



**Date:** October 1, 2014

**To:** Coordinated care organizations  
Enteral nutrition companies  
Hospital discharge planners

**From:** Don Ross, Medicaid Policy and Planning Section Manager, DMAP  
Sue Woodbury, RD, MBA, Oregon WIC Director

**Subject:** Providing enteral nutrition services for children with Oregon Health Plan benefits

Infants and children under five years old enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) are also eligible for services from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This memo is intended to clarify where to refer families with infants and children who need enteral nutrition services and supplies.

### Why is this happening?

Currently, many families are first directed to WIC to obtain enteral formula for their high-risk, medically fragile infants and children. Unfortunately, WIC is unable to provide the services these families need, for two reasons:

- While WIC provides vouchers for supplemental foods that provide essential nutrients needed for appropriate growth, these vouchers cannot pay for the full amount of formula and supplies that these fragile children require.
- WIC's primary purpose is to provide nutritional education and lactation support to pregnant and post-partum women, as well as education on infant and child nutrition and growth. WIC does not provide care coordination and health care services appropriate for high-risk infants and children needing enteral nutrition services.

To ensure continuity of care and appropriate medical nutrition therapy for these children, enteral formula is to be provided under the patient's OHP coverage, along with enteral feeding equipment and needed patient support services.

### What should you do?

**For enteral nutrition needs**, please refer patients to an enteral nutrition company, not WIC. For coordinated care organization (CCO) members, enteral nutrition companies may bill enteral formula to the CCO, in addition to enteral nutrition supplies and support, effective immediately.

**For nutrition education and lactation support**, please continue to refer patients or caregivers to WIC.

### Questions?

If you have any questions about this announcement, contact Angel Wynia, DMAP Policy Analyst at 503-945-5754 or email [angel.wynia@state.or.us](mailto:angel.wynia@state.or.us).

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide. We appreciate your help in providing the most appropriate care coordination possible for our members.