

# What should you do if a patient presents with a tick attached?



- **Don't panic!** While ticks can carry disease such as Lyme, which in recent years has become endemic in our region, ticks can neither jump nor fly. If a patient presents with a tick attached, simply remove as soon as possible & follow with appropriate hand hygiene.
- **Removal:** Grasp the tick using clean, fine-tipped tweezers. Pull upward with even pressure (avoid crushing/twisting/jerking/heat) to prevent tick mouth-part detachment. Place tick in alcohol pad & dispose in general trash. Thoroughly clean bite area with alcohol pad or soap/water. Follow with hand hygiene.
- **Treatment:** At this time, antibiotic prophylaxis is not recommended. Recommend seeking medical attention if rash or fever develops within several (4-5) weeks of removal.
- **Managing patient:** Standard precautions apply. Emphasis on Hand Hygiene.
- **Environment Cleaning:** Standard cleaning products & practices apply.

For additional concerns, please reach out at:  
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