

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; while the American Cancer Society reports that research continues to expand and rates have been decreasing over the past decade, esophageal cancer is still among the deadliest of cancers, as rates of early detection are low, and it is usually discovered at more advanced stages; and

WHEREAS; though the cause of esophageal cancer remains unknown, risk factors such as persistent heartburn, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), and Barrett's Esophagus, a precancerous condition that stems from recurring acid reflux, are believed to be related; and

WHEREAS; esophageal cancer can be a silent killer, with affected individuals often unaware that their symptoms—heartburn, cough, hoarse voice, sore throat, and chest pain—could be a sign of GERD and a reason to discuss screening for esophageal cancer with their healthcare provider; and

WHEREAS; treatment for esophageal cancer varies by type but frequently may include surgery to remove tumors, portions of the esophagus or the upper portion of the stomach, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, targeted drug therapy, or immunotherapy; and

WHEREAS; esophageal cancer can be best prevented by avoiding certain risk factors, including tobacco and alcohol use and maintaining a healthy weight, as well as through the early detection of Barrett's Esophagus; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated advocates, organizations, and individuals who have been affected by esophageal cancer in raising awareness of the disease, promoting early detection, and encouraging all Wisconsinites to be aware of the signs, symptoms, and their own risk factors;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH


throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 26th day of March 2024.


TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:


SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State