Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Otodectes cynotis

Hazard description: An arachnid mite.

Host species: Wide host range, including felids. Reported from one wild leopard in RFE (Zheleznova & Salmanova 2011).

Pathogenesis: Predominantly colonises the external ear canal, but may secondarily affect the head, back, tail and feet. Infection causes irritation, pruritus, and brown/black waxy exudate in the ear canal. A common transmission route is from dam to offspring (Taylor et al. 2007).

Diagnosis: Clinical signs and otoscopic visualisation of mites.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: No reports found.

Distribution: Considered worldwide.

Assumptions: None.

Limitations: Test sensitivity.