



www.ontario.ca/lyme

MY TICK SUBMISSION

Questions & Answers

Now that I have submitted a tick what happens?

The tick you submitted is being sent to the Public Health Laboratory for identification. There are many different types of ticks. Only **blacklegged ticks** (deer ticks) are known to spread Lyme disease in this area. Knowing the type of tick you have been exposed to can determine your level of risk.

When will I know the results of “my” tick?

The initial tick identification process will take approximately 15 business days. If the tick you submitted is a blacklegged tick, it will be sent to Winnipeg to the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) where it will be tested to see if it is carrying the bacteria (*Borrelia burgdorferi*) that causes Lyme disease. This will take approximately two months.

How will I be notified of the results?



You will be notified by a public health inspector with the results of the tick identification.



If the tick was a blacklegged tick and is sent to the NML for bacterial testing, you will be notified by a public health inspector of the results:

1. The tick **does not** have the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, or
2. The tick is **positive** for Lyme and if requested, these results can be faxed to a health care provider or made available to you.

If you experience health symptoms that you feel are caused by a tick bite, contact your health care provider. Do not wait for the tick results. Let your health care provider know you have been bitten by a tick, where you may have picked it up, how long it was attached and that it has been submitted for identification and testing through the public health system.



For information on Lyme disease and its symptoms, please visit our website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Your Health Connection at 705-721-7520 (1-877-721-7520).