

Lyme Disease

What is Lyme Disease?

Lyme disease bacterial disease caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*, and is commonly found on the East Coast, in the upper Midwest, and in the West, but cases have been reported in most states throughout the country.

Signs and Symptoms

Symptoms vary based on time after exposure

Early Signs and Symptoms (3-30 days after tick bite)

- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle and joint pain
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Erythema migrans (EM) rash – “bullseye rash”

Later Signs and Symptoms (days to months after tick bite)

- Severe headaches and neck stiffness
- Additional EM rashes throughout body
- Arthritis with severe joint pain and swelling
- Facial palsy
- Pain in tendons, muscles, joints and bones and nerves
- Heart palpitations
- Dizziness
- Inflammation of brain and spinal cord

Transmission (How it spreads)

Through the bite of an infected Blacklegged ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*) tick.

Diagnosis & Treatment

Diagnosis is based on signs and symptoms and potential exposure

Antibiotics are used to treat Lyme disease

Prevention:

- Use of EPA-registered insect repellent (i.e.) Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, Skin So Soft;
- Wear long sleeves and long pants
- Avoid bushy and heavily wooded areas
- Perform thorough tick checks after being outdoors

Who is at Risk?

Everyone who spends time outdoors where the ticks can be found.

If you have symptoms, call your healthcare provider

Report cases to the Riley County Health Department by calling the Disease Investigation
Line: 785-317-0474

Lyme disease is a reportable disease in Kansas. All cases must be reported to KDHE via the
Epi Hotline: 877-427-7317