



GET LYME SMART GUIDE

There is a lot of misinformation out there about Lyme disease. Proper diagnosis and treatment starts with knowing the facts. Get the facts with our “Get Lyme Smart Guide.”

HERE'S WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

A lot of people think... Lyme disease is rare and hard to catch.

Fact: Lyme is the fastest growing vector-borne infection. Every 96 seconds, someone in the U.S. is infected. If you are bitten and the tick is not removed properly, the infection takes hold in a matter of minutes.

A lot of people think... Everyone diagnosed with Lyme disease remembers a tick bite and a bulls-eye rash.

Fact: Fewer than 50% of patients with Lyme remember having either.

A lot of people think... There is no Lyme disease where they live.

Fact: Lyme is everywhere. Lyme has been reported in every state (except Hawaii) and has been found on every continent (except Antarctica).

A lot of people think... Lyme disease is easy to diagnose.

Fact: The CDC's recommended testing protocol misses 50% of actual cases according to several peer-reviewed studies. In addition, Lyme has been called “The Great Imitator” and can be mistaken for ALS, MS, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, autism, and other illnesses.

A lot of people think... All doctors know how to treat Lyme disease.

Fact: Many doctors use outdated, unapproved guidelines to diagnose and treat people with Lyme disease. So, it's not surprising that a Johns Hopkins study found that more than 63% of those treated continue to suffer symptoms. Currently, the only approved guidelines are those developed by ILADS. It's crucial to start treatment as early as possible with an ILADS trained physician.