



Lyme disease is a bacterial infection with symptoms that vary depending on the length of infection.

EARLY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- Fever, chills, headache, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes, muscle and joint aches.
- “Bulls Eye” rash with red rings around the bitesite. It might feel warm to the touch.

LATER SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- Severe headaches and neck stiffness
- Rashes on other areas of the body
- Arthritis with severe joint pain and swelling, particularly the knees and other large joints.
- Intermittent pain in tendons, muscles, joints, and bones.
- Dizziness or shortness of breath.
- Facial palsy (loss of muscle tone or droop on one or both sides of the face).
- Heart palpitations or an irregular heart beat.
- Nerve pain or shooting pains, numbness, or tingling in the hands or feet.
- Problems with short-term memory.

HOW TO AVOID GETTING LYME DISEASE.

The best way to prevent Lyme disease is to avoid areas where deer ticks live, especially wooded, bushy areas with long grass. You can decrease your risk of getting Lyme disease with some simple precautions:

- Use insect repellents.
- Cover up.
- Clear your yard from brush and leaves.
- Shower as soon as possible.
- Check your clothing, yourself, your children and your pets for ticks.
- Remove the tick as soon as possible with tweezers.

GET A LYME DISEASE TEST

If you have been in an area known to have Lyme-carrying ticks and you have any of these symptoms, ask your healthcare professional about getting tested for Lyme disease. Treatment for Lyme disease is more effective if started early.

Consult your healthcare professional even if signs and symptoms disappear — the absence of symptoms doesn't mean the disease is gone.

Find out more about Lyme disease:



 QuidelOrtho™

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It's important to know!

Ask your pharmacist about how you can be tested for Lyme disease onsite with a QuidelOrtho Lyme test.





Many people who contract Lyme disease never see a tick, a tick bite, or the “bulls-eye” rash most commonly associated with Lyme disease. They may just feel the symptoms of Lyme disease. Left undiagnosed and untreated, Lyme disease can be debilitating or deadly.

Lyme disease may feel like many other conditions such as: flu, mono, chronic fatigue, multiple sclerosis, fibromyalgia, just to name a few.

For this reason, Lyme disease cannot be diagnosed on clinical symptoms alone – laboratory testing is needed to confirm a case of Lyme disease.

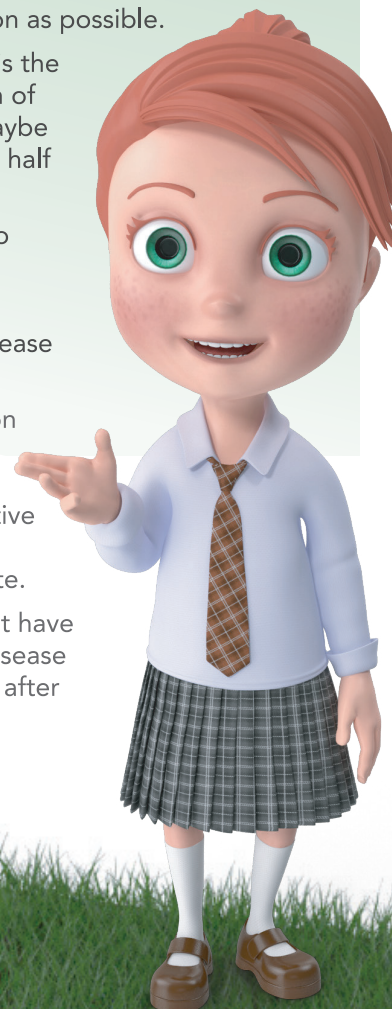
Only request a Lyme test if you have symptoms, otherwise the result may not be as accurate.

LYME DISEASE FACTS

- Lyme disease is caused by the spiral-shaped bacteria, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, and is transmitted by black legged ticks, commonly known as deer ticks.



- Deer ticks can be as small as a poppy seed!
- It takes 36 to 48 hours for an infected tick to transmit Lyme disease after it attaches itself to you. It's important to remove the tick as soon as possible.
- The “bulls eye” rash is the most well-known sign of Lyme disease, but maybe present in fewer than half of those infected
- There are currently no human vaccines for Lyme disease.
- You can get Lyme disease more than once.
- Though most common in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and upper Midwest, positive Lyme diagnoses have occurred in every state.
- Some people may not have symptoms of Lyme disease until months or years after infection.



HOW TO GET TESTED FOR LYME DISEASE

To perform the test, your healthcare professional will collect a drop of blood from a finger stick.



In 15 minutes or less, the results will show if the sample is positive or negative.

If you test positive for Lyme disease: A second test will be required to confirm the result. Only half of positive initial Lyme tests are confirmed positive.

If the test is negative but you still feel sick: Call your physician because Lyme disease can mimic other conditions.

If you have a positive result, your healthcare professional may provide you an antibiotic while you wait for a confirmation test. Your healthcare professional will decide what is best for you individually.