

Changes to Cow & Gate packaging and formulation FAQs – for healthcare professional information only

General questions

1. Which products are changing?
2. What is changing in the formulations of the affected products?
3. Why are Cow & Gate Comfort and Cow & Gate Anti-Reflux not changing formulation?

Packaging and appearance related questions

1. What has changed on the packaging?

Ingredient specific questions

1. Why did the old formulations contain palm oil?
2. What is palm oil being replaced with?
3. I have seen that the levels of galacto-oligosaccharides / fructo-oligosaccharides (GOS:FOS), Taurine and Nucleotides have changed – what are these ingredients?
4. I have seen that the levels of GOS:FOS, Taurine and Nucleotides have changed – why have these changed?

Formula preparation questions

1. Can parents use the old and new formulations together?
2. How do I advise parents if the new formula looks and prepares differently to the old formula?
3. What action do I take if a parent reports their child is not tolerating the new formulation?

Aptamil related questions

1. Does Aptamil contain palm oil?

General questions

1. Which products are changing?

We will be changing the majority of our Cow & Gate formula milk products throughout 2021 and early 2022. During late May, June and July parents will see our packaging will gradually be updated with the formulations for Cow & Gate First Infant milk powder products and Cow & Gate Follow-On milk powder products. Please see a list below:

- Cow & Gate First Infant milk 800g
- Cow & Gate First Infant milk 700g
- Cow & Gate First Infant milk 1.2kg Big Pack
- Cow & Gate First Infant milk 350g

- Cow & Gate Follow-On milk 800g
- Cow & Gate Follow-On milk 700g
- Cow & Gate Follow-On milk 1.2kg
- Cow & Gate Follow-On milk 350g

- Cow & Gate Anti-Reflux 800g (pack label change only)
- Cow & Gate Comfort 800g (pack label change only)

The following products will be changing between October and December 2021:

- Cow & Gate Hungry First Infant milk 800g

- Growing Up / Toddler milk 1-2 years 800g
- Growing Up / Toddler milk 1-2 years 700g
- Growing Up / Toddler milk 2-3 years 800g

Changes to liquid formats of the above products will begin early 2022.

Cow & Gate Simply A2 made with A2 protein milk and Nutriprem products will not be affected.

2. What is changing in the formulation of the affected products?

We are constantly reviewing our recipes and looking to make improvements. We are removing palm oil from the blend of oils we use in our recipe because we know that this is an important topic for many parents. [Around 40% of UK parents look to 'fully avoid' or 'avoid as much as possible' products containing palm oil*]. There will also be changes to the amount of Nucleotides, Taurine and GOS:FOS.

Formula milks are one of the most strictly regulated and tested food products in the world, so we can assure you that both the current and soon-to-be reformulated Cow & Gate formula milk products have been developed by trusted scientists and are safe.

Parents may notice some small differences in smell, appearance or taste of the formula and/or a difference in their child's stool pattern. This is completely normal but if parents do present with concerns, do not hesitate to contact us and utilize our parent resources for safely transitioning between formulas, understanding their child's stool habits and correctly preparing formula. These resources can be downloaded from our website here www.nutricia.co.uk/hcp/resource-centre/changes-to-cow-and-gate.

*Toluna Quick Survey, July 2019

3. Why are Cow & Gate Comfort and Cow & Gate Anti-Reflux not changing formulation?

At the moment, we are not changing the formulations for our more specialised products: Comfort or Anti-Reflux. However, we are constantly reviewing our recipes and looking to make improvements. We will inform you of any changes we make to our formulations in due course.

Packaging and appearance related questions

1. What has changed on the packaging?

We are always looking to make improvements to our packaging and many parents provided positive feedback to the new designs in testing. We have incorporated new characters on our packs, with a bear for Cow & Gate First Infant milk, a hippo for Cow & Gate Follow On milk and a lion for Cow & Gate Toddler milk.

The style changes can be seen below. We will be changing the majority of our Cow & Gate formula milk products throughout 2021 and early 2022.



