

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER**

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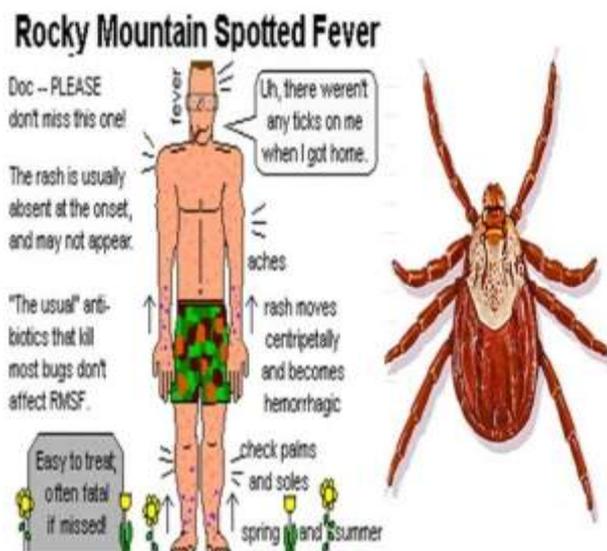
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**ABSTRACT**

Rocky mountain spotted fever, [RMSF] is a reoccurring disease in Arizona and Sonora and a public health problem due to the high risk medical complications it provokes. In the region it is transmitted by the bite of the Rhipicephalus Sanguineu stick, found in dogs. This tick transmits Rickettsia rickettsi bacteria. If not diagnosed and treated in time can be serious or cause death. If the treatment is not provided before the 5<sup>th</sup> day after symptoms begin, the patient can worse and present with dark purple spots on the body. To prevent and control RMSF need to address medical challenges associated with a number of social, political, and envirmetal factors.

**KEYWORDS:** Rhipicephalus Sanguineu, envirmetal.**INRODUCTION**

Rocky mountain spotted fever (RMSF) is an acute febrile tick- borne illness caused by Rickettsia rickettsia. It is the most severe and most common of the rickettsial infections in north America.

**Definition**

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever [RMSF] is a tick-borne illness caused by a bacteria, resulting in a high fever and a characteristic rash.

**Cause**

Causative agent - Rickettsia rickettsi, Gram-negative, obligate intracellular coccobacillus.

**Pathogenies**

- Tick bite
- Phagocytized into endothelial cells
- Oxidative and peroxidative injury to cell membrane

**Sign and Symptoms****1. Initial symptoms**

- Flu-like symptoms
- Fever, muscle pain
- Vomiting, nausea
- Loss of appetite & confusion

**2. Late symptoms**

- Red spotted rash, Abdominal pain

- Joint pain, diarrhea

### Diagnosis

- History
- Seasonal with tick population
- Tick exposure
  
- Physical exam: Examine the presence of rash and tick bite
- Lab test: Thrombocytopenia, hyponatremia and other test such as skin biopsy & blood test

### Treatment

- Antibiotics: Doxycycline 4.4mg/kg twice a day for pediatric 2-4mg/kg, Iv every 12 hours
- Making child getting plenty of rest
- Giving him or her lots of fluids

### Prevention

- There is no vaccine to prevent RMSF
- Treat clothing and gear with products containing permethrin
- Advice those to wear long-sleeved shirts tucked into pants.
- Socks and closed-toe shoes

### CONCLUSION

Even though three had limited exposure to ticks, it is important to test for RMSF when the symptoms are presented and to remember that RMSF is a zoonotic disease and precautions should be taken to protect yourself and your pet from ticks.

### REFERENCES

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