

**Minnesota Chapter**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NATT-MN Recruiting Patient Stories**

**Saint Paul, MN, September 11, 2009** – The Minnesota Chapter for the National Alliance for Thrombosis and Thrombophilia (NATT-MN) is seeking patients or family members to share personal stories about their experience with blood clots or a clotting disorder. These stories will be used to help raise awareness about the seriousness of thrombosis and thrombophilia and the diversity of people affected. In Minnesota, blood clots strike more than 15,000 people and result in over 5,000 deaths. To share your story, please contact Chris Pulkrabek, NATT-MN Chapter Director at [cpulkrabek@stoptheclot.org](mailto:cpulkrabek@stoptheclot.org).

NATT is a patient-led and science driven advocacy organization providing patient education and professional training on the signs, symptoms and prevention of blood clots and clotting disorders. NATT combines the unique perspectives of health care providers, individuals afflicted with clotting disorders and community leaders who are passionate about this health care crisis.

Several hundred thousand Americans die each year from blood clots in the veins. Most of these lives could have been saved if more patients and health professionals had known about the symptoms, risks and treatments. NATT has joined forces with the CDC, US Surgeon General and other voluntary health agencies to promote education and early diagnosis and treatment of blood clots.

The US Surgeon General estimates that in Minnesota, blood clots will strike more than 10,000 people each year, resulting in over 1,700 deaths, most of which are preventable. Information released recently from the Mayo Clinic provides significantly higher estimates for Minnesota, with blood clots striking more than 15,000 people and resulting in over 5,000 deaths.

The mission of the National Alliance for Thrombosis & Thrombophilia is to prevent, diagnose and treat thrombosis and thrombophilia through research, education, support and advocacy. For additional information about clotting disorders or the activities of the NATT-MN Chapter, contact Chris Pulkrabek by e-mail to [cpulkrabek@stoptheclot.org](mailto:cpulkrabek@stoptheclot.org) or by telephone at 651-324-3169.

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