

SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2019

WHEREAS, sepsis is a life-threatening complication of the body's overwhelming response to an infection which, without rapid diagnosis and treatment, can quickly progress to tissue damage, organ failure and death; and

WHEREAS, sepsis is a medical emergency that kills over 270,000 Americans each year, affecting all age groups with the very young, elderly and those with chronic diseases and weakened immune systems especially at risk; and

WHEREAS, sepsis survivors have a shortened life expectancy and are more likely to experience an impaired quality of life from amputations, memory loss, anxiety or depression; and

WHEREAS, approximately 87 percent of sepsis cases begin in the community, where only 12 percent of Americans can identify the most common sepsis symptoms; and

WHEREAS, sepsis is the No.1 cause for hospital admissions in our state and sepsis is the No.1 cause for hospital readmissions of Medicare beneficiaries in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the Great Plains Quality Innovation Network is dedicated to raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of sepsis as critical knowledge for health care providers, emergency medical services and community members to reduce sepsis harm and death; and

WHEREAS, the Sepsis Alliance has declared the month of September as Sepsis Awareness Month to improve recognition of the symptoms of sepsis in communities and bring attention to this treatable condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2019, **SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE