



Tick bite



What should I do if I discover one or more ticks on my child?

The tick(s) should be removed as quickly as possible with tweezers. While doing so, the tick should be grabbed directly above the skin if possible, and pulled straight back and upwards from the puncture channel. If no tweezers are available, the tick can also be pinched between the nails of the thumb and index finger and pulled out. The bite area should be disinfected afterwards with a common disinfectant.

Beware: when pulling out the tick, make sure that the tick turns if possible. Also, no oil should be applied to the tick! If the head or a leg remains anchored in the skin when removing the tick, this does not necessarily have to be removed. The main thing is that the body, especially the tick's gastrointestinal tract, is removed. The tick does not have to be preserved. An examination of the tick will not be performed.

What do I have to bear in mind after a tick bite, and when should I contact a doctor?

- Should a slowly spreading, painless, ring-shaped redness appear around the bite area – possibly also on other areas of the body – in the next 3-32 days after the tick bite, then a doctor should be consulted.
- Occurrence of fever or severe headaches 7-14 days after the tick bite.
- Occurrence of unclear joint swelling, particularly isolated knee joint or ankle joint (can occur weeks to months after the tick bite).
- Occurrence of a one-sided facial paralysis (can occur 3-10 weeks after the tick bite).