

- Desferal is a siderophore-based drug that is used in humans to treat iron-overload. One molecule of Desferal (molecular formula: $C_{25}H_{48}O_8N_6$) can bind one Fe^{3+} ion. A patient with an iron-overload disease had an excess of $5.34 \times 10^{-4} M Fe^{3+}$ in her bloodstream. Assuming the patient had a total blood volume of 4.84 L, what mass of Desferal would be required to complex all of the excess Fe^{3+} ?

As one mole of Deferal will complex one mole of Fe^{3+} , the number of moles of Desferal required is:

$$\text{number of moles} = \text{concentration} \times \text{volume} = (5.34 \times 10^{-4}) \times 4.84 = 2.58 \times 10^{-3} M$$

The molar mass of $C_{25}H_{48}O_8N_6$ is:

$$(25 \times 12.01 (C)) + (48 \times 1.008 (H)) + (8 \times 16.00 (O)) + (6 \times 14.01 (N)) = 560.694$$

Hence, the mass required is:

$$\text{mass} = \text{number of moles} \times \text{molar mass} = (2.58 \times 10^{-3}) \times (560.694) = 1.45 g$$

Answer: **1.45 g**