Dietary management of cow's milk allergy and multiple food allergy in children older than 1 year: new data on the experiences of parents and healthcare professionals with Neocate Junior

Cow's milk allergy (CMA) is an immune-mediated response to the proteins found in cow's milk. CMA is one of the most common food allergies in early life, affecting approximately 1–4% of young children.

CMA usually appears within the first two years of age,²⁻⁴ and research has shown that the condition can persist beyond the age of one in approximately one third of children diagnosed with CMA.²

Children with persistent CMA and multiple food allergies (MFA) are at higher risk of nutritionally deficient diets and poor growth.⁴⁻⁹ For some children, provision of age-appropriate nutrition support with hypoallergenic formula alternatives to cow's milk are necessary.^{10,11}

Neocate Junior is an amino acid-based formula (AAF), specifically designed to address the growing nutritional needs of toddlers and older children with CMA, MFA and other medical conditions where an AAF is recommended.^{12,13}



Background and Methods of the HCP and Parent Experience Survey

A global healthcare user experience survey was completed by 60 parents and 120 healthcare professionals (HCPs; gastroenterologists, allergists, paediatricians, dieticians and dermatologists) across six countries (Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, UK, and US) to gain real-life insights about their experiences with Neocate Junior. The data were collected by an independent market research organisation (Opinion Health Quality Research Solutions) in September 2024.

To be eligible to complete the survey, HCPs were required to have experience with the formula in their patient population and parents were required to have a child that was currently taking Neocate Junior. Multiple choice Likert scale type questions were used for both HCPs (e.g. always / often / sometimes / rarely / never / not applicable) and parents (e.g. yes / no / I don't know / not applicable) to assess a range of outcomes, including acceptance, satisfaction, symptom relief and effects on growth and quality of life.



(n=98)

64%

Most commonly selected indications for prescribing Neocate Junior*

35%

(n=42)

30%

(n=36)

Top five reasons for prescribing Neocate Junior for the management of CMA*

(1)

Improves symptoms of CMA (62%, n=74)

(2

Contributes to adequate growth (52%, n=62)

3

Better nutritional profile than other commercially available alternatives (soy and oat milk drinks) (50%, n=60)

4

Is well accepted by children (47%, n=56)

5

Is safe to use in a variety of medical conditions (43%, n=52)

*From a total of 120 HCPs surveyed; could select more than one option; 'Three 'other' conditions were specified: weak gastrointestinal function, skin allergies and low immunity. CMA, cow's milk allergy, EGID/EoE, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorder/eosinophilic oesonohagitis. FPIES, food protein-induced entercoolitis. GERD, gastro-oesonhageal reflux disease; HCP, healthcare professional. MFA, multiple food allergy; SBS, short bowel syndrome.

"Many children have demonstrated **improved health after** consistently consuming Neocate Junior."

30% (n=36)

Allergist, US

33%

(n=39)

"Promotes positive growth quickly. Also helps in other GI symptoms like EoE/severe GERD"

Paediatrician, UK

Overall, HCPs were satisfied/very satisfied with Neocate Junior (97%), would recommend it to other clinicians (89%), and consider Neocate Junior as their first choice of AAF for children (93%)



All HCPs agreed that Neocate
Junior continues to **provide**relief from food allergy
symptoms (always/often/
sometimes)



HCPs report high satisfaction with growth rates with Neocate Junior (98%) and continued positive improvements in wellbeing for children (100%) and their families' (99%)



On average, 93%* of HCPs reported that Neocate Junior made **dietary management easier in children** across a range of conditions, *t while ≥94% of HCPs said they would **continue to prescribe*** it



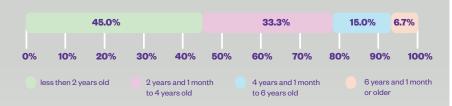
HCPs agree that **taste** is an important factor, with 75% of HCPs agreeing Neocate Junior's **taste supports adherence**

*Median value of HCPs reporting that Neocate Junior makes dietary management of the following conditions easier: cow's milk allergy, multiple food allergy, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders/eosinophilic oesophagetis, gastro-oesophageal reflux disease food protein-induced enterocolitis, short bowel syndrome and malabsorption-related gastrointestinal conditions; *Made it much easier or made it a little easier, *Definitely would or probably would. CMA, cow's milk allergy.

Results: Parent's insights

- The majority of children (91.7%) had been diagnosed with CMA and/or MFA.
- The majority (78%) of children prescribed
 Neocate Junior were under 4 years of age.
- 83.3% of the children consumed Neocate Junior as oral nutrition, with the remaining consuming via a combination of tube feeding and oral nutrition.

Most common age of children prescribed Neocate Junior



Reasons for switching to, or starting, Neocate Junior following HCP recommendation*

Following recommendations by either their paediatrician (62.5%), an allergist (17.5%), or a dietitian (12.5%)†



Help improve digestive symptoms



Have an **age-adapted formula** as child turned 1 year of age



Help with their child's growth



Help **improve overall food allergy symptoms** not fully resolved with previous formula



Have a formula that provides good nutrition

*Parents could select more than one option; *For those using another hypoallergenic formula previously, switch to Neocate Junior by HCP recommendation (n=37) or at own request (n=3)

Parents reported improvements in their child's symptoms, growth and wellbeing, as well as highlighting the ease of transitioning to and preparing Neocate Junior:



Almost all parents are **satisfied/very satisfied** with Neocate Junior (95%) and **how their child is growing** (93%), and they would definitely/probably **recommend** it to other parents of babies with CMA (98%)



Parents agree that Neocate Junior is **easy to transition** to (80%), **easy to prepare** (90%), and easy to ensure their child **drinks the full amount** of Neocate Junior (78%)



As well as **continued relief from food allergy symptoms** with Neocate Junior (89%), most parents say that Neocate Junior has had a **positive effect** on their child (90%) and their family (88%), with **an improvement in their own and/or their family quality of life** (85%)

"His symptoms have decreased and he is much happier. He is more willing, and plays more. He didn't have tummy pain since, so he plays more. He is a happy child."

Parent, Brazil

"Thanks to Neocate Junior, my little one is **much more balanced** and has **fewer problems**; everyday life in general has become **much calmer**"

Parent, Germany

Conclusion

The results of this survey provided first-hand, personal insights from users of Neocate Junior, and explored the effects of this formula on the health and wellbeing of children and their families. Both HCPs and parents reported consistent improvements across all outcomes, suggesting that Neocate Junior can continue to provide effective symptom relief for children with CMA over the age of 1 year, as well as positively impacting upon growth, formula adherence and quality of life.

These findings reinforce the health, wellbeing, and growth benefits of Neocate Junior for the dietary management of CMA, MFA and other complex conditions where an AAF is required in children above one year of age. The results of the study warrant further validation in a larger sample of HCPs and parents.

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Neocate Junior is a Food for Special Medical Purposes for use in children for the dietary management of CMA, MFA and other conditions where an amino acid based formula is indicated. Must be used under medical supervision. Neocate Junior range may vary depending on market globally, please consult local label.