

Tick-borne Conditions United

TBC United provides the latest education about tick-borne conditions to healthcare professionals, organizations, and the general public through online resources, webcasts, white papers, and in-person programs.

Contact us to learn more about educational programs tailored to meet the needs of your organization.

Healthcare Professionals—contact us about CEU/CME credits.

Upcoming Programs:

- Alpha-gal Syndrome: An Overview for Healthcare Providers
- Prevention for People, Pets, & Property
- Tick-borne Conditions of **YOUR** State

“Because of my airborne reactions, I was forced out of a job I had had for over twenty years. People simply do not understand the life-altering consequences of this “condition”.

— L. Lay

“Without clear documentation, most anesthesia providers may perceive AGS as a cluster of food allergies and overlook its true importance.

— J. Dunkman, M.D.



Contact Us:

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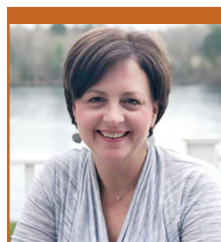
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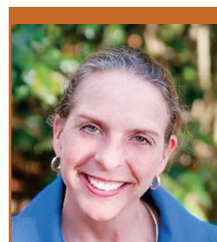


We need your support!
Please consider donating to help us
continue to raise awareness about
tick-borne conditions.

Co-Founders



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A Public Safety Primer

ALPHA-GAL SYNDROME

The Mammalian “Carbohydrate” Allergy

CAUSE

DIAGNOSIS

SYMPTOMS



What is Alpha-gal Syndrome?

Cause and Symptoms

Alpha-gal syndrome (AGS) is unlike other tick-borne conditions. AGS has recently been identified as a type of allergy to red meat. It usually begins when a tick bite* causes the human body to have an allergic response to a sugar molecule called alpha-gal.

Though eating red meat is the most common allergic trigger to AGS, ingredients found in everyday products can also cause an allergic reaction. Examples include dairy, gelatin, soap, cosmetics, lotions, household products, and medications.

With AGS, many people have delayed allergic reactions, making it difficult to diagnose. Allergic responses occur after ingestion, airborne, or topical exposures. Symptoms usually take two to ten hours after exposure to appear. In some cases symptoms are immediate.

Signs of an allergic reaction can vary from person to person. Some common reactions to watch for include upset stomach, headaches, hives, rashes, swelling, shortness of breath, and even anaphylaxis, a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

Healthcare providers can diagnose AGS with a blood test, as described in the section to the right.

*Six ticks worldwide are associated with AGS. In the US, the lone star tick is most commonly associated with AGS.

Diagnosis of Alpha-gal Syndrome

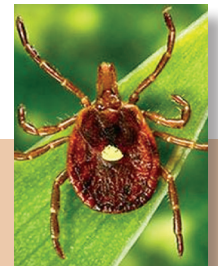
Alpha-gal Syndrome is often misdiagnosed. If you think you may have AGS, ask your healthcare provider to use the Viracor AGS CARBOHYDRATE test listed below.

Viracor Eurofins Clinical Diagnostics
(800) 305-5198

Galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose (Alpha-Gal) IgE
Viracor Test Code: 30039 / Lab Corp: 806563

Be sure your provider does NOT order the tests which are UNRELATED TO AGS:

- the enzyme alpha-galactosidase
- the meat protein allergy tests



Lone Star Tick *Amblyomma americanum*

The lone star tick is one of several known ticks worldwide associated with Alpha-gal Syndrome (AGS).



Adult, nymphal, and larval ticks attached to ear of a sika deer. Deer have been known to have more than 500 ticks on them.