

Quick Reference guide to Prescribing Infant Milk Substitutes

Prescribing of all infant feeds in children must meet ACBS criteria and will only be supported until the infant is **1 year of age**, unless a shorter or longer period is indicated within this policy or there are special clinical circumstances which necessitate on-going consultations with a specialist paediatrician or paediatric dietitian.

Volumes of Feed to prescribe for infants

Age of Child	Initial Quantity	Number of tins for 28 days
Under 6 months	2 X 400g tins	13 X 400g tins or 6 X 900g tins
6-12 months	Or 1 X 800g tin	7-13 X 400g tins or 3-6 900g tins

These amounts are a guide only and some children may require less or more in rare circumstances

Cow's Milk Protein Allergy (CMPA)

First Line Formula: Similac Alimentum® (Birth to 2 years)

Amino Acid Formula – Specialist initiation only: Alfamino®, Nutramigen® Puramino®, Neocate LCP, Neocate Junior

Extensively hydrolysed formula for infants with a suspected cows' milk protein allergy (CMPA) will be used first line. e.g. Similac alimentum® or Pepti® 1/2.

*Prescription of CMPA-hydrolysed formula milks may be initiated by GPs but **must not be continued without a referral and confirmation of diagnosis from a paediatrician or paediatric gastro-enterologist or dietician.***

Soya formula (SMA Wysoy®) should not be used at all for those under 6 months due to high phyto-oestrogen content and the risk that infants with CMPA may also develop allergy to soya.

Faltering Growth

Specialist initiation only: Infatrini®, Similac® High Energy and SMA® High energy (Birth to 18 months/8Kg)

Prescribing of high energy formula milks is indicated when the weight of an infant falls below the bottom centile (0.4th) or crosses 2 centiles downwards on a growth chart.

All infants on a high energy formula must have growth (weight and length/height) monitoring to ensure catch up growth and appropriate discontinuation of formula to minimise excessive weight gain.

Pre-term Infants

Purchase Only: Cow and Gate® Nutriprem 2® and SMA® Gold Prem 2®

Pre-term infants will have had their formula commenced in hospital.

These formulae should not be used in primary care to promote weight gain in patients other than babies born prematurely.

Monitoring of growth (weight, length and head circumference) should be carried out by the Health Visitor while the baby is on these formulae. Once catch up growth is achieved they should be stopped.

Lactose-free

Purchase only: Aptamil® L/F, SMA® L/F and Enfamil® L/F

Prescribing of lactose free infant formulas by GPs is not supported

Reflux/Colic/Comfort formula

Purchase only: Aptamil® Anti-reflux/Comfort, SMA® Anti-reflux/Comfort and Cow & Gate® Anti-reflux/Comfort

Prescribing of Reflux/Colic/Comfort infant formulas by GPs is not supported

For further information see full policy: