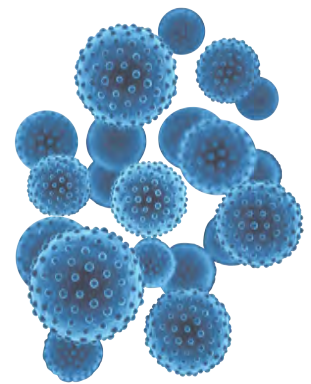
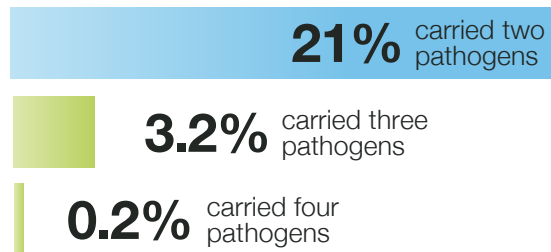


The Importance of Testing for Co-Infections

Nearly 1 in 4 ticks infected with *Borrelia Burgorferi sensu lato*, the causative agent of Lyme Disease, carry more than one pathogen. That means nearly 25% of patients can also be stricken with Babesia, Bartonella, Rickettsia, or some other tick-borne disease. These co-infections will not be diagnosed if the patient is tested only for Lyme disease. Physicians should test their patients using a panel approach, which is a combination of direct and indirect test methodologies that detect multiple tick-borne diseases.

24% of Ticks Carry Two or More Pathogens

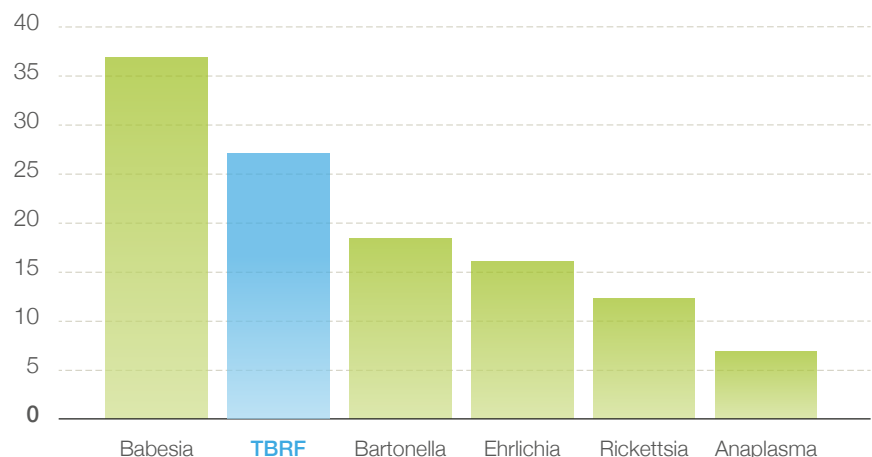
In 2018, approximately 21% of the 1195 ticks tested from Massachusetts that were positive for *Borrelia Burgorferi sensu lato* carried two pathogens. 3.2% carried three pathogens, and 0.2% carried four pathogens. This highlights the need to test for co-infections.



The Most Common Co-Infections for 2019

TBRF: The Newest Co-Infection

Researchers continue to find new tick-borne pathogens. The latest are *B. miyamotoi*, *B. hermsii*, *B. parkerii*, and *B. turicatae*, all of which cause Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever (TBRF). A person with TBRF is often mistaken for having Lyme disease because of similar symptoms, but generally experiences more severe illness, and a longer recovery than Lyme patients. IGeneX offers panels that test for both Lyme and TBRF.



Contact IGeneX today to learn more about testing for co-infections