



TEXAS WIC PROGRAM
Department of State Health Services
Food Issuance and Redemption Services Unit - MC 4554
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WIC FORMULA CHANGES

Abbott Laboratories, the manufacturer of Similac infant formulas, has announced it is changing three of its formulas currently authorized by the Texas WIC Program. The changes that will be made by Abbott Laboratories will cause the three formulas listed below to contain only 19 calories per ounce. That is significant since USDA requires that formulas purchased by the WIC Program contain at least 20 calories per ounce thereby rendering the three formulas listed below as unallowable for standard issuance to WIC clients on/after the date specified for each infant formula in the chart below. It is possible that WIC clients that obtain a prescription for the affected formulas may be able to obtain them at some future date, but DSHS is still in discussion with USDA on this matter. Regardless, Texas WIC is setting in motion plans to switch clients receiving these formulas to Similac Advance by the date shown in the table below.

Formula Name	Form & Size	Uniform Product Code (UPC)	Date Formula No Longer Authorized for WIC Program
Similac Sensitive	Powder 12.6 oz, case	70074575391	April 1, 2014
	Powder 12.6 oz, can	70074575414	
	Concentrate 13 oz, case	70074575353	
	Concentrate 13 oz, can	70074575360	
	RTU 32 oz, case	70074575339	
	RTU 32 oz, can	70074575346	
Similac Total Comfort	Powder 12.6 oz, case	70074625997	June 1, 2014
	Powder 12.6 oz, can	70074626000	
Similac for Spit Up	RTU 32 oz, case	70074567280	June 1, 2014
	RTU 32 oz, can	70074567310	
	Powder 12.3 oz, case	70074509594	
	Powder 12.3 oz, can	70074509600	

NOTE: Similac Advance will remain at 20 calories per ounce in the 12.4 ounce can and will therefore remain on the WIC Program as the only milk based infant formula available from the Texas WIC Program without a doctor's prescription.

On the dates indicated above, the food Category/Sub-category for the listed formulas will be removed from the WIC clients' EBT cards and replaced with a food Category/Sub-category of an approved formula that still meets regulation (Similac Advance). DSHS will be working with clinics to best support WIC participants in successfully transitioning to Similac Advance. However, should the client obtain a prescription for one of the other three formulas that no longer meets calorie requirements, it is possible the client may be able to obtain them with WIC benefits.

There is no action required by vendors at this time. You are advised to review your WIC sales data for the three affected formulas, as well as Similac Advance, so you can best determine any necessary adjustments for ordering/stocking to account for the upcoming changes. The Program currently has nearly 76,000 clients receiving one of the three listed

(over)

infant formulas with the vast majority of clients (approximately 60,000) buying the Similac Sensitive brand which will no longer be authorized for standard issuance beginning April 1, 2014.

DSHS will keep you informed as we receive any additional information about this transition that may affect your stocking or ordering decisions. If you have questions about this change in authorized WIC infant formulas, please contact this office using the toll free phone number: 1-800-252-9629.