



Charlotte Sangster
Muscular Dystrophy NSW

20th April 2018

Dear Charlotte,

Reimbursement of SPINRAZA® (nusinersen) for the treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy

I am writing to advise you of the outcome of the recent Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) meeting, where a decision was made on the reimbursement of SPINRAZA (nusinersen). I am delighted to let you know that the Committee made a positive recommendation for SPINRAZA to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the treatment of paediatric patients (18 years and younger) with infantile-onset or childhood-onset of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) with onset of symptoms prior to three years of age. This will mean that from the listing date, eligible patients will only need to pay the standard PBS co-payments for each injection.

While we are continuing our discussions with the government to secure a listing date for as early as possible, Biogen will be making SPINRAZA available in the interim period prior to PBS listing, on a compassionate basis, free-of-charge, to patients who fulfil the PBS criteria given the high unmet need of this patient population.

Over the past few months we have dedicated significant resources and time to secure this outcome following the PBAC's recommendation to resubmit to their March meeting for only for SMA Type I patients. We urged the Committee to instead review SPINRAZA for all 'urgent' cases of SMA that included Types I, II and IIIa. We must acknowledge the PBAC and the government's commitment and foresight in addressing our feedback and in reaching this positive decision.

While this is an amazing outcome for the SMA community, we know that there is further work to do and wants to make it clear that Biogen is committed to continue exploring potential solutions that would enable an even broader reimbursement for SPINRAZA in a way that is sustainable for all parties involved.

Biogen is deeply committed to the SMA community and to also realise the company's mission to improve the lives of patients with devastating neurological diseases through ground-breaking science. We believe that SPINRAZA exemplifies this work.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to advising you of the official listing date once it is known. In the meantime, if you receive any enquires about SPINRAZA please encourage the person to speak to their doctor in the first instance and then if necessary, direct them to our Medical Information Department on 1800 852 289 where one of our team will be happy to help.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Stemple". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mr Chris Stemple
Managing Director, Australia and New Zealand