

**SECTION:** Certification

**SUBJECT:** Eligibility Requirement

**ITEM:** Women: Possibility of Regression

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## **Purpose**

To define the circumstance under which participants are eligible to be recertified using possibility of regression (POR).

## **Policy**

A postpartum participant who has previously been certified eligible for WIC based on a specific anthropometric, biochemical, clinical, or dietary risk may be considered at nutritional risk in the next certification period if qualified staff determines there is a POR in nutritional status without WIC benefits.

## **Authority**

7 CFR 246.7 (e)

USDA WIC Policy Memorandum 98-9, Revision 1 and Revision 8, Nutrition Risk Criteria

## **Requirements**

- I. The Local Agency (LA) shall conduct a complete nutrition assessment to rule out the existence of current risk factors before basing eligibility on POR.
- II. POR may be used only at a subsequent certification and may not be used at the program (i.e., enrollment), and it may only be used when no other risk can be identified.
- III. The LA shall document the reason for using POR in the Individual Comments ISIS screen.

## **Guidelines**

- I. If a LA is serving only priorities I through III which do not include dietary risks for women and after performing a nutrition assessment, no anthropometric, biochemical or clinical risks are identified, assessing for POR may be the last resort for eligibility.
- II. Refer to WPM 230-10 for information regarding the priority ranks.

## Possibility of Regression Risk Conditions

The table below summarizes the risk conditions that can be assessed for POR. The ISIS codes, USDA reference codes, and priority levels are listed. Since the possibility of a later pregnancy may not be used for eligibility in WIC, POR is not applicable to prenatal women.

ISIS Code (USDA Code)	Indicator of Nutritional Need	Risk Conditions that can be Regressed	Priority for Breastfeeding women	Priority for Non-Breast-feeding Women
N10 (501)	Possibility of Regression: Anthropometric	A10 Underweight A20 Overweight A21 Very overweight	I	VI
N11 (501)	Possibility of Regression: Biochemical	B12 Low Hemoglobin B13 Very Low Hemoglobin B92 Lead Poisoning	I	VI
N12 (501)	Possibility of Regression: Clinical	C80 Severe Acute Infections C96 Eating Disorder C100 Nutrient Deficiency Diseases C110 Food Allergies C121 Limited ability to make feeding decisions C201 Cracked & Bleeding Nipples C202 Persistent Sore Nipples C203 Mastitis	I	VI
N13 (501)	Possibility of Regression: Dietary	D401 Dietary Guidelines Not Met D402 Vegan/Highly Restrictive Diets D421 Pica D423 Inappropriate/Excess Intake Dietary Supplements D427 Inappropriate Nutrition Practices for Women	IV	VI