



MEMORANDUM

All LA Memo 13-09

DATE: March 14, 2013 Action:  Information:   
TO: X-LA Coordinators Policy:   
X- LA Satellite Clinics  
FROM: Kathleen Wayne, RD, MS, LD *KW*  
FNP Program Director  
SUBJECT: Nutrition Risk Revision 11

The State of Alaska WIC Program will implement Nutrition Risk Revision 11, consisting of one new and seven revised allowable nutrition risk criteria, on July 1, 2013.

**Background:**

The Risk Identification and Selection Collaborative reviews and develops existing and new criteria which are then submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service for final approval. Existing criteria are reviewed and revised on a cyclical basis (approximately every 5 years), using a literature review process, to update the criteria, information and references. In addition, criteria and revised and/ or developed as a result of legislative changes, requests, or when recommendations, guidelines, growth charts, etc are issued or updated from professional entities (e.g. American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)) or sister Federal Agencies (e.g. Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC)) that impact WIC nutrition risk assessment.

In 2010, CDC issued: *Use of World Health Organization and the CDC Growth Charts for Children Aged 0-59 Months in the United States* (MMWR 2010; 59; No. RR-9). To summarize, the CDC recommends the use of the World Health Organization (WHO) growth standards for infants and children birth to age 24 months. In addition, the National Center for Health Statistics published: *Changes in the Terminology for Childhood Overweight and Obesity* (National Health Statistic Reports; No. 25; 2010). As the title implies, the terminology to categorize a child's weight status has changed. Both of these publications impacted the definition of the titles of various infant and child anthropometric risk criteria thereby requiring revisions as described below and the addition of new criterion.

**List and Description of Revised Criteria:**

- 103 Underweight or at Risk of Underweight (revised criterion): Previously titled “Underweight or at risk of becoming underweight”. The word *becoming* is deleted to be consistent with the CDC terminology. The cut-off for birth to 2 years is revised to incorporate the new CDC Birth to 24 months growth charts (based on the WHO growth standards). The *Justification* section is revised to explain the new cut-off and the *References* section is expanded to include the WHO and the CDC references pertaining to the recommendation to adopt the WHO growth standards.
- 113 Obese (Children 2-5 years) (revised criterion): Previously titled, “Overweight (Children 2-5 years)”. The terminology is changed from *overweight* to *obese*, based on the recommendations from the American Medical Association (AMA) and the CDC. The cut-off has not been revised. The *Justification* section is revised to explain the change in terminology and the *References* section is expanded to include the AMA and CDC references recommending the change.
- 114 Overweight or At Risk of Overweight (revised criterion): Previously titled “At risk of becoming overweight”. The word *becoming* is deleted to be consistent with the CDC terminology. The terminology is changed from *at risk for overweight* to *overweight*, based on the recommendations from the ADA and CDC. The cut-offs have not been revised. This risk includes parental obesity as an indicator of at risk for overweight, thus it is still included in the title. The *Justification* section is revised to explain the changes and the *References* section is expanded to include the AMA and CDC references recommending the change in terminology.
- 115 High Weight for Length (Infants and Children < 24 months of age) (new criterion): This is added to the risk of allowable criteria based on a recommendation from the CDC. Previously there was no criterion for this age group to classify infant or child with excessive weight for length. The cut-off criterion incorporates the new CDC Birth to 24 Months growth charts (based on the WHO growth standards).
- 121 Short Stature or At Risk of Short Stature (revised criterion): The cut-off for birth to 2 years is revised to incorporate the new CDC Birth to 24 months growth charts (based on the WHO standards). The *Justification* section is revised to explain the new cut-off and the *References* section is expanded to include the WHO and the CDC references pertaining to the recommendation to adopt the WHO growth standards.
- 152 Low Head Circumference (revised criterion): The cut off for birth to 2 years is revised to incorporate the new CDC Birth to 24 month growth charts (based on the WHO growth charts (based on the WHO growth standards). The age range for the criterion has been expanded to the birth to 2 years (previously it only applied to infants) based on the recommendation for head circumference monitoring in *Bright Futures: Guidelines for health supervision of infants, children and adolescents* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition, AAP, 2008). The *Justification* section is revised to explain the new cut-off and the recommendation to adopt the WHO growth standards.
- 344 Thyroid Disorders (revised criterion): The *Definition, Justification, References* and *Clarification* sections are greatly expanded to provide more information about thyroid disorders.
- 351 Inborn Errors of Metabolism (revised criterion): The *Definition, Justification and References, Clarification* sections are greatly expanded to provide more information about inborn errors of metabolism.