

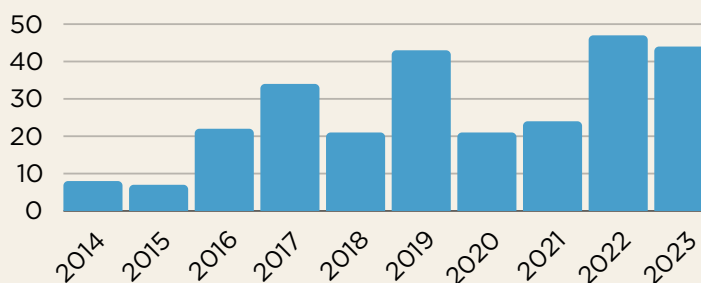
# POWASSAN VIRUS

## WHAT IS IT AND HOW TO AVOID IT



### What is it?

Powassan virus is spread to people through the bite of infected ticks. The virus is still rare, but the number of cases in the US is increasing.



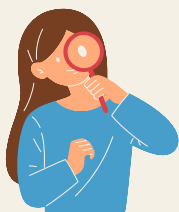
### What are the symptoms?

Many people infected with Powassan virus do not have symptoms. If symptomatic, it can include fever, headache, vomiting, and weakness. This virus can also cause severe disease that can include infection of the brain and death.



### How do you get it?

Humans become infected with Powassan virus through the bite of an infected tick. The deer tick, squirrel tick, and groundhog tick can all spread this virus.



### How do you prevent it?

There is no vaccine to prevent Powassan virus. You can reduce your risk of getting it by avoiding ticks and tick bites:

- Treat clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin
- Use EPA-registered insect repellents
- Avoid woody areas with high grass and leaf litter
- Check clothing for ticks
- Examine gear and pets for ticks
- Shower soon after being outdoors
- Check your body for ticks after being outdoors