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To: [HSS DPA WIC Coordinators](#); [Goode, James B \(HSS\)](#); [O'Gara, Kathy \(HSS Sponsored\)](#); [Bennis, Don](#)
Cc: [HSS DPA WIC Anchorage](#); [HSS DPA WIC Juneau](#); [Butcher, Clay \(HSS\)](#); ["Danielle Rybicki" \(afdr@uaa.alaska.edu\)](#); [Olejasz, Aimee M \(HSS\)](#)
Subject: WIC Update October 23
Date: Friday, October 23, 2015 4:08:05 PM
Attachments: [The sticky topic of Halloween Candy Originally Published in October 2005....docx](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Hi Everyone,

We're very excited that the SPIRIT batch process is being tested and getting closer to being released. Thanks to everyone that helped make this SPIRIT system change a reality.

Take care,
Kathleen

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*** NEW VERSION OF SPIRIT ***

Monday, October 26th: Roll out of SPIRIT version 2.22.03. This quick update is required to correct the 2 Y/O Whole Milk Food Prescription issue.

SPIRIT will automatically update when you log in on or after this date, but we ask that you also right click on the "blue W" and select "Update Local Reference Data" to ensure the update takes place.

To expedite the update process, you may want to stagger the upgrading of your computers by prioritizing which computers need to be updated and put into use first.

*** SPIRIT February Issuance Fix/Issue ***

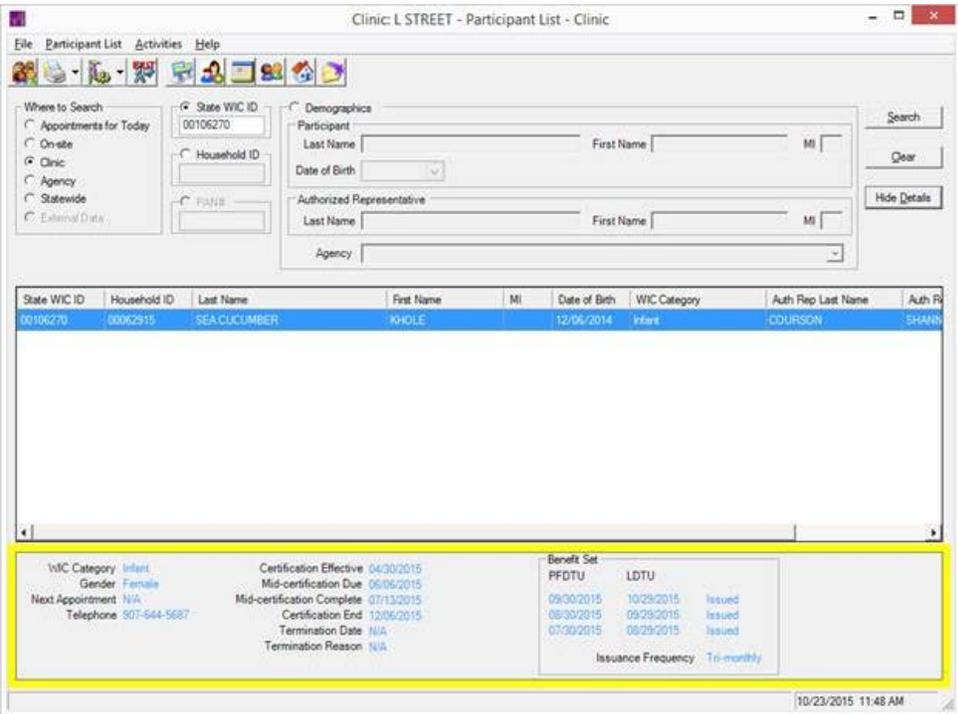
Changes were implemented in SPIRIT during the last release to fix the "February Issuance Problems". One of the fundamental concepts of the February Fix was to modify SPIRIT so that it would no longer print benefits that start on days that not all months have (specifically, 29, 30, 31).

In SPIRIT terms, the release changed things so there would no longer be benefits with PFDTUs (Printed First Date To Use) greater than the 28th.

