### Lyme Disease and Pregnancy:

## State of the Science and Opportunities for Research Support

Join us for an interactive webinar

Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 5:00 – 6:30 pm EST

While it is widely accepted that Lyme disease is spread by a tick bite, it is less well known that the agent of Lyme disease, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, can cross the placenta, both infecting, and causing harm to, unborn children.

The dearth of published research on this topic has left patients, healthcare providers and caregivers to navigate a vast field of unknowns related to diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

In order to stimulate interest in Lyme and TBDs, as well as Maternal and Perinatal Infectious Diseases, NIH has issued a series of notices to encourage investigators to apply for grants and has asked stakeholder organizations for help getting the word out.

This webinar will provide researchers the opportunity to learn about the application process and seek guidance from NIH program officers.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for investigators to build a foundation of research for a long-overlooked problem.

#### **Agenda**

Lyme Disease and Pregnancy: Why Research is Urgently Needed Isabel Rose, Chair, Mothers Against Lyme

**Epidemiology and Pathobiology of Lyme Disease: Implications for Research**Holly Ahern MS, MT(ASCP) Associate Professor of Microbiology, SUNY Adirondack

Maternal-Fetal Transmission of Lyme Disease: Research Gaps and Opportunities Sue Faber, RN, BScN and President, <u>LymeHope</u>

NIH Research Opportunities for Maternal and Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Nahida Chakhtoura, MD, Maternal and Pediatric Infectious Diseases Program Officer,
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

# Advancing Research for Tickborne Diseases: Guidance and Resources for Investigators

Maliha Ilias, PhD, Lyme Disease Program Officer, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

#### **Q&A** and Panel Discussion

Register for FREE to learn *directly from the source* **how to apply and gain access** to **newly available funds** (\$29 million) that the Federal government has earmarked for research in the area of Lyme and tick-borne diseases.

**Sponsored by** Mothers Against Lyme and Project Lyme