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FECAVA
Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations

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In Europe, the tick Ixodes ricinus is the main vector for Anaplasma phagocytophilum.

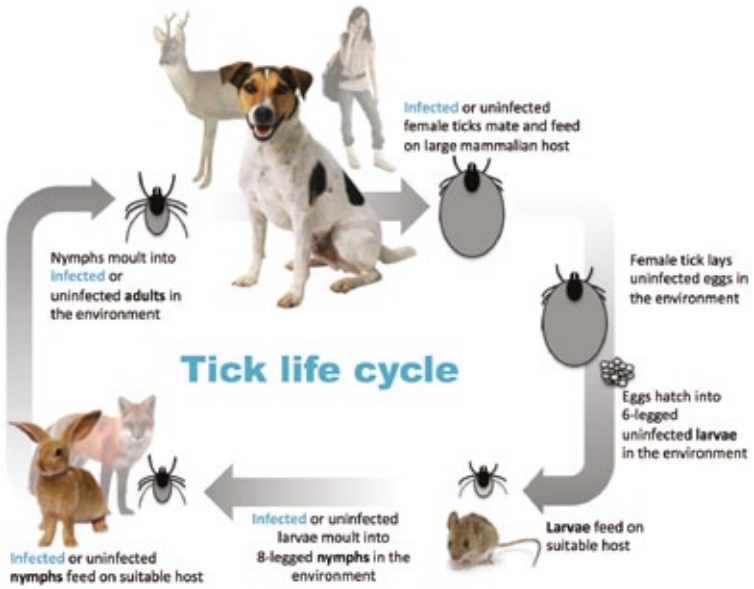
Prevention

- Use of tick preventative products - transmission is positively related to attachment duration, a product which kills or repels ticks will reduce the risk of disease transmission and the more rapidly this is affected, the greater the protective effect. Choice of product must also be based on compliance, lifestyle factors, owner capabilities and other parasiticide needs for the pet.
- Checking for ticks - dogs should be checked for ticks at least every 24 hours. Ticks found should be removed immediately without stressing them - this again increases the risk of disease transmission.

Travel advice

- Use of a product which kills or repels ticks will reduce the risk of exposure to tick-borne pathogen transmission while travelling to an anaplasmosis-endemic region.
- While greatly reducing tick-borne pathogen transmission, no tick preventative product is 100% effective. Dogs should therefore also be checked at least every 24 hours for ticks and any found tick immediately removed.

Anaplasmosis: ticks transmit the infection between hosts



- *Anaplasma* has a wide range of reservoirs due to the large number of species on which the ticks can feed (including humans, wild and domestic mammals and even birds).
- There is a transstadial transmission: any stage of the tick may be infected by or infect the host animals. However, the transmission is not transovarian: all tick eggs are uninfected.