

Guide quantities of formula to prescribe

For powdered formula, approximate number of tins for 28 days:

Birth to 6 months			> 6 months to 1 year		
Weight (kg)	400g tin	800g tin	Weight (kg)	400g tin	800g tin
3.5 - 5	7	3 ^{1/2}			
5.5 - 6.5	9	4 ^{1/2}			
7 - 7.5	11	5 ^{1/2}			
8 - 8.5	12	6	Once food intake is established		
9 - 10	14	7	5-13	6-12	3-6

These amounts are based on:

- Infants under 6 months being exclusively **formula** fed and drinking 150ml/kg/day of a normal concentration formula.
N.B.: Some infants may require more than 150mls/kg/day, e.g. those with faltering growth.
- Infants 6-12 months requiring less formula as solid food intake increases. 600mls of milk per day once food intake is established is recommended, mostly to meet calcium requirements.

There is a considerable variation between individuals and wastage can be significant: Formula milk is advised to be discarded soon after being made up (always follow manufacturers' instructions).

Manufacturers' instructions regarding safe storage once opened and expiry of ready to drink formulae should be adhered to – this may differ from manufacturer to manufacturer.

Formulae should not be used as a sole source of nutrition for infants over 6 months unless under dietetic or medical supervision.

For ready-to-use energy dense formula:

- Prescribe an equivalent volume of ready to use energy-dense formula to the infant's usual intake until an assessment has been performed and recommendations made by a paediatrician or paediatric dietitian.
N.B.: Review recent correspondence from the paediatrician or paediatric dietitian.

For babies fed via feeding tubes:

- Where all nutrition is provided via NG/NJ/PEG tubes, the paediatric dietitian will advise on appropriate monthly amounts of formula required which may exceed the guideline amounts for other infants.