

SMA

Spinal Muscular Atrophy

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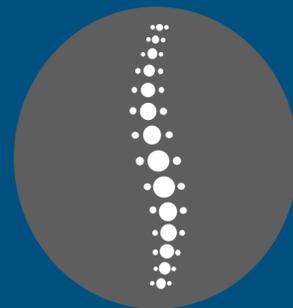
1. Spinal Muscular Atrophy

SMA is a progressive, debilitating neuromuscular disease

- SMA is characterized by:
 - Progressive muscle denervation
 - Skeletal muscular atrophy
 - Overall weakness
 - Loss of motor function and ambulation¹⁻³

Muscle atrophy leads to disease-associated complications that can impact survival: ^{1,3}

Scoliosis
(curvature of the spine)



Repeated episodes of pneumonia



Difficulties with sleep and nutrition



Need for respiratory nutritional, orthopedic and mobility support

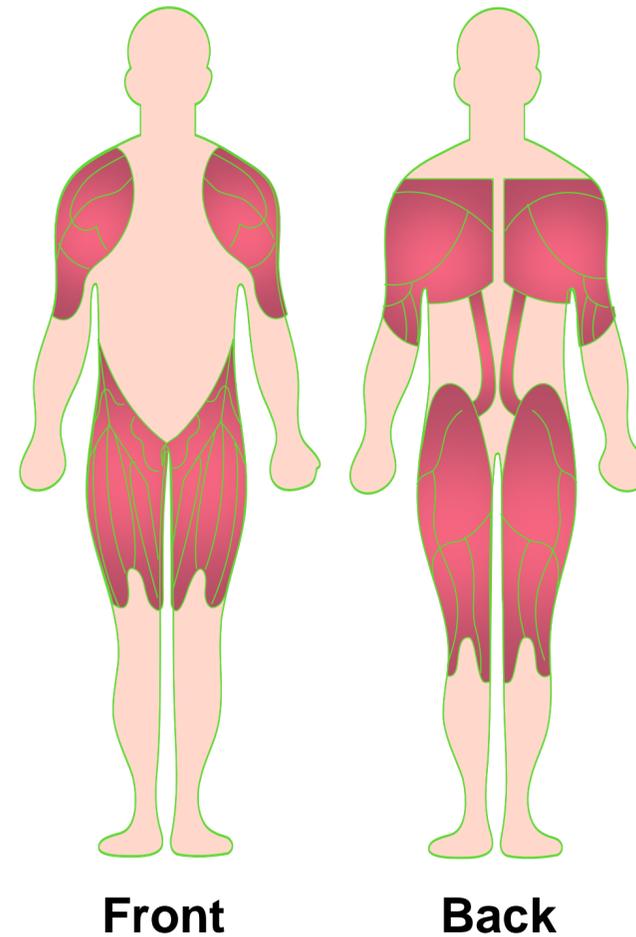


Symmetrical muscle weakness affects proximal muscle groups more than distal muscles

Legs more affected than arms. Motor milestones are frequently delayed¹

Severity of muscle weakness dependent on age of onset¹

Proximal muscles²



Feeding and breathing difficulties. Severely affected patients have shallow, diaphragm reliant breathing¹

Impaired head control¹

SMA is a rare autosomal recessive genetic disease



In the US, a rare disease is defined as one that affects fewer than 200,000 individuals, and in Europe, fewer than 1 in 2,000¹

Estimated incidence of SMA:



1 in 6,000
to
1 in 11,000
live births^{2,4}

SMA, spinal muscular atrophy.

