Dear SMA Community:

It was a pleasure to be able to join so many of you at the Cure SMA Annual Conference in Orlando this year, and we look forward to seeing some of you again at the Cure SMA Chapter and Leadership Meeting.

In this community update we are pleased to share a Plain Language Summary for recently presented data, clinical updates, and a family-friendly poster.

Your continued participation in our clinical trials and long-term follow-up studies helps us deliver on our commitment to improving care and treatment for the SMA community.

With gratitude,
YOUR NOVARTIS GENE THERAPIES TEAM

Connecting with the Community

This year we have been proud to sponsor both the Cure SMA Summits of Strength and Walk-n-Rolls. It has been wonderful to meet so many of you at these events and we look forward to seeing more of you at the remaining events this year.

Access Snapshot for ZOLGENSMA® (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xiol) suspension, for intravenous infusion

APPROVED IN OVER
45 COUNTRIES

98%1 OF US PATIENTS APPROVED FOR ACCESS*

OVER 3,0002 PATIENTS TREATED GLOBALLY**

*Data derived from the OneGene Program, a treatment support service offered by Novartis Gene Therapies (May 2019–Sep 2021), all patients <2 years of age for whom a payer decision was known
**As of January 2023, including clinical trials, commercially, and through the managed access programs

Plain Language Summaries

Click on the links below to access a Plain Language Summary of our latest research in non-technical language that is intended for non-clinician audiences.

1. Burden of Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 3 on Caregivers in the United States: Results of a Global Survey3

Family Friendly Poster

Click on the link below to access a Family Friendly Poster of our latest research.

1. Long-term Follow-up Studies of Children with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Treated with Intravenous Onasemnogene Abeparvovec4

Thank you to the community of Zolgensma families who have been part of our clinical trials and long-term follow-up studies. Your continued participation is essential and appreciated.

Please keep reading for Indication and Important Safety Information, and please see accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning.
ZOLGENSMA is a prescription gene therapy used to treat children less than 2 years old with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). ZOLGENSMA is given as a one-time infusion into a vein. ZOLGENSMA was not evaluated in patients with advanced SMA.

What is the most important information I should know about ZOLGENSMA? 

- ZOLGENSMA can increase liver enzyme levels and cause acute serious liver injury or acute liver failure which could result in death.
- Patients will receive an oral corticosteroid before and after infusion with ZOLGENSMA and will undergo regular blood tests to monitor liver function.
- Contact the patient’s doctor immediately if the patient’s skin and/or whites of the eyes appear yellowish, if the patient misses a dose of corticosteroid or vomits it up, or if the patient experiences a decrease in alertness.

What should I watch for before and after infusion with ZOLGENSMA? 

- Infections before or after ZOLGENSMA infusion can lead to more serious complications. Caregivers and close contacts with the patient should follow infection prevention procedures. Contact the patient’s doctor immediately if the patient experiences any signs of a possible infection such as coughing, wheezing, sneezing, runny nose, sore throat, or fever.
- Decreased platelet counts could occur following infusion with ZOLGENSMA. Seek immediate medical attention if the patient experiences unexpected bleeding or bruising.
- Thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) has been reported to generally occur within the first two weeks after ZOLGENSMA infusion. Seek immediate medical attention if the patient experiences any signs or symptoms of TMA, such as unexpected bruising or bleeding, seizures, or decreased urine output.

What do I need to know about vaccinations and ZOLGENSMA? 

- Talk with the patient’s doctor to decide if adjustments to the vaccination schedule are needed to accommodate treatment with a corticosteroid.
- Protection against influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is recommended and vaccination status should be up-to-date prior to ZOLGENSMA administration. Please consult the patient’s doctor.

Do I need to take precautions with the patient’s bodily waste? 

- Temporarily, small amounts of ZOLGENSMA may be found in the patient’s stool. Use good hand hygiene when coming into direct contact with patient body waste for one month after infusion with ZOLGENSMA. Disposable diapers should be sealed in disposable trash bags and thrown out with regular trash.

What are the possible or likely side effects of ZOLGENSMA? 

The most common side effects that occurred in patients treated with ZOLGENSMA were elevated liver enzymes and vomiting.

The safety information provided here is not comprehensive. Talk to the patient’s doctor about any side effects that bother the patient or that don’t go away.

You are encouraged to report suspected side effects by contacting the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch, or Novartis Gene Therapies, Inc. at 833-828-3947. Please see the Full Prescribing Information.

References