

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) Multivitamin Distribution Program

1. When can we order?

Before December 1st, complete and fax in the Multivitamin Participation Request Form. You will automatically be shipped a supply of multivitamins that is based on the number of female patients of childbearing potential your agency saw last year.

2. How many bottles will we get?

A formula is being used based on average usage in the program in the Western part of the state. The state has access to the number of unduplicated patients you saw last year and will use that number to determine how many bottles you will receive. If you run out, contact your Regional Folic Acid Coordinator to get more until the supply is exhausted. Be ready to report information about the number of women served and bottles distributed to date.

3. Once I order, how quickly will I receive?

You should receive a drop shipment from the manufacturer within a few weeks.

4. How do we reorder, do we have to wait a certain amount of time?

Reorder by contacting your Regional Folic Acid Coordinator. Re-ordering will be possible until the supply is exhausted.

5. May I give out more than one bottle at a time?

Yes, please distribute 2 bottles at a time to each woman who wants to participate in the program.

6. What do I give with the bottles of vitamins?

Each woman that receives vitamins should also receive a 30 second educational message regarding the importance of a daily vitamin in addition to a written educational flyer or brochure that is appropriate for her.

7. Can staff have a bottle of MV's?

As part of the required folic acid education training, health care providers can have a bottle of MV's. Studies have shown that health care providers that take a multivitamin are more likely to recommend one to their patients. Be sure to document the number of multivitamin bottles distributed and the number of women receiving the multivitamins for staff members, too.

8. Where can I distribute these vitamins?

All clinical settings such as Primary Care, Family Planning, STI, home visits, WIC, and health fairs as described below. You may also distribute from the Pharmacy or front desk if you wish.

9. May we distribute in group settings such as health fairs?

Distribution requires a brief face-to-face educational encounter. If you feel this can be accomplished in a group setting or health fair, then YES, you may distribute vitamins to low income women of child-bearing potential in group settings. Be sure to document the number of multivitamin bottles distributed and the number of women receiving the multivitamins.

10. What if income eligibility is unknown?

The program stipulates that low-income women will be served. In cases where the income eligibility of a woman is unknown, the woman can attest to her low income status. Agency employees do not have to do any type of eligibility assessment of the patient. The sample Issuance Log captures this information.

11. Do we need to use the Issuance Log to track multivitamin distribution?

No, but documentation of the bottles distributed and patients served as a part of this program is required.

12. Do we need a "Standing Order" to distribute?

No, vitamins are considered nutraceuticals not medication so do not require an order or prescription.