1. Aronson JK, et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 2006; 61:243–245; 2. Sugarman EA, et al. Eur J Hum Genet. 2012; 20:27–32; 3. D'Amico A, et al. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2011; 6:71; 4. Markowitz JA, et al. Pediatr Neurol. 2012; 46:1–12

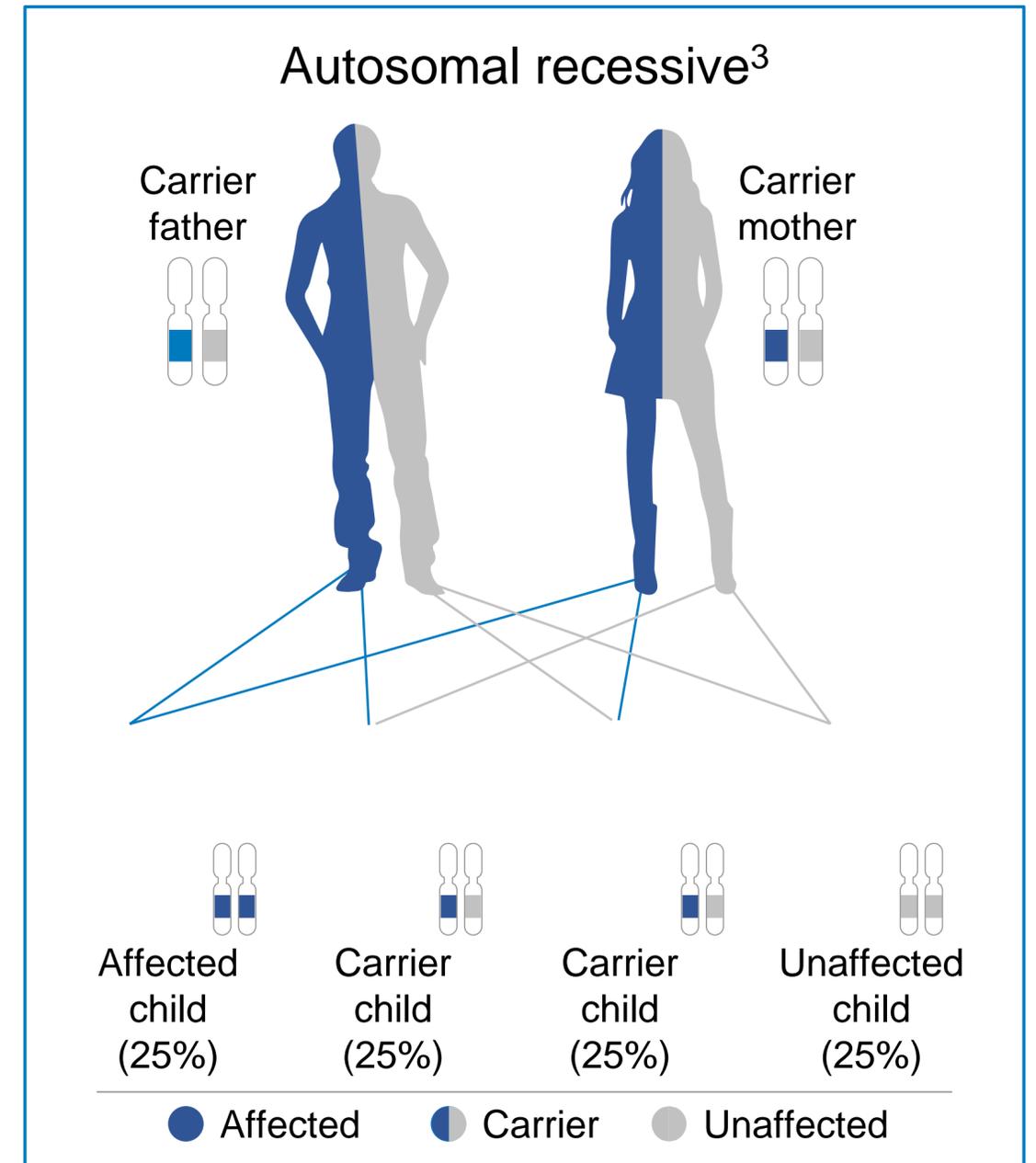
SMA is caused by a deficiency in SMN protein

Mutations and/or deletions in the *SMN1* gene



Insufficient levels of the SMN protein, critical for motor neurons¹

- SMA is an autosomal recessive genetic disorder: both copies of the *SMN1* gene need to have the mutations for the phenotype to be expressed¹
- Carriers of a single copy of the mutated gene show no signs or symptoms¹
 - Carrier prevalence is reported to be 1 in 45 for most populations²
- Two carriers have a 25% chance of having a child with an autosomal recessive condition³



SMA, spinal muscular atrophy; SMN, survival of motor neuron.

