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GRAY DAVIS
Governor

January 21, 2003

GROCER ALERT 2003-01

TO:	ALL WIC GROCERS
SUBJECT:	LACTOFREE INFANT FORMULA
Purpose	<p>I am writing to inform you that effective January 27, 2003, the California Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program will no longer issue food instruments (FIs) for Enfamil LactoFree Infant Formula. The manufacturer of this formula, Mead Johnson Nutritionals, is discontinuing this product.</p> <p>During the month of January, Mead Johnson will remove stock of Enfamil LactoFree from store shelves and replace it with a new formulation, Enfamil LactoFree Lipil, which will not be provided by the WIC program. Prior to this replacement, if participants present FIs for LactoFree, you may sell LactoFree to the participant. After the formula has been replaced with the new version, participants will need to return to the WIC clinic to exchange their FIs for another authorized formula.</p> <p>Only a small number of participants issued FIs during the latter part of January will still have valid FIs for Enfamil LactoFree until the latter part of February. Participants have been informed by their WIC clinics about this change. As always, be sure to read all FIs carefully and only provide what the FIs specify.</p>
Background	<p>Enfamil LactoFree formula is a milk-based lactose-free formula designed to meet the needs of lactose-intolerant infants. Mead Johnson Nutritionals has reformulated Enfamil LactoFree formula and is naming the new version Enfamil LactoFree Lipil. Although this new infant formula will appear on store shelves soon, this new version will not be provided by the WIC program.</p>
Actions	<p>This Grocer Alert informs you that effective January 27, 2003, FIs will no longer be issued for Enfamil LactoFree. This infant formula is being discontinued and no new formula will be substituted.</p> <p>Please inform your cashiers about this change and take the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>If you still have stock of Enfamil LactoFree Infant Formula:</u> You may accept and redeem FI's that specify Enfamil LactoFree. DO NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR ENFAMIL LACTOFREE LIPIL OR ANY OTHER FORMULA.

	2. <u>If you no longer stock Enfamil LactoFree:</u> you should instruct participants to return to their WIC clinic with their LactoFree FI's. DO NOT SUBSTITUTE ENFAMIL LACTOFREE LIPIL OR ANY OTHER INFANT FORMULA.
Questions	If you have any questions, or if you need additional information regarding this change, please contact your grocer consultant at (916) 928-8705.
David Markell, Chief Food Management and Integrity Section WIC Supplemental Nutrition Branch	

[Previous Page](#)
