

Iron dextran (INFeD)

About This Medicine

Iron dextran is used to treat anemia (low red blood cells) caused by low iron levels. It is given in the vein (IV) or as an injection in a muscle (intramuscularly).

Possible Side Effects

- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis are rare and may be life-threatening. Signs of allergic reaction to this medicine 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 medicine. You should get urgent medical treatment.**
- Pain in your chest and/or back
- Feeling dizzy
- Trouble breathing
- Itching
- Hot flashes or sudden skin flushing may happen. You may also feel warm or red.
- Low blood pressure

Note: 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 medicines in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

- Severe and life-threatening allergic reactions. If you have a history of allergies and/or asthma, you may have a higher risk of developing an allergic reaction to this medicine.
- Severe reactions to this medicine can happen 1 to 2 days after you have received your treatment (delayed reaction). Signs of a delayed reaction to this medicine may be a headache, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, pain in your back, pain in your joints and/or muscles, nausea, and vomiting. These side effects usually go away within 3 to 4 days. **If this happens, you should call your doctor.**
- Iron overload (too much iron in your body)
- If you have a history of rheumatoid arthritis, and/or heart problems, you may have increased symptoms of these conditions while receiving iron dextran.

- If you have liver or kidney problems, you may be at higher risk for serious side effects from this medicine. Be sure to notify your doctor.

Treating Side Effects

- Drink enough fluids to keep your urine pale yellow.
- If you throw up, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).
- 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.
- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.
- If you are dizzy, get up slowly after sitting or lying.
- To help with itching, moisturize your skin several times a day.
- Avoid sun exposure and apply sunscreen routinely when outdoors.

Food and Medicine Interactions

- There are no known interactions of iron dextran with food.
- This medicine 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:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher
- Chills
- Headache that does not go away
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Chest pain
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Pain that does not go away or is not relieved by prescribed medicine
- Pain in your back, joints and/or muscle
- Signs of an 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.**
- Itching that is bothersome



- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings

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

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