Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
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RELAY MISSOURI for Hearing and Speech Impaired 1-800-735-2966 VOICE 1-800-735-2466

Jane Drummond
Director

Matt Blunt
Governor

July 11, 2008

Dear Physician:

Effective October 1, 2008, the Missouri WIC Program will **no longer** issue the formulas listed below:

Non-Contract Formulas That Will No Longer Be Issued By the Missouri WIC Program, Effective October 1, 2008	
1. Good Start Essentials	7. Similac Sensitive
2. Good Start Supreme DHA & ARA	8. Similac Isomil Advance with Iron
3. Good Start Supreme Soy DHA & ARA	9. Similac Isomil with Iron
4. Good Start Natural Cultures	10. Similac Sensitive R.S.
5. Similac with Iron	11. All Store-Brands (Milk based Infant Formulas)
6. Similac Advance with Iron	12. All Store-Brands (Soy-based Infant Formulas)

The decision to discontinue these formulas was reached in response to the following:

- Increased Missouri WIC Program Participation
  Missouri WIC Program participation has been increasing drastically over the past two years. Total participation in June 2008 was 144,095, which is 6.42% higher than June 2007 and the highest monthly participation for the WIC Program.
- Increased Number of Participants Who Receive Non-contract Formulas
  The number of participants who receive non-contract formula has been increasing for the past 30 months. When non-contract formulas are issued, the Missouri WIC Program must spend more money for infant formula and lose the rebate from the Mead Johnson Nutritionals (MJN). Estimated costs to the program are $600,000 per year when using non-contract formulas, which would support more than 1,500 participants per month.
- Increased Total Food Package Costs
  The average food package cost per WIC participant has risen by more than 12% over the past year. Due to both sharply increased participation levels and food cost inflation, total food expenditures in 2008 have risen by more than 18% from 2007.

MJN currently has an infant formula rebate contract with the State of Missouri. In accordance with the Federal Regulations (7CFR 246.16a, Infant Formula Cost Containment), the State agency must have a manufacturer, who supplies and provides a rebate for infant formulas. Rebatable formulas are Enfamil LIPIL with Iron, LactoFree LIPIL, ProSobee LIPIL, Gentlease LIPIL, Enfamil LIPIL A.R., Next Step LIPIL, and Next Step ProSobee LIPIL.

WIC checks for non-contract formulas will not be issued on or after October 1, 2008. We appreciate your understanding of this action. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Fuller at 1-800-392-8209 or e-mail Phyllis.Fuller@dhss.mo.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Lyn Konstant, Ph.D., R.D.
Chief, Bureau of WIC and Nutrition Services
Director, Missouri WIC Program