

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS MONTH

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, neuromyelitis optica (NMO) is a rare autoimmune disorder in which the immune system cells and antibodies primarily attack the optic nerves and spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, NMO damages the optic nerves and spinal cord which can lead to inflammation, pain, loss of vision, weakness, and paralysis in the legs and arms among other symptoms; and

WHEREAS, NMO is a relapsing-remitting disease that can lead to accumulating disability with devastating and irreversible effects on function if left untreated; while there is no known cure for NMO, early diagnosis and treatment are critical to a good long-term outcome; and


WHEREAS, when mistaken for other diseases, treatments can exacerbate NMO symptoms; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness of NMO is vital to promote identification and diagnosis at the earliest stage and ensure individuals receive proper medical attention; and

WHEREAS, the NMO community is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about this disease to improve patient care and outcomes and promote research so that a cure may ultimately be found;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2019, as “**NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS MONTH**” 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 twenty-first day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.