



**AAK**

Akonino DHA 24

**Akonino DHA 24 -  
for optimal development**

**It is widely recognised that babies benefit from an intake of the omega 3 Long Chain PolyUnsaturated Fatty Acids (LC PUFA) docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) both before and after birth. The majority of new infant formulas and follow-on formulas in the market contain addition of DHA. This is one of the approved supplementation which can be made.**

The content of the fatty acid DHA in mother's milk varies due to life-style and diet from low levels up to 1%. For optimal development of babies you find recommendations for supplementing pregnant and lactating women with DHA. Akonino DHA 24 is an oil containing LC PUFA. The product's content of DHA is high, whereas the content of the omega-3 LC PUFA eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) is low. Akonino DHA 24 is intended for infant formula where it is to be added into the formula together with the rest of the oil-blend.

#### **Health benefits**

LC PUFA can be converted in the human body from the essential fatty acids alfa-linolenic acid (ALA, omega-3) and linoleic acid (LA, omega-6). However studies show that when the diet of the babies does not contain LC PUFA the conversion rate from the essential fatty acids may not be sufficient.

DHA does not need to be added in infant formula for the baby to grow and develop normally but science shows that addition of DHA supports optimal development. Several scientific studies have been done and more are ongoing to show the health benefits of the addition of LC PUFA .

In the body DHA is found in all cell membranes and is one of the main LC PUFA in the brain and eye. Studies show that addition of DHA to the infant formula supports visual, brain and cognitive development. Other benefits which may be influenced by supplementation of DHA are motility development, blood pressure and immune response.

There are studies indicating that babies aged 7 to 12 months also benefit from addition of DHA and therefore DHA supplementation is used in follow-on formulas.



### **Recommendations**

When adding LC PUFA to the infant formula the DHA level needs to be above 0,2% of the fatty acids according to the EU legislation. The recommendation of ESPGHAN and the Codex Alimentarius Standard is that the maximum supplementation level of DHA is 0,5%. The level of EPA must be lower than the DHA level.

In order to supplement the infant formula with DHA you also need to add omega-6 LC PUFA, mainly arachidonic acid (AA) is used. This level needs to be equal or higher than of the DHA.

### **Akonino DHA 24**

Akonino DHA 24 is a fish oil with a high content of DHA, typical value 24%. At the same time the EPA level is below 8%. The supply chain of the fish oil is assured and well documented. The oil is completely neutral in taste and easy to handle as it is liquid at room temperature.

Akonino DHA 24 is a good source of DHA and fulfils the special criteria set for oils used in infant formula. As it is an oil with high level of polyunsaturated fat we recommend the product to be stored deep-frozen. It is sold in drums of 28 or 195 kg.

#### **Akonino DHA 24**

- ◆ High content of DHA
- ◆ Excellent DHA source for infant formula
- ◆ High quality – neutral in taste
- ◆ Easy to handle – liquid at room temperature
- ◆ Documented supply chain



## AAK - your partner in Infant Formula

### Understanding customer needs is our business

AAK is a world leading supplier of high value-added speciality fats. In every customer relationship, our role is to contribute to the competitiveness of our customers in their respective markets. We offer a wide range of product advantages; from highly nutritional products, products developed for better taste and longer shelf life, to cost efficiency.

### Products tailored for your needs

AAK offers a complete range of oils and fats for infant nutrition. As examples can be mentioned:

**InFat™** – the highly refined fat used in infant nutrition in order to reduce constipation as one of many advantages. The Akonino range consists of blends with a specific fatty acid profile tailored to the customer needs.

Akonino DHA is a Long Chain PolyUnsaturated Fat (LCPUFA), high in DHA, supporting the visual and cognitive development.

### Quality and Food safety

AAK's quality comprises the entire product chain – from raw material to finished product. All of AAK's production units are certified according to international standard's. HACCP is one of the tools used in order to secure a high level of product safety.

### Research & Development

AAK's knowledge and expertise regarding the properties of vegetable fats develop continuously through customer contacts, cooperation with research institutes and governmental authorities – regionally and globally. Our research and development take place in close coordination with the customer to tailor products to meet the customer's requirements.

### AAK ACADEMY™

AAK's customer training programme is organised by AAK Academy™. The Academy arranges courses and seminars for entire industries as well as for individual customers. The purpose of the training is to make it easier for our customers to control the functionality of the fat in their own product.

For further information see [www.aak.com](http://www.aak.com)

Akonino DHA24 is supplied by Advanced Lipids, a joint venture of AAK and Enzymotec.



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