



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## SEPSIS SURVIVOR AWARENESS WEEK

2021

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, sepsis is a life-threatening condition that results from an abnormal immune response to infection in which the chemicals released into the blood to combat the infection trigger widespread inflammation; and

**WHEREAS**, sepsis can be treated with immediate diagnosis and care, but must be treated as a medical emergency; sepsis can contribute to tissue damage and organ failure, leaving some survivors with long-lasting limitations and disabilities known as post-sepsis syndrome (PSS); and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sepsis is responsible for roughly 270,000 deaths in the United States each year; a third of the deaths that occur in a hospital are as a result of sepsis; and

**WHEREAS**, sepsis kills more people than prostate cancer, breast cancer, and opioid overdoses combined, and is the most expensive cause of hospitalization in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the severe danger and prevalence of this illness, a survey conducted by Sepsis Alliance found that only 12 percent of American adults know the symptoms of sepsis and about PSS; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina urges widespread awareness of sepsis and post-sepsis syndrome, and recognizes the many survivors and loved ones that have had to deal with the often-tragic results of this terrible condition;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 14 – 20, 2021, as “SEPSIS SURVIVOR AWARENESS WEEK” 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 tenth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.