

## URGENT - Product Recalls - Alimentum® & Elecare®

We have been notified of the following **product recalls due to concerns relating to potential bacterial contamination** (see below notifications from Abbott & MHRA) of:

- **Alimentum®** - Herts 1<sup>st</sup> line extensively hydrolysed formula (EHF) for cow's milk protein allergy (CMPA)
- **Elecare®** - a specialist amino acid CMPA formula (generally requested by a dietitian and not one of Herts agreed formulas).

**This recall requires immediate action by practices in accordance with the advice provided below. Abbott and MHRA guidance to caregivers is to immediately discontinue use of the product and return it to the place of purchase/dispensing pharmacy.**

### If Alimentum is prescribed currently:

- End Alimentum® prescription(s).
- Prescribe the same quantity of SMA Althera® (still a [Herts agreed formula](#)).
- Send text message to parent/caregiver – see below for suggested text\*\*.
- The product may taste different but is equivalent to the current prescribed CMPA formula.
- If SMA Althera® is not tolerated (or has not been in the past) the alternative, depending on age, is:
  - Nutramigen 1® with LGG (birth to 6 months)
  - Nutramigen 2® with LGG (age 6-12 months)
  - Nutramigen 3® with LGG (over 12 months of age)

*Nutramigen LGG® range is lactose free and the dietitians may request this if they are concerned the child may not tolerate Althera® due to lactose related diarrhoea.*

- Practices **should not switch to an amino acid formula** in these circumstances unless a dietitian from Hertfordshire Community Trust (HCT) has given clear clinical reasoning - such as faltering growth or severe CMPA with no symptom resolution on an EHF.

### If Elecare is prescribed currently:

- End Elecare® prescription(s).
- Prescribe the same quantity of *either* SMA Alfamino® **or** Nutramigen Puramino® (both are Herts agreed amino acid formulas and either may be prescribed instead of Elecare®).
- Send text message to parent/caregiver – see below for suggested text\*\*.
- Practices should contact the managing dietitian (or refer if no longer on caseload) if the patient does not tolerate SMA Alfamino® and Nutramigen Puramino®. The managing dietitian will then advise on the most appropriate alternative product.

*Whilst soya formula is not recommended first line for CMPA, it is possible some parents may wish to change to SMA Wysoy (as an alternative to Alimentum or Elecare). If the parent makes this choice, SMA Wysoy should be purchased over the counter. It is not suitable for children under the age of 6 months (due to phytoestrogen content) nor if the child also has an allergy to soya.*

We have contacted suppliers of our preferred alternative milk substitutes listed above and have been assured stock is available to switch patients. Please do let us know if you experience an issue with supply or obtaining these alternatives. For HVCCG contact Ruth Hammond [ruth.hammond3@nhs.net](mailto:ruth.hammond3@nhs.net) , in ENHCCG contact Heather Nunn [h.nunn@nhs.net](mailto:h.nunn@nhs.net) .

**\*\*Suggested text message to parent/caregiver:**

**Alimentum/Elecare (delete as appropriate) prescribed for ..... (add name of child) has been recalled as a precaution by the manufacturer. We have issued an alternative prescription. Please return your remaining tins of Alimentum/Elecare (delete as appropriate) to your community pharmacy. The product may taste different but is equivalent to your current prescribed milk formula.**

Dear Valued Healthcare Professionals,

We have issued a proactive, voluntary recall of some powder formulas manufactured in Sturgis, Michigan in the United States, after four consumer complaints in the United States related to *Cronobacter sakazakii* or *Salmonella* Newport in infants who had consumed powder infant formula manufactured in this facility. Retained samples related to the three complaints for *Cronobacter sakazakii* tested negative for *Cronobacter sakazakii*. And the retained sample related to the complaint for *Salmonella* Newport tested negative for *Salmonella* Newport. **The recall only impacts Alimentum and EleCare in the UK. No other Abbott nutrition products – or Similac products – distributed in the UK are affected.**

At Abbott, our first priority is to provide the highest quality nutritional product for our customers. As part of Abbott's quality processes, we conduct routine testing for *Cronobacter sakazakii* and other pathogens in our manufacturing facilities. During testing in our Sturgis, Michigan, U.S.A., facility, we found evidence of *Cronobacter sakazakii* in a location outside of the manufacturing areas. We found no evidence of *Salmonella* Newport.

**Importantly, no distributed product has tested positive for the presence of either of these bacteria.** Abbott conducts extensive quality checks on each completed batch of infant formula, including microbiological analysis prior to release. All infant formula products are tested for *Cronobacter sakazakii*, *Salmonella* and other pathogens and they must test negative before any product is released.

For any patients currently using Alimentum or EleCare, please ask them to immediately discontinue use of the product and recommend a suitable, alternative feeding solution for them. Call our Customer Services department on 01795 580303 for information on what to do with the recalled product.

We regret any concern caused by this action. Please be assured our first priority is to provide only the highest quality products for those we serve.

Sincerely,

Simon

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## Abbott recalls two infant formula powders because of the possible presence of Salmonella

The MHRA is aware of a Food Standards Agency recall in relation to batches of Elecare Similac and Alimentum Similac infant formula powders. This product is classified as a food substance, however we are sharing for information and any necessary action as we are aware this product is commonly prescribed.

Abbott is recalling batches of Elecare Similac and Alimentum Similac infant formula powders because of the possible presence of salmonella. If you have purchased or been prescribed any of the above product batches, do not feed it to your baby and return to the place of purchase. If you have additional questions, please contact Abbott on 01795 580303.



The MHRA urges healthcare professionals to contact all patients who have been dispensed the impacted batches immediately.

Please see link to FSA recall: <https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/alert/fsa-prin-11-2022>



NHS England and NHS Regional Teams, please cascade to Community Pharmacy. We have sent this notification to GP Practices.

Thank you,  
Central Alerting System team, MHRA

UPDATE: Abbott recalls two infant formula powders because of the possible presence of Salmonella and Cronobacter sakazakii

 Central Alerting System team, MHRA <[safetyalerts@subscriptions.mhra.gov.uk](mailto:safetyalerts@subscriptions.mhra.gov.uk)>  
To:  MSO (NHS EAST AND NORTH-HERTFORDSHIRE CCG)

 This message was AutoForwarded.

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Tue 22/02/2022 21:24



### UPDATE: Abbott recalls two infant formula powders because of the possible presence of Salmonella and Cronobacter sakazakii

Yesterday evening we sent the below message regarding a recall of two infant formula powders. An update has been issued by the Food Standards Agency, this includes the possible presence of an additional pathogen and amended date and batch codes:

<https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/alert/fsa-prin-11-2022-update-1>

NHS England and NHS Regional Teams, please cascade to Community Pharmacy. We have sent this notification to GP Practices.

\_\_\_\_\_ The below was issued on 21 February 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

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