

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LANSING

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**GRETCHEN WHITMER** 

GOVERNOR

To: Health Care Professionals for Infants and Children

From: Christina Herring-Johnson, Michigan WIC Director

# **Store Brand Hypoallergenic Formulas**

As formula shortages persist due to the recall of Similac Alimentum powder and higher demand for competitor products such as Nutramigen and Good Start Extensive HA, Michigan WIC has added the Perrigo line of store brand hypoallergenic powder formulas to the <u>Michigan WIC Authorized Formulas</u> list. Perrigo is the manufacturer of the following store brands:

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



### WIC Special Food and Formula Request (SFFR)

Health Care Providers can now 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 Store Brand food package allows clients to redeem any of the above formulas interchangeably.

# Donor Milk Alternative for Similac PM 60/40

Human milk may be a suitable alternative for infants prescribed Similac PM 60/40. Abbott has agreed to cover the cost for Pasteurized Donor Human Milk from an accredited milk bank (Bronson Mother's Milk Bank for Michiganders) while Similac PM 60/40 is unavailable. If it is determined that donor milk is an acceptable alternative, a referral from the client's health care provider will need to include:

- A prescription for donor milk and letter of medical necessity
- Patient information

Send the above information (using a secure/encrypted method) to Kim Updegrove, a representative of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America, at kim@milkbank.org.

# Medicaid

Many WIC clients are also Medicaid beneficiaries. As Medicaid offers a full range of FDA approved formulas, securing special formulas through Medicaid is another viable option. This may help expand formula options for mutual beneficiaries, including products not offered on the Michigan WIC Authorized Formulas list. Medicaid beneficiaries meeting standards of coverage identified in the Medicaid Provider Manual, Section 2.13 Enteral Nutrition can obtain formula by taking a health care provider's order/prescription to a pharmacy enrolled as a medical supplier.

Contact information for Medicaid Provider Assistance can be found below.

CONTACT/TOPIC	PHONE # FAX #	MAILING/EMAIL/WEB ADDRESS	INFORMATION AVAILABLE/PURPOSE
PROVIDER ASSISTANCE			
Provider Inquiry  M-F 8 am to 5 pm EST	800-292-2550	MDHHS /Provider Inquiry PO Box 30731 Lansing, MI 48909-8231	Provider resource for billing assistance, including out-of-state and non-enrolled provider claims.
		providersupport@michigan.gov	

Thank you again for your partnership in providing infants and children with the nutrition support they need to grow and develop appropriately. Please see the <u>Michigan.gov/WIC</u> website for the most up-to-date formula recall and access information for health care providers and clients.

Reference: WIC Health Care Professionals Memo - Abbott Recall\_2/23/2022