



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE (C. DIFFICILE) INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that nearly half a million *C. difficile* infections occurred in the United States in 2015; approximately 60 percent of these infections were associated with inpatient stay in a hospital or nursing facility; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 29,000 patients died within 30 days of the initial diagnosis of *C. difficile*, and more than 15,000 of these deaths were directly attributable to the infection; and

**WHEREAS**, studies indicate that *C. difficile* has become the most common microbial cause of healthcare-associated infections in United States hospitals and creates up to \$4.8 billion in excess costs each year for acute care facilities alone; and

**WHEREAS**, older patients, residents of inpatient health care facilities, and patients who take antibiotics are most at risk for developing *C. difficile* infections; more than 80 percent of deaths associated with *C. difficile* in the United States occur among people aged 65 years or older; and

**WHEREAS**, health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who advocate staff and patient safety by promoting measures to minimize and prevent *C. difficile* infections; and

**WHEREAS**, educating health care workers on proper infection prevention techniques can reduce all types of healthcare-associated infections; basic practices, such as thorough hand hygiene and environmental cleaning, can significantly reduce the risk and spread of *C. difficile*; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages people to be aware of the dangers of *C. difficile* infection for the health, safety, and well-being of our communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November, 2018, as "**CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE (C. DIFFICILE) INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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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 twenty-sixth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.