

# Minnesota WIC Program Formula Changes

JULY 2022

## Formula Information for Health Care Providers

**Beginning October 1, 2022, the Minnesota WIC Program will offer Enfamil milk-based infant formulas and will no longer offer Similac milk-based infant formulas.** This is the result of a new contract bidding cycle that takes place every five years, not a result of the recent Abbott recall.

**The soy formula contract will remain with Abbott and continue to be Isomil (Similac).**

## Formula changes

Beginning in October, MN WIC will offer the following standard contract formulas:

- Enfamil Infant Formula (12.5 oz. powder, 13.0 oz. concentrate)
- Enfamil Gentlease (12.4 oz. powder)
- Enfamil Reguline (12.4 oz powder)
- Enfamil A.R. Added Rice (12.9 oz. powder)

Infants receiving soy formula will continue receiving Abbott Nutrition soy formula.

- Similac Soy Isomil (12.4 oz. powder, 13.0 oz. concentrate)

## How you can help

- Promote breastfeeding as the ideal method of infant feeding before considering formula. WIC provides breastfeeding support and an enhanced food package to the breastfeeding parent.
- Review Enfamil formulas with families and offer reassurance that standard infant formulas are very similar and almost all infants will do well on any formula brand.
- Please do not recommend they switch to Mead Johnson formula until they see it on their WIC benefits. WIC families should continue using Abbott Nutrition formulas, or allowed substitutions, until their WIC benefits switch to Mead Johnson formula.
- Minnesota WIC will continue to provide special medical formulas as medically warranted (such as Nutramigen, Alimentum, EnfaCare, and NeoSure) regardless of the manufacturer and accompanied by a written medical prescription.

## MINNESOTA WIC PROGRAM FORMULA CHANGE

Minnesota WIC currently offers many substitutions as formula supply continues to recover from a nationwide recall and shortage. We'll provide more information closer to October 1 about substitutes beyond the standard contract formula products and if they will be options for WIC families. Our hope is Mead Johnson will have adequate supply by October 1 for families, so Minnesota WIC will no longer need to offer substitutes.

Thank you for supporting the Minnesota WIC Program.

### Resources

- This letter and additional information will be posted to the [WIC Information for Health Care Providers \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/hcp/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/hcp/index.html) page.
- Minnesota WIC has resources for participants on the [WIC Formula Contract Information \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/formulachange.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/formulachange.html) page.
- [Minnesota WIC Medical Formula Amounts Guide \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/nutrition/formula/medical.pdf\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/nutrition/formula/medical.pdf).
- [Minnesota WIC Referral Form \(https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=7F493NRK73RXTXL8\)](https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=7F493NRK73RXTXL8)
- If you have any questions about the infant formulas authorized for the Minnesota WIC Program, please contact **Jayne Thalhuber**, State WIC Consultant, at 651-201-4409 or [jayne.thalhuber@health.state.mn.us](mailto:jayne.thalhuber@health.state.mn.us).
- If you would like to receive a list of breastfeeding resources that might be helpful in promoting breastfeeding, contact **Rosie Pierce-Martin**, WIC Breastfeeding Coordinator at 651-201-4428 or [Rosie.Pierce-Martin@state.mn.us](mailto:Rosie.Pierce-Martin@state.mn.us).

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