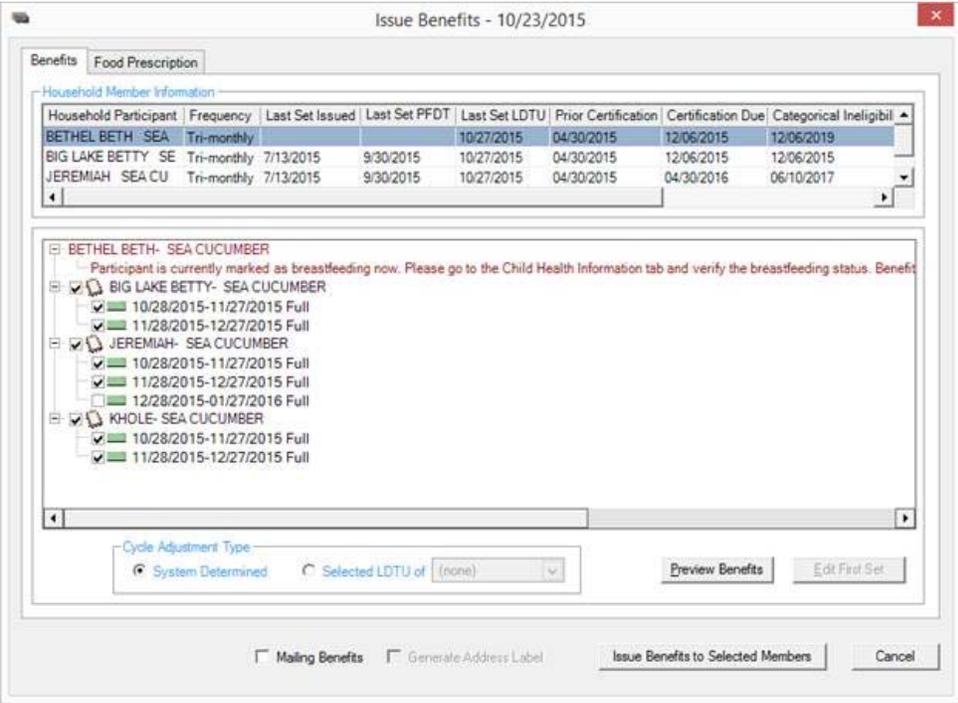
In addition to the change in software, at the time the release was installed, a query was run on the Alaska Database that changed the issuance data for participants with a PFDTU > 28 (the "bad date range" noted in the previous paragraph). Let's call that "the query". The query changed the PFDTU to the 28th only for those participants.

The issuance data change made by "the query" becomes permanent when benefits are issued, the participant will now be on a new benefit cycle with the PFDTU less than the 29th. But if you cancel out of the "issue benefits" screen before you print benefits, the data changes made by "the query" will be lost.

Let's look at the example below. If nothing is done to this participant's record, the system will issue benefits that start on the 30th.



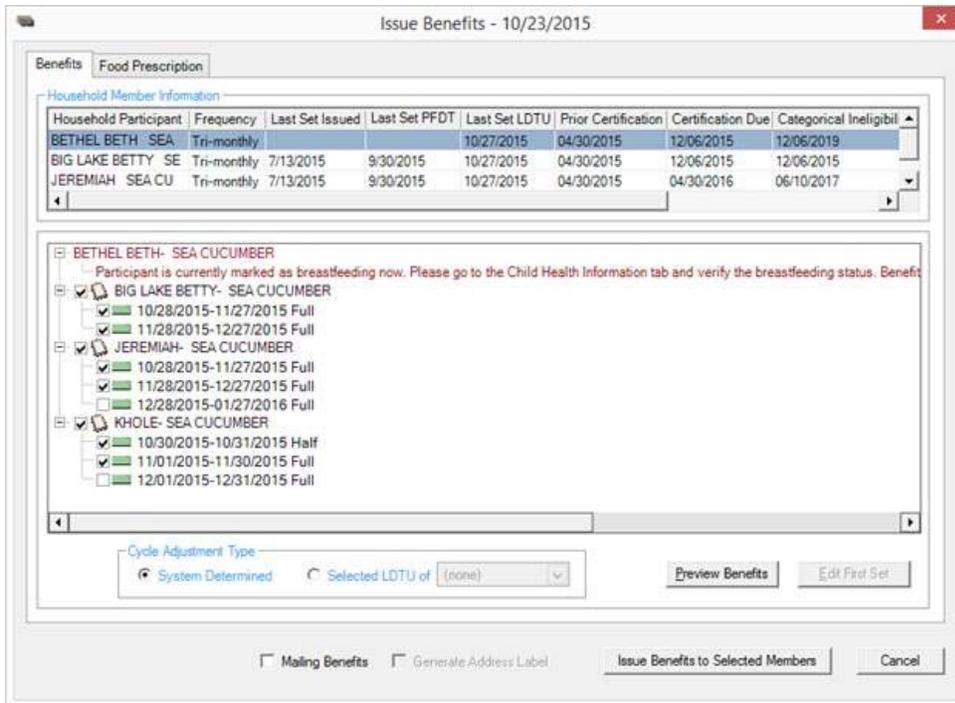
But not every month has 30 days, so data was temporarily modified in the system to cause the next set of benefits for this person to have a PFDTU of the 28th as shown below.



