



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Feb. 23, 2011

For More Information, Contact:
Dubi Schwanz
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
North Dakota Department of Health
Phone: 701.328.3046
E-mail: dschwanz@nd.gov

Governor Dalrymple Proclaims March 4, 2011, “Dress in Blue Day” in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Jack Dalrymple has proclaimed March 4, 2011, as “Dress in Blue Day” in North Dakota.

On Dress in Blue Day, people across the nation wear blue to promote awareness about colorectal cancer and encourage people to get screened.

“Colorectal Cancer is the second most diagnosed cancer for men and women in North Dakota,” said Joyce Saylor, Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program director for the North Dakota Department of Health. “Increasing awareness of the importance of colorectal cancer screening is essential in reducing the number of North Dakotans diagnosed with and dying from this disease.”

The Department of Health offers these important points about colorectal cancer:

- If you’re 50 or older, see your doctor to get screened. For those with a family history of the disease, screening should begin earlier.
- Colorectal cancer and precancerous polyps don’t always cause symptoms.
- Colorectal cancer affects both women and men and all races and ethnicities.
- When cancer is found early, colorectal cancer treatment can be very effective and save lives.
- Many insurance plans help pay for screenings that can detect colorectal cancer.

Colorectal cancer is preventable and curable. Removing precancerous polyps can prevent cancer in the earliest stage, when over 90 percent of colorectal cancers can be cured,” said Dr. John Leitch, chair of the North Dakota Cancer Coalition. “Every North Dakotan 50 and older needs colorectal cancer screening.”

-- more --

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200
Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: health@nd.gov

Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

Dress in Blue Day is an opportunity for worksites, organizations and communities to take a stand against colorectal cancer by wearing blue and spreading the important message of colorectal cancer screening.

For information about Dress in Blue Day, contact Dubi Schwanz, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.3046.

PROCLAMATION
DRESS IN BLUE DAY
MARCH 4, 2011

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second most diagnosed cancer among men and women in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, about 120 North Dakotans die from colorectal cancer each year; and

WHEREAS, there are often no symptoms of colorectal cancer; however, regular screenings can reduce the number of deaths from the disease by detecting cancerous or precancerous conditions early, when treatment is most effective; and

WHEREAS, “*Dress in Blue Day*” is observed to promote awareness about colorectal cancer and to encourage people to get screened; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to participate in “*Dress in Blue Day*” and to learn more about colorectal cancer prevention and treatment, and the importance of regular screenings.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 4, 2011, **DRESS IN BLUE DAY** in the state of North Dakota.

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

-- 30 --

Please note: To access archived news releases and other information, visit the North Dakota Department of Health Press Room at www.nddohpressroom.gov.

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200
Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: health@nd.gov

Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.