

ONTARIO SPCA AND HUMANE SOCIETY

Ontario's animal charity since 1873.

Disease Name:	Lyme Disease	
Agent:	Borrelia burgdorferi	
Clinical Signs:	<p>Animals - Fever, lethargy, decreased appetite, sudden or severe lameness and joint swelling.</p> <p>Humans - Rash progressing to fever, flu-like symptoms, polyarthrits, meningitis, myocarditis and uveitis.</p>	
Susceptible domestic species	Dogs and cats	
Zoonotic?	Yes	
Diagnostic tests:	Serology	C6 and Western Blot
Test sensitivity (false negatives)		.
Test specificity (false positives)	Does not differentiate between antibodies from natural exposure and vaccination	Great
Test comments	Also cross reactive to other non-causative organisms. Distinguishes between natural exposure and vaccination-induced antibodies.	
Vaccine available?	Yes	
Vaccine efficacy	Good but vaccine is still new to the market.	
Excreted in :	Not applicable- do not survive as free living organisms outside host.	
Mode of transmission:	Tick bites	
Disinfection	Not applicable in shelter. Do not survive as free living organisms outside host.	
Incubation	Seroconversion within 3-6 weeks post exposure in about 5% infected dogs.	
Post recovery shedding	Do not survive as free-living organisms outside host.	
Carrier state?	No. Dogs are incidental hosts.	
Treatment	Doxycycline	
PPE Required	Gloves, gowns, shoe covers	