Tick Bite: Spotted Fever vs Lyme

Two tick-borne diseases told apart by the skin lesion and the treatment

MSF Mediterranean spotted fever (Rickettsia conorii)

- black eschar at the bite ("tache noire")
- rash that does involve palms and soles
- summer
- doxycycline

LD Lyme disease (Borrelia burgdorferi, Ixodes tick)

- target-like erythema migrans
- does not involve palms or soles
- wooded areas
- amoxicillin or doxycycline

Black eschar
+ palms and soles: spotted fever

Expanding target
lesion: Lyme

Doxycycline
Covers both (and many other tick-borne diseases)

Skin lesion and treatment are what tell them apart