

Global trade in infant formula and nutritional products is based on confidence from suppliers, customers and regulatory agencies that test results are correct and in accordance with label claims, and there is equivalency between all laboratories throughout a global supply chain. The NurtureChek Proficiency Programme provides independent verification that testing laboratories meet the industry's high standards.



### PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

The NurtureChek Proficiency Testing scheme has been developed to provide a system for laboratories to validate their testing capability and to benchmark their results and methods among a network of competent laboratories. The scheme provides independent test verification to laboratories, manufacturers and monitoring agencies, and ultimately to the consumer, that the testing is being carried out competently.

### BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING

#### ➤ Confidence in Results

Measurement of performance in comparison with other laboratories provides confidence that:

- Precision and Accuracy of test results and test methods are within acceptable limits
- Results from participating laboratories (or groups of laboratories) are equivalent
- In-house methods are equivalent to national or international standard methods

#### ➤ Credibility

Performance can be demonstrated to:

- Manufacturers
- Customers
- Regulatory Authorities
- Accreditation Agencies

#### ➤ Compliance with

- Laboratory Standards (e.g. ISO 17025)
- Regulatory and market access requirements

#### ➤ Training

Test performance from individual analysts can be monitored and reported over time.

### PROGRAMME FEATURES

- Supporting laboratories by providing verification activities for manufacturing and process operations
- Technical direction from an independent Technical Advisory Group ensuring relevance to current industry needs
- Separation of data by method (where appropriate)

### ACCREDITATION

- Global Proficiency is accredited to ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Proficiency Testing; our scope includes the NurtureChek programme.
- Global Proficiency is also accredited to ISO 17034: General requirements for the competence of Reference Material Producers. For information on the range of Reference Materials offered, please visit our website.

### SAMPLE TYPES

Infant formula of different ages and base types (Cow and Goats milk) are presented where appropriate. Rounds are split into specific analyte groups and offered as follows:

- **Vitamins & Amino Acids:** Mar & Sep
- **Proximates, Nucleotides & other Nutrients:** Apr & Oct
- **Micronutrients:** May & Nov
- **Fatty Acids & Lutein:** Jul

Samples are offered as a three-sample set consisting of formula packed in induction sealed pots.

### AVAILABLE TESTS

#### Vitamins & Amino Acids:

- |                             |                     |                |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| • Retinol eq. (Vit A)       | • Choline           | • Cystine *    |
| • Phylloquinone (Vit K1)    | • β-carotene        | • Alanine *    |
| • Ascorbic Acid (Vit C)     | • Biotin            | • Glycine *    |
| • Niacinamide (Vit B3)      | • Thiamine (Vit B1) | • Leucine *    |
| • Pantothenic Acid (Vit B5) | • Glutamic Acid *   | • Lysine *     |
| • Cyanocobalamin (Vit B12)  | • Arginine *        | • Proline *    |
| • Riboflavin (Vit B2)       | • Aspartic Acid *   | • Serine *     |
| • Pyridoxine (Vit B6)       | • Isoleucine *      | • Threonine *  |
| • Cholecalciferol (Vit D3)  | • Histidine *       | • Tryptophan * |
| • α-Tocopherol eq. (Vit E)  | • Methionine *      | • Tyrosine *   |
| • Folate (as Folic Acid)    | • Phenylalanine *   | • Valine *     |

\* Amino Acids are only offered in one round per year

#### Proximates, Nucleotides & other Nutrients:

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Ash                             | • Moisture                |
| • Fat                             | • pH                      |
| • Protein                         | • Total Carnitine         |
| • α-Lactalbumin                   | • Free Carnitine          |
| • myo-Inositol                    | • Total Taurine           |
| • Total Fructan (FOS)             | • Nucleotides (Total)     |
| • Galactooligosaccharides (GOS) * | (AMP, CMP, GMP, IMP, UMP) |

\*5 mL of GOS syrup is provided if required

#### Micronutrients:

- |            |             |              |            |
|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| • Calcium  | • Iodine    | • Manganese  | • Selenium |
| • Chloride | • Iron      | • Phosphorus | • Sodium   |
| • Copper   | • Magnesium | • Potassium  | • Zinc     |

#### Fatty Acids & Lutein:

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Total Linoleic Acid  | • Arachidonic Acid (AA)      |
| • Total Linolenic Acid | • Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) |
| • Total Oleic Acid     | • Trans Fatty Acids          |
| • Lauric Acid          | • Total Fatty Acids          |
| • Lutein               | • Myristic Acid              |

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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