

8. Breast Pumps

Distribution of breast pumps may be more difficult with clinic closures. Encourage mothers to put their babies to the breast if desired and possible. Additionally, most WIC mothers can receive personal breast pumps through their Medicaid MDHHS fee-for service or HMO health plans. Many of the health plans have at least one provider that will send pumps through the mail. If participants have difficulty receiving pumps from Medicaid, they should call the Beneficiary Hotline at (800) 642-3195.

If staff have access to the clinic building, breast pumps and breastfeeding supplies can be distributed:

- At the clinic or at a separate designated location.
 - Designate one individual at the local agency to interact with the client using social distancing, PPE, and/or following other local health department instructions when assisting clients face-to-face. To keep social distancing measures, staff could provide equipment through a drive-through option. Consider designating one day/week to provide this service.
- Through the mail.
 - This is a better option for pads and kits as opposed to pumps. Any costs incurred will be the local agency's responsibility.

If staff do not have access to clinic building:

One staff person can be assigned to manage breast feeding equipment. Pumps and supplies can be stored at that individual's home. Be sure equipment is stored in a clean, secure location.

Items to bring home:

- Breast pumps – manual and personal
- Pump kits
- Pump accessories
- Breast Pump Release Agreement Forms
- Education materials, such as breast milk storage card. Staff may want to refer the client to our MDHHS WIC website section for resources on [milk expression](#).

Multi-User Pump Guidance

For the safety of staff and clients, the use of multi-user pumps for clients should be considered as a last resort. If a client is requesting a multi-user breast pump please complete a breastfeeding assessment to determine if a multi-user pump will offer significant benefits vs. the use of a personal use pump. Staff should have a discussion with the local agency Breastfeeding Coordinator or IBCLC to ensure that issuance of a multi-user pump is in the best interest of the client and WIC staff.

Pump Distribution:

What multi-user pumps should you distribute?

- First choice: A brand new pump that is still in the box.
- Second choice: A pump that hasn't been in use since before January 2020.

- Third (last) choice: A recently returned pump. If you are issuing a pump that was returned in the last month or two, please make sure that specific pump has been back in the clinic at least 72 hours, thoroughly cleaned and sanitized prior to re-issuing it.

The [Multi-User Breast Pump Loan and Release Agreement](#) can be read to the client, and verbal consent obtained and documented by staff initial on the agreement. A paper copy should be provided to the client. Clients do not need to sign the agreement until their next in-office appointment. The policy requirement of scanning paper agreements within 10 days has been extended to May 31, 2020.

Pump Returns:

Do not request clients return multi-user pumps during the Stay-At-Home order. If a client insists on returning a pump, it is recommended that pumps are dropped off at the clinic. It is strongly discouraged that pumps are returned to the homes of WIC staff working remotely.

Pump Cleaning:

The following are detailed instructions on pump cleaning during COVID-19:

- Medela: <https://www.medela.com/breastfeeding/mums-journey/covid-19-information-concerning-breastfeeding>
- Ameda: <https://www.ameda.com/ameda-covid-19-response/>
- Hygeia has not provided cleaning recommendations with COVID-19. Use CDC breast pump cleaning [guidance](#).

Recommended cleaning products:

The [World Health Organization](#) recommendations include the use of:

- 70% ethanol to disinfect reusable dedicated equipment between uses
- Sodium hypochlorite at 0.5% (equivalent 5000ppm) for disinfection of frequently touched surfaces in homes or healthcare facilities

Products that meet the requirements listed above include Meliseptol Rapid, Hexaquart (B. Braun), Incidin Foam (Ecolab), Quick Clean Spray (Medela), [CaviWipes™](#), and [PDI Sani-Cloth AF3](#).

Personal Use Pump Guidance

Michigan WIC is waiving the eligibility requirements listed in MI-WIC Policy 4.06, Issuance of Personal Use Electric Breast Pumps. If it is determined that a mother needs a breast pump to protect her milk supply, a personal use electric pump may be issued.

The [Single-User Release Agreement](#) can be read to the client, and verbal consent obtained and documented by staff initial on the agreement. A paper copy should be provided to the client. Clients do not need to sign the agreement until their next in-office appointment. The policy requirement of scanning paper agreements within 10 days has been extended to May 31, 2020.

Client Follow-Up

Please make sure you are calling clients who are using multi-user pumps. These families most likely have high risk situations due to the fact they are using the pump and may need extra support.

Continue to have peer counselors call clients to address issues or concerns. If your peers are not available for follow-up, please contact Julie Lothamer at lothamerj@michigan.gov to utilize our breastfeeding community liaisons.