Powassan virus (POWV) is a rare tickborne arboviral infection. POWV is the only tickborne virus that is part of the arbovirus group. The presence of POWV has been documented in several tick species (*Ixodes* spp., *Dermacentor andersoni*).

**The Facts**
- POWV is the only known arbovirus in ticks occurring in Wisconsin.
- POWV infections may occur after a bite from an infected blacklegged tick.
- Cases of POWV:
  - 60 total U.S. cases in 2004-2013.
  - 19 total Wisconsin reported cases in 2003-2014.

**Clinical Signs**
The incubation period is from one week to one month. The disease may have no apparent symptoms. Symptoms may include:

**Acute Symptoms:**
- Fever
- Muscle weakness
- Confusion
- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Stiff neck

**Severe Symptoms:**
- Confusion
- Paralysis
- Speech difficulties
- Memory loss
- Meningoencephalitis (inflammation of the brain and meninges)

**Treatment**
There is no commercial test for viral detection of POWV; it can be tested at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
There is no treatment at this time other than supportive care.