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Title: Progress, challenges, and the role of public engagement to improve tick-borne disease literacy

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Title: Progress, challenges, and the role of public engagement to improve tick-borne disease literacy

Short title: Public engagement and tick-borne disease

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Highlights:

- Tick-borne diseases (TBD) are increasing
- Cross-disciplinary collaborations to aid TBD prevention
- Need for improved public TBD literacy

Abstract

Vector-borne diseases have increased worldwide, facilitated by globalization and variations in climate. Tick and tick-borne disease researchers, veterinarians, medical practitioners, and public health specialists are working to share their expertise on tick ecology, disease transmission, diagnostics, and treatment in order to control tick-borne epidemics and potential pandemics. This review will be a brief overview of the current status of tick-borne diseases, challenges on the scientific and public fronts, and the role of public engagement in improving citizen education within the context of ticks and tick-borne disease research.

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