



Valid Nutrition – leading the world in the treatment and prevention of malnutrition.

VALID NUTRITION

- * Established in 2005 as a social enterprise, awarded charity status in 2008.
- * Although a charity, run strictly as a food business – an innovative model.
- * Sister company to Valid International – pioneers of the community based management approach to the treatment of acute malnutrition now adopted by the UN and more than 35 countries worldwide.
- * The VN Board and Executive Committee are comprised of leading humanitarians, internationally recognised experts on the treatment of malnutrition, together with highly experienced businessmen in the food industry.

PURPOSE

- * The development, manufacture and provision of highly specialised foods for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition with the aim of maximising long term social impact by producing exclusively in developing countries / regions.

PHILOSOPHY

- * From farm to mouth.
- * Ingredients sourced locally with a purchase of ingredients from small holder farmers wherever possible and technology assistance to improve quality and food security.
- * Cutting edge food manufacturing systems run by experienced industry professionals.
- * Stringent acceptability/efficacy testing and quality assurance methods. UNICEF approval and supplier status for all factories.
- * No shareholders/dividends. All income reinvested in continuous innovation to improve recipes and drive down costs.

What is Valid Nutrition Peanut Formula Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)?

Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods are highly fortified, oil based nutrient dense pastes specifically for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition. The product is designed to be used as part of a structured programme of community-based management and not for retail sale.

The formulation of RUTF delivers the same nutritional qualities as the WHO's F-100 milk. Unlike F-100, RUTFs are not water based and require no further preparation. This has two main advantages:

- * **Bacteria cannot grow in RUTF hence it can be stored safely for up to one year without the need for refrigeration.**
- * **RUTF can be eaten directly from the pack and is safe to use in the home without medical supervision.**

For more details see separate product fact sheet.



PRODUCTS

- * Peanut-based RUTF – the current industry standard.
- * Chickpea-sesame RUTF – for adults with HIV/AIDS.
- * Four new products under a development program, funded by Irish Aid, using significantly less milk powder, and designed to cut costs substantially.
- * Developing RUCF Production in Malawi.

LOCATIONS

- * Main plant and R&D Centre in Malawi in collaboration with Ex Agris Africa.
- * Operational base in Ireland. Governed by Irish charity law and accounting standards.
- * R&D office in Kenya.
- * Activities currently in Africa and Asia.

Why Valid Nutrition?

- * High-quality RUTFs produced under strict quality control and manufactured with UNICEF approval.
- * Exclusively manufactured in developing countries and competitively priced.
- * Excellent customer service.
- * Short delivery lead times.
- * Adding value by sourcing ingredients and producing locally, creating jobs and improving food security.
- * Innovative social enterprise business model.

PARTNERSHIPS

- * National governments, the UN and NGOs. International Development Agencies including Irish Aid, DFID and USAID SATH.





VN Malawi Factory Team



Malawi Packing Hall

REFERENCES

Some of the papers produced by Valid staff:

- S. Collins:** *Changing the way we address severe malnutrition during famine* – Lancet 2001; 358, 498-501
- S. Collins, K. Sadler:** *The outpatient treatment of severe malnutrition during humanitarian relief programmes* – Lancet; 2002, 360 1824-1830
- S. Collins, N. Dent, P. Binns, P. Bahwere, K. Sadler and . Hallam:** *The management of severe acute malnutrition in children* – Lancet 2006; 368, 9551
- S. Collins, K. Sadler, N. Dent, T. Khara, S. Guerrero, M. Myatt, M. Saboya and . Walsh:** *Key issues in the success of community-based management of severe malnutrition* – Food Nutr Bull 2006; 27(3): S49-S82
- S. Collins:** *Treating severe acute malnutrition seriously* – rch Dis Child 2007; 92(5): 453-61 2007
- M.O. Bachmann:** *Cost effectiveness of community-based therapeutic care for children with severe acute malnutrition in Zambia: decision tree model* – Cost effectiveness and Resource Allocation 2008; 7:2 doi: 10.1186/178-7547-7-2

CONTACTS

Valid Nutrition Ireland
Tel: +353 (0) 86 7809541
Email: office@validnutrition.org

Valid Nutrition UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 722180
Email: office@validnutrition.org

Valid Nutrition Malawi
Tel: +265 (0) 1 712488
Email: malawi@validnutrition.org

Valid Nutrition Kenya
Tel: +254 (0) 713 808743
Email: kenya@validnutrition.org