Prune Belly Syndrome

Other names that may be used for this disorder are:

- Abdominal Musculature Aplasia Syndrome
- Abdominal Muscle Deficiency Anomalad
- Abdominal Muscle Deficiency Syndrome
- Absence of Abdominal Muscle Syndrome
- Aplastic Abdominal Muscle Syndrome
- Congenital Absence of the Abdominal Muscles
- Defective Abdominal Wall Syndrome
- Eagle-Barrett Syndrome
- Fröhlich Syndrome
- Obrinsky Syndrome
- PBS

Prune Belly Syndrome is characterised by the partial or complete absence of the abdominal muscles, undescended testicles to descend into the scrotum and urinary tract abnormalities. The abdominal wall appears wrinkled and shrivelled due to the abdomen swelling because of the fluid in the womb, and then the fluid being lost after birth. This leads to excess folds of skin, which is made more prominent by the lack of abdominal muscle. The disorder occurs in one in every 40,000 live births, approximately 95% of these cases have occurred in males.

Treatment involves surgery to repair genital and urinary tract abnormalities and antibiotics to treat urinary tract infections. Renal transplants may be required after birth in severe cases. This is a serious and frequently a life threatening disorder, many newborns survive but with varying degrees of chronic difficulties but others may be stillborn or die within the first two years of life.

This information is fully sourced and referenced, for more detailed information and references please contact CLIMB by email, letter or telephone.

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