Deer Ticks ...*One bite can change your life...*

Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates
July 20, 2016

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Deer Tick Project Coordinator - Entomologist
Powassan Massachusetts, 2013- September, 2015

- 9 Cases
- Residents of: 
  *Barnstable*, Essex, Middlesex and Norfolk counties
- Exposure occurred in Massachusetts
Powassan Virus

Most people who are exposed to Powassan virus likely never feel ill, others may become severely ill with meningitis or encephalitis.

Symptoms include fever, headache, vomiting, weakness, confusion, loss of coordination, speech difficulties and seizures.

Approximately 10% of people with this severe form of the disease will die and survivors may have long-term health problems.
Powassan Surveillance – 2016

Deer ticks collected April
   Analyzed by the Laboratory of Medical Zoology Umass-Amherst

6 sites
   Falmouth, Barnstable, Brewster (2), Orleans, Truro

Positive detects at 4 out of 6 sites