

# Referring Patients to WIC

## for Medical Formula and Nutritionals

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**Medi-Cal Prior Authorization**

- If your patient has Medi-Cal, submit a Prior Authorization for the prescribed product to Medi-Cal for approval.
- WIC is the payor of last resort.

2

**WIC Medical Documentation Requirements**

A WIC patient must have complete medical documentation from a Health Care Provider (HCP) with prescriptive authority to obtain any of the following:

- Medical formula or nutritionals.
- Increased formula in exchange for no WIC foods for infants six months or older.
- Jarred infant fruits and vegetables for children one to five years of age.

3

**Acceptable Types of Medical Documentation**

The medical documentation can be any of the following:

- The [WIC Medical Formula and Nutritionals Request Form](#).
- Prescription pad.
- Hospital discharge papers.

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**Complete Medical Documentation**

Complete medical documentation must include all the following information to be processed by WIC:

- Participant’s first and last name.
- Qualifying diagnosis(es), which can be found on the back of the [WIC Medical Formula and Nutritionals Request Form](#).
- Name(s) of the medical formula or nutritional for the stated qualifying diagnosis.
- Formula amount needed per day and duration prescribed in months.
- WIC authorized food restrictions, if applicable.
- Signature (or signature stamp) and contact information of the HCP.
- Date medical documentation was signed by the HCP.

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**New Medical Documentation is Needed Every Six Months**

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**Conditions That Are Not Approved**

Not all conditions qualify for medical formula or nutritionals from CDPH/ WIC. Conditions that are not approved include but are not limited to:

- Colic, constipation, diarrhea, spitting up, picky eater, poor appetite, cramps, fussiness, or gas.
- Solely for the purposes of enhancing nutrient intake or managing body weight without an underlying condition.
- Non-specific formula intolerance or food intolerance.
- Patient/caregiver preference or food dislikes.

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**Resources for Health Care Providers**

- [WIC Medical Formula and Nutritionals Request Form](#)
- [WIC Formulas and Nutritionals List](#)
- [Health Care Provider Training Video](#)
- [Letter to Health Care Providers](#)

