



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



Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates

July 20, 2016

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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