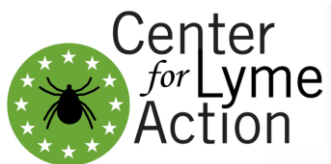


Center for Lyme Action FY27 Appropriations Requests

February 18, 2026



The Problem with Lyme & Tick-borne Diseases

TICK-BORNE DISEASE CASES INCREASING

The CDC estimates nearly 500,000 cases of Lyme disease each year. The 476,000 total Lyme cases in 2018 are nearly 5 times the number reported in 1991.

TICK-BORNE DISEASES ARE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

UNDERPERFORMING DIAGNOSTICS AND NO CURE

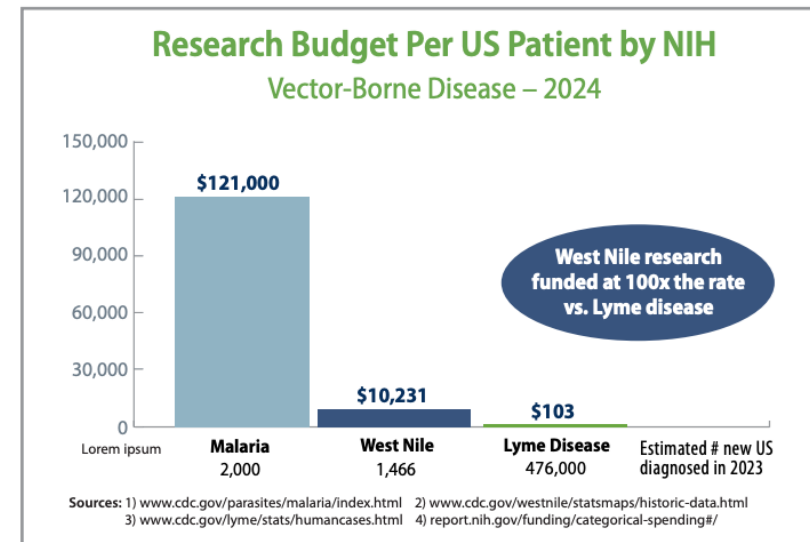
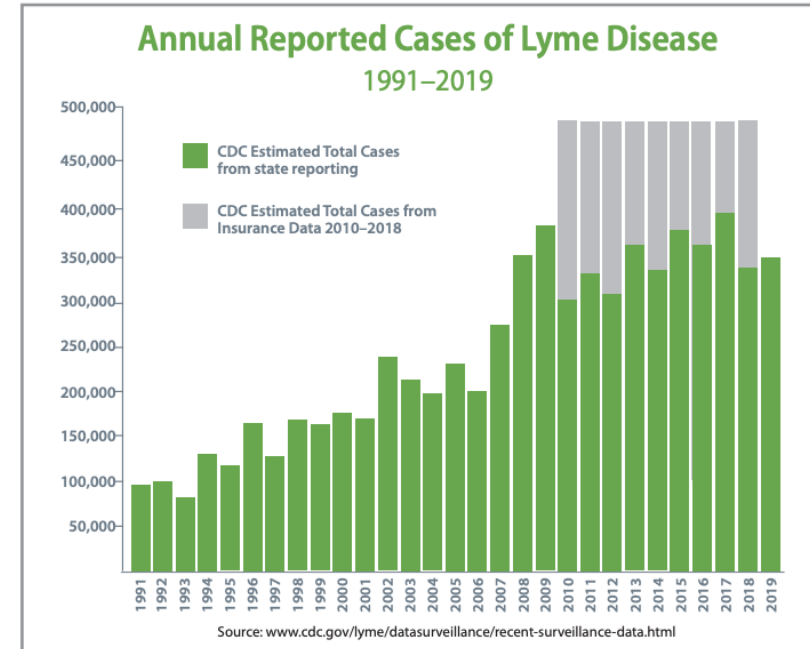
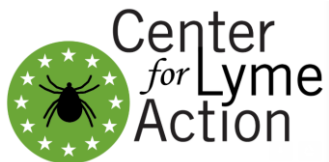
Most available diagnostics don't work—missing up to 60% of acute cases. Current treatments are insufficient for chronic patients and work for approximately 85% of acute patients.

