

— Infections

Infectious diseases are disorders caused by organisms; such as bacteria, viruses, fungi or parasites. Many organisms live in and on our bodies. They're normally harmless or even helpful, but some organisms under certain conditions may cause disease.

Some infectious diseases can be passed from person to person while some are transmitted via bites from insects or animals. Others are acquired by ingesting contaminated food or water or other exposures in the environment.

Signs and symptoms vary, but often include fever and chills. Mild complaints may respond to home remedies, while some life-threatening infections may require hospitalization.

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection you get from the bite of an infected tick. Lyme disease can be hard to diagnose because you may not have noticed a tick bite. Also, many of its symptoms are like those of the flu and other diseases.

+ LYME DISEASE A...	NEGATIVE	Range: NEGATIVE
+ 18 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 23 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 28 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 30 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 39 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 41 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 45 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 58 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 66 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 93 KD (IGG) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ LYME DISEASE A...	NEGATIVE	Range: NEGATIVE
+ 23 KD (IGM) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments
+ 39 KD (IGM) BAND	NON-REACTIVE	Range: See Comments

Range: See Comments

- 41 KD (IGM) BAND **NON-REACTIVE**

Range: See Comments

41 KD (IGM) BAND

Result Comments

Lyme immunoblot testing should only be performed on samples from patients who have had a Positive or Equivocal result in a screening assay.

As per CDC criteria, a Lyme disease IgG Immunoblot must show reactivity to at least 5 of 10 specific borrelial proteins to be considered positive; similarly, a positive Lyme disease IgM immunoblot requires reactivity to 2 of 3 specific borrelial proteins.

Although considered negative, IgG reactivity to fewer specific borrelial proteins or IgM reactivity to only 1 protein may indicate recent *B. burgdorferi* infection and warrant testing of a later sample. A positive IgM but negative IgG result obtained more than a month after onset of symptoms likely represents a false-positive IgM result rather than acute Lyme disease.

In rare instances, Lyme disease immunoblot reactivity may represent antibodies induced by exposure to other spirochetes.