



Formula Transition - 19 to 20 kcals Starts October 1, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions | Staff Use Only



What is changing?

Similac Sensitive, Similac Total Comfort, and Similac For Spit-Up will be changing from 19 kcals per ounce to 20 kcals per ounce. The change in calories makes these formulas standard contract formulas. Similac Sensitive (12 oz powder and 32 oz ready-to-feed products) and Similac Total Comfort will transition in October. Similac For Spit-Up is expected to transition in December. For the three formulas named above, the can sizes will be increasing slightly (all three powdered cans were previously 12 oz). However, the reconstituted ounces and UPCs are not changing. The appearance of the cans will be very similar and will feature banners to highlight, "no palm/palm olein oil and no artificial growth hormones."

How will this change how staff issue these formulas?

Since the UPCs and reconstituted ounces are not changing, the subcategory numbers these products are issued under will not change. Food package assignments will not need to change for clients receiving these formulas. The subcategories will be renamed slightly for clarity, as shown below:

Starting October 1	
Current name in HANDS	New name in HANDS
21/034 - SIMILAC SENSITIVE 12 OZ	21/034 - SIMILAC SENS 12 OR12.5OZ
21/088 - TOTAL COMF 12OZ	21/088 - TOTAL COMF 12 OR 12.6OZ

Expected December 1	
Current name in HANDS	New name in HANDS
21/085 - SIMILAC SPIT UP 12 OZ EA	21/085 - SIM SPIT UP 12 OR 12.5OZ

Will clients need a Formula and Food Request Form (FFR) to receive Similac Sensitive, Similac Total Comfort, and Similac For Spit-Up?

Generally these formulas will no longer need medical documentation for issuance. However, if a client already has completed medical documentation on file for any type of formula, other than a standard contract formula (i.e., Similac Advance, Similac Pro Advance (8 oz RTF only), Similac Sensitive, Similac Pro Sensitive (8 oz RTF only), and Similac Total Comfort), new medical documentation will need to be obtained. Similac For Spit-Up will become a standard contract formula once the 20 kcal product is released. For issuance of formula for premature, low birth weight and immunocompromised infants, please refer to [Chapter 4](#).

Formula approvals in HANDS will not be turned on for Similac Sensitive, Similac Total Comfort, and Similac For Spit-Up.

Note: Standard contract formulas do not require a diagnosis for issuance. [Chapter 4](#) and the [FFR form](#) will be updated to reflect changes.

What do clients need to know to redeem their benefits?

Clients should know that they may see the old can, new can, or both at their preferred WIC vendor. Some stores may get the new product faster than others. Clients can redeem their benefits for either the 19 kcal or 20 kcal version. If Authorized Representatives have concerns about the change in calorie concentration of the formula they are feeding their infant, please encourage them to follow up with their medical providers.