

Taking the Bite out of Tick Season – Soundbite Transcripts

SOT

Dr. Richard Ginnetti, OSF HealthCare Primary Care Physician

“A tick will get on your body and will stay there. It'll bite you and embed into your skin. If that tick is removed within 24 hours, the chance of getting ill is diminished. After 24 hours there's a chance you could get some illness transmitted from that tick itself.” (:14)

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“It looks like a bullseye – a bullseye type rash - that's pathognomonic of the disease. It's relatively simply treated with antibiotics early on. However, if the first stage is missed, it can go on to develop arthritis, neurological disease and also cardiac conditions. So it will potentially cause a large amount of pathology if not treated initially.” (:18)

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“If you find a tick on you, you want to remove it as soon as possible. The best way to remove it is just with some tweezers. Get as close as possible to the tick on the skin. And then try to gently pull it off about 90 degree angle from you. That's the best way to do it. Once the tick is off wash with soap water, rub on some alcohol and it should be fine. As long as the tick has been on less than 24 hours, most of time that's all you need to do.” (:22)