

What's next?

Thanks for bringing _____ in to see us. We performed a test for several infections transmitted by ticks, as well as heartworm infections.

We want you to know that your pet tested positive for antibodies to *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacteria that can cause Lyme disease. Let's talk about what's next.

Test results



Lyme disease detected!

_____ tested positive for antibodies to *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the causative agent for Lyme disease. This is a bacterial infection transmitted by ticks. The test we performed indicates presence of antibodies that are specific for infection.

We are here to help, so call us if you have questions.

In good health,
Your friends at



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We have a plan!

Finding out your pet has a positive result can be concerning. That's why we built a simple plan to determine if treatment is needed.

Step 1 : What does this mean?

- + Your pet was bitten by a tick carrying the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Antibodies that are specific for an infection with the bacteria that causes Lyme disease were found in the blood sample, which may be due to a previous or current infection.
- + Though dogs may display no clear signs of Lyme disease, this infection is dangerous and may cause decreased appetite, lethargy, lameness, fever, swollen joints, swollen lymph nodes and kidney disease.
- + Rest assured, your pet cannot directly transmit Lyme disease to you or your family.

Step 2 : Does your pet need treatment?

We need to investigate if your pet should be treated for Lyme disease. Thankfully, one or two simple follow-up tests can help us make this decision. Together, we'll make a plan to decide which tests are most appropriate.

- + Lyme Quant C₆* Test
 - Elevated Quant C₆ values indicate an active infection.
- + Urinalysis
 - Protein in the urine.
 - Increased protein to creatinine ratio.
- + Chemistry panel to evaluate for kidney disease
 - Increased SDMA.
 - Increased creatinine.

Step 3 : What does treatment look like?

If the follow-up tests indicate your pet would benefit from treatment, we will prescribe a long course of an antibiotic. Sometimes additional treatments may be necessary, depending on how the rest of the body has been impacted by Lyme disease.

Step 4 : What can I do next?

- + We'll continue to test during annual checkups as signs of disease or infection can be hard to detect.
- + It's also important to ensure your pet is protected with flea and tick prevention year-round.
- + Keep up regular tick checks—be sure to look around the ears, under the tail, in the armpits and between the toes! And equally as important, check your human family members as these same ticks can infect them as well.