



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614/466-3543
www.odh.ohio.gov

John R. Kasich/Governor

Lance Himes/Director of Health

October 1, 2018

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 cannot or choose not to breastfeed exclusively, supplemental formula is available through Ohio WIC. There are no major changes in Ohio WIC approved contract or specialty products occurring to the Ohio WIC formulary for fiscal year 2019.

Ohio WIC's Prescribed Formula and Food Request Form has been revised to reflect some minor changes in wording and product names. Please ensure that you are using the most current form with the effective date of October 1, 2018.

As a reminder, special formulas issued by WIC must be prescribed for their specific nutrient content related to 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
Ohio WIC Program Director
Office of Health Improvement and Wellness
Ohio Department of Health

DGT/KRM/krm