

## Spinal Muscular Atrophy Drugs

**Goal(s):**

- Approve nusinersen (SPINRAZA), onasemnogene abeparvovec (ZOLGENSMA), or risdiplam (EVRYSDI) conditions supported by evidence of benefit (e.g., spinal muscular atrophy).

**Length of Authorization:**

- Nusinersen: Up to 8 months for initial approval and up to 12 months for renewal.
- Onasemnogene abeparvovec: Once in a lifetime dose.
- Risdiplam: Up to 6 months for initial approval and 12 months for renewal.

**Requires PA:**

- Nusinersen (billed as a pharmacy or physician administered claim)
- Onasemnogene abeparvovec (billed as a pharmacy or physician administered claim)
- Risdiplam (billed as pharmacy claim)

**Covered Alternatives:**

- Current PMPDP preferred drug list per OAR 410-121-0030 at [www.orpdl.org](http://www.orpdl.org)
- Searchable site for Oregon FFS Drug Class listed at [www.orpdl.org/drugs/](http://www.orpdl.org/drugs/)

**Table 1. FDA-Approved Dosing For Risdiplam**

Age and Body Weight	Recommended Daily Dose of Risdiplam
Less than 2 months of age	0.15 mg/kg
2 months to less than 2 years of age	0.2 mg/kg
2 years of age and older weighing less than 20 kg	0.25 mg/kg
2 years of age and older weighing 20 kg or more	5 mg

Approval Criteria		
1. What diagnosis is being treated?	Record ICD-10 code. Go to #2	
2. Is this a request for continuation of nusinersen or risdiplam therapy?  Note: Onasemnogene abeparvovec is only approved as a single, one-time dose per lifetime	<b>Yes:</b> Go to <b>Renewal Criteria</b>	<b>No:</b> Go to #3
3. Does the patient have a diagnosis of spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), confirmed by SMN1 (chromosome 5q) gene mutation or deletion AND at least 2 copies of the SMN2 gene as documented by genetic testing?	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #4	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.

## Approval Criteria

<p>4. Is the requested medication prescribed by a pediatric neurologist or a provider with experience treating SMA?</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Go to #5</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness</p>
<p>5. Is the patient ventilator-dependent (using at least 16 hours per day on at least 21 of the last 30 days)?</p> <p>Note: This assessment does not apply to patients who require ventilator assistance</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Go to #6</p>
<p>6. Is a baseline motor assessment appropriate for age and/or intended population available?</p> <p>Examples include, but are not limited to, the following validated assessment tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination, Section 2 (HINE-2)</li> <li>• Hammersmith Functional Motor Scale (HFMSE)</li> <li>• Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Infant Test of Neuromuscular Disorders (CHOP-INTEND)</li> <li>• The Motor Function Measure 32 items (MFM-32)</li> <li>• Upper Limb Module (ULM)</li> <li>• 6-minute walk test (6MWT)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Document date and assessment results  Date: _____  Assessment: _____  Results: _____</p> <p>Go to #7</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.</p>
<p>7. Has the patient had previous administration of onasemnogene abeparvovec (ZOLGENSMA), either in a clinical study or as part of medical care?</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Go to #8</p>
<p>8. Is the request for risdiplam?</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Go to #9</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Go to #13</p>
<p>9. Is the prescribed dose within the limits defined in Table 1?</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Go to #10</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.</p> <p>Recommended FDA-approved dosage is determined by age and body weight.</p>
<p>10. In people of child-bearing potential, is there documentation that the provider and patient have discussed the teratogenic risks of the drug if the patient were to become pregnant?</p>	<p><b>Yes:</b> Go to #11</p>	<p><b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness</p>

## Approval Criteria

11. Is the patient on concomitant therapy with nusinersen?	<b>Yes:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.	<b>No:</b> Go to #12
12. For able patients, is there baseline documentation of pulmonary function measured by spirometry (FEV1, FVC, etc) or other validated pulmonary function test?	<b>Yes:</b> Document baseline results.  Approve for 6 months.  If approved, a referral will be made to case management by the Oregon Health Authority.	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.
13. Is the request for nusinersen?	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #14	<b>No:</b> Go to #15
14. Is the patient on concomitant therapy with risdiplam?	<b>Yes:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.	<b>No:</b> Approve for up to 8 months.
15. Is the request for onasemnogene abeparvovec?	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #16	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness
16. Is the patient less than 2 years of age?	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #17	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness
17. Have the following labs been obtained:  a) a baseline platelet count AND b) baseline liver function tests (AST, ALT, total bilirubin, and PT) AND c.) baseline troponin-I	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #18	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness
18. Does the patient have a prescription on file for 30 days of on oral corticosteroid to begin one day before infusion of onasemnogene abeparvovec?	<b>Yes:</b> Approve for one time infusion	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness

## Renewal Criteria

1. Is there evidence of adherence and tolerance to therapy through pharmacy claims/refill history and provider assessment?	<b>Yes:</b> Go to #2	<b>No:</b> Pass to RPh; Deny medical appropriateness
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## Renewal Criteria

2. Has the patient shown a positive treatment response in one of the following areas?

- Documented improvement from the baseline motor function assessment score with more areas of motor function improved than worsened
- OR-
- Documentation of clinically meaningful stabilization, delayed progression, or decreased decline in SMA-associated signs and symptoms compared to the predicted natural history trajectory of disease
- OR-
- Documentation of an improvement or lack of decline in pulmonary function compared to baseline

**Yes:** Approve for 12 months

**No:** Pass to RPh; Deny; medical appropriateness.

*P&T Review: 2/23 (DM); 9/19 (DM); 7/17; 3/17  
Implementation: 4/1/23; 11/1/19; 9/1/17; 5/17*