

Minutes

Date Wednesday, 01/11/2023

Time 9:00 AM

To Committee Members

At Virtual via MS Teams

Subject AWERB 3Rs Committee

Our Ref Doc.AWERB.3Rs.01.11.23

AWERB 3Rs Committee : [REDACTED]

In Attendance: [REDACTED]

Observing: [REDACTED]

Minutes – [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

1. Minutes

04/10/2023 – Previous minutes approved by the committee

2. Matters arising

None

3. Retrospective Reviews

[REDACTED] - Molecular mechanisms of tolerance and immunosuppression

The committee discussed the following:

- Section 1: to be amended so that option B is marked rather than option F.
- Severity levels of animals returned in section 2.1. Further detail required in regards to protocol 5 in the table in section 2.2.
- Further explanation required in regards to the lower number of animals returned in protocols 1 and 3 in section 2.2

- Further information required in regards to the impact of the Covid pandemic in section 2.5.
- Further detail required in regards to specific statements made in regards to protocols 16-18 in section 2.5.
- Section 2.7 mentioned that over 50% of animals were wasted. Further details needed as to why these animals could not be used and what steps will be taken in future to mitigate this.
- Section 2.12: Protocols 8-18 be listed separately and amended numbers for each be included in this section.
- Section 3.8: Details of the scoring sheets used in the second part of this section to be provided.
- Further information required in section 5 as this section has not been completed.

4. Retrospective Assessment

None

5. Project Licence Applications – New / Amendments

██████████ - Glial Cells in development and adulthood

- By implementing earlier interventions and tightening up on the humane endpoints, the committee felt that both protocols 9 and 11 could fall into the moderate severity.
- In 'protocol 9: Protocol justification' the committee discussed the need for further details about the scientific need for the clinical signs documented.

6. Standard Condition 18 Reports

Microchipping Adverse Event Report to AWERB - Sept 2023. Noted by committee

7. 3Rs information/reports

- Big Biology Day at Hills Road. ██████████ and ██████████ spent Saturday 15th October engaging with the public and talking about the role of AWERB, 3Rs and how we conduct research at the University. There was a wide range of people from students about to start medicine degrees to young children with their parents. Younger people enjoyed arranging mouse cages with enrichment items and bedding furniture, while, other people asked thought provoking questions ranging from ethics to why certain species are used and for what.
- The 3Rs bulletin that has been sent out over the 3Rs enquiries list is shared by other institutions e.g. CRUK. So far 2 general bulletins have been sent out on the list, and 1 targeted at fish researchers (with only fish relevant content) Many fish researchers do not use the 3Rs enquiries list, so by sending emails directly to the project licence holders to disseminate it should capture this cohort.
- A 3D printed mouse-tail for learning how to do tail vein injections has been designed and made by a researcher in Germany. They are offering a limited number for trainers free of charge. has exp ██████████ obtaining one for training.

- A number of departments will be engaged in the social media takeover of #FishInResearch discussing their work.

Papers:

[3R measures in facilities for the production of genetically modified rodents | Lab Animal \(nature.com\)](#)

Papers attached include-

Refinements:

- Structural enrichment for laboratory mice
- Paced mating in rats
- Acclimation and blood sampling: Effects on stress markers in C57B1/6J Mice
- Reporting 3Rs approaches in Preclinical Animal Experimental Studies
- Implementing the 3Rs in laboratory animal research

Links:

- [Animal testing and research: guidance for the regulated community - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Webinar on Wednesday 8th November :
[Virtual demonstration of the Experimental Design Assistant | NC3Rs](#)
- NC3Rs Mouse handling course:
[Mouse handling | NC3Rs](#)

8. Minutes of the AOC meeting 22/09/2023

The minutes were not available

9. Minutes of the AWERB Standing meeting 23/08/2023

The minutes were not available

10. Any Other Business

None

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6th December 2023 via MS Teams