**Supplementary data S1: gross pathologies present in elephant limbs**

Elephant 1: CT showed severe osteitis of all phalanges in digit II, osteitis of the middle and distal phalanx in digit III, with erosion of the bones indicating a chronic lesion.

Elephant 3: CT showed osteitis of the distal phalanx and middle phalanx (lateral portions) of digit IV with erosion of the bones indicating a chronic lesion. Osteoarthritis of the proximal inter phalangeal joints of digits II, III and IV.

Elephant 4: large solar abscess near digit V, CT did not show signs of osteitis.