Assessment and Prescribing Algorithm for Pharmacists: 
**Antibiotic Prophylaxis to Prevent Lyme Disease following a Tick Bite**

### Assessing the Patient

1. **Is the patient symptomatic following a tick bite?**
   - Yes: Refer to a physician or nurse practitioner.
   - No: Proceed to the next step.

2. **Is the patient at high risk for developing Lyme disease?**
   - Yes: Proceed to the next step.
   - No: Do not prescribe antibiotic prophylaxis. Educate patient to monitor for symptoms for 30 days and see a physician or nurse practitioner if symptoms develop.

### Prescribing Antibiotic Prophylaxis

- **Adults:** doxycycline 200 mg by mouth x 1 dose
- **Children:** doxycycline 4 mg/kg (maximum dose of 200 mg) by mouth x 1 dose (no age restriction)

### Documentation & Follow-up

- Complete documentation & notify physician or nurse practitioner.
- Educate all patients to monitor for signs and symptoms for 30 days and see a physician or nurse practitioner if they develop symptoms.
- For surveillance purposes only, patients have the option to submit photos of ticks to [www.etick.ca](http://www.etick.ca) for identification.

### References:

5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD). Tick removal [Internet]. Atlanta, GA: CDC; 2022 [reviewed 2022 Mar 13; cited 2023 Mar 3]. Available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/removing-a-tick.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/removing-a-tick.html)