SPOT SMA

SYMPTOMS MILESTONES ACTION



FIND OUT MORE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is a rare progressive inherited neuromuscular condition where motor neurons degenerate causing muscle wasting (atrophy) and weakness. It may affect crawling and walking ability, arm, hand, head and neck movement, breathing and swallowing.

In general, the earlier the onset of symptoms, the more severe the condition. Once symptoms appear, damage has already been done. Motor neurons die, they cannot be replaced, and lost skills cannot be regained.

Early diagnosis and treatment with one of the NHS-funded disease-modifying treatments is essential.

Working in partnership with the Institute of Health Visiting (iHV), SMA UK have created materials and an E-Learning module to Spot the Signs of SMA.

Equipped with this knowledge, health visitors, their teams and other professionals who regularly see babies and children will be able to make urgent referrals for early treatment and a pathway to healthier, longer lives.

This campaign is funded by Novartis, Biogen and Roche they had no involvement or influence over the content and development of the campaign or materials.

There are different forms of SMA with different genetic causes and outcomes. The most common form, which is usually what people are referring to when they say ' SMA', is strictly called 5q SMA. This is because the gene that causes it is located on the 5th chromosome called 'q'.

Spot the Signs of SMA is all about 5q SMA. Traditionally, it has been sub- divided into Types 1, 2, 3 and 4 SMA depending on the age at which symptoms first appear.

It's estimated that 4 babies a month are born with 5q SMA in the UK.

Find out more about this campaign at **www.smauk.org.uk/spotsma**



Table 1 'Natural History' of SMA without treatment

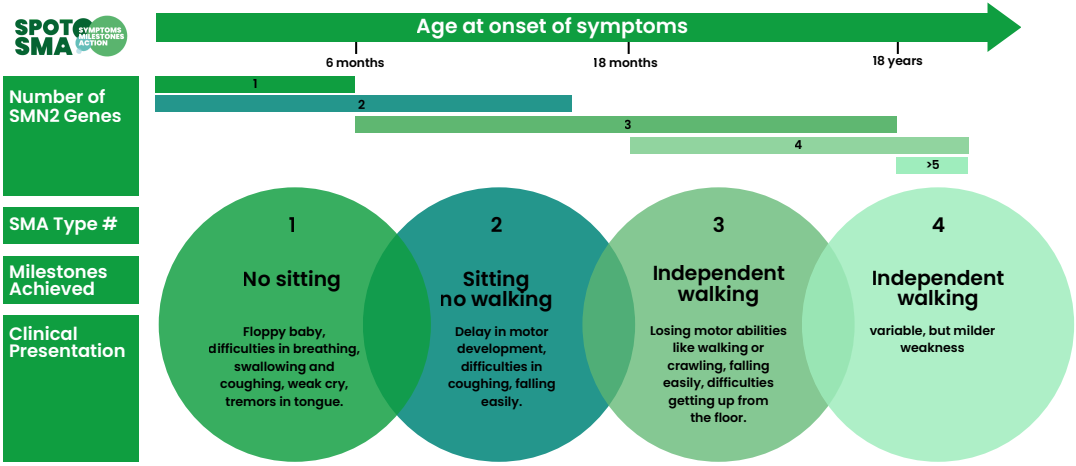


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Spinal Muscular Atrophy uk
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