

**June 13, 2013**

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### **Ontario broadens access to SPINRAZA™ (nusinersen)**

Dear members of the SMA community,

As part of our promise and commitment to keep the Canadian SMA community apprised of important milestones regarding SPINRAZA™, we are sharing an update on recent developments regarding reimbursement in the province of Ontario.

Effective June 12, 2013, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has expanded access to SPINRAZA™. This announcement follows the decision in November 2012 to cover cost of the treatment for those living with Type I SMA.

The following patients in Ontario will now be eligible for reimbursement of SPINRAZA™, in addition to Type I patients:

- Patients who are pre-symptomatic with two or three copies of the survival motor neuron 2 (SMN2) gene;
- Patients with disease duration of less than six months, two copies of the SMN2 gene, and symptom onset after the first week after birth and on or before seven months of age;
- Patients under the age of 18 with symptom onset after six months of age, who have never achieved the ability to walk independently;
- Other Type II and III patients regardless of ever achieving the ability to walk independently are encouraged to apply for access through their clinicians and may be considered on a case by case basis;
- Treatment for adult patients can be approved exceptionally on a case by case basis.

Biogen Canada welcomes this news from the Ontario government. It is an important milestone for the SMA community and allows more patients who have been diagnosed with this rare condition to be eligible for reimbursement.

Ontario now joins Quebec, Saskatchewan and Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) to provide broad access to SPINRAZA™.

Biogen believes that all SMA patients, including adults, should have broad access and we will continue to work with all jurisdictions until this is achieved in Canada.

Sincerely,

Biogen Canada