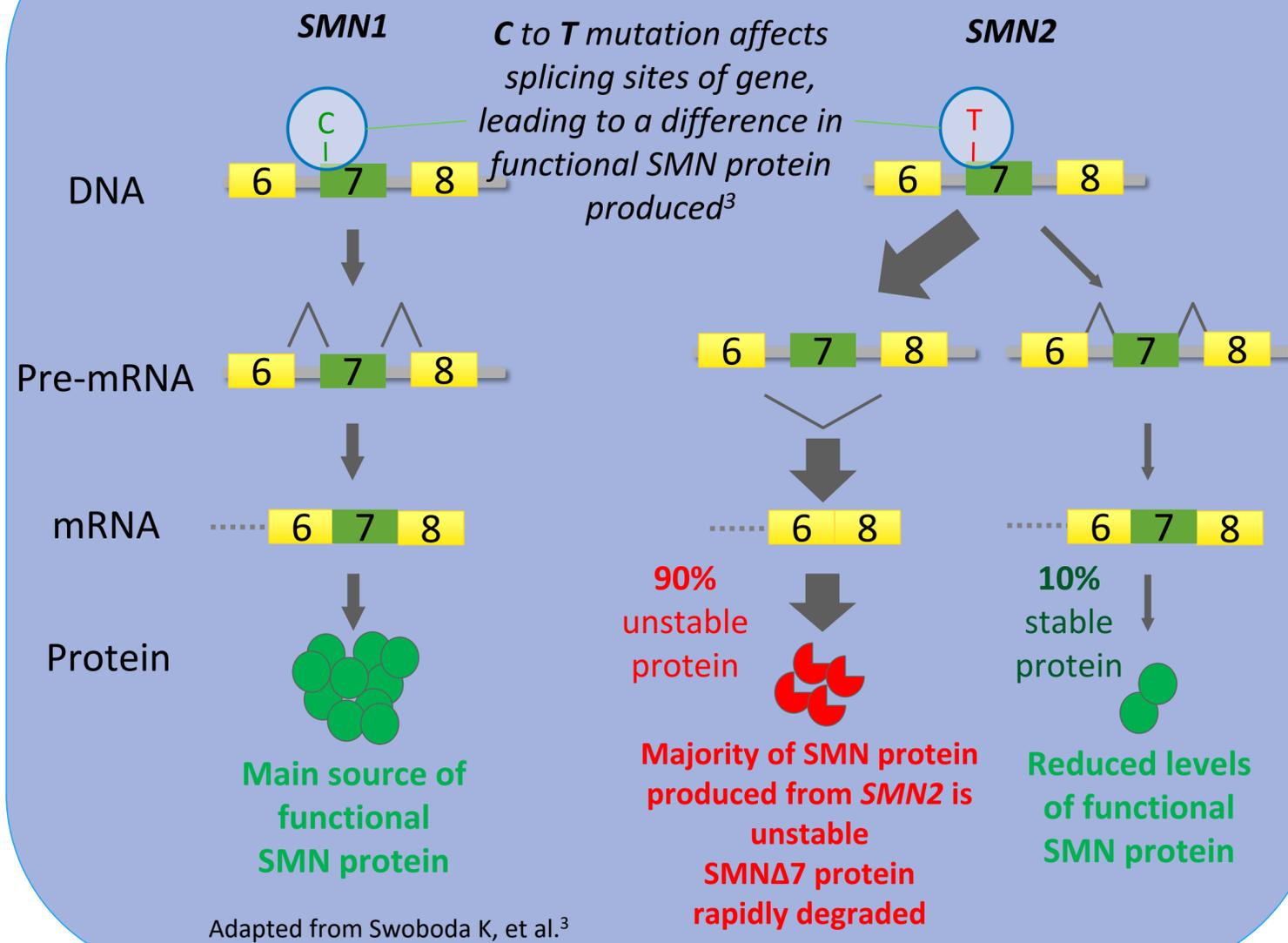
1. Genetics Home Reference. <https://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/spinal-muscular-atrophy>. Accessed October 2019;

