



December 6, 2012

Dear Medical Providers and Partners,

In the current economic environment, Georgia WIC must take steps to reduce food cost. Georgia saves roughly \$100 per month for each infant that stays on state approved contract formula.

In order to accomplish this goal on December 10, 2012, Georgia WIC will no longer accept Medical Documentation Forms requesting non-contract lactose free and lactose reduced formulas. This includes Enfamil Gentlease, Similac Sensitive and lactose reduced and low lactose store brand infant formulas. Infants will continue to receive vouchers for their current formula until their medical documentation expires. These infants will be automatically switched to **Gerber Good Start Soothe** at their next WIC certification.

Also on December 10, 2012, the following **two conditions must exist** for non-contract rice added formula requests to be honored (i.e. Similac for Spit Up and Enfamil A.R.):

- 1) Diagnosis of **Gastroesophageal** reflux disease (GERD)
- 2) **AND** at least one of the following qualifying conditions: Pneumonia, Tube feed, GERD Surgery (Fundoplication), Poor weight gain; Drop of at least one weight channel on growth chart.
**Note: if weights are not provided, issuance will be based on weight obtained at the WIC clinic.*
OR, diagnosis of GERD documented by pH probe test, Endoscopy, X-ray (Document type and date of test provided).

The additional required qualifying condition can be documented in the comment section of the WIC Medical Documentation Form.

Georgia WIC anticipates the execution of a new WIC infant formula contract to begin around July 2013. Additional changes to the states approved formula list may be necessary depending on the contract award winner. Information will be provided when a new infant formula vendor is selected.

For questions or concerns, contact the WIC Nutrition Unit at 404-657-2884 trstormant@dhr.state.ga.us or visit WIC.GA.GOV. Please share as needed.



Sincerely,



Debra L. Keyes, MA, RD

Director

Georgia WIC program

Department of Public Health

Attachments:

Gerber Good Start Soothe Information Sheet

Georgia WIC Formula Guide (This document describes approved and non approved formulas for the Georgia WIC Program)

Medical Documentation Form 1 (This form is used to request medically necessary special formulas for the Georgia WIC Program)

GERBER® GOOD START®

Soothe Formula

Indication / Description

- For infants from birth to 12 months of age
- Designed for excessive crying and colic
- With reduced lactose for fussiness and gas*

Product Features

- 100% whey protein partially hydrolyzed formula
- Designed to be easy to digest
- DHA and ARA to support visual and cognitive development
- Carbohydrate blend with 70% maltodextrin and 30% lactose
- *L. reuteri*, a probiotic clinically shown to reduce crying time in colicky breastfed infants

*due to lactose intolerance or sensitivity



For more information about GERBER® GOOD START® Soothe formula, visit medical.gerber.com/soothe or call the Gerber Start Healthy Stay Healthy Resource Center at 1-800-628-BABY(2229)



Georgia WIC Formula Guide

A Reference for WIC Approved Formulas



Effective December 2012

“Human Milk is considered to be the gold standard for infant feeding.”

Contract formulas not requiring medical documentation for infants (< 12 months old):

Approved Contract Milk Based Formula:

Gerber Good Start Gentle
Gerber Good Start 2 Gentle (age 9-11 months)

Approved Contract Lactose-Reduced Formula:

Gerber Good Start Soothe

Approved Contract Soy Based Formula:

Gerber Good Start Soy
Gerber Good Start 2 Soy (age 9-11 months)

Non Contract Rice-Added Formulas (Medical Documentation Required):

For participants requesting a milk-based *rice-added formula* **the following two conditions** must exist prior to issuance:

- 1) Diagnosis of **Gastroesophageal** reflux disease (GERD)
- 2) **AND** an additional qualifying condition: Pneumonia, Tube feed, GERD Surgery (Fundoplication), Poor weight gain; Drop of at least one weight channel on growth chart. (If weight not provided it will be based on weight obtained at WIC clinic).
OR, diagnosis of GERD documented by pH probe test, Endoscopy, X-ray (Document type and date of test provided).

Approved Non Contract Rice-Added Formula:

Enfamil A.R., Similac for Spit Up, Store Brand standard milk-based rice-added formulas

Follow WIC Medical Documentation Guidelines for all Other Formulas

Georgia WIC **DOES NOT APPROVE** the following formulas for distribution:

Any Organic Formula	Gerber Good Start Protect
Enfagrow PREMIUM Next Step or Enfagrow PREMIUM Toddler (All Flavors)	Gerber Good Start 2 Protect Similac Advance EarlyShield
Enfagrow Soy Next Step or Enfagrow Soy Toddler	Similac Expert Care 24
Enfamil LIPIL 24 w/iron	Similac Go & Grow EarlyShield Milk-Based
Enfamil PREMIUM Infant	Similac Go & Grow EarlyShield Soy-Based
Enfamil PREMIUM Newborn	Similac Organic
Enfamil ProSobee	Similac Soy Isomil
Enfamil RestFull	Similac Sensitive
Enfagrow Gentlease Next Step or Enfagrow Gentlease Toddler	Store brand milk-based lactose-free, lactose-reduced formulas
Enfamil Gentlease	Store brand standard milk-based or soy-based formulas

Questions or concerns please contact:

Todd R. Stormant RD, LD
Nutrition Unit Manager
Georgia WIC Program,
(404) 657-2884
trstormant@dhr.state.ga.us

Kylia Crane, RD, LD
WIC/Nutrition Coordinator
Georgia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
(404) 881-5093
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For the complete list of Georgia WIC Approved Formulas/Medical Foods, please visit us online at www.wic.ga.gov and click on the “Health Care Provider Information” link.

