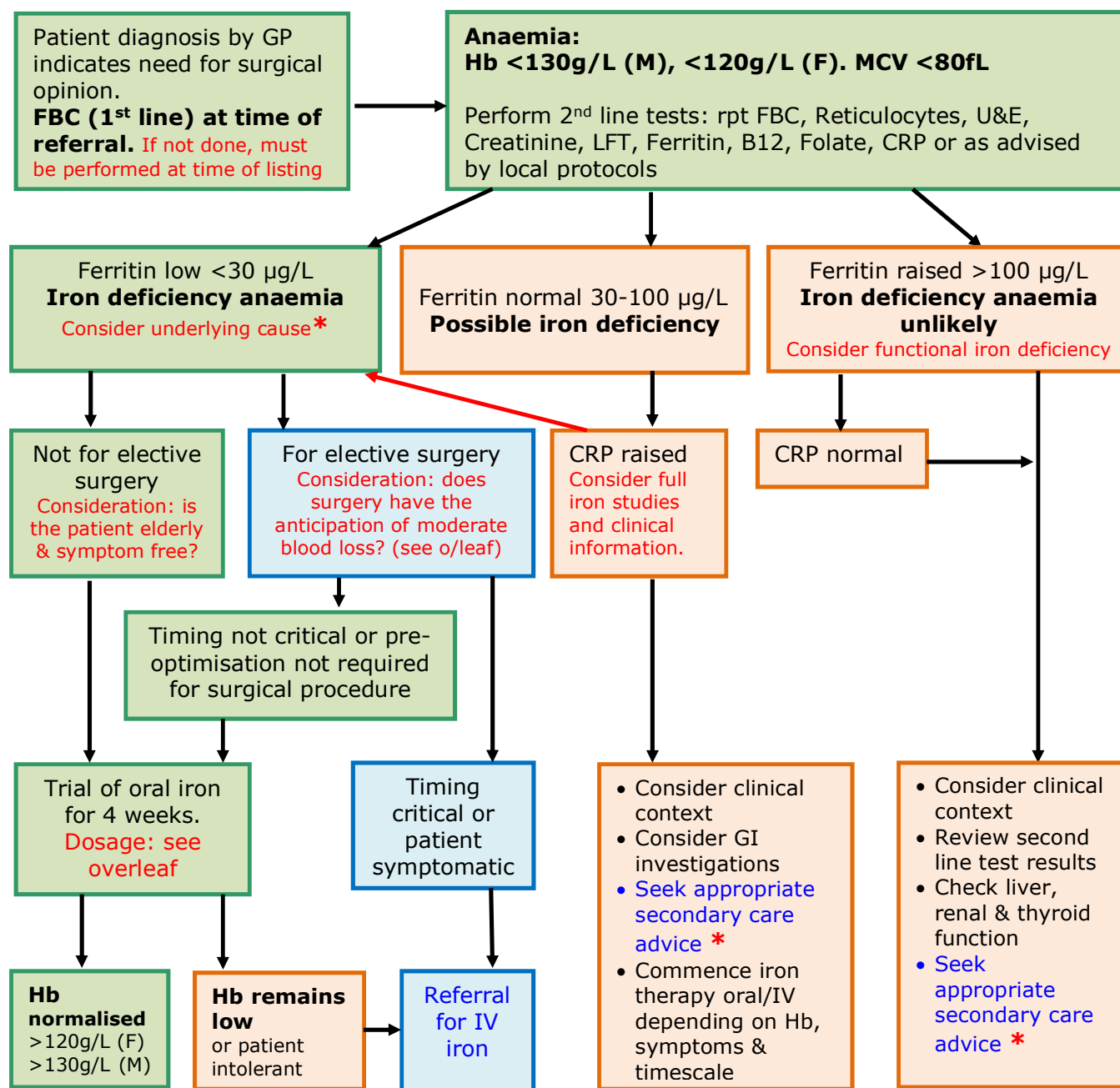


# IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF IRON DEFICIENCY ANAEMIA

A guideline for use in primary & secondary care for elective surgery patients



## KEY MESSAGES:

- Most anaemic patients have iron deficiency & the majority respond to oral or IV iron
- Patients referred for elective surgery must be screened for anaemia and their haemoglobin optimised before surgery, particularly where surgery is likely to involve moderate blood loss (>500 mls).
- For severe anaemia or symptomatic co-morbidities consider a **minimal transfusion**
- Refer to the appropriate **secondary care** specialism to investigate the underlying cause of anaemia e.g. GI, gynaecological, haematological, renal. \*

## **Examples** of elective surgical procedures with the potential for blood loss

### **General surgery**

Abdoperineal resection  
Anterior resection  
Bowel resection  
Cholecystectomy  
Gastrectomy  
Hemicolectomy  
Laparotomy  
Liver biopsy  
Oesophagectomy  
Oesophagogastrrectomy  
Parathyroidectomy  
Splenectomy  
Thyroidectomy  
Vagotomy  
Whipples procedure

### **Orthopaedic surgery**

Amputation  
Bilateral knee graft replacement  
Bone graft  
Elbow replacement  
Internal tibial fixation  
Knee replacement  
Osteotomy/bone biopsy  
Removal of nails  
Revision of knee replacement  
Revision of hip replacement  
Scoliosis correction  
Spinal decompressions  
Total hip replacement

### **Urology**

Nephrectomy  
Percutaneous nephrolithotomy  
Prostatectomy  
Total cystectomy  
Trans- urethral resection prostate

### **Plastic surgery**

Abdominoplasty  
Cosmetic breast reconstruction  
Head/neck reconstruction  
Mastectomy including radical

### **Vascular surgery**

Above/below knee amputation  
Aortic aneurysm  
Axillo-femoral bypass  
Carotid endarterectomy  
Femoral endarterectomy  
Femoral-femoral cross over  
Femoral popliteal bypass  
Sympathectomy

### **Cardiac surgery** all referrals

### **Thoracic surgery**

Exploratory thoracotomy  
Mediastinoscopy  
Open pleural biopsy  
Thoracotomy/pulmonary resection  
Tracheostomy  
Video assisted thoracic (VATS)

### **ENT**

Block dissection neck/groin  
Bone graft  
Laryngectomy  
Osteotomy  
Parotid/submandibular gland  
Pharyngectomy

### **Gynaecology**

Endometrial resection  
Hysterectomy  
Oophorectomy  
Vulvectomy

**Obstetrics** In collaboration with local antenatal department

### **Oral iron supplements dosage**

<b>Iron salt</b>	<b>Dose (daily)</b> Minimum	<b>Preparation</b>	<b>Ferrous iron content</b>
Ferrous sulphate	200 mg	tablets	65mg
Ferrous gluconate	300 mg	tablets	35 mg
Ferrous fumarate	200 mg	tablets	65 mg
Sodium feredate	380mg/10 mls	elixir	55 mg