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1883: Ticks are different

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

01:30 PM - 02:00 PM

📍 *Convention Center - Room W224 A*

Introduction: The tick *Ixodes ricinus*, primarily associated with deciduous and mixed forests, is the main competent vector for a number of emerging zoonotic pathogens in Europe. In recent decades, this species has expanded both its latitudinal and altitudinal range, prolonged its seasonal activity and invaded new habitat.

Methods: These changes are correlated with changes in the epidemiology of several tick-borne transmitted diseases, such as Lyme borreliosis and tick borne encephalitis. Furthermore, a number of tick borne pathogens are now receiving increasing attention from public health authorities, such as bacteria of the order Rickettsiales (*Anaplasma phagocytophilum*, '*Candidatus* Neoehrlichia mikurensis', *Rickettsia helvetica*) and protozoans (*Babesia divergens*, *B. venatorum* and *B. microti*) which have also been detected in urban tick populations.

Results/Conclusion: Here we illustrate new insights into our understanding on how *Ixodes ricinus* ecology and its interactions with hosts affects tick borne diseases in the European anthropomes today. These results are crucial for quantifying the parameters needed for risk pre-assessment and the identification of public health strategies for preventing and controlling tick-borne diseases.

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