California Sea Lion
Case Number: R14-123

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Zalophus californianus

- Order Carnivora, Family Otariidae
- Weight:
  - Males: 850-1000 lbs
  - Females: 240 lbs
- Length:
  - Males: 7.5 ft
  - Females: 6 ft
- Life span: 20-30 years
- Opportunistic: squid, anchovies, mackerel, rockfish, sardines
- Social

Source: IUCN Red List: Range of Z. californianus
History

- Free-ranging adult female: lethargic, open-mouthed breathing; dragging hind flippers
- Found in San Francisco coast → transported to The Marine Mammal Center, Sausalito, CA
- Physical exam conducted
- Poor prognosis → Euthanasia elected
Morphologic Diagnosis:

- Metastatic urogenital carcinoma
Discussion:

• 18% prevalence
• Associated with all clinical and gross findings
• Neoplastic masses: nests of neoplastic epithelial cells with prominent squamous metaplasia
• Typical metastatic spread
• Likely multicentric: epithelium of contiguous nature
• Etiology: multifactorial, but still questionable
  – OtHV-1; genetic factors; contaminants
QUESTIONS?