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(54) **PEDIATRIC FORMULA AND METHODS FOR PROVIDING NUTRITION AND IMPROVING TOLERANCE**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **426/72**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 426/72, 74, 573, 426/801

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides an improved pediatric formula and methods for providing nutrition to and enhancing tolerance in pediatric patients. The formula may be provided in powder, concentrate or ready-to-feed forms. The pediatric formula comprises, based on a 100 kcal basis, about 8 to about 16 grams carbohydrate (preferably about 9.4 to about 12.3 grams), about 3 to about 6 grams lipid (preferably about 4.7 to about 5.6 grams), about 1.8 to about 3.3 grams protein (preferably about 2.4 to about 3.3 grams), and a tolerance improver comprising a sufficient quantity for xanthum gum to produce a viscosity of no greater than about 200 centipoise at a pH of 4.0, or less. The formula may also be provided in a powder. The formula preferably further comprises vitamins and minerals and may further comprise a stabilizer. The methods comprise administering to a pediatric patient an effective amount of a pediatric formula according to the invention, as described above.

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