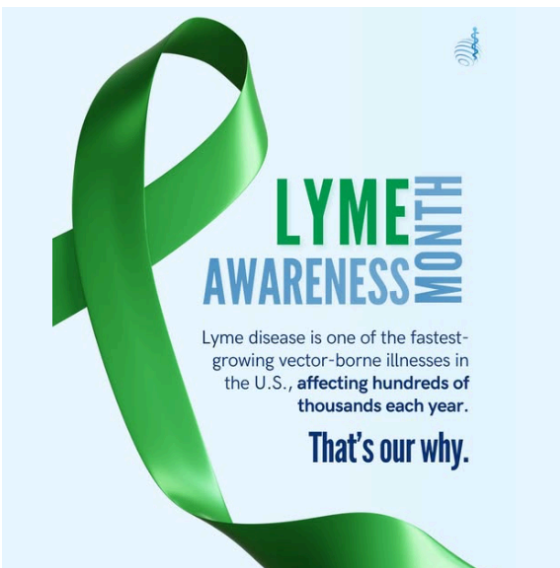


[View this email in your browser](#)



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## May is Lyme Awareness Month in the US and Canada



### **We Are Stronger Together: Building a Unified Voice for the Lyme Community**

This Lyme Awareness Month, ILADS recognizes the power of collaboration across the Lyme and tick-borne disease community. Advocacy organizations, clinicians, researchers, patients, and caregivers all help advance awareness, education, research, and compassionate care.

While each organization brings unique strengths and perspectives, our shared goals unite us: earlier diagnosis, better treatment access, increased research funding, improved physician education, and stronger support for patients and families. ILADS and ILADEF are honored to work with so many of these organizations. By working together, we amplify our impact, strengthen advocacy efforts, and ensure that no patient feels alone in their journey. Collaboration allows us to share resources, expand outreach, and build momentum toward meaningful change.

affected by Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses.

**Thank you for helping us ALL become stronger together.**

Sarah Quillen, Executive Director, and the ILADS & ILADEF Boards of Directors

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## ILADS European Conference 2026 Brings Global Experts Together

The **2026 ILADS European Conference**, held April 16–18 in London, brought together clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals from around the world to advance the understanding and treatment of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases. Through plenary sessions, the European Vector-Borne Illness Fundamentals course, and collaborative discussions, attendees explored emerging research, evolving clinical strategies, and innovative approaches to complex multi-system disorders. Special thanks to the faculty, speakers, exhibitors, organizers, patient advocates, and attendees whose contributions strengthened the global ILADS community and furthered the mission of improving patient care through education, research, and collaboration.



## European Conference Videos Now Available

The videos from the **2026 ILADS European Scientific Conference** are now available for purchase.



Purchase Here

**Member Price: \$600.00**

**Non-Member Price: \$800.00**

Member Portal account required.

For help [contact us](#).

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### Grant Recipient Spotlight: Leah Austin Reflects on the ILADS European Conference



Supported by the [ILADEF Educational Grant Program](#), healthcare professionals from around the world gathered in London for the 2026 ILADS European Scientific Conference to explore the latest research, clinical insights, and evolving approaches to Lyme disease and associated tick-borne illnesses.

Grant recipient Leah Austin, MBBS, of London, is a UK-trained physician with a background in integrative and functional medicine, with a clinical focus on complex chronic conditions, nutrition, hormone balance, and whole-body health approaches. Dr. Austin shared that the conference provided “a comprehensive and clinically valuable update on the evolving understanding of Lyme disease and associated co-infections,” particularly surrounding diagnostic limitations, chronic symptom presentation, and multisystem involvement.

dysfunction, and the limitations of conventional testing, while emphasizing the growing role of integrative, personalized, and systems-based approaches to care. She shared that the experience reinforced the importance of maintaining “a high index of suspicion for tick-borne illness in complex, multisystem presentations,” particularly in the UK where prevalence may be underestimated.

ILADS and ILADEF are proud to support educational opportunities that expand clinical understanding, encourage collaboration, and improve patient outcomes worldwide, and congratulates Dr. Austin as a 2026 Educational Grant recipient!

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THE DATE!

### ILADS Pediatric Committee is proud to sponsor

Webinar: *Small Bodies, Big Clues: Rethinking Pediatric Lyme Disease*



**Date:** Tuesday, May 26

**Time:** 7pm ET

**Presenter:** Casey Kelley, MD

Children with Lyme and associated diseases often present with symptoms that don't fit the “classic” picture—ranging from anxiety, ADHD-like behaviors, and cognitive changes to complex neuropsychiatric and autonomic dysfunction. Join us for *Small Bodies, Big Clues: Rethinking Pediatric Lyme Disease*, where we'll explore real-world pediatric cases, co-infections, diagnostic challenges, and integrative treatment strategies designed to improve clinical recognition and long-term outcomes for children. This is the first webinar in the new Pediatric webinar series.

centered care focused on addressing the underlying causes of illness to restore vitality and longevity. She is also a faculty member at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, where she teaches the next generation of medical leaders.

