

# Michigan WIC Manually Assigned Risks (MAR) Tool

The local agency shall use the same procedure to screen all applicants to maintain a consistent and equitable method for risk determination, including the following manually assigned risks. (MI-WIC Policy 2.13)

## All

- Allergies to Food (353.01)** - if requires major diet modification to provide optimal nutrition  
Nutrition History Q7 (W), Q8 (C), & Q13 (I) — Food allergies
- Drug-Nutrient Interactions (357.01)** - if the medication could compromise nutritional status  
Medical Info Tab Q2 — Medicines/drugs
- Feeding dietary supplements with potentially harmful consequences (411.10/425.07/427.01)** - inappropriate/excessive amounts vitamin/mineral/herbal remedy not prescribed by doctor. See list of herbal teas (in MI-WIC Risk Help).  
Nutrition History Q10 (W) & Q12 (IC) — Vit/Min/Iodine daily (W), Vits/Mins/Vit D suppl (IC), & Herbal remedies/teas (WIC)
- Recipient of Abuse (901.01)**
  - Women: Battering (violent physical assaults) within past 6 months (self-reported or documented by a social worker, health care provider, or another appropriate document)
  - Infants & Children: Abuse and/or neglect (any act or failure to act resulting in imminent risk of serious harm, death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation by parent or caregiver) within past 6 months

## Women — Pregnant/Breastfeeding/Postpartum

- Breastfeeding Complications (602.01)** – severe breast engorgement, recurrent plugged ducts, flat/inverted nipples, mastitis, cracked/bleeding/severely sore nipples, failure of milk to come in by day 4, thrush  
BF Assessment Q2 — Tell me how breastfeeding is going.
- Foster Care (903)** - if PG, BE, BP, or NPP  
Client Information Screen
- History of Spontaneous Abortion, Fetal or Neonatal Loss (321.01)** - for PG client with a history of 2+ miscarriages  
Pregnancy Info Tab Q6 — Miscarriage indicated and if 2 or more
- Inadequate vitamin/mineral supplementation (427.04)**
  - Inadequate *Iodine*: PG, BE, or BP not taking 150 micrograms supplement daily,
  - Inadequate *Iron*: PG and taking < 27 mg supplement daily.
  - Inadequate *Folic Acid*: BE, BP, or NPP taking < 400 mcg from fortified foods and/or supplement daily  
Medical Info Tab Q5 — Have you taken any vitamins or minerals in the past month? & Q6 (postpartum only) — Folic acid intake  
Nutrition History Q10 — Vit/Min/Iodine daily

## Infants Only

- Routinely feeding inappropriately diluted formula (411.06)**  
Nutrition History Q6 — Ounces formula/feeding

## Infants/Children

- Routinely not providing dietary supplements needed (411.11/425.08)**

	Infants	Children
• Inadequate <i>Fluoride</i>	≥ 6 mos & taking < 0.25 mg fluoride when water source has < 0.3 ppm fluoride	No fluoridated water source or supplement
• Inadequate <i>Vitamin D</i>	<b>IBE</b> : not taking 400 IU Vit D <b>IFF/IBP</b> : not getting 1 liter (1 quart) Vit D formula per day and not taking 400 IU Vit D supplement.	Not receiving Vit D supplement (400 IU/day) unless drinking 1 quart or 32 oz (excess) milk or formula per day.

Nutrition History Q12 — Fluoride & Vits/Mins/Vit D suppl

# Important Discussion Topics (not captured in MI-WIC)

Sample leading question/statement for staff in determining other nutrition education, referrals, and some manually assigned risks.

## Nutrition/Physical Activity

### All

- What is mealtime/snack time like for your family? (Probe: when, where, what, with whom, division of responsibility)
- What makes you most happy about your child's eating?
- What physical activities do you/your family do? (Probe: activity level, likes/dislikes)

### Women

- How is your appetite?
- How do you feel about your weight? How would you like things to be as far as your eating and/or weight?
- Do you have any concerns about your weight? How would you like your eating habits to be?

### Infants/Children

- What has your doctor said about your infant/child's growth? How does the doctor think he/she is growing?
- How do you feel about your child's growth? What do you think?
- Do you have any concerns about your infant/child's growth?

## Infant Feeding

### Breastfeeding & Chestfeeding

- Tell me how breastfeeding is going. Probe: latch, supply, breast changes/health, engorgement, sore nipples, recurrent plugged ducts, flat or inverted nipples, mastitis, thrush
- What would make breastfeeding easier for you when you go back to school/work? Tell me about your plan.

### Formula Feeding

- Tell me about how you prepare formula. What have you been told about how to prepare formula?

### All Infants

- What does your baby do/How does your baby tell you they hungry/full?
- How much water do you think your baby drinks in 24 hours?

## Assistance/Referrals

### Lead/Environmental Issues

#### Lead

- Tell me about where you live. What year was your home built? If prior to 1978, may be exposed to lead. Probe: chipping paint, any current remodeling, possible environmental contamination/location
- Probe other potential lead exposure: family/friends (know anyone with lead poisoning or high lead readings); work conditions (auto repair, plumbing, pottery); home remedies used.

#### Water Supply

- Tell me about your water supply. How do you get your water? Probe fluoride, nitrates/well water

#### What appliances do you have in your home?

- Probe: Access to refrigeration, stove/range, hotplate, microwave

### Food Security/Safety/Access

#### Women

- What do meals look like at the end of the month? Probe: run out of food, cut size of meals, budget, etc.
- How easy is it for you to get transportation for prenatal/WIC appointments, and other things your family needs?

### Personal Safety

#### Women

- Tell me about any physical harm or feelings of threat or fear in your current relationship. (Consider 901.01 risk code)
- Tell me about any concerns/fear you have of returning to your current home.