

THE NATIONAL ADRENAL DISEASES FOUNDATION, INC.

505 Northern Boulevard • Suite 200
Great Neck, New York 11021
(516) 487-4992 • www.nadf.us

March 22, 2015

The Honorable Senator Monnes Anderson
Oregon State Senate

Dear Senator Anderson and Members of the Health Committee,

On behalf of the National Adrenal Diseases Foundation, I am writing to express my support for Oregon State Senate Bill SB874.

Adrenal insufficiency (AI) is a very serious condition, and it is not curable. It is however treatable with steroid replacement therapy. During emergencies, high dose of cortisol are essential and it is crucial that treatment begins quickly. Cortisol mobilizes nutrients, modifies the body's response to inflammation, stimulates the liver to raise blood sugar, and also helps to maintain hydration. In healthy individuals, production of this hormone is increased naturally during stressful situations (e.g., flu, infection) and even more so during emergencies (e.g., surgery, bleeding). Patients that are adrenal insufficient have to receive cortisol intravenously in these situations. Since this hormone regulates so many bodily functions, it is vital that it be administrated without any delays.

As President of NADF, I am aware of many occurrences wherein AI patients did not receive prompt and proper medical care. These instances have in resulted extended hospital stays, additional complications, and fatalities. The necessary treatments are cheap, readily available and simple to administer. Therefore, ensuing that AI suffers receive essential care is purely matter of providing awareness and education to the medical community.

Our organization recently performed a survey of healthcare professionals which asked for comments on how to improve the treatment of AI patients. Close to 40% stated that better education and awareness are the key to improved management and treatment. This survey therefore serves as compelling evidence that members of medical community themselves recognize the need for improved education.

Thank you for your efforts and consideration; we at NADF hope that other States use Oregon's example and implement similar laws.

Respectfully,
Kalina Warren



Board President
National Adrenal Diseases Foundation
nadfkalina@nadf.us
407-619-5908

The National Adrenal Diseases Foundation, a non-profit organization [501(c)(3)-Tax ID 11-2777036] informs, educates, and supports those with adrenal disease and their families to improve their quality of life.