**Free for ILADS Members**

**\$49.00 for Non-Members**

[Register Now](#)

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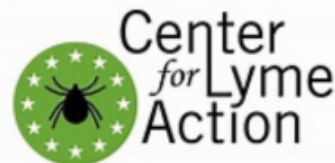
## Summer Webinars - Details Coming Soon!

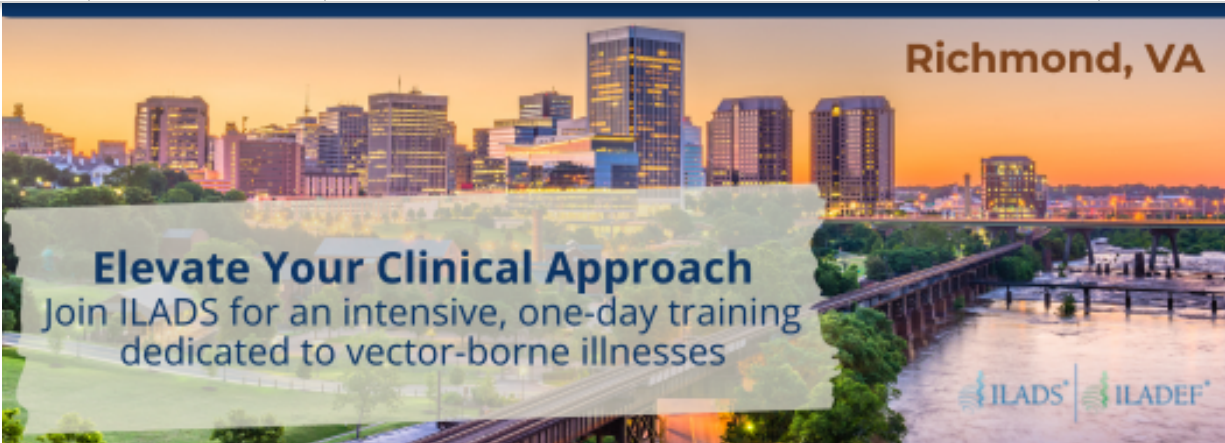
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### In Case You Missed It: State of Lyme Disease Research Webinar

ILADS recently hosted the webinar *State of Lyme Disease Research* in collaboration with the Center for Lyme Action. Presented by **Bonnie Crater** and **Nicole Bell**, the session reviewed the landmark paper *The State of Lyme Disease Research in the United States* and highlighted emerging advances in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment shaping the future of Lyme disease research.

[Watch Webinar](#)





## Hotel Room Block Closing Friday

### Free Registration Available for Southern VA Clinicians.

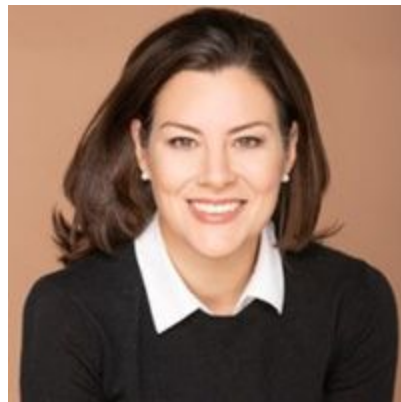
Join us at The Westin Richmond for the ***ILADS Vector-Borne Illness Fundamentals*** course; an immersive, in-person experience designed for clinicians seeking practical, evidence-informed guidance.

Kick things off early at our **Welcome Reception on the evening of June 5**, a great opportunity to connect with colleagues and faculty!

### Meet your Speakers



**Dr. Tania Dempsey**



**Dr. Jacquelyn Meinhardt**



**Dr. Christine Saba**



**Dr. Chris Winfrey**

**Register early and save:**  
**ILADS Members: \$449 (\$499 onsite)**  
**Non-members: \$499 (\$549 onsite)**

[Register Now](#)

