

<b>DRUG PROFILE</b>
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## PARENTERAL IRON PREPARATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

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**Abstract:** Iron deficiency remains the most common nutritional deficiency in Indian children. Oral supplementation of iron is highly effective in prevention and treatment of iron deficiency anemia except in rare conditions where oral supplementation could be rendered ineffective. Parenteral iron therapy is an option in these situations. Serious hypersensitivity reactions are known to occur with parenteral preparations. Judicious use of newer parenteral iron products reduces these events to a great extent.

**Keywords:** Iron deficiency, Children, Parenteral, Iron dextran, Iron sucrose, Ferric gluconate, Ferric carboxymaltose.

### Points to Remember

- *Iron deficiency anemia continues to be one of the major public health challenges in Indian children.*
- *Oral supplementation is the preferred method to treat even severe forms of iron deficiency.*
- *Parenteral iron supplementation is not superior to oral route but has definite advantages in some clinical settings where efficacy of oral supplementation is compromised*
- *Intravenous iron preparations carry a risk of allergic reactions or anaphylaxis and careful monitoring of patient is necessary*
- *Newer iron preparations have better safety profile than older ones like iron dextran or iron sucrose*

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