

Limited movements of shoulder and arm muscles

Active movement usually limited to fingers and toes

Diaphragmatic breathing with sternal retractions (diaphragmatic paralysis may occur)

Abnormal tongue movements (at rest)

Weak cry and cough

Poor suck reflex

Tiring quickly during feedings (if breastfed, may lose weight before noticeable)

Growth failure (nutritional)

Alert facies

Normal sensation and intellect

Affected infants not able to sit alone, roll over, or walk

Early death possible from respiratory failure or infection

Type 2 (Intermediate Spinal Muscular Atrophy)

Onset before 18 months old

Early: Weakness confined to arms and legs

Later: Becomes generalized

Legs usually involved to greater extent than arms

Prominent pectus excavatum

Movements absent during complete relaxation or sleep

Some infants able to sit if placed in position, but few can ambulate