

USF Health

Pediatric Gastroenterology,
Hepatology and Nutrition

Feeding your Infant During a Formula Shortage

Why is there a formula shortage?

- Current shortages have been largely caused by supply chain issues and a recall of several Abbott and Similac formula products back in February 2022. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration announced it is taking steps to help improve supply of infant and specialty formula products. However, if you're struggling to find baby formula during the shortage, here are some tips that can help.

Tips for Finding Formula:

- Call stores or speak with manager to find out times shipments are typically delivered.
- Use store apps and websites to get an idea of stock.
- Manufacturer websites (like Enfamil or Geber) have “find formula features.”
- Formula can be purchased directly through manufacturer websites. Some manufactures have subscription programs that offer a discount on formula.
- Look for alternative forms to the formula your infant drinks. Formula is available in powdered form, ready to feed liquid and liquid concentrate.
- Look for an “equivalent formula” or similar formula to the product your infant drinks. If you use a specialized formula, contact your infant’s health care provider or pediatric dietitian to discuss equivalents.
- Choose a generic formula.
- Check smaller stores or local pharmacies that have less customers.
- Ask friends and family to check for your infant’s formula when they are at the store.
- If your family has SNAP benefits these can be used to purchase formula including generic formula.
- If your infant has specialized formula needs, discuss with your health care provider or pediatric dietitian option for checking insurance coverage of the formula.

Should I make my own infant formula?

- No, this is extremely dangerous. The AAP strongly recommends against homemade infant formula. Homemade infant formula does not meet your infant’s nutritional needs and is not safe. Infant deaths have been reported from use of some homemade formula.

Should I dilute formula if I am running low?

- No, this can cause serious harm to your infant. Watering down formula changes the make-up of the formula and puts your infant at risk for growth problems, nutrient deficiencies and electrolyte abnormalities.

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Can toddler formula substitute for regular infant formula?

- According to the AAP, toddler formulas are not recommended for infants. Toddler formulas are not regulated the same as infant formulas and have different nutrient level. However, if you absolutely have no other choice, toddler formula is safe for a few days for babies who are close to a year of age. Contact your health care provider or pediatric dietitian for help if you are in this situation.

Is cow's milk a safe alternative to baby formula?

- According to the AAP, this may be an option if your child is older than 6 months of age and is usually on regular formula (not a specialty product for allergies or other special health needs). In a pinch, you could feed them whole cow's milk for a brief period (24-48 hours) until you are able to find infant formula. This is not ideal and should not become routine but is a better option than diluting formula or making homemade formula. Although we don't have a specific amount of cow milk that infants 6-12 months should drink in this situation, follow the limits of no more than 24 ounces a day for children over a year of age.
- The most important concern with giving an infant over 6 months of age cow's milk is making sure they get enough iron to prevent anemia. Be sure to include plenty of iron-containing solid foods in their diet while you are using whole cow's milk. Contact your health care provider or pediatric dietitian for help if you are in this situation.

Can I use plant-based milk instead of baby formula if needed?

- According to the AAP, milk alternatives are not recommended for babies under a year of age or infants with certain medical conditions requiring specialized formulas. Soy milk may be an option to give babies who are close to a year of age for a few days in an emergency, but always buy the kind that is fortified with protein and calcium. Make sure to change back to formula as soon as some is available. Be especially careful to avoid almond milk or other plant milks as these are often low in protein and minerals. Contact your health care provider or pediatric dietitian for help if you are in this situation.

Are generic or store brand infant formula safe?

- Yes, these are safe options. Generic formulas must follow the same guidelines as name brand formulas. All generic formulas are made by the same manufacturer Perrigo, so the formula is the same product across stores. For example, the Target and Walmart generic infant formula are the same product. Generic formula includes the same nutrients as name brand formulas.

If I switched my infant's formula, how long should I wait before I know if it is well tolerated?

- It can take 14 days for an infant to adjust to a new formula. Speak with your infant's health care provider if you have questions or concerns.

How do I limit wasting formula?

