

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever



Bacteria: *Rickettsia rickettsia*



Tickborne is the primary mechanism of transmission



Very rarely transmitted by blood transfusion



>60% of cases in N Carolina, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Missouri



Occurs year round, more so in May-August*



Geographic Distribution



Arizona and Northern Mexico

- Ticks commonly found on domestic dogs
- Occurs year round
- Cases more common and higher fatality rates, especially in children



RMSF Disease

- Rapidly progressive and can be fatal w/o treatment
- Usually 3-12 days after tick bite
- Classic: sudden onset of fever and HA
 - Early: fever, HA, GI, abdominal pain, myalgia, rash (2-4 days AFTER fever), periorbital edema
 - Late: altered mental status, coma, respiratory failure, necrosis, MOF



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RMSF Treatment

Doxycycline is the first line treatment for adults and children of all ages:

- Adults – 100 mg every 12 hours
- Children under 45kg (100 lbs) - 2.2 mg/kg body weight given twice a day

Patients should be treated for at least 3 days after the fever subsides and until there is evidence of clinical improvement. Standard duration of treatment is 5-14 days.

Doxycycline

saves lives!

A good reason to smile:

Doxycycline is the #1 **recommended treatment** for suspected rickettsial infections in patients of all ages.

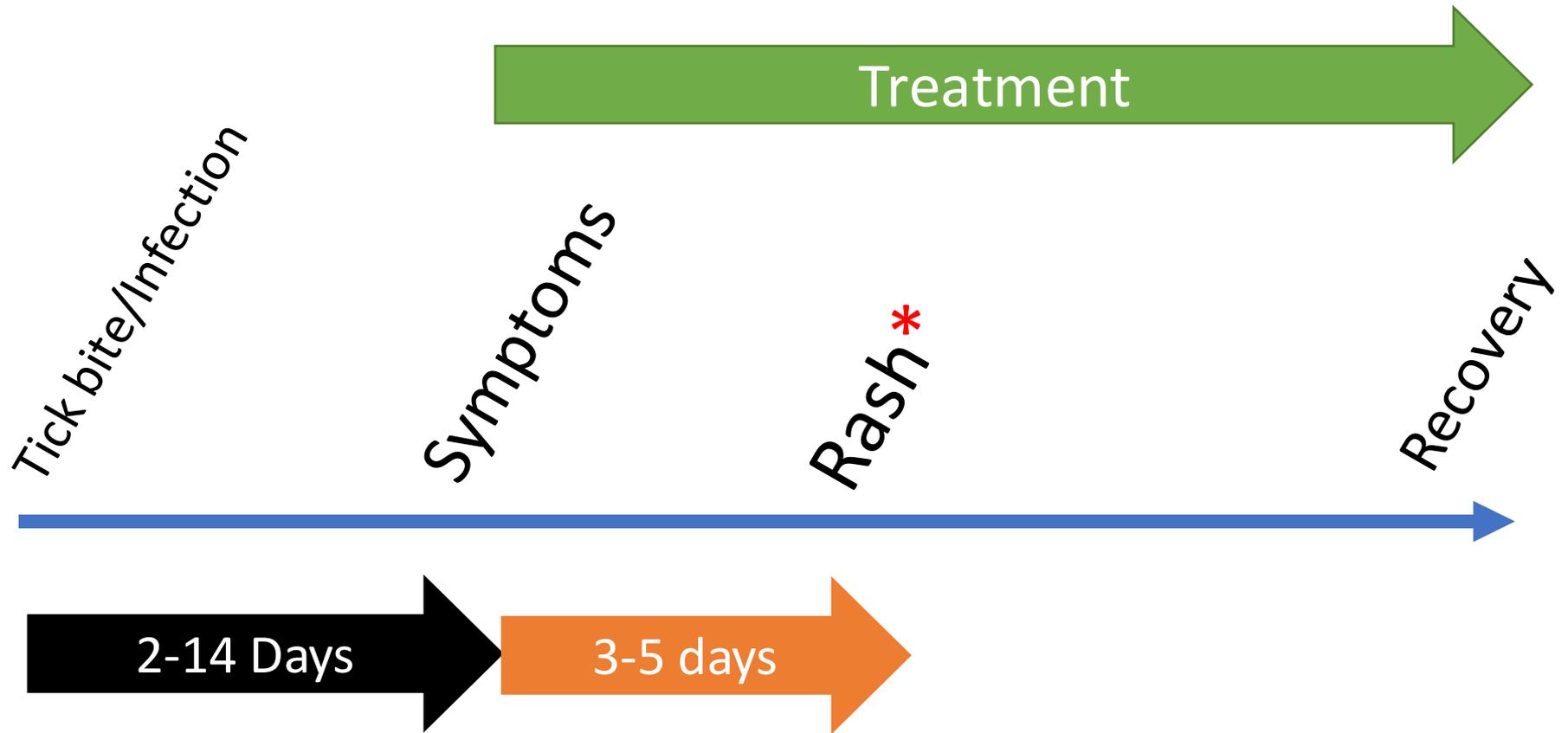
New research shows NO evidence of tooth staining when used in short courses.



