

Tick Bulletin

The following is a bulletin from the State Department of Health: Babesiosis has been found in New York State outside of LI and in fact is in the counties adjacent to the Hudson River and Long Island Sound.

Babesiosis is transmitted by the deer tick which is found throughout the state. Highly endemic areas include eastern Long Island , Martha's Vineyard , Nantucket , southern Connecticut and Block Island . Clinical presentation of babesiosis varies from asymptomatic infection to a malaria like illness. The incubation period is variable, usually 1-8 weeks. Symptoms include fever, chills, sweats, myalgia, arthralgia, nausea and vomiting. Laboratory studies may reveal hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, hepatitis and renal insufficiency. More severe illness is usually seen in persons that are elderly, asplenic or immunosuppressed. Babesiosis should be considered in persons with a compatible clinical presentation. If you have any questions about Babesiosis or Lyme disease you should discuss it with your physician or call The Fleet Surgeon.