Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Capillaria hepatica

Hazard description: A nematode of the liver of rodents, in the Superfamily Trichuroidea (Taylor et al. 2007).

Host species: Rodents. Direct life cycle. Felids acquire infection by predation/scavenging of the egg-infected liver of rodents. Infection may be zoonotic.

Pathogenesis: Unlikely to be of clinical significance.

Diagnosis: Eggs in faeces.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: *Capillaria spp.* eggs identified in 13/19 tiger scats from the Huai Kha Wildlife Sanctuary, Thailand (Patton & Rabinowitz, 1994).

Distribution: Considered worldwide (Taylor et al. 2007).

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in wild felids.

Limitations: Lack of data.