Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Aspergillus spp.

Hazard description: Genus *Aspergillus* – ubiquitous saprophytic organisms..

Host species: Mammals, including humans, and birds are susceptible to infection.

Pathogenesis: A mycotic infection of the nasal cavity and sinuses, considered an emerging infection in domestic cats(Hartmann, Lloret, et al. 2013). Disease is generally associated with a degree of immunocompromise, ranging from local mucosal immunity to systemic immunosuppression. Disease has been reported in captive snow leopard (Peden et al. 1985).

Diagnosis: Clinical signs, plus fungal hyphae on cytological examination.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: No reports found.

Distribution: *Aspergillus* species have a worldwide distribution, in soil and decaying vegetation Assume present in all tiger range states.

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in otherwise healthy wild tigers.

Limitations: None.