

## Bonhomme, Penny

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**From:** gregdonna [gregdonna91@cox.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 06, 2012 3:04 PM

**To:** PHC Testimony

**Subject:** Lyme Disease testimonial

Lyme Disease is a serious disease often misdiagnosed or not diagnosed if the patient does not present with the Lyme rash.

My daughter first had symptoms in January of 2007. She was in severe pain and could not walk. The doctor dismissed her symptoms as a virus that many children had at the time and maybe it was a virus. As the weather improved, she improved and was pain free. However, the same symptoms of pain and an inability to walk resurfaced in January of 2009. A physician assistant examined her and decided to run a test for Lyme which turned out positive. She was treated with one antibiotic but the blood test showed three different strains of bacteria. Her doctor only wanted to treat for the 3 months as prescribed by the CDC. Against my doctor's advice, my daughter was treated by Dr. Jones in New Haven. She was treated with three antibiotics. I also found care with a naturopathic physician. My daughter was treated for a year and half at considerable expense to our family. We paid for everything...meds, treatment, blood work.

There is no way to tell if the body is completely rid of the disease. Lately, my daughter looks tired and feels tired so I think I may need to see the doctors again. In many ways she is doing very well. Her body is strong and she is developing normally. Her cognitive and behavioral skills seem right on track, if not above normal.

It is a devastating disease and I am not sure if my daughter is cured or if she will be sick again or sick for the rest of her life. We need more information, more science, a willingness by doctors and insurance companies and the CDC to recognize this disease as something complicated and that needs to be treated on a case by case basis with attention to each patient since it presents in different ways.

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