Let’s talk about Lyme disease and Lyme Vaccine Disease

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Lyme statistics read like this for humans; more than 20,000 cases reported annually for the US [this figure I ran into many times 16,000 to 27,000 new cases per year] CDC listed 200,000 cases since the disease became reportable in 1991. Due to the high degree of difficulty in positive diagnosis of Lyme disease with true infection of Borrelia species, these numbers are difficult to confirm. There is much controversy over Lyme diagnosis as the tests are woefully inadequate in being able to help determine a definitive diagnosis. Early diagnosis is essential to address true spirochete infection. To visualize the number and location for human cases you can visit the www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvd.d/lyme for maps and statistics.

In the case of dogs the number is unclear because of a lack of central reporting agency. The closest thing we have to central reporting of Lyme disease in dogs is to look at DogsandTicks.com website where a map is kept of positive cases of Lyme Disease from the SNAP-4DX ELIZA test that is run in veterinary clinics across the US. 95% of the cases are found in just 12 states for the US. However, according to cumulative statistics recently released by IDEXX Laboratories, Inc., nearly half the states (23) in the U.S. have reported 500+ Lyme-positive dogs between 2001 and July 2009. An additional seven states logged between 251 and 500 and not a single state was free of Lyme-positive dogs.

For public health reasons, the folks that promote Lyme testing say the dog is a sentinel for human disease. The problem of Lyme disease pathology in the humans right now is worse than the cases in the dogs because the organism has more recently been found to infect humans. Although the disease known as relapsing fever has been known, identified in Europe in the 1800’s, it appears the great influx of spirochete infections in the vector transmitted disease in the US had its strange beginnings in 1977 in Connecticut. The township of Old Lyme across from Plum Island Germ Lab that dealt with tick colonies, infectious disease and biological warfare agents both had a common denominator. Dr. Alan Steere of the EIS Epidemiological Intelligence Service was sent to head up the Old Lyme outbreak and has been at the helm of the Lyme controversy especially the testing methods and Osp A vaccine ever since. Lyme is now listed as the fastest growing epidemic in the US adding more than 20,000 cases per year.

In the field cases for natural exposure to the Lyme Disease organism, following a incubation period of 2-5 months post tick bite, most dogs suffer no symptoms, just test positive on the test whereas 5% of exposed dogs get fever, anorexia, lameness and all responding very fast to Doxycycline, the antibiotic of choice.

In experiments done at Pennsylvania’s Veterinary School, Beagle puppies purposely infected with Borrelia burgdorferi (the spirochete attributed to Lyme disease) that had symptoms experienced 4 days of self limiting lameness and fever where signs went away without any treatment. As found in the field situation, experimental adult Beagle dogs exhibited no sickness at all; they just became Lyme positive on the test. None of the experimental infections performed at Penn’s Veterinary school found any of the dogs or puppies to suffer flu like or cardiac or neurological symptoms. Exposure to Lyme disease in dogs might be common in the field but disease pathology from the natural exposure certainly is not. 95% of
exposed dogs simply do not get sick. Dr. Littman found this to be true as well experimentally. In the northeast portion of the country where Lyme disease positives are highest, 70-90% of healthy dogs have Lyme positive tests. Asymptomatic cases are not treated. They should however have urine protein tests to determine kidney involvement. Dogs that also test positive for Anaplasmosis, another tick disease are more likely to be the ones with symptoms. (Littman MP VMD, Dipl ACVIM Penn School of Vet Med)

In other breeds more significant symptoms have been reported; lymphadenopathy and more often in Labradors and Golden Retrievers serious kidney disease with protein losing nephropathy which may not respond to antibiotics. This kidney disease however is immune mediated and relates to the immune response to the infectious agent antigens..........or the antigens used in the Lyme vaccines. This damage is from the immune system antibody as complexes with the antigen from either the natural organism exposure repeated or to the antigen from vaccines administered.

Reports of Lyme Nephritis without any organisms found on renal biopsies lends one to realize that significant immunopathology results from the antigen as it engages with the immune system and the disease is just as easily from the vaccine as it is from the repeated exposure to natural infection. If the disease pathology can be triggered from antigen alone, that means that vaccines are capable of inducing disease and that vaccines will convey cumulative damage the more they are administered.

