

## Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)

# TIME WASTED IS MUSCLE WASTED<sup>1</sup>

KNOWING THE SIGNS COULD CHANGE LIVES



**LISTEN** to concerns from parents about their infant's development



*"She lays on her back with 'frog legs'. We think she's just a really relaxed baby."*

*"He isn't gaining weight. Feeding time is always distressing and he often chokes and gets upset."*

*"She's always a happy and bright baby but has no interest in rolling or reaching for toys. People say she's just a bit lazy."*



**LOOK** for characteristic red flags of SMA in children with normal cognitive development by observing posture, play and spontaneous motor function in their natural state:<sup>1-4</sup>

Normal cognitive  
development

+

- ▶ Profound hypotonia
- ▶ Weakness
- ▶ Little or no head control
- ▶ Absent reflexes
- ▶ Tongue fasciculation
- ▶ Failure to meet developmental motor milestones



**REFER** immediately for an urgent appointment with a paediatric neurologist if any SMA red flags are present

Material prepared by Biogen Australia Pty Ltd in collaboration with an educational Steering Committee comprising of specialist neuromuscular paediatricians.

**References:** 1. D'Amico A, et al. *Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases*. 2011;6:71–81. 2. Noritz GH, et al. *Pediatrics*. 2013;131:e2016–27. 3. Giannopoulou E, et al. *Clin Case Rep*. 2015;3:832–4. 4. Arnold D, et al. *Muscle Nerve*. 2015;51:157–67.

Biogen Australia Pty Ltd.  
Avaya Building, Level 3, 123 Epping Road, North Ryde, NSW 2113 Australia. ABN 30 095 760 115.  
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**LISTEN  
LOOK  
REFER**