

Texas WIC Breast Pump Program

what Hospitals
need to know



Who is eligible for a breast pump?

- Only women enrolled in WIC can receive a breast pump from WIC. If you are unsure if a woman will qualify, contact your local WIC agency.
- Women in Medicaid who want to breastfeed their high-risk newborns will qualify for WIC if they are not already enrolled.

What types of breast pumps are available?

- **Hospital grade pumps** are loaned to WIC moms that need to establish their milk supply when separated from their infant.
- **Personal use electric breast pumps** are given to WIC moms who need help in maintaining an already well-established milk supply when returning to work or school.
- **Manual breast pumps** are given to WIC moms who need to collect milk for infrequent separation from their babies or to help resolve short-term breastfeeding concerns.

Is every WIC mom eligible for a breast pump?

- All **WIC moms** who are separated from a **hospitalized infant** or had a **premature infant** are eligible to be loaned a pump.
- Other WIC moms may be issued a pump based on the need of the breastfeeding mom, which is determined by WIC at her visit.
- Some women benefit significantly from the use of a breast pump, while many others do not need breast pumps to initiate and continue breastfeeding.

How long will the mom have to wait to get a pump?

- Contact a local WIC office (or have the mom call) as soon as you know a WIC eligible mom will need a pump. WIC clinics are very busy and work by appointment.
- While breastfeeding moms with premature or sick babies are of highest priority, it may take a few days before a mom can be scheduled to pick up and receive instruction on the use of a pump.
- A mom who is not currently on WIC, must be certified eligible before receiving a pump. This may take additional time.

How to help make sure eligible moms don't have to wait for a pump:

- Contact WIC as soon as you know a WIC mom will need a pump.

How do I contact WIC?

For information on the closest WIC office or how to apply for WIC, call (toll free): 1 (800) 942-3678
Texas Lactation Support Hotline (toll free):
1 (800) 514-MOMS (6667)

Local WIC offices: _____

Texas WIC has breast pumps
available for WIC moms
who qualify.

