Infant Formula Shortage Posting

Important news and alerts about infant formula products



Alberta Health

Shortage of extensively hydrolyzed and amino acid-based infant formula

The Issue

The February 2022 recall of Abbott Similac[®] Alimentum[®] has put a demand on all extensively hydrolyzed formulas (EHF) available in Canada including those not involved in the recall. EHFs are indicated for infants with allergies and amino acid-based (AA) formulas are used when more complex allergies or gastrointestinal (GI) intolerances exist.

01 June 2022

Best Practice	
Product Discontinuation	
Product Shortage	\boxtimes
Label/Packaging Change	
Product Change	
Product Safety	
Recall	

For distribution by:

Managers/Directors

Information for:

Physicians Public Health Nurses Registered Dietitians

Post this notice in your area and ensure all staff is informed about the change.

Key Changes

- EHFs experiencing shortages in Canada (as of May 2022) include: Similac[®] Alimentum[®], Pregestimil[®] A+[®], and Nutramigen[®] A+[®] powdered products for community use.
- Hospital supply, at historical volumes, of Nutramigen[®] A+[®] powder and readyto-feed (RTF) nursettes, Pregestimil A+ RTF nursettes, and Puramino A+ are currently available.
- Health Canada has also asked CFIA to approve allowing specific formulas to be imported into Canada until December 2022. This is outlined in their <u>interim</u> <u>policy</u>. Some formulas including Nutramigen[®] A+[®] liquid concentrate and Similac[®] Alimentum[®] with 2'-FL are expected to be available in stores June 2022.

Action

- Extensively hydrolyzed formulas (EHF) or amino acid-based (AA) formulas should be prescribed only for infants with a specific indication (allergy or severe GI intolerance).
 - For infant with Cow's Milk Protein Allergy, Soy infant formulas may be considered for therapeutic use after 6 months of age if a tolerance to soy protein has been established under physician guidance. See: <u>Nutrition</u> <u>Guideline: Healthy Infants and Young Children Plant-Based Beverages</u>
 - For infants with mild GI intolerance prescribers should consider if a partially hydrolyzed formula (i.e., Similac Total Comfort[™], Nestle[®] Good Start[®] Plus 1, Enfamil A+ Gentlease[®]) could meet their patient's needs.
- For toddlers over 12 months of age requiring an EHF or AA formula consider transitioning to Vivonex[®] Pediatric or Neocate[®] Junior.

Contact Information: For questions or help accessing formula contact: Enteral.Nutrition@ahs.ca

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