

National WIC Association

2016 Washington
Leadership Conference

March 1, 2016

The National Academies
of Sciences, Engineering,
and Medicine Review of
the WIC Food Packages,
and the Federal
Rulemaking Process for
the WIC Food Packages



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Legislative Requirement

- The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 amended the Child Nutrition Act
 - Requires a Food Package Review every 10 years
 - Last one completed in 2006
 - New review published 2017, based on 2015-2020 DGAs

IOM's Task

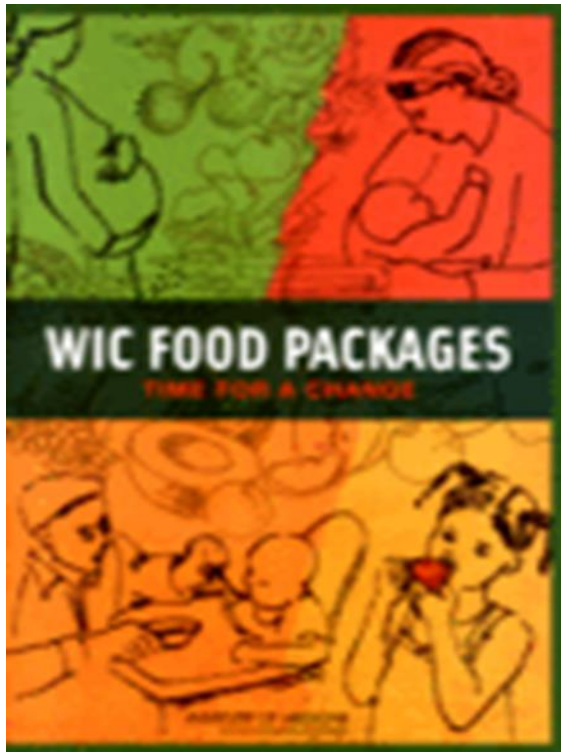
Conduct a comprehensive scientific review updating and expanding on last review:

- Review and assess WIC population's nutritional status and needs;
- Provide specific recommendations based the preponderance of current scientific evidence; and
- Ensure WIC food package recommendations:
 - consistent with Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA)
 - address WIC population's diverse the health and cultural needs
 - operate efficiently and effectively across the Nation

FNS Requires:

- Areas of expertise for panel, e.g. nutrition, pediatrics, maternal health, economics, WIC program
- Timeline
- Research Questions – A series of questions related to how the food packages support and contribute to the four program pillars: Breastfeeding, Nutrition Education, Supplemental Foods, and Health Referrals
- Meeting guidelines – panel and public comments

Rulemaking Process to Revise WIC Food Packages 2006-2014



Federal Register

Monday,
August 7, 2006

Part II

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Food and Nutrition Service

7 CFR Part 246
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
for Women, Infants and Children (WIC):
Revisions in the WIC Food Packages;
Proposed Rule



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Proposed Rule 2006

- Largely reflected recommendations made by the IOM
- Over 46,000 comments received.
- In general, proposed provisions garnered broad support from public commenters.



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Interim Rule 2007

- Provisions based on public comment on proposed rule and further review and determination by FNS.
- An **interim** rule allowed USDA to obtain feedback on the changes while allowing implementation to move forward.



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Interim Rule 2007

First Comprehensive Revision in 3 Decades



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Interim Rule 2007

- All WIC participants began receiving new and improved food packages by October 1, 2009.
- Comment period ended 2/2010.
 - Approximately 7,700 comments received



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Final Rule March 4, 2014

- Modifications reflect the experiences of State agencies in implementing the interim rule
 - while continuing to fulfill the intent of the recommendations of the IOM that serve as the basis for the WIC food package changes.



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