

Fact Sheet

What is babesiosis?

Babesiosis is a rare, severe, and sometimes fatal tick-borne disease caused by various types of *Babesia*, a microscopic parasite that infects red blood cells. Babesiosis is now officially reportable in New Hampshire, and the number of cases reported every year is increasing. Babesiosis is not transmitted from person to person. It is also possible to get babesiosis from a blood transfusion, but this is much less common.

Who gets babesiosis?

surfaces for attached ticks should be done at the end of the day. If removal of attached ticks occurs within 24 hours, the risk of tick-borne infection is limited.

Insect repellents can be effective at reducing bites from ticks that can transmit disease. Always follow manufacturer's directions. Repellents commonly available to consumers with the active ingredient DEET, picaridin (also known as KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus, or permethrin for clothing have been proven effective.

What should I do if I think I was exposed to babesiosis?