



AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
MICROBIOLOGY

Infection and
Immunity®

CONTENTS • APRIL 2020 • VOLUME 88, NO. 4

COVER IMAGE



Cover photograph: Crystal structure of adenosine bound to the *Borrelia burgdorferi* BmpD protein, which plays an important role in purine nucleoside uptake from the host environment. *Ixodes* ticks transmit the spirochetal *Borrelia* bacteria to humans, where they cause Lyme borreliosis. *B. burgdorferi* cannot synthesize nucleosides needed for, e.g., DNA/RNA synthesis and must obtain them from the host environment. The BmpD protein is a substrate-binding protein that binds to purine nucleosides in the periplasmic space and transports them to a membrane-bound ABC transporter which transfers the nucleosides into the cytoplasm of the bacteria. (See related article at e00962-19.) (Copyright © 2020 Cuellar et al. CC-BY 4.0.)

SPOTLIGHT

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