

FALL 2010 EDITION



WIC'r Basket

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
Bureau for Public Health, Office of Nutrition Services

The Vendor Newsletter of the West Virginia WIC Program

Formula Change

Abbott Nutrition, the manufacturer of Similac infant formula, has recently announced they will be making a label modification that will further differentiate Similac Sensitive from Similac Sensitive Isomil Soy. The product name will change from Similac Sensitive Isomil Soy to **Similac Soy Isomil**. Vendors should see new formula containers arriving on store shelves in December 2010. The lid will also undergo a change in color from orange to **red**. The reconstituted ounces and UPC code will remain the same. Clinics have already begun printing vouchers for Similac Soy Isomil with Iron. The vouchers will be printed with a mixed message which will give participants the choice of Similac Soy Isomil With Iron OR Similac Sensitive Isomil Soy With Iron giving vendors time to deplete their current stock of Similac Sensitive Isomil Soy With Iron.

This change is not considered a new formula, thus will not alter the number of West Virginia WIC Approved Contract Formulas you are required to stock. Class One, Class Two, Class Three, and Class Four Vendors are required to stock 186 cans. Class Five Vendors are required to stock 93 cans.

New Return Voucher Code

WIC's banking agent, Solutran, has recently introduced a new return code: R38 "Encoding Error/Correct and Resubmit" to replace the old return code R44 "Altered \$ Amount/Correct and Resubmit." The new return code went into effect in August 2010. Some vendors may have already seen vouchers returned from the bank with this code. The new return code relates to items that are presented for an amount different than the intended amount, otherwise known as an encoding error.

- If your store receives a returned voucher coded R38 – "Encoding Error/Correct & Submit" the error is that the handwritten and the presented amount (amount encoded on the bottom of the voucher or provided in the electronic image exchange file) do not match.
- If your store encodes the check themselves the voucher should be stripped and re-encoded for the correct dollar amount and redeposited.
- If your bank performs this service the vendor should address the correction procedure with their banking agent as they may have recourse with their bank to recover any return fees if the error was their fault.

If you have any further questions please contact the Vendor Management Unit at (304) 558-1115.

Accepting Cash Value Vouchers

The WV WIC Vendor Unit routinely reviews deposited vouchers. Since the implementation of the Cash Value Voucher, vendors have had multiple banking rejections due to simple errors on the part of the cashier. Please remind cashiers that Cash Value Vouchers are to be processed the same as food vouchers in that they cannot be:

- Accepted prior to the first date to spend, nor accepted past the last date to spend.
- The sale price written on the voucher may not exceed the face value of the voucher.
- The WIC Participant/Proxy must sign the voucher after the cashier has written the price of the sale on the voucher.

Cash Value Vouchers are issued in denominations of \$6.00 and \$10.00. The voucher types are 1050 (\$6.00) and 1350 (\$10.00).

WIC Approved Bread

It has been brought to our attention that some stores are allowing WIC participants to purchase bread that is not WIC Approved. Vendors should only allow WIC participants to purchase bread that is specifically listed and pictured in the West Virginia Love to Grow Cashier's Guide (2009 WIC Approved Food List). Bread that is West Virginia WIC Approved is brand specific. West Virginia WIC Vendors are required to maintain the minimum stock requirement of WIC approved bread for their Vendor Class. Class One, Class Two, Class Three and Class Four vendors are required to stock sixteen (16) – 16 ounce loaves of bread. Class Five vendors are required to stock eight (8) – 16 ounce loaves of bread. If after checking the Love to Grow Cashier's Guide, you are still unsure whether the bread is West Virginia WIC approved, please contact the Vendor Management Unit at (304) 558-1115.

Edit Sheets

Edits sheet for October, November, and December 2010 is included in this mailing. Edits will be effective October 1, 2010. Vouchers accepted October 1, 2010 should be checked against the enclosed edit sheets before depositing in the bank to prevent bank rejections. Our banking agent will start using the edit sheets on October 1, 2010.

WEST VIRGINIA
Department of



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