

Hello Lyme Alive email members! I hope this email finds each and every one of you doing well - or at least as well as possible. You all might have noticed that I have been a little less communicative than normal in the last month or so... Those of you that are on Facebook/part of the group there know why - this email is primarily to catch the rest of you up, with apologies for not staying in better touch with all of you.

I am writing this email from sunny California (yes, I'm avoiding the fires, so please do not worry!) - I arrived in California late yesterday, after a cross-country road trip. This road trip is one that I have been wanting, and talking about taking, for several years now - the timing was finally right, and I left the east coast with very little notice. I have also temporarily deleted social media from my phone, which means the only way for you all to reach me is via phone call/text (number is at the bottom of this, and every other, email I've sent...), or via email. I do ask that you reach out only if you absolutely "need to" - in case of personal emergency, or if you would like me to talk to someone newly diagnosed with lyme. Essentially I am asking that you do not reach out to ask me questions google/your favorite search engine can easily answer, like where to send a tick for testing, or what test results mean... I appreciate your understanding.

There are two main things that the time of Covid-19 has taught me in regards to the support group... The first of which is that we can have useful meetings virtually, without the need for in-person meetings - although I do prefer in-person meetings, those are not an option for the time being since the majority of us have compromised immune systems. Those that have been joining the Zoom calls have all said the meetings are very useful, with lots of good information exchanged. The second thing that I have learned recently is this - the majority of the people on this email list do not "need" my services, since most of them/you have made little effort to attend the meetings I was hosting on a regular basis. So, I do not feel at all guilty about suspending the meetings for the time being. You might also have noticed that I am not providing written notes about things we talked about at meetings; this is primarily because I have learned the value of personal accountability, even while sick with chronic lyme. Those that have reached out and let me know they were interested in a meeting topic but were unable to attend it have received notes.

All of this being said, I will be taking the month of October completely off from Lyme Alive, the LEAF project, and all other lyme-related events, virtual and otherwise. I will schedule an online meeting for the month of November at a later date, and hope to see some of your much-loved faces then. I will be in touch again via email with meeting details in early November, so please look for an additional email at that time.

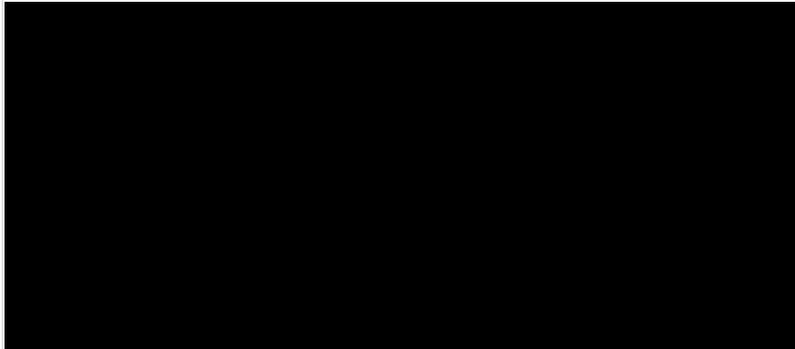
I do want to address to all of you a question I received a month or so ago about if there is a lyme vaccine being made, and where those trials are at currently. (I apologize that it has taken me so long to respond, and appreciate the patience of the person that asked that question!) This article is one I found on the subject, and looks promising on the surface... [Positive Results Reported for Phase 2 Study of Lyme Disease Vaccine Candidate](#)



Positive Results Reported for Phase 2 Study of Lyme Disease Vaccine Cand...

Positive initial results have been reported for the Phase 2 study of Lyme disease vaccine candidate VLA15.

Please keep in mind that the following is my opinion, and I am not a medical professional, etc etc... The vaccine that is in trial is based on Osp-A; the same protein the last failed lyme vaccine produced and given in the 1990's was based off of. That vaccine, called LymeRix, was found to give some people *the exact same, chronic, neurological condition it was designed to prevent* - the disease we now call "chronic lyme disease". After the LymeRix vaccine was pulled from the market (citing low sales), the case definition of lyme disease was changed at the Dearborn medical conference in 1996 - this is when we suddenly went from 1 or 2 specific bands on the Western Blot indicating positive infection with lyme to needing 5 bands positive for the CDC to acknowledge that we have been infected with lyme. This is why the majority of us test negative under CDC standards - based on genetics, only about 15% of the population is capable of testing positive - the rest of us 85% will only have 1 or 2 bands, be told "it's not lyme", and have a chronic illness to deal with. If this sounds far-fetched, I strongly urge you to begin your own research on this matter. I highly recommend the website [TruthCures | Chronic Lyme](#) for further, meticulous, backed-up research on this topic, as well as the book *Lyme Madness* by psychotherapist Lori Dennis.



TruthCures | Chronic Lyme

Lyme testing isn't flawed...it's fraud.

I will also say that there are over 100 bands of the lyme spirochete found within the US, over 300 worldwide - the vaccine currently being tested covers 6 of those strains. So even if you choose to get vaccinated for lyme once the vaccine is available (which I absolutely will NOT be doing for myself!), there is still the potential of being infected with lyme disease. The other thing to keep in mind is that IF we are protected from lyme itself, we are still at risk for a whole host of other tick-borne disease pathogens - babesia, bartonella, rickettsia, Rocky Mtn Spotted Fever, etc. I hope this information is helpful to all of you; feel free to reach out to me with any questions on this topic.

As always, I hope you all take care! I remain available for your lyme support needs, and wish you all the very best. I will email again in early November once I have scheduled our virtual support group meeting for that month. Thank you, and you all have my best wishes and love,

Adrian VanKeuren

Adrian VanKeuren

AdrianLymie@yahoo.com

<http://www.lymealive.weebly.com>

540-931-6507