Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Oncicola canis

Hazard description: A small intestinal acanthocephalan – thorny-headed worm.

Host species: Main host species carnivores (Patton & Rabinowitz 1994). Reported from leopards (Konyaev 2012), and ocelot in Texas (Pence et al. 2003).

Pathogenesis: Pathogenicity largely unknown. Due to absence of reports, infection is likely to be of low clinical significance.

Diagnosis: Eggs in faeces.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: No reports found.

Distribution: Unknown.

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in wild felids.

Limitations: Little data found.