Revised December 2012

Medical Documentation Form for WIC Special Formulas and WIC Foods

Patient's First & Last Name: _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): ____/____/____

Parent/Caregiver's First & Last Name: _____

1. Qualifying Medical Condition(s)

List the SPECIFIC diagnosed or suspected medical condition(s) **and** the ICD-9 or ICD-10 code(s) justifying the formula/medical food prescription.

Qualifying diagnosed medical condition(s): _____

And applicable ICD-9 or ICD-10 code(s): _____

Note: WIC approval and provision of prescription formulas and medical foods are based on Georgia WIC Program policies and procedures.

2. Special Formula Requested

Name of formula/medical food requested: _____

Prescribed ounces per day: _____ oz/day* Form: Powder Concentrate Ready-to-feed†

Special instructions/comments**: _____

If Applicable: Flavor: _____ With Fiber: Yes No N/A

Planned length of use: _____ months WIC prescription renewal is required periodically (every 1-6 months).

*Prescribed amount per day is based on reconstituted fluid ounces of the formula product at standard dilution. Instructions on reverse.

**Prematurity: With documentation, premature infants can receive infant formula past one year to account for adjusted age. Medical documentation will need to be provided at the one year WIC certification.

†The use of ready-to-feed products requires additional justification for WIC unless ready-to-feed is the only available product form.

3. WIC Foods

Please complete section A or section B below. The patient may receive the supplemental foods – appropriate to his or her WIC participant category – listed below in addition to the approved special formula.

A. **No Supplemental Food Restrictions:** _____ (provider initials)

If there are **no** prescribed food restrictions, please initial the "No Supplemental Food Restrictions" line above.

B. If there are prescribed food restrictions due to the patient's medical condition(s):

In the "Contraindicated Supplemental Foods" column, please check () any supplemental foods that **cannot** be issued due to the patient's medical condition(s). Please describe any other prescribed restrictions or special requests in the "Comments" section below. (Developmental readiness, allergies, tube fed, NPO, etc.)

WIC Category	Contraindicated Supplemental Foods – Check the foods that should NOT be issued to the patient.				
Infants (6-11 mos.)	Infant Cereal <input type="checkbox"/>	Baby Food Fruits and Vegetables <input type="checkbox"/>			
Children (≥ 12 mos.) & Women	Milk <input type="checkbox"/>	Beans / Peas <input type="checkbox"/>	Vegetables / Fruits <input type="checkbox"/>	Whole Grains (wheat bread, rice, or whole grain tortillas) <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Peanut Butter <input type="checkbox"/>	Juice <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Cereal <input type="checkbox"/>	Eggs <input type="checkbox"/>	Canned Fish* <input type="checkbox"/>		
Comments:					

* Only for exclusively breastfeeding women, women pregnant with multiple fetuses, and women mostly breastfeeding multiple infants.

4. Health Care Provider Information (Please Complete All Boxes.)

Provider's Signature/Credentials: _____

*Title: _____

Provider's Name (Please Print): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Original signature required. No stamped signatures or proxy signatures (e.g., by nursing staff) will be accepted.

***Note:** The Georgia WIC Program only accepts prescriptions authorized and signed by the following providers:

- Physicians (MD, DO)
- Physician Assistants (PA, PA-C)
- Nurse Practitioners (e.g., NP, APRN, CNP, CNP, PNP, CNNP)

Medical Office/Clinic Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____
 Zip Code: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Fax Number: _____

Instructions & Resources for Use of This Form:

Use this form to request special formulas and/or medical foods for patients with qualifying medical conditions. Please refer to **Georgia WIC Form #2 (Referral Form & Medical Documentation for Special Food Substitutions)** for children/women with food intolerances (e.g., lactose intolerance) or food allergies (e.g., milk protein allergy) that can be managed with food substitutions (e.g., soy milk, tofu, etc.).

If you have questions or need additional clarification when completing this form, please contact the local WIC agency where your patient is receiving WIC benefits. A directory of Georgia WIC clinics is available at: http://health.state.ga.us/wic_clinics/clinic_lookup.aspx. Information about formulas and medical foods approved for issuance by the Georgia WIC Program is located at: <http://wic.ga.gov/hcprovider.asp>.

