PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PHARMACISTS' REGULATIONS (PREPARATIONS) – 1986

The medicine is dispensed with a doctor's prescription only

Venofer solution for injection 100 MG / 5ML

The active ingredient and its concentration:
Each 5 ml of solution contains 100 mg of iron (as an iron III hydroxide sucrose complex)

For a list of the inactive and allergenic ingredients in the preparation - see section 6 and the "Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine" section.

Read the leaflet carefully in its entirety before using the medicine. This leaflet contains concise information about the medicine. If you have further questions, refer to the doctor or pharmacist.
This medicine has been prescribed to treat you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them even if it seems to you that their medical condition is similar.

1. WHAT IS THE MEDICINE INTENDED FOR?

For treatment of iron deficiency in the following indications:

- Where there is a clinical need for a rapid iron supply
- In patients who cannot tolerate oral iron therapy or who are non-compliant
- In active inflammatory bowel disease where oral iron preparations are ineffective
- In chronic kidney disease when oral iron preparations are less effective

The diagnosis of iron deficiency must be based on appropriate laboratory tests (e.g., haemoglobin, serum ferritin, TSAT (transferrin saturation), serum iron, etc.).

Therapeutic group: Iron, preparations for the treatment of anaemia

2. BEFORE USING THE MEDICINE:

x Do not use the medicine if:

- You are sensitive (allergic) to iron (FERROUS) or to any of the other ingredients contained in the medicine (see section 6).
- You have had a severe allergic reaction (hypersensitivity) to other injectable iron preparations.
- You have anaemia that is not caused by a shortage of iron.
- Your body has an excess of iron or improperly uses iron.

Special warnings regarding use of the medicine:
! Before commencing the treatment with Venofer, inform the doctor if you have:

- A history of allergy to medicines.
- Systemic lupus erythematosus.
- Rheumatoid arthritis.
- Severe asthma, eczema or other allergies.
- Any infections.
- Liver problems.

! Children
Venofer is not recommended for use in children.

! Tests and follow-up
Your doctor will refer you for blood tests in order to work out the proper dose of the medicine.

! Drug interactions:
If you are taking, or have recently taken, other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, tell the doctor or pharmacist. In particular if you are taking:

- Medicines that contain iron which you take by mouth. These may not work if they are taken at the same time that Venofer is given to you.

! Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility
Venofer has not been tested in women who are in the first 3 months of pregnancy. It is important to tell your doctor if you are pregnant or are planning to have a baby.
If you become pregnant during treatment, consult your doctor. Your doctor will decide whether or not you may be given the medicine.
If you are breastfeeding, consult your doctor before you are given Venofer.

! Driving and using machines
You may feel dizzy or confused after being given Venofer. If this happens, do not drive or operate any dangerous machines.

! **Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine**
Venofer contains up to 7 mg sodium (main component of cooking/table salt) per mL. This is equivalent to 0.4% of the recommended maximum daily dietary intake of sodium for an adult.

3. HOW SHOULD YOU USE THE MEDICINE?

Always use the preparation according to the doctor's instructions.
Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are uncertain about the dosage and treatment regimen.
The dosage and treatment regimen will be determined by the doctor only.

The doctor or nurse will administer Venofer to you in one of the following ways:

- Slow injection into your vein - 1 to 3 times per week.
- As an infusion into your vein - 1 to 3 times per week.
- During dialysis - Venofer will be injected into the venous line of the dialysis machine.

Venofer will be administered in a clinic which can provide appropriate and immediate treatment for allergic reactions.
After each administration you must stay under medical observation for 30 minutes.
Do not exceed the recommended dose.

4. SIDE EFFECTS:

As with any medicine, use of Venofer may cause side effects in some users. Do not be alarmed when reading the list of side effects. You may not suffer from any of them.

Allergic reactions (uncommon)
If you have an allergic reaction report this immediately to the doctor or nurse. The signs may include:

- Low blood pressure (feeling light-headed, dizzy or faint)
- Swelling of your face
- Difficulty breathing
- Chest pain that can be a sign of a severe allergic reaction called Kounis syndrome.

In rare cases these allergic reactions may for some patients become severe or life-threatening (known as anaphylactic reactions).
If you think you are having an allergic reaction, report this immediately to the doctor or nurse.

Other side effects:
Common side effects - effects that occur in 1-10 users in 100:

- Changes in your taste, such as a metallic taste. This effect does not usually last very long.
- Low or high blood pressure.
- Nausea.
- Reactions at the site of injection/infusion such as pain, irritation, itching, haematoma or discolouration following leakage of the substance into the skin.

Uncommon side effects - effects that occur in 1-10 users in 1,000:

- Headache or feeling dizzy.
- Stomach pain or diarrhoea.
- Vomiting.
- Wheezing, difficulty in breathing.
- Itching, rash.
- Muscle spasms, cramps or pain.
- Tingling or "pins and needles".
- Reduced sensation of touch.
- Vein inflammation.
- Flushing, burning sensation.
- Constipation.
- Joint pain.
- Pain in limbs.
- Back pain.
- Chills.
- Weakness, tiredness.