Reference; Marqus AR, Hornery RL, Dally L, Philipp WT, Detection of Immune Complexes is not independent of detection of antibody in Lyme Disease patients and does not contain active infection of Borrelia, Clinical and Diagnostic Laboratory Immunology Sept, 2005; 12 (9):1036-1040.


Reference; NAVC Clinicians Brief Sept 2008 pg 46 [Western Blot C6 peptide antibody test serology and histopathology was positive but no intact Borrelia found.]

Indeed the pathological effects of painful arthritis and neurological disease including cognitive dysfunction can be conferred upon mammals through the vaccine for Lyme disease alone. The lipoprotein antigen used in all Lyme vaccines, including the Lymerix vaccine for humans which was recalled for the severe adverse events that occurred with the use of the vaccine is now understood to generate autoimmune disease in populations vaccinated.


Indeed there is plenty of evidence that Lyme Vaccine Disease is caused in part by autoimmunity. According to more recent research the term “autoxins” is being coined to describe the damage from toxic T cells that are signaled for in the presentation of the lipoproteins of the spirochete.


Indeed the Fort Dodge whole bacterin vaccine can cause Lyme disease [Lyme vaccine Disease] without infection from actual Borrelia. Reference; Appel MJG, Jacobson RH; CVT Update; Canine Lyme Disease in Bonagur JD (ed) Kirk's Current Vet Therapy XII Phila, WB Saunders CO. 1995, pp 103-308.


Even severe local reactions from the bacterin vaccines as in Fort Dodge have been reported.


The vaccines, contain thimerasol (mercury) a neurotoxin and a genetic mutator very inflammatory and as early as 1935 warned against its safety “even in dogs serum” to Eli Lilly Company by Pittman Moore Animal Pharmaceutical Company. These safety issues were raised in Congressional testimony several times and the correspondence from Pittman Moore to Eli Lilly are a part of Congressional Hearings testimony on the dangers of mercury (thimerasol).

The whole bacterin vaccines as the Fort Dodge vaccines were on the market for years for dogs despite the significant pathology these vaccines were associated with forcing them from use in human medicine. Adverse events from these types of vaccine continue to plague our animals.

The Osp A recombinant DNA technology of the latest Lyme vaccines is touted as safe and yet despite the recall of the products in human Lyme vaccines being recalled due to safety issues, the dogs are continued to be Lyme Vaccine Diseased from the use of these products.

More pathology has been linked to the antigens of Borrelia, antigens found as well in the Lyme disease vaccine. Neurological syndromes that follow vaccination or infections are often attributed to autoimmune mechanisms. Reports of neuropathy or cognitive impairment with several days to two months following vaccination with the OspA antigen; CIDP –chronic inflammation demyelination polyneuropathies, multifocal motor neuropathy, sensory axonal neuropathy, cognitive impairment (T2 hyper intense white matter lesions seen on magnetic resonance imaging, MRI). All of these disease patterns are also linked in humans to “chronic Lyme disease” and would also be “chronic Lyme vaccine
disease”. These patterns of disease suggest the role of immune mechanisms in the manifestations of chronic Lyme disease that are resistant to antibiotic treatment. Reference Latov N, Wu A, Chin RL et al.

New Lyme Neuroborreliosis Emerging Zoonosis; Reference; Hildenbrand P, Craven DE, Jones R, et al, Review Article Lyme Neuroborreliosis manifestation of a rapidly Emerging Zoonosis, AJNR, 2009; 30:1079-87. This study shows there is sufficient similarity to suggest common auto immunopathogenesis for both diseases of MS (Multiple Sclerosis) and Lyme Neuroborreliosis from infection by spirochetes. The pathology of facial neuritis, multiple enhancing cranial nerves, enhancing non compressive radiculitis, pediatric leptomengitis with white matter hyper intensities on MRI share both spirochete and antigen etiology for pathology. The MRI imaging white matter appearance of successfully treated LNB and MS patients also share the MRI imaging lesions found in patients suffering pathology of same type from the vaccine administration of OSP A [Ref Latov et al] so once again, real infection by spirochete or vaccine disease from vaccine antigen administration.

