



ET/D Declaration of Authorship

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Declaration for Entire ET/D

In accordance with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center [Honor Code](#) and the requirements for integrity and honesty laid out in the College of Graduate Health Sciences' [Electronic Thesis & Dissertation \(ET/D\) Learning Portal](#), I Kamalika Samanta, declare that this thesis/dissertation titled "Transmission Competence of B. burgdorferi Infected Ixodes Ticks and Development of an OspC-Based Lyme Disease Vaccine" and the work presented therein are my own. I confirm that:

- This work was done wholly or mainly while being a candidate for a terminal degree at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.
- There is clear and full disclosure in the thesis/dissertation for any part that was previously submitted for a degree or any other qualification at this University or any other institution or that has been accepted for publication.
- Where I used the published or unpublished work of others, this is clearly attributed.
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- I have acknowledged all other main sources of help (e.g., lab assistance, joint work on projects, consultations/discussions with colleagues/experts, funding).
- Where the thesis/dissertation is based on work done jointly with others, I have made clear what I contributed (see next page).

Maria Gomes-Solecki, DVM

Gomes-Solecki, Maria
to me
Confirmed

10:13 AM (5 hours ago)

Advisor Name

Digital reply with confirmation

Declaration for Previously Published Articles with Several Authors Incorporated into the ET/D. (Includes in press and accepted articles.)

If this declaration is not applicable, please indicate here:

Articles with several authors incorporated into my ET/D and my contributions to them:

Chapter: 2

Citation: K Samanta, JF Azevedo, N Nair, S Kundu, M Gomes-Solecki. **Infected *Ixodes scapularis* Nymphs Maintained in Prolonged Questing under Optimal Environmental Conditions for One Year Can Transmit *Borrelia burgdorferi* (Borreliella genus novum) to Uninfected Hosts**, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1128/spectrum.01377-22>.

My significant contributions: Manuscript writing, data analysis, experimental design, investigation, and data acquisition.