

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Lynch syndrome, formerly known as Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer (HNPCC), is a hereditary condition that causes greater risk of developing colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, stomach, hepatobiliary tract, urinary tract, skin, and brain cancer; and

WHEREAS: Lynch Syndrome creates a hereditary predisposition to a litany of cancers at a high lifetime risk and often at an early onset age. The risk includes up to 80% for colorectal cancer; up to 60% risk for endometrial cancer; up to 12% risk for ovarian cancer; up to 19% risk for gastric cancer; up to 5% risk for urinary tract cancer; and so forth; and

WHEREAS: Geneticists have projected that up to one million persons throughout the U.S. have Lynch syndrome, and one in every 300 persons may be a carrier of Lynch Syndrome. Studies show that only 5% are currently diagnosed; and

WHEREAS: Every person should know their family history and share it with their physician to determine if their family may be at high risk for hereditary cancers and to prompt genetic testing; and

WHEREAS: Every newly diagnosed colorectal cancer and endometrial cancer should be screened for Lynch syndrome characteristics to prompt risk assessment and genetic testing; and

WHEREAS: A positive genetic test will determine if these cancers are hereditary or familiar, qualifying affected individuals for regular cancer screening tests so that growths, polyps, and tumors may be detected early and treated or removed before becoming life-threatening; and

WHEREAS: Having knowledge of a Lynch syndrome diagnosis can increase cancer prevention through regular screening measures and lead to earlier cancer detection and treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim March 22nd, 2019, as

LYNCH SYNDROME HEREDITARY CANCER AWARENESS DAY

across the State, and I encourage all Arkansans to learn more about this hereditary condition, to collect their family history information, and to share this pertinent information with their healthcare provider in order to assess individual risk and take steps toward prevention and detection.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 22nd day of January, in the year of our Lord 2019.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


John Thurston, Secretary Of State