

Thomas M. Miller, M.D. State Health Officer

August 15, 2016

## Dear Physician:

Thank you for your continued support of the Alabama Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program. This communication is to provide you and your staff with information regarding a change in WIC contract infant formula issuance.

Alabama WIC continues to promote breastfeeding as the preferred method of infant feeding for at least the infant's first year with a special emphasis on the health benefits derived by exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months. For healthy infants prescribed a standard milk-based or soy-based formula, the WIC Program will be issuing Mead Johnson Nutrition formulas for infants zero through eleven months of age. Effective October 1, 2016, the following products will be issued and will not require a physician's prescription:

Enfamil® Infant- 12.5 oz powder and 13 oz concentrate Enfamil® Prosobee®- 12.9 oz powder and 13 oz concentrate Enfamil® Gentlease®- 12.4 oz powder Enfamil AR™- 12.9 oz powder

These formulas are available in ready-to-feed forms but must meet Alabama WIC criteria for approval prior to issuance.

In order to be in compliance with WIC federal regulations, effective October 1, 2016, WIC will be working with health care providers to transition infants and children receiving prescription formulas to Mead Johnson Nutrition products. A prescription will still be required if the participant needs a standard milk or soy-based contract infant formula mixed for higher caloric content or if combined with a formula enhancer. A copy of the updated infant prescription form is included or may be found online at <a href="https://www.adph.org/wic">www.adph.org/wic</a>

Your assistance is greatly appreciated as we transition to Mead Johnson formulas. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Dr. Karen Landers at 256-383-1231.

Sincerely,

Grace H. A. Thomas, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.

Assistant State Health Officer for

Family Health Services

Karen M. Landers, M.D., F.A.A.P.

Assistant State Health Officer and Pediatric Consultant

Public Health Area I

GHAT/AM/cg Attachment (1)