



State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
TARLOV CYST DISEASE AWARENESS DAY
MARCH 18, 2018

WHEREAS, Tarlov cyst disease is cysts or outpouchings in the membranes around dorsal nerve-roots filled with cerebral spinal fluid. They are visualized on 1 percent to 2 percent of spinal imaging studies, predominantly found in the sacral region of the spine where intrathecal pressure is greatest; and

WHEREAS, approximately 50 percent of Tarlov cysts cause symptoms which are most often described as radicular pain and neurologic dysfunction. Tarlov cyst disease more commonly affects women than men; and

WHEREAS, Tarlov cyst disease symptoms include varying levels of intractable pain which are usually defined by cyst location and associated nerve distribution. Pain may mimic other conditions such as Sciatica and Disk Degeneration, conditions known to cause nerve impingement. Pain may be described as burning pain that radiates down one or both legs and arms with some loss of feeling and control of movement. Affected persons may also experience bowel, bladder and sexual dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, treatment for Tarlov cyst disease generally focuses on controlling pain and symptoms. Some patients have found long-term relief through surgical intervention. The most common types are known as surgical laminectomy and aspiration with fibrin glue injection (AFGI); and

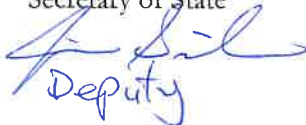
WHEREAS, some patients with Tarlov cyst disease may also present with additional co-morbid conditions due to the potentially invasive nature of this spinal cord disease and its limited treatment options. Many patients have been diagnosed with a wide array of conditions which may include, but are not limited to, known connective tissue and autoimmune diseases such as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) or lupus. Patients remain at increased risk of developing other diseases due to the limited invasive treatments meant to bring relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 18, 2018, **TARLOV CYST DISEASE AWARENESS DAY** in the State of North Dakota.


Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State


Deputy