

## SMA NBS in Wisconsin:

# Considerations For Clinical Follow-up

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## **Objectives**

- Describe Wisconsin's clinical follow-up plan for infants identified with SMA by NBS
- Understand the challenges and barriers to providing presymptomatic SMA treatment, even with NBS

Disclosure

- The University of Wisconsin is a site for Avexis gene therapy trials and I am the site PI
- I will be using the trade names, **Spinraza** (nusinersen) and **Zolgensma** (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi) in this talk

Feel free to contact me at kwon@neurology.wisc.edu

## **Clinical Management After Screening**





## Why 3 weeks?



**YOUTUBE:** Evelyn tested positive for spinal muscular atrophy, the disease that claimed her sister's life. https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-05-25/worlds-most-expensive-drug-spinal-muscular-dystrophy/11149788





## Neurologist contacts PCP...

- PCP may not have seen the infant
- How best to quickly contact the family and arrange for:
  - Clinic Visit: confirmatory testing and counselling?
  - Admission? If infant is sick, transfer to a medical center?
  - In both cases, we have to be able to convey the seriousness and urgency of the disorder, by phone, to a family of a new infant



## First Visit: Counselling & Testing

- Discuss SMA and treatment
- Patient assessment (CHOP-INTEND?, HINE?)
- Even before the visit, prior authorization team notified
- Blood is drawn for
  - SMN1, SMN2 copy numbers (WI lab will do this)
  - AAV9 Ab titers (eligibility for Zolgensma)
  - "pre-Zolgensma labs": CBC, AST, ALT, troponin, PT/INR



## Authorizing Treatment(s)

- Ensure prompt prior authorization
  - WI Medicaid will provide urgent PA for Zolgensma for SMA
  - Other payers?- this is still a work in progress
- Does every infant need a prompt response?
  - Those with 2 or 3 SMN2 copies should be treated quickly
  - Those with 4 SMN2 copies?
    - Recommendation is to follow closely.
    - Treat with Zolgensma before age 2 yr?



## Authorizing Treatment(s): choice of treatment?

In Wisconsin, treatment after NBS will be with Zolgensma. But,

- In other states, clinicians may look to starting Spinraza first
- It is likely that some who have received Zolgensma will also receive Spinraza as ongoing treatment

## Treatment and associated follow-up

- Infusion of Zolgensma
  - Before infusion, pre-treatment labs are obtained (during initial visit)
  - Prednisolone (1 mg/kg/day) is started the day before infusion, to be continued for a month
- After infusion, infants will have their blood drawn at least 8 times over the next 12 weeks and will have frequent clinical assessments

# What if the infant is sick?

- A symptomatic infant with SMA may need support to breath and eat
  - A gastrostomy tube placement may be recommended urgently because of the need for respiratory support makes nasogastric feeds more complicated
  - These interventions may delay treatment
- Zolgensma and Spinraza are generally not given to inpatients



Photo from: https://www.cpapxchange.com/wisp-pediatric-cpap-bipap-mask-respironics-nasal.html

## **Clinical Management After Screening**





## **SMA NBS and Timeliness**

In Wisconsin...

- Insurance authorization (assuming the infant has insurance) has been a barrier to providing prompt treatment for SMA
- To allow infants identified by NBS to have the best outcomes, insurers must agree to authorize this treatment promptly
  - We have started to work with our hospital's payers
  - If an insurer refuses or delays authorization, our only option is to recommend transfer to Medicaid
- I have seen my institution and state invest time and other resources so we can provide these innovative treatments for SMA. Now they are working make sure that treatment starts as soon as possible so that the outcomes are as good as possible.
- I hope that other states considering the addition of SMA NBS understand the value of prior planning to prevent delays related to insurance authorization.

