



Lyme Disease Association, Inc.

PO Box 1438, Jackson, New Jersey 08527

888-366-6611 Lymeliter@aol.com 732-938-7215 (Fax)

EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES 2019

The Lyme Disease Association (LDA) is pleased to announce that **Exhibitor** opportunities are now available at our 20th annual scientific conference, "**Lyme & Other Tick-Borne Diseases: Scientific Update for Clinicians & Researchers**," taking place on Sat. & Sun., Sept. 21, 22, 2019, at the Hilton Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA. Brian A. Fallon, MD, Columbia University, is conference director.

Based on 19 prior CME conferences, LDA expects that this educational event will attract physicians and other allied health professionals from a wide range of specialties including pediatrics, internal medicine, neurology, infectious disease, cardiology, family medicine, rheumatology, pain management, and CAM practitioners. LDA conducts a direct mailing to thousands of physicians, as the conference is designed for medical and health professionals but is open to the public. Leaders from Lyme groups nationwide also attend. Speakers, agenda, exhibitor info, and registration for the conference are available on www.LymeDiseaseAssociation.org. Medical student, post docs, and other scholarships are also offered.

The Lyme Disease Association is a nonprofit, all volunteer corporation whose goals are education, prevention, research funding, and patient support. In 2018, 97% of all contributions to LDA were used for funding programs. The LDA has funded many research projects coast-to-coast, which has resulted in 50 publications in peer-reviewed journals to date including *Infection*, *Infection & Immunity*, *JAMA*, *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*, *Journal of International Neuropsychological Society*, *Journal of Psychiatry & Clinical Neuroscience*, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, *Neurology*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, *The Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, *Journal of Bacteriology*, *Biochemistry*, *Antibiotics*, and *FEBS*.

LDA partnered to open an endowed Lyme disease research center at Columbia in 2007 and gave a grant to establish a tissue bank at the Center. Internationally acclaimed author Amy Tan worked with the LDA to develop its *LymeAid 4 Kids* program which provides monies for children without insurance coverage for Lyme disease. Collaborating with UMDNJ, now Rutgers, which received an EPA grant, LDA helped develop a prevention video and a video game for children now featured on the LDA website. Kids are at the highest risk of acquiring Lyme disease, and according to LDA calculations, 30% of cases from ages 0-19 from 2000-2010 were children.

LDA is a Guidestar Exchange Gold Participant for its transparency of operations and a 2017 CFC federal workplace giving campaign member—a national approved charity for federal workers. LDA is a partner with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in its PESP program. In 2011, LDA was session co-chair with CDC in the EPA's Virginia prevention conference. LDA has testified before both the US House of Representatives Global Health & Human Rights Health Subcommittee (2012) and the Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee (2013). LDA was invited to FT. Collins, CO in 2007 and in 2013 for day-long meetings with the Vector-Borne Diseases Division. LDA also presented to the AAAS conference in Washington, DC in 2015. In 2016, I was appointed to the Programmatic Panel for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program to help oversee the tick-borne diseases grant funds awarded through this Department of Defense program and to the first HHS Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Working Group in Washington, DC in 2017.

Lyme, a debilitating disease, often goes unrecognized, and it can affect every body system including the cardiac, ophthalmic, musculo-skeletal, and neurologic systems. Symptoms can range from headaches, fatigue, joint pains, blindness, and heart block, to psychiatric manifestations and seizures. According to the CDC, Lyme is vastly underreported, thus 400,000+ new cases occurred in the US in 2017. Worldwide, Lyme is found in 80 countries. A new strain of *Borrelia* has now been found in the Midwest to cause Lyme, *B. Mayonii*. The same ticks that carry the Lyme bacteria also harbor other deadly organisms causing diseases on the rise including anaplasmosis/ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, bartonellosis, tularemia, & *Borrelia miyamotoi*. Additionally, other ticks are now transmitting emerging viral diseases such as Powassan, Heartland, and Bourbon. A new invasive species tick, *H. longicornis*, has already spread to 9 states. It reproduces asexually so can quickly establish itself.

This conference is an opportunity for your company to exhibit its products to a specific marketplace and to benefit a worthy cause, the eradication of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

Sincerely,

Patricia V. Smith
Patricia V. Smith, President