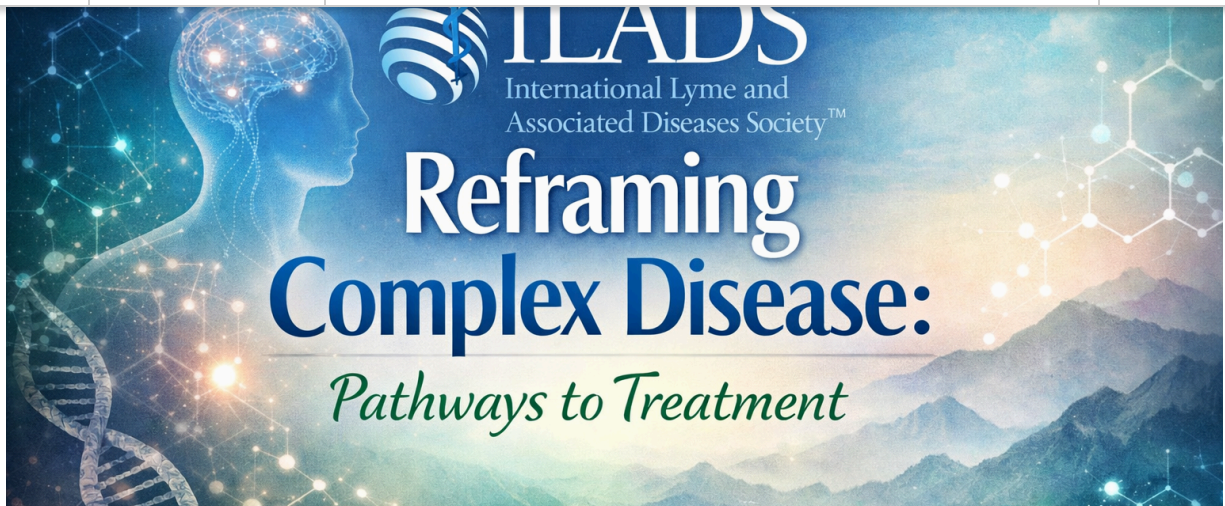
[Book Your Hotel Group Rate](#)

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## **2026 ILADS Annual Scientific Conference Registration Opening Soon!**

Herndon, Virginia | October 22-25, 2026

The conference will be held at the **Hyatt Regency Dulles**. A discounted group rate of **\$179/night** is available for attendees. Secure your stay [by booking now](#) to ensure availability and convenient access to all conference events.



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**Exhibitor Registration Coming Next Week!**

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## NOTEWORTHY NEWS

### **We've Moved! Here's Our New Address**

As of April 1, 2026, ILADS has a new address:

**4000 Legato Road, Suite 1100**

**Fairfax, Virginia 22033**

Kindly update your records.

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### **ILADS Brochures on Lyme Disease & Tick-Borne Illness**

We're excited to announce the the release of three new ILADS educational brochures, developed to support patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals with clear, evidence-based information on Lyme disease and tick-borne illness.

brochures are designed to improve awareness, support earlier recognition, and empower informed clinical and personal decision-making.



### ***Lyme Disease: A Bacterial Infection***

### ***Tick-Borne Diseases Other Than Lyme: What You Need to Know***

### ***Psychiatric Lyme: What Every Mental Health Specialist Should Know***

Brochures are available in packs of 100 and are \$30/pack, plus shipping. Limit 2 packs per order (per title) to help manage inventory.

If you require additional copies, please [contact us](#).

[Order Brochures Here](#)

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## **New Brochures Coming Soon**

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### **Advancing Excellence: Meet the New ILADS Fellows**

ILADS is pleased to recognize two outstanding clinicians, Dr. Alexis Chesney and Dr. Myriah Hinchey, as Fellows of the **ILADS Fellowship Program in Vector-Borne Illness**. The Fellowship Program is designed to support advanced clinical training and mentorship in the diagnosis and treatment of Lyme and associated diseases, helping to expand access to knowledgeable, compassionate care for patients worldwide.



specializing in Lyme and vector-borne diseases. She serves as Chair of the ILADS Naturopathic Medicine Committee and as a preceptor for the ILADEF Physician Training Program. Dr. Chesney is also the author of *Preventing Lyme & Other Tick-Borne Diseases* and is widely recognized for her work in patient education and prevention.



**Myriah Hinchey, ND**, is a Connecticut-based naturopathic physician and Medical Director of TAO: Center for Vitality, Longevity, & Optimal Health. She is also the founder of LymeCore Botanicals and LymeBytes, educational platforms focused on tick-borne disease awareness and education, and has more than 17 years experience treating Lyme disease.

Together, they represent the next generation of leaders advancing ILADS' mission through education, collaboration, and clinical excellence. Find out more about ILADS [Fellowship in Vector-Borne Illness Program](#) or [contact us](#).

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## WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

HELP SUPPORT ILADEF, THE FOUNDATION ARM OF  
ILADS, WITH A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION.



[DONATE!](#)

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