An article titled “Pets fall victim to mental health problems too” lists cognitive dysfunction as a progressive disease with “no known cause” and advices treatment with drugs like Selegeline [Anipryl], Senilife and Novofit. The same drug company that makes the vaccines also makes drugs to treat vaccine diseases……yet they state cognitive dysfunction has “no known cause” and is progressive.

Hills Prescription has a diet for this brain problem; the diet is called Brain Diet and has antioxidants and Omega 3 fatty acids, everything you would want to supplement to a brain damaged with oxidative damage. Vaccines cause oxidative damage and they are directly linked to the formation of cognitive dysfunction. Oxidative damage also contributes to the state of chronic inflammation and cancer development.

The aluminum and mercury in vaccines allow vaccine components to travel directly up peripheral nerves then into the central nervous system. The aluminum increases the blood brain barrier permeability and allows the viruses, mercury, aluminum and antigens directly into the central nervous system. Vaccines appear to be a serious biosecurity breech for the vertebrate immune system and the disease that results from this Trojan horse, capable of the worst forms of pathology.

Can the animals be suffering mental health problems from infections and from injections as are the humans? Travis a 15 year old domesticated chimp in Connecticut with Lyme Disease, Lyme disease known to cause increased irritability was acting agitated when owner medicated the chimp with Xanax, an anti anxiety medication in a bit of tea. Xanax has been shown to lead to aggression in people whom are unstable to begin with. This Lyme disease infected chimp medicated with Xanax for his agitation, tore the face off a 55 year old woman friend of the chimps caretaker. The chimp had not experienced the agitation prior to the Lyme disease. The chimp had not warranted medication for agitation before the disease pathology of Lyme disease.

A report on that came to our service asked about changes in behavior following the Lyme vaccine. The report relayed that a dog had strange behavioral issues following the Lyme vaccine administration where he started circling the owner’s feet, also trying to “herd” her movements. The dog was not a herding breed. Following the administration of the second Lyme vaccine in 3 weeks, this time there was
more to watch. First the dog increased his breathing, starting to pant and had respiratory difficulty. Once again he started the strange pacing movements circling the owner’s legs and feet preventing her from moving. This time the dog was exhibiting more agitation and when the owner drew closer trying to exam more closely, the dog attacked her face, breaking the skin and drawing blood.

In both of these cases the animals had never ever before exhibited such agitation or behavioral changes.

One animal was listed as having Lyme disease; the other had the Lyme Vaccine Disease.

The neurological manifestations with Lyme disease or with Lyme vaccine disease have a wide range of symptoms, mood disturbance, confusion, depression, anxiety, adjustment syndrome as the spirochete is known to penetrate the pituitary gland. Many experts believe the Lyme disease can “rewire” the brain and affect personality [reference; NY epidemiologist Dr. Daniel Cameron]. The CDC admits that 5% of patients may develop chronic neurological complaints months to years after infection (injection), obsessive compulsive disorders, Lyme Rage, behavioral changes and even stage fright (performance anxiety) are all linked to the pathology of Lyme. All working dogs, agility dogs and performance dogs should be kept free from tick exposure and from pathology from the Lyme vaccine disease as well.

The information about the Osp A lipoprotein antigen of Borrelia and the pathway to disease was known as early as 1988. Scientific studies demonstrated the Osp A cross reacts with nerve cell axons, joint synovial, heart and skeletal muscle protein and the interaction results in autoimmune disease. The Osp A is found to be responsible for delayed hypersensitivity immune response and is a potent inducer of interleukin 1 (II-1) a cytokine with proinflammatory effects leading to distant cartilage and bone destruction. The vaccine was approved for use in humans in 1998 despite the knowledge of this pathology from the antigen Osp A. Investigators found a loop holes to avoid reporting all the adverse events from this vaccine. The mechanism for LNB (Lyme Neuroborreliosis) CNS (central nervous system) injury includes vasculitis, cytotoxicity neurotoxic mediators or autoimmune reaction via molecular mimicry.