- Understanding safe infant formula preparation guidelines can help prevent waste. If your infant is consistently not finishing bottles, offer less volume at the feeding. You can prepare formula ahead of time as a medium to large batch. Formula lasts prepared in the refrigerator for 24 hours. Make sure to label mixed formula in the refrigerator with date and time prepared and throw away any unused after 24 hours.
- Understanding infants' hunger and satiety cues can help prevent excess formula use as well. Infants may cry for reasons other than being hungry. They may simply want to be held or need to be changed. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to learn to recognize and respond appropriately to the infants' cues of hunger or fullness.

Resources for Finding Hypoallergenic and Amino Acid-based Formulas

The table below has links to assist with locating specialized formula. Contact your infant's healthcare provider or pediatric dietitian if problems finding your infant's formula continues.

Manufacturer	Formula Names	Websites
Abbott	Elecare, Elecare Jr, Alimentum powder	www.similacrecall.com https://abbottnutrition.com/store-locator
Nutricia	Neocate Syneo, Neocate Infant DHA/ARA, Neocate Jr, Neocate Splash	https://www.neocate.com/hypoallergenic-formula-and-products/where-to-buy/ Neocate App also has a store locator
Nestle	Alfamino Infant, Alfamino Jr	https://www.nestlenutritionstore.com/shop-by-brands/alfamino.html
Mead Johnson	PurAmino DHA & ARA, Nutramigen, Pregestimil	https://www.enfamil.com/products/newborn-infant-formula/ https://www.enfamil.com/store-locator/
Gerber	Geber Good Start Extensive HA	https://www.gerber.com/gerber-extensive-ha-single Store locator under "Check Other Retailers"
Store Brand Formula	Generic Hypoallergenic	https://www.storebrandformula.com/buy-baby-formula.aspx
Cambrooke	Equacare Jr, Essential Care Jr	https://essentiallybetter.com/shop/

Safety Guidelines

Follow These Steps to Prepare and Store Infant Formula

1. Check to make sure the formula is not expired, and the container is in good condition (no dents, puffy ends, or rust spots).
2. Wash your hands with soap and water before preparing bottles. Use clean bottles and nipples.
3. Use a safe source of water as defined by your local health department. If concerned or uncertain if the water is unsafe, you may boil tap or bottled water for 1 minute, cool before using.
4. Use the exact amount of water and formula listed on the instructions of the infant formula container or recipe provided by your infant’s health care provider if you were instructed to mix to a higher concentration. NEVER dilute formula by adding extra water. This can make your baby sick.
5. Measure water first and then place correct number of scoops of powder on top of water.
6. Shake the bottle to mix.
7. Formula does not need to be warmed before feeding. If you decide to warm, **do not microwave formula**. Serious harm can occur. To warm the formula, place the bottle under running warm water, taking care to keep water from getting into the bottle or on the nipple.
8. Test the temperature of the formula by putting a few drops of the formula on the back of your hand to see if it is too hot. It should feel warm, not hot.
9. Store the formula can in a cool, dry area, not in the refrigerator. Most formulas need to be used within 1 month of opening the container (check the label).
10. Never use formula after the “Use By” date on the container.

How long can I keep the formula?

- Store prepared formula in the refrigerator in a closed container and label with date and time. Throw away any that you have not used after 24 hours.
- For Feeding by Mouth: Use prepared infant formula within 2 hours of preparation and within one hour from the start of feeding.
- For Feeding by Tube: Throw away any formula that has been out of the refrigerator for more than 4 hours.

Breast Milk Storage Guidelines

Breast milk	Storage Locations and Temperatures		
	Countertop (Room Temp) 77°F (25°C) or colder	Refrigerator 40°F (4°C)	Freezer 0°F (-18°C) or colder
Freshly expressed or pumped	Up to 4 hours	Up to 4 days	Within 6 months is best Up to 12 months is acceptable
Thawed, previously frozen	1-2 hours of bringing to room temperature or warming	Up to 1 day (24 hours)	Never freeze breast milk that has been fortified or refreeze milk that has been thawed
Leftover from a feeding (baby did not finish the bottle)	Use within 2 hours after the baby is finished feeding		

More information on formula and breastmilk safety guidelines available at www.CDC.gov.

I am breast feeding and concerned about my supply, what should I do?

