



Minutes

Date Wednesday, 02/06/2021

Time 09.00am

To Committee Members

At Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Subject AWERB 3Rs Committee

In Attendance:

Apologies:

1. Minutes

The previous minutes were approved

2. Matters Arising

3. Retrospective Reviews

The committee discussed the following:

- [REDACTED] - Metabolic sensing and energy homeostasis
- Section 2: The 3Rs committee commended the group for maintaining animals within their protocol severity limits. This did not happen for protocol 11 but the committee were pleased with the level of engagement with the HO and the subsequent refinements made.
- Section 2.7: The committee would like to know why mice aged 8-10 weeks were not able to be used? Was this due to late detection of undesired phenotypes?
- Section 3: The 3Rs committee commends the new histological techniques, new neuronal tracing viruses and chemogenetic tools, and refinements to giving oral tamoxifen – have these been published, or shared within the University or wider community?
 - The 3Rs committee recommend the further refining and exploring into the weight loss issues, and to look into other assessment criteria, to be able to get more mice to their scientific endpoint.
- Section 3.1: The committee would like to know how they have developed the primary culture of mouse hypothalamic neurones, beyond the already well-established technique?
- Section 3.2: The 3Rs committee questioned the statistical validity of the statement regarding one animal per time point – could the group explain or demonstrate more about the new regression analysis modelling technique?
- Section 4.8: The 3Rs committee commended the publication and presentation record
- [REDACTED] - Nutritional programming of metabolic disease



- The 3Rs committee would like to commend [REDACTED] for a very thorough Retrospective Review.
- Section 2.1: The committee noted that only mouse models were used – are rats going to be planned for in the next licence?
- Section 2.5: The committee noted the under usage of animals but acknowledged that this was due to legitimate reasons.
- Section 3: The committee commended all of the 3Rs work.

4. Project Licence Applications

- [REDACTED] - Regenerative Neuroimmunology Applied to Progressive Multiple Sclerosis Research – Severe severity application
- The committee are reassured by the written text and previous experience with these protocols, to be confident that the group are not going to risk over-using animals on this licence.
- The 3Rs committee recognised the long experience of the researchers and the technicians with this technique, and wholly support the current closed workings of the group with the NACWO, NVS and NIO. It was recognised that the Named People are working on guidance that can be stored for reference on the UBS website, and that some planned outputs are already being achieved.
- However, the committee reinforced the importance of continued investigation and finding solutions to the currently experienced adverse effects.
- The committee also promote the single use of needles; guidance to follow will soon be added to the UBS website.
- The committee would like to support the Project Licence holder in ensuring continuity of knowledge, developing SOPs and training, so please keep an open dialogue. The committee would like to offer assistance in reviewing the SOPs.
- The committee felt that it was not clear in the licence, taking into account the outputs of previous meetings with the Named People, whether or not CFA or IFA intends to be used in the future. The committee recommended that this be made clearer in the protocol step.
- The committee recommended that some comment and commitment be made in the project licence concerning a training plan for any PILh working on this technique.
- The committee would like to invite [REDACTED] and his team to present to the AWERB 3Rs committee any investigations done, studies performed, outcomes and successes achieved, and problems still encountered, at a time of mutual agreement e.g., in a year's time, or after the next study, or both etc.

5. Standard Condition 18 reports

6. 3Rs information/reports

7. Feedback from previous Retrospective Reviews*

None

8. Highlights of AWERB Standing meeting*



9. Highlights of AOC meeting*

Colony management group discussed the subject of tissue and/or mice sharing. There had been interest and the committee are aware of a system that had been used in the past called the strain enquiry list. [REDACTED] said this had been something that was used a great deal in the past and it is being looked in to again. [REDACTED] will be doing some research on this and will update the committee when she has more information.

10. Any Other Business

[REDACTED] informed the committee that there are some changes happening with the AWERB process

- [REDACTED] - AWERB 3Rs and Standing Committee recommendations
- [REDACTED] change of PPL holder to [REDACTED] – This licence has now been changed to [REDACTED]
Facility staff are going to check that the needle reuse information has been handed over when the licence holder changed.
- AWERB 3Rs guidance
 - CFA use guidance – No further update - Ongoing
 - Single use of needles guidance – No further update - Ongoing
 - Hydrodynamic tail vein injection guidance - Ongoing
- Marmoset presentation. This is due to virtual walk around of animal facility not currently possible. Circulated prior to meeting
- NSET / SET – Would the committee like to address this again? [REDACTED] informed the committee that on the PPL application forms the HO specifically ask what technique they are using. [REDACTED] thinks this is something that should be followed up. [REDACTED] said that LMB has had a lot of success using NSET and feels there are pros and cons of using this method.
- Website update – Ongoing. The University are looking at all websites and will be implementing new systems. These new systems will enable staff at admin level to manage the websites and the content and the University will provide training for this.

Date of next meeting: 7th July 2021

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