Similar mechanisms of molecular mimicry and antigen specific T –cell responses have been recognized in both MS [multiple sclerosis] and chronic LNB [Lyme Neuroborreliosis]. Some cases could not demonstrate spirochete but non specific perivascular or vasculature lymphocytic inflammations. Uveitis, optic neuritis, conjunctivitis, episcleritis, keratitis, chronic intraocular inflammation orbital myositis, follicular conjunctivitis, direct ocular infections and delayed hypersensitivity (Type II), all of these manifestations of ocular disease were attributed to Lyme disease, but apparently also the Lyme vaccine with Osp A antigen is capable of inducing the same. Headaches, spirochete triggered autoimmune provides mechanisms neurologic injury vasculitis, cytotoxicity, neurotoxic mediators or autoimmune reaction via molecular mimicry. This leads to the belief that T cells exacerbate the manifestations of Lyme Disease CD4+ T cells have been found responsible for the observed immune mediated pathology.
Reference; McKiser MD, Redmond WL, Barthud SW, Cutting Edge-T cells mediated pathology in Murine Lyme Borreliosis, Journal of Immunology, 2000; 164:6096-6099.

OspA vaccine-induced autoimmunity due to homology (almost an identical match) with mammalian cells and this was proven both in human and animal testing. Early reports showed several references to lab animals, monkeys with autoimmune disease. The FDA was aware that there was a link of the vaccine to the triggering of degenerative autoimmune disease. Favorite media mogul Martin Zuckerman helped push for fast pass of the human Lyme vaccine and the FDA licensed the vaccine before safety studies were completed on the human version of the Osp A vaccine. The drug company Smith Kline Beecham had promised to do the safety studies but never did and the vaccine jab went into the arms of many people. During the extended reports from remarks given by Karen Vanderhoof-Forschner to the FDA Vaccine Advisory Committee Meeting 11/28/01 this information was admitted as testimony. The FDA’s written conclusion was to recall the human Lyme vaccine. They stated that the FDA should never allow again a pharmaceutical company to get away with promising studies tomorrow for drug approvals today. Also, those federal employees should never be allowed to consult in areas where they set federal policy. Unfortunately, the FDA has not set its compass for true north and is still not operating under these obvious requirements for ethical standards and is still not looking out for public safety over corporate profits.

VAERS (vaccine adverse events records systems) lists the adverse events associated with the human Lyme vaccine; arthalgia, myalgia, pain arthritis, arthrosis, rheumatoid arthritis, facial paralysis, hypersensitivity reactions and even some deaths........one suicide!, thrombocytopenia and anemia, kidney compromise and heart disease........the CDC reported that none of the adverse events from the vaccine was anything not already found in clinical trials prior to licensing the vaccine.

Lyme disease is also associated with endometriosis, abortions, miscarriages, stillborns, perinatal deaths, kidney and liver organ disease, increased blood pressure, arrhythmias, decreased vision, decreased hearing, babies born with Lyme disease from infected mothers,(Dr. Alan MacDonald neonatal pathology specialist 1981), sexual transmission, transplacental passage and patterns of teratogenicity especially heart defects.. Immune mediated presentations examples are splenomegaly, uveitis and rheumatoid arthritis. Neurological disorder increased irritability and aggression (both of which mercury in vaccines alone can induce, UCal Davis studies) depression, confusion, overeating, nerve damage in limbs and face, Bells Palsy, hallucinations, sleep disorders, memory loss decreased concentration, seizures. Secondary disturbances of endocrine-adrenal dysfunction being the most severe, gonadal deficiencies, hypothyroidism, insulin resistance, hypothalamus pituitary function results in decreasing stimulating hormones for end organs, adrenal, growth hormone, testosterone, estrogen, anti diuretic hormone. Spirochetes have been found in breast milk, tears, semen urine, and babies via transplacental transfer and even via sexual intercourse.

Why is the CDC ignoring this? The spirochetes can be transmitted in blood products and the antigen for inducing the pathology can be transmitted in vaccines .Dr. Lee Cowden warns: “only a very small
percentage of those contracting Lyme disease though a tick bite, the way conventional medicine is fixated on recognizing. Mosquitoes are now recognized for their ability to transmit Lyme disease.

