



Melissa Kaplan's

Lyme Disease

Part of the [Anapsid.org](http://www.anapsid.org) Chronic Neuroimmune Diseases Information Resources for CFS, FM, MCS, Lyme Disease, Thyroid, and more...

Last updated February 24, 2006

Glossary of Tickborne Disease & Treatment Terms

Abbreviations and such you are likely to encounter on websites, email lists and forums addressing these parasites and their treatment

Compiled by Melissa Kaplan with help from the Sonoma County Lyme Support Group

Like any other area of specialization, the world of tickborne parasites, the diseases they cause, the people they infect, and the doctors who treat them, have developed over time a language all their own...

The *italicized* abbreviations are not TBD-specific, or even health related, but those that are used throughout the WWW and Internet, found in all forums and email lists. A comprehensive listing of these abbreviations can be found in my *Abbreviations & Emoticons* page, <http://www.anapsid.org/internet/smileys.html> .

ABX, abx	Antibiotics
AB, ab	Antibody
AC, ac	before meals
AMA	against medical advice; American Medical Association
ART, Art	ART = Autonomic Response Testing Art = Artemisinin, a plant extract sometimes used to reduce Babesia levels in patients who cannot yet tolerate the multi-prescription drug required combo needed to kill the organism.

Babs	babesiosis, infection caused by one of the 13 known species of <i>Babesia</i> . Note: there are currently tests for only two of them (<i>B. microti</i> , and WA-1). At least one county health department (Sonoma County) has raised the bar on what it considers to be "infected" that no one will test positive, a step taken to discount/dismiss the high numbers of WA-1 positives their lab was previously finding. (This is comparable to setting vehicle emission test requirements so low that no cars will fail the smog tests.)
Bart	bartonellosis, infection caused by one of the 7 known species of Bartonella*. Most labs test for only one species, <i>B. henselae</i> , despite other species being known to infect humans through flea and tick bites. (* See http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol12no03/05-0931.htm)
Bb	<i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i> , the organism that causes Lyme disease. Bb is only one of over 300 known species and variants of <i>Borrelia</i> .
BBB	blood brain barrier
BID, bid	twice a day
biw	twice a week
bpm	beats per minute
BPP	blood pressure and pulse
<i>BTW, btw</i>	by the way
bull's-eye rash	see erythema migrans (EM)
CAT	computerized axial tomography
CBC	complete blood count
CDC	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, a division of

the National Institutes for Health (NIH)

CNS	central nervous system
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CSM	Cholestyramine, a drug normally prescribed to people with high cholesterol levels to help lower their cholesterol. It is also prescribed for people with high levels of neurotoxins (including those with TBI, and mold toxicity), as the CSM binds neurotoxins along with the cholesterol, which is then excreted by the body. CSM must be take with some fat (such as mixed in a beverage with cream), followed 30 min later by some additional fat.
Cx	Cancer
<i>DD</i>	Damned disease
DO	Doctor of Osteopathy; Osteopath
Dx	Diagnosis
duck	quack doctor; duck-duh; duk-duh (see <i>Idiots</i> , www.anapsid.org/lyme/idiots.html)
dx	Diagnosis
EEG	Electroencephalogram
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EM	erythema migrans; the "classic" bull's-eye rash that appears in only 50% or so of tick bites, may or may not occur at the site of the bite, and may or may not look like a bull's eye (concentric rings around a center spot).
EMG	electromyography
<i>FWIW, fwiw</i>	for what it's worth

herx	Jarish-Herxheimer reaction: the exacerbation of symptoms or emergence of new ones as the body deals with the effects of the massive die-off of organisms caused by the antibiotic treatment. For more information, see www.anapsid.org/lyme/herx.html
HBO	Hyperbaric Oxygen therapy
HBOT	Hyperbaric Oxygen therapy
HLA	Human leukocyte antigens
hx	history, as in the patient's history as reported to a health care worker, or in context, such as "I have a hx of multiple tick bites over a period of 30 years in Borrelia-endemic areas but still the duck said I couldn't possibly have Lyme disease."
IC	take between meals. Also: interstitial cystitis.
ICHT	Intra-cellular Hyperthermia treatment
ID	infectious disease
IFA	immunofluorescent assay
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
IgG	Immunoglobulin G
IgM	Immunoglobulin M
IM	Intramuscular
<i>IMHO</i>	in my honest (or, humble) opinion
<i>IMO</i>	in my opinion
IV	Intravenous

