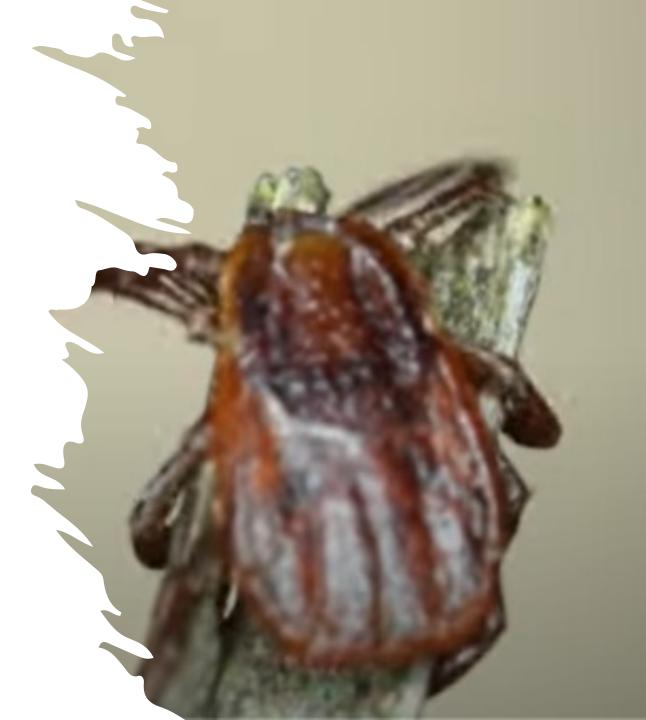
## **Tickborne Diseases in the United States**

Jorge Mera, MD, FACP

**Infectious Diseases** 

NPAIHB ID ECHO



## **Objectives**



Name the different diseases transmitted by ticks in the USA and their distribution



Explain the different diagnostic tools available for tickborne diseases.



Recognize the clinical presentation and treatment of the most common tickborne diseases in the USA

## Why do Tickborne Diseases Make me TICK

- I have dogs
- I must know about them!! (I am an ID specialist)
- I lived in Oklahoma for 12 years
- Part of my family is scientifically vested in ticks
- The rest of my family seems to be a magnet for ticks



### Luca and Mia trying to avoid ticks





Parasitology Research https://doi.org/10.1007/s00436-020-07005-7

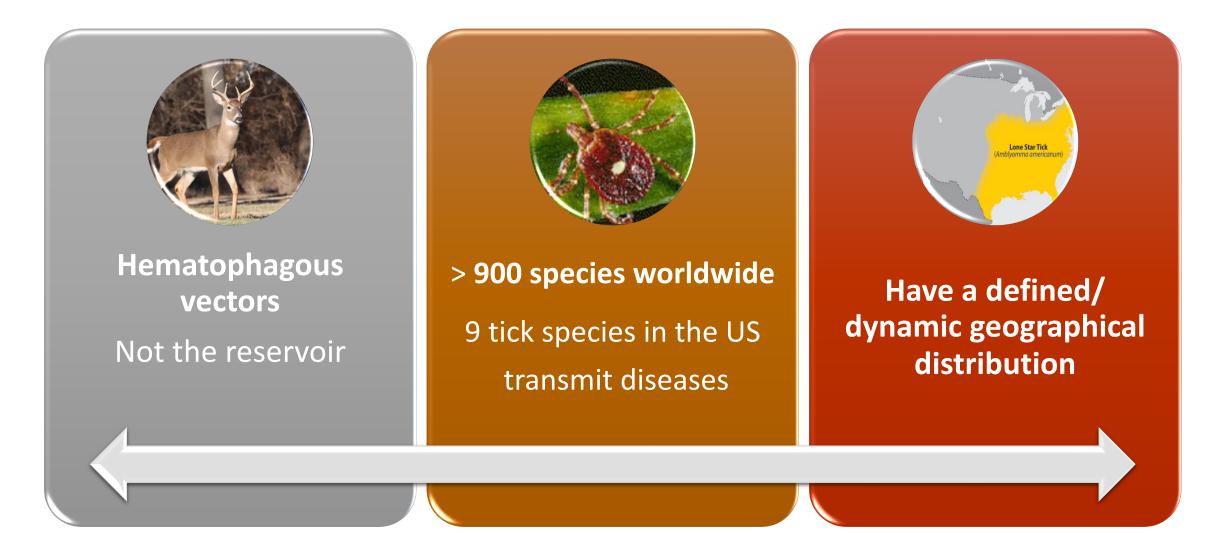
GENETICS, EVOLUTION, AND PHYLOGENY - SHORT COMMUNICATION

Check for updates

Epidemiological link between canine monocytic ehrlichiosis caused by *Ehrlichia canis* and the presence of *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* sensu stricto in Argentina

Patrick S. Sebastian<sup>1</sup> Roberto Mera y Sierra<sup>2,3</sup> Gisela Neira<sup>2,4</sup> · Jaled Hadid<sup>5</sup> · Fernando S. Flores<sup>6</sup> · Santiago Nava<sup>1</sup>

# **Tick Basics**



### Tick Attack



While questing, ticks hold onto leaves and grass by their third and fourth pair of legs.



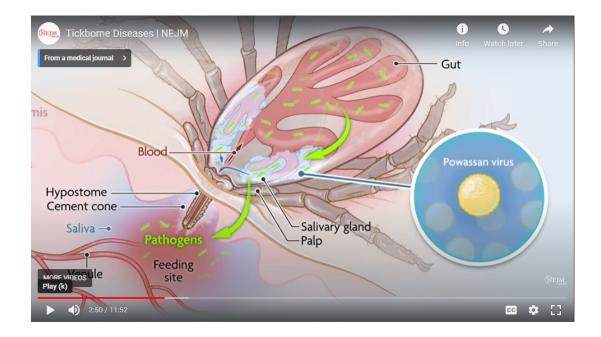
They hold the first pair of legs outstretched, waiting to climb on to the host. When a host brushes the spot, it quickly climbs aboard.

Ticks find their hosts by detecting animals' breath and body odors, or by sensing body heat, moisture, and vibrations. Some species can even recognize a shadow. In addition, ticks pick a place to wait by identifying well-used paths.

N Engl J Med 2023; 388:e43 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp2302440

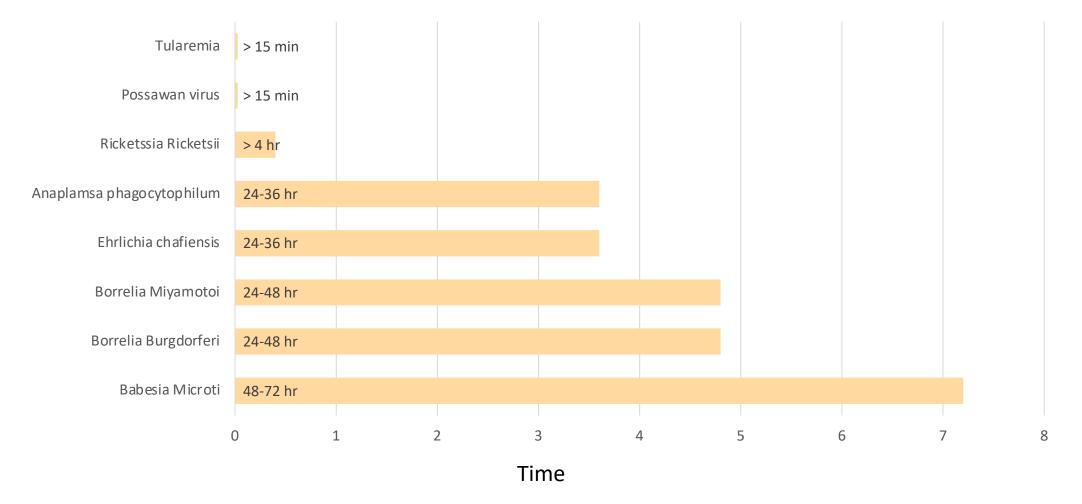
### Reactivation and Inoculation of Pathogens





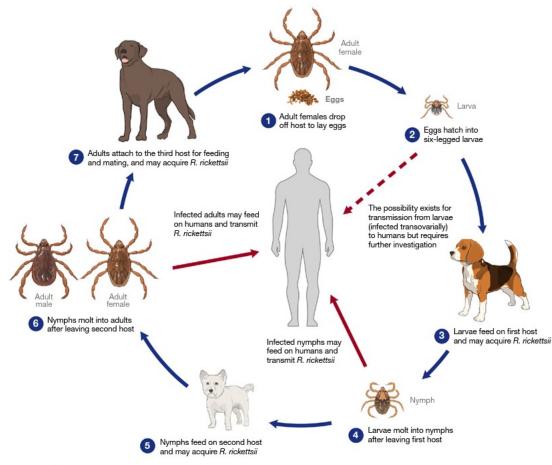
Some ticks will attach quickly, others will wander, looking for places like the ear, or areas where the skin is thinner. Small amounts of saliva from the tick may also enter the skin of the host animal during the feeding process.

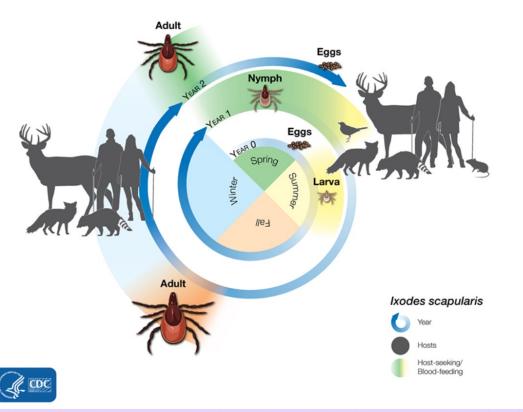
### **Approximate Reactivation Time of Tickborne Diseases**



N Engl J Med 2023; 388:e43 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp2302440

Life cycle of *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* and the transmission of *Rickettsia rickettsii* (the causative agent of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever)





The lifecycle of *lxodes scapularis* ticks generally lasts two years. During this time, they go through four life stages: egg, larva, nymph, and adult. After the eggs hatch, the ticks must have a blood meal at every stage to survive. Blacklegged ticks can feed from mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. The ticks need a new host at each stage of their life.

Images are not drawn to scale. *R. sanguineus* can maintain *R. rickettsii* between life stages. Humans, as well as dogs, may become infected when bitten by a tick infected with *R. rickettsii*.

### **Ticks that Transmit Diseases to Humans in the US**



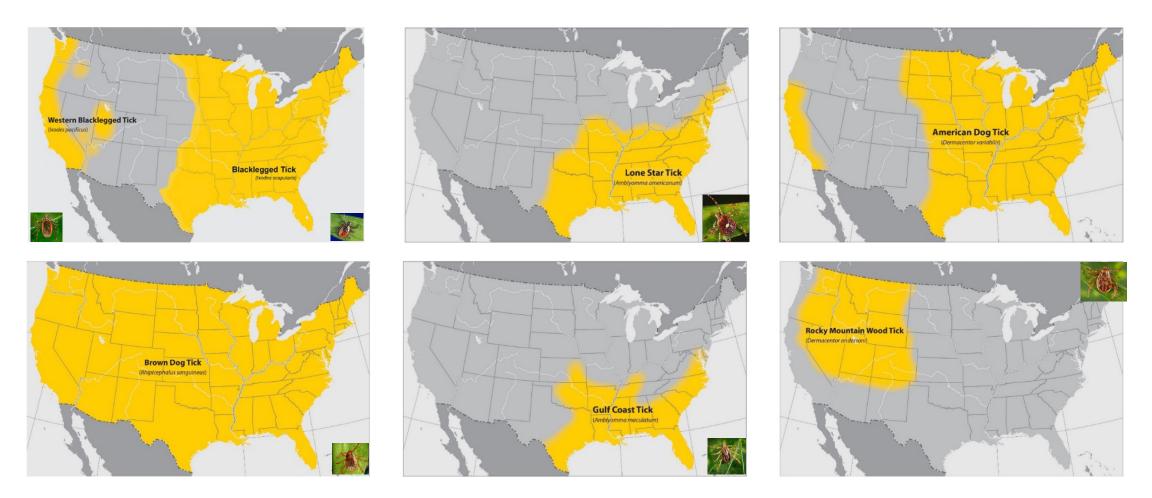








### Range Maps of Ticks that Bite Humans in the U.S.



#### Selected Tickborne Diseases Reported to CDC, U.S., 2018

For information about reporting tickborne disease cases or questions about testing, contact your state or local health department.





ANAPLASMOSIS

BABESIOSIS

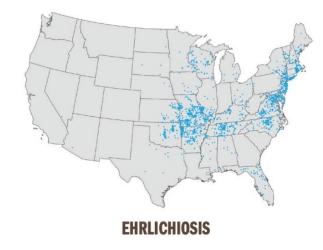


SPOTTED FEVER RICKETTSIOSIS (INCLUDING ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER)



TULAREMIA

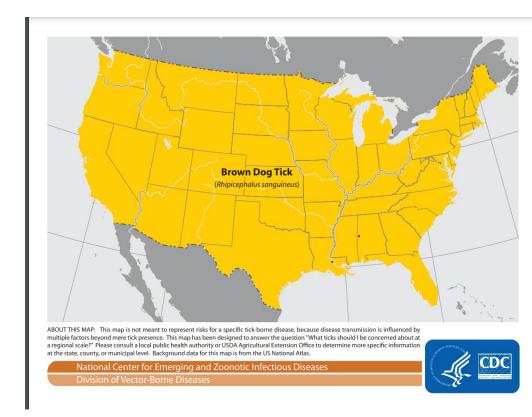


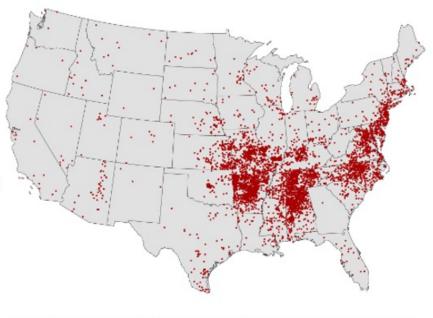


## Disease, Agent and Ticks

Disease	Agent	Tick
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF)	Rickettsia rickettsii	American dog tick, Brown dog tick Rocky Mountain w <mark>ood tick,</mark>
Colorado Tick Fever	Colorado tick fever virus	Rocky Mountain wood tick
Ehrlichiosis	Ehrlichia chaffeensi, Ewingi and Wisconsin	Lone Star Tick
Tularemia	Franciscella tularensis	Brown Dog tick, Rocky Mountain wood tick Lone star tick
Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI)	Borrelia lonestari ?	Lone Star tick
Rickettsia Parkeri Rickettsiosis	Rickettsia Parkerii	Gulf coast tick
Tick Borne Relapsing fever	Borrelia hermsii	Soft tick
Anaplasmosis	Anaplasma phagocytophilum	Blacklegged tick
Babesiosis	Babesia microti	Blacklegged tick
Lyme Disease	Borrelia burgdorferi	Blacklegged tick
Powassan virus disease	Powassan virus	Groundhog Tick

### Tick Distribution Does Not Match the Burden of Tickborne Diseases





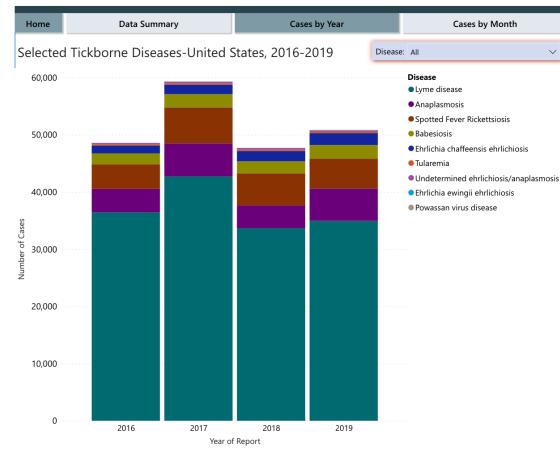
SPOTTED FEVER RICKETTSIOSIS (INCLUDING ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER)

Where found: Worldwide.

**Transmits:** <u>Rocky Mountain spotted fever</u> (in the southwestern U.S. and along the U.S.-Mexico border). **Comments:** Dogs are the primary host, but the tick may also bite humans or other mammals.

### **Tickborne Diseases Cases Per Year and by Month**

https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-summary/index.html



Home Data Summary Cases by Year Cases by Month Selected Tickborne Disease Cases by Month-United States, Disease: All  $\sim$ 2016-2019 Disease ●Lyme disease ●Anaplasmosis ●Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis ●Babesiosis ●Ehrlichia chaffeensis ehrlichiosis ●Tularemia 12,000 10,000 8,000 6.000 4,000 2.000 ptember October January March May June July August August tember April May June July April May June July lul tember october ember ember March embe embe 2016 2017 2018 2019 Month of Onset

Cases

of

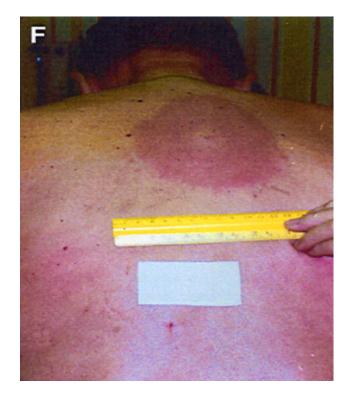
Nationally cases are stable, there are changes in regions in term of frequency

# Possible Tickborne Diseases Originating in New Mexico

Tick	Headshot	Where Found	Transmits	Comments
<b>BROWN DOG TICK</b> Rhipicephalus sanguineus		Worldwide	1. Rickettsia rickettsii (Rocky Mountain spotted fever)	<ul> <li>Primary vector for <i>R.</i> rickettsii transmission in the southwestern U.S. and along the U.SMexico border.</li> <li>Dogs are the primary host for the brown dog tick in each of its life stages, but the tick may also bite humans or other mammals.</li> </ul>
<b>ROCKY MOUNTAIN WOOD TICK</b> Dermacentor andersoni		Rocky Mountain states.	<ol> <li>Rickettsia rickettsii (Rocky Mountain spotted fever)</li> <li>Francisella tularensis (tularemia)</li> <li>Colorado tick fever virus (Colorado tick fever)</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Adult ticks feed primarily on large mammals.</li> <li>Larvae and nymphs feed on small rodents.</li> <li>Adult ticks are primarily associated with pathogen transmission to humans.</li> </ul>

### Clinical case

- A 42-year-old male who lives in El Paso, Texas, presents with 4 days of fever, malaise and a bull's eye rash in his back. He has traveled to Massachusetts 6 months ago for a professional meeting and was not outdoors during his travel. His PE is only remarkable for the rash, otherwise normal.
- Labs reveal WBC 2800, Platelets 130,000, LFT's (ALT 88, AST 68). Rest is normal. What is the most likely diagnosis?



## What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Lyme disease (Borrelia burgdorferi)
- B. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (Rickettsia rickettsii)
- C. Human Monocytic Ehrlichiosis (HME)
- D. Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI)

### Key Factors to Early Diagnosis of Tick-Borne Illnesses

Know	<ul> <li>your local epidemiology</li> </ul>
Ask about	• exposure history
Recognize	<ul> <li>the clinical presentation</li> </ul>
Understand	<ul> <li>the limitations of the laboratory diagnosis</li> </ul>
Have	<ul> <li>a low threshold to treat</li> </ul>

## **Tick Borne Diseases: Key Clinical Messages**

Asses for risk factors	<ul> <li>Tick exposure</li> <li>Contact with dogs</li> <li>Travel to areas with known disease in previous 2-4 weeks</li> </ul>
Red flags	<ul> <li>Persistent High fever</li> <li>Suttle lab abnormalities</li> <li>Failed initial treatment</li> <li>Patient is toxic or looks sick</li> </ul>
Treat based on level of clinical suspicion	<ul> <li>Next day follow-up if treatment not initiated immediately</li> </ul>

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html

### **Clinical Presentation of Tickborne Diseases**



**Symptoms** 

Fever

Muscle aches

Fatigue

Malaise

Headaches

Gastrointestinal symptoms



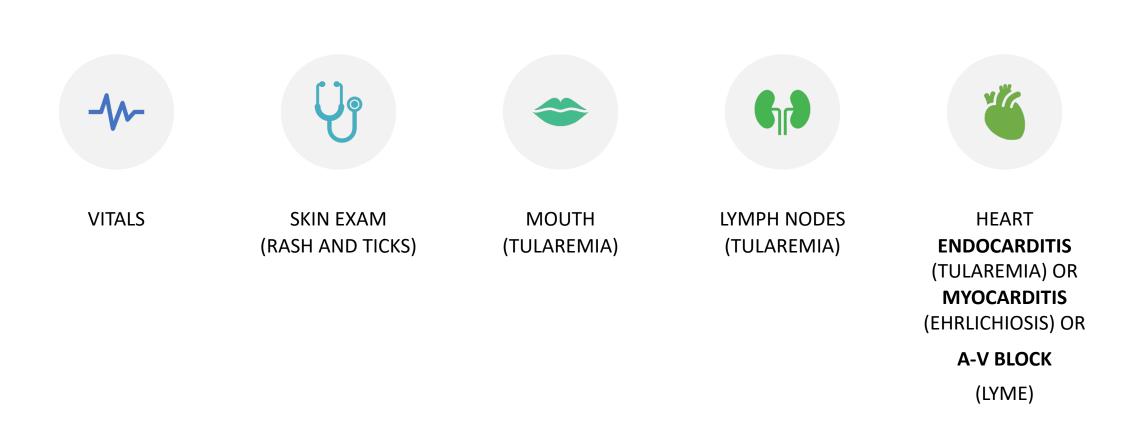
#### History (need to figure out probability)

Where and when have you been? What have you been doing? What prevention methods did you use? Time of symptom onset Progression and nature of symptoms

### Clinical Presentation" Influenza in the Summer"

Disease	Anaplasmosis	Ehrlichiosis	RMSF	Ricketssia parkeri	Babesiosis
Initial Symptoms	Fever/Chills Headache Myalgia Malaise GI symptoms Rash (<10%)	Fever/Chills Headache Myalgia GI symptoms Malaise Rash AMS	Fever Headache Myalgia Rash Gl symptoms Edema around eyes and on the back of hands	Fever Headache Myalgia Rash	Fever/Chills Headache Myalgia Malaise Arthralgia GI symptoms Dry cough, Sore throat, Photophobia Conjunctival injection
Incubation Period	5-14 days	5-14 days	1-4 days	2-10 days	1-4 weeks