- Swelling of hands and feet.
- Pain.
- Increased levels of liver enzymes (ALT, AST, GGT) in the blood.
- Elevated serum ferritin levels.

Rare side effects - effects that occur in 1-10 users in 10,000:

- Fainting.
- Sleepiness or drowsiness.
- Pounding heart beat (palpitations).
- Changes in the colour of your urine.
- Chest pain.
- Increased sweating.
- Fever.
- Increased lactate dehydrogenase in the blood.

Side effects with unknown frequency:

- Feeling less alert, feeling confused.
- Loss of consciousness.
- Anxiety.
- Trembling.
- Swelling of your face, mouth, tongue or throat that may cause difficulty in breathing.
- Low or high pulse rate, circulatory collapse, vein inflammation causing the formation of blood clots.
- Acute narrowing of the airways.
- Itching, hives, rash or skin redness.
- Cold sweat, general feeling of malaise, pale skin.
- Sudden life-threatening allergic reaction.
- Flu-like illness may occur within a few hours to several days after the administration and is typically characterised by symptoms such as high temperature and pain in muscles and joints.

If a side effect occurs, if one of the side effects worsens or if you suffer from a side effect not mentioned in the leaflet, consult with the doctor.
Side effects can be reported to the Ministry of Health by clicking on the link "Report Side Effects of Drug Treatment" found on the Ministry of Health homepage (www.health.gov.il) that directs you to the online form for reporting side effects, or by entering the link: https://sideeffects.health.gov.il/

5. HOW SHOULD THE MEDICINE BE STORED?

- Avoid poisoning! This medicine and any other medicine should be kept in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children and/or infants to avoid poisoning. Do not induce vomiting unless explicitly instructed to do so by the doctor.
- Do not use the medicine after the expiry date (Exp.) that appears on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store at a temperature between 4-25 degrees Celsius. Do not freeze. Protect from light.
- Once the ampoule has been opened, it should be used immediately.
- After dilution with sodium chloride solution, the diluted solution should be used immediately.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION:

In addition to the active ingredient, the medicine also contains: Sodium hydroxide, Water for injection

What does the medicine look like and what are the contents of the package: 5 glass ampoules each containing 5 ml of dark brown coloured solution.

License Holder and address: CTS Ltd., 4 Haharash St., Hod Hasharon 45240.

Manufacturer name and address: VIFOR (INTERNATIONAL), SWITZERLAND. RECHENSTRASSE 37, ST. GALLEN, 9014, SWITZERLAND

This leaflet was revised according to guidelines of the Ministry of Health in XX/2022.

Registration number of the medicine in the National Drug Registry of the Ministry of Health: 100-36-28277

The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:

Administration

Monitor carefully patients for signs and symptoms of hypersensitivity reactions during and following each administration of Venofer.

Venofer should only be administered when staff trained to evaluate and manage anaphylactic reactions is immediately available, in an environment where full resuscitation facilities can be assured. The patient should be observed for adverse effects for at least 30 minutes following each Venofer administration.

Mode of Administration:

Venofer must only be administered by the intravenous route. This may be by drip infusion, slow injection or directly into the venous line of the dialysis machine.

Paravenous leakage must be avoided because leakage of Venofer at the injection site may lead to pain, inflammation and brown discoloration of the skin.

Intravenous drip infusion:

Venofer must only be diluted in sterile 0.9% m/V sodium chloride (NaCl) solution. Dilution must take place immediately prior to infusion and the solution should be administered as follows:

Venofer dose (mg of iron)	**Venofer dose (ml of Venofer)**	**Maximum dilution volume of sterile 0.9% m/V NaCl solution**	**Minimum Infusion Time**
50 mg	2.5 ml	50 ml	8 minutes
100 mg	5 ml	100 ml	15 minutes
200 mg	10 ml	200 ml	30 minutes

For stability reasons, dilutions to lower Venofer concentrations are not permissible.

Intravenous injection:

Venofer may be administered by slow intravenous injection at a rate of 1 ml undiluted solution per minute and not exceeding 10 ml Venofer (200 mg iron) per injection.

Injection into venous line of dialysis machine:

Venofer may be administered during a haemodialysis session directly into the venous line of the dialysis machine under the same conditions as for intravenous injection.

Incompatibilities

Venofer must not be mixed with other medicinal products except sterile 0.9% m/V sodium chloride solution. There is the potential for precipitation and/or interaction if mixed with other solutions or medicinal products. The compatibility with containers other than glass, polyethylene and PVC is not known.

Shelf life and storage

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the packaging materials.

Do not store above 25 °C. Do not freeze. Store in the original package.

Shelf life after first opening of the container

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately.

Shelf life after dilution with the sterile 0.9% m/V sodium chloride (NaCl) solution

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately after dilution.

Instruction for use and handling

Ampoules or vials should be visually inspected for sediment and damage before use. Use only those containing a sediment free and homogenous solution.

The diluted solution must appear as brown and clear.

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.