costs \$400 from the pharmacy and a total of \$500 for the 4 infusions required to administer it. A majority of drug costs are often covered for patients with extended medical benefits.

When would I choose Iron Sucrose over Monoferric?

Pregnant patients. Iron Sucrose can be given during the 2nd and 3rd trimesters. Monoferric has not yet been approved for pregnancy.

If your drug plan covers Iron Sucrose but not Monoferric.

Patients who receive maintenance iron infusions months apart likely don't require the full dose of Monoferric and so it becomes more cost effective to go with a smaller dose of Iron Sucrose.

Are there any side effects to the infusions?

The majority of patients do not experience any side effects. Some patients may get a mild rash or flushing during their infusion. This usually resolves by slowing the infusion rate. A small percentage may feel mild muscle aches and fatigue several hours after their infusion. This usually responds well to Tylenol/Ibuprofen and is self-limited. Another small portion of patients may notice their urine will briefly be a darker colour. This is benign and will go away without the need for intervention. Should there be any other specific concerns the Mainline staff are available to consult over the phone.

What type of supervision is present during the infusions?

An ER physician is present in the clinic for every patient's first infusion. Infusions are run by ER registered nurses.

How long do the infusions take?

Infusions typically take 1 hour. Rare circumstances may require the infusions to run longer.

How long before I start to feel better?

Typically, clinical improvement starts 3-4 days after your first infusion and should continue until 7-10 days after the infusion(s).

Do I need to do anything to prepare for the infusion?

No specific preparation is necessary but wearing warm, comfortable clothing and being well hydrated can help the nursing staff establish an IV.

Do you have WiFi?

Yes!