Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Aleutian disease

Hazard description: A parvovirus disease first reported in farmed American mink (*Mustela vison*) with Aleutian coat colour. It is an ongoing problem for areas where mink are fur-farmed, and may impact wild European mink populations (Ryser-Degiorgis 2012).

Host species: All mink are susceptible, but disease is less severe in non-Aleutian mink. Other mustelid species, and raccoon, common genet, striped skunk and red fox are also reported as susceptible, with rare cases of human infection reported (Ryser-Degiorgis 2012). No reports of disease in wild felid species were found.

Pathogenesis: Two forms of disease: fatal acute pneumonia in neonatal kits from non-immune dams; and chronic immune complex disease – multi-systemic increasing mortality and reducing fecundity (Ryser-Degiorgis 2012).

Diagnosis: Clinical signs, serology, post-mortem histopathology.

Vaccination: None.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: No reports found.

Distribution: Globally distributed in mink farms (Ryser-Degiorgis 2012).

Assumptions: No/low pathogenicity in wild felids.

Limitations: None.