Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Angiostrongylus spp.

Hazard description: Nematode of the circulatory system in the Superfamily Metastrongyloidea.

Host species: The life cycle is indirect: gastropods are intermediate hosts. Final host species acquire infection by ingestion of gastropods or paratenic hosts. *A. chabaudi* has been detected in free-ranging European wild cats (Giannelli et al. 2016). *A. felineus* has been reported from free-ranging pumas in Brazil (Vieira et al. 2013). *A. vasorum* is the main canid species, but has been isolated from small mustelid species (Simpson et al. 2016), and has been shown experimentally to infect immunosuppressed domestic cats see (Giannelli et al. 2016).

Pathogenesis: Ingested L3 larvae migrate and, depending on species, mature into adults in the cardio-respiratory system. In the case *of A. chabaudi*, adult nematodes are found in the small pulmonary arteries, leading to vascular damage and potentially thrombosis

Diagnosis: L1 (oviviparous) in faeces.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: No reports found.

Distribution: Species dependent.

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in wild felids, based on absence of reports.

Limitations: Lack of species specific geographical data.