

Lyme Disease: Alternative Treatments?

By Dr. Derek Conte

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Lyme disease is a well-known infection usually caused by the bite of a deer tick, and is prevalent in the Northeast, Midwest, Canada, and Europe (and also here in Georgia, where hunting season has begun!) and is usually contracted by individuals who spend time in the woods and areas of tall grasses.

A few days after being bitten by the tick, an expanding red rash (erythema migrans) usually, but not always, appears near the site in a circular shape, called a “bulls-eye rash”. The culprit responsible is *Borrelia burgdorferi*, a spiral-shaped (spirochete) bacterium. The symptoms include headache, fever, joint stiffness/pain, arthritis, great fatigue, mental fog, swollen lymph nodes and heart arrhythmias. The symptoms progress over time.

Almost half a million Americans suffer some sort of Lyme disease. Treatment is usually a course of broad-spectrum antibiotics, but many find Lyme can be very, very difficult to shake off, even after a long treatment. In addition, the nature of broad-spectrum antibiotics is destructive of the normal balance of gut flora (microbiome), vital to our health, immune strength and mental status.

But there seem to be some safer, possibly more successful alternative treatments being explored.

1) Ivermectin, a Nobel Prize-winning anti-parasitic medication used safely around the world to combat malaria and many other pathogens, including COVID-19.

Source: Pub Med, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34466270/>

2) Hygromycin A, a soil-borne antibiotic that was poor in killing stronger pathogens, but has a very strong and targeted effect on killing the spirochetes seen in Lyme disease. It also has the advantage of not disturbing the normal gut flora (microbiome)

Sources: Lyme Disease Association,

<https://news.northeastern.edu/2021/10/06/preventing-chronic-lyme-disease>

ALSO SEE: Science Daily,

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/10/211014131149.htm>

3) Chlorine Dioxide, (NOT Clorox!)

Source: European Society of Medicine, <https://esmed.org/MRA/mra/article/view/3279>

4) Hydroxychloroquin, an anti-parasitic medication used safely around the world for malaria and COVID-19.

Sources: Wiley Online Library,

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/art.1780241217>

ALSO SEE: Drugs.Com, "For Lyme Disease, Arthritis (anecdotal) User Reviews"

<https://www.drugs.com/comments/hydroxychloroquine/for-lyme-disease-arthritis.html>

Lyme disease can be a devastating, life-altering illness, even with extended traditional treatments. In such cases, where no complete solution has been found, expanding the search for effective solutions makes sense. As always, one must seek the advice and guidance from qualified practitioners with experience in any traditional or alternative treatment protocol.

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