

## Trichinellosis Disease Caused by Polar Bear Meat

**Inukjuak, April 6, 2023** – It has been brought to the attention of the Nunavik Public Health Department that contaminated polar bear meat has been circulating in Inukjuak and has caused trichinellosis disease in at least one Nunavimmiuk. The parasite Trichinella can be found in the meat of certain mammals. Most polar bears are carriers of this parasite. Freezing the meat does not destroy the Trichinella parasite. Only properly cooked meat can be considered free of the parasite.

Anyone sick from consuming raw or possibly undercooked polar bear meat should contact their CLSC/Nursing Station immediately.

It is important to properly cook polar bear and black bear meat due to the fact that these animals carry parasites.

Please, share this information with your community.

Thank you for your collaboration,

Department of Public Health  
Nunavik Board of Regional Health and Social Services