



TICK BULLETIN

August 2015

TICK-RELATED VISITS TO THE HEALTH CENTER

CIRCUMSTANCE	TREATMENT	NUMBER of CASES/YEAR		
		APRIL 18 to July 24		
		2013	2014	2015
Tick bite, tick attached for less than 24 hours.	No antibiotic; monitoring	22	23	16
Tick bite, tick attached for more than 24 hours . Suspicion of infection.	One-time dose doxycycline	42	35	45
Confirmed diagnosis of Lyme disease according to CDC guidelines as evidenced by rash or lab test.	14-21 day course of antibiotic (doxycycline for adults, amoxicillin for children)	46 *	6	23
Lyme disease highly suspected as evidenced by symptoms.	21 day course of antibiotic (doxycycline for adults, amoxicillin for children)	*See below.	10	8
	TOTAL tick-related visits	110	74	92
	TOTAL receiving anti-biotics and follow-up	88	51	76

*In 2013 the IHC combined "confirmed" and "highly suspected" cases. Beginning in 2014, we divided them into separate categories.

IHC PARTICIPATION IN TICK-BORNE DISEASE DIAGNOSIS STUDY

As reported in the May/June issue of Islesboro Island News, the Health Center has agreed to participate in a tick-borne disease clinical research study being conducted by the Lyme & Tick-borne Diseases Research Center at the Columbia University Medical Center in New York (the Center). The object of the study is to develop more accurate, reliable tests to diagnose Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. IHC is one of three sites participating in the study.

The necessary preparations for participation in the test - the acquisition of some new equipment and development of administrative procedures - have been completed, and the IHC is now enrolling patients in the study. Here is what patients need to know:

In order to qualify	Ages: 18-89. Patients must have a confirmed diagnosis of Lyme disease as evidenced by a rash.
Medical procedures	Medical evaluation, treatment for Lyme disease, blood samples.
Financial remuneration	\$40 gift cards for visits involving a blood-draw.

Participation in this important study is completely voluntary. The decision to participate will have no impact on the treatment provided by IHC staff.

7/27/15