

AN ORAL CARCINOMA IN A JAGUAR - A CASE REPORT

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In Sri Lanka, oral cancer is the most common type of cancer among humans. In animals, prevalence/incidence rates of oral cancer are not available. Reported oral cancers in animals are scanty and little. No previous records of oral carcinomas in jaguars have been reported in Sri Lanka.

An oral squamous cell carcinoma in a jaguar was diagnosed histopathologically at the Department of Oral Pathology, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya.

A biopsy sample was received from an 18 year-old jaguar reared in the National Zoological Gardens, Dehiwela, with a history of bleeding from the right side of the mouth. Intra-oral examination revealed a fleshy, sessile mass on the gum adjacent to the right upper premolars. The biopsy sample was subjected to histopathological investigations and immuno-histochemical staining.

The histopathological features indicated that the animal was suffering from a moderately/poorly-differentiated squamous cell carcinoma.