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## Shortage of Specialty Infant Formula: Update #1: Decision Making Tree to Assist Health Care Providers

**Attention:** Hospitals, Family Health Teams, Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians, Pharmacies, Beausoleil First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, Rama First Nation, Wahta First Nation, Licensed Child Care Providers, Ontario Health Central Region

**Date:** June 16, 2022

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Further to the [Health Alert](#) released on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 entitled **Shortage of Hypoallergenic Infant Formula**, Health Canada has released more information about the shortage of some infant formulas in Canada, [a fact sheet for families](#), as well as a decision making tree to assist health care providers in directing clients affected by this shortage.

In addition to hypoallergenic infant formulas, **amino acid based infant formulas** are now also in shortage in Canada. Health Canada is coordinating the response to the shortage nationally by expediting the importation of these specialty formulas. Once received, pharmacies will distribute the formula.

Health Canada developed a clinical decision tree called “Use of Specialized Infant Formula during a Shortage” ([English/Français](#)) to assist Health Care Providers with supporting families who need to use specialized formulas. This tool offers specific guidance to health care providers when counseling families, discussing safe alternatives, and conserving limited national supplies of specialized formulas.

This is an evolving situation and as more information becomes available it will be shared on the [Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit](#) (SMDHU) website.

