

Minutes

Date Wednesday, 04/10/2023
Time 9:00 AM
To Committee Members
At Virtual via MS Teams
Subject AWERB 3Rs Committee
Our Ref Doc.AWERB.3Rs.04.10.23

AWERB 3Rs Committee : [REDACTED]

In attendance: [REDACTED]

Minutes – [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

1. Minutes

The minutes from 06/09/2023 were approved.

2. Matters arising

None

3. Retrospective Reviews

- [REDACTED] - Mechanisms involved in obesity and associated metabolic diseases. No comments were received at the meeting.

4. Retrospective Assessment

None

5. Project Licence Applications – New / Amendments

- [REDACTED] - Immunological mechanisms in pregnancy and cancer – Amendment to protocol 7.

What new knowledge do you hope to discover that will address a gap in fundamental scientific knowledge or meet a clinical need?

In this section it is mentioned that steroids are used during pregnancy and in step 5 of protocol 7 steroid hormones may be administered. In a veterinary context steroids are often used to induce abortion and are contraindicated in pregnancy. Please could further details be provided to demonstrate how the risk of abortion is mitigated for these animals

6. Standard Condition 18 Reports

- [REDACTED] discussed microchipping data that has been collated on a graph. It was noted that the spike in numbers is due to an increase in SC18 keep alive requests. [REDACTED] informed the committee that the group working on this procedure are amending their licence to reflect any possible side effects.
- [REDACTED] adverse event report – [REDACTED] read comments received from the AWERB committee

7. 3Rs information/reports

- Poster templates are now available, with correct Cambridge colour schemes, and logo placement. The template can be edited, where text boxes can be added, removed, resized etc.
- [REDACTED] up for 3Rs drop-ins starting next week. This will incorporate [REDACTED] meeting with the technicians to see what sort of 3Rs they are implementing or thinking about, also to see if there are any ideas for making posters.
- 3Rs prize, [REDACTED] is attempting to gather up some sponsorship for prizes. Eventually the plan will be to run a competition of sorts to encourage technicians to think about and incorporate the 3Rs into their daily work. Then to perhaps create a poster, paper or presentation.
- 3Rs enquiries list has been a great success. [REDACTED] will send updates via this list periodically to share new papers, events and other information relevant to the 3Rs.
- There have been many requests for Pocket Arrive Guidelines, these have now been ordered and will be dispatched via the UMS once arrived.
- Some facility managers have requested posters for their units, so [REDACTED] has sent printed A3 posters such as NC3Rs handling.
- [REDACTED] is looking into charting the SC18 commonalities/trends month by month.

Events:

[REDACTED] attended AgendaFest 3.0 which was a very informative but concise conference that encouraged and supported networking and the sharing of ideas. She met many other NIOs and was able to make lots of new contacts and have discussions with people from other establishments such as heads of Governance, facility directors and companies that make enrichment or have a focus on the 3Rs

Talks that had a 3Rs focus:

- The use of artificial intelligence in the future.
- Home cage monitoring systems using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) implants
- University of Newcastle are developing a forum for the animal research community (ARC). This will include areas for Named persons, for example all NIOs throughout the country can join their particular forum, which will aid the sharing of information and ideas. There will also be groups training and compliance, NACWOs, AWERB, Facility directors, NVSs and CPD and more.

Papers of interest;

[Micropipette-guided Drug Administration \(MDA\) as a non-invasive chronic oral administration method in male rats - ScienceDirect](#)

[Mouse handling: Research papers | NC3Rs](#)

- Why all healthy laboratory animals should be rehomed (Document circulated with papers)



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

University Biomedical Services

- Adverse Effects of Sex Bias on Science & Research Animal Welfare (Document circulated with papers)

8. Minutes of the AOC meeting - 18/09/2023

9. Minutes of the AWERB Standing meeting - None

10. Any Other Business

Date of next meeting: 1st November 2023