

7.0 Food Package

Effective Date: 8/1/12

7.03F Evaluating Appropriate Use of WIC Formulas

- A. In determining whether a WIC formula is appropriate, it is suggested that the following questions be considered:
1. Is the formula necessary and appropriate for growth of a healthy infant or treatment of an identified medical condition?
 2. Can comparable or appropriate nutrients be equally well provided to WIC clients using the contract iron-fortified formulas or the regular WIC food package? For Children's Special Health Care Services and Medicaid clients, can a selection of regular foods and/or beverages provide an adequate nutrient intake? Are these reasonable alternatives?
 3. Is the prescribed formula appropriate for the age of the client?
 - a. Is an adult formula being prescribed for a child (i.e. Ensure instead of Pediasure)?
 - b. Is a children's formula being prescribed for an infant (Pediasure instead of Enfamil PREMIUM Infant)?
 - c. Is a premature infant formula being prescribed solely for extra calories?
 4. Is composition (e.g., ingredients, proportion of CHO, PRO, FAT) of the prescribed formula consistent with the diagnosis, the client's condition and the diet prescribed?
 5. Is the estimation of daily calorie needs appropriate to support or achieve growth, desirable body weight or sufficient weight gain during pregnancy?
 6. Does the formula and other diet intake supply adequate calories to meet daily needs?
 7. Is the volume of the diet and formula reasonable for the client to consume, based on his or her size or condition?
 8. Does the use of formula encourage development of the client's feeding skills to full potential? Is the formula consistent with any feeding skill training in progress?
 9. Is the formula more refined or sophisticated than is required, based upon the diagnosis identified?
 10. Has the kind and/or amount of formula succeeded in maintaining and/or improving health status in the period since the formula request was last reviewed and approved (e.g., change in height and weight, improved percentile of weight-for-height)?

11. When more than one formula is requested, are formulas consistent? Compatible? Or in conflict?
12. Has coordination within and among the WIC Program, Children's Special Health Care Service and Medicaid been arranged so as to provide the client with up to the maximum nutrient and calorie benefit from the programs in which the client is enrolled?
13. Is the formula use consistent with the manufacturers' recommendations?
14. Is the formula being requested in the least expensive packaging that can be used in a time period without spoiling?
15. Is the person who will prepare the formula capable of understanding and following any mixing instructions?
16. What WIC authorized store or pharmacy in the area will handle this request for special formula? How long will it take for them to get? How much does it cost/unit? What can the WIC client use until the formula is available?