## 12<sup>th</sup> International Conferences on **Childhood Obesity and Nutrition**

## 3rd World Congress on Diabetes and Obesity

March 18-19, 2019 | Rome, Italy

Creating intensive outpatient (IOP/PHP) programming for binge eating disorder for adolescents: Improving obesity and eating disorder resources in the adolescent population

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Since the addition of binge eating disorder (BED) to the DSM-V, more awareness and education has been brought to the topic of obesity, food addictions and healthy lifestyle. Although, BED is a relatively new diagnosis, research indicates that the prevalence of this type of eating disorder is 2½ times higher than anorexia and bulima combined. Within the last few years, we have been taking positive steps to provide more access to treatment. Although, trying to find access to care for the child and adolescent population has been farily limited and almost non-existent at highler levels of care for the treatment of binge eating disorder. The creation of a PHP/IOP adolescent program needs to incorporate the most effective and evidenced based treatment modalities for binge eating disorder, as well as family based interventions that include education and modelling. Topics included in the creation of an adoloscent binge eating disorder PHP/IOP include determination and assessement for level of care, provider training to reduce stigmatization, education on current terminolgy, and adaptatation of common eating disorder interventions. Differences in adult and adolescent treatment should be distinguished as well as the recovery outcomes that should be expected with treatment.