Rickettsia parkeri

Rickettsiosis

This disease is found in Eastern & Southern US & Gulf Coast.

It is transmitted by Amblyomma maculatum, Gulf Coast tick.

Symptoms include headache, fever, variable rash, eschar, which is dead tissue that falls off (sheds) from healthy skin.

Diagnosis through PCR testing. Doxycycline is used for treatment.

CDC website statement: Confirmation of the diagnosis is based on lab testing, but antibiotic therapy should not be delayed in patient with a suggested clinical presentation.

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