



October 1, 2021

Dear Health Care Provider:

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 breastmilk 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 iron-fortified formula is available through Ohio WIC. There are several notable changes to Ohio WIC's formulary, beginning October 1, 2021.

Every 3-5 years, Ohio WIC rebids its standard infant formula contract. All state WIC offices are required to have an infant formula contract in order to afford the cost of providing supplemental formula to eligible infants and to be the best possible stewards of taxpayer dollars. Beginning October 1, 2021, Ohio WIC's new standard infant formula contract will change from Gerber products to Mead Johnson products. A transitional period will take place from October through December, with all affected Ohio WIC participants switching to the new standard products by January 1, 2022. Descriptions of the new Ohio WIC contract standard formulas are as follows.

Enfamil Infant is a standard milk-based, iron-fortified formula for use in routine infant feeding. The product provides 20 calories and .36 mg iron per fluid ounce. It contains DHA and is certified Kosher and Halal. It is available in powder, concentrate, and ready-to-feed (RTF), please note that for the RTF form, only Enfamil NeuroPro Infant will be authorized by Ohio WIC. No prescription will be necessary for this product.

Enfamil ProSobee is a standard soy-based (lactose-free), iron-fortified formula for management of galactosemia, milk or lactose intolerance (acute or chronic), or in routine infant feeding. The product provides 20 calories and .36 mg iron per fluid ounce and is certified Kosher. It is available in powder, concentrate, and RTF. No prescription will be necessary for this product.

Enfamil Gentlease is a standard milk-based, low-lactose, iron-fortified formula for management of acute or chronic lactose intolerance and the symptoms thereof, including excessive crying, colic, fussiness, and gas, or routine infant feeding. The product provides 20 calories and .36 mg iron per fluid ounce. It contains partially hydrolyzed proteins and is certified Kosher and Halal. It is available in powder (Enfamil Gentlease) and RTF (Enfamil NeuroPro Gentlease). No prescription will be necessary for this product.

Enfamil Reguline is a standard milk-based, iron-fortified formula with added prebiotics and partially hydrolyzed proteins for management of chronic constipation. The product contains 20 calories and .3 mg

iron per fluid ounce and is certified Kosher. It is available in powder. No prescription will be necessary for this product.

Enfamil AR is a standard milk-based, iron-fortified formula with added rice starch for management of symptoms of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) or other feeding disorders not associated with overfeeding or incorrect positioning. The product provides 20 calories and .36 mg iron per fluid ounce and is certified Kosher. It is available in powder. A prescription will be required prior to issuance of this product.

If you would like more information about Mead Johnson products, you can review Mead Johnson's website for healthcare professionals at <https://www.hcp.meadjohnson.com>. As always, you are welcome to contact your local WIC office with any questions or concerns.

In addition to the new standard infant formulas noted above, each year there is a review of submissions for specialized products to be added to Ohio WIC's formulary. Beginning October 1, 2021, the following products will also be available for issuance from Ohio WIC with a valid prescription:

- **Compleat Pediatric Peptide 1.5 Cal** is a nutritionally complete, dairy, soy, and gluten-free, peptide-based vegan formula. Indicated for children over 1 year of age with higher calorie needs due to gastrointestinal impairment and/or malabsorption requiring tube feeding, full diet, or oral supplementation. The protein source is predominately hydrolyzed pea protein isolate and fat source is 40% MCT. Provides 45 calories and approximately 0.63 mg iron per fluid ounce.
- **Encala** is a taste neutral lipid matrix powder formulated from lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), monoglycerides and essential fatty acids. It has been clinically proven to enhance fat absorption, increase essential fatty acid and fat-soluble vitamin levels, and helps patients gain and maintain weight. Indicated for children and women with dietary fat malabsorption and unintended weight loss in women and growth faltering in children with exocrine pancreatic insufficiencies (EPI) resulting from cystic fibrosis, chronic pancreatitis, and other conditions. Powder provides 50 calories per scoop. It can be added to food or beverages and is also suitable for oral and tube feedings. Not nutritionally complete.
- **PediaSure Harvest** is a nutritionally complete, plant-based, milk-free formula. Indicated for children over 1 year of age with intolerance to standard pediatric formulas requiring tube feeding. Designed for tube feeding but may be fed orally. Provides 30 calories and .34 mg iron per fluid ounce.
- **Similac Human Milk Fortifier Concentrate** is indicated for premature and low birth weight infants who are receiving breast milk but have a continued need for a high nutrient density diet after discharge. Concentrated liquid is sterile and provides 0.11 mg iron and 0.35g protein per 0.17oz packet. Product is added to human milk (not water) and preparation will vary as

prescribed by healthcare provider. Typically for use up to 8 pounds unless otherwise indicated and may only be issued one month at a time up to 8-12 post hospital discharge.

The following formulas will no longer be available for issuance from Ohio WIC beginning October 1, 2021. Any participant coming to the clinic on or after October 1st will be issued an appropriate substitution for these products:

Gerber Good Start Gentle and GentlePro, Gerber Good Start Soy, Gerber Good Start SoothePro, and Similac Sensitive.

Please note that even with a prescription, Similac Sensitive will no longer be available on Ohio WIC's formulary starting October 1, 2021.

Ohio WIC's Prescribed Formula and Food Request Form has been revised appropriately. Please ensure that you are using the most current form with the effective date of October 1, 2021.

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 prescribing 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 health care providers to obtain any missing data and provide expedient service to participants. The health professionals in the WIC clinics make decisions related to the issuance of formulas and foods based on WIC policy and an individualized nutrition assessment.

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

Sincerely,

Sayeh S. Shirvani

Sayeh S. Shirvani
Director, Ohio WIC Program

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