Consider what was said about the field cases of Lyme infection in dogs that was also found in the experimental dogs at Penn’s Veterinary School; 95% of the naturally infected dogs showed no symptoms, they just tested positive on the test. Despite us being told that Lyme disease in humans is more symptomatic because they have not been infected as long............however the description of Lyme disease as “hard to catch and easy to cure” seems hardly the case for humans .Is this the truth for dogs?

A prominent alternative veterinary practitioner in Connecticut on his website refers to Lyme vaccine as a “sticky wicket” subject, acknowledging the controversy with symptoms of Lyme disease following vaccination with Lyme disease vaccine. He specifically points to the short comings of the vaccine manufacturer only looking for 24 hours for side effects when testing the vaccine prior to release for dogs. He reports that research from Cornell University Veterinary School brings up the long term effects from vaccination as rheumatoid arthritis to “all the symptoms of actual Lyme Disease to even death via acute renal failure”. He himself does not recommend the vaccine for his patients despite living in a Lyme endemic part of the country. He relays that he himself has seen all the full spectrum of Lyme disease pathology following vaccination with Lyme vaccines and had those entire dogs test negative on Western Blot tests ensuring that the pathology came from the vaccine and not from an infection. Dogs would be affected 4-8 weeks post vaccination with the Lyme vaccine.

Dr. Ron Schultz, our leading veterinary vaccine researcher also does not recommend the use of Lyme disease vaccines on his own dogs despite living in a Lyme endemic part of the country in Wisconsin.

Dr. MP Littman Dip ACVIM of Penn School of Vet Med also does not recommend any Lyme vaccines. All of them recommend you keep the dogs free of ticks. Most of the tick control products we are recommending are also effective against mosquitoes and fleas two more vectors recently associated with spirochete transfer and vectors of blood borne diseases.

It would also be useful to list that none of the US Veterinary schools list the Lyme Vaccine on their recommended lists of vaccines for animals. The AVMA and AAHA also are not recommending Lyme vaccines as a part of core vaccination protocols. It is obvious to me that there are too many problems with all the Lyme vaccines on the market and with the outer surface antigens like OspA, a bigger problem with immunopathology being generated, cross reactivity and molecular mimicry. The introduction of this and other lipoproteins in vaccines, any vaccines is capable of a large host of pathological results to those vaccinated. Since the goal of vaccination is to prevent and thereby promote optimal patient herd or public health, none of which is achieved with the Lyme vaccine, it would be best to avoid the propaganda and spin promoting Lyme vaccination.

Only one dose of Doxycycline has been found to offset the chance of Lyme disease following a tick bite if you catch the tick feeding within 24 hours. This is just good to know. Ref Nadelman RB, Nowakowski J, Fish D, et al., Prophylaxis with single dose Doxycycline for the prevention of Lyme disease after an Ixodes scapularis tick bite, NEJM 2001; 345 (2):79-84.
Doxycycline is an antibiotic which relieves symptoms of pain from either Lyme disease or Lyme Vaccine Disease. The medication is anti-inflammatory and treats reactive arthritis, stops blood stasis like aspirin, is anti clotting, with additional antibiotics prevent cerebral damage, attenuates cardiac hypertrophy a consequence of prolonged hypertension, kills Wolbachia a comensal organism of heartworms, also is the drug to treat other tick borne diseases and most important down regulates the production of MMP’s (matrix metalloproteinases). MMP’s are enzymes which have evolved from the pressure of vaccines to be now capable of dissolving mammalian bone and tissue. So, this is one drug that we should all know about. Doxycycline works as an immune modulator and can even turn off types of GI cancer.

I recommend that my patients take the precautions in ticky areas of being on Astragalus during tick seasons. Astragalus is but one herb that also has immunomodulating abilities. There are many herbs that can be used to help the body against spirochete infections and even in the treatment of Lyme Vaccine disease, the disease of immunopathology following vaccination. See Stephen Harrod Buhner’s book Healing Lyme Natural Healing and Prevention of Lyme Borreliosis and its co infections. Stephen Buhner now has a website dedicated to Lyme Disease and associated co-infections of tick vectored diseases: [http://buhnerhealinglyme.com/](http://buhnerhealinglyme.com/)

Astragalus is not however recommended for those patients that have chronic Lyme or have the Lyme vaccine disease. The reason for this is that is an immune modulating herb and if you have the autoimmunity issue in force ramping up the immune system in that direction will not be helpful at all, can actually make the symptoms worse. Stephen Buhner is an excellent reference for the botanical remedies to address Lyme disease and Lyme Vaccine Disease.