2. Verhaart I, et al. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2017; 12:124;

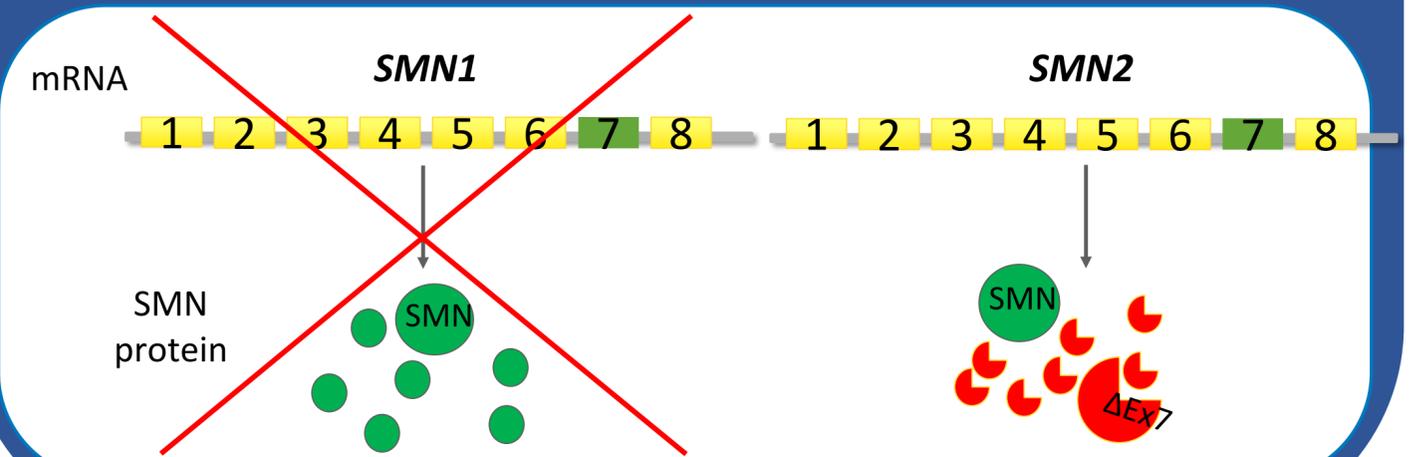
3. Graphical elaboration from U.S. National Library of Medicine <http://rosalind.info/glossary/recessive-allele/> (Accessed October 2019).

The SMN1 gene is the main source of functional SMN protein

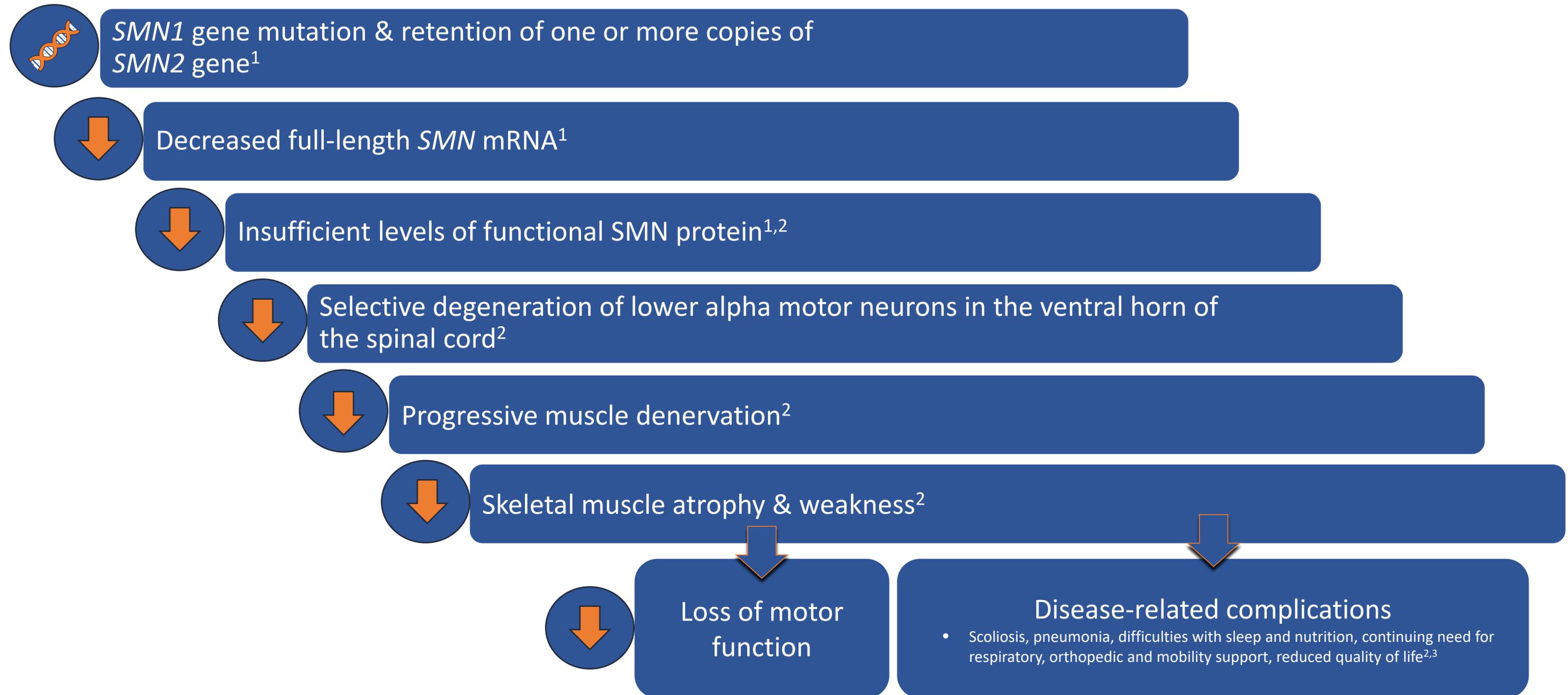
In healthy individuals, 2 genes code for SMN protein:



- In SMA :
- Mutations in the *SMN1* gene result in insufficient levels of the SMN protein1
- *SMN2* produces only low levels of functional SMN protein that are not sufficient to fully compensate for mutations/deletions in the *SMN1* gene^{2,3}



Reduced SMN protein leads to motor neuron loss and muscle atrophy¹



SMN, survival of motor neuron.

1. Prior TW, Genet Med. 2010; 12:145–152; 2. D'Amico A, et al. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2011; 6:71; 3. Crawford T, et al. Neurobiol Dis. 1996; 3:97–110.

Increasing evidence suggests SMN depletion directly affects cells and tissues in both the CNS and periphery*



Increasing evidence suggests SMN depletion directly affects cells and tissues in both the CNS and periphery¹



NMJ dysfunction has been observed in mouse models of SMA²



SMN protein is required for skeletal muscle differentiation *in vivo*³



Vascular and cardiac abnormalities reported in patients with severe SMA^{1,4}

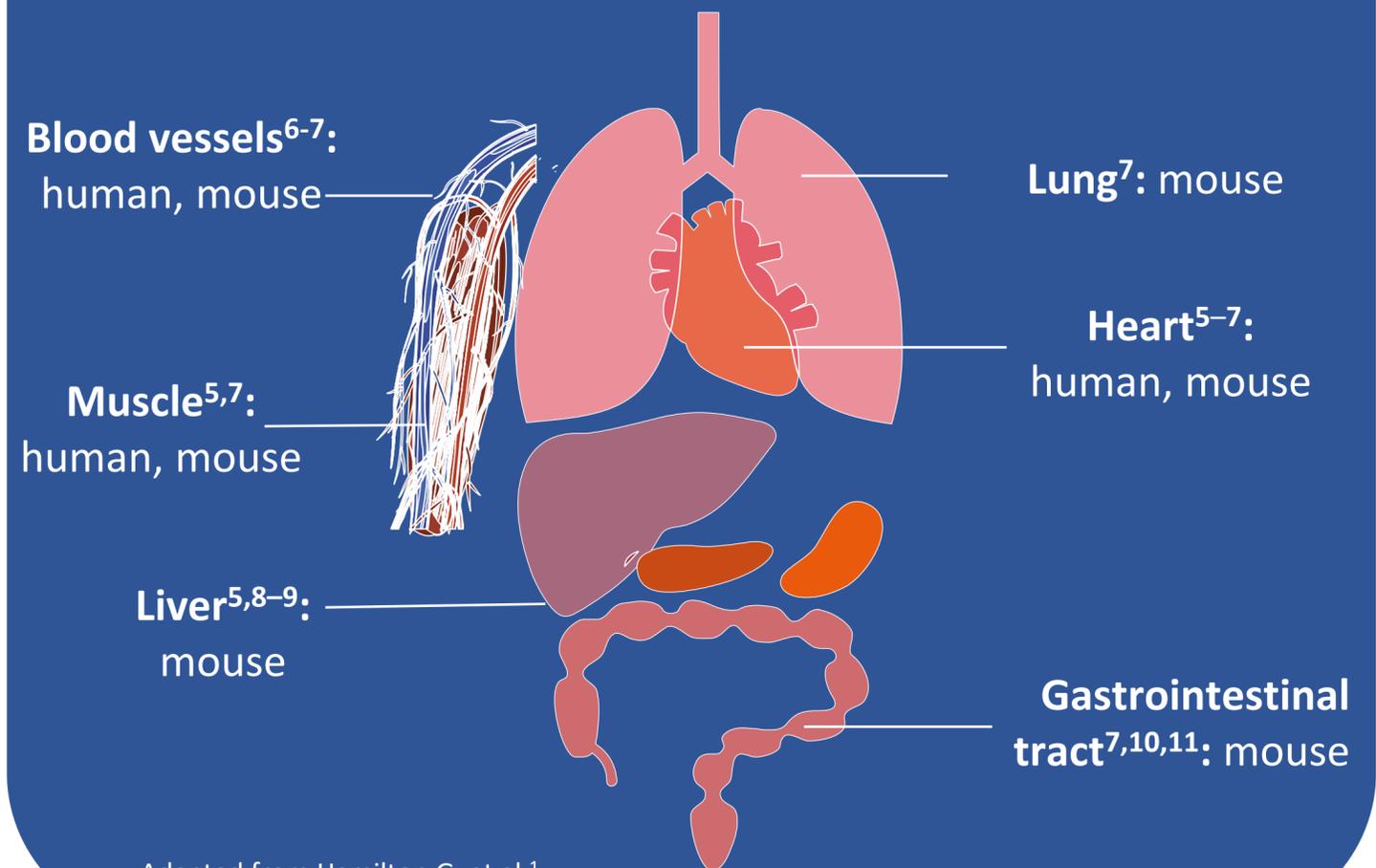


Long-term data from investigational therapies may help to identify the role of peripheral SMN protein



Restoration of SMN in both the CNS and periphery was required for long-term rescue of a severe SMA mouse model⁵

Overview of non-neuromuscular systemic pathology in SMA1



Adapted from Hamilton G, et al.¹

*Evidence from preclinical animal models. CNS, central nervous system; NMJ, neuromuscular junction; SMA, spinal muscular atrophy; SMN, survival of motor neuron.