Ingredient specific questions

1. Why did the old formulations contain palm oil?

Palmitic acid is a saturated fatty acid that can be found in breastmilk. Our formulations up until now have contained sustainably sourced palm oil to help achieve the desired fat profile in our formula milks. The palm oil used in our products is sourced sustainably from sites certified by a not-for-profit organisation called RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil). However, we are constantly reviewing our recipes and looking to make improvements, and we are now removing palm oil from the blend of oils we use in our recipes because we know that this is an important topic for many parents.

2. What is palm oil being replaced with?

We are removing palm oil from the blend of oils we use in our recipe and replacing it with a blend of currently used vegetable oils: high oleic acid sunflower oil, coconut oil, rapeseed oil and sunflower oil. These are widely used in other baby formulas in the market.

3. I have seen that the levels of GOS:FOS, Taurine and Nucleotides have changed – what are these ingredients?

Our formulations still contain our 9:1 blend of GOS:FOS, which are non-digestible carbohydrates.

Taurine: Taurine is an amino acid. There are many types of amino acids, which are the building blocks of protein.

Nucleotides: Nucleotides are substances that can be synthesised in the body from amino acids and form the basis of Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and Ribonucleic acid (RNA).

4. I have seen that the levels of GOS:FOS, Taurine and Nucleotides have changed – why have these changed?

As a global company, in addition to the removal of palm oil from the blend of oils we use in our recipes, we have also taken the opportunity to standardise our recipes across Europe which is why you may also notice some minor changes to some of the levels of other vitamins, minerals and other nutrients in our formulations.

Formula preparation questions

1. Can parents use the old and new formulations together?

Yes, both the old and new formulations have been developed by trusted scientists and can be used safely together. For support with transitioning parents between old and new formulations, please view our [Formula Transitioning Tool](#).

2. What can I advise to parents if the new formula looks and prepares differently to the old formula?

All our formulas are different and are sensitive to the way they are prepared. As an example, if the water temperature is too hot, this may cause the product to form small lumps. This is because the proteins have changed shape. Also, if the bottle has not been shaken in the correct way, parents may see lumps. Rest assured the formula is still safe to consume, but optimal preparation instructions can be seen on pack and should always be closely followed.

For support on safe formula preparation please use our [Guide to making up a bottle feed](#) which is unbranded and is suitable for sharing with parents.

3. What action do I take if a parent reports their child not tolerating the new formulation?

Formula milks are one of the most strictly regulated and tested food products in the world, so we can assure you that both the current and soon-to-be reformulated Cow & Gate formula milk products have been developed by trusted scientists and are safe for babies.

Every baby is different, and when making any changes to their usual feed, some babies may need some time to adapt and may experience some changes to their digestive pattern such as changes in stool colour and consistency, but this is completely normal.

Close adherence to the preparation instructions on pack, using the correct temperature of water and shaking method, is very important.

If preparation guidelines are being followed and the parent needs more support, you may wish to utilise our formula transitioning tool. This tool can be downloaded [here](#) and shared with parents as a guide to gradually titrate over to the new formulation in a slow and controlled manner.

Should the parent require a short-term supply of the old formulation until transitioned fully onto the new formulation, we have ensured that there will be some limited stock available on our [webshop](#) to support more sensitive babies.

If you would prefer to speak with us regarding any of your concerns, please contact the healthcare professional helpline on 01225 751098. We are available Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4pm (except Bank Holidays)

Aptamil related questions

1. Does Aptamil contain palm oil?

The palm oil included in some of our Aptamil products is sourced sustainably from sites certified by a not-for-profit organisation called RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil). However, we are constantly reviewing our recipes and looking to make improvements as we know that this is an important topic for many parents. We will inform you of any changes we make to our formulations in due course.

Should a parent be interested in using an Aptamil alternative that is palm-oil free, the Aptamil Profutura range may be a suitable option.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Breastfeeding is best. Infant milk is suitable from birth when babies are not breastfed. Follow-on milk is only for babies over 6 months, as part of a mixed diet and should not be used as a breastmilk substitute before 6 months. We advise that the use of formula milks and the decision to start weaning should be made only on the advice of a doctor, dietitian, pharmacist or other professional responsible for maternal and child care based on baby's individual needs. Foods for special medical purposes should only be used under medical supervision. May be suitable for use as the sole source of nutrition for infants from birth and/or as part of a balanced diet from 6-12 months. Refer to label for details.