

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is the most common illness resulting from ticks in Europe and North America. It is caused from a bacterium. Deer ticks, which normally feed on the blood of humans and animals, can harbor this bacteria and spread it around as they feed. You are more prone to developing the disease if you spend time in any heavily wooded or grassy areas where the ticks that carry the disease live and thrive. It is imperative that you take common sense measures when living spending time in areas where the disease is found.

If you are treated with the proper antibiotics when the disease first occurs, you are likely to have a complete recovery. In the later stages of the disease, treatment won't be as quick. The majority of those with the disease go on to make a full recovery with the proper treatment.

The ticks are brown colored when they are younger and no bigger than a pin's head, which is why they are so difficult to spot. To get the disease, you have to be bitten by an infected tick. The bacteria enters in through the skin and makes its way into your bloodstream. In the majority of cases, the tick has to be attached to your skin to transmit the disease. If you find an attached tick that appears swollen, it might have had ample time to transmit the bacteria to your system. Removing it quickly will help to prevent infection.

Lyme Disease Anatomy

The purpose of your body's immune system is to keep any of the infectious microorganisms, such as viruses, bacteria and fungi, out of the body. It works hard to destroy any infectious microorganisms that invade the body. It is made up of a vital and complex network of organs and cells that help to protect the body from any potential infections. When the immune system isn't functioning properly, various diseases can arise. Hypersensitivity to substances and allergies are disorders of the immune system. The system plays a pivotal role in whether transplanted tissue or organs are rejected.

How to Treat Lyme Disease:

1. Oral Antibiotics

This is the standard treatment for Lyme disease in the early stages. Doxycycline is used for adults and children who are over eight years of age. Pregnant women and younger children normally need amoxicillin.

2. Intravenous Antibiotics

If the disease has taken over the central nervous system, you might have to be treated with an IV antibiotic for 14-28 days. This has been proven effective at treating infection, but it can take some time to overcome your symptoms.

Tips:

- Seek medical attention if you think you may have been bitten by a tick and you are having a reaction. Your local doctor or GP will be able to deal with it by giving antibiotics.
- When walking in grassy or wooded areas, wear long pants and sleeves. Always wear shoes. Tuck your pants into your socks. You could also wear gloves and a hat.
- Apply insect repellent that has a concentration of 20 percent minimum DEET. Or look for natural insect repellents. Lime based ones can work well.
- Clear leaves and brush from your yard where ticks might live.
- Check your children and pets for ticks, especially after spending a lot of time outside.
- Even if you have had Lyme disease before, you can still get it again.