



Department of Health

1 Geneva Road, Brewster, New York 10509
(845) 808-1390



MaryEllen Odell
County Executive

Michael J. Nesheiwat, M.D.
Interim Commissioner of Health

April 17, 2017

Dear Doctor:

The Putnam County Department of Health is tasked with reporting all positive [confirmed and probable] cases of Lyme disease to the NYSDOH per NYS public health law. Without capturing the cases of Lyme disease diagnosed by an erythema migrans (EM), which confirms the diagnosis without serology, our county's burden of Lyme disease is vastly under-reported and in turn, under-represented to the NYSDOH and the CDC.

I am asking for your assistance in reporting Lyme cases diagnosed by an EM only. Enclosed is a simple line list that can be used to report these Lyme cases to the health department as well as simple steps for your office staff to more easily complete the form. Please take a moment to discuss this with your staff. The health department appreciates this effort which allows for a more accurate Putnam County Lyme disease count. In turn, higher numbers supports the county in requesting improved funding for tickborne disease education.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Gressel

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