



Putnam County Department of Health



Tick Identification

Date Tick Removed		Contact Person:	
Phone:	Email:		
For PCDOH use only			
Species:	Stage:	Unable to ID: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Engorged: <input type="checkbox"/>		Not Engorged: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Date Notified:		Comments:	

Recommendations

1. Notify your healthcare provider of the bite and share the results of this identification. In certain circumstances, a single dose of doxycycline after a tick bite may lower your risk of Lyme disease.
2. Watch for symptoms for 30 days
 - Mark the date you were bitten, and 30 days after the bite on your calendar
 - Call your healthcare provider if you develop rash, fever, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, or joint swelling and pain
3. PCDOH does not recommend testing ticks for specific pathogens (germs) to decide whether to use antibiotics after a tick bite:
 - Results do not come back quickly enough to aid in the decision to offer a single dose of doxycycline for Lyme disease prevention
 - Results may not be reliable. Labs that test ticks are not required to meet the same quality standards as labs that test patients
 - Positive results can be misleading. Even if a tick tests positive, it does not mean that you have been infected
 - Negative results can be misleading. Even if the tick you submitted was negative, it is still possible you have been bitten unknowingly by a different tick that was carrying infection.
4. Reduce risk for future tick bites:
 - Prevention resources are available on our website at: <https://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/tickborne>