



Ph: 5491 9044

Venesection for Haemochromatosis

What is haemochromatosis?

Haemochromatosis is an inherited disorder, which can result in iron overload. It is one of the most common genetic disorders in Australia today.

Normally, our bodies absorb only the amount of iron from our food that we need for our daily needs. People with haemochromatosis may absorb too much iron. This excess iron is stored in our body. Over time this leads to iron overload.

What are the signs and symptoms?

The most common symptoms noticed by people with iron overload are:

- Chronic fatigue
- Joint pain leading to osteoarthritis

Advanced signs and symptoms:

- Bronze to slate grey skin colour
- Liver cirrhosis which can lead to liver cancer
- Diabetes
- Hormonal changes and loss of libido
- Heart problems

Symptoms, if present, take time to develop and may build up over time.

No two people are alike so symptoms will vary from person to person.

Not everybody will have the same symptoms

Treatment

Regular venesection, which is like doing a blood donation, this removes excess iron from the body.

We have Doctors who offer Venesection for Haemochromatosis patients in our private procedure room with nursing assistance. Dr Janice Choi, Dr Lorna Alahakoon, Dr Katherine Ups, and Dr Tony Moor.

For more information visit Haemochromatosis Australia website at www.ha.org.au.