

LYME DISEASE IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

IDENTIFYING IT IN THE SCHOOLS

How might a child or adolescent with undiagnosed Lyme Disease present to:

The Teacher

Lethargy, fatigue	Declining school attendance
Moodiness, depression, anxiety	Missing classes, particularly early in the day
Withdrawal from peers	Erratic academic performance
Headaches	Declining grades
Other physical complaints	Attentional problems
Behavioral problems	Poor concentration and memory
Difficulty with speech and writing	Difficulty remaining in class

The School Nurse

Frequent headaches	Fatigue
Joint pain, twitching	Mood swings
Dizziness	Depression
Sleep disturbance	Anxiety
Sensitivity to sound, light or other stimulation	Severe PMS
Gastrointestinal problems	Disorientation
	Vision problems

The Guidance Counselor

Difficulty maintaining a full schedule	Decline in academic performance, over a short or long period of time
Erratic pattern of attendance	Persistent lateness
Difficulty remaining in class	Withdrawal from peers
Behavior problems	Change to lower functioning peer group

Note: Lyme disease symptoms may persist, or they may come and go.

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