NEED DIAGNOSTICS AND CURE

LOW FEDERAL FUNDING

Per patient, federal funding for Lyme disease is incredibly low at \$103 per patient. Less common diseases West Nile has 100 times, and Malaria has 1,100 times the amount of per patient funding.

MORE FUNDING REQUIRED



FY27 Appropriations Requests

1. \$74.5M CDC Lyme & Tick-borne Disease

\$30M – CDC – Fund Kay Hagan Tick Act

- FY26 \$20.5M
- FY27 \$30M

\$40M – CDC - Fund Lyme and tick-borne disease prevention programs

- FY26 \$27M
- FY27 \$40M

\$4.5M – CDC – Fund Alpha-gal Syndrome

- FY26 \$0M
- FY27 \$4.5M

2. \$5M – HHS LymeX Funding

- FY26 \$5M
- FY27 \$5M

3. \$135M – NIH NIAID Lyme & Tick-borne Disease Research

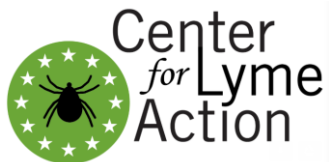
- FY26 \$122M
- FY27 \$135M

4. \$50M – Fund ARPA-H TICK Clinical Trials

- FY26 \$0M
- FY27 \$50M

5. \$9M – DOW CDMRP Tick-Borne Disease Research Program

- FY26 \$7M
- FY27 \$9M

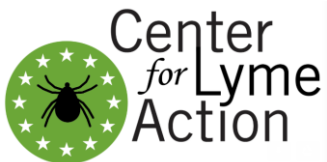


1. Fund CDC Lyme & TBD Programs

REQUEST \$74.5M

DVBD, NCEZID, CDC, HHS

- Fully fund the Kay Hagan Tick Act (Request: \$30M)
 - \$10M for Centers of Excellence
 - \$20M for States and Tribes
- Fund Lyme and Tick-borne Disease Prevention Programs (Request: \$40M)
- Fund Alpha-gal Syndrome Healthcare Provider Education and Surveillance (Request: \$4.5M)



2. Fund HHS LymeX Innovation Accelerator

REQUEST: \$5M

Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- \$25M public-private partnership with Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation
- Foundation funds prize challenges for Lyme diagnostics
- Phase 4 teams are executing clinical validation plans and submitting to FDA
- \$5M needed for federal implementation



LYME
DIAGNOSTICS PRIZE

LymeX - Now in Phase 4

BlueArc Biosciences  DREXEL UNIVERSITY
College of Medicine

HELIXBIND  **Northwestern Medicine**
Feinberg School of Medicine

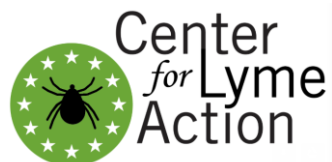
 **GNOMX**  **GALAXY**

 **MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL**

What is LymeX Phase 4?

- Clinical validation plans
- Regulatory submissions to the FDA
- Awards up to \$3 million in prizes
- Additional prizes for FDA clearance

