



# Lyme Borreliosis

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# Lyme Borreliosis is-----

- A multisystemic vector-borne, inflammatory infectious disease
- Caused by the **immune-defence** to spirochetes of the *Borrelia burgdorferi* s.l. complex
- The most common vector-borne infectious disease in North-Europe



# *Borrelia burgdorferi* s.l. and others

- *B. b. sensu stricto*
  - *B. afzelii*
  - *B. garinii*
  - *B. bavariensis*
  - *B. spielmanii, valaisana*
  - *B. miyamotoi*
- 
- Other – TBE, Anaplasma, Rickettsia SFG, Tularemia, *Candidatus Neohrlichia mikurensis*

Ticks are the vectors



**I. ricinus**

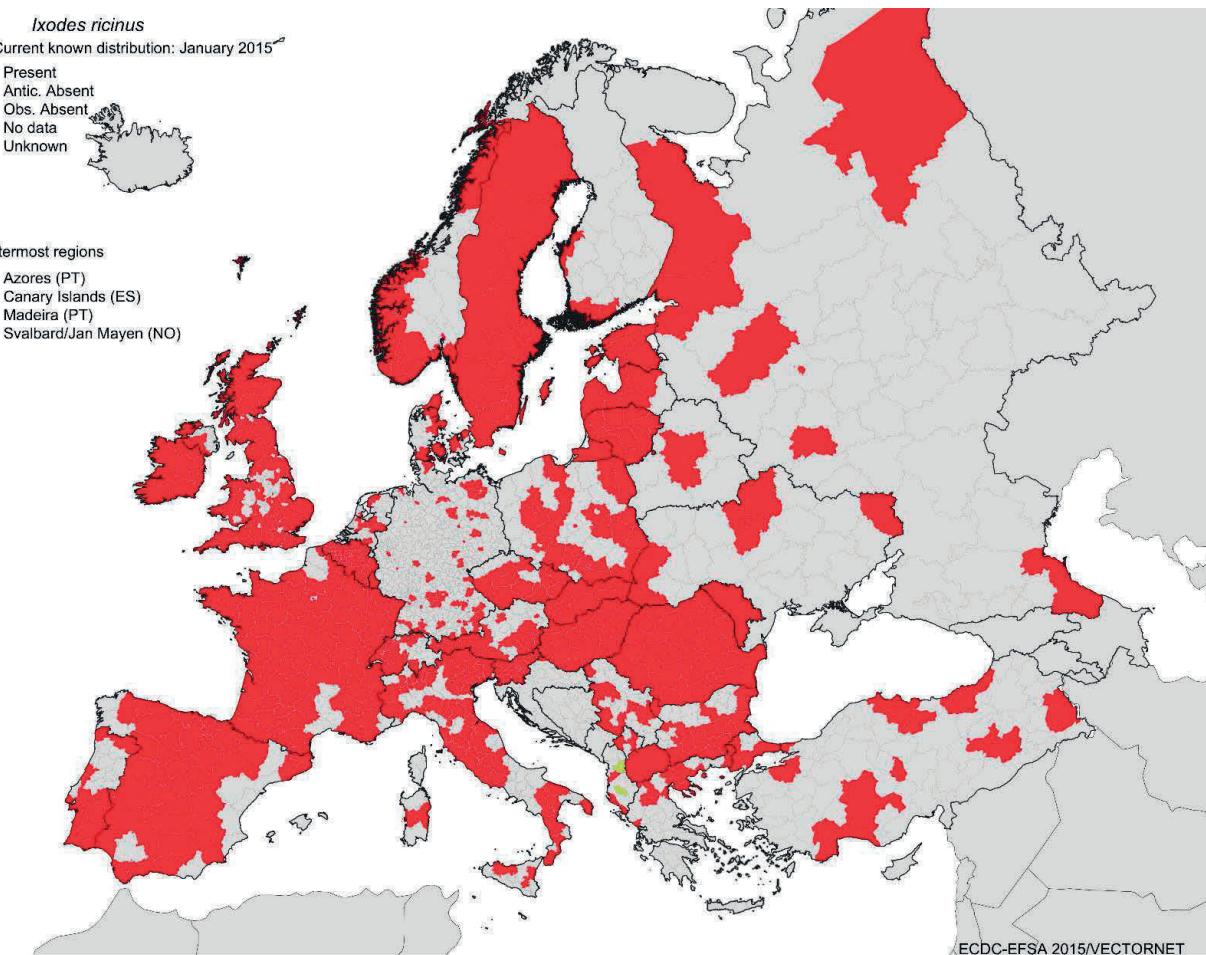


**I. persulcatus**

# Why a borreliosis clinic?

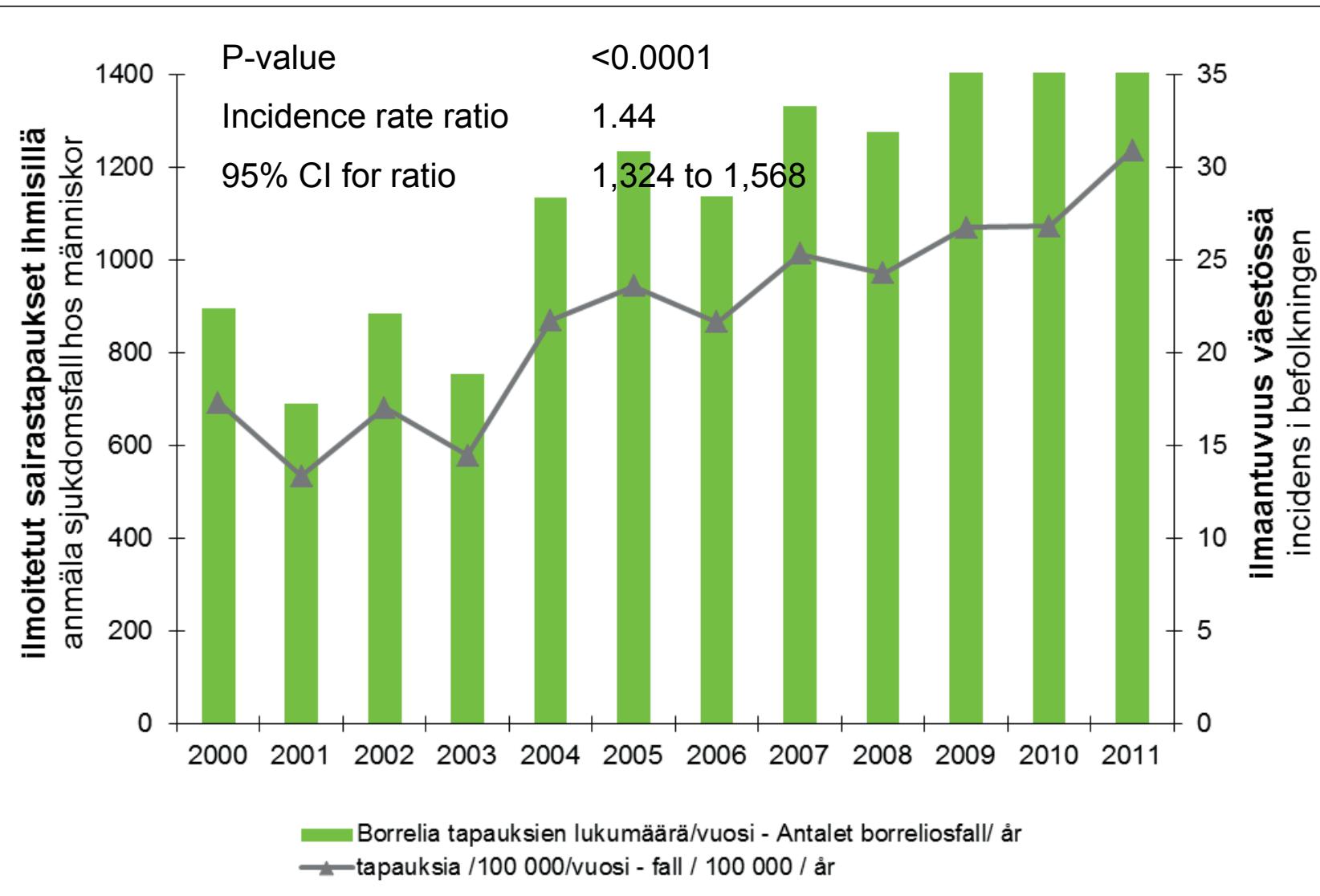
- Epidemiology
- Diagnostics and differential diagnostics
- Treatment
- Chronic infection
- Persisting symptoms

