

Prader-Willi Syndrome (USA) **ALERT!!!**

Risk of *Stomach Necrosis and Rupture*

Possibly Related to Chronic Gastroparesis

A Cause of Death from Sepsis, Gastric Necrosis or Blood Loss

Signs and symptoms of stomach necrosis and rupture:

- ◆ **Vomiting**
 - ◆ Any vomiting is very unusual in Prader-Willi syndrome
- ◆ **Loss of appetite- (ominous sign)**
- ◆ **Lethargy**
- ◆ **Complaints of pain, usually non-specific**
 - ◆ Pain sensation is abnormal in Prader-Willi syndrome due to high pain threshold; rarely complain of pain
 - ◆ Pain is often poorly localized
 - ◆ Peritoneal signs may be absent
- ◆ **Abdominal/stomach bloating and dilatation**
- ◆ **Fever may or may not be present**
 - ◆ Temperature regulation is altered in Prader-Willi syndrome
- ◆ **Guaic positive stools (chronic gastritis)**

THESE SIGNS SHOULD RAISE SUSPICION OF STOMACH NECROSIS/RUPTURE AS A POSSIBLE DIAGNOSIS WHICH CAN BE LIFE THREATENING!

History may include:

- ◆ **History of binge eating within the week**
 - ◆ Hyperphagia and binge eating are characteristic of Prader-Willi syndrome, regardless of whether obese or slim
 - ◆ Frequently occurs after holiday, or social occasion with less supervision of intake
- ◆ **History of gastroparesis**
 - ◆ Common in Prader-Willi syndrome, though often undiagnosed
- ◆ **Often slim or history of significant obesity followed by weight loss**
 - ◆ May leave the stomach wall thinned

For more information go to www.pwsausa.org or call 800-926-4797.