

7.03 Food Package for Qualifying Conditions

PURPOSE:

A food package for qualifying conditions is issued to women, infants and children with documented qualifying conditions that require the use of standard WIC infant formulas, exempt infant formulas or WIC-eligible nutritionals because the use of conventional foods is precluded, restricted, or inadequate to address their special nutritional needs.

DEFINITIONS:

Qualifying conditions include but are not limited to: premature birth, failure to thrive, inborn errors of metabolism and metabolic disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, malabsorption syndromes, immune system disorders, severe food allergies that require an elemental diet, and life threatening disorders, diseases and medical conditions that impair ingestion, digestion, absorption or utilization of nutrients that could adversely affect nutritional status.

Comparable nutritive value means an ounce of the manufacturers' recommended standard dilution of powder formula should contain the same nutritive value as one ounce reconstituted liquid concentrate.

Vegan diet means a strict vegetarian diet that excludes all animal products such as meat, poultry, fish, eggs, milk, cheese and other dairy products.

WIC-Eligible Nutritionals are certain enteral products that are specifically formulated to provide nutritional support for individuals with a qualifying condition, when the use of conventional foods is precluded, restricted, or inadequate.

WIC formula means standard infant formula, exempt infant formula, and WIC eligible nutritionals.

A. POLICY

1. Infants with a qualifying condition may be issued exempt infant formulas or WIC-eligible nutritionals with medical documentation. For the maximum amounts of formula and supplemental foods allowed for infants, see Policy 7.04 Maximum Food Package including Table B Maximum Monthly Food Package for Partially Breastfed Infants and Table C Maximum Monthly Food Package for Fully Formula Fed Infants.
2. Fully formula fed and partially breastfed infants 6 through 11 months of age, whose medical condition prevents them from consuming supplemental foods, may receive Class I, II, and III formulas at the same maximum monthly allowance as infants 4 through 5 months of age. This would be in lieu of receiving supplemental foods.
3. Women and children with a qualifying condition may receive a WIC formula and supplemental foods with medical documentation. See Table A Maximum Monthly Food Package for Children with a Qualifying Condition and Table B Maximum Monthly Food Package for Women with a Qualifying Condition below.
4. Women, except for exclusively breastfeeding women of multiple infants from the same pregnancy, and children may receive but not exceed a maximum amount of 910 fl oz of reconstituted liquid concentrate per month in addition to supplemental foods.

MI-WIC POLICY

Food Package

5. Women exclusively breastfeeding multiple infants from the same pregnancy may receive 1.5 times the maximum amount of 910 fl oz of reconstituted liquid concentrate per month in addition to supplemental foods.
6. Powder and ready-to-feed formula may be substituted for liquid concentrate formula at rates that provide comparable nutritive value.

TABLE A: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR CHILDREN WITH A QUALIFYING CONDITION

Foods	Children (1 year)	Children (2 through 4 years)
Juice	128 fl oz	128 fl oz
WIC Formula	910 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate	
Milk Or Milk And Yogurt	13 qt	13 qt Or 12 qt And 1 qt
Cheese	1 lb	1 lb
Breakfast cereal	36 oz	36 oz
Eggs	1 dozen	1 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$8.00 cash value	\$8.00 cash value
Whole grains	2 lb	2 lb
Legumes Or Peanut butter	1 lb dry or 64 oz canned Or 18 oz	1 lb dry or 64 oz canned Or 18 oz

TABLE B: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR WOMEN WITH A QUALIFYING CONDITION

Foods	Pregnant Women and Partially Breastfeeding Women Up to 1 Year	Postpartum Women and Breastfeeding Women of Infants Receiving more than the Maximum amount of Formula for Partially Breastfed Infants (Up to 6 Months).	Exclusively Breastfeeding Women, and Partially Breastfeeding Women of Multiple Infants Up to 1 Year Postpartum and Pregnant Women with Multiple Fetuses
Juice, single strength	144 fl oz	96 fl oz	144 fl oz
WIC Formula	910 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate	910 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate	910 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate
Milk Or Milk And Yogurt	19 qt Or 18 qt And 1 qt	13 qt Or 12 qt And 1 qt	18 qt Or 17 qt And 1 qt
Breakfast cereal	36 oz	36 oz	36 oz