Local agency WIC staff will review requests for special formulas and medical foods according to federal regulations and Georgia WIC Program policies and procedures. Diagnosis of a serious medical condition (e.g., Failure To Thrive) must be consistent with the patient's anthropometric data. Additional clarification or documentation may be necessary to complete the approval process. Denial of a request does not imply that WIC Program staff question the health care provider's clinical judgment. However, federal policy limits the issuance of special formulas and medical foods to cases of serious diagnosed medical conditions.

Provision of special formulas and medical foods by the Georgia WIC Program will be for intervals of one (1) to six (6) months. At a minimum, a new medical authorization is required at each renewal or formula change.

Definitions, Examples and Exclusions:

Qualifying Medical Conditions: SPECIFIC suspected or diagnosed life-threatening disorders, diseases and medical conditions that impair the ingestion, digestion, absorption or utilization of nutrients that could adversely affect the patient's nutritional status. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Metabolic disorders (e.g. PKU)
- Malabsorption syndromes (e.g. Short Gut Syndrome)
- Low birth weight, premature birth, and failure to thrive (FTT)
- Severe food allergies requiring use of an elemental formula (e.g. Milk Protein Allergy, Eosinophilic Esophagitis)
- Gastrointestinal disorders (e.g. Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease)
- Immune system disorders (e.g. Celiac Disease)

Non-Qualifying / Excluded Conditions:

- Solely for the purpose of enhancing nutrient intake or managing body weight without an underlying condition
- Non-specific formula intolerance or food intolerance
- Patient preference, parental preference, or food dislikes

Medical Diagnoses:

- Non-specific symptoms or diagnoses are insufficient for the purposes of Georgia WIC prescriptions (e.g., colic, milk allergy, multiple food allergies, spitting up, milk/formula intolerance, feeding problems, feeding difficulties, picky eater, poor appetite, inadequate intake, constipation, cramps, digestive disturbances, fussiness and gas).
- The following diagnoses require an **underlying medical condition** be present and documented: "underweight," "feeding disorder," "inadequate/poor weight gain," and "inadequate/poor growth." The Georgia WIC Program cannot accept these diagnoses alone – a more specific, primary medical condition **must** be present and listed among the diagnoses (e.g., Cerebral Palsy, Failure To Thrive, Oral-Motor Feeding Disorder, Prematurity, Dysphagia, etc.).
- The Georgia WIC Program may require additional documentation for prescription approval if diagnoses are missing, incomplete, non-specific, inconsistent with existing anthropometric data, or if clarification is needed.

Prescribed Formula Quantity:

- Infants (<12 months of age) enrolled in the Georgia WIC Program will receive the **full maximum quantity** of formula allowed per month regardless of the amount of formula prescribed per day under Section #2 of the form. The maximum quantity of formula allowed is based on age, feeding method (*Mostly Breastfed* or *Fully Formula Fed*), product form (concentrate, ready-to-feed, powder), and product package size. (*Note: Exclusively Breastfed* infants do not receive any formula from the WIC Program.)
- Children and women enrolled in the Georgia WIC Program will receive the quantity of formula or medical food prescribed under Section #2, not to exceed the maximum quantity allowed by federal regulations and Georgia WIC Program policy.
- The amount of prescribed formula or medical food provided by WIC is subject to the maximum allowable quantities determined by federal regulations and outlined in Georgia WIC Program policies. WIC is a supplemental program. Patients are responsible for acquiring any additional prescribed quantities of formulas or medical foods that exceed what is eligible for provision by WIC.

Approximate WIC Maximum DAILY Allowances of Reconstituted Formula for Infants*

Feeding Method:	Age 0 – 1 Month	Age 1 – 3 Months	Age 0 – 3 Months	Age 4 – 5 Months	Age 6 – 11 Months
Mostly Breastfed	3.5 fluid oz/day	12.0 fluid oz/day	//////	14.5 fluid oz/day	10.5 fluid oz/day
Fully Formula Fed	//////	//////	27.0 fluid oz/day	29.5 fluid oz/day	21.0 fluid oz/day

*Fluid ounces based on reconstituted liquid concentrate formula. Amounts differ for ready-to-feed and reconstituted powder formulas. Refer to the federal regulations at www.fns.usda.gov/wic.

Use of Ready-To-Feed Products: Ready-to-feed products may be issued in cases where there is an unsanitary/restricted water supply, poor refrigeration, when the patient's caregiver has difficulty in correctly diluting concentrated or powdered formula, or when ready-to-feed is the only available product form. In a limited number of situations, ready-to-feed products (classified by USDA as "exempt infant formulas" or "medical foods") also may be issued to patients with qualifying medical conditions if a ready-to-feed product (a) better accommodates the patient's medical condition or (b) improves the patient's compliance in consuming the prescribed product. The patient's local WIC clinic can provide additional guidance concerning which products qualify for issuance in the ready-to-feed form.

We appreciate your cooperation and partnership in serving the Georgia WIC population.

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