



## LYME DISEASE

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

#### 1. ERYTHEMA MIGRANS (EM)

Typically, large ring-like lesion (rash), usually with bright red outer border and partial central clearing. The lesion occurs at least 48 hours after a tick bite and grows to at least 5 cm in diameter. Although the lesion can be located any where, the thigh, groin, and axilla are particularly common sites. The lesion is warm, but not often painful. Atypical EM of similar size without central clearing is occasionally seen.



#### 2. CRANIAL NEURITIS

Functional disturbance of a cranial nerve. for example, Bell's Palsy (i.e paralysis of all the muscles on one side of the face due to disturbed functioning of the 7<sup>th</sup> cranial nerve).

#### 3. LYMPHOCYTIC MENINGITIS

Inflammation of the membranes of the spinal cord or brain (meningitis) in which infectious organisms may be absent and the CSF has high lymphocyte count (about 100 cells per micro liter).

#### **4. RADICULONEUROPATHY**

Functional disturbance of a spinal nerve root, producing motor (muscle innervation) and sensory impairment.

#### **5. ENCEPHALOMYELITIS**

An acute inflammation of the brain and spinal cord.

#### **6. A-V BLOCK**

Abnormal electrical conduction across the atrioventricular node in the heart. This conduction abnormality may either slow or completely block impulses from spreading from the atria to the ventricles.

#### **7. 2<sup>ND</sup> DEGREE HEART BLOCK (INTERMITTENT A-V BLOCK)**

Present when some atrial impulses fail to spread to the ventricles. Documented by EKG.

#### **8. 3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE HEART BLOCK**

Present when no atrial impulse spreads to the ventricles. The pulse rate is typically 40-55 beats per minute. The block is documented by EKG changes.

#### **9. JOINT EFFECTS**

Swelling and pain, mostly in large joints, especially the knees. Does not usually begin until months after the onset of Lyme disease. Lasts weeks to months in a given joint. Small joints may also be affected.

#### **10. CHRONIC ARTHRITIS**

Commonly involves large joints with erosion of cartilage and bone.