



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a brain aneurysm is a weak spot on the wall of a brain artery, which gradually becomes weakened from dilation; this pressure can cause an aneurysm to rupture, releasing blood around the brain; and

WHEREAS, ruptured brain aneurysms commonly require advanced surgical treatment, and are fatal in about 40 percent of cases; of those who survive, about 66 percent suffer a permanent neurological deficit; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 6 million people in the United States – 1 in 50 – have an unruptured brain aneurysm; the annual rate of rupture is approximately 8 – 10 per 100,000, or about 30,000 people per year; and

WHEREAS, brain aneurysms are most prevalent in people ages 35 – 60, but also occur in children; and

WHEREAS, some risk factors that can increase the likelihood of developing brain aneurysms include cigarette use, chronic hypertension, and a history of cerebral aneurysms in closely related family members; and

WHEREAS, through imaging screening techniques, individuals at high risk of harboring a brain aneurysm can be identified easily with non-invasive tests (including CT Scans, CTA, MRI, and MRA); and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis of a brain aneurysm is critical because the initial hemorrhage may be fatal, may have devastating neurological outcomes, or may cause minor symptoms; despite widespread neuroimaging availability, misdiagnoses occur in up to 25 percent of patients, in large part due to a failure to scan; and

WHEREAS, today, there are more effective and less invasive treatment options for aneurysms that would have been considered inoperable only a few years ago; doctors consider the patient's age, the size of the aneurysm, and the location of the aneurysm to determine the best treatment; and

WHEREAS, despite the prevalence and severity of brain aneurysms, the federal government only spends approximately \$0.83 per year on aneurysm research for each person afflicted; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages citizens to raise awareness for increased funding and education in order to limit misdiagnoses, further advance treatment options, and provide better support for brain aneurysm patients and their families in our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2017, as "BRAIN ANEURYSM 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 eleventh 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.