

# **Monica Embers**

**Assistant Professor, Division of Bacteriology and Parasitology at Tulane University**

New Orleans, LA, US

Professor Embers specializes in Lyme disease.

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## **Biography**

Dr. Embers' research program regarding *Borrelia burgdorferi* and Lyme disease is centered on three major foci: (1) evaluating antibiotic efficacy against Lyme disease; (2) identifying treatments that can eradicate *B. burgdorferi* infection; and (3) immunodiagnosis for *B. burgdorferi* infection and cure. The first research goal is to examine, using xenodiagnosis, the efficacy of antibiotic treatment during disseminated *B. burgdorferi* infection in the nonhuman primate model of Lyme disease. The second goal is to use animal models of persistent infection to evaluate new therapeutic strategies. The third goal is to develop a quantitative multi-antigen test that expands detection limits and helps to distinguish persistent infection from clinical cure. By transmitting Lyme disease to nonhuman primates by tick, and studying the natural course of infection, her group hopes to facilitate a better understanding of the clinical quandaries of human Lyme disease, including effective diagnosis and treatment.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Cell Culture, Antibiotic Resistance, Lyme Disease Research, Lyme Disease, Antibiotics, Molecular Biology

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## **Education**

**Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine**

Ph.D. Microbiology and Immunology

**McPherson College**

B.S. Biology and Chemistry

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