



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

NATIONAL PENICILLIN ALLERGY DAY

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, penicillin is the most commonly reported drug allergy with 10 percent of all United States patients—30 million Americans, including more than 1 million North Carolinians—reporting an allergic reaction to a penicillin-class antibiotic in their past; and

WHEREAS, penicillin allergy history is often inaccurate, with research showing that 9 out of 10 patients reporting as penicillin allergic—about 27 million Americans, or 913,000 North Carolinians—are not truly allergic to penicillin; and

WHEREAS, inaccurate diagnosis of penicillin allergy can adversely impact medical costs for both patients and health care systems: research shows that antibiotic costs for patients reporting penicillin allergies are up to 63 percent higher than those for patients who do not report being penicillin-allergic; and

WHEREAS, in the hospital setting, history of penicillin allergy translates to about 10 percent more hospital days, 30 percent higher incidence of VRE infections, 23 percent higher incidence of C difficile infections, and 14 percent higher incidence of MRSA infections; and

WHEREAS, these adverse events occur because penicillin “allergic” patients are given more broad spectrum antibiotics, which contributes to the public health problem of antibiotic resistance; and

WHEREAS, National Penicillin Allergy Day is being organized to raise awareness of false penicillin allergy, and encourage the de-labeling of patients erroneously labeled penicillin-allergic by promoting penicillin allergy skin testing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2017, as “**NATIONAL PENICILLIN ALLERGY DAY**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this eighteenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.