Claims:

1. An infant formula for use in improving infant formula tolerance of an infant, wherein the infant formula is administered to an infant and has an energy content of 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

2. An infant formula according to claim 1, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

3. An infant formula according to claim 1, wherein the infant formula is a days 1-2 infant formula having an energy content of 200 to 360 kilocalories per liter of formula.

4. An infant formula according to claim 1, wherein the infant formula is a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

5. An infant formula according to claim 3 wherein the use comprises administering the days 1-2 infant formula to the infant during the first two days following birth and administering a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula to the infant on days 3 to 9 following birth.

6. An infant formula according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the infant formula has a buffering capacity (expressed as the H+ concentration following addition of 5 mmoles of HCl to 100 mL of formula) of 2 mM to 25 mM.

7. An infant formula according to any one of claims 1, 2, or 6 having a buffering strength (expressed as the mL of 0.1 M HCl needed to decrease the pH of 50 mL of formula from a starting pH of 6.0 to a pH of 3.0) of 9 mL to 18 mL.

8. An infant formula according to any one of claims 1, 2, or 6, wherein the infant formula contains micronutrients in an amount that is low enough to provide the

infant formula with an Agtron color score (two months after formulation) of at least 40.

9. An infant formula for use in inhibiting gastroesophageal reflux in an infant, wherein the infant formula is administered to an infant and has an energy content of 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

10. An infant formula according to claim 9, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

11 An infant formula according to claim 9, wherein the infant formula is a days 1-2 infant formula having an energy content of 200 to 360 kilocalories per liter of formula.

12. An infant formula according to claim 9, wherein the infant formula is a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

13. An infant formula according to claim 11 wherein the use comprises administering the days 1-2 infant formula to the infant during the first two days following birth and administering a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula to the infant on days 3 to 9 following birth.

14. An infant formula according to claim 8 or claim 9, wherein the infant formula has a buffering capacity (expressed as the H+ concentration following addition of 5 mmoles of HCl to 100 mL of formula) of 2 mM to 25 mM.

15. An infant formula according to any one of claims 8, 9 or 14 having a buffering strength (expressed as the mL of 0.1 M HCl needed to decrease the pH of 50 mL of formula from a starting pH of 6.0 to a pH of 3.0) of 9 mL to 18 mL.

16. An infant formula according to claim 8, claim 9 or claim 14, wherein the infant formula contains micronutrients in an amount that is low enough to provide the

infant formula with an Agtron color score (two months after formulation) of at least 40.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of improving infant formula tolerance of an infant, the method comprising administering to the infant an infant formula having an energy content of from about 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the infant formula is a days 1-2 infant formula having an energy content of from about 200 to about 360 kilocalories per liter of formula.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising administering the days 1-2 infant formula to the infant during the first two days following birth and administering a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of from about 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula to the infant on days 3 to 9 following birth.

5. A method of improving infant formula tolerance of an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 65% of the micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 30% to about 80% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients on a per volume basis.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

7. A method of improving infant formula tolerance of an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 200 to about 360 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 45% of the micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 30% to about 65% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients, on a per volume basis.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the infant formula is a days 1-2 infant formula.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising administering the days 1-2 infant formula to the infant during the first two days following birth and administering a days 3-9 infant formula having an energy content of from about 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula to the infant on days 3 to 9 following birth.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the days 3-9 infant formula is a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, wherein at least 30% of the micronutrients are included in the days 3-9 infant formula in an amount that is from about 55% to about 80% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients, on a per volume basis.

12. A method of improving infant formula tolerance of an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 30% of the micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 55% to about 80% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients, on a per volume basis.

13. A method for inhibiting gastroesophageal reflux in an infant, the method comprising administering to the infant an infant formula having an energy content of from about 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula.

14. A method for inhibiting gastroesophageal reflux in an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 200 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 65% of the

micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 30% to about 80% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients on a per volume basis.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

16. A method for inhibiting gastroesophageal reflux in an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 200 to about 360 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 45% of the micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 30% to about 65% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients, on a per volume basis.

17. A method for inhibiting gastroesophageal reflux in an infant, the method comprising: administering to the infant a low micronutrient infant formula comprising micronutrients and at least one macronutrient selected from the group consisting of protein, carbohydrate, fat, and combinations thereof, and having an energy content of from about 360 to less than 600 kilocalories per liter of formula, wherein at least 30% of the micronutrients are included in the infant formula in an amount that is from about 55% to about 80% of conventional amounts of corresponding micronutrients, on a per volume basis.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the infant is a newborn infant.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the infant formula is a days 3-9 infant formula.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising administering a days 1-2 infant formula having an energy content of from about 200 to about 360 kilocalories per liter of formula to the infant during the first two days following birth and administering the days 3-9 infant formula to the infant on days 3 to 9 following birth.