

SECTION: Food Delivery**SUBJECT: Coordination between WIC & Medicaid (HUSKY) and Coordination between WIC & Private Insurance for Issuance of Special Formula**

Federal Regulations: § 246.10(c) 3 and § 246.10(e) 3(vi)

POLICY**Coordination between WIC and Medicaid (HUSKY) for Issuance of Special Formula**

The Connecticut WIC Program is currently the primary payer for exempt or special formula for WIC participants. However, in Connecticut, the Medicaid (HUSKY) Program does provide total or additional amounts of medically necessary formulas under the following situations for their members:

- The product is not a Connecticut WIC Approved Formula.
- The product is a Connecticut WIC Approved Formula but additional formula is required to meet the participant's needs beyond the amounts that WIC Federal regulations allow. Medical necessity must be based on medical diagnosis and documented by the health care provider in writing to Medicaid (HUSKY).
- The product is Connecticut WIC Approved Formula but it will take more than 2 weeks to obtain. In this case, the initial two-week supply should be provided by Medicaid (HUSKY) until WIC can obtain the supply through a local WIC authorized vendor.
- There may be limited exceptions where the State agency requests that the local agency staff advise the participant to pursue formula coverage through Medicaid (HUSKY) rather than through WIC. (i.e. difficulty in supply, infrequent requests, etc.)

When Medicaid (HUSKY) provides some or all of the formula, the local WIC nutritionist needs to communicate with the health care provider, participant/caregiver and if appropriate the Community Health Network of Connecticut (CHN-CT) Intensive Care Management program staff to ensure appropriate use of WIC and Medicaid (HUSKY) resources.

When any of the above scenarios apply:

- Determine if the participant is on Medicaid (HUSKY). If they are not, promptly refer them for enrollment.
- If the participant is enrolled in Medicaid (HUSKY), tell the participant and the health care provider any additional formula required to meet the participant's needs should be covered by Medicaid (HUSKY) and the health care provider needs to follow the process to request special formula through Medicaid (HUSKY) to get the formula covered.
- Inform the health care provider, the parent/caregiver and if appropriate the CHN-CT Intensive Care Management program staff the maximum amount of formula needed (if known), how much supplemental formula WIC can provide to determine how much that Medicaid (HUSKY) would need to provide. This coordination of care will improve communication and will limit under or oversupply of the product and save State resources.

- If a WIC participant receives no formula benefits through the WIC Program inform the participant/caregiver that WIC participation for the nutritional assessment and education can continue, even if the participant is not receiving supplemental formula from the Program. Emphasize the benefits of nutrition education and for infants, if appropriate, clarify that at 6 months there are additional supplemental foods i.e. infant cereal, fruits and vegetables that they can receive through WIC.
- Follow up with the health care provider and/or participant/caregiver to ensure that the formula was requested by the health care provider to Medicaid (HUSKY).
- Contact the State agency Vendor unit for local vendor product ordering/availability issues, nutrition unit for clinical issues)

Coordination between WIC and Private Insurance for Issuance of Special Formula

If the participant has private insurance and some or all formula needs cannot be met through WIC, encourage the parent/caregiver to check with her private insurance carrier to pursue potential approval for exempt formula coverage. Potential coverage for formula coverage will vary among companies.

- Contact the health care provider or request that the participant/caregiver contact their health care provider to submit a prescription or request to their private insurance company for formula coverage.
- Inform the participant and health care provider the maximum amount needed (if known), the amount that WIC will provide and how much that the private insurance company would need to supply to meet the participant's total needs.
- Provide appropriate follow-up to ensure the participant receives maximum amount of formula through WIC if it is not covered by private insurance. If private insurance covers some or all of the formula adjust the amount of WIC formula provided.