- Speak with your pediatrician about breast feeding goals and support options. Tips to try for an increase in milk: breastfeeding often and offering both breasts at each feeding, getting plenty of sleep, stimulating breast after nursing by using breast pump or manual expression technique, skin to skin contact with your infant, increase fluid intake, and adequate calorie intake with snacks throughout the day.
- Possible reasons for a decrease in milk: smoking, drinking alcohol, stress, dehydration, taking certain medications (including antihistamines, decongestants, and diuretics), decrease in breastfeeding frequency and emptying of the breasts.

What is Relactation?

- Either rebuilding a milk supply after it has been reduced or dried up or building it up from the start is called relactation. Often a mother weans prematurely because she feels she is not producing enough milk and therefore she should feed her infant formula. If deciding to resume breastfeeding, relactation is easiest when attempted soon after weaning, especially if the infant is not yet six months of age. The process is also easier if the mother still nurses infrequently. A breastfeeding expert can guide this process.

What should I do if I cannot afford formula?

- **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC):** Mothers who qualify based on income can enroll in WIC to receive vouchers for formula, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-how-apply>
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** You can use your SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer card (formerly called food stamps) to buy formula. If you are enrolled in WIC, you also might qualify for SNAP.
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):** This program offers temporary cash assistance to qualified families. Locate your state TANF program at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/help>.

Where can I get help if I do not qualify for benefits?

- **Feeding America** is a nonprofit network of 200 food banks. Some provide free baby food, infant formula, diapers and other supplies. Visit <https://www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank>.
- **Dial 2-1-1** to be connected to a community resource specialist who can help you find local resources. The number can be dialed from almost anywhere in the U.S. You also can get help online at <http://www.211.org/services/food>.

Where can I learn more about the recall and formula shortages?

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Healthy Children Blog <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/Are-there-shortages-of-infant-formula-due-to-COVID-19.aspx>
- Food and Drug Administration - <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/powdered-infant-formula-recall-what-know>
- Contact your infant's health care provider or pediatric dietitian

Feeding Guide for the First Year

Age	Feeding
Birth to 4 months	Breast milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First month: 10-12 feedings per 24 hours • 2-3 months: 8-10 feedings per 24 hours Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First month: 10-12 feedings per 24 hours, 18-24 ounces total • 1-2 months: 8-10 feedings per 24 hours, 22-28 ounces total • 2-3 months: 6 to 8 feedings per day, 24-32 ounces total
4 to 6 months	Breast milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 months: 7-9 feedings in 24 hours Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-5 months: 4-8 feedings per 24 hours, 25-40 ounces total • 5-6 months: 4-8 feedings per 24 hours, 25-45 ounces total Introduction of solids – offer 1-2 times per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iron fortified infant cereal or purees, 1-2 times per day
6 to 8 months	Breast milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 feedings in 24 hours Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 feedings, 24-32 ounces in 24 hours Solids – 1-3 times per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grains: 2-3 tablespoons per day • Vegetables: 2 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Fruits: 1-2 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Protein: 1-2 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Water: up to 2-4 ounces per day
8 to 10 months	Breast milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 or more feedings in 24 hours Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 feedings, 24-32 ounces in 24 hours Solids – offer 2-3 times per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grains: 2-3 tablespoons per day • Vegetables: 3-4 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Fruits: 3-4 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Protein: 2-3 tablespoons, 2 times per day • Water: up to 2-4 ounces, 2 times per day
10 to 12 months	Breast milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 or more feedings in 24 hours Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-5 feedings, 16-24 ounces in 24 hours Solids – offer 3 times per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grains: 3-4 tablespoons per day • Vegetables: ¼ cup, 2 times per day • Fruits: ¼ cup, 2 times per day • Protein: ¼ cup or 1 ounce, 2 times per day • Water: up to 2-4 ounces, 2 times per day

Hunger and Fullness Cues Table

Age	Hunger Cues	Fullness Cues
Birth to 3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opens and closes mouth • Brings hands to face • Flexes arms and legs • Roots around chest of whoever is carrying the infant • Makes sucking noises and motions • Sucks on lips, hands, fingers, toes, toys, or clothing • Fusses or makes pre-cry facial grimaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slows or decreases sucking • Extends arms and legs • Extends/relaxes fingers • Pushes/arches away • Falls asleep • Turns head away from the nipple • Decreases rate of sucking or stops sucking when full
4 to 7 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smiles, gazes at caregiver, coos during feeding to indicate wanting more • Moves head towards spoon or tries to swipe food towards mouth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Releases the nipple • Seals lips together • May be distracted or pays attention to surroundings more • Turns head away from the food
8 to 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaches for spoon or food • Points to food • Gets excited when food is present • Expresses desire for specific foods with words or sounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eating slows down • Clenches mouth shut • Pushes food away • Shakes head to say “no more”

Hunger cues occur prior to crying. Watching and responding early to cues can help prevent crying. Hungry infants might cry, but they will also exhibit hunger cues listed above.

