

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Necrotizing fasciitis is a severe but uncommon clinical disease of the layers of tissue under the skin that is often referred to in popular media as the “flesh-eating bug or virus;” and

WHEREAS: The most common causes of the disease are the bacteria *Streptococcus pyogenes* (also known as group A hemolytic strep) and *Staphylococcus aureus*. Other cases are caused by other types of bacteria, including those naturally found within the intestines of healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS: Necrotizing fasciitis can occur in any age group, although sometimes there are precipitating factors. It is most commonly associated with trauma or surgical procedures and is more likely to be seen in those with risk factors like diabetes mellitus, kidney disease, atherosclerotic vascular disease, malignancy, and immunosuppression; and

WHEREAS: In rare occasions this condition may occur following minor injuries to the skin, including falls, cuts, or tears, but sometimes the underlying cause is not apparent, and the disease can occur in otherwise healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS: Though necrotizing fasciitis can affect any place on the body, the most common sites are the arms and legs, head and neck, and the perineum; and

WHEREAS: Progress has been made in understanding the early signs and symptoms and better diagnosing this disease; however, there is still much to learn about necrotizing fasciitis. With increased research, the goals of improving early diagnosis and treatment are attainable;

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 May 2019, as

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS MONTH

and May 31st, 2019, as

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS DAY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 5th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2019.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary Of State