

Abbott Formula Recall – Health Care Providers

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Information for Health Care Providers as WIC Responds to Abbott Formula Recall

The Minnesota Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) is working with participants to substitute infant formulas after a nationwide Abbott infant formula recall.

FDA Formula Investigation

The FDA is advising consumers not to use Similac, Alimentum or EleCare powdered infant formulas if all of the following are true:

- The first two digits of the code are 22 through 37 AND
- The code on the container contains K8, SH, or Z2, AND
- The expiration date is 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later.

[Abbott recalled](#) the affected formulas Thursday, Feb. 17, as the [FDA investigates cronobacter and salmonella complaints](#).

Temporary WIC-Allowed Infant Formula Substitutions

The Minnesota WIC Program is allowing temporary substitutions for standard milk- based and soy-formulas. Refer to the [Similac Formula Recall Minnesota WIC Approved Substitutions List](#) for families who are unable to find their infant formula brand. The recall is affecting infant formula stock nationwide, and we are updating the WIC-allowed substitutions list as the situation evolves. Families can purchase substitutions listed for their current infant formula brand. They can use the My MN WIC App to scan the item to determine if it's eligible based on their benefits.

WIC Medical Formula Substitutions

WIC Local Agencies are required to receive medical documentation from the health care provider in order for families to purchase medical formula. Health care providers can give verbal medical approval if it's not possible to send medical documentation immediately, so local agencies can issue benefits for a substitute medical formula right away.

- **Step 1: Complete the [Minnesota WIC Program Request for Medical Formula](#).**
- **Step 2: Send to appropriate WIC Agency.**

Refer to our [Minnesota WIC Local Agency Directory](#).

Formula substitutions are available through March 31, 2022.

Temporary WIC Approved Medical Formula Substitutions

Currently Not Available	Suggestions for Alternate
EleCare Infant	Neocate Infant PurAmino Alfamino
EleCare Jr	Neocate Jr. Neocate Jr w/ Prebiotics PurAmino Jr Alfamino Jr
Alimentum	Nutramigen w/ Enflora LGG Other brand hypoallergenic formula

Additional Information

Contact information:

- Nutrition-related questions: health.wic@state.mn.us
- Store supply questions: <mailto:health.wicvendor@state.mn.us>

Website resources:

- [Women, Infants, & Children \(WIC\)](#)
- [Shopping for WIC Foods](#)
- [WIC Information for Health Care Providers](#)

References – Complete Listing of Hyperlinks:

Abbott recalled (<https://www.similacrecall.com/us/en/home.html>)

FDA investigates cronobacter and salmonella complaints (<https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/fda-investigation-cronobacter-and-salmonella-complaints-powdered-infant-formula-february-2022>)

Similac Formula Recall Minnesota WIC Approved Substitutions List (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/recall/substitutions.pdf>)

Minnesota WIC Program Request for Medical Formula (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/program/mom/exhbts/ex7/7d.pdf>)

Minnesota WIC Local Agency Directory (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/forms/cfh/wicdirectory/index.html?localAgency>)

Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/index.html>)

ABBOTT FORMULA RECALL – HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

[Shopping for WIC Foods \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/shopforwic/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/shopforwic/index.html)

[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)

Minnesota Department of Health
Minnesota Women, Infants, and Children Program
85 E 7th Place
PO Box 64882
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882
651-201-4404
health.wic@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4404.



Local Agency Information

Minnesota WIC Program Request for Medical Formula

The WIC Program requires a medical diagnosis to provide a medical formula/food and/or to change the WIC food package.

Please COMPLETE this form. All requests are subject to WIC approval.

A. Patient Information

Patient's Name:

DOB:

Parent/Caregiver's Name:

B. Medical Formula

Formula Requested:

Amount Needed per Day:

If not specified, up to (but no more than), WIC maximum allowable may be provided. Maximum allowed might not meet patient's full need.

Preparation/Feeding Instructions:

Standard preparation, unless otherwise specified.

Intended Length of Use: 1 month 2 months 3 months 4 months 5 months 6 months

NOTE: If no length specified, may provide up to 6 months. All prescriptions reevaluated every 6 months.

C. Qualifying Medical Reason (check all that apply)

Prematurity Low Birth Weight Gastrointestinal Disorders GERD/Reflux Severe Food Allergies

Failure to Thrive – *specify underlying medical condition:*

Other Condition (describe):

D. WIC Supplemental Foods

Standard Food Package (If no changes are specified, standard foods will be provided.)

Infants (6-12 months) will receive infant cereal and infant and/or fresh fruits/vegetables

Children (12-60 months) and **Women** will receive milk, cheese, juice, fruits/vegetables, whole grains, eggs, legumes, peanut butter, cereal, (canned fish – breastfeeding women only)

Provide age appropriate WIC foods. **Exceptions (specify):**

Omit all supplemental WIC foods, and provide medical formula only.

For child (age 1-4) receiving medical formula, provide infant fruits/vegetables.

Provide whole milk/yogurt. Only patients receiving medical formula and who need additional calories may receive whole milk/yogurt.

E. Health Care Provider Information

Signature of Health Care Provider:

Date:

Provider's Name: *please print*

MD NP PA CNM DO

Medical Office:

Phone #:

Fax #:

WIC Use Only

(Local Agency Information)