TO: Parent and Sub-Agencies

FROM: Dave Thomason
Nutrition & WIC Services Director

DATE: December 21, 2020

RE: Special Issuance Authorization No Longer Needed for Similac Sensitive, Similac for Spit Up, or Similac Total Comfort

Special Issuance Authorization No Longer Needed for Similac Sensitive, Similac for Spit Up, or Similac Total Comfort

Effective January 1, 2021, staff no longer need to have physicians complete a Special Issuance Authorization for:

- Similac Sensitive,
- Similac for Spit Up, or
- Similac Total Comfort.

More details: These three formulas have been on the “special formula” list since Abbott changed them to be 19 Kcal/oz several years ago. Statement from Abbott: “While a calorie density of 19 Kcal fl/oz is closer to the average reported for breastmilk, and internationally scientific opinions are encouraging slightly lower caloric densities in infant formula, Abbott has made the decision to adjust the 19 Kcal fl/oz products to 20 Kcal fl/oz to make it easier for consumers to access all Similac formulas. The nutrient content will also be adjusted accordingly as part of this reformulation. In addition to select products changing to 20 Kcal fl/oz, all Similac products have an increase in iodine, the prebiotic source for all products is Fructooligosacchararides (FOS), and lycopene is no longer added. Similac Advance products also had a slight decrease in vitamin D to align with other Similac formulations.

The UPC code is not changing so there is a smooth transition at stores and in KWIC. State Staff will make the change in KWIC so that effective Jan. 1, 2021, local staff can simply tailor the base infant food package if one of these formulas is needed. There is a slight change in package size for the powder form, but not enough to change the amount currently given.

Revised items include:

- FCI 02.01.02 Infant Food Packages – Primary Contract Infant Formula – revised to include these items in the “Formula Basket” table.
• **FCI 02.01.01 Infant Food Packages – Breastfeeding Infant** – revised to include these items in the “Formula Basket” tables

• **FCI 02.01.05 - Infant Food Packages-Special Formulas** – revised to remove these formulas.

• **Appendix 1 Formula Manufacturers and Products** – Revised to reflect the Kcal/oz change and that they no longer require a special authorization.

• The **Physician letter** has been revised to indicate these three formulas are standard contract formulas. We do not require that this letter be used, but it is always available if Local Agency staff member choose to send. Notice that the letter is actually page 1 of Special Issuance Authorization request form. The Special Issuance Authorization form is sufficient and will **not** be revised. (Staff should be using the form identified with an effective date of October 2019.

• **Kansas WIC Formula Facts for Families** – Revised to remove that these three need a doctor’s authorization.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Inform all CPA staff that, as of January 1, 2021, these three formulas may be issued without obtaining a Special Issuance Authorization.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact the state staff member assigned to your agency.

**Items included below and/or provided as separate documents:**