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| Purpose | Provide guidance for when monthly check issuance may be used for WIC clients. |
| Definition of Monthly Check Issuance | Monthly check issuance requires clients to come into clinic each month for check issuance. Checks are valid for 30 days from the first date listed on the check. The client's next appointment to pick up checks is scheduled 30 days later. |
| Retroactive Benefits | The issuance of retroactive benefits is prohibited. The definition of retroactive benefits is providing WIC benefits in a subsequent month, which are intended for a previous month. The WIC food package is designed to be consumed during specified periods when participants are undergoing critical growth and development. Providing retroactive benefits is not an effective use of program benefits. |
| Clients Who Must Receive Monthly Checks | <p>The following clients should be scheduled for check pick-up on a monthly basis. Many of these clients need enhanced opportunities for nutrition and/or health education, referrals or are in an unstable living situation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breastfeeding women up to 4 months postpartum or until lactation is well established.• Breastfeeding infants up to 4 months of age or until nursing patterns are well established.• Homeless clients, until their situation becomes stable.• Those clients the CPA identifies who may need additional nutrition/health education contacts that cannot be accommodated during a bimonthly check issuance schedule.• Foster children (until they have established a permanent home)• Children involved with custody changes (until they have established a permanent home)• Pregnant women Exception: Pregnant women may receive checks on a bi-monthly basis only if their complex educational needs are met. |