Keets, 'keets, 'ketes	informal abbreviations for the word spirochetes
LD	Lyme disease
LFT	Liver Function Test
LL	lyme literate
LLMD	Lyme Literate Medical Doctor
LOL	laugh out loud
LP	lumbar puncture
LUAT	Lyme Urine Antigen test
MAC	maximum allowable concentration
macrolide	a class of antibiotic used in the treatment of some TBD. For example, Mepron, an anti-malarial drug + a macrolide antibiotic (usually Zithromax) is used in the treatment of Babesia.
MCP	Modified citrus pectin. Citrus pectin that has been processed to reduce the molecular size, increasing its bioavailability, has been used in the treatment of certain types of cancers, and in heavy metals detoxification. There is some indication that it may be useful in binding with neurotoxins, similar to CSM, and so may be useful to those who need a prolonged course of treatment to reduce their neurotoxin load.
MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration of an antibacterial drug
Mg	Magnesium. 'MgD' is sometimes used to denote magnesium deficiency
MMP-9	Matrix metalloproteinase (MMP; MMP-9) are enzymes that open tunnels through the tissues of the body in order to deliver inflammatory cytokines and other

biochemicals. MMPs are essential for substances to be able to move around the body, but excessive levels of MMPs develop when inflammation is too high. MMP-9 is frequently discussed in relation to people with TBI. High levels of MMP-9 means high levels of cytokines are being delivered to body tissues, causing lots of trouble everywhere else. This, elevated inflammation = elevated cytokines = increased inflammation and elevated risk of other inflammatory diseases.

mold	Many with TBI are also susceptible and are made ill from exposure to environmental molds. A home or office does not have to actually have black slime mold dripping down the walls--or any visible mold--to be infested with mold at levels high enough to cause illness.
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
ND	Naturopathic Physician
NE	neurological examination
neuro	neurology, neurological
NCS	nerve conduction study
NK	natural killer cells
NM	Neuromuscular
NMH	neurally mediated hypotension
NP	nurse practitioner
NSAID	non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
N/V	nausea vomiting
OCD	obsessive compulsive disorder

OD	once daily
OTC	over-the-counter, a term used for medicines that do not require a doctor's prescription
OV	office visit
PA	physician assistant
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PO, po	by mouth
POTS	postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome
PRN, prn	as needed
pt	Patient
QAM	every morning
qd, q d	once a day; every day
QID, qid	four times a day
QM	every morning
QOD	every other day
RIFE	electro-conducted frequency machine therapy
RMSF	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
<i>ROTFL, ROFTLOL</i>	rolling on the floor laughing (out loud)
RTI	Respiratory tract infection
Rx	Prescription
Salt/C	An experimental unproven and potentially dangerous

protocol where patients ingest extremely high quantities of salt and vitamin C every day for several months.

SC, sc, subq

subcutaneous (under skin)

SPECT Scan

Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography

Staph

Staphylococcus, a spherical gram-positive parasitic bacteria that tend to form irregular colonies. Colonies may cause boils, or septicemia, or other infections. Many people with TBI have been sick so long that they have become ill from colonization by organisms normally present in such low numbers as to be considered benign. *Staph a* (*S. aureaus*) and *S. epidermidis* are two such infections commonly causing illness in people also ill from TBDs. Appropriately collected nasal swabbing is done to collect material for culture and sensitivity testing, to determine what species of *Staphylococcus* is present, and what drugs it is susceptible and resistant to.

Sx, sx, syx

symptom; in context: surgery

TBD

Tickborne disease, that is, diseases caused by parasites living inside ticks which are transferred to a new host when the tick injects its parasite-laden saliva into the bite through which it is drawing its blood meal. These parasites can then be transmitted to other feeding ticks, fleas, and other biting insects, such as flies and mosquitoes, who then transfer them to the hosts they feed on.

Once infected, host animals may transmit some of these diseases sexually, as well as infected females able to pass them through the placenta and breast milk. The TBO (tickborne organisms) we are most concerned with are those in the following genres *Borrelia* (borreliosis, aka Lyme disease); *Bartonella* (bartonellosis, aka cat-scratch fever); *Babesia* (babesiosis), and *Ehrlichia* (ehrlichiosis).

TBI

Tickborne illness. Illnesses or infections caused by organisms transferred from ticks to humans and other

animals. Those associated with Lyme disease are *Borrelia* (borreliosis, aka Lyme disease; *Bartonella* (bartonellosis, aka cat-scratch fever); *Babesia* (babesiosis), and *Ehrlichia* (ehrlichiosis). See TBD.

TID, tid	three times a day
TTT	tilt table test, which helps evaluate how the body regulates blood pressure in response to postural changes
tx, txt	Treatment
UTI	urinary tract infection
VCS	visual contrast survey, a noninvasive test used to changes in neurotoxicity. For more information, see Ritchie Shoemaker MD's site, www.chronicneurotoxins.com
WB	Western blot. The IgG and IgM Western blot tests for <i>Borrelia</i> provides results in a way that gives a sort of visualization of the patient's antibodies. It is more sensitive and specific than the ELISA and EIA (that is, it is more likely to show positives where the ELISA/EIA showed negatives). The IgG and IgM WB should always be used when the Lyme IgG/IgM antibody serology has returned an equivocal or positive result.

To find out more about nonspecialty lab tests, see <http://www.LabTestsOnline.org>

To find out more about drug dosing, see my Drug Dosing & Routes of Administration Glossary, at <http://www.anapsid.org/resources/rxdose.html>

Glossary of Tickborne Diseases & Treatment Terms is available online at <http://www.anapsid.org/lyme/tbd-glossary.html>