Click to learn more.



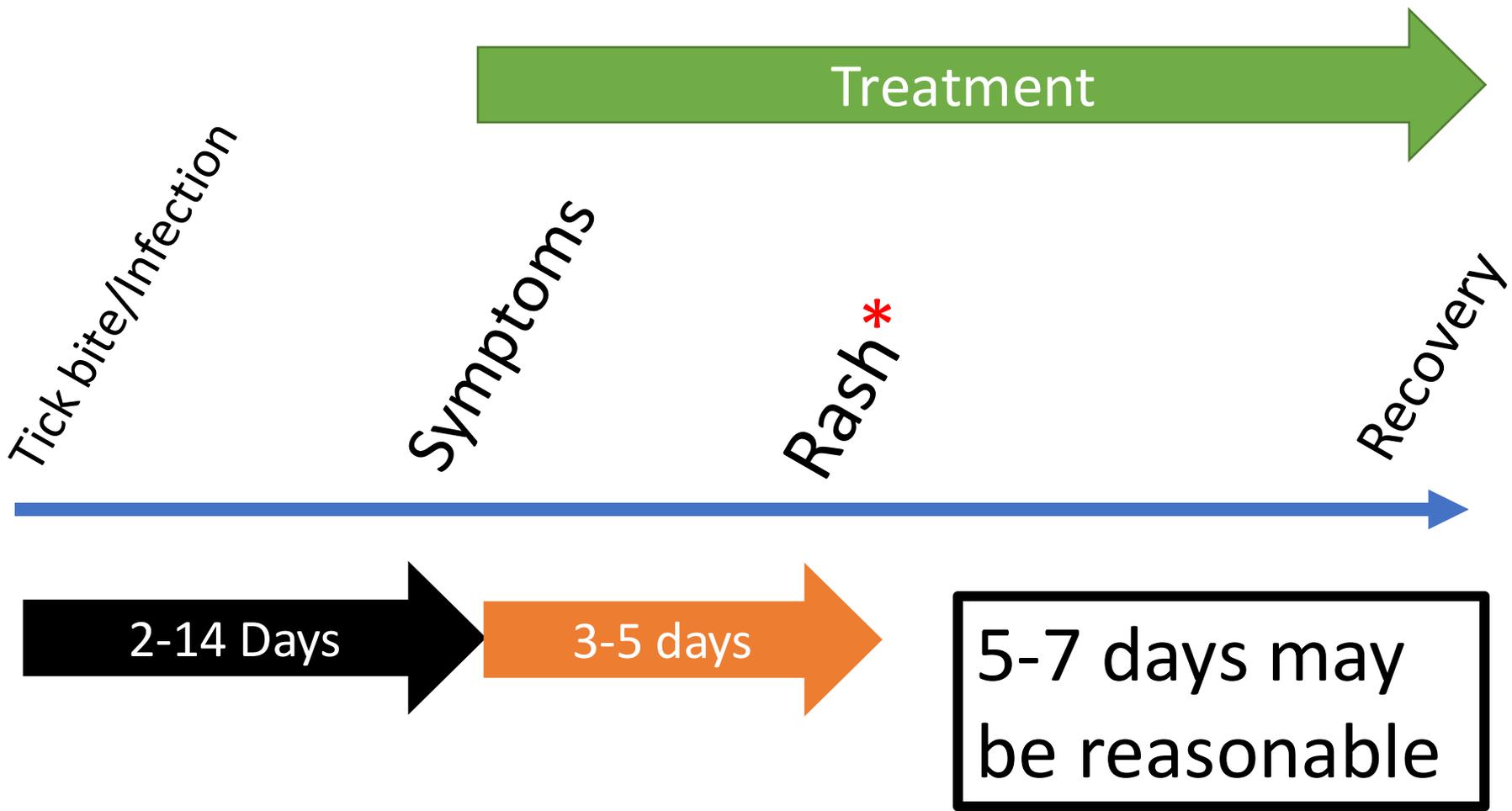
RMSF Treatment Duration



*10% of cases are “spotless”?



