

9-19-09

FROM: HARIB RATHLE, MD  
317 S. 22nd AV  
YUMA, AZ 85364

TO: DIRECTOR, Supplemental Food Programs Division  
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE, USDA  
3101 PARK CENTER DRIVE, ROOM 520  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, 22302

RE: NEW FORMS FOR THE WIC PROGRAM

Sir,

I am a pediatrician in Arizona. I recently got from the local WIC office three stacks of forms that I am supposed to fill every time a child's formula needs to be changed, an ex-premature needs a special formula, or an older child needs soy milk.

The reasoning behind the new forms may be well intentioned, but it is a nightmare to fill them. As it is, I get home every day at 8 to 10 pm. I don't have the time to go through one page of check marks and spaces to fill, in order to request that a child be changed from one formula to another. For decades,

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pediatricians have written a brief note to WIC on a prescription, and that works well for everyone. The new forms should be scrapped. They are a frustrating waste of time and they won't make the system work any better.

Thanks,

Habib Rathle, MD