I see the picture of those suffering Lyme disease and Lyme vaccine disease, many co infections which point towards a dys regulated and dys functional immune system. All of the co infections to date point toward a cell mediated immune suppression and this is what happens to many following vaccine administrations, vaccine damage being cumulative. One reference that illustrates this is: Strasser A, May B, Teltscher A, Wistrela E, Niedermuller H. Immune modulation following immunization with polyvalent vaccine in dogs. Vet Immunol Immunopathol. 2003:94(3-4):113-21.

The vaccines, an abnormal pathogen presented in an abnormal route (inoculation) are immune dys regulating, removing a healthy Th1 (cell mediated) immune system bias and replacing the healthy immune system with a dys regulated immune system and Th2 (humoral) bias. The cumulative damage from this process is to atrophy the mucosal immune system and paralyze the cell mediated immune system. We need the cell mediated immune system to deal with everything that accompanies the co-infections; bacterial, viral, fungal, yeast, internal and external parasites, intestinal and skin. So the bigger picture is to see the dys regulation that vaccines do against health. When you are not even getting any demonstratable immunity from vaccines, rather immunopathology, you must let go of the myth that vaccines make you healthy. Vaccines deconstruct health and dys regulate the immune system and have adverse effects on the inflammatory response. Most of the disease I see today in the animals and in people is a reflection of this unnatural immune assault and the uncalculated damage to the immune system. Chronic and uncontrolled inflammation with loss of focus and control is exactly what leads to cancer and exhausted adrenals and early death.
Many blogs and pet advice websites are giving out very bad information, some of this vaccine propaganda is coming from veterinary sources that are just promoting the canned sales pitch of drug companies. Don’t you or your animals fall victim to the advice of those whom have not preformed due diligence in the needed investigation required before pushing the most dangerous medical practice act done with the most frequency in every veterinary hospital across the United States. Personally I am tired of the drug companies pawning off failed products developed for human medicine that either were recalled or worse yet never made it to licensing from the FDA. Stay tuned for a listing of those products as the list is growing every day. Lyme vaccines were removed from the human market because they failed to perform the proper safety studies prior to release and the numerous adverse events that followed the vaccine included reactivating latent Lyme, and even making an identical Lyme Disease pathology from the vaccines, increasing the immune mediated events and resulting even in death.

Safety studies are not performed on any vaccines that answer the question of carcinogenicity, teratogenicity, genetic, autoimmune disease, and immune mediated disease from the vaccination. Remember that when the vaccine in question has never established conveyance of immunity against said disease, or the pathology suffered in the disease, what is the point of the prick anyway?

In February 2009 Parker Posey the actress was diagnosed with Lyme disease and following a failed treatment with allopathically prescribed medications, she ultimately took a decidedly alternative holistic course. Nutrition, supplements, detoxification and homeopathic physician prescribed remedies have helped her beat Lyme disease. Now Posey is throwing her support behind the documentary “Rethinking Cancer” www.rethinkingcancer.org which is about five individuals using nutrition and detoxification, supplementation and homeopathy, purely holistic routes to cure their disease.

None of the Lyme vaccines on the market or coming onto the market are going to properly address the threat of immune dysfunction from the Bb spirochetes. The diagnosis of the disease is problematic and vaccination certainly not the way to avoid disease from the spirochete’s antigens. Genetically engineered medicines and foods are not safe unless you refer to being safe as “safe like tobacco” or “safe like vaccines”. New GE vaccines will not be safe when no one is performing due diligence or proper oversight for these products. Lyme disease vaccines have killed people and animals so don’t get Lyme Vaccine Disease or Lyme through the prick, instead practice patrolling the tick! May is Lyme Awareness Month for the entire World!