

## Mimic syndromes in sporadic cases of progressive spinal muscular atrophy.

Visser J<sup>1</sup>, van den Berg-Vos RM, Franssen H, van den Berg LH, Vogels OJ, Wokke JH, de Jong JM, de Visser M.

### Author information

- 1 Department of Neurology (H2-222), Academic Medical Centre, 1100 DE Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. j.visser@amc.uva.nl

### Abstract

Described are patients initially diagnosed with progressive **spinal muscular atrophy** (PSMA), in whom further evaluation established another diagnosis. **The authors prospectively investigated incident and prevalent cases of PSMA. Seventeen of 89 patients, after initial registration, were later excluded because reassessment revealed a diagnosis other than PSMA. In 11 of the 17 patients with a revised diagnosis, a potential treatment was available: multifocal motor neuropathy (7), chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (2), inflammatory myopathy (1), and MG (1). Other misdiagnoses included myopathy, syringomyelia, ALS, idiopathic chronic axonal polyneuropathy, and idiopathic brachial plexus neuropathy. One patient with a possible herniated lumbar disk recovered spontaneously.**

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