Patient Information Letter IV Iron (Ferric Derisomaltose)

**<Department/Clinical area>**

**<Insert Date>**

Dear,

Your blood tests taken at the Pre-Operative Assessment Clinic (POAC) on **<date>** show that you have a low red blood cell count. This is known as anaemia.

Anaemia is a common problem in patients undergoing surgery. There are multiple causes for anaemia, the most common being iron deficiency which is easily correctable and should improve your blood count.

To treat your anaemia, your clinical team recommend that you receive an intravenous iron infusion called Ferric Derisomaltose. You will receive this infusion directly into a vein in your arm.

The infusion will last about one hour.

Some patients may need two infusions with a gap of at least one week between them.

It is important you have enough iron before your surgery to help you recover after surgery and avoid any unwanted effects from surgery.

You can find further information on anaemia and how it can affect your surgery by scanning the QR code, or following this link:

<https://cpoc.org.uk/sites/cpoc/files/documents/2023-09/CPOC_Anaemia2022_PatientInfo.pdf>

Ferric Derisomaltose is considered safe to use but there may be some side effects:

**Common (1 in 10 people)**:

* Nausea, skin reactions at or near injection site including redness of the skin, swelling, burning, pain, bruising, discolouration, irritation, leakage to the tissue around the site of infusion, rash.

A rare but significant complication of Ferric Derisomaltose is permanent skin staining or discoloration, which can occur if some of the drug leaks outside the vein during the infusion. To reduce the risk, a flush of water or saline (salt solution) is given into your vein before the infusion.

**Rarely (in under 1% of cases)** Ferric Derisomaltose can cause hypersensitivity reactions. You will therefore be monitored closely before, during and after the infusion.

Less common side effects can be found on the patient drug information leaflet by scanning the QR code, or following this link: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.5676.pdf>

If you are taking oral iron tablets you should stop them before your Ferric Derisomaltose infusion and for at least 5 days after the last infusion.

We may need to recheck your blood after your infusion and prior to your surgery.

Please contact the number below if you have any further queries:

**<Tel No>**

Yours sincerely

**<name/details>**