1. Hamilton G, et al. Trends Mol Med. 2013; 19:40–50; 2. Martínez-Hernández R, et al. J Pathol. 2013; 229:49–61; 3. Bricceno KV, et al. Hum Mol Genet. 2014; 23:4745–4757; 4. Wijngaarde CA, et al. Orph J Rare Dis. 2017; 12:67; 5. Hua Y, et al. Nature. 2011; 478:123–126; 6. Heier CR, et al. Hum Mol Genet. 2010; 19:3906–3918; 7. Schreml J, et al. Eur J Hum Genet. 2013; 21:643–652; 8. Vitte JM, et al. Am J Pathol. 2004; 165:1731–1741; 9. Szunyogova E, et al. Sci Rep. 2016; 6:34635; 10. Gombash SE, et al. Hum Mol Genet. 2015; 24:3847–3860; 11. Sintusek P, et al. PLoS One. 2016; 11:e0155032.

SMA type is determined by age of onset and maximum motor function achieved¹

- Presently there are five clinical classifications of SMA, however, the phenotypes of SMA may change since the discovery of disease modifying therapies
- SMA is not associated with cognitive impairment, and intellectual development is normal for SMA patients¹

Type	Severity	Age of onset	Motor function achieved			Typical symptoms	Typical SMN2 copy no.*	Lifespan
			Able to sit	Able to stand	Able to walk			
0 ^{2,3}	Severe	Prenatal	✗	✗	✗	• Severe hypotonia	1	<6 months
1 ⁴⁻⁸	Severe	0-6 months	✗	✗	✗	• Respiratory failure	2	<2 years
2 ⁴⁻⁸	Intermediate	<18 months	✓	✗	✗	• Respiratory complications • Wheelchair-bound	3	>2 years
3 ⁴⁻⁸	Mild	>18 months	✓	✓	Assisted or unassisted	• Muscle weakness	3-4	Normal
4 ^{3,9}	Mild	>5 years	✓	✓	✓	• Very slow progressive muscle weakness	>4	Normal

*Copy number of SMN2 varies from 1 to 6 copies in SMA patients, with an inverse relationship observed between SMA type and SMN2 copy number⁵.

SMA, spinal muscular atrophy; SMN, survival of motor neuron.

1. Viollet L and Melki J. Handbook of Clin Neuro: Ped Neuro Part III. 2013; 113:8; 2. Dubowitz V. Eur J Ped Neuro. 1999; 3:49-51; 3. Butchbach M. Front Mol Biosci. 2016; 3:7; 4. Prior TW. Genet Med. 2010; 12:145-152; 5. Crawford TO, et al. PLOS. 2012; 7:4; 6. Munsat T. Neuromuscul Disord. 1991; 1:81; 7. Munsat T and Davies K. Neuromuscul Disord. 1992; 2:423-428; 8. Bladen CL, et al. J Neurol. 2014; 261:152-163; 9. D'Amico A, et al. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2011; 6:71.

Clinical classification of SMA¹



Type 0/Type 1a

Most severe weakness
Contractures; cardiomyopathy
Death in weeks

Type 1b

Most typical Type 1 form
Feeding and respiratory problems
Death by second year of life

Type 1c

Feeding and respiratory problems
Plateau in first 2 years

Clinical classification of SMA^{2, 3 and 4}



Type 2

Survival to adolescence/adulthood
Weaker cases may lose sitting ability (2a)
Stronger cases may stand with support (2b)

Type 3a

Early loss of ambulation
Normal lifespan

Type 3b

Later loss of ambulation
Normal lifespan

Type 4

Ambulant until later in life
Normal lifespan

Medora

**Il futuro della medicina,
l'avanguardia di noi medici.**

La community dei professionisti della salute
By

