



Minutes

Date Wednesday, 05/04/2023

Time 9:00 AM

To Committee Members

At Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Subject AWERB 3Rs Committee

AWERB 3Rs Committee: [REDACTED]

In Attendance: [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

Minutes – [REDACTED]

1. Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Retrospective Reviews

The committee discussed the following:

- [REDACTED] - Mechanisms of organ development and disassembly
- Section 2.1 some animals exceeded the severity of the protocol. This needs to be acknowledged in section 2.2 under the relevant protocols.
- Check that either 'yes' or 'no' has been selected, for any YES/NO questions please
- Section 3.2 breeding efficiency has been optimised and resulted in significant reduction in numbers. Further details of what this then means for the numbers that will be used under the new project licence.
- A spelling error was noted in section 3.7 – 'fertiliation'.
- [REDACTED] - Extrinsic regulation of haematopoietic stem and progenitor cells in health, disease and as a therapeutic target
- The committee commended the very thorough and considered completion of the retrospective review.
- The committee noted that the GFRa2-floxed mouse line as mentioned in section 2.5 is available as sperm from GemPharmatech.
- Will the scoring systems detailed in section 3.8 be available for other groups to use in future.
- Section 4.3 can short summaries detailing how the objectives have been met could be included alongside the publications listed.



4. Retrospective Assessments

- ██████████ - CNS white matter development, plasticity and disease
- The committee commended the thorough and considered completion of the retrospective assessment.
 - Section 3.1 the committee noted that the human IPSC model described could achieve both replacement and reduction, can this also be mentioned in section 3.2.
 - Can the applicant check if any publications had 3Rs achievements and highlighted them in **bold**.

5. Project Licence Applications

- ██████████ Implications of therapeutic inhibition of the complement system on infectious and non-infectious inflammatory diseases – Severe Severity
- Protocol 1, step 2. In the section *How will you monitor for, control, and limit any of these adverse effects?* The frequency of monitoring has been greatly reduced while the severity of the protocol has increased. Justification needed as to why monitoring frequency can be decreased.
 - Protocol 1, step 2. *How will you monitor for, control, and limit any of these adverse effects?* The phrase 'if required' has been added for monitoring overnight. Details needed of when it would be required or not required.
 - In the *What are the humane endpoints for this step?* Section in protocol 1, step 2 the humane endpoints are unclear.
 - Protocol 1, Protocol Justification. *For each model and/or method, what is the scientific need for the expected clinical signs?* Further justification needed in this section as to why the animals need to reach the severe signs listed.
 - Protocol 1, Protocol Justification. In the section *why scientifically do the animals need to suffer to this degree?* