



ANAPLASMOSIS

Anaplasmosis is a rickettsial infection, the second highest reported tickborne disease in Wisconsin. Anaplasmosis is caused by the bacterium *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* through the bite of an infected tick. This disease was previously known as human granulocytic ehrlichiosis (HGE). Antibiotic treatment is available for anaplasmosis.

The Facts

- Anaplasmosis is an illness caused by the bacterium *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*.
- Anaplasmosis is primarily transmitted through a bite from the blacklegged (deer) tick.
- To transfer the bacteria, the tick must be attached for at least 12-24 hours.
- Anaplasmosis is the second most reported tickborne disease in Wisconsin.

Clinical Signs

In humans, symptoms of anaplasmosis typically begin one to three weeks after being bitten by a tick infected with the bacteria.

Blood tests may not always identify the presence of the bacteria, and false negatives can occur. Treatment should continue for a suspected case. Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Nausea/ abdominal pain
- Muscle pain
- Cough
- Malaise
- Confusion

Treatment

Anaplasmosis can be treated with antibiotics; this disease is caused by bacteria and is therefore treatable with antibacterial medications.



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