

## Other Tickborne Diseases

Powassan, Hard Tick Relapsing Fever, Ehrlichiosis, Alpha-Gal Syndrome Maine Surveillance Report | 2023

## Powassan Encephalitis

Human cases

0.5 Cases/100.000 people



75% increase from 2022



86% of patients (6) were male

Average age (range 55-86 years)



100% of patients (7) with neuroinvasive disease



100% of patients (7) hospitalized

# Hard Tick Relapsing Fever (B. miyamotoi)

Human cases

Cases/100,000 people



17% increase from 2022



57% of patients (8) were male



Average age (range 15-80 years)



71% of patients (10) with positive PCR result



21% of patients (3) hospitalized

### **Ehrlichiosis**

Cases

Cases/100,000 people



▼ 57% decrease from 2022



67% of patients (2) were male

Average age (range 25-67 years)



33% of patients (1) with positive PCR result



33% of patients (1) hospitalized

# Alpha-Gal Syndrome (AGS)

Cases

Cases/100,000 people



900% increase from 2022



56% of patients (5) were male

Average age (range 36-77

years)



89% of patients (8) with GI symptoms



0% of patients (0) hospitalized

#### Trends in 2023:

- · The germs that cause Powassan and Hard Tick Relapsing Fever are present in local Maine ticks.
- People may acquire ehrlichiosis and AGS infections while traveling to states where these pathogens are present.
- Maine reported no cases of Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis or Tularemia in 2023.

#### Prevention:

- Wear light-colored clothing, including long-sleeved shirts, pants, and socks
- Use EPA-approved repellents for skin and clothing
- Avoid infested areas like wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf
- Do a full-body tick check including your clothing and gear when coming back indoors
- Call a healthcare provider if symptoms develop

## For more information visit:

- www.maine.gov/dhhs/vectorborne
- www.cdc.gov/ticks