



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

February 23, 2022

Dear Health Care Provider,

The Maryland WIC Program thanks you for your continued support of breastfeeding, which is Maryland WIC's first recommendation for infant feeding. As you know, Maryland WIC also provides infant formula and medical nutritionals. Unfortunately, on February 17, 2022, Abbott Nutrition issued a voluntary recall and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued a consumer advisory regarding powdered infant formula produced from Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, Michigan facility. The consumer advisory is in response to complaints associated with *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Salmonella* Newport infections. All of the cases are reported to have consumed powdered infant formula produced from Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, Michigan facility. The full text of the recall and advisory can be found on the [FDA Website](#).

**The recall includes the following powder products that are provided by the Maryland WIC Program:**

- All Alimentum powder
- All EleCare Infant powder
- All Elecare Jr powder
- All 12.5 oz containers Similac for Spit Up powder
- All 12.6 oz containers Total Comfort powder
  
- Some 12.4 oz Similac Advance powder
- Some 12.5 oz Similac Sensitive powder

The recall does **not** include soy-based infant formula, metabolic deficiency nutrition formulas, concentrate infant formulas, or ready to feed infant formulas produced by Abbott Nutrition.

Please advise your patients to check Abbott's website to determine if they have a recalled item. Abbott's website link: <https://www.similacrecall.com/us/en/home.html>.

At this time through March 31, 2022, Maryland WIC staff are offering participants with affected product an alternate form (e.g., concentrate or ready to feed) of the current product they have on hand. If the caregiver prefers a product from another manufacturer, USDA has granted a waiver to allow for the provision of an alternate product. Please see list below for alternate products for recalled items.

**These products are included in the USDA waiver and therefore can be issued per request by the caregiver.**

<b>Recalled Abbott Product</b>	<b>Alternate Gerber Product</b>	<b>Alternate Mead Johnson Product</b>
Similac Advance	Gerber Good Start Gentle	Enfamil Infant
Similac Sensitive	Gerber Good Start Soothe	Enfamil Gentlease
Similac Total Comfort	Gerber Good Start Soothe	Enfamil Gentlease

**These products are not included in the USDA waiver and need a Maryland WIC Medical Documentation Form\* to issue. Form can be found [here](#).**

<b>Recalled Abbott Product</b>	<b>Alternate Gerber Product</b>	<b>Alternate Mead Johnson Product</b>
Similac Alimentum	Gerber Extensive HA	Nutramigen Enfamil Pregestimil
Similac EleCare	Alfamino Infant	PurAmino
Similac Elecare Jr	Alfamino Junior	PurAmino Jr
Similac for Spit Up	No alternate product	Enfamil AR

\*Please be advised that there may be an increase in requests from Maryland WIC staff and participants for medical documentation of these products due to product availability.

Maryland WIC will continue with the formula rebate contract with Abbott Nutrition. Abbott has assured the Maryland WIC Program that alternate measures have been put into place for improved control and monitoring of product manufactured at all three of their domestic facilities including Sturgis, MI.

Thank for your commitment to the health and wellbeing of our Maryland WIC families.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Wilson, MEd, RD, LDN  
 Director  
 Maryland WIC Program