MI-WIC POLICY

Food Package

Eggs	1 dozen	1 dozen	2 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$11.00 in cash value	\$11.00 in cash value	\$11.00 in cash value
Whole grains	1 lb	0	1 lb
Legumes, And Peanut butter	1 lb dry or 64 oz canned And 18 oz	1 lb dry or 64 oz canned Or 18 oz	1 lb dry or 64 oz canned And 18 oz
Canned Fish	0	0	30 oz
Cheese	1 lb	1 lb	3 lb

7. Women and children 24 months and older with a qualifying condition that requires the use of a Class II or III WIC formula may receive whole milk in place of lowfat fat or skim milk.
8. Food packages for qualifying conditions are not authorized for:
 - a. Infants whose only condition is a diagnosed formula intolerance or food allergy to lactose, sucrose, milk protein or soy protein that does not require the use of an exempt infant formula.
 - b. Infants with a non-specific formula or food intolerance.
 - c. Women and children with food intolerance to lactose or milk protein that can be successfully managed with the use of one of the other WIC food packages.
 - d. Any client solely for the purpose of enhancing nutrient intake or managing body weight without an underlying qualifying condition.
9. Form of Formula
 - a. Powdered and concentrated formula shall be provided whenever possible to contain cost unless the requirements for issuing ready-to-feed formula are met as described in Policy 7.02 Authorized WIC Foods.
 - b. Select ready-to-feed formula in the most economical container size to meet the needs of the client.
10. Medical Documentation Requirements
 - a. Medical determination must be made by a health care provider licensed to write prescriptions under state law.
 - b. Medical documentation must be written and provided on the Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form, DCH-1326, as an original written document or a faxed copy.

Only when absolutely necessary, a telephone order to a WIC Competent Professional Authority (CPA) containing all required information may be used. Written confirmation must be provided to the local clinic within two weeks.

- i. Refer to the Instructions for Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1325).
 - ii. Refer to Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1326).
 - c. A health care provider's prescription form **will not be accepted** in place of the required Medical Documentation form.
 - d. Medical documentation forms shall be scanned into the client's record.
 - e. Medical documentation must include:
 - i. WIC formula (standard infant formula, exempt infant formula, and/or WIC-eligible nutritionals), including amount needed per day.
 - ii. Authorized supplemental food(s) appropriate for the qualifying condition(s).
 - iii. Length of time the prescribed WIC formula and/or supplemental food is required by the client.
 - iv. Qualifying condition(s) for issuance of the authorized supplemental food(s) requiring medical documentation.
 - v. Signature, date and contact information of the health care provider.
 - f. The amounts of WIC formula and supplemental foods prescribed by health care providers shall not exceed the federal maximum allowance.
 - g. Medical documentation containing a WIC formula must be renewed at least every 6 months.
 - h. Medical documentation must include authorized supplemental foods allowed and milk substitutions, when applicable (i.e. whole/2% milk, or soy beverage). (Refer to Policy 7.02, Authorized WIC Foods.)
11. It is the responsibility of the health care provider to provide medical oversight and instruction to clients who are issued supplemental foods that require medical documentation. It is the responsibility of the Competent Professional Authority (CPA) to ensure that only the supplemental foods recommended by the health care provider are issued.
 12. WIC agencies must coordinate with other Federal, State or local government agencies or with private agencies that operate programs that also provide or could reimburse for exempt infant formulas and WIC-eligible nutritionals to mutual clients, including at a minimum, the state Medicaid program. WIC may provide up to the maximum amount of exempt infant formulas and WIC-eligible nutritionals in situations where reimbursement is not provided by another agency.

See Exhibit 7.03 D Coordination of Dietary Formula Authorizations Among Children's Special Health Care Services, Medicaid and the WIC Program.

13. Clients with Inborn Errors of Metabolism:

- a. Nutritional management of Michigan WIC clients with an inborn error of metabolism shall be coordinated with the metabolic treatment center registered dietitian. Consultation services are available from the Children's Hospital of Michigan Metabolic Clinic registered dietitian to WIC clients statewide who have been diagnosed with an inborn error of metabolism following a positive newborn screen.
- b. Inborn errors of metabolism include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Galactosemia
 - ii. Phenylketonuria (PKU)
 - iii. Maple syrup urine disease (MSUD), and
 - iv. Methylmalonic acidemia (MMA).
- c. Coordination of nutrition care is required with the metabolic treatment center registered dietitian for WIC clients who do not receive a metabolic formula provided through the Children's Hospital of Michigan Metabolic Clinic (e.g., galactosemia managed with a soy formula). Contact information for the Children's Hospital of Michigan Metabolic Clinic registered dietitian can be provided by the State WIC Division upon request.

14. Approval of Class I and Class II Formulas:

- a. The CPA shall evaluate the medical documentation for a Class I formula for a child or a Class II formula for an infant or child and approve or deny in MI-WIC.
- b. The CPA shall enter the expiration date of the formula package in accordance with the intended length of use (medical documentation valid for) as indicated by the health care provider on the Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1326), not to exceed 6 months.
- c. As a result of the evaluation, the CPA may recommend alternative formulas and/or feeding practices.
- d. When the CPA evaluation differs from the health care provider those differences should be discussed with the health care provider.
- e. If adequate medical supervision and monitoring is not in evidence, the CPA shall deny approval of the formula.

15. Approval of Class III formulas:
 - a. A local agency Registered Dietitian (R.D.) shall evaluate the medical documentation for Class III or WIC-eligible medical foods for an infant, child, or woman and either approve or deny.
 - b. If a local agency does not have a Registered Dietitian (R.D.) available, they shall place their request in the State R.D. approval queue in MI-WIC to have it reviewed and approved or denied by a State R.D. at the Michigan WIC Program.
 - c. The Registered Dietitian (R.D.) shall enter the expiration date of the formula package in accordance with the intended length of use (medical documentation valid for) as indicated by the health care provider on the Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1326), not to exceed 6 months.

Required CPA and R.D. Approvals for WIC Formulas and Milk Substitutions

WIC Formulas and Milk Substitutions	CPA Approval	Local Agency Authorized R.D. or State R.D.
Class I Formula (for children)	X	X
Class II Formula (for infants)	X	X
Class II Formula (for children and women)	X	X
Class III Formula (for women, infants, and children)		X
Whole/2% Milk Substitution or Soy Beverage with Class II Formula (for Women and Children 2-4 years)	X	X
Whole/2% Milk Substitution or Soy Beverage with Class III Formula (for Women and Children 2-4 years)		X

16. Class III Formulas: Modified formulas for qualifying conditions.
 - a. See the MI-WIC Formulary for a list of WIC authorized Class III formulas.
 - b. Special instructions:
 - i. Clients receiving Class III formula will be designated as high risk.

- ii. Electrolyte or oral rehydration solutions, e.g. Pedialyte, shall not be provided to WIC clients by the WIC Program.
- iii. Similac NeoSure, and Enfamil Enfacare are available only to **premature or low birth weight infants** who have reached four (4) pounds, until catch up growth is complete or until 9 months to 1 year adjusted age.
- iv. Similac Special Care 24 with Iron and Enfamil Premature 24 CAL are available to premature infants until the infant reaches a body weight of eight (8) pounds.
- v. Alfamino Infant, Enfaport, Elecare Infant, Neocate Infant, and Similac PM 60/40, may be assigned up to one year adjusted age for premature infants only.

B. GUIDANCE

1. Resources

- a. Michigan WIC Formulary Descriptions of Dietary Formulas can be referenced in the MI-WIC Clinic Module under the Help Menu. This formulary provides an up-to-date description of authorized dietary formulas for use in the Michigan WIC Program.
- b. Exhibit 7.03F, Evaluating Appropriate Use of WIC Formulas.

References:

WIC Food Packages – Laws and Regulations. Available at Internet site

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/lawsandregulations/default.htm>

MI-WIC Formulary

WIC Food Packages - Frequently Asked Questions. Available at Internet site

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/frequently-asked-questions-about-wic>

American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Nutrition. Nutritional needs of preterm infants. In: Kleinman RE ed. Pediatric Nutrition Handbook, ed 7, Elk Grove, Ill; American Academy of Pediatrics, 2014:83.

Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, Dietary Reference Intakes.

<http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Activities/Nutrition/SummaryDRIs/DRI-Tables.aspx>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Service/U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2015. Available at Internet site <https://health.gov/dietaryguidelines/>

Cross References:

7.02 Authorized WIC Foods

7.04 Maximum Food Package

7.05 Customized Food Package

Exhibits:

Instructions for Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1325)

Michigan WIC Special Formula/Food Request form (DCH-1326)

7.03D Coordination of Dietary Formula Authorizations Among Children's Special Health Care Services, Medicaid and the WIC Program

7.03F Evaluating Appropriate Use of WIC Formulas