B. quintana in Lice, Ethiopia

etymologia

Q Fever

[ku fe’vər]

From Q for query, because the disease was an illness of unknown etiology. In 1937, Australian researcher Edward Derrick reported a disease that affected workers in slaughterhouses. Coxiella burnetii, the bacteria that causes the disease, was found shortly after Derrick’s investigation began. However, many aspects of the disease continue to puzzle researchers, making the name Q fever as appropriate today as it was 74 years ago.


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