Breastmilk is the preferred milk for these babies but if needed, infants will have pre-term formula commenced in hospital before discharge. These formulae should **not** be used in primary care to promote weight gain in babies other than those born prematurely.

Babies born <34 weeks gestation, weighing <2kg at birth may be initiated on:

- **Nutriprem 2® powder**
- **SMA Pro Gold Prem 2® powder**

**Secondary care initiation only**
Prescribing to be continued by GP in primary care until infant reaches 6 months corrected age*

Growth (weight, length & head circumference) should be monitored by the Health Visitor on a monthly basis using UK WHO growth charts.

**Is there a concern with growth?**
(See faltering growth flowchart)

- **NO**
  - Use **up to 6 months corrected age**
  - Then change to a standard OTC formula thereafter

- **YES**
  - Refer to/Alert the paediatric team
  - They may recommend the use of the pre-term formula until sufficient catch up growth is achieved

**NOTE:**
Precribe **POWDER** formula
Nutriprem 2® liquid or SMA Pro Gold Prem 2® liquid should **NOT BE prescribed** except in rare instances where there is a clinical need in e.g. immunocompromised infant.

Rationale and duration should be clearly indicated by secondary care and communicated to the GP.

*6 months corrected age = Expected Date of Delivery + 26 weeks*

Click [here](#) for additional guidance