



August 10, 2012

Dear Healthcare Professional

**Re: Neocate® Nutra Change in Ingredient.**

Nutricia has an ongoing commitment to optimize the Neocate product range for use in infants and children with cow's milk allergy (CMA), multiple food protein intolerance (MFPI) and other related GI conditions for which an amino acid-based diet is required. Starting from September the formulation of Neocate Nutra will be updated to include a highly refined pre-gelatinized rice starch as the thickening agent. This hypoallergenic rice starch will replace the cornstarch currently in Neocate Nutra. The addition of rice starch has optimized the taste, texture and appearance of Neocate Nutra to help make it comparable to standard weaning foods. Moreover, the change to rice starch provides a suitable base for incorporation of both sweet and savory foods introduced as part of weaning an allergic infant.

Rice is a well known safe first food used when introducing complementary foods to infants and is used widely by families of allergic infants due to its low risk of allergenicity<sup>1</sup>. It is recognized however that rice protein can result in allergic reactions in a low percentage of infants. The rice starch used in Neocate Nutra is highly refined with a high degree of processing and rice protein extraction to ensure that the risk of residual rice protein is minimized that could potentially cause an allergic reaction.

As with all ingredients within the Neocate family of products this ingredient has been selected in line with Nutricia's strict internal standards for hypoallergenic products. There are no milk ingredients used within the manufacture and ingredients used within the manufacture and processing of the rice starch. Prior to incorporation into Neocate Nutra this ingredient is tested using ELISA technology to ensure no milk protein contamination occurs.

Nutricia always strives to provide the highest quality products. Should you have any questions, please contact our team of Medical Affairs Associates on 1800-Neocate (option 2) any time from 8.30 – 5pm EST.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Yannicelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Steven Yannicelli, PhD, RD**  
Vice President  
Medical and Scientific Affairs  
Nutricia North America

1. Koo, W. W. & Lasekan, J. B. (2007) Rice protein-based infant formula: current status and future development. *Minerva Pediatr* 59: 35-41.