

Look at this. I started thinking about the letter I have saved from Dr. Bach and here is what he wrote about beta-oxidation:
(I attached a copy, if you want to read the whole letter.)

In addition to metabolic aberration associated with immobility, systemic illness, muscle denervation, and muscle atrophy, SMA patients have inborn [metabolic abnormalities in mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation](#) and carnitine metabolism. Any process that increases cytoplasmic free fatty acid levels, such as fasting or defects of fatty acid transport or [betaoxidation](#), would be expected to increase the liver and kidney's production and [excretion of dicarboxylic acids](#).

And here is what the article about the carnitine deficiency says:

Heart failure caused by dilated cardiomyopathy may be the presenting syndrome in patients with [secondary carnitine deficiency caused by defects in beta-oxidation](#), such as long-chain 3-hydroxyacyl-CoA dehydrogenase (LCHAD) and very long-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (VLCAD) deficiency.

Urine organic acids: In primary carnitine deficiency, the urine organic acid analysis usually is normal. In cases of [fatty acid oxidation disorders](#) that cause secondary carnitine deficiency, [inappropriate dicarboxylic aciduria occurs](#) during periods of illness. It is very important to collect this specimen during illness.

In secondary carnitine deficiency caused by fatty acid oxidation disorders, the age of onset varies. Metabolic decompensation triggered by viral illness, associated with encephalopathy, and accompanied by liver involvement, hypotonia, or cardiomyopathy tends to occur in infancy. Cardiomyopathy or skeletal myopathy tends to present later. Carnitine deficiency also may occur in preterm newborns receiving total parenteral nutrition (TPN) with no carnitine supplementation.

I thought that the heart issues were being caused by long periods of respiratory distress and the work our kids do to breath when they are sick. Now it looks like it is due to metabolic abnormalities.