Elemental or Amino Acid Infant Formula

Always read the label for mixing instructions. If you are concentrating formula by following special mixing instructions, contact your health care provider or dietitian for new instructions.



Nutricia Neocate Infant DHA/ARA Powder



Nutricia Neocate Syneo Infant Powder



Nestle Alfamino Infant Powder



Mead Johnson PurAmino Infant Powder

Gentle or Sensitive Formula Alternatives

These are a general guide of gentle or sensitive formulas. Speak with your health care provider if you have questions. Always read the label for mixing instructions. If you are concentrating formula by following special mixing instructions, contact your health care provider for new instructions if you change product.



Enfamil NeuroPro Gentlelease Powder



Enfamil NeuroPro Gentlelease Ready to Feed



Enfamil Enspire Gentlelease Powder



Enfamil Gentlelease Powder



Earth's Best Gentle Powder



Gerber SoothePro Powder



Similac Total Comfort Ready to Feed



Similac Sensitive Ready to Feed



Similac Total 360 Sensitive Ready to Feed



Gerber GentlePro Powder



Enfamil NeuroPro Sensitive Powder



Similac Pro-Sensitive Ready to Feed



Earth's Best Sensitive Powder

Examples of generic formula:



Walgreens: Well Beginnings Gentle Powder



Walmart: Parent's Choice Gentle Powder



Amazon: Mama Bear Gentle Powder



Target: Up & Up Gentle Powder



CVS Health: Gentle Powder



Walgreens: Well Beginnings Sensitivity Powder



Walmart: Parent's Choice Sensitivity Powder



Amazon: Mama Bear Sensitivity Powder



Target: Up & Up Sensitivity Powder



CVS Health: Sensitivity Powder

Hypoallergenic Infant Formula – Extensively Hydrolyzed Protein

Always read the label for mixing instructions. If you are concentrating formula by following special mixing instructions, contact your health care provider or dietitian for new instructions.



Enfamil Nutramigen Powder



Enfamil Nutramigen Ready to Feed



Enfamil Nutramigen Concentrate



Similac Alimentum Ready to Feed

Examples of generic formula:



Gerber Extensive HA Powder



Amazon: Mama Bear Hypoallergenic Powder



CVS Health: Hypoallergenic Powder



Target: Up & Up Hypoallergenic Powder



Walgreens: Well Beginnings Hypoallergenic Powder



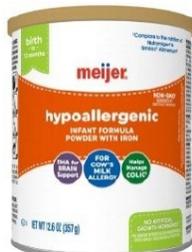
Walmart: Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic Powder



SpartanNash: Tippy Toes Hypoallergenic Powder



HEB: Baby Hypoallergenic Powder



Meijer: Baby Hypoallergenic Powder



Kroger: Comforts Hypoallergenic Powder

Premature Infant Formula Alternatives

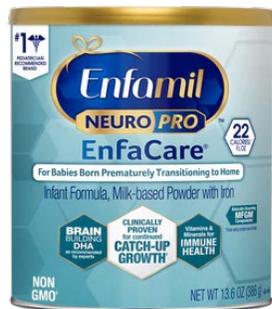
Always read the label for mixing instructions. If you are concentrating formula by following special mixing instructions, contact your health care provider or dietitian for new instructions.



Similac Neosure Powder



Similac Neosure Ready to Feed
(Do not choose this liquid version if mixing formula by following a special recipe for a higher calorie formula)



Enfamil Enfacare Powder



Enfamil Enfacare Ready to Feed
(Do not choose this liquid version if mixing formula by following a special recipe for a higher calorie formula)

Infant Formula Designed for Spit-ups

Always read the label for mixing instructions. If you are concentrating formula by following special mixing instructions, contact your health care provider for new instructions if you change product.



