



Fundraiser for Lyme Disease Research

Lyme disease is caused by the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected black-legged ticks. Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and a characteristic skin rash called erythema migrans. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system resulting in both acute and chronic forms of the disease.

Lyme FAQs

- Lyme disease is the most commonly reported vector-borne illness in the United States
- Over 30,000 cases a year are now reported in the United States. However, because of under-reporting and misdiagnoses, the true number of cases is likely as much as 5-10 fold higher
- Maryland ranks in top 10 of the hardest hit states
- Cases have increased by over 100% since 1993, affecting both children and adults of all social backgrounds.
- As many as 20% of patients may suffer from long lasting persistent symptoms even after antibiotic therapy

Why is more research needed?

- Diagnostic tests cannot accurately identify the earliest stage of Lyme disease, when making the diagnosis is crucial
- There is no objective test to confirm a cure nor the eradication of infection of the lingering effects on the immune system
- Treatment options for patients with persistent symptoms after standard therapy have not been successfully tested or approved by the FDA

For Tickets & Information, visit
www.springforlyme.org
or call 410-484-2036 and ask for Michele

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