

Nutrition/Health Volume
Certification Section

Underweight or At Risk of Underweight Infants and Children-RF 103 (2.04220)

ER# 2.04220

Authority 2011 7CFR 246.7(e); WIC Policy Memorandum 98-9 Revision 7; MPSF:WC-04-21-P;
[Transmittal of New and Revised WIC Nutrition Risk Criteria May 27, 2011](#)

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POLICY: Risk Factor 103 (Underweight or At Risk of Underweight Infants and Children) must be assigned to an infant or child [when](#) the criteria listed in this policy [are met](#). Procedures for obtaining data, documentation and assigning risk factors must be followed.

PROCEDURES:

A. Obtaining Data

1. For an infant/child less than (<) 24 months of age, obtain the weight and recumbent length measurement according to procedures in the [Health and Nutrition Assessment Handbook \(HNAH\)](#).
2. For a child [greater than or equal to](#) (\geq) 24 months of age, who is able to stand for a height measurement, refer to HNAH for methods to obtain height.
 - a. For a child 24-36 months of age who is unable to stand for a height measurement refer to the [HNAH](#). [MOWINS will automatically plot the recumbent measurement on the \(length-for-age\) grid.](#)

B. Documenting and Plotting

1. Record weight and height or length measurements in MOWINS.
2. MOWINS will automatically plot on the appropriate growth charts.
 - a. [For infant and children less than \(<\) 24 months who are measured recumbently, the measurement will be plotted on the Birth to 24 month \(weight-for-length\) gender specific growth charts.](#)
 - b. [For children 2 years and older who are measured standing, the measurement will be plotted on the \(BMI-for-age\) CDC age/gender specific growth charts.](#)

C. Assessing and Assigning Risk Factors

1. [Risk Factor 103 \(Underweight\) will be automatically assigned by the system based on data entered on the Height/Weight/Blood tab. Refer to the \[Risk Factor Detail Guide\]\(#\) for additional information.](#)
 - a. [Birth to less than \(<\) 24 months: less than or equal to \(\$\leq\$ \) 2.3rd percentile weight-for-length on the CDC Birth to 24 months gender specific growth charts. *](#)
 - b. [2 to 5 years: less than or equal to \(\$\leq\$ \) 5th percentile BMI-for-age as plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts.](#)
2. [Risk Factor 103 \(At Risk of Underweight\) will be automatically assigned by the system](#)

based on data entered on the Height/Weight/Blood tab. Refer to the Risk Factor Detail Guide for additional information.

- a. Birth to less than (<) 24 months: greater than (>) 2.3rd percentile and less than or equal to (\leq) 5th percentile weight-for-length on the CDC Birth to 24 months gender specific growth charts. *
- b. 2 to 5 years: greater than (>) 5th percentile and less than or equal to (\leq) 10th percentile BMI-for-age as plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts.

*Note: Based on 2006 World Health Organization international growth standards. For the Birth to less than (<) 24 months “underweight” definition, CDC labels the 2.3rd percentile as the 2nd percentile on the Birth to less than (<) 24 months gender specific growth charts.

3. Risk Factor 103 (Underweight or At Risk of Underweight) will not be assigned for children greater than or equal to (\geq) 24 months and less than (<) 36 months who are measured recumbently; the measurement will be plotted on the Birth to 36 month grid and will not have RF103 assigned based upon that plot.
4. MOWINS flags participant’s record as high-risk for birth through 23 months when the weight-for length is less than or equal to (\leq) 2.3rd percentile or children 24 – 59 months when the BMI- for-age is less than or equal to (\leq) 5th percentile.
5. A high-risk care plan (SOAP) is required. Complete a SOAP note in MOWINS.

D. Providing Appropriate Counseling (See Counseling Guides for suggested counseling). Refer to the [Nutrition Training Manual](#) for more information.

1. Counseling and education shall be provided by the CPA.
2. Document counseling contact in MOWINS.

E. Providing Referrals.

1. Provide appropriate referral information and document in MOWINS.