

[0015] In one embodiment, the present disclosure comprises a nutritional composition, comprising an emulsion of docosahexaenoic acid and/or arachidonic acid.

[0016] In another embodiment, the present disclosure comprises a method for providing nutritional support to a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject a nutritional composition comprising an emulsion of docosahexaenoic acid and/or arachidonic acid.

[0017] Yet another embodiment comprises a nutritional supplement for fortifying human milk or infant formula suitable for oral administration.

[0017a] In one aspect, there is provided a nutritional supplement for enteral administration to preterm infants, comprising: a lipid component, wherein the lipid component comprises at least about 0.64% arachidonic acid and at least about 0.32% docosahexaenoic acid, wherein the arachidonic acid and the docosahexaenoic acid are provided in aqueous emulsified form and wherein the nutritional supplement is delivered in a small volume dose between about 0.7 ml and 1.3 ml.

[0017b] In another aspect, there is provided a fortifier for oral administration to preterm infants, comprising: a lipid component, wherein the lipid component comprises at least about 0.64% arachidonic acid and at least about 0.32% docosahexaenoic acid, wherein the arachidonic acid and the docosahexaenoic acid are provided in aqueous emulsified form and wherein the fortifier is delivered in a small volume dose between about 0.7 ml and 1.3 ml.

[0017c] In another aspect, there is provided a method for providing nutritional support to a preterm infant receiving parenteral nutrition, the method comprising: enterally administering to the infant a nutritional composition comprising a lipid component, wherein the lipid component comprises at least about 0.64% arachidonic acid and at least about 0.32% docosahexaenoic acid, wherein the arachidonic acid and the docosahexaenoic acid are provided in aqueous emulsified form and wherein the nutritional composition is delivered in a small volume dose between about 0.7 ml and 1.3 ml.

[0018] It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description present embodiments of the disclosure and are intended to provide an overview or framework for understanding the nature and character of the disclosure as it is claimed. The description serves to explain the principles and operations of the claimed subject matter. Other and further features and advantages of the present disclosure will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art upon a reading of the following disclosure.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

[0019] The present disclosure provides nutritional compositions and methods for providing nutritional support. The nutritional compositions include a lipid component comprising DHA and ARA and are suitable for delivery to subjects suffering from nutritional deficiencies, such as preterm infants. The present disclosure further provides an improved fortifier for addition to human milk or infant formula. The fortifier comprises a stable emulsion of DHA and ARA. The present disclosure still further provides methods for providing nutritional support to subjects, such as preterm infants. A full and enabling disclosure of the present disclosure, including the best mode thereof directed to one of ordinary skill in the art, is set forth in the specification below.

[0020] Hereinafter, "enteral administration" includes, but is not limited to, feeding via nasogastric tube, orogastric feeding, intragastric feeding, or transpyloric administration. "Enteral administration" may also include any other method known in the art for introducing a nutritional composition directly into the digestive tract other than via oral feeding.