PRESS RELEASE



Date: Friday, February 18, 2022

For more information, please contact: Kimberly Diaz, External Communications Specialist Phone: (509) 314-1013 <u>media@yvfwc.org</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FDA Recall on Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare Powder Infant Formula

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic WIC and State WIC Staff give recommendations for the recall

YAKIMA – The FDA and the CDC announced on February 18, 2022, the recall of Similac Powder Infant Formula due to the investigation of cronobacter and salmonella complaints. Similac is a widely used formula and is issued greatly by WIC.

The Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic WIC and state WIC staff give these general recommendations as more information arrives.

If you have not yet purchased formula:

- To verify that the formula is safe, check the lot number at: <u>https://www.similacrecall.com/us/en/product-lookup.html</u>. If you can only find formula that is a part of the recall, please wait until the recall is over.
- If you find formula that is not a part of the recall, go ahead and purchase that formula.
- Visit Enfamil.com and by registering your infant you may be able to receive coupons or samples in the mail.
- Use food stamps, TANF, or other means to purchase enough formula to get through the recall.
- Contact your local food bank to see if they have formula on hand that can be issued.

If you have purchased recalled formula:

- Fill out the recall form on Similacrecall.com. You may also return a WIC-issued formula to a WIC clinic location near you.
- Try to return the recalled formula to the store. The store may exchange the formula for a formula that is not recalled, including some Similac Ready-to Feed formulas.
- If you cannot return the formula to the store, then WIC can reissue the formula on your WIC card to be used once the recall is over. WIC may also exchange benefits for some Similac powdered formulas for ready-to-feed. The formula amount will be prorated based on their issuance date and will expire when it is due for issuance once again, which means that not all cans of formula will be replaced.

We are with our families in feeling the stress of this recall. As soon as we know more about the recall and our next steps, we will make an effort to notify our patients and the public. For more information on the recall, visit: <u>https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/fda-investigation-cronobacter-and-salmonella-complaints-powdered-infant-formula-february-2022</u>

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is one of the Pacific Northwest's largest community health centers, providing medical, dental, behavioral health and social services to more than 171,000 people a year. With more than 60 unique service locations across Oregon (Clatsop, Marion, Multnomah, Umatilla, and Yamhill counties) and Washington (Benton, Franklin, Spokane, Whitman, Walla Walla, and Yakima counties), we deliver affordable, comprehensive primary care for underserved populations in our communities. We also extend our network of care through our mobile health units and virtual visit technology, bringing essential care to our more remote patients. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic employs over 1,600 staff in addition to our medical and dental residents, administrative fellows, students, and volunteers. All of whom are dedicated to bringing quality care to tose in our communities who need it most. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by HRSA, The Joint Commission, and The National Committee for Quality Assurance for our accomplishments in community health care. For more information, please visit yvfwc.com/press.