Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

IRON (as polymaltose injection)

eye-on (as pol-ee-mol-toes)

What does it do?

Iron (as polymaltose) is used to treat some types of anaemia. It increases the amount of *iron* in your body.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have a condition called haemochromatosis or thalassaemia.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How is it given?

Iron is usually given as an infusion into a vein. It is given to you by a health professional.

You will need to stay for 30 minutes once the infusion is completed, to check you do not have any side effects.

What if you forget a dose?

If you are unable to attend an appointment, contact your health professional.

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *iron* including:

- products containing *iron* (e.g. Ferro-Tab®) – these are not usually needed while receiving *iron* injections

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing Dark stain around injection site	Tell your health professional immediately
Muscle or bone aches and pains, tiredness or weakness (may be signs of low phosphate)	Tell your doctor
Irritation or pain at injection site Flushing Nausea Dizziness	Tell your health professional if troublesome

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.