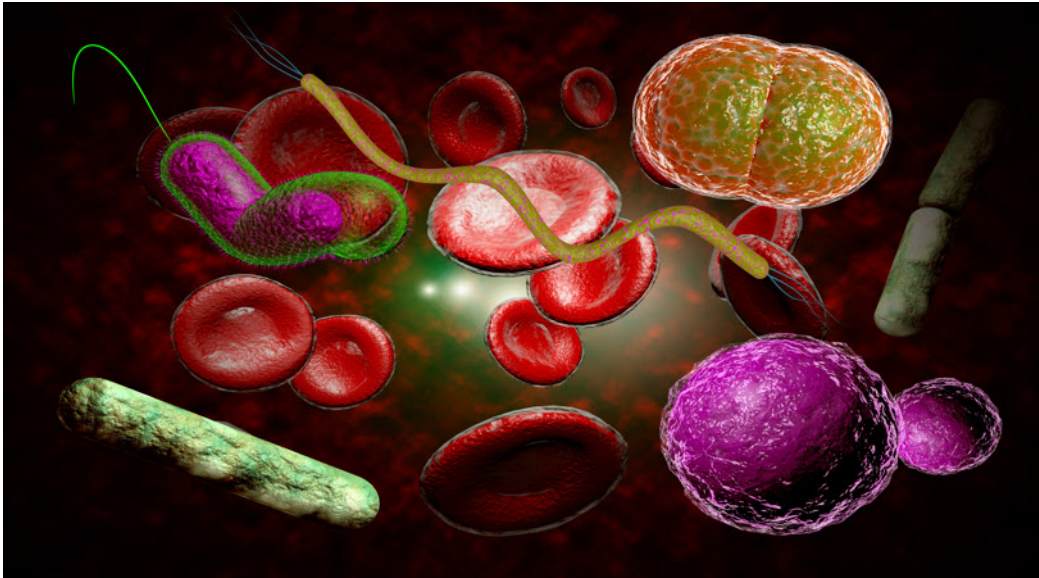


AONM Newsletter April 2017



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Morgellons Disease: A devastating and much misunderstood disease

Morgellons is a condition that has long been a mystery. Characterised by sensations of crawling, biting and stinging, disfiguring lesions and unusual fibres coming out of the skin, patients have often been accused by their doctors of DOP (delusions of parasitosis) and even self-mutilation.

The term was applied in 2002 by the biologist and lab technician Mary Leitao to her son's condition: he developed sores that no medical professionals she consulted was able to explain - sores under his lips, and bug-crawling sensations under his skin. She researched and found that in the late 1600s, Sir Thomas Browne and Dr. Michel Etmuller had both described hair-like structures protruding from wounds on the backs of patients combined with convulsions and coughing, and had named this condition "The Morgellons".

More recently, studies have been conducted evidencing a vector-borne etiology that appears to be highly associated with Lyme Disease. Dr. Virginia (Ginger) Savely's study published in the May 2010 edition of *Clinical, Cosmetic and Investigative Dermatology* suggested an association between Morgellons Disease and Lyme Disease: of 122

subjects, 97% tested positive for or were diagnosed clinically with Lyme Disease.

It has been found that the filaments are primarily made of collagen and keratin due to proliferation and activation of fibroblasts and keratinocytes (see Middelveen MJ et al, "Characterization and evolution of dermal filaments from patients with Morgellons disease" 2012 in *Clinical, Cosmetic and Investigative Dermatology*).

Dr. Randy Wymore PhD from Oklahoma State University in the USA has found that the fibres are not textile or any other manmade substance. He isolated the following bacteria from the lesions of Morgellons patients: *Borellia burgdorferi*, *Bartonella henselae*, *Treponema denticola*, and *Helicobacter pylori*. Middelveen et al's 2013 article in *F1000 Research* is entitled "Association of spirochetal infection with Morgellons disease," and the most recent article (2016) published by Marianne Middelveen and Ralf Stricker is "Morgellons disease: a filamentous borrelial dermatitis".

