



PROVIDER *bulletin*

July 13, 2017

Dear Provider:

When standard WIC contract formulas are not appropriate (cow milk-based, soy-based, and lactose free) and other formula is requested, Medi-Cal requires the following documentation from a licensed health care professional who is authorized to write medical prescriptions:

Healthcare Provider Prescriptions for Therapeutic Formula Need to Include:

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| 1. Patient name | 9. Birth weight |
| 2. Date of prescription | 10. Current age, height (length), weight, body mass index (BMI) |
| 3. Brand name of formula - medically justified for the stated diagnosis | 11. Allergies |
| 4. Route of administration | 12. Documentation of previous alternatives tried, including those used in the hospital (names of formulas, dates, duration, results of trials, etc.) |
| 5. Product package size (ml or gm) | 13. Length of issuance |
| 6. Product caloric density (kcal/ml or kcal/gm) | 14. Signature or signature stamp of the prescribing provider |
| 7. Medical diagnosis for which the formula is indicated, ICD-10 code(s) | |
| 8. Gestational age at birth | |

If the infant is 6 months of age or older, the following must also be included on the prescription, in addition to the information above:

1. Current nutritional evaluation and care plan
 2. Growth charts with Z-scores
 3. Documentation of "rechallenge" with regular formula (dates, duration, results, etc.) if applicable
 4. Documentation of trial and results of dietary adjustment with high-calorie or altered consistency (soft/pureed) foods when applicable.
- Most therapeutic formulas require that the prescription be renewed at 6 months (corrected gestational age), then every 3 months.
 - For specialty infant products, documentation must be dated within two months at the time of Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) submission.
 - Enteral products used orally as a convenient alternative to regular solid or pureed foods are not a covered benefit.

Local WIC agencies refer WIC participants to their health insurance program for prescribed formula because WIC is not considered the payer of first choice. WIC programs receive no additional funding to provide special formulas. The California State WIC Program only provides these based on available funding and on a short term basis. If you have questions or concerns, please contact one of the WIC offices.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, RPh
Director of Pharmacy