### **Physical Exam**



## Skin Exam

#### Lyme Disease:

- 80% of with early Lyme disease have erythema migrans
- Serology only positive 50 % of the time

#### Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF):

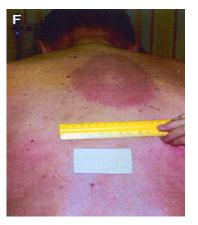
- Rash is present in 80 % after 2-5 days of illness
- May be confused with syphilis.
- Later petequial or purpuric in 50% of the cases

#### Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI)

• Similar rash to Lyme

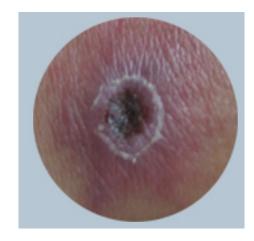
Rickettsia parkeri rickettsiosis







small pink macules in ankles and wrists and sometimes in palms and soles)



# **TBD: Laboratory Workup**

### CBC and LFT's

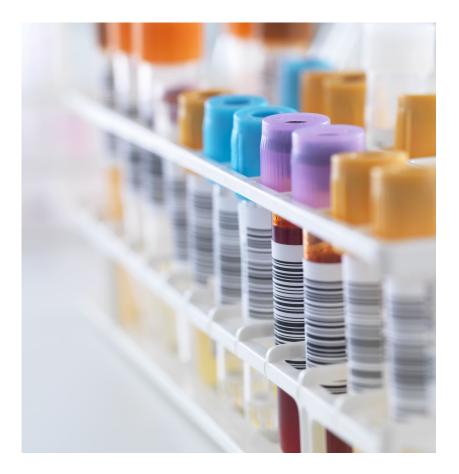
- Leucopenia/Thrombocytopenia
- Elevated LFT's

### Confirmatory Tests

- PCR
- Serology (4-fold titer increase)
- Histopathology/culture

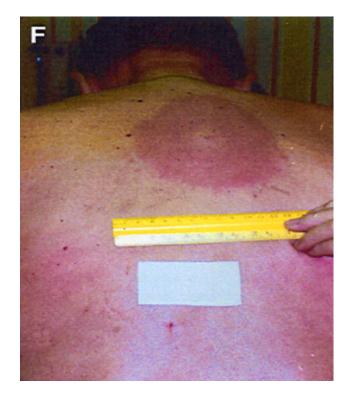
### Testing the tick is not warranted

- Negative tick does not exclude bites from other infected ticks
- Positive test does not warranty that transmission occurred
- Rate of transmission for Lyme for example
  - 20 40 % of ticks may be infected but transmission is ~2%



### Clinical case

- A 42-year-old male who lives in El Paso, Texas, presents with 4 days of fever, malaise and a bull's eye rash in his back. He has traveled to Massachusetts 6 months ago for a professional meeting and was not outdoors during his travel. His PE is only remarkable for the rash, otherwise normal.
- Labs reveal WBC 2800, Platelets 130,000, LFT's (ALT 88, AST 68). Rest is normal. What is the most likely diagnosis?



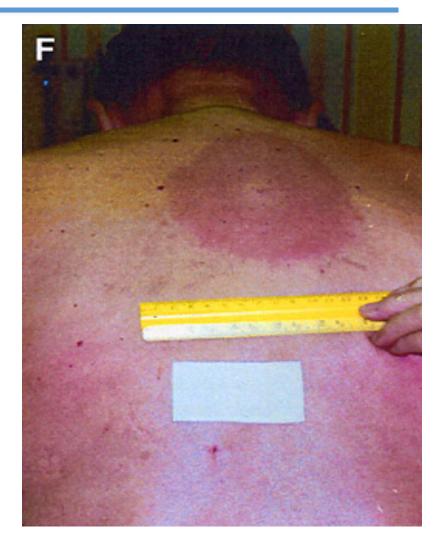
## What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Lyme disease (Borrelia burgdorferi)
- B. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (Rickettsia rickettsii)
- C. Human monocytic Ehrlichiosis
- D. Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI)

- Lyme disease is not present in Texas
- RMSF has a maculopapular rash and generally has leukocytosis
- Ehrlichiosis may have a rash, but it is not a "bulls' eye rash"

### Southern tick –associated rash illness (STARI)

Variable	STARI	Lyme
Etiology	Borrelia Lonestari ?	Borrelia Burgdorferi
Vector	Lone Star Tick	Black Legged Tick
Hx of tick bite	86 %	20 %
Time to lesion	6.1 days	10.4 days
Other symptoms	19 %	76 %
Multiple skin lesion	5 %	27 %
Size	8.3 cm	16.4 cm



Wormser GP, et al. Clin Infect Dis 2005:41:953-65

### Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

#### Rickettsia rickettsii

- Obligate intracellular bacteria
- Transmitted by the American dog tick in the Eastern, Central and Western US; Rocky Mountain wood tick in the Rocky Mountain states; brown dog tick in the Southwestern US.
- More than 50 % of patients do not report a tick bite
- Incubation Period 3-12 days

#### The most severe rickettsiosis in the US

- Mortality rates as high as 25 % in untreated cases
- Most deaths occur first 8 days of illness

#### **Diagnostic Challenge**

- Symptoms are like other febrile illnesses
- Decision to treat is based on clinical diagnosis

