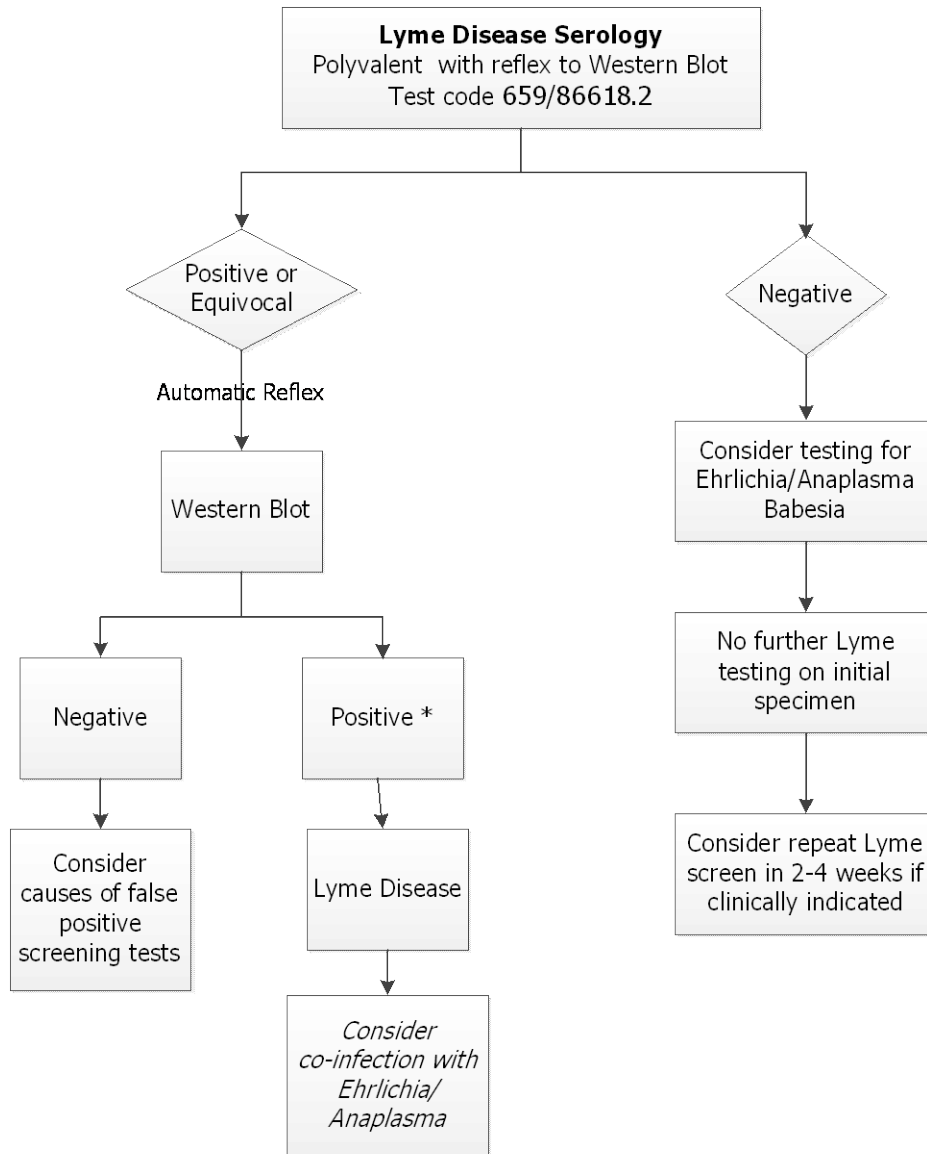


Lyme Disease testing algorithm 659/86618.2



POSTIVE WESTERN BLOT (WB) and NEUROLOGICAL SYMPTOMS

- Order Lyme antibody testing on CSF
- Consider PCR testing (low sensitivity, negative results do not exclude neuroborreliosis).

POSITIVE WESTERN BLOT (WB) and KNEE EFFUSION

- Lyme disease serologies are used to establish the diagnosis of Lyme arthritis in patients with potential exposure to *Ixodes* ticks and signs and symptoms of Lyme arthritis.
- All patients with Lyme arthritis will have positive serologies for *B. burgdorferi* since Lyme arthritis is a late manifestation.
- Synovial fluid testing can establish the presence of an inflammatory arthritis, characterized by mean synovial WBC counts of 10,000-25,000 cells/ μ L
- Analysis of synovial fluid by ELISA or WB will also demonstrate *B. burgdorferi* reactivity, but such testing is unnecessary, since it is neither more sensitive nor more specific than serum analysis.
- Consider PCR testing on synovial fluid (relatively good sensitivity by negative results do not exclude Lyme arthritis)
- PCR testing of synovial fluid has not been validated for widespread clinical use.