

FAIRMONT INFUSION CENTER

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One effective treatment for rheumatoid diseases and other autoimmune disorders is infusion therapy. Infusion therapy provides patients with medication administered by IV. It is a safe and effective alternative when a patient's condition is severe and oral medication is not an option or has not worked. Infusion therapy can take place at the doctor's office and is managed by a doctor and specially trained nurses.

There are several conditions that can be treated with infusion therapy:

- Crohn's Disease
- Osteoporosis
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Psoriatic Arthritis
- Iron Deficiency Anemia

Before you start therapy, you will be given pre-infusion instructions. Remember to wear loose clothing so you will be comfortable. While receiving therapy, you can bring items to help you pass the time such as a book, magazine, laptop, or iPod.

There are several types of medications used in infusion therapy. Depending on your condition, the medications include:

- **Actemra** – Used for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Actemra works differently than other treatments in that it blocks the activity of a cytokine in the immune system called IL-6. When there are too many IL-6 in the body, too many white blood cells are created and they begin to attack the body and joints, contributing to rheumatoid arthritis. Actemra is used after the use of an anti-TNF medication was not successful. For more information, visit the [Actemra](#) website.
- **INFeD** – is indicated for patients with documented iron deficiency in which oral administration is unsatisfactory or impossible. Usually is one treatment and follow-up with labs in one month. To learn more, please visit the [INFeD](#) website.
- **Orencia** – Orencia is used in the treatment of moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis. Orencia works to improve symptoms and prevent further damage to your joints. It also reduces the symptoms in children and adolescents with juvenile arthritis. In addition to being administered by infusion therapy, Orencia has recently been approved for self-injections. For more information, please visit the [Orencia](#) website.
- **Reclast** - Reclast is indicated for treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women. In postmenopausal women with osteoporosis, diagnosed by bone mineral density (BMD) or prevalent vertebral fracture, Reclast reduces the incidence of fractures (hip, vertebral and non-vertebral osteoporosis-related fractures). In patients at high risk of fracture, defined as a recent low-trauma hip fracture, Reclast reduces the incidence of new clinical fractures. To learn more, please visit the [Reclast](#) website.
- **Remicade** – Remicade is used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis. For treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Remicade is taken with methotrexate to provide quick relief of pain and swelling. When taken for psoriatic arthritis, it also provides quick relief from symptoms and helps stop further damage. For patients with Crohn's Disease, this medication helps those who have not responded well to other treatments by reducing symptoms and inducing remission. For more information, visit the [Remicade](#) website.
- **Rituxan** – Rituxan is used as a treatment for rheumatoid arthritis after an anti-TNF medication has been used and was not successful. Used with methotrexate, Rituxan can improve symptoms for six months after just 1 course of treatment (2 infusions). To learn more, please visit the [Rituxan](#) website.
- **Venofer** - Venofer is indicated for the treatment of iron deficiency anemia in adult patients with chronic kidney disease. Usually one dose 4 weeks in a row. Venofer is administered to patients who are pregnant or not able to tolerate INFeD. To learn more, please visit the [Venofer](#) website.

▪ **Most insurance companies cover infusion therapy.**

▪ **RemiStart®... Patient Rebate Program for REMICADE®** - One-step Patient Enrollment... Based on your eligibility, RemiStart® can provide a rebate for your medication out-of-pocket costs, including deductible, co-payment, and co-insurance, for up to 12 months or eight infusions, for a maximum benefit of \$4400. To learn more about eligibility requirements, click here.

▪ **Our billing department will go over your cost share with you in order for you to fully understand your responsibility for the treatments given.**