

# Prune Belly Syndrome Network

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[www.prunebelly.org](http://www.prunebelly.org)

What is Prune Belly Syndrome? Who is affected? How can you help? This letter along with the enclosed DVD will help answer these questions.

Prune Belly Syndrome (PBS) is a rare disorder, which occurs during fetal development, affecting 1 in 40,000 births, 95% of whom are male. PBS consists of a triad of features which include deficient or absent abdominal wall musculature, urinary tract anomalies (mega-ureters, large bladder), and bilateral cryptorchidism (undescended testicles). There is also a possibility of heart, lung, bone, hearing, & other defects. The statistics are 20% of patients are stillborn, 30% die of renal failure within the first two years of life, and the remaining 50% have varying degrees of urinary pathology. Those who survive may have to endure many hospitalizations & surgeries. This is a life threatening, life long disorder. There is no cure for Prune Belly Syndrome.

The Prune Belly Syndrome Network, Inc. is a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 determination under sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) and 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code, issued in May 2001. The PBSN is a website based corporation with over 500 members internationally which provides support and education for those who have Prune Belly Syndrome, their families, friends and the health care professionals who treat them. Our goal is to one day be able to find a cure for this rare disorder through raising awareness of Prune Belly Syndrome and funding research.

The PBSN holds annual conventions for health professionals, patients, their families and friends. The convention is primarily for education, networking with others who understand, and a place to meet someone else face to face, usually for the first time, who also has Prune Belly Syndrome. Most who have PBS think they are the only one with this disorder and are relieved to know they are not.

After you have watched the enclosed DVD, please go to [www.prunebelly.org](http://www.prunebelly.org) to learn how you can help! Please send donations to the address above. We thank you in advance for your generosity. Together we can find a cure for Prune Belly Syndrome.

PBSN Board of Directors  
Lynn Brokus, President

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