Manic Phenomena in an Adult with Prader-Willi Syndrome

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A 37 year old man presented with genetically confirmed Prader-Willi syndrome, a genetic multisystem disorder caused, in this case, by a deletion of the paternal genes in the 15q11-q13 region. The most striking characteristic symptom is relentless pursuit of food with devastating effects on body weight, health and quality of life. The patient lives in a residential home for adults with Prader-Willi syndrome where diet is strictly controlled. In the last few years his primary problem was severe behavioral disruption which was treated with a combination of psychiatric medications (risperidone, sertraline, topiramate and clopiamine). During a recent trial to taper down the psychiatric medications, he developed an acute manic/hypochondriac psychotic state during which he ate uncontrollably and developed abdominal pain. X-ray demonstrated the presence of metallic objects such as batteries, pins and screws in the large bowel. He was followed and surgical intervention was not required.

References


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Capsule

‘Watch’ stops unnecessary heart attack deaths

It looks like a watch but it’s a sophisticated blood-oxygen heart rate monitor. About half the people at risk of death from cardiac or pulmonary arrest could gain the chance to live, once Israeli entrepreneur Leon Eisen’s new Oxitone device goes to market some time this year. Using two optical sensors and another special high-tech tool, Eisen developed the world’s first “watch” that can just about tell when your time may be up. With all the technology out there – personal monitoring devices, crocodile clips for your finger, even those panic buttons – nothing helps if the user is not able to mobilize these devices in time. And many patients may not be able to read the signs that cardiac arrest is imminent. That’s why Eisen developed a wearable watch-like mobile device – synched with Bluetooth, Android or iPhone devices – that takes minute-by-minute readings of heart rate and oxygen levels in the blood. Oxitone was recently chosen from 400 applicants by GE Healthcare’s Start-Up Health Academy Entrepreneurship Program.

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