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
- **Guaiac 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](http://www.pwsausa.org) or call 800-926-4797.