

The emergence of TBE in Norway in the 1990s poses the question of whether these new endemic foci have become truly established recently or have remained unnoticed because of underdiagnosis. Although the northern spread of TBEV due to climate changes has been predicted (8), other factors such as rates of contact between ticks and humans, abundance of ticks, and their amplifying hosts may play a role in TBE epidemiology. Further monitoring of the TBE situation in Norway both in patients and nature is needed to establish guidelines for preventive measures and vaccination programs in TBE-endemic areas.

We report the first genome detection and characterization of TBEV from persons with TBE in Norway and Denmark. Our results showed that the Norwegian and Danish strains clustered with earlier reported strains of the TBEV-Eu subtype.

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# etymologia

## *malaria*

[mə-lar'e-ə]

*Malaria*, "bad air" in Italian, was blamed for the deaths of >1,000 workers digging the Erie Canal in 1819. Work on the canal continued in winter, when the swamp was frozen over (and, although the vector was not known at the time, mosquitoes were dormant). *Malaria*, caused by parasites of the genus *Plasmodium* and usually transmitted by the bite of infected *Anopheles* mosquitoes, is endemic in many warm regions. Charles Louis Alphonse Laveran discovered the protozoan cause of malaria in 1880. The Office of Malaria Control in War Areas, which was established in 1942 to control malaria and other vectorborne diseases in the southern United States, evolved into what is today the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Sources:** Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary. 30th ed. Philadelphia: Saunders; 2003; cdc.gov; and wikipedia.org