

These are Frequently Asked Questions from WIC participants regarding Abbott Formula:

## Why were Similac products recalled?

Abbott, the makers of Similac products, initiated a voluntary recall because of four consumer complaints related to Cronobacter in infants who had consumed products manufactured in their Sturgis, Michigan facility.

## What is Cronobacter?

Cronobacter is a germ that can live in very dry places. Cronobacter has been found in dry foods, like powdered infant formula, powdered milk, herbal teas, and starches. It has also been found in sewer water.

## Are Similac products safe for my infant?

Abbott has worked with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to create many quality checks to make sure your baby is safe using Similac and Elecare products.

Abbott tests their products extensively before and after the products leave their facility. Abbott guarantees product that does not meet their quality and safety standards will never be released. Parents and caregivers can be confident that the formula produced by Abbott in Michigan and at all their facilities is high-quality, safe, and meets regulatory requirements for infant formula testing.

## What if my baby does not like or tolerate Similac products?

After February 28, 2023, you will be required to use Abbott (Similac) products again due to Federal requirements.

If your baby is experiencing symptoms (excessive spitting up, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, hives, etc.) contact your healthcare provider to determine which formula is best for your baby. A valid WIC-38 with a qualifying medical condition is needed before any Louisiana WIC approved exempt (special) formula can be issued.

## Is there enough Similac products on store shelves?

Most Similac products are available at WIC approved vendors.

There are some reports of supply chain issues, and so some products will be temporarily unavailable. If this occurs, please try another WIC approved vendor. If you are unable to locate your prescribed formula, please contact your WIC clinic for assistance.

## Similac Spit-Up Powder has been discontinued. What are my options?

Participants previously receiving Similac Spit-Up powder can be issued Enfamil AR with a valid WIC-48.

Enfamil AR is a non-contract formula and WIC requires a medical prescription (WIC-48) before we can issue a non-contract formula to WIC participants. Your child's medical provider will need to complete a WIC-48 before we can issue Enfamil AR.

If you have additional questions, please call your WIC clinic, or visit [louisianawic.org](https://louisianawic.org) to find a WIC clinic near you. Additional resources regarding the Abbott Formula Recall can also be found on our website.

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