

LEASIDE VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC

Post Iron Infusion Instructions for Patients

Due to iron metabolic pathways, a rise in reticulocyte count will occur during the second week and thereafter, provided bleeding is not excessive, one can expect a rise in hemoglobin by approximately the first week. Ferritin (iron storage molecule your doctor may measure) will peak 7-9 days after infusion. You can expect a 1-2 point rise in the hemoglobin per day, and after 2-4 weeks the hemoglobin will have risen 20-30g/L. Your bloodwork can be checked at the discretion of your family doctor or specialist. We generally recommend monitoring every 3 months if the cause of the anemia (i.e heavy menses, GI loss etc) has not be rectified.

Delayed anaphylaxis, occurring more than 30 min after the conclusion of the infusion, is extremely rare. Please inform the prescribing physician of any delayed reactions. Seek medical assistance if you experience shortness of breath, angio-oedema or rash within the next 24 h. Please inform Leaside Village Medical Clinic by phone or email if you required medical attention within 3 days of your Iron infusion.

More common delayed symptoms are things such as fever, myalgia, arthralgia or headache. These latter symptoms may be treated with acetaminophen and monitored. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs like Advil or Motrin should be avoided as they may serve as augmenting factors and worsen the reaction.

Hold oral iron while receiving intravenous iron and one week following completion of IV iron therapy.