

Babesiosis

Babesiosis is a disease caused by the protozoan *Babesia* and transmitted by ticks. It is a rare disease that more often affects post-splenectomy and immunodeficient persons. It is often accompanied by Lyme disease (up to 25%)^[1].

Etiology

- Protozoa of the genus *Babesia*, mostly species of *B. divergens* or *B. bovis*,
- lives in erythrocytes

Clinical presentation

- Fatigue, lack of appetite, joint and muscle pain, depression, cough, nausea and vomiting, shortness of breath.
- Fever, liver enlargement, muscle pain, chills, jaundice.
- Dark urine (hemoglobinuria, proteinuria)^[1].

Diagnostics

- Blood smear stained with Giemsa - traces of parasites inside the red blood cells (round forms, non-pigmented zones, teratrades resembling the Maltese Cross, etc.).
- Serology - specific antibodies.
- Hemolytic anemia, leukocytopenia, thrombocytopenia, atypical lymphocytes. Increased erythrocyte sedimentation.
- Increased liver tests^[1].

Therapy

- Imidocarb,
- Antibiotics (klindamycin, azitromycin)^[1].

Links

Related articles

- *Ixodes ricinus*
- Klíšťová encefalitida
- Lymeská borrelióza
- Anaplazmóza (ehrlichioza)

External links

- SZÚ: Onemocnění přenášená klíšťaty v České republice (<http://www.szu.cz/tema/prevence/onemocneni-prenasena-klistaty-v-ceske-republice>)

References

1. HULÍNSKÁ, D. *Onemocnění přenášená klíšťaty v České republice : 2008-05-07* [online]. SZÚ, ©2008. [cit. 2011-07-18]. <<http://www.szu.cz/tema/prevence/onemocneni-prenasena-klistaty-v-ceske-republice>>.