



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

January 27, 2025

Dear Health Care Provider,

One of the goals of the Maryland WIC Program is to establish a network with health care providers to foster the healthy growth and development of infants and children.

Federal WIC Regulations require that all WIC programs maintain a cost-containment contract for both milk-based and soy-based infant formulas. Effective 1/29/2025, the Maryland WIC Program will implement a change to our contract formulas.

Similac Advance and Similac Isomil will continue to serve as the **primary** contract infant formulas in Maryland. No medical documentation is needed for WIC participants to be issued primary contract infant formulas. Conversely, Similac Sensitive and Similac Total Comfort have transitioned from being primary contract formulas to **secondary** contract infant formulas.

WIC participants seeking a secondary contract infant formula are required to have first tried one of the primary contract infant formulas. If an adverse reaction occurs from the primary contract infant formula, the participant can receive the secondary contract formula without a medical documentation form.

If a participant declines to try one of the primary contract formulas, they will need to provide a medical documentation form from a healthcare provider that includes an appropriate diagnosis to be eligible for a secondary contract infant formula.

Additionally, the Maryland WIC program cannot issue standard milk or soy based **non-contract** formulas unless there is documentation that the infant would otherwise be at medical risk. Some examples of when this may occur are:

- The infant has been in the hospital on the requested formula and the specialist following the baby requests that the formula not be changed while the baby is being stabilized at home.
- The infant has documented weight loss while on a WIC contract formula, and there is no other identifiable cause of weight loss, e.g. a viral infection.

These rare instances will require a medical documentation form or valid prescription. Standard non-contract formula examples are: Enfamil Newborn, Enfamil Infant, Enfamil Prosobee, Enfamil Gentlease, Good Start Dr. Brown's Soy-ease Pro, Good Start Dr. Brown's Gentle Pro, Good Start Dr. Brown's Soothe Pro and private label infant formulas.

We are sharing this information with you, as we anticipate that WIC participants may ask you for guidance regarding selection of an appropriate formula.

Thank you for your support of the Maryland WIC Program. Please contact the State WIC Office at mdh.wic@maryland.gov if you have any questions about the provision of formulas for infants Attached, you will find the updated Maryland WIC Medical Documentation Form, which is also available at www.mdwic.org in the Health Care Provider section as a pdf and fillable pdf.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Niles Kalyanaraman, MD, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Courtney McFadden, MPH, Deputy Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Shelly Choo, MD, Director, Maternal and Child Health Bureau