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#### NEWBORN SCREENING FOR SMA IN UTAH

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Webinar Series Part 2: SMA Treatment and Outcomes Russell Butterfield MD, PhD November 21, 2019

#### DISCLOSURES

- Scientific advisory board: Sarepta Therapeutics, Biogen, Avexis
- Investigator on clinical trials funded by PTC Therapeutics, Sarepta Therapeutics, Pfizer, Biogen, Avexis, Catabasis, Capricor Therapeutics, and Acceleron Pharma

#### NBS FOR SMA IN UTAH

- Start for statewide screening Jan 28, 2018
  - qPCR
  - SMN1 only
    - Carrier status and SMN2 copy number not assayed
- Key points that helped lead to early adoption
  - Early data supporting treatment efficacy was strong (ENEAR, NURTURE)
  - Technology for qPCR already in state lab for SCID
  - Published assay for multiplex with SCID testing
  - Recommendation from NBS Advisory Committee to adopt new disorder is by medical review, not legislative process
    - Some concerns about cost of treatment, but acknowledgement that we are treating either way.
  - Funding from CureSMA for the first 6 months of screening
  - Funding for new disorders is legislative process, added \$3 to kit fee

#### NBS FOR SMA—DEPT. OF HEALTH PROCESS





## **DECISION TO TREAT**



Glascock et al. J Neuromuscul Dis. 2018. 5:145-158. Treatment Algorithm for Infants Diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy through Newborn Screening

## SMA THERAPIES NUSINERSEN IN UTAH

- Nusinersen (Spinraza)
  - 31 patients dosed to date
  - 9 type 1; 13 type 2; 9 SMA type 3
  - One type I patient declined treatment
  - 2 treated pre-symptomatic
  - I 5 patients on long term open label extensions of phase2 and phase3 trials
- Onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi (Zolgensma)
  - 3 commercial patients, all pre-symptomatic
  - 4 on clinical trials

### INFANTS SCREENED FOR SMA IN UTAH 2018-2019

2019	Number Screened	Indeterminate Result	Abnormal Result
January	3868	6	0
February	3611	2	0
March	4047	1	1
April	3906	0	0
May	4262	3	1
June	4071	1	0
July	4522	5	0
August	4247	7	1
September	4060	1	0
2019	36,594	26	3
2018	48,180	42	3
<b>TOTAL</b> screened	84,774	68	6
Positive SMA			5

#### NBS RESULTS IN UTAH

• Five positive screens to date (from Jan 2018 launch):

- All positive screens seen within 2 days of notification and evaluations completed within 1 week
- I with 2 copies SMN2
- 4 with 3 copies of SMN2
- One false positive
  - Optimization of qPCR in DOH lab, case now would correctly screen as failed test
- No known false negative to date

### OUTCOMES IN PRE-SYMPTOMATIC SMA

Notification	Clinic visit (days)	Confirmation (days)	Treatment initiated	SMN2 copy	Treatment	Outcome to date
					nusinersen (AAV9	4 month old, completed loading
pre-natal	13	8	21 days	2	positive)	doses, concern for feeding, OSA
pre-natal	4	7	12 days	2	nusinersen	<ul><li>2.5 years old, walked at 21</li><li>months, mild proximal weakness,</li><li>G-tube placed at 5 months</li></ul>
pre-natal/10 days	4	8	15 days	2	nusinersen (AAV9 positive), onasemnogene at 7 months	8 months old, symptomatic at birth with absent DTR, hypotonia. Rolls to get around, sits when placed for a few seconds, eats well
,			/			3 months old, normal
6 days	8	11	22 days	3	onasemnogene	development, no complications
7 days	8	12	6 weeks	3	onasemnogene	5 months old, normal development, no complications
	0	21		2		
o days	ð -	21	6 months	3	AVAS-101 trial	-
6 days	7	13	5 weeks	3	AVXS-101 trial	-
prenatal	20	7	21 days	2	nuisnersen trial	-

#### MOTOR FUNCTION ASSESSMENT IN TREATED INFANTS WITH SMA ~NEW ONSET OR PRE-SYMPTOMATIC, 2 COPIES OF SMN2



#### MOTOR FUNCTION ASSESSMENT IN TREATED INFANTS WITH SMA ~NEW ONSET OR PRE-SYMPTOMATIC, 2 COPIES OF SMN2



Bayley Gross Motor (Growth Score)



qPCR results from two subjects with positive initial screens for absent SMNI

## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION