# Changes to 19 Calorie Formulas 11/1/2020

Great news! Similac is changing the formulation of 3 of their formulas from 19 calories per ounce to 20 calories per ounce this fall! Formulas with 19 calories per ounce do not meet USDAs requirements for standard formulas and require a Medical Documentation Form (MDF). Now that *Similac Sensitive* and *Similac Total Comfort* will be 20 calories per ounce, they will no longer require a MDF after **11/1/2020**.



*Similac for Spit Up* is also changing from 19 to 20 calories per ounce, but it is considered a medical formula. *Similac for Spit Up* has added rice starch to thicken it as does *Enfamil AR*. Both formulas will still require a completed MDF to issue.

# Two Similac formulas will remain the same and aren't changing calories



## Formulas switching from 19 to 20 calories per ounce



#### Communicating with health care providers

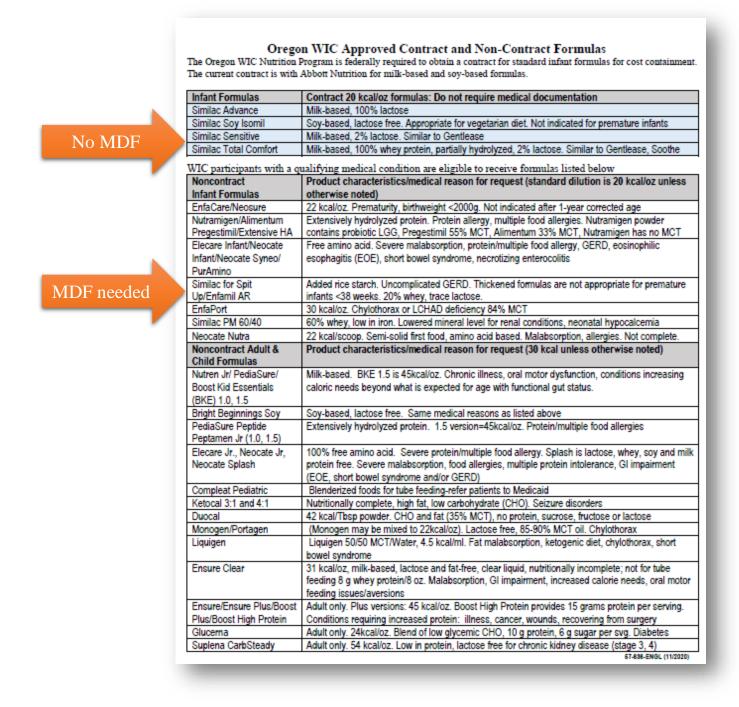
We know that health care providers will suggest these formulas and may continue to send MDF forms after this transition. This may be a good time to contact providers to let them know *Similac Sensitive* and *Similac Total Comfort* are easier for participants to get.

## Medical Documentation Form (MDF) updated

New Medical Documentation Forms (MDF) reflecting this change will be available to use in October. When you compare the new to the old, you will notice that the section on 19 calorie formula has been removed. You can always accept older versions of the MDF, the new version just makes it easier for providers.

| ſ٨                          | ,                         |                      | and Children  | Local WIC Clinic: |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                             | 10, mou                   |                      |   | Fax #:            | Fax #:  |  |  |  |
|                             |                           | Forn                 | า   | Contact Name:     |   |  |  |  |
|                             |                           | progra               | m policy and proce  | dure.             |   | l provision based on<br>your local WIC clinic. |  |  |
| A. Pati                     | ent information           |                      |   |                   |   |  |  |  |
| Patient                     | s name (Last, First, I    | u): Maribel          | Torres  |                   | DOB: 3 months ag  |  |  |  |
| Parent/                     | Caregiver's name          | (Last, First, MI): Y | Maria Torres  |                   | Phone number: 541-xxx-xxxx  |  |  |  |
| lam                         | requesting a nut          | ition assessme       | ent and consult by the WIC Dieti                                      | tian/Nutritionist | for this patient  |  |  |  |
| 8. Med                      | ical formula              |                      |   |                   |   |  |  |  |
| Name of formula: Nutramigen |                           |                      |   |                   | some or all the formula is to be provided via tube<br>feeding (Refer to Medicaid) |  |  |  |
| 🛛 Me                        | dical diagnosis or        | qualifying con       | dition: Milk Protein Allergy  |                   |   |  |  |  |
| 🛛 Ler                       | igth of issuance:         | 🛛 3 months           | 🖬 6 months 🔲 until 12 months  | ofage 🔲 other     | r (not  | to exceed 12 months)                           |  |  |
| 🕑 Pre                       | scribed amount:           | ۰                    | perday OR X   | maximum allow     | able  |  |  |  |
| C. WIC                      | supplemental fo           | ods                  |   |                   |   |  |  |  |
| AII WIO                     | foods will be p           | ovided unles         | s indicated below: OR X   | request WIC N     | utritionist to  | determine foods                                |  |  |
| nfants                      | , 7-12 months             | Children             | older than 12 months and ad   | ults:             |   |  |  |  |
| Omit:                       |                           | Omit: 🗆              | ) Milk 🗆 Cheese 🗅 Eggs 🗆  | Peanut butter     | Other:  |  |  |  |
|                             | t cereal                  |                      | -   |                   |   | fruits/vegs in place of fresh produce          |  |  |
|                             | t jarred<br>eqetables     |                      | e milk in place of lower fat for ad<br>s (must be receiving formulano |                   | n older than 23   | 3 months with qualifying medical               |  |  |
|                             |                           | -                    | al instructions: Please V   |                   | DD call   | WD.P.  |  |  |
|                             |                           | Addition             | a mstructions. Trouber  | NAC MTC           | - FV 0011   | WIC .  |  |  |
| ) Hea                       | th care provider          | information          |   |                   |   |  |  |  |
|                             | re of health care provide |                      | Doulitel.   |                   |   |  |  |  |
| Provide                     | 's name (please print     | : Wichelle Doo       | little XI   | ND DD0 D          |   |  |  |  |
|                             | office/clinic:            |                      |   |                   |   |  |  |  |
| Phone #                     | t 503-x                   | XX-XXXX              | Fax #:503-xxx-xxxx  |                   |   | Date:  |  |  |
|                             | Date form received        | Exp. date:           | RDN review (signature & review date):                                 |                   | Formula<br>Warehouse  | WCID:  |  |  |

The back of the MDF has also been changed to show the contract formulas that do not require an MDF at the top. You'll see that *Similac for Spit Up* is on the same line as *Enfamil AR* and still requires an MDF.



# Transitioning from requiring an MDF to not requiring an MDF

Grocery stores will gradually transition to 20 calorie formulas as their stock of 19 calorie formula runs out in the fall and they order more. The UPC codes for 19 and 20 calorie formulas are identical. Because there is no way to know which formula a participant is getting, an MDF will be required for *Similac Sensitive* and *Similac Total Comfort* through October. The MDF requirement for these 2 formulas will be changed in TWIST on 10/31/2020.

#### Scenarios to consider:

- Infants assigned these formulas before 10/31/2020 will have the MDF required flag on the Food Package Assignment screen for all months these formulas have been assigned. The flag will go away when staff go to the FPA 11/1 or later and resave the screen. Benefit issuance can then proceed as normal.
- Infants who already have MDFs documented in TWIST through October or later will not need any further documentation from the health care provider.
- Infants issued one of these formulas that show an MDF is required for August, September or October will need the MDF entered into TWIST in order to issue benefits for those months.
- Infants assigned one of these formulas in August or September will need an MDF through October.
- Infants assigned one of these formulas in October can get the first month without an MDF, so no MDF will be needed. Use a "placeholder" MDF to issue the future months' benefits. See next page for instructions.
- Infants assigned one of these formulas in November or later will not need an MDF.

| September       | October         | November  | December | January  |  |  |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|----------|----------|--|--|
| MDF required    | MDF required    | MDF Not   | MDF Not  | MDF Not  |  |  |
|                 | for issuance if | required  | required | required |  |  |
|                 | assigned in     |   |          |          |  |  |
|                 | September or    |   |          |          |  |  |
|                 | earlier.        |   |          |          |  |  |
|                 | MDF not         | "Placeholder" MDF used to issue these benefits in |          |          |  |  |
|                 | required for    | October.  |          |          |  |  |
|                 | issuance if     |   |          |          |  |  |
|                 | newly assigned  |   |          |          |  |  |
|                 | in October.     |   |          |          |  |  |
| Assigning these | formulas will   | Go to the Food Package Assignment Screen and      |          |          |  |  |
| generate an MDI | F requirement.  | resave to remove the MDF requirement.             |          |          |  |  |

# Documenting a "placeholder" MDF in TWIST

In October, when you try to issue November, December, and January benefits for these formulas you will still be blocked by the MDF requirement in TWIST. You may document a "placeholder" MDF in the MDF pop-up.

- This can only be done for *Similac Sensitive* and *Similac Total Comfort*.
- This can only be done in October 2020 for future months' issuance.
- In the MDF pop-up, document "State Authorized" in the provider field and "MDF no longer required" in the notes field.

#### Helping parents select the best formula for their baby

A baby's caregiver will select a formula for their baby for many different reasons – from suggestions by their health care provider to what they read on the internet. A certifier's job is to help meet the caregivers' and the baby's needs. Sometimes this means changing the baby's formula, but often it means listening carefully for the caregiver's concerns and applying your participant centered counseling skills.

#### Things to consider:

• Not every baby behavior is related to a problem with the formula. Check out <u>Baby Behaviors for</u> Formula-fed infants: What is Normal & When to <u>Refer?</u>



• It is great to have formulas to offer that don't require an MDF but changing formulas to appease a parent without offering counseling about baby behaviors may cause more problems for the baby.

#### Questions?

- Talk to your agency nutritionist or your state nutrition consultant.
- Call App support if you have any problems in TWIST.