This results in a one (to 3) day overlap of benefits. **This is by design.** If you press "Cancel" in the benefit issuance screen, the temporary change that was made to the database will be lost and the next time you go to issue benefits, you may see several problems:

- the household members may be on different cycles
- PFDTUs on days that not all months have
- 1- or 2-day benefits
- Overlapping or missing benefit time periods.

Below is a screenshot of the benefits that are proposed if you "Cancel" out of the benefit issuance screen and attempt to reissue.



This is only an issue for participants whose Last Set PFDT is on a day not present in all months.

Be careful to verify Date BF Began and FP III Verified date before you attempt to issue benefits.

If you preview benefits you must print them and have another staff member, review them and hand them off to the client (separation of duties). This should be the procedure until this issue is resolved in SPIRIT at a later date.

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FOR AGENCIES THAT HAVE MOV CLIENTS

We are asking that you help us determine whether MOV clients would prefer salmon over dried eggs in their MOV packages. Please ask your MOV clients the following question from SPIRIT: "Would you prefer salmon instead of dried eggs?" You can self-select the answer (Yes/No) in SPIRIT on behalf of the client.

See screen below:

PF - NIKISKI WALLEYE - 3 Years 6 Months 7 Days - WIC ID: 00086085 - HH ID: 00053621

File Participant Activities Certification Benefit Management Document Imaging Help

Certification History

Health Information Nutrition Education Referrals Income History Benefits History Appointments

Demographics Immunization HT/WT/Blood Food Prescription Risk Factors Nutrition Assessment

Local Use Questions

Currently Unused

State Use Questions

MOV- Would you prefer salmon instead of dried eggs?

Yes

Yes

No

Currently Unused

Currently Unused

Currently Unused

Currently Unused

Currently Unused

Currently Unused

How Heard about WIC Other

Hardship

Hardships recorded in Notes

Disability

Insurance Type

Type of Medical Home

Medical Home

Medical Clinic

Medical Provider Name Mail Benefits

Duplicate Participants

State WIC ID	Name	User

View

10/21/2015 9:55 AM

We will run this question until we have a sizable number of respondents and can draw some conclusions. The question in SPIRIT will be available next week. Please ask when you have the client on the phone for certifications, recertification, or MCAs. Thank you! Questions? Contact Dana Kent at dana.kent@alaska.gov

Medicaid Outreach List

The most recent Medicaid Outreach list is now available on the SPIRIT Utilities site. Questions? Contact Dana Kent at dana.kent@alaska.gov

For Mailed Benefit Clients

The SPIRIT Utilities Batch Issuance is now updated so that all children over age 1 who are still breastfeeding will now have their breastfeeding verified date set.

Please contact the SPIRIT Help desk if you have questions at wicspirithelpdesk@alaska.gov or 334-4900.

Nice To Know:

1. **The sticky topic of Halloween Candy** *Originally Published in October 2005*
2. These are some good information on baby food pouches (written by an RD), and delayed introduction of "lumpy" foods. The study is older, but interesting information.

[The Downsides of Baby Food Pouches \(And How to Use Them Right\)](#)

The Downsides of Baby Food Pouches (And How to Use Them Right)

Parents often rely too much on baby food in pouches. Here's how to use pouches right.

[View on www.parents.com](http://www.parents.com)

Preview by Yahoo

[Delayed introduction of lumpy foods to children during the complementary feeding period affects child's food acceptance and feeding at 7 years of age. - PubMed - NCBI](#)



Delayed introduction of lumpy foods to children during t...

Matern Child Nutr. 2009 Jan;5(1):75-85. doi: 10.1111/j.1740-8709.2008.00153.x. Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't

[View on www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

Preview by Yahoo

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I am usually in the office on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (although many other days)