VENA BACKGROUND

• 2002 Institute of Medicine Report: *Dietary Risk Assessment in the WIC Program.*
• Opportunity to refine and improve entire WIC nutrition assessment process.
• VENA Guidance developed by joint FNS/NWA workgroup – issued in April 2006.
• Part of the larger *Revitalizing Quality Nutrition Services (RQNS)* in WIC initiative.
VENA BACKGROUND

• The goal of VENA: To expand the purpose of nutrition assessment from eligibility determination to improved & targeted nutrition services.

• VENA & WIC Nutrition Risk = comprehensive nutrition assessment & individualized nutrition services.
VENA IMPLEMENTATION

• VENA implementation envisioned as an on-going process to allow for continual improvement.
• FY 2007 - WIC State agency VENA implementation plan.
• FY 2010 - VENA implemented.
• FY 2014 – VENA II – Revitalizing VENA
VENA STAFF COMPETENCIES

• Principles of life-cycle nutrition
• Nutrition assessment process
• Anthropometric and hematological data collection techniques
• Communication
• Multicultural awareness
• Critical thinking
Art and Science of VENA

- The VENA competencies encompass the “Art and Science” of WIC nutrition Assessment.
- These skills are necessary to connect the nutrition assessment to relevant nutrition services.
VENA Village Tour

1. What is VENA?
2. Training Center
3. VENA in Action

https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/
WIC WORKS
RESOURCE SYSTEM
UPDATE

Janice Schneider, MS, RD
Kathleen Pellechia, RD
Quick Facts

• Celebrating 15\textsuperscript{th} anniversary!

• Primary resource tool for WIC staff nationally

• Web site and databases are updated daily

• 3,414,832 Web site page views in FY 2014
WIC Learning Online – Coming Soon

New Course:
VENA: Connecting the Dots Between Assessment and Intervention
New VENA Training Webinars

VENA II Training Initiative
Bridging the Gap between the Nutrition Assessment and Quality Nutrition Services, is a series of webinars that is a follow up to the original VENA guidance that was issued in 2006.

The webinars focus on the work of WIC State Agencies.

Equipping Paraprofessional Staff to Deliver VENA (January 2015 – Colorado WIC)

Slides

The Power of Influence (September 2014 – Chickasaw Nation and Texas WIC)

Slides

The VENA Journey in Massachusetts: From Theory to Practice (May 2014 - Massachusetts)

Recording  Slides

Strengthening WIC Nutrition Assessment Skills (January 2014 - Iowa)

Recording  Slides
Online Order Form for WIC Publications

WIC publications order form

Free Resources for WIC Clinics from the USDA/Food and Nutrition Service
Materials can only be shipped to WIC clinics in the United States and their territories. No international orders. Limited quantities available until supply exhausted. Publications are mailed by the US Postal Service.

WIC Publications

Breastfeeding

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<td>FNS 297</td>
<td>WIC Breastfeeding, Anytime, Anywhere (poster)</td>
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<td>Using Loving Support to Grow &amp; Glow Manual (Limit of 5)</td>
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<td>A Magical Bond of Love Project Summary (English) (Limit of 10)</td>
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<td>A Magical Bond of Love Poster (18x24) (Spanish) (Limit of 5)</td>
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<td>Grandparents Play an Important Role Brochure (English) (Limit of 100)</td>
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<td>Dads Play an Important Role Brochure (English) (Limit of 100)</td>
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New Publications

Next Steps to Health
for you and your family

Give Your Baby a Healthy Start
Tips for Pregnant Women and New Mothers
Image Gallery

This collection of digital images is provided by the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). FNS' nutrition assistance programs and their partners are encouraged to download the images for use in communicating education and outreach messages. FNS requests that these pictures be used only for promotion, informational and educational purposes of a non-profit nature.

Categories: (available sizes: 93DPI [JPG], 150DPI [JPG], 300DPI [TIFF])
- Pregnancy, Breastfeeding and Breastfeeding Peer Counseling
- Clinic Environment
- Food Packages, Farmer's Market, Grocery Store
- Physical Activity
- Breastfeeding and Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

Browse by Subject:
- Pregnancy
- Breastfeeding
- Infants
- Children
- Assessment Tools
- Nutrition Education
- Nutrition Services
- Standards
- Food Packages

Search WIC Works:
- Search all USDA
- Advanced Search
- Search Tips
Browse these online galleries of State-developed, easy to access, printable materials. Included materials have been developed in the last 5 years. Older materials can still be viewed in the archive.

- **Checking out with WIC**
  Topics include: Outreach and Marketing, Vendor Training and WIC Foods.

- **Food & Fun For Families**
  Topics include: Active Play, Family Meals, Fruits and Vegetables, and Water.

- **WIC: An Inside Look**
  Topics include: Counseling and Education Guides, Staff Training Tools, and The WIC Family.

This project will create a series of e-Learning modules focused on staff skills in conducting Value Enhanced Nutrition Assessment (VENA) in the WIC setting. Four modules will be developed to facilitate the delivery of high-quality, consistent staff training across a large geographic area in a cost efficient manner. The e-Learning system will be comprised of highly interactive, multi-media learning modules that focus on developing and measuring competencies and skill rather than content knowledge alone.

View the training modules:
- Introduction to VENA
- Anthropometric Assessment
- Dietary Assessment
- Biochemical and Clinical Assessments

Final Report [PDF]
Appendices [PDF]:
- A - grant proposal
- B - content outlines
- C - storyboards
- D - case study documentation
- E - qualitative analysis of video transcription
- F - video storyboard
- G - pilot test results
- H - photograph instruction spreadsheet
- I - evaluation packets
- K - summary table


This project will incorporate WIC nutrition assessment competencies and related training activities into an existing online learning management system for local WIC personnel as a strategy to foster self-assessment, provide timely access to key training topics through internal and external online courses and document completed training activities.

VENA Webinar 2014
PowerPoint {with notes}
Tips for Submitting Materials

• Provide a list of files with descriptions.

• Keep file names short and remove spaces from file names.
File Types

- Documents (Word, Excel, PDF, PowerPoint)
- Images
- Audio and Video

Email wicworks@fns.usda.gov if you have materials to share.
Thank you for your support of WIC Works!
QUESTIONS?

**This webinar will be posted to WIC Works Resource System.
Thank you!

• Stay tuned for:
  – Next VENA Webinar on January 20, 2016; 2:00-3:00PM ET: *Dealing with Difficult Counseling Situations*. Presented by Maryland WIC.
  – New VENA WIC Works Learning on Line Module: *Connecting the Dots Between Assessment and Intervention*

• Thank you for your participation.
• Thank you for your hard work.