Kartini Clinic Launches Nation's First Treatment Protocol for Food Phobia

One of the nation's leading pediatric eating disorder treatment facilities Kartini Clinic has launched a new treatment program for children and young adults suffering from food phobia. Food phobia occurs in children and young adults, often as a direct result of an episode of choking and/or vomiting that leads them subsequently to refuse all solid food. In severe cases patients even refuse to swallow any liquids, including their own saliva. This irrational and deeply held fear leads to weight loss and can lead to dehydration.

Portland, OR (PRWEB) December 16, 2009 -- While it is not known how many children and young adults suffer from food phobia, those who do often undergo drastic and unnecessary treatments such as psychiatric hospitalization, even surgery. Kartini Clinic's program is a non-invasive, non-coercive family based treatment program with a proven treatment protocol developed over many years of clinical experience by a multidisciplinary team of pediatricians and specialized psychotherapists.

The Kartini Clinic program, the nation's first standardized pediatric treatment protocol for food phobia, emphasizes the role of the family in care and strives to remove the patient as quickly as possible from an inpatient setting. This emphasis allows for a shorter, less intensive course of treatment that is often much less traumatic for patients and their families. Because lengthy hospital stays and residential treatment are avoided, the program is also often much less expensive than treatment alternatives.

According to Dr. Julie O'Toole MD, founder and medical director of the Kartini Clinic, “most patients who come to us have already been seen by some combination of their own doctor, a gastroenterologist, a speech therapist, a psychologist, a throat surgeon or an occupational therapist. In some cases this cascade of referrals has lead to a delay in resolution of the problem as long as six months.”

Kartini Clinic for Disordered Eating was established in 1998, in Portland, Oregon, and is dedicated exclusively to the treatment of eating disorders in children and young adults. Its milieu-based treatment programs for anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and food phobia utilize evidence-based treatments including family-based treatment (FBT), cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) and medical management of proper nutrition and overall physical and psychological health.

For more information please visit our web site at www.kartiniclinic.com or call 503 249 8851 to speak to an intake coordinator.

###
Contact Information
Morgan OToole
Kartini Clinic for Disordered Eating
http://www.kartiniclinic.com
5032498851

Online Web 2.0 Version
You can read the online version of this press release here.