



## **Isabel Symptom Checker Survey**

March 2016

A big THANK YOU to all who completed the survey and those who tried but were thwarted by technology or by the terrible disability which can be caused by the illnesses being investigated.

This short report is the results of preliminary analysis of the data.

The Isabel Symptom Checker is an online tool which allows the public and physicians to enter brief details and a list of symptoms. It then produces a list of suggested diagnoses for consideration. Isabel Healthcare kindly gave permission for this survey to use their resource. (<http://symptomchecker.isabelhealthcare.com/>)

44 participants (39 female and 5 male) completed the Isabel Symptom Checker and provided their data for analysis in this survey. Respondents have these physician diagnoses:

- 8 with Lyme borreliosis (LB)
- 20 with M.E.
- 16 with Lyme also diagnosed with M.E.

Unfortunately there were insufficient responses from Fibromyalgia patients to include them in the analysis.

NOTE: The Symptom Checker does not differentiate M.E. (myalgic encephalomyelitis) and CFS (chronic fatigue syndrome).

- A maximum of 10 (top 10) diagnoses suggested by the Symptom Checker for each participant were analysed.
- From the symptoms entered by 44 participants the Symptom Checker produced a total of 103 different suggestions for diagnoses.
- The lowest number of suggestions produced by the Symptom Checker for an individual's symptoms was 2.
- 49 of the suggested diagnoses occurred for only one participant.

The Symptom Checker most frequently suggested diagnoses based on participant's symptoms were:

7	Addison's Disease
7	Food Poisoning
7	Quinolones Toxicity
9	Concussion
9	Heavy Metal Intoxication
9	Iron Deficiency Anemia
9	Tularemia
10	Diabetic Neuropathy
10	Migraine
10	Sarcoidosis
12	Antiphospholipid Syndrome
21	Vitamin B12 Deficiency
25	Fibromyalgia
32	Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
38	Lyme Disease

Only one respondent did not have either Lyme or CFS in their top 10 suggestions. For this participant it appears to be because the Symptom Checker prioritised some acute and 'red flag' conditions based upon an extensive symptom list. When the participant's first 10 symptoms were analysed, the Symptom Checker suggested Lyme disease in 2<sup>nd</sup> position and CFS in 7<sup>th</sup> position.

- Lyme was suggested for 38 respondents with 34 of those in the top 5
- CFS was suggested for 32 respondents with 25 suggestions in the top 5
- 28 respondents had both CFS AND Lyme in their suggested diagnoses list

Of 407 diagnoses suggested by the Symptom Checker for the 44 respondents, the most common categories of diagnoses were:

8	Ear
9	Liver
10	Heart
11	Blood
14	Gastro
15	Lung
20	Tox
27	Diet
30	Endocr
57	Rheum
82	Infec
87	Nerve