

Re: suck out pathogens with a mini-pump?

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- *From:* "a_weisman@xxxxxxxx" <a_weisman@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 5 Apr 2005 16:58:59 -0700
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Martijn wrote:

> a_weisman@xxxxxxxx wrote:

>

>> I don't think so. Ticks suck blood. As they do so they transmit

>> pathogens into the bloodstream. Once they're in there they disseminate

>> quickly. All it takes is one or a few spirochetes which then divide and

>> reproduce so I don't think the mini pump (or a maxi pump) would work.

>

> Ok, the pathogens go into the bloodstream, but how come lot's of people

> (about 50%?) get an erythema migrans AT the tickbite area?

Perhaps even less than 50% but the rash is a cutaneous manifestation caused by local spread of the spirochete (secondary rashes are thought to be a result of spread hematogenously). That doesn't mean that the spirochetes spreading locally in the skin don't also spread via the bloodstream simultaneously.

>Doesn't this

> suggest that the spirochetes often stay localised at first (at least

> some of them)? At least it doesn't suggest they all go into the blood

> and stay there and disseminate throughout the body.

Not mutually exclusive that some stay local and go for the skin and others spread via the bloodstream simultaneously.

>> Snake venom is different. The venom is toxic but the greater the

>> quantity of toxin the greater the impact. Sucking some venom out

>> reduces the overall quantity of venom. Unlike bacteria, venom doesn't

>> reproduce.

>

> Exactly.

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◇ From: Martijn

- **References:**
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 - ◆ **Re: suck out pathogens with a mini-pump?**
◇ From: Frank de Groot
 - ◆ **Re: suck out pathogens with a mini-pump?**
◇ From: Martijn
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