SOURCE: <https://www.lymexdiagnosticsprize.com/phase-4-launches/>

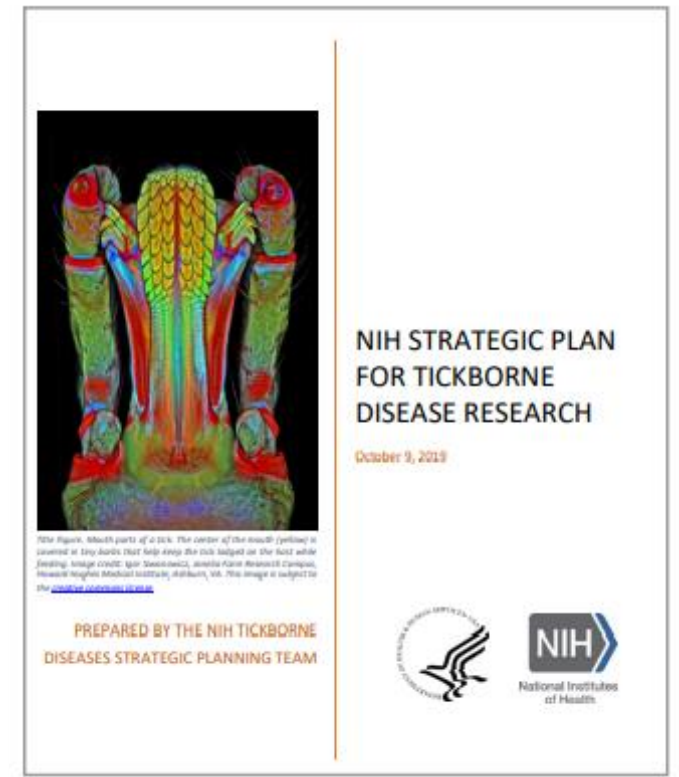
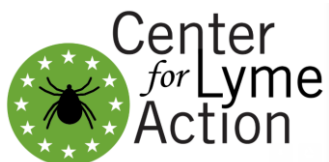


3. Fund NIH Lyme disease and other tick-borne disease research

REQUEST: \$135M

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (HHS NIH NIAID)

- CDC estimates at least 476,000 (cases) Americans get Lyme disease in the US each year
- Only \$103 per patient is allocated toward Lyme funding for NIH NIAID research
- Underfunded compared to more rare infectious diseases:
 - West Nile (1,466 cases) - \$10,231
 - Malaria (2000 cases) - \$121,000



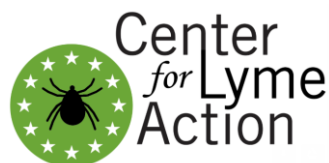
4. Fund ARPA-H TICK Clinical Trials Network

REQUEST: \$50M



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Private sector does not fund clinical trials for Lyme and tick-borne disease therapeutics
- Building upon existing Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Clinical Trials Network supported by Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation
- New ARPA-H TICK Clinical Trials Network fits ARPA-H model because program is high risk
- TICK = Tick-borne Innovation, Collaboration, and Knowledge

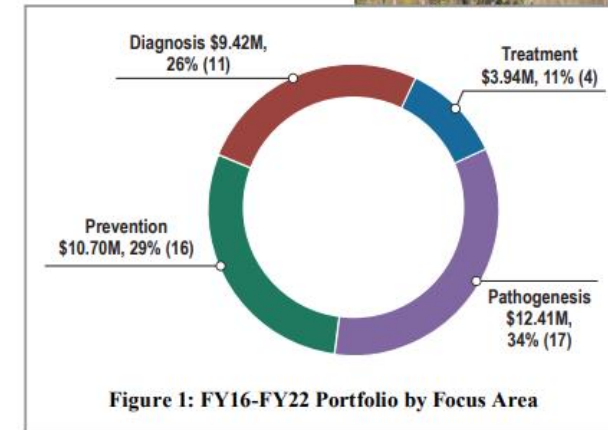
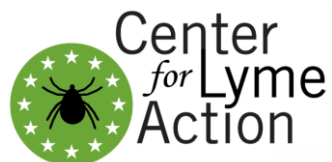


5. Fund Defense Peer-reviewed Tickborne Disease Research

REQUEST: \$9M

Department of Defense Programs, Defense Health Program, Department of War

- Peer-Reviewed Tickborne Disease Research under the **Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program** within Department of Defense (DOD CDMRP TITLE V)
- Unique peer review includes government experts and Lyme community experts
- Funded just 16% of proposals in FY24, could fund more with additional resources



SOURCE: <https://cdmrp.health.mil/tbdrp/pdfs/TBDRP%20Strategic%20Plan%202023.pdf>

TBDRP	Funding	Applications	Funded
FY 2019	\$5M	62	8
FY 2020	\$7M	39	8
FY 2021	\$7M	44	8
FY 2022	\$7M	30	6
FY 2023	\$7M	37	7
FY 2024	\$7M	43	7

Q&A

