

Hi Derek,

I want to mention an additional issue I am having regarding my Lyme treatment. I also have a co-infection called Babesia. There are not any Lyme Specialists in Oregon that accept insurance! This is due to the fact that insurance companies are hassling Drs because they think Drs are extending unnecessary treatment. The insurance companies not only want to deny that chronic Lyme exists they also think in EVERY case it can be treated in a month and your done! I only wish. There are a large percentage of cases where one month of antibiotic is not enough. In my case I was originally bitten by a tick at around age 16, so around 1970. No one even knew what Lyme disease was at that time so I could not have received treatment even if I had gone to the Dr. In approx.50 percent of the cases the patient does not get a Bullseye rash and does not recall a tick bite so there was not opportunity for antibiotics to prevent the disease.

Babesia treatment requires different medications so the Lyme treatment I have had so far has not affected this infection. Lyme and co-infections are in Oregon and that is where I have been bitten by ticks twice! The problems lie in the denial by the State Health Dept. and medical professionals that we have a problem here. I was originally told I had Fibromyalgia for 16 years!

I was contacted recently by the County Health Dept. about the Babesia positive test results. The nurse kept telling me that this was rare in Oregon. My response to her was NO, I don't think it is rare, the problem is that Drs. are not testing for it and then saying a patient has Fibromyalgia instead. This is not the only possible misdiagnosis, if you want more info. look online for Lyme, Parkinson's, MS and ALS. Many of these misdiagnosed cases were actually patients infected with Lyme disease and possible co-infections.

Please observe the changes that have been made in Conn. and other states who now acknowledge chronic Lyme and do not put restrictions or sanctions on the Drs. who treat this illness as to the length of time needed, etc.

I have not gone to an infectious disease Dr. because I have been told by those that have tried seeing one that they refuse to treat Lyme and co-infections and they do not know how.

Please contact me if you have questions,

Sincerely,

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