Highest-incidence states

High-incidence states

### **RMSF: Symptoms Day 1**

Abrupt onset of headache, fever Myalgia and malaise

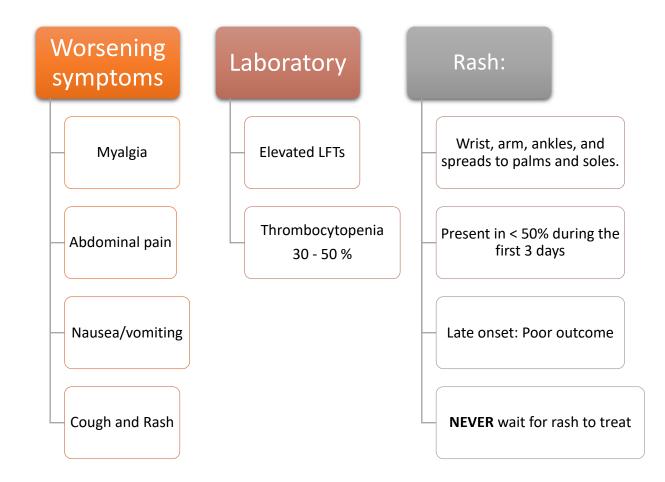
### Children less likely to report headache

• But more likely to experience periorbital edema or edema of dorsum of the hand

### WBC and Platelet count:

• Normal at early stages

# **RMSF: Symptoms Day 2-4**





#### Small flat pink macules

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html

Example of an early-stage rash in an RMSF patient.

# RMSF: Symptoms Day 5-7

High fever

Worsening abdominal pain

Worsening respiratory status

Rash petechial and widespread

Worsening thrombocytopenia, elevated LFTs, hypernatremia

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html



Example of a later-stage rash in an RMSF patient.



This is what you do not want to see

# RMSF: Symptoms Beyond day 7

- Diffuse damage to the endothelium:
  - Diffuse purpura and necrosis of digits
  - Septic shock, renal failure
  - Pulmonary and cerebral edema
- Those who survive
  - Persistent neurologic deficits
  - Amputations
  - Permanent organ damage

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html

### Therapeutic Delay and Mortality in Cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

**Table 1.** Factors associated with failure to initiate therapy for Rocky Mountain spotted fever at the first physician visit.

Factor	Percent of patients not treated at first visit	Univariate OR	<i>P</i> value	Multivariable OR (95% CI)	P value
Rash at first visit					
Absent	89.5	10.0	.001	8.7 (2.7, 28.1)	.001
Present	46.0				
First Visit					
Early	81.2	1.7	.001	4.0 (1.1, 14.0)	.04
Late	48.0				
Season					
Low incidence	92.3	6.5	.007	11.8 (2.0, 69.5)	.007
High incidence	64.7				
Race				•	
Nonwhite	80.4	2.3	.09		
White	64.6				
Sex					
Male	75.4	1.5	.4		
Female	67.6				
Age					
>30 y	73.0	1.1	.9		
≤30 y	71.9				

- Patients with RMSF who received antirickettsial therapy within 5 days of the onset of symptoms were significantly less likely to die than were those who received treatment after the 5th day of illness (6.5% vs. 22.9%, respectively; P<.03).</li>
- Ninety percent of patients were seen by a physician during this 5-day period
- < 50% received treatment before day 6.

Kirkland KB, Wilkinson WE, Sexton DJ. Clin Infect Dis. 1995 May;20(5):1118-21.

## **RMSF: Laboratory Diagnosis**

#### Four-fold or greater rise in IgG antibody titer in convalescent serum

- between acute (first week) and convalescent (2-4 weeks later)
- A positive serology during the first week can not confirm RMSF and a negative serology does not rule it out
- IgM has many false positives

#### PCR:

- In blood or tissue PCR >90 % sensitivity in late disease
- Early in infection Rickettsia circulate in low numbers (a negative PCR does not rule RMSF out)
- Pathogen specific

### Skin biopsy

• With Immunofluorescence staining is highly specific, 70 % sensitivity

#### Decision to treat on clinical suspicion

• Post Exposure Prophylaxis is not recommended and may confound presentation

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html

### **RMSF: Key Clinical Messages**



Rapidly progressive disease with non-specific clinical findings during early illness



Doxycycline is the drug of choice for treating people of all ages

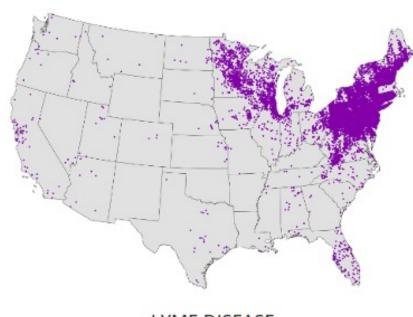


Tx is most effective at preventing death and severe disease when started within 5 days of illness



Never wait for the rash, serology or PCR results to begin treatment

https://www.cdc.gov/rmsf/healthcare-providers/signs-symptoms.html



LYME DISEASE

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia, and Wisconsin

# Lyme Disease: Geographic Distribution

Most frequently reported from the upper midwestern, northeastern, and mid-Atlantic states (*Ixodes scapularis*).

 Some cases are also reported from northern California, Oregon, and Washington, where it is spread by *Ixodes pacificus* ticks.

The geographic area of risk is expanding to include neighboring states.

## Lyme Disease: Clinical Stages

Early localized disease	<ul> <li>Erythema migrans (EM), with or without constitutional symptoms.</li> <li>Serology may be negative</li> </ul>
Early disseminated disease	<ul> <li>Multiple EM lesions (days to weeks after infection) and/or</li> <li>Neurologic and/or cardiac findings (weeks to months after infection).</li> <li>Some patients may not have a history of early localized Lyme disease.</li> </ul>
Late Lyme disease	<ul> <li>Intermittent or persistent arthritis, and/or</li> <li>Mild encephalopathy or polyneuropathy.</li> <li>May develop months to a few years after the initial infection.</li> </ul>

### **Early Localized Disease**

#### **Incubation period**

• 3-30 days

Erythema migrans (EM)

- Red annular or homogeneous rash at the site of tick bite
- Expands gradually over several days to >5 cm in diameter
- Central clearing may develop as the rash expands, resulting in a "target" or "bull's-eye" appearance
- Occurs in 70-80% of infected persons.