# Ticks in Europe

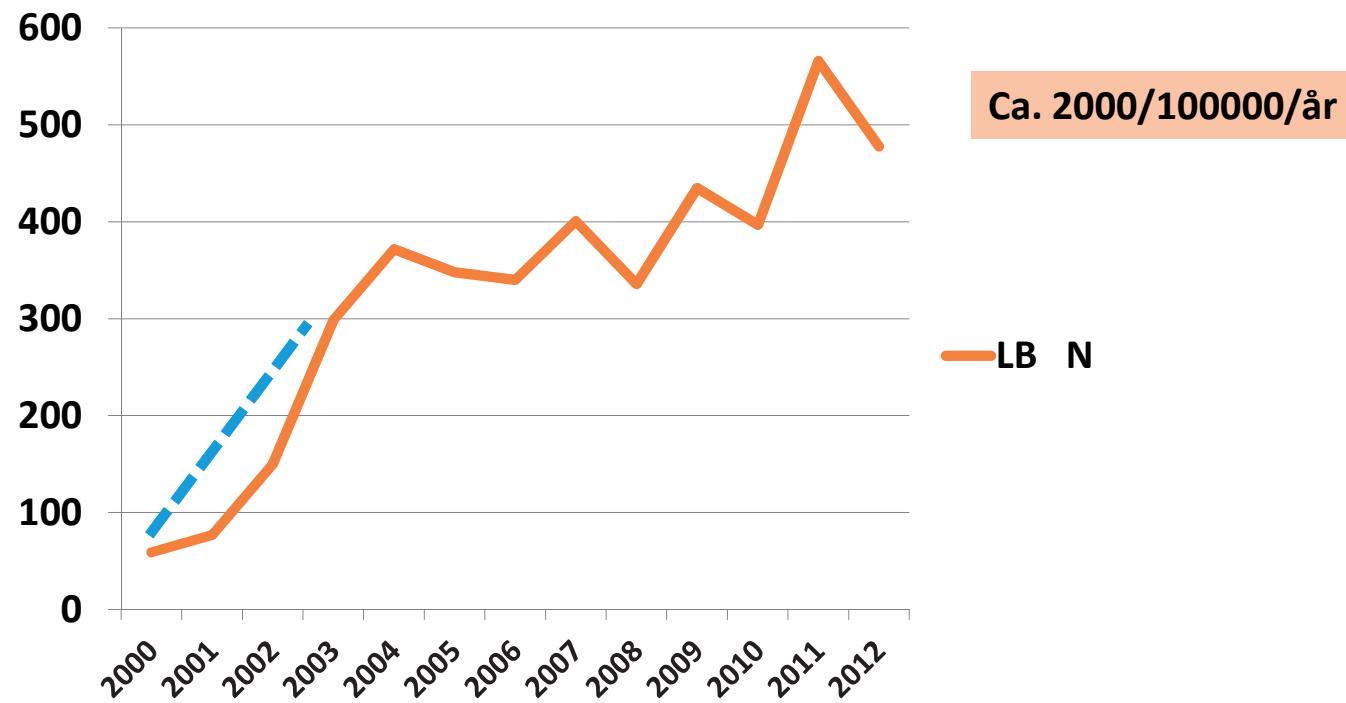


**Reported borreliosis 2000-2011  
(IHW Finland)**

**Serology based incidence!**



# Clinical borreliosis 2000 -2012 Åland



## Borrelia prevalence and species in ticks, Åland Islands

| Tick stage   | No. of ticks | No. positive (%) | No. (%) of ticks containing <i>Borrelia</i> species determined by nucleotide sequencing |             |             |             |             |             |             |       |         |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|---------|
|              |              |                  | <i>B. a</i>   | <i>B. g</i> | <i>B. v</i> | <i>B. b</i> | <i>B. m</i> | <i>B. s</i> | <i>B. l</i> | Mixed | UT      |
|              | 777          | 178 (23)         | 86 (48)   | 42 (24)     | 14 (8)      | 4 (2)       | 2 (1)       | 5 (3)       | --          | 1(1)  | 24 (13) |
| Adult male   | 5 (1)        | --               |   |             |             |             |             |             |             |       |         |
| Adult female | 118 (15)     | 35 (30)          | 10 (28)   | 11 (30)     | 5 (14)      | 3 (8)       | 1 (3)       | 1 (3)       |             |       | 4 (11)  |
| Nymph        | 587 (74)     | 143 (24)         | 76 (53)   | 31 (21)     | 9 (6)       | 1 (1)       | 1 (1)       | 4 (3)       |             | 1 (1) | 20 (14) |
| Larva        | 67 (8)       | --               |   |             |             |             |             |             |             |       |         |

Wilhelmsson 2013

# Borrelia in ticks from Estonia

- *Ixodes ricinus* 8.2% (2293)
- *Ixodes persulcatus* 9.7% (2833)
- Total 4.7 - 24.2 % regional variation
- The most prevalent genospecies was *B. afzelii* which was detected in 53.5% of *Borrelia*-positive ticks, followed by *B. garinii* and *B. valaisiana* with 26.2% and 5.5%, respectively.

