

What's wrong with Buster?

Buster is a 17 yr old AQHA Chestnut gelding.  
He was shown in 4-H, WSCA Western and English including games.  
Buster is a well trained Deluxe trail horse anyone can ride.

On Sept 16th 2009

Buster would not leave the barn and go into the pasture.  
I noticed his back hip looked swollen.  
The closer I got to him I seen all 4 legs were swollen.  
Buster could barely move.  
It took a while but we loaded him the trailer.  
I called our Vet Kirsten at [www.sunriseequine.com](http://www.sunriseequine.com)  
Told her we were on our way and to expect us soon.

Kirsten checked Buster over.

He seemed fine except all 4 legs were swollen from body to hoof.  
His attitude was normal, he had no temp and was eating normal.  
They ruled out Anaplasmosis, laminitis and hoary alyssum.  
They ran a CBC test which came back HIGH.  
Buster's problem was a Bacterial infection.  
He was put on 24 Sulfa tablets for 5 days.  
The leg swelling went down.

Days later the swelling traveled to Busters Sheath. I was horrified.  
That's when it hit me like a Brick! A BACTERIAL INFECTION...Swollen body parts....Buster has Lyme disease!!!

I had a positive blood test by Lab Corp for Lyme disease in 2008.  
My sisters Dog was Positive for Lyme disease.  
My neighbor Char had 2 horses that were ill with Lyme disease too.  
Char spent Thousands trying to find the cause of her horse's illness.  
So Buster was loaded back up and we were off again to see the Vet.  
Once getting to the Vet office I told my Vet Chars story.  
I explained how we live in a High Risk are for Lyme disease.  
Yes.....I know the Books say Lyme disease is rare.  
I live in a County LOADED with Deer Ticks and LYME DISEASE.

An equine lyme titer test preformed and sent to Cornell Lab, NYC.  
Buster was placed on 90 Doxycycline a day until the titer results came back.  
To rule out Lyme disease the test cost me \$120.

Friday the Vet calls and asks how Buster is doing?  
She also has his test results.  
YES ... Buster Is Positive for Lyme disease.  
He will need more antibiotics.

Today both my horse and I are on antibiotics for Lyme disease.  
I am not sure for how long or if we will both recover 100%.  
My hope is to make others aware that this can happen to anyone.

Horses, pets adults and their children.  
Especially for those who live in a high risk areas.  
Lyme disease can and will affect you.  
[www.mlasg.com](http://www.mlasg.com)





