

Ferric carboxymaltose (Injectafer)

About This Drug

Ferric carboxymaltose is used to treat anemia (low red blood cells) caused by low iron levels. It is given in the vein (IV).

Possible Side Effects

- Nausea
- Feeling dizzy
- Decrease level of phosphate in your blood
- Injection site reaction – you may get a rash, swelling or bruising or your skin may get red, warm, itchy, or painful at the site of your infusion.
- Hot flashes or sudden skin flushing may happen. You may also feel warm or red.
- Skin redness
- High blood pressure

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in greater than 2% of patients treated with ferric carboxymaltose. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other drugs in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis are rare and may be life threatening. Signs of allergic reaction to this drug may be swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, do not take another dose of this drug. You should get urgent medical treatment.**
- Decreased phosphate levels in your blood that can cause symptoms such as weakness.
- Severe high blood pressure

Note: Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.

Important Information

- You may get pain or bruising at the site of your infusion. Rarely, you may also get a long-lasting brown staining of your skin at the IV site if the drug leaks out of the vein and into nearby tissue.

Treating Side Effects

- To help with nausea and vomiting, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature. Ask your nurse or doctor about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- While you are getting this drug, please tell your nurse right away if you get a rash, swelling or bruising or your skin gets red, warm, itchy, or painful at the site of your infusion.
- If you are dizzy, get up slowly after sitting or lying.

Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of ferric carboxymaltose with food.
- This drug may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Headache that does not go away
- Blurry vision or other changes in eyesight
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Signs of low phosphate: muscle/bone pain, weakness, tiredness, numbness/tingling, confusion
- Signs of allergic reaction: swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.**
- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings



- **Pregnancy warning:** It is not known if this drug may harm an unborn child. For this reason, be sure to talk with your doctor if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant while receiving this drug. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this drug passes into breast milk. For this reason, women should talk to their doctor about the risks and benefits of breastfeeding during treatment with this drug because this drug may enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** Fertility studies have not been done with this drug. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children.

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