



Minutes

Date Wednesday, 01/12/2021

Time 9:00 AM

To Committee Members

At Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Subject AWERB 3Rs Committee

In Attendance:

Apologies:

Minutes -

1. Minutes

The previous minutes were approved

2. Matters Arising

██████████ will be stepping in as 3Rs secretariat while ██████████ is on Maternity leave. ██████████ will be joining UBS as the new temporary NVS. The committee welcomed ██████████ and thanked ██████████ for stepping in to the secretariat role.

3. Retrospective Reviews

The committee discussed the following:

- ██████████ - Determining efficacy of novel cancer therapies
- 2.7 Clarity needed as to what the quoted "2.5%" relates to in regards to animal wastage – is this a % of total numbers of animals used?
 - The committee recognise the attempts made to share and not waste these animals, so celebrate actions here.
 - 3.7 The committee would like to encourage all 3Rs achievements and refinements to be circulated as widely as possible,
 - 3.6 could more information be included regarding what the "new analysis tool" is
 - 3.11 The committee are pleased to see that the refinements made towards single needle usage earned a Culture of Care Award



██████████ - Targeting the immune response in cardiovascular diseases

- 2.1 – The committee are aware that a new licence has been granted for continuity of animal authority. Should this table contain 5 years of animal number data? Protocol 4 and 13 were maximum animal numbers exceeded? The protocols that were not used, is there a high chance of these being needed moving forward?
- 2.7 – The committee are keen to support and encourage the using of female mice.
- 2.9 – Please review this question
- 3.2 – The use of “appropriate sample size calculation commended. Could examples be given?
- 3.7 – The committee commend the refinement made to perform the echo without anaesthesia
- 4.8 – The publication list should be reviewed to only contain papers which include direct animal data as a result of this licence.
- 4.9 – Please detail the public engagement done by other members of the team, if this engagement used outputs from this PPL.

4. Amendments

5. Severe Severity

██████████ - Neurophysiology of Reward

- Funding – Further information needed regarding future or pending funding requests for 2023.
- The committee were reassured that the NHPs are already settled into stable, established groups of 3, 2 and one single-housed macaque.
- The committee were also reassured that the animals are now aged beyond the peak fighting-risk age, thereby predicting group stability moving forward as they age further.
- Good hear about the excellent working relationship between the group and the Named People when assessing animal welfare in terms of implant health and stability.
- Details needed of the daily cleaning requirements, other implant management requirements (e.g., frequency and length of anaesthesia for flushing and inspection, X-rays, reporting to the HO requirements, etc) this will enable the reader to better assess the likely life experience of an aged companion.
- An endpoint or action plan needs be put in place. Should the aged companion need to be euthanized what would be the plan for the remaining (now single-housed) study animal?
- The committee were concerned that the aged companion would still need to experience regulated water restriction alongside the still experimental cage mate. More detail needed include details that free-water can be given once the companion goes to work? What might the restriction timings be for the trio?

6. Severe Severity licence Application

██████████ - Control of equine herpes viruses in the horse

- Clarity on the numbers being asked for needed. Ensure there are enough ponies for statistical power but also slightly more asked for to deal with unexpected events.
- Please could animal flow be reviewed and clarified, and detail given about which ponies move between protocols.



- Good humane endpoint detail has been given for any neurological disorders. More detailed information needed for the respiratory symptoms, Ensuring that they are objective and not subjective to any one person's role or opinion.
- Working closely with the [REDACTED] staff and the Named People to make sure all husbandry and experiment needs of these ponies are met is supported.
- Include details of how the ponies are handled, trained and re homed in the Refinement section.
- The committee were pleased to see the clear treatment regime and expectations outlined in the licence for the NVS.
- Protocol 2, step 3 – please re-read and review this. Descriptions such as “absence of abnormal sounds” need looking at and make HEPs specific and measurable.
- Relevant sections of ASPA need to be referred to regarding rehoming and keeping animals alive.
- Review the sources of 3Rs information for this work

7. Standard condition 18 reports

New SC18 mailing list – [REDACTED] -Discussed

8. 3Rs information/reports

- For Information; Cambridge Festival Update - proposed title for the event is 3Rs - Animals in Biomedical research. The focus for our stand and this is: *"Building on our commitment to openness with robust application of the 3Rs- Replacement, Refinement, Reduction through training and education of those caring for and using animals in biomedical research."*
- For Information; Publication by [REDACTED] (he was with RSPCA research dept but is now at NC3Rs) 'Integrating 3Rs approaches in WHO guidelines for the batch release testing of biologicals'
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1045105621000841?via%3Dihub>
- [REDACTED] (LASA) has circulated 'Call for submissions: Special Issue' "Education in laboratory animal science and the 3Rs"
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00236772211055608>

9. Highlights of AWERB Standing meeting*

10. Highlights of AOC meeting*

11. Any Other Business

3R's podcast - [New monthly 3Rs podcast co-produced with LabAnimal | NC3Rs](#)

12. For information only

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 5th January 2022

***Items for information only unless un-starred by committee member**