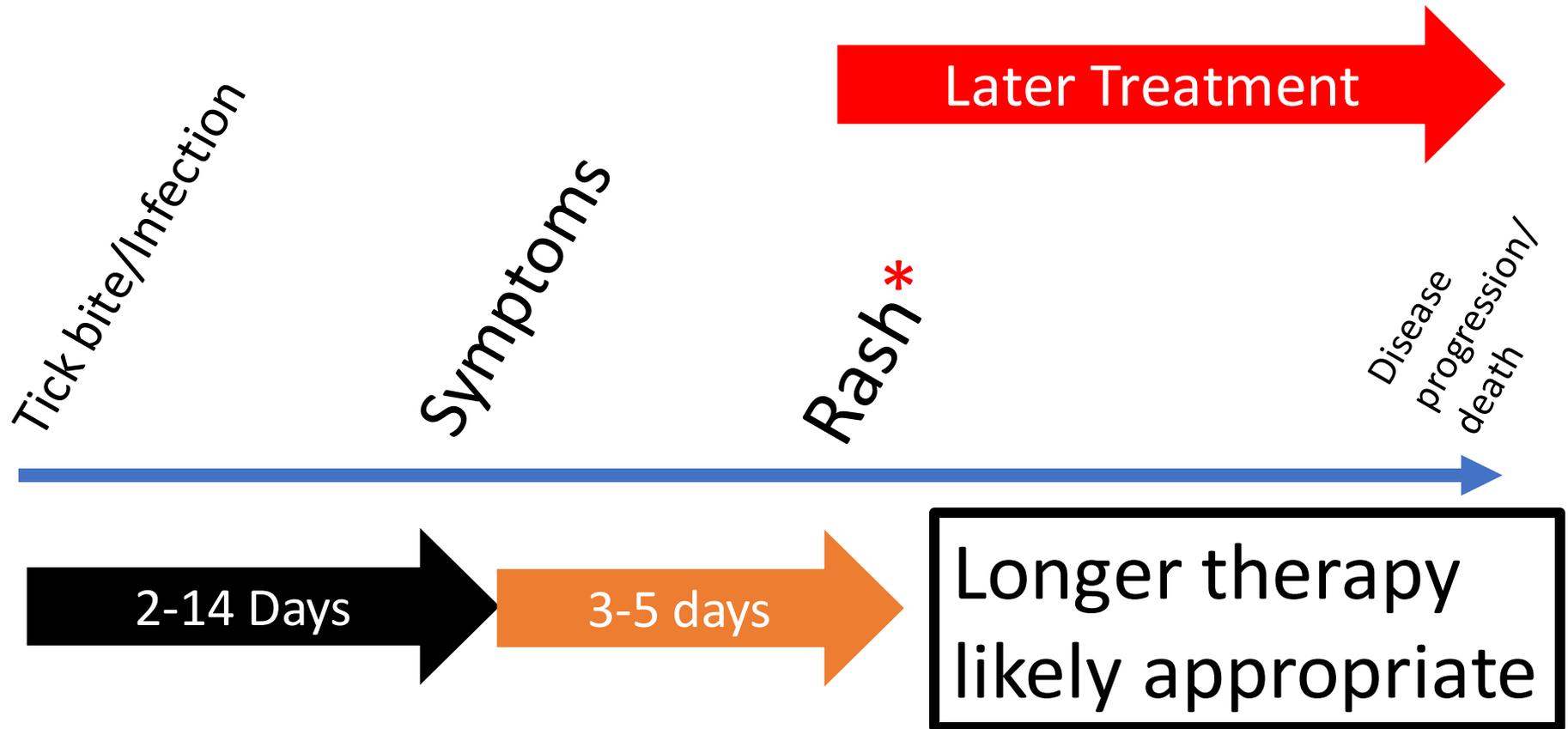
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