Case Studies in Tick-Borne Disease: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Considerations

A Continuing Medical Education course by Dr. Elizabeth Maloney

Case Studies in Lyme Disease reviews the science of Lyme disease through a series of clinical cases highlighting various aspects of the illness. Background information related to diagnostic and therapeutic decisions in the management of tick bites, early Lyme disease, late neurologic disease and persistent post-treatment manifestations will be presented in detail.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Identify Ixodes scapularis ticks and discuss risk of infection estimates for a known bite, based on your understanding of tick attachment times and local infectivity rates.
- Know therapeutic options for managing Ixodes bites.
- Identify clinical presentations of early disease, including the ability to identify clinical variations in symptoms and erythema migrans lesions.
- Understand how clinical trial data informs discussions regarding therapeutic options for the treatment of erythema migrans.
- Understand the relationship between the pathogenic qualities of Borrelia burgdorferi and the clinical presentation of late disease.
- Understand the role of laboratory testing in the diagnosis of Lyme disease.
- Know the outcomes from clinical trials of late neurologic disease and implications for patient care.
- Understand the adaptive mechanisms utilized by B. burgdorferi and their relationship to its survival in different environments.
- Understand evidence related to disease persistence.
- Know the findings from the 4 NIH-funded clinical trials of persistent, post-treatment symptoms and signs of Lyme disease and understand their patient management implications.
- Understand basic principles of assessing clinical trials and how to apply them to specific trials.

Saturday, November 17, 2012
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

The Westin Oaks Houston Hotel at the Galleria (Continental Room)

Cost: $100 per person

To reserve your place, email Debra.McGregor@txlda.com or call 281-731-3348

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast will be provided. For more information and to register, visit www.txlda.com

This course has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 4.00 prescribed continuing education credits by the American Academy of Family Physicians.
About Dr. Elizabeth Maloney

Dr. Elizabeth Maloney is board-certified in family medicine; she completed medical school and residency training at the University of Minnesota and has practiced in Minnesota and Guam. Dr. Maloney has been a featured speaker at several hospitals across the US. Her lecture at Columbia University’s 2011 research conference on Lyme disease, “The treatment of Lyme disease – a critical review of the literature – lessons, gaps, and future research needs” provided a detailed look at the US treatment trials and tied that evidence to evidence emerging from the basic sciences. Her paper, “The Management of Ixodes scapularis Bites in the Upper Midwest was published in the Wisconsin Medical Journal, April 2011. For more information, visit Dr. Maloney’s website at www.phhmd.com. Dr. Maloney has no financial conflicts to disclose.

About the Texas Lyme Disease Association

The Texas Lyme Disease Association (www.txlda.com) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to educate physicians and the public about Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses, to be a resource center for patients with these diseases and their families, and to provide a network of support for victims of this disease. The TXLDA is an affiliate of the national Lyme Disease Association (www.lymediseaseassociation.org).

To further its mission, the TXLDA is organizing and promoting a series of educational events aimed at increasing awareness of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases in Texas. Case Studies in Lyme Disease is the first such event. Physicians interested in the treatment of tick-borne disease should visit www.txlda.com for more information about the Texas Lyme Disease Associations efforts to improve access to quality care for patients affected by this disease in Texas.

About Lyme and other Tick-Borne Diseases

The Texas Department of State Health Services reports that the first case of Lyme disease in Texas was confirmed in 1984. Since then, the infection rate has skyrocketed with confirmed cases in all 11 public health regions of the state.

A red oval rash may appear at the site of a bite from an infected tick and is diagnostic of Lyme disease, but unfortunately, only 70% of cases reported to the CDC developed any such rash. Early diagnosis is the key to successful treatment of tick-borne disease. The infection can spread throughout the body, causing severe and disabling symptoms and signs including:

- Neurologic: cranial and peripheral neuropathies, neuropathic pain, numbness, confusion, dizziness, poor balance, motor weakness, insomnia, panic attacks, and hypersensitivity to light, sound, touch, and smell;
- Rheumatologic: arthritis, arthralgia, myalgia, myositis, and over-use syndromes;
- Cardiovascular: conduction abnormalities, chest pain, palpitations, syncope, cardiomyopathy; dependent edema, vasculitis;
- Problems with all other major body systems including gastroenterologic, urologic, dermatologic, gynecologic, ophthalmic, endocrine and psychiatric.