#### Unspecific General Symptoms"

• Fever, chills, malaise, fatigue, headache, myalgia, arthralgia

Lymphadenopathy



CLASSIC EM—CIRCULAR RED RASH WITH CENTRAL CLEARING THAT SLOWLY EXPANDS Photo courtesy of Tarvn Holman.



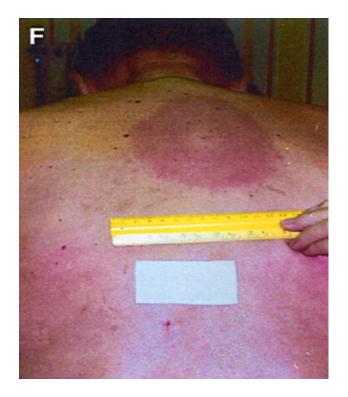
BLUISH HUE WITHOUT CENTRAL CLEARING Photo courtesy of Yevgeniy Balagula.

https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/tickbornediseases/lyme.htm

## **Not Erithema Migrans**



TICK BITE WITH MILD ALLERGIC REACTION **Not erythema migrans.** Hypersensitivity reactions typically appear within the first 48 hours of tick attachment, are often itchy and are usually <5 cm in diameter. Localized tick bite reactions can occur following bites from any tick species.



#### Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI)

Lone star ticks can be found from central Texas and Oklahoma eastward across the southern states and along the Atlantic Coast as far north as Maine.

https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/tickbornediseases/lyme.htm

### DESCRIPTION OF LYME DISEASE STANDARD TWO-TIERED TESTING AND SUGGESTED REPORTING AND INTERPRETATION TABLE

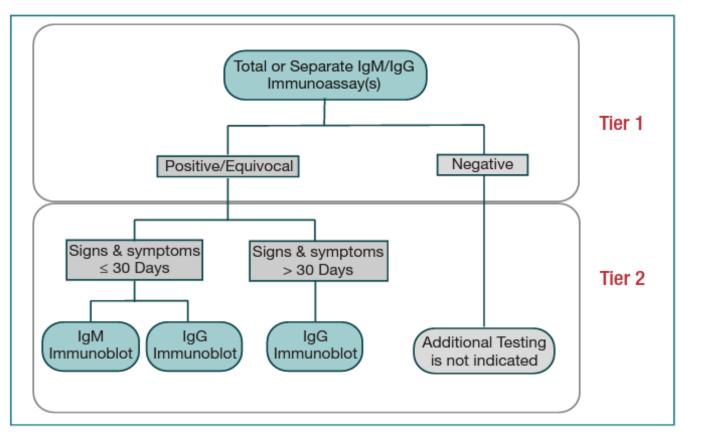


Figure 1: Standard Two-Tiered Testing (STTT)

- The STTT begins with an immunoassay detecting IgM or IgG antibodies to B. burgdorferi.
- Either an enzyme immune assay (immunoassay) or, newer generation (e.g., lateral flow, fluorescence and chemiluminescence) assays available on other platforms can be performed.
- If the immunoassay(s) are negative, no further testing is necessary.
- If the total IgM/IgG immunoassay, or either one or both of the first tier IgM and IgG immunoassays are positive or equivocal, reflex testing by immunoblot is required.
- For samples collected from patients with symptoms lasting 30 days or less, both IgM and IgG specific anti-B. burgdorferi immunoblots should be performed and interpreted to guide clinical decisions.
- For samples collected over 30 days post symptom onset, only the anti-B. burgdorferi IgG immunoblot should be performed or interpreted.

## Antibiotic prophylaxis following tick bite

- Prophylaxis with a single dose of doxycycline 200 mg can be offered to nonpregnant adults and children (4.4 mg/kg) who meet ALL the following criteria after a tick bite
  - Attached tick identified as an adult or nymphal *Ixodes scapularis* tick (deer tick)
  - Tick is estimated to have been attached for ≥36 hours (by degree of engorgement or time of exposure)
  - Prophylaxis is begun within 72 hours of tick removal
  - The bite occurs in a highly endemic area
  - Doxycycline is not contraindicated

# **Clinical case**

- A 39-year-old male who lives in Portland, Oregon visited Tahlequah, Oklahoma 1 week ago. He presents with fever, headache and myalgias. PE: is normal.
- Labs reveal WBC 2400, Platelets 95,000, LFT's (ALT 321, AST 340). Lab technician reports "weird inclusions in the monocytes). What is the most likely diagnosis?
- A. Lyme Disease (Borrelia burgdorferi)
- B. Hepatitis A
- C. Ehrlichiosis (Ehrlichia chaffiensis)
- D. American Boutonneuse Fever (Ricketssia parkerii)

# Human Monocytic Ehrlichiosis



Lone Star Tick

#### E. chaffeensis

• 80% Hx of tick exposure

#### Signs and symptoms

- Fever, HA, malaise, myalgias, arthralgias
- May have rash
- 70 % are males

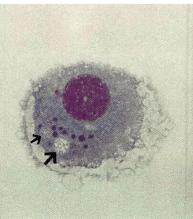
### Mortality 3 %

#### Diagnosis

- Leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, increased LFT's
- 4-fold antibody increase in convalescent serum
- PCR
- Morulae in monocytes

#### Treatment

• Doxycycline









# Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis



Black legged Tick (Deer Tick)

