

# Consumer Friendly Summary of IS 17945:2022

## Food for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants

### Overview

This Indian Standard provides guidelines for food products meant for infants with special medical conditions. These products act as substitutes for human milk and are specially formulated to meet the nutritional needs of infants suffering from specific disorders or diseases.

### Types of Special Infant Foods

The standard covers three main types of infant food:

1. **Preterm Infant Milk Substitutes** – For babies born before 37 weeks of pregnancy.
2. **Lactose-Free Infant Milk Substitutes** – For infants who cannot digest lactose (milk sugar).
3. **Hypoallergenic Infant Milk Substitutes** – For babies with allergies to cow or buffalo milk proteins.

### Key Requirements

- The product should be safe, free from harmful substances, and meet strict nutritional guidelines.
- It must provide essential nutrients to support infant growth and development.
- It should be free from preservatives, artificial colors, and flavors.
- The food must be tested for quality and meet hygiene standards.

### Nutritional Composition

- **Carbohydrates:** Preferably lactose and glucose polymers. Sucrose and fructose should be limited.
- **Proteins:** Must be derived from safe and approved sources, including hydrolyzed proteins for hypoallergenic substitutes.
- **Fats:** Should include essential fatty acids like linoleic and  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid.
- **Vitamins & Minerals:** The formula must contain a balanced mix of vitamins (A, B, C, D, etc.), calcium, iron, zinc, and other essential minerals.

### Packaging & Labelling

- The packaging must be **airtight** and made from **food-grade materials**.
- Labels must include:
  - Product name and type
  - Nutritional composition
  - Storage instructions
  - A **warning** that the product should be used under **medical advice**

- Special indications (e.g., "Lactose-Free" or "Hypoallergenic")

### **Quality & Safety Checks**

- The food must meet **strict microbiological and contamination limits**.
- It should be tested for bacteria like Salmonella and Enterobacteriaceae to ensure infant safety.
- Heavy metals and toxins must be below prescribed limits.

### **Eco-Friendly Considerations**

- The product can be certified with an **ECO-Mark** if it meets environmental safety standards.
- Packaging materials should be recyclable or biodegradable.