



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

Clostridium Difficile Infection Awareness Month November 2017

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately half a million Clostridium difficile (C. difficile, C. diff) infections occur per year that require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized; and

WHEREAS, approximately 29,000 patients die within thirty days of the initial diagnosis of C. difficile of with about 15,000 deaths were estimated to be directly attributable to C. difficile infection; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that C. difficile has become the most common microbial cause of healthcare-associated infections in U.S. hospitals and costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities alone; and

WHEREAS, 1 out of every 5 patients with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection experience a recurrence of the infection and 1 out of every 9 patients aged 65 or older with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection died within 30 days of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who advocate for improving health and promoting patient and staff safety to minimize and prevent C difficile; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our families and communities.

THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2017 as CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH, in acknowledgement of the negative impact that Clostridium Difficile has on the wellbeing of individuals and systems of health, and in recognition of the hard work that healthcare professionals undertake to lessen the number of new infections.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this seventh day of August two thousand seventeen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-second.



Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor