

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LANSING

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To: Health Care Professionals for Infants and Children

From: Christina Herring Johnson, Michigan WIC Director

Starting March 1, 2023, Michigan WIC Transitions Back to Similac Brand Formulas

The Abbott Similac recall, and subsequent formula shortage has disrupted infant formula feeding for WIC families since February 2022. We know this has been a difficult time for families who use infant formula.

The Abbott company has increased production of their Similac formula products, and they are making their way into the supply chain. Stores are now able to order and have in stock Similac Advance, Similac Sensitive, Total Comfort and Isomil Soy.

Starting March 1, 2023, WIC will return to the Similac WIC Contract Formulas, Similac Advance, Similac Total Comfort, Similac Sensitive, and Similac Isomil Soy.

Similac for Spit Up has been discontinued. The Michigan WIC Program will add Enfamil AR to our list of <u>Authorized Formulas</u> on a permanent basis, due to Abbott no longer producing that type of product, medical documentation will be required and must be submitted using the <u>DCH-1326 Michigan Special Formula/Food Request</u> form after February 28, 2023.

Special formulas, listed on the list of <u>Authorized Formulas</u>, can be provided to WIC clients with medical documentation if requested by health care provider. Please note: WIC cannot provide competitor brand (i.e., Mead Johnson) standard infant formula even with a prescription.

WIC Special Food and Formula Request (SFFR) for Special Formulas

Health Care Providers can continue to list multiple brands of nutritionally comparable formulas on the WIC SFFR form. For example, the SFFR form could list Alimentum, Nutramigen, Extensive HA and Hypoallergenic Store Brand to include all acceptable substitutes. This will allow the WIC agency to issue a food package based on regional store availability, assisting with potential client access issues. A WIC Hypoallergenic

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Store Brand food package allows clients to redeem any of the below formulas interchangeably.

- CVS Health Hypoallergenic
- Comforts Hypoallergenic (Kroger)
- Meijer Hypoallergenic
- Tippy Toes Hypoallergenic (Spartan Nash)
- Well Beginnings Hypoallergenic (Walgreens)
- Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic (Walmart)

Please reference the <u>Michigan.gov/WIC</u> website for the most up-to-date information for health care providers and clients.

Thank you for your partnership in providing infants and children with the nutrition support they need to grow and develop appropriately. The Michigan WIC Program appreciates your support in transition families back to Similac brand products.

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