

Name: abdirahim moallim abdule. Student ID: 614.
Instructor: drs.Asma mouse.

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1. Introduction to Arthropod-Borne Infections

Arthropod-borne infections, often referred to as vector-borne diseases, are illnesses transmitted

to humans and animals by blood-feeding arthropods such as mosquitoes, ticks, lice, fleas, mites, and sandflies. These infections are a major public health concern, particularly in developing countries with warm climates where vectors thrive. The pathogens can be viruses, bacteria, protozoa, or helminths, and transmission typically occurs through the bite of an infected vector during blood meals. Some of these diseases are zoonotic, meaning they can be transmitted from animals to humans.

2. Types of Arthropod-Borne Infections

Arthropod-borne infections are classified based on the type of causative agent:

A. Viral Infections (Arboviruses):

B. Bacterial Infections:

C. Parasitic Infections:

3. Signs and Symptoms

Symptoms vary widely depending on the pathogen but may include:

4. Common Arthropod-Borne Infections

A. Malaria

C. Zika Virus

D. Leishmaniasis

E. Lyme Disease

5. Prevention and Control Measures

A. Vector Control:

B. Personal Protective Measures:

C. Vaccination (where available):

D. Community-Based Strategies:

6. Diagnosis

Clinical Diagnosis:

Laboratory Diagnosis:

7. Treatment

A. Viral Infections:

B. Bacterial Infections:

C. Parasitic Infections:

D. Supportive Care:

Conclusion

Arthropod-borne infections are a significant burden on global health, particularly in regions with poor infrastructure and warm climates. With increasing globalization, climate change, and urbanization, these diseases are spreading into new areas. Integrated efforts involving vector control, vaccination, public education, and research are essential to manage and eventually eliminate these infections.