

Iron Infusion Therapy



Why is Iron Important?

Iron is essential for making **hemoglobin**, the protein that carries oxygen in your blood. Without enough iron, you may develop **anemia**, which can cause fatigue, weakness, and shortness of breath.

Why IV Iron Instead of Pills?

Some people cannot absorb or tolerate iron pills, or pills may take months to work. With IV iron, you can receive in **one infusion** what would take months by mouth.

Who May Benefit from IV Iron?

IV iron may be recommended if:

- You have **iron deficiency anemia** and pills did not work or caused side effects.
- You have **severe anemia** or need to raise iron quickly (e.g., before surgery).
- You have kidney disease or other conditions affecting absorption.

Diagnosis is usually confirmed by:

- Hemoglobin **<120 g/L**
- Ferritin **<30 µg/L** (or <200 µg/L with low iron saturation)

👉 An **initial IV assessment** with our Nurse Practitioner (\$60) is required before treatment.

Risks & Safety

Most people tolerate IV iron well. Possible side effects include: dizziness, headache, nausea, or temporary swelling at the injection site. Rarely, allergic reactions can occur. You will be monitored for **30 minutes after your infusion** for safety.

IV Iron Options

We offer two Health Canada–approved products:

- **Venofer® (iron sucrose):** 2-hour infusion
- **Monofer® (iron isomaltoside):** 30–60 minute infusion

The number of doses depends on your iron levels and treatment goals.

Cost

- **Medication:** Venofer® ~\$145/dose (300 mg) | Monofer® ~\$274/dose (500 mg) – paid directly to the pharmacy.
- **Clinic infusion fee:** \$160 per session.
(Some private insurance plans may cover the cost of IV iron.)

How It Works

1. Nurse Practitioner provides a **prescription**.
2. You fill it at any pharmacy.
3. Bring your unopened iron to the clinic for your scheduled infusion.