

Sip Feed Comparison Chart

General Practitioners are reminded that the ACBS recommends products on the basis that they may be regarded as drugs for the management of specified conditions. When reviewing patients prescribed sip feeds consideration should be given to why and how long patients have had sips for. Stop rather than switch if a clinical need no longer applies. Prescriptions should be acute only not placed on repeat. This will help reduce waste and decrease prescribing costs. Starter packs should only be used to find out what flavours a patient likes when initiating sip feeds.

Food supplements:

Standard ACBS indications: short-bowel syndrome, intractable malabsorption, pre-operative preparation of under-nourished patients, proven inflammatory bowel disease following total gastrectomy, bowel fistulas, or disease-related malnutrition and dysphagia. **The patient must meet one of these indications and this should be written on their record along with the aim of treatment and records of weight.** Practitioners should assess nutritional status before starting use of food supplements and offer advice about enriching nutritional value of normal diet, trialing a food first approach. This includes care home patients.

Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST) available for community patients and care home residents. For more detailed information please see [BAPEN MUST](#).

[Patient Webinars](#) developed by Somerset Community Dietitians provides webinars and printable resources to support self-management of various conditions including malnutrition.

Renal patients - Please be cautious when reviewing haemodialysis patients with confirmed malnutrition / fluid restrictions. Guidance can be found on the Medicines Management [Nutrition and Hydration](#) page.

Paediatric patients – Please be cautious if reviewing paediatric patients. There are no formulary recommendations for paediatric patients due to it being a specialised area that requires dietetic review and assessment.

Following a Food First approach, patients who may be initiated on compact sip feeds as inpatients include:

Those with clinical need:	<p>Without trial of normal sip/ powder based:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirmed haemodialysis patients or those on fluid restricted diets • severe cardio-respiratory disease or illness • ascites • short bowel syndrome or high output stoma • eating disorders
Those with <u>confirmed</u> clinical need:	<p>After failed trial of normal volume sip/ powder based:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cancer • frailty

Feed thickeners – Please follow Speech and Language Therapy treatment plan. See the [Somerset Prescribing Formulary](#) for formulary choices.

Sip Feed Comparison Chart

Supplement Style	Additional Features	Products on formulary	Approx kcal per serving	Price per unit	Flavour	Similar products not on formulary/ price per unit	Comments
Powder to add to food or drink		Pro-Cal® powder	100	£1.03	neutral		Add to food and drink to enhance energy and protein content.
Milkshake	Powdered	AYMES® Shake	383	£0.57	6	Calshake® powder £3.12 Enshake® £3.82 Scandishake® Mix £3.72	For those who can make up their own drinks, consume large volumes and purchase milk. Not all powdered supplements contain a full range of vitamins and minerals.
		Complan® Shake	380	£0.55	5		
		EnergieShake® Powder	381	£0.68	5		
		Ensure® Shake	386	£0.68	4		
		Foodlink® Complete	383	£0.58	5		
	Standard	Altraplen® Energy	300	£0.99	4	Fresubin® Original £3.31 Ensure® liquid £3.56	To meet basic energy and nutrient requirements and a preference for milk-based drinks.
	AYMES® Actagain 1.5 Complete	300	£0.99	4			
	Fortisip® Bottle	300	£1.50	6			
	Fresubin® Energy liquid	300	£1.53	8			
	EnergieShake® Complete 1.5kcal	300	£0.89	4			
	Ensure® Plus Milkshake Style	300	£1.58	9			
	Ensure® Plus Commence	300	£1.60	9			
	Fibre	AYMES® Shake Fibre sachets	375	£0.91	5	Ensure® Plus Fibre £3.17 Fresubin® Energy Fibre £2.76 Resource® Fibre 2.0 £2.68	For increased fibre requirements e.g. individuals suffering from constipation
		Foodlink® Complete with Fibre sachet	397	£1.02	5		
	2kcal/ml	EnergieShake® 2.0	400	£1.52	3	Ensure® TwoCal £3.11 Fortisip® 2kcal £2.50 Fresubin® 2kcal £2.40	A more energy dense ONS
		Foodlink® Extra powder	600	£1.60	4		
	2.4kcal/ml	AYMES® ActaSolve High Energy sachets	596	£1.60	4	AYMES® ActaGain 2.4 £1.79	Energy dense ONS.

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Milkshake (continued)	Low volume	Altraplen® Compact	300	£1.60	4	Pro-Cal® shot £3.81 Fresubin® 5kcal shot £3.55 Calogen® Extra emulsion £6.29 Altrashot® £3.13	Do not switch confirmed haemodialysis patients on fluid restricted diets without discussing with dietitian. Patients with a confirmed clinical need only. Haemodialysis patients or those on fluid restricted diets, severe cardio-respiratory disease or illness, ascites, short bowel syndrome or high output stoma, eating disorders.
		Altraplen® Compact Daily – 2x125ml servings	300	£1.60	4		
		AYMES® Actagain 2.4 Daily – 2x125ml servings	300	£1.60	3		
AYMES® Shake Compact		317	£0.57	6			
Calogen® Extra Shots 6x40ml		160	£1.25	2			
Ensure® Compact		300	£1.60	4			
Foodlink® Complete Compact		318	£0.58	5			
Fortisip® Compact		300	£1.60	8			
Fresubin® 2kcal Mini	250	£1.45	3				
	Low volume high protein	AYMES® ActaSolve Protein Compact sachet	312	£1.21	5	Fortisip® Compact Protein £2.70 Fresubin® Pro Compact Drink £1.69	Please first trial normal volume products with cancer and frailty patients.
	Low volume with fibre	Fresubin® 2kcal Fibre Mini	250	£1.56	2	Fortisip® Compact Fibre £2.99	
Juice	Standard	AYMES® ActaGain Juice	300	£1.80	4	Altrajuce® £1.97 Fresubin® Jucy £1.89	Juice style drinks. Gluten free. Contains milk protein.
		Ensure® Plus Juice	330	£1.80	6		
		Fortijuce®	300	£1.80	4		
Vegan	Standard	AYMES® Actagain 1.5 Plant Powered	300	£1.54	3	Fortisip® PlantBased 2kcal £2.50	Gluten and lactose free. Vegan.
		AYMES® ActaSolve Smoothie sachet	297	£1.08	4		
		Foodlink® Smoothie	287	£1.11	4		
		Fortisip® PlantBased	300	£1.60	2		
		Fresubin® PLANT-BASED	300	£1.60	1		
Dessert	Milk based	AYMES® ActaCal Creme	188	£1.60	3	Fresubin® 2kcal Crème £2.30 Nutricrem® £2.48	Cream style desserts
		AYMES® ActaSolve Delight sachet	302	£1.19	2		
		EnergieShake® Dessert	188	£1.10	2		
Soup	Standard	AYMES® ActaSolve Savoury sachet	250	£0.96	2	Meritene® Energis not ACBS approved £1.19	Soup style savoury flavours
Dysphagia patients	Please discuss dysphagia patients with a dietitian and choose the most cost effective product.						