Dr. Ginger Savely has now published a book with the latest findings on this condition as well as details of her therapeutic success with many thousands of patients. Entitled "Morgellons: The Legitimization of a Disease," the book has established Dr. Savely as the world leader in this field. Dr. Savely will be the keynote speaker at AONM's conference on May 14th, "Chronic Illness Uncovered: Lyme Disease, Viral Pathogens, Morgellons, Mould & More..." (See "Upcoming Events" for further details).

Upcoming events



Main Sponsor

Sunday May 14th

“Chronic Illness Uncovered: Lyme Disease, Viral Pathogens, Morgellons, Mould & More...”

Dr. Ginger Savely

Morgellons Disease: Our Current Understanding

Dr. Savely, a world renowned expert in the illness, will discuss in detail the symptoms of Morgellons Disease, objective findings, theories on its etiology as well as treatment options available. Dr. Savely is considered to be one of the top experts in the United States on the diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases and Morgellons disease.

Dr. Jess Amine (via live video link)

Brain Inflammation: Effects of Mould and Mycotoxins

Dr. Armine will explain the mechanisms involved in chronic inflammatory response syndrome (CIRS), the effects of mould and mycotoxins, and the interaction of mast cells and microglia to activate inflammation of the brain.

Professor Leona Gilbert

from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland,

Diagnostic Testing for Lyme Disease

Professor Gilbert will guide us through the most up-to-date testing technologies, including TickPlex – a new antibody tick-borne disease diagnostic test kit to be introduced in April

Dr. Armin Schwarzbach

will be speaking on "Tick-borne diseases and viruses in cancer and unexplained syndromes"

Holiday Inn London Bloomsbury – Coram Street – London – WC1N 1HT

10.00 am - 5.00 pm. Registration 9.30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/chronic-illness-uncovered-lyme-diseaseviral-pathogensmorgellonsmould-more-tickets-32869157535>



International IV Nutritional Therapy
Teaching IV Nutrition Worldwide

Fundamentals and Clinical Applications of IV Nutrient Therapies

28th April – 2nd May

Royal Society of Medicine

1 Wimpole St

Maryleone, London, U.K.

W1G 0AE

http://ivnutritionaltherapy.com/?page_id=19



Skype ArminLabs training with Gilian Crowther

Free of charge on Tuesday May 9th, 6.30 - 7.30, and every fortnight after that. Please contact the AONM Helpline to register, and give them your Skype ID.

info@aonm.org

03331 210 305

www.aonm.org



May 19th - 20th

ILADS Europe (International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society)

Paris Marriott Opera Ambassador Hotel

Paris, France

http://www.ilads.org/lyme_programs/paris/ilads-paris-overview.php



Colchester ME Self Help Group

Sunday June 4th

AGM and talks on ME and immunity/infections

3.00 - 5.30 pm

Professor Basant Puri: The role of iodine in ME/CFS. B. Puri

Juliet Hayward: Immune system support by the functional food MGM-3 Biobran

Gilian Crowther: Mitochondria and infections

Meeting Hall, Straight Road Community Centre, Straight Road, Colchester, CO3 9EF

<http://www.colchester-mesh.org.uk/events/>

Tuesday June 6th

6.00 - 8.30 pm

“Mitochondrial shutdown – Why, and what to do?”

An evening mitochondrial "CST" (Cell Symbiosis Therapy) seminar with the added focus of infectious/viral pathogens that can shut down the mitochondria.

Location to be confirmed (Central London)

The Eventbrite site is:

https://aonm_cst_seminar.eventbrite.co.uk



BSEM

Friday 16th June

Systems Medicine: Bridging the Gap between Science and Clinical Practice'

Presentations on the impact of nutrition, environmental exposures, and microbiota on health through interactions with cellular membranes, mitochondria, immune system, and the brain by:

Professor Jeremy Nicholson, Professor Ted Dinan, Professor Aaron Lerner, Mr Edward Kane, Dr Sarah Myhill, Dr Shideh Pouria, Professor Yehuda Shoenfeld

<http://www.bsem.org.uk>