

# PARENT GUIDE: Medi-Cal Coverage of Therapeutic Formula

Gold Coast Health Plan (Medi-Cal) is the provider for therapeutic formulas  
*NOT* the WIC Program.

WIC is a nutrition education and supplemental food program. We do not routinely provide therapeutic formulas for medical conditions. WIC may provide a small amount of formula (e.g. 2 week supply) until Gold Coast Health Plan (Medi-Cal) coverage begins.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

- STEP 1.** Have your physician submit a request for authorization to Gold Coast Health Plan.
  - Have your physician document on the WIC Pediatric Referral Form that he/she has contacted Gold Coast Health Plan.

**STEP 2.** Have your physician document on the WIC MD Referral form the need for your infant or child to receive therapeutic formula and bring that form to your next WIC appointment. If you don't have that form, they can write the necessary information on letterhead or a prescription pad. All of the following must be documented:

- Patient's name
- Diagnosis
- Name of formula
- Duration
- Amount per day
- Submitted a request for authorization to Gold Coast Health Plan.
- Date and signature of the prescribing **physician**

**STEP 3.** Contact Veronica Esparza at Gold Coast Health Plan (805-981-5287) or member services 1-(888) 301-1228 one week after you make the request to your physician to verify that the process for your infant/child's formula has begun.

**NOTE:** If it hasn't begun go back to step 1.

**STEP 4.** At your next WIC appointment let your WIC Nutritionist know if you are now receiving your Infant or Child's formula at home.

**NOTE:** If for some reason the formula has been denied by Medi-Cal you **must** bring a denial letter to your next WIC appointment. Denials will be investigated further.

