

Carolinidae a new family of xenosaurid-like lizards from the Upper Cretaceous of Mongolia

Magdalena Borsuk-Białynicka

Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 30 (3-4), 1985: 151-176

Two lizards, *Carolina intermedia* gen. et sp. n. and *Shinisauroides latipalatum* gen. et sp. n. from the Late Cretaceous (?Middle Campanian) of the Gobi Desert are assigned to the new family Carolinidae. A hypothesis of a scincomorphan affiliation of this family is supported by two synapomorphies: the dentary overlap on the lateral surface of the coronoid, and the finger-like descensus parietalis, as well as by some other characters which best correspond with this affiliation. Xenosaurid characters displayed by the described lizards: the hour-glass shaped frontals and the diffuse osteodermal skull covering, are considered as homoplasy.

Key words: Cladistics, Reptilia, Sauria, Cretaceous, Mongolia.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (for details please see creativecommons.org), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

 [Full text \(1,945.7 kB\)](#)