



October 1, 2017

Dear Physician:

The Ohio Department of Health subscribes to the infant feeding recommendations made by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Nutrition. The Ohio Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) encourages you to join us in promoting and supporting breast milk as the optimal food and primary feeding choice for the first 6 months of life, and continuing breastfeeding with complementary foods until 12 months and beyond for all children.

For those mother and infant dyads who choose not to breastfeed exclusively, supplemental formula is available through Ohio WIC. Beginning October 1, 2017, Ohio WIC will be adding the following five new specialized products to the formulary:

**Enfamil Premature 24 kcal (Mead Johnson) and Similac Special Care Premature 24 kcal (Abbott)**

These products come in two-ounce ready to feed nursettes and are 24 kcal per ounce formula with micro and macronutrient mixtures specifically for premature and low birth weight (LBW) infants. WIC health professionals will work closely with the prescribing physician to monitor the infant's growth and progress when using these products. They may be issued by WIC one month at a time with careful follow-up between issuances. They will not be issued more than 8-12 weeks post hospital discharge, and will not be used once the infants weighs 8 pounds or more.

**Enfamil Human Milk Fortifier (Mead Johnson)**

This product is to be used as a nutritional fortification to add to human milk for premature and low birth weight infants up to eight pounds. The product is available in .71-gram powder packets. The product has low osmolality and contains iron. As with the specialized premature infant products noted above, human milk fortifier will only be issued one month at a time, not beyond 8-12 weeks post discharge, and will require close follow-up

**Extensive HA (Gerber)**

This product is available in a 14.1-ounce powder container and is a hypoallergenic, extensively hydrolyzed 100% whey protein formula with MCT oil for cow's milk protein allergy. It contains whey protein and probiotics.

**Neocate Syneo Infant (Nutricia)**

This product is available in a 14.1-ounce powder container and is a hypoallergenic, amino acid-based infant formula with probiotics and prebiotics for use with cow's milk protein allergy, multiple food allergies, and other related gastrointestinal and allergic conditions. Studies related to this product show that children with cow's milk allergy have signs of gut microbiota imbalance, which are addressed by the prebiotics and probiotics in this product.

Ohio WIC's Prescribed Formula and Food Request Form has been revised to reflect the aforementioned changes. Please ensure that you are using the most current form with the **effective date of October 1, 2017.**

Special formulas issued by WIC must be prescribed for their specific nutrient content or for treatment of a medical condition. Prescription requests for special formulas must still contain all of the following information:

- participant's name and date of birth;
- amount of formula to be provided per day (**must be a specific, measurable volume**);
- intended length of use of the formula (not to exceed six months);
- documented medical diagnosis (**must relate to the special formula requested**);
- name of formula;
- any contraindications for other supplemental foods that WIC provides;
- signature, credentials, and telephone number of the health care provider; and
- date prescribed.

WIC reserves the right to deny a special formula request if the formula:

- prescription does not include the minimum information outlined in this letter;
- does not meet WIC requirements for issuance; or
- is prescribed solely for weight management or nonspecific "intolerance."

WIC health professionals will work with physicians to obtain any missing data and provide expedient service to participants. The health professionals in the WIC clinics make their decisions on acceptable formulas and foods based on WIC policy and an individualized nutrition assessment.

Thank you for your continued support of the WIC program. If you should have any questions, please contact your local WIC office.

Sincerely,



Dyane Gogan Turner, MPH, RD/LD, IBCLC  
Director, Ohio WIC Program

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