



To Whom It May Concern,

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*Amanda LeFew
Joy Meyer*

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David R. Naimi, DO
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Dietitians:

*April Clark, RD/LD
Bailey Koch, RD, CSP, LD
Tara McCarthy, MS, RD, LDN*

The FPIES Foundation

**PO BOX 304
Stewartville, MN 55976**

www.thefpiesfoundation.org
contact@thefpiesfoundation.org

This letter is written to provide information regarding Food Protein Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome (FPIES) in support of children living with FPIES.

Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome (F-PIES) is a type of food allergy affecting the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Classic symptoms of FPIES include profuse vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. These symptoms can lead to severe lethargy, change in body temperature and blood pressure. Unlike typical food allergies, symptoms may not be immediate and do not show up on standard allergy tests. Furthermore, a negative allergy evaluation may delay the diagnosis and take the focus off the causative food. Nonetheless, FPIES can present with severe symptoms following ingestion of a food trigger.

Children diagnosed with FPIES may have unique nutritional needs. Infants allergic to cow's milk and/or soy, and who cannot tolerate standard infant formulations, depend on medical formulas to provide essential nutrition in infancy. After 1 year of age, children living with FPIES may continue being prescribed these medical formulas to provide the nutrition specially designed to meet their growing dietary needs. Children with multiple protein allergies, such as FPIES are at risk of developing nutritional deficiencies without this medical formula.

As a prescribed management of this allergy, these medical formulas may be the main or only source of nutrition for an undetermined amount of time and is a critical component of the treatment of this allergy. Additionally, medical formulas are very costly and often not covered by insurance. Children unable to consume enough medical formula to meet the nutritional requirements for proper growth and development are at risk for failure to thrive, increased doctor visits, hospitalizations and may be considered for alternative feeding methods such as insertion of a feeding tube.

These medical formulas are medically necessary and critical to the treatment plan of severely allergic infants and children. The cost of medical formula for the families of these children is cost prohibitive when not covered by insurance. Your approval of this request for assistance would have a significantly positive impact for the health of the child and management of this allergy.

Sincerely,
Joy Meyer
Co-Director
The FPIES Foundation
j.meyer@thefpiesfoundation.org