

Office of the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer
4th Floor -300 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 3M9

September 8, 2022

Dear Health Care Provider:

Re: Infant Formula Shortage

This is an update to the memo sent out on July 21, 2022 regarding the shortage of specialized infant formula.

While the Abbott Nutrition Facility reportedly reopened on July 1, 2022 and are prioritizing production of specialized formula, the plant will likely not achieve full production capacity until the end of this year.

It is expected that the supply of extensively hydrolyzed and amino-acid based formula will continue to meet demand until through October and November, respectively. The situation remains closely monitored by the Bureau of Nutritional Sciences, Health Canada.

The Bureau of Nutritional Sciences, Health Canada, has shared the following updates:

Pharmacy signage

- Health Canada has prepared a new resource for pharmacists. This list of available products during the hypoallergenic infant formula can be printed and used as signage on pharmacy shelves.
- This information may also be useful for healthcare providers to help parents/caregivers navigate the shortage.
- Please see the English/French signage attached.

Decision tree

- Health Canada has prepared a revised version of the *Decision tree for the shortage of hypoallergenic formulas* that includes all hypoallergenic infant formulas imported under the interim policy.
- This tool offers specific guidance to health care providers when counseling families, discussing safe alternatives (particularly if a specific product is not available for ordering), and conserving limited national supplies of specialized formulas.
- Please see the English/French decision tree attached.

Healthcare providers with questions can contact Population.PublicHealth@gov.mb.ca for more information.

We will continue to monitor this situation and will update Healthy Parenting Winnipeg as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B. Roussin', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Brent Roussin, MD, JD, MPH, FRCPC
Chief Provincial Public Health Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Atwal', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Jazz Atwal, MD, MPH, FRCPC
Deputy Chief Provincial Public Health
Officer