



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE

Formula feed: Approximate fluid requirements for formula fed neonates

This document should be read in conjunction with this [Disclaimer](#)

- **Day 1** 40-60mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day
- **Day 2** 60-80mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day
- **Day 3** 80-100mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day
- **End of first week** 120-150mL per kilogram per day

Estimation of fluid requirements:

Amount is calculated from baby's birth weight until the latter is regained. The actual weight is then used.

End of first week 120ml per kilogram of birth weight per day

- 3 hourly = 8 feeds/day
- 4 hourly = 6 feeds/ day

$\frac{3500}{3520} \times \frac{120}{1000}$

Birth Weight 3,520 g = $1000 \times 6 = 70\text{mL}$ per feed would be offered each feed.

Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines

[Neonatology](#) guidelines on newborn feeding and formula preparation

Obstetrics & Gynaecology: [Fluid Requirements for Low Birth Weight \(LBW\), Preterm & Small for Gestational Age \(SGA\) Baby](#); [Formula Technique](#); [Formula Preparation](#); [Medical Indication](#)

Keywords:	neonatal feed calculations, mls/kg/day, neonatal fluid requirements		
Document owner:	Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Imaging Directorate		
Author / Reviewer:	Head of Department Neonatology		
Date first issued:	Nov 2001		
Reviewed dates:	; March 2016; March 2019	Next review date:	March 2022
Supersedes:	Version dated March 2016		
Endorsed by:	Maternity Services Management Sub Committee (MSMSC)	Date:	26/03/2019
NSQHS Standards (v2) applicable:	1 Governance, 2 Partnering Consumers		

Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled. Access the current version from the WNHS website.