



Borrelia miyamotoi Disease

What is *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease?

Borrelia miyamotoi disease is caused by a bacterium (*Borrelia miyamotoi*). It is a relatively new and rare tick-borne disease.

What are the symptoms?

People infected with *Borrelia miyamotoi* most commonly have flu-like symptoms, such as fever, chills, headache, body and joint pain, and fatigue.

How is *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease spread?

Borrelia miyamotoi disease is spread through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks. The blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) found in eastern and central Canada, including New Brunswick, and the Western blacklegged tick (*Ixodes pacificus*) found in western Canada.

How is *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease diagnosed?

Borrelia miyamotoi disease is diagnosed based on a physician's assessment of a patient's symptoms, history of exposure to blacklegged ticks and laboratory testing.

Who is at risk of *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease infection?

The risk is highest in geographic areas where both the tick species and the pathogen that can cause human disease are found. Researchers are working to determine where *Borrelia miyamotoi* is found and who is at greatest risk of infection.

How can *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease be prevented?

The best prevention is through awareness. Be Tick Smart and find out where blacklegged ticks are most likely to be found. Protect yourself against tick bites with tick repellent, check for ticks after coming indoors, remove ticks safely, contact a health care provider or local pharmacist for assessment of tick bites, and see a health care provider if you have symptoms of tick-borne diseases.

How is *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease treated?

Antibiotics are used to treat *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease. Consult a health care provider for advice and treatment.

A-Z DISEASE FACT SHEETS

What is the public health response?

Health care providers and laboratories must notify cases of *Borrelia miyamotoi* to Public Health. Public Health staff may interview the health care provider and patient (or caregivers) to find out how the infection occurred, identify other people at risk of infection, implement control measures and provide other advice.

Further Information

For additional information, contact your health-care provider, **local Public Health office** or **Tele-Care 811**.

USEFUL WEBSITES

[Tick-Borne Diseases \(gnb.ca\)](http://gnb.ca)

Public Health Agency of Canada phac-aspc.gc.ca

Last reviewed May 2024