

Symptoms of Lyme Disease

The CDC estimates nearly 630,000 new cases of Lyme disease each year. Lyme disease has three stages. While, without treatment, each stage and its symptoms usually progress into the next, the rate at which Lyme disease spreads varies significantly. If you are experiencing symptoms, document them and then talk with your doctor.



Bay Area Lyme
FOUNDATION

1. EARLY LOCALIZED

Days or weeks after infection

- Skin rash (see examples below)
- Headaches or stiff neck
- Flu-like symptoms, including fever or chills
- Muscle and joint pain
- Fatigue or lack of energy
- A small bump or redness at tick bite
- Swollen lymph nodes

2. DISSEMINATED

Weeks or months after infection

- Multiple skin rashes
- Heart palpitations*
- Fainting/syncope*
- Pain or numbness in arms and legs
- Extreme joint pain
- Profound fatigue
- Headaches and lack of energy
- Bell's palsy (facial paralysis)*
- Poor memory or inability to concentrate

3. LATE DISSEMINATED

Months or even years after infection

- Arthritis, particularly in knee or near point of infection
- Nervous system problems, including numbness and tingling in hands, legs, feet, or back
- Stiff neck, severe headaches, or migraines*
- Problems with memory, hearing and vision*
- Chronic debilitating fatigue
- Mood or sleep disorders
- Inflammation of heart or brain*

* For heart or neurological symptoms seek medical care immediately

Lyme Disease Skin Rash

More than 30% of patients never get the telltale bull's-eye skin rash typically associated with Lyme disease. While this ring-like rash is usually indicative of Lyme disease, the rash can take many forms or may not present at all. You should also watch for other symptoms.

Visit www.bayarealyme.org for more information.

Blistering Lesions



Uniformly Red Lesions



Erythema migrans can present itself in many different forms



Disseminated Lesions



Blue-Red Lesions



Bulls-eye (Target)/Central Clearing Lesions

