



<b>Title</b>	<b>Efficacy and Effectiveness of Neocate Infant Formula</b>
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## Aim

Neocate infant formula is provided in Israel through public funding as an elemental diet for infants (especially for those under 12 months of age) suffering from two rare genetic disorders (cystic fibrosis and familial disautonomia) with proven whole protein intolerance and other gastrointestinal disorders. This assessment aims to review evidence for the efficacy and effectiveness of supporting Neocate infant formula for all patients with an indicated elemental diet due to proven whole protein intolerance and other gastrointestinal disorders.

## Conclusions and results

Neocate is a hypoallergenic elemental amino acid-based infant formula designed to provide complete nutritional support for infants with cow milk allergy and multiple food protein intolerance. These infants are often exposed to severe infections and even death, in addition to being mostly dependent on parenteral nutrition. Very few clinical studies have addressed this issue. Nevertheless, based on the literature available, there is strong evidence that Neocate is an effective and essential alternative diet for these infants.

A study involving children with severe short bowel syndrome was designed to assess the impact of an amino acid-based, complete infant formula on enteral feeding tolerance and parenteral nutrition requirement. The results demonstrate a significant increase in intestinal function, a decrease in hospitalization, and a decrease in bacterial sepsis episodes and central line insertions.

An evaluation study was performed in infants with multiple food protein intolerance. After treatment with Neocate, the patients were challenged with the formula previously best tolerated. Onset of adverse reactions occurred during the formula challenge, thus suggesting Neocate to be an effective substitute formula for these patients.

## Recommendations

Neocate is highly recommended as an alternative diet

for infants with multiple food protein intolerance. All HMOs in Israel recommend this substitute for patients allergic to milk protein and their usual substitutes. Neocate will be discussed for inclusion in the National List of Healthcare Services for 2005.

## Methods

MEDLINE was used to search the literature. Specialists in the field were consulted, and recommendations from a consensus conference on “nutritional medicine” were reviewed.