Enfamil AR Powder



Enfamil AR Ready to Feed



Similac for Spit Up Ready to Feed

Examples of generic formula:



Walgreens: Well Beginnings Added Rice Starch Powder



Walmart: Parent's Choice Added Rice Starch Powder



CVS Health: Added Rice Starch Powder



Target: Up & Up Added Rice Starch Powder

If you are unable to find infant formula thickened with rice starch for your infant, choose a standard formula like Enfamil NeuroPro and speak to your health care provider or dietitian about adding rice cereal to the bottle.

Do not add anything to your infant's bottle without speaking to their health care provider first.

Provider Formula Resource

Recall and Product Changes

Recalled:

The original Recall Recommendation from Abbott and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from February 2022 are/were:

Do not use the following formulas:

- Powdered Alimentum
- Elecare Infant formula powder
- Similac Infant formula powder with the lot numbers listed
 - The first two digits of the code were 22 through 37 plus
 - The code on the contain contains K8, SH or Z2 plus
 - The expiration date of the product is April 2002 (04-01-2022) or later
- Similac PM 60 / 40
 - Lot number: 27032K80.

All ready-to-feed formula and concentrate products are unaffected by the recall. The recall pertains to powder formula only.

For more information about recalled products or for information about Abbott products (Similac, Alimentum, Elecare infant) Parents and caregivers can call: 1(800) 986-8540 or visit: www.Similacrecall.com

Product Pause:

Announced April 27th, 2022 Mead Johnson Nutrition is going to prioritize production of infant formula products.

Nutramigen Toddler expected to be out of stock Mid-June 2022 to March 2023

- Consider if the child needs a toddler formula. Cow's milk or plant-based alternative (fortified soy milk or pea protein milk Ripple) are appropriate options, often families choose toddler formulas because of marketing, and they think they are best for their child not necessarily because it is needed.
- If a child (>12 mo) needs a significant volume of formula per day (> 50% of intake) a pediatric formula is more appropriate along with considering a further work-up for why the child is not consuming age-appropriate solids.

PurAmino Jr unflavored and vanilla expected to be out of stock Mid-May/June 2022 to March 2023

- Equivalent Neocate Jr, Neocate Splash, and Alfamino Jr
- PurAmino Infant formula can be concentrated to Jr level (30 calorie/ounce and similar nutrient composition)
- Does the child need amino acid formula? Is a trial of pediatric peptide-based formula appropriate?

Pregestimil powder expected to be out of stock Mid-July 2022 to March 2023

- Substitute Pregestimil 20 calorie/ounce and 24 calorie/ounce ready to feed

Formulas and Equivalents

Category	Recalled Formula	Equivalents
Elemental/ Amino Acid Infant formula	Elecare Infant	Alfamino infant (Nestle) Neocate infant (Nutricia) Neocate Syneo (NOT for use in kids with short bowel syndrome) (Nutricia) Puramino DHA & ARA infant (Reckitt Mead Johnson)
Hypoallergenic – Extensively hydrolyzed protein infant formula	Similac Alimentum (powder)	Gerber Extensive HA (Gerber) Nutramigen (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Pregestimil (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Similac Alimentum Ready to Feed liquid (Abbott) Store Brand Hypoallergenic Infant Formula (Perrigo)(Walmart, Target, Kroger, Walgreens, CVS, Meijer, HEB, Safeway, Sam’s Club, Topco and Amazon)
Gentle/Sensitive infant formula Standard cow milk-based products with partially hydrolyzed protein, some have reduced lactose	Similac Sensitive (powder) Similac Total Comfort (powder)	Earth’s Best Organic Sensitivity (Earth’s Best) Enfamil Gentlease (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Enfamil Enspire Gentlease (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Good Start Soothe Pro (Gerber) Similac Sensitive Ready to Feed liquid or concentrate liquid (Abbott) Store Brand Sensitivity Infant Formula (Perrigo) Store Brand Gentle Infant Formula (Perrigo) Good Start GentlePro (Gerber) Enfamil NeuroPro Sensitive (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Earth’s Best Gentle formula (Earth’s Best) Similac Total Comfort Ready to Feed liquid (Abbott) Store Brand Complete Comfort Infant Formula (Perrigo)
Anti-reflux infant formula	Similac Spit-up (powder)	Enfamil AR (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Similac for Spit Up Ready to Feed liquid (Abbott) Store Brand Added Rice Infant Formula (Perrigo)
Standard cow milk-based infant formula	Similac Pro Advance (powder)	Earth’s Best Organic Dairy infant (Earth’s Best) Enfamil Infant, Enspire or Reguline (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Good Start Gentle (Gerber) Similac Advance Ready to Feed liquid (Abbott) Similac 360 Total Care (Abbott) Store Brand Advantage Infant Formula (Perrigo) Store Brand Infant Formula (Perrigo)
Soy infant formula	Similac Soy Isomil (powder)	Enfamil Prosobee (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Earth’s Best Organic Soy (Earth’s Best) Good Start Soy (Gerber) Store Brand Soy Infant Formula (Perrigo)
Premature infant formula	N/A	Enfamil Enfacare (Reckitt Mead Johnson) Neosure (Abbott)

Standard cow milk based- European style infant formula	N/A	Bobbie ByHeart
Elemental/ Amino Acid Jr formula	Elecare Jr	Alfamino Jr (Nestle) Neocate Jr (Nutricia) Neocate Splash (Nutricia) *largely unavailable Equaquare Jr (Cambrooke) Essential Care Jr (Cambrooke) Puramino Jr (Reckitt Mead Johnson) *on production pause

Managing Supply of Samples

- Families are being encouraged by the press and WIC to contact their doctor’s office for help with formula shortages. Formula representatives are receiving less samples to provide to health care providers as companies are prioritizing hospital and retail supply. It is crucial formula samples are managed appropriately to help as many families as possible.

Helping Families Navigate Shortages

Recommendations and considerations:

- Give families the names of equivalent formula so if they cannot find the formula they usually use, they feel confident choosing another option. If families are using WIC they must contact their office before changing brands.**
- Encourage families to look for formula in different forms example liquid, powder and concentrate.
- Educate families on hunger and fullness cues to help guide families and prevent over-feeding
- Educate on safe formula preparation and strategies to help prevent formula waste. Medium batch mixing formula is a great option for limiting waste.
- Ensure patients are on appropriate formulas. If an infant is >8 months old on extensively hydrolyzed formula and eating dairy products (yogurt, cheese etc.) without issue, consider trial of standard formula
- If writing a script (non-WIC script) include formula equivalents so the DME can provide the patient with the available option. Example “Alfamino infant formula or equivalent Neocate Syneo, Neocate DHA/ARA, PurAmino Infant...”
- Note Pediasure and Pediasure Peptide are also in short supply so include equivalents for these formulas as well
- Suggest families speak to local store managers. They may be able to share the days they typically receive new inventory.
- Some store apps (example Target), these will list if products are in stock, families can double check by calling the store.
- Manufacturer websites have store locators that can be used as a guide.
- Formula can be purchased directly from manufacturer websites.

- Generic or store brand formulas follow the same FDA regulation as name brand formulas. Perrigo manufactures all store brand formula (example Target, Kroger, Amazon etc) and is a great option. Note WIC participants can't use EBT on generic formula.

WIC Tips

- Standard and extensively hydrolyzed protein/hypoallergenic infant formula are put onto families EBT cards for use in the store to purchase their formula. WIC EBT cards can't be used online. EBT cards are loaded for specific formula chosen by the family at their WIC appointment or listed on the script.
- Amino acid-based formulas (both infant and junior) are ordered by WIC and picked up by the family at their WIC office.
- Generic formula is not able to be purchased using WIC benefits.
- If a family is using WIC start with a contract formula – Enfamil Infant, Enfamil Gentlease, Enfamil Reguline, Enfamil AR or Similac Soy Isomil. These are more likely to be carried in the store in larger quantities.
- If needed SNAP benefits (food stamps) can be used to buy infant formula of another brand not selected for their WIC EBT, SNAP can be used at some online stores. SNAP can be used on generic formula.
- Some families with twins receiving WIC having trouble finding their specialized products have found success by putting each infant on a different formula on their WIC account. Example Neosure and Enfacare. Use this method on case-by-case basis as this could cause confusion.
- WIC is having trouble getting supply of amino acid formula, families are being given small amounts. Recommend parents call their WIC office consistently to request their remaining cans instead of waiting for their WIC office to call them. Families that are in contact with their WIC office are more likely to receive their cans when the next shipment comes in.
- Currently, Enfacare is easier to find than Neosure.
- Try and include specific amount of formula patient is drinking per day on the WIC script instead of writing "maximum" where it specifies amount next to the formula requested.
- If you are having difficulty with a WIC script, WIC dietitians are available to help navigate, call the patient's WIC office and ask to speak to a dietitian.

Resources:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic Resources

- <https://www.eatrightpro.org/news-center/member-updates/from-our-leaders/infant-formula-supply-chain-information>

North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) Substitutions Table

- <https://naspghan.org/recent-news/naspghan-tools-for-hcps-affected-by-formula-recall/>

FDA

- <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/powdered-infant-formula-recall-what-know>
- <https://www.fda.gov/food/people-risk-foodborne-illness/questions-answers-consumers-concerning-infant-formula>



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April 27, 2022

Dear Valued Health Care Professional:

For over 115 years, Mead Johnson Nutrition has been committed to the best start in life for infants and children across the world. Providing the best nutrition formula portfolio is our top priority.

We know that the past several months has been challenging for both parents and health care professionals due to the impact of the recent Abbott recall. As customers seek out alternative products, we are experiencing unprecedented demand for our Allergy and Amino Acid based formulas.

As we continue to meet the increasing demands and supply challenges across the United States, we will be prioritizing certain products and packaging sizes to optimize production and provide more feedings during this period of increased demand. As a result, the formulas identified in the table below will be interrupted through March 2023. Rest assured there are alternative nutrition solutions as outlined below.

Product Name	Product Code	Direct Substitute*	Expected Out of Stock	Expected Stock Return
PurAmino™ <i>Junior</i> Unflavored (14.1oz)	2055491	PurAmino™ concentrated to higher calorie	Mid-May 2022	March 31, 2023
PurAmino™ <i>Junior</i> Vanilla (14.1oz)	2055490	PurAmino™ concentrated to higher calorie	Mid-June 2022	March 31, 2023
Nutramigen® <i>Toddler</i> with Enflora™ LGG® Toddler (12.6oz)	2050676	Nutramigen® with Enflora™ LGG® powder or RTU Liquid	Mid-June 2022	March 31, 2023
Pregestimil® powder (1lb)	1014853	Pregestimil® 20 and 24 Calorie RTU	Mid-July 2022	March 31, 2023

***Additional Nutrition Guidance for Direct Substitute formulas:**

To obtain standardized recipes for the select formula substitutes listed above, please refer to the health care professional website for easy recipe downloads @ www.hcp.meadjohnson.com. You may also contact our Mead Johnson Nutrition Consumer and Health Care Product Information Center at 1-812-429-6399 or email directly @ mjmedicalaffairs@mjn.com.

For formula substitutes, health care professionals should monitor any infant formula intake as sole or supplemental source as part of an infant's or child's diet on a case-by-case basis, with attention to the developmental as well as nutritional impact of this diet. The child's dietary intake would need to be assessed against his or her estimated individualized needs. For example, total calcium content of the diet may need to be assessed. Depending on child's age and formula consumption, consider monitoring for excessive intake of nutrients such as vitamin A and niacin when using PurAmino™.

Additional provisions and retail availability:

1. Direct substitute formulas will be available through the supplemental Women, Infants and Children's (WIC®) program contingent upon individual state approval. Please work with your local WIC sites for formula substitutes based on patient needs.

2. Pregestimil® 20 and 24 calorie 2 oz Ready-To-Use (RTU), Nutramigen® with Enflora™LGG®, and PurAmino™ can be ordered through Durable Medical Equipment (DME) companies, local pharmacies, or online at www.enfamil.com.

If you have any additional questions or would like more information, please contact your local Medical Sales Representative, or call Mead Johnson Nutrition Institutional Customer Service Center at 1-800-457-3550 for hospital order inquiries.

Thank you for your continued support of Mead Johnson Nutrition.

Sincerely,

Teresa Murguía

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