Alpha-gal syndrome (AGS), or Alpha-gal allergy, is an emerging tick-borne allergy. People with AGS have severe and sometimes life-threatening reactions to a sugar found in mammals and products derived from mammals, including meat, dairy, gelatin, and medical products. The CDC has identified AGS as a growing public health concern and has called for both community and provider education and improved surveillance.

### Key Statistics

**Who Has Alpha-Gal Syndrome?**

- **Up to 450,000** Americans have AGS, the CDC estimates.
- **Up to 2-3%** of the population in the most affected areas have AGS.
- **35%** or more of some populations are sensitized to alpha-gal.

### Unknown Ingredients Pose a Danger

Hundreds of mammalian byproducts are added to foods and drugs. No complete list exists, making it next to impossible to know if any are in your food or drugs, even if you check labels.

### Severe Symptoms

- 30-40% of cases have cardiac symptoms
- Up to 20% of cases have GI symptoms alone
- Up to 60% of cases have anaphylactic reactions

### Medication and Medical Care Are Mine Fields for People with Alpha-Gal Syndrome

- **92%** of patients with AGS had to modify their medication because of their alpha-gal syndrome diagnosis.
- **18%** of patients with AGS have contacted drug manufacturers to ask about ingredients 12 times or more.
- **60%** of pharmaceutical companies provide an accurate response about animal-derived ingredients in medications.

- **50%** of patients with AGS have had an anaphylactic reaction after using a health product that includes alpha gal.
- More than **20,000** drugs, vaccines, and medical products contain mammalian byproducts.
- More than **1,400** patients with AGS have petitioned the FDA to require drug manufacturers to clearly label whether ingredients used in their products are animal derived.

### Lack of Awareness Means Delayed Diagnosis

- **78%** of physicians in the U.S. have little to no knowledge of AGS, according to the CDC.
- **7 years** average time to diagnosis due to lack of physician awareness.

Source: alphagalinformation.org