



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS MONTH

2020

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 reacts against its own cells in the central nervous system primarily affecting the optic nerves and spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, damage to 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, if left untreated, NMO can lead to disability with devastating and irreversible effects on bodily functions; and

WHEREAS, when mistaken for other diseases, some treatments can worsen NMO symptoms; while there is no known cure for NMO, early diagnosis and treatment are critical for a positive long-term outcome; and

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

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages people and organizations across our state to raise awareness about NMO to improve patient care and promote research for finding a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2020, 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-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.