

**4th Annual Ticks and Tickborne Diseases Symposium
April 29 - 30, 2026
Baltimore, MD**

April 29:

Predictive Tools for Assessing Tickborne Risk

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Speaker (TBD)

Tick – Human Interaction

Sukanya Narasimhan, Yale University Medical School

Virulence determinants of *B. burgdorferi*

Catherine Brissette, University of North Dakota

Powassan Virus

Amelia Pinto, University of Kentucky

Roundtable Discussions

Group 1: Tick Surveillance and Human Tickborne Disease epidemiology (*Dustin Brisson-UPenn, moderator*)

Group 2: Tick biology and anti-pathogen immunity (*Anya O'Neal-JHU, moderator*)

Group 3: Mammalian Immunity to Tickborne Infections (*Linden Hu-Tufts University, moderator*)

Group 4: Prophylaxes and interventions against ticks and TBD (*Dana Shaw-University of Washington, moderator*)

Group 5: Pathogenesis and Genetics of Tickborne Pathogens (*Erin Goley-JHU, moderator*)

Keynote speaker

Brandon Jutras, Northwestern University

Mixer/Poster Viewing

April 30 (Half Day)

Abstract award trainee talk #1

Abstract award trainee talk #2

Ticks, Surveillance, and Human Tickborne Diseases: Backyard strategies to reduce risks of tick bites in the peridomestic environment

Susan Paskewitz, University of Wisconsin

Tick biology and tick anti-pathogen immunity

Dana Shaw, University of Washington

Mammalian Immunity to Ticks/Tickborne Infections

Linden Hu, Tufts University

Prophylaxes and Interventions Against Ticks and Tickborne Diseases

Pfizer - Phase II clinical trials - TBD

Pathogenesis, Bacterial Genetics of Tickborne Pathogens

Erin Goley, Johns Hopkins University