#### Anaplasma phagocytophilum

• 50-80 % Hx of tick exposure

#### Signs and symptoms

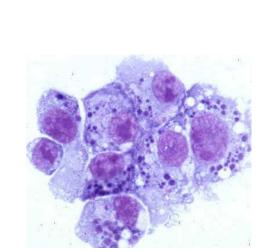
• Fever, HA, malaise, myalgias, arthralgias

#### Mortality

• 0.5-1.0 % (50 % in HIV + patients)

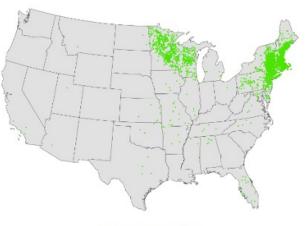
#### Diagnosis

- 4-fold antibody increase in convalescent serum
- PCR
- Morulae in neutrophils (20%)



### Morulae in neutrophils





ANAPLASMOSIS

# **Clinical case**

- A 39-year-old male who lives in Portland, Oregon visited Tahlequah, Oklahoma 1 week ago. He presents with fever, headache and myalgias. PE: is normal.
- Labs reveal WBC 2400, Platelets 95,000, LFT's (ALT 321, AST 340). Lab technician reports "weird inclusions in the monocytes). What is the most likely diagnosis?
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- C. Ehrlichiosis (Ehrlichia chaffiensis)
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### **Tularemia** Francisella tularensis

General	Ulceroglandular	Oculoglandular	Oropharyngeal	Pneumonic	Typhoidal
Fever, chills Headache Malaise, fatigue Anorexia Myalgia Chest discomfort, cough Sore throat Vomiting, diarrhea Abdominal pain	Localized lymphadenopathy Cutaneous ulcer at infection site (not always present)	Photophobia Vision impairment/loss Conjunctivitis Regional lymphadenopathy	Severe throat pain Exudative pharyngitis or tonsillitis Regional lymphadenopathy	Non-productive cough Substernal tightness Pleuritic chest pain Hilar adenopathy, infiltrate, or pleural effusion may be present on chest X-ray	Characterized by any combination of the general symptoms without the localizing symptoms of other syndromes May have infiltrates in chest radiograph in the absence of respiratory symptoms

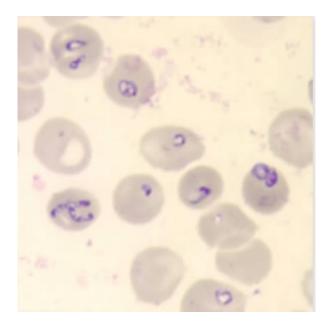
Incubation period 3–5 days (range 1–21 days) Multiple routes of acquisition beyond ticks Ticks: Brown Dog tick, Rocky Mountain wood tick Lone star tick Blood cultures and serology is helpful for diagnosis

## Babesiosis

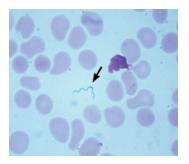
- Agent: Babesia microti (protozoan)
- Vector: Blacked legged tick (also transmitted by blood transfusion
- and vertical transmission
- Symptoms:
  - Fever, chills, sweats, headache, body aches, loss, nausea, or fatigue, hemolytic anemia
  - More severe immunocompromised hosts
- **Diagnosis:** PCR, 4-fold increase in IgG, Pathology
- Treatment:
  - Azithromycin/Atovaquone
  - Clindamycin/Quinine sulfate



BABESIOSIS

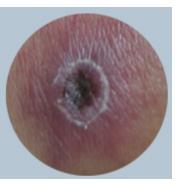


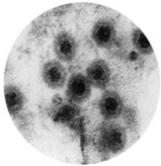
## Less frequent tick-borne illnesses



### • Tickborne relapsing fever

- Western states only (25 cases per year)
- Soft tick
- Borrelia hermsii
- Fever is relapsing, can be severe with ARF, ARDS
- Postexposure prophylaxis with doxycycline works





### American Boutounesse Fever

- Gulf coast states
- Gulf coast tick
- Rickettsia Parkeri
- Fever, headache myalgias, mild LFT elevation, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia
- PCR in eschar swab, whole blood, or skin biopsy, four-fold rise in IgG-specific antibody titer
- Colorado Tick Fever
  - Colorado, Utah, Montana, Wyoming
  - Rocky mountain wood tick
  - Colorado Tick Fever virus
  - Meningoencephalitis in children
  - PCR, four-fold rise in IgG specific antibody titer

## Disease, Agent and Treatment

Disease	Agent	Treatment
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	Rickettsia rickettsii	Doxycycline
Colorado Tick Fever	Colorado tick fever virus	Supportive
Ehrlichiosis	Ehrlichia	Doxycycline
Tularemia	Franciscella tularensis	Doxycycline/Ciprofloxacin Aminoglycosides
Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness	Borrelia lonestari ?	Doxycycline/Amoxicillin/cefuroxime
Rickettsia Parkeri Rickettsiosis	Rickettsia Parkerii	Doxycycline
Tick Borne Relapsing fever	Borrelia hermsii	Penicillin/Doxycycline
Anaplasmosis	Anaplasma phagocytophilum	Doxycycline/rifampin
Babesiosis	Babesia microti	Azithromycin/Atovaquone Clindamycin/Quinine sulfate
Lyme Disease	Borrelia burgdorferi	Doxycycline/Amoxicillin/cefuroxime
Powassan virus disease		Supportive

## Tick Borne Diseases (TBD) Summary



#### Flu like illness in the summer think TBD

Fever, myalgias, headache in a critically ill patient in the USA is doxycycline deficient until proven other wise



**Travel** and exposure hx in the previous 4 weeks are critical information



-**Diagnosis is clinical**, do not wait for the rash, PCR or serology -**Low WBC or platelets** : think TBD



If you order a diagnostic test for TBD empirically treat the patient