



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Dear Healthcare Partner,

On Thursday, February 17, 2022, Abbott, the Virginia WIC infant formula contractor, announced the proactive, voluntary recall of some powdered Similac, Alimentum, and EleCare formulas manufactured in Sturgis, Michigan. Virginia WIC is working to make participating families aware of the disruption and provide solutions/alternatives.

The powdered formula products included in this recall have the expiration date of 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later and include Virginia WIC-approved products: 12.6 oz Similac Total Comfort, 12.5 oz Similac for Spit Up, all EleCare Infant and Jr., and all Similac Alimentum. The powdered formula products that might be included in this recall are: 12.5 oz Similac Sensitive and 12.4 oz Similac Advance. On February 28, 2022 a small lot of Similac PM 60/40 was also added to the recall list. This recall does NOT include Similac Isomil, Similac Neosure, and any liquid concentrate or ready-to-feed formulas.

We have asked WIC participants to check the lot number and expiration date on the bottom of the can to determine if the 12.5 oz Similac Sensitive or 12.4 oz Similac Advance cans are included in this recall. The first two digits of the included lot numbers are 22 through 37, and it will contain K8, SH, or Z2. In addition, the expiration date will be 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later. If the formula can does not include all three, then it is not affected by the recall and is safe to continue using. To check if the lot number is included in the recall, go to <https://www.similacrecall.com/us/en/product-lookup.html>.

If a WIC participant's product is affected by the recall, it should not be used. Participants should return the product to their local grocery store. If they are unable, then they should call their WIC local agency for assistance. WIC participants are being asked to not discard or dispose of the formula to ensure the impacted products are returned to Abbott by the authorized vendors or WIC clinics.

As our healthcare partner, we wanted to ensure that you were aware of the situation and to provide alternatives and resources. The USDA has provided temporary waivers which allow State WIC Agencies to provide alternative formulas during this recall. For participants previously using Similac Advance, Similac Sensitive and Similac Total Comfort, Virginia WIC has added comparable products from Mead Johnson (Enfamil), Nestle (Gerber), Abbott, as well as generic/store-brands for the next few weeks. No action is needed on the healthcare provider's

part for participants to receive these products. Additional formula options are also available for those participants receiving Similac Spit-Up, Alimentum, EleCare Infant and EleCare Jr. These products normally require medical documentation with an approved WIC-395 and therefore participants prescribed those products will need an updated WIC-395 if they need to switch to another formula. For Similac Spit-Up and Similac Alimentum, there will also be retail comparable options available that will be allowable with a verbal confirmation from the healthcare provider for a one-month issuance. The WIC-395 form and a formula crosswalk resource are located on our Healthcare Provider webpage:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/wic/healthcare-providers/>. As additional products are added, the crosswalk will be updated. Most importantly, we are not able to provide a definitive end date to this situation as Abbott is evaluating their processes, production schedules and internal controls. However, we hope that this situation will not last more than 60-90 days.

We would like to thank you for your support of the Virginia WIC Program and our continued partnership. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact us at www.virginiawic.com or (888) 942-3663.

Respectfully,



Paula N. Garrett, MS, RD
Division Director
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