

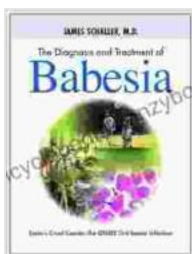
# The Diagnosis and Treatment of Babesia

Babesia is a parasitic infection that is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected tick. The parasite infects red blood cells and can cause a range of symptoms, from mild to severe. Babesia is most commonly found in the northern United States, but it has also been reported in other parts of the world.

There are two main types of Babesia that can infect humans:

- **Babesia microti:** This is the most common type of Babesia in the United States. It is transmitted by the blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), which is also known as the deer tick.
- **Babesia duncani:** This type of Babesia is less common in the United States. It is transmitted by the western blacklegged tick (*Ixodes pacificus*).

The symptoms of Babesia can vary depending on the type of parasite and the severity of the infection. Common symptoms include:



## The Diagnosis and Treatment of Babesia

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1533 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Print length	: 400 pages
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- Nausea
- Vomiting
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- Confusion
- Seizures
- Coma

Babesia is diagnosed with a blood test that detects the parasite in red blood cells. The test is most accurate when it is performed during the acute phase of the infection, when the parasite is most active.

Babesia is treated with a combination of antibiotics. The most commonly used antibiotics are:

- Atovaquone
- Azithromycin
- Clindamycin
- Quinine

The duration of treatment will vary depending on the type of Babesia and the severity of the infection.

There are several things you can do to prevent Babesia:

- Avoid areas where ticks are known to live.
- Wear long sleeves and pants when you are in wooded areas.
- Use insect repellent containing DEET or picaridin.
- Check yourself for ticks after being in wooded areas.
- Remove ticks immediately if you find them.

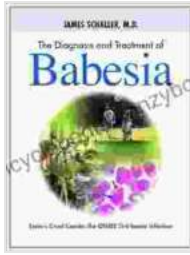
The outlook for Babesia is generally good if the infection is diagnosed and treated early. However, severe infections can be fatal.

Babesia is a serious infection that can cause a range of symptoms, from mild to severe. Early diagnosis and treatment is essential for a good prognosis. If you have any of the symptoms of Babesia, see your doctor right away.

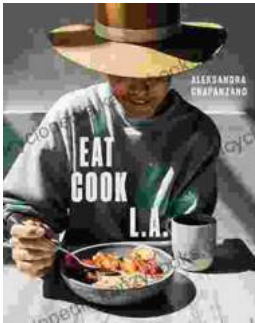
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