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RE: COVID-19 Vaccination for patients with Spinal Bulbar Muscular Atrophy (Kennedy's Disease)

To whom it may concern:

The Sunnybrook ALS/Neuromuscular clinic at the University of Toronto follows a large number of patients with Spinal Bulbar Muscular Atrophy (SBMA) also known as Kennedy's Disease. This genetic disease is characterized by slowly progressive limb weakness, speech and swallowing difficulties. In addition, patients with SBMA may also experience respiratory impairment and are at increased risk of complication of respiratory infections.

It is therefore recommended that patients with SBMA be a priority group to receive vaccination for COVID-19 like other patients with neuromuscular diseases that may develop respiratory compromise.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Zinman", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lorne Zinman, MD, MSc, FRCPC