Geller *et al.* *Parasites & Vectors* 2013 6:202

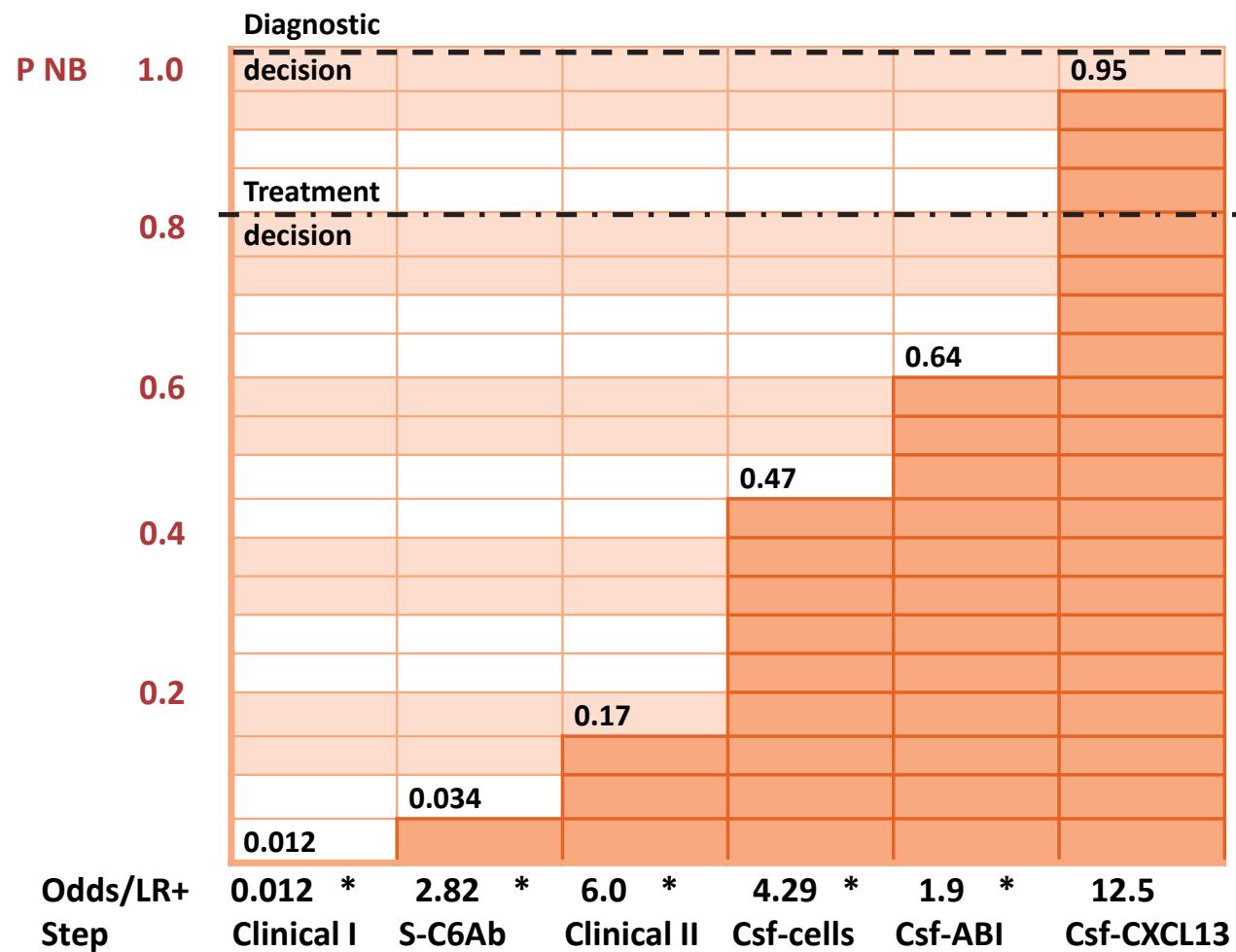
# Borreliosis in Europe

| Year        | 2001      |         | 2002      |         | 2003      |         | 2004      |         | 2005      |         |
|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Country     | Incidence | [cases] |
| Slovenia    | 163       | [3232]  | 169       | [3359]  | 177       | [3524]  | 193       | [3849]  | 206       | [4123]  |
| Austria     | -         | -       | -         | -       | -         | -       | -         | -       | 135       | -       |
| Netherlands | 74        | [12000] | -         | -       | -         | -       | -         | -       | 103       | [17000] |
| Lithuania   | 33        | [1153]  | 26        | [894]   | 106       | [3688]  | 50        | [1740]  | 34        | [1161]  |
| Finland     | 13        | [691]   | 17        | [884]   | 14        | [753]   | 22        | [1135]  | 24        | [1236]  |
| Latvia      | 16        | [379]   | 14        | [328]   | 31        | [714]   | 31        | [710]   | 21        | [493]   |
| Estonia     | 25        | [342]   | 23        | [319]   | 42        | [562]   | 36        | [480]   | 21        | [281]   |

# Diagnosis

- Clinical picture
  - early, late
  - localized, disseminated
  - organ involved
- Laboratory verification
  - which test when
  - diagnostic performance

# BUILDING A DIAGNOSIS NB



Nyman 2014

Do not be afraid of the nature!



*(c) Erkki Santamala 2011*