

Tick Identification and Testing Services

Massachusetts Department of Public Health does not offer tick identification or tick testing. If you choose to have a tick tested, it is important to keep in mind the following:

*Tests performed on the ticks are not perfect and they do not test for all infections ticks may be carrying. Therefore, even with a negative result, people should still monitor themselves for the appearance of rash, fever or other unusual symptoms and immediately seek the advice of a health care provider should any symptoms occur.

*If someone has been infected by a tick bite, symptoms may begin to occur even before the results of tick testing are available. People should not to wait for tick testing results before seeking medical advice should any symptoms develop.

*A positive test on a tick is not an automatic indication that treatment is needed. A positive test indicates that the tick was infected but not that the tick was successful in spreading the infection to the person bitten. The longer a tick is attached to you, the greater the chance that it will spread infection. Discuss any positive test results with your health care provider.

The following organizations, listed alphabetically, do offer tick identification and/or testing services for a fee. The listing of these organizations does not constitute an endorsement by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health of the organization, or information, products, or services provided, and none should be inferred. This list is provided as a guide to tick identification and/or testing services available for Massachusetts' residents. This list may not be comprehensive and the contact and price information may change at any time. The information was up-to-date as of May 2009. Any questions people have about situations that may affect their health should be directed to their health care provider.

Analytical Services, Inc

Tick Testing

130 Allen Brook Lane

Williston, VT 05495

1-800-723-4432

www.analyticalservices.com

\$75/tick for species identification and testing for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease

Berkshire Medical Center

Molecular Biology Laboratory

725 North Street

Pittsfield, MA 01201

413-447-2599

\$75/tick for species identification and testing for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease

Connecticut Pathology Laboratories Inc.

1320 Main Street, Suite 24

Willimantic, CT 06226

860-450-1823

connpathlab@snet.net

\$64 to test for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease

IGeneX, Inc.

795/797 San Antonio Rd.

Palo Alto, CA, 94303

800-832-3200

www.igenex.com

\$65 to test for the bacteria that causes Lyme disease

IdentifyUS LLC

320 Needham St., Suite 200

Newton, MA 02464

<http://identify.us.com>

help@identify.us.com

\$20 per specimen or image evaluation (species identification, stage of development & estimated feeding duration). Turn-around time is usually the same day the specimens are received. Digital images, if of sufficient quality, can be uploaded to the web site for even faster service. Imaging instructions are provided on the website.

Imugen, Inc.

220 Norwood Park

Norwood, MA 02062

1-800-246-8436

www.imugen.com

\$75/tick for species identification and testing for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease

UMass Extension Diagnostic Lab

Tick Assessment

Agricultural Engineering Building

250 Natural Resources Way

University of Massachusetts

Amherst, MA 01003

\$40/tick for species identification and testing for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. A submission form from the website must be included with the sample.

This information is provided by Epidemiology Program within the Department of Public Health.