Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Taenia spp.

Hazard description: Genus of small intestine cestodes in Order Cyclophyllidea and Family Taeniidae (along with genus *Echinococcus*) (Taylor *et al.* 2007).

Host species: Indirect life cycle, with different species of cestode generally named after their predominant intermediate host (small mammals/herbivores); final host species are carnivores (wild and domestic – many reported).

***Pathogenesis*:** Likely to be of minimal clinical significance to final host (unless infection very heavy) The larval stages may occur in various tissue sites in intermediate host prey species, e.g. rodents and herbivores; some *Taenia* species may lead to meat condemnation or cyst formation in domestic herbivores for example (Taylor *et al.* 2007).

Diagnosis: Eggs/segments in faeces.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: Reports found from RFE (Konyaev 2012), India (Gaur *et al.* 1980; Bhattacharya *et al*. 2012; Nigam *et al.* 2016) and Thailand (Patton & Rabinowitz, 1994).

Distribution: Considered worldwide.

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in wild felids.

Limitations: None.