



24/10/2019

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Fall 2019 – Changes to *Geneticks*

Expanded testing options, service in French, and a new location in Atlantic Canada

Geneticks is pleased to announce major changes to our tick testing service beginning on October 24th 2019. These changes include: the expansion of our testing service to detect up to a total of 14 tick-borne pathogens, the introduction of an expedited testing option, the launch of a French version of our service, and the opening of an Atlantic Canada location out of Mt. Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. Details are listed below.

Updated testing options:

With the release of our “Comprehensive” testing panel, *Geneticks* now offers three tick testing options. For each of these options, we identify the submitted tick then direct the testing appropriately for the identified species. The three testing options are:

- Lyme Disease (\$50.00 CAD): Ticks are tested for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease and tick-borne relapsing fever. These bacteria include:
 1. General *Borrelia*
 2. *Borrelia burgdorferi s.s.* (Lyme disease) or *Borrelia lonestari* (STARI)*
 3. *Borrelia miyamotoi* (tick-borne relapsing fever)

- Common Infections (\$150.00 CAD): Ticks will be tested for the seven most common tick-borne pathogens found in their species.
 - For black-legged ticks, these pathogens include:
 1. General *Borrelia*
 2. *Borrelia burgdorferi s.s.* (Lyme disease)
 3. *Borrelia miyamotoi* (tick-borne relapsing fever)
 4. *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* (human granulocytic anaplasmosis)
 5. *Babesia microti* (babesiosis)
 6. *Babesia duncani* (babesiosis)
 7. *Bartonella spp.* (bartonellosis)

 - For all other tick species, these pathogens include:
 1. General *Borrelia*
 2. *Borrelia burgdorferi s.s.* (Lyme disease) or *Borrelia lonestari* (STARI)*
 3. *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* (ehrlichiosis)

4. *Ehrlichia ewingii* (ehrlichiosis)
 5. *Coxiella burnetti* (Q-fever)
 6. *Francisella tularensis* (tularemia)
 7. *Rickettsia rickettsii* (Rocky Mountain spotted fever)
- Comprehensive (\$300.00 CAD): Ticks will be tested for all the currently detectable pathogens at Geneticks. These pathogens include:
 1. General *Borrelia*
 2. *Borrelia burgdorferi s.s.* (Lyme disease) or *Borrelia lonestari* (STARI)*
 3. *Borrelia miyamotoi* (tick-borne relapsing fever)
 4. *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* (human granulocytic anaplasmosis)
 5. *Babesia microti* (babesiosis)
 6. *Babesia duncani* (babesiosis)
 7. *Bartonella spp.* (bartonellosis)
 8. *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* (ehrlichiosis)
 9. *Ehrlichia ewingii* (ehrlichiosis)
 10. *Ehrlichia canis* (ehrlichiosis)
 11. *Ehrlichia muris eauclairensis* (ehrlichiosis)
 12. *Coxiella burnetti* (Q-fever)
 13. *Francisella tularensis* (tularemia)
 14. *Rickettsia rickettsii* (Rocky Mountain spotted fever)

*Lonestar ticks will be tested for *Borrelia lonestari*, all other tick species will be tested for *Borrelia burgdorferi s.s.*

Expedited testing:

Geneticks has released an additional option to request expedited testing. This option guarantees that your testing will be completed within 48 hours of the tick arriving at our laboratory. The fee for expedited testing is an additional \$20.00 CAD for Lyme disease, \$25.00 CAD for Common Infections, and \$50.00 CAD for Comprehensive. This option can be applied at checkout.

French version of *Geneticks*:

To ensure the accessibility of *Geneticks* to all Canadians, we have built a francophone version of our website. This website can be found at www.geneticks.ca/fr/, and provides full access to our service for French speaking users.

Expansion to Atlantic Canada:

Geneticks has opened a secondary location out of Mt. Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. This location has been established to combat the growing tick problem in Atlantic Canada. Tick submissions from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador will be directed to this location for faster and more accessible service. This location is being run by our Director of Atlantic Operations, Alexandra Foley-Eby (B.Sc.H., M.Sc.). Alexandra is an experienced scientist and passionate Lyme disease advocate. She can be contacted at alexandra@geneticks.ca for any inquiries relating to this location.

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Geneticks is a private laboratory offering accessible, reliable and comprehensive tick testing. Ticks are accepted from anywhere in Canada, and can be tested for up to a total of 14 tick-borne pathogens. *Geneticks* guarantees results are returned within 1-5 business days, allowing customers to make time-sensitive, informed decisions about their potential exposure to Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases*. For more information, please visit our website at: <https://www.geneticks.ca/>

*All health-oriented decisions must be made with the assistance of a trained and certified health-care practitioner.

For more information on these topics, please contact Justin Wood at justin@geneticks.ca.