
 <p>Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Office régional de la santé de Winnipeg Caring for Health À l'écoute de notre santé</p> <p><b>Home Care Operational Directive</b></p>	<b>Title:</b> <b>Manitoba Home Nutrition Program Specialty Infant Formula</b>	
	<b>Approval Signature:</b> 	
	<b>Date:</b> <b>October 2019</b>	<b>Supersedes:</b> <b>October 2014</b>

## **MANITOBA HOME NUTRITION PROGRAM SPECIALTY INFANT FORMULA PROGRAM**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT**

This program overview is intended to provide information about the Specialty Infant Formula Program (SIF) program operated by the Manitoba Home Nutrition Program (Pediatrics).

### **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The SIF program was established in 2008 in order to provide medical nutrition therapy and nutrition care for eligible families. The program facilitates the funding of formulas that are medically prescribed for infants up to their first birthday. The specialty formulas prescribed are high cost and not readily accessible at retail outlets.

The mandate of SIF program is to:

- Provide medically required, high cost, non-standard formula to infants under one year for:
  - ✓ Optimal growth and development
  - ✓ Transition to appropriate amounts of safe table foods
- Provide nutrition education to parents and care-givers
- Coordinate care with other providers

### **3.0 DEFINITIONS**

**Infant:** a child less than one year of age, including corrected age for preterm infants.

**Specialty Formula:** an orally fed non-standard formula that is necessary for the child to thrive. The following are the only specialty formulas covered by SIF:

- **Amino Acid Based Formula** - Hypoallergenic formula, individual amino acids, no peptide fragments
- **Medium Chain Triglyceride Formula** - 55% MCT formula and 85% MCT formula
- **Low calcium/ vitamin D free formula**

### **4.0 ELIGIBILITY**

- Children must be residents of Manitoba
- Children must be under one year of age or one year corrected age
- Formula must be consumed orally
- Formula must be medically necessary for current diagnosis
- Tolerance to the prescribed formula must be established prior to referral
- Parent/Caregiver must agree to nutrition follow up by the SIF dietitian or other partner dietitian at pre-determined intervals
- Parent/Caregiver agrees to have child followed by pediatric sub-specialists for care related to need for non-standard formula.
- Criteria for Amino Acid based formula funding:
  - Extensively hydrolyzed formula was trialed as an inpatient and determined to be clinically inappropriate. Inpatient clinical dietitian assessment is preferred.
  - OR Extensively hydrolyzed formula has been reasonably trialed in the community for 4 weeks and determined to be clinically inappropriate due to documented severe allergy/intolerance/malabsorption (vomiting, frequent watery stools, failure to thrive, continued blood in stool).
  - OR Infant is less than 6 months of age with confirmed IGE mediated dairy allergy (positive skin prick test) or with referral to allergist to confirm IGE mediated allergy and has failed

extensively hydrolyzed formula. At 6 months of age these infants can be reassessed and transitioned to soy formula. (<https://www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/use-soy-based-formulas>)

## **5.0 ASSESSMENT FOR FUNDING**

If the client is eligible for one of the funders listed below, application for payment will be made. If there is a delay in approval of the application, the SIF program will supply formula in the interim.

- First Nations and Inuit Health (FNIH) is a branch of Health Canada which provides non-insured health benefits (NIHB) Program to eligible first nations and Inuit residents of Canada. To be eligible for benefits of FNIB a client must have an INAC (treaty) number or a band/family number.
- Employment Income and Assistance (EIA) provides financial support to eligible Manitoba citizens. To be eligible a client must have an EIA case number and case coordinator.
- Child and Family Services, Children with disAbilities Services provide funding to eligible clients under age 18.

If the client is not eligible for any of the above funders, the SIF program will provide the formula to the family.

## **6.0 REFERRAL PROCESS**

- Physicians or interdisciplinary health professional team members may refer infants who require a non-standard formula and who have demonstrated tolerance to one of the available specialty formulas.
- All fields of the SIF Referral Form need to be completed to assess the eligibility of the child and enroll them in the program
- The referral form must be faxed to the SIF program dietitian at 204-474-2387.
- The SIF program dietitian will determine the eligibility of the infant and communicate acceptance to the program to the parents/care-givers and the referral source

## **7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES**

The SIF dietitian will:

- Review the referral form for eligibility
- Contact the infant's parent/caregiver to assess eligibility and enroll into the program
- Communicate acceptance to the referring source
- Assess funding options and arrange provision
- Schedule appointments with the parents/care-givers at pre-determined intervals
  - i. Approximately 5-6 months for introduction of solids
  - ii. By 10-11 months to begin transition off formula
- Communicate with other care providers as necessary
- Provide nutrition education and support to parent/caregiver as needed including breastfed infants with cow's milk protein allergy
- Transition off of specialty formula by one year of age and discontinue formula provision
- Under special circumstances the SIF program dietitian may recommend use of formula past one year of age. The SIF program may only provide the formula if approval for extension has been granted.

## **8.0 CONTACTS**

**Location: Rehabilitation Centre for Children, SSCY Centre, 1155 Notre Dame Ave, Winnipeg MB**

<b>Administrative Support</b>	<b>204-258-6564</b>
<b>Fax #</b>	<b>204-474-2387</b>
<b>SIF Dietitian</b>	<b>204-258-6554 or 204-258-6555</b>
<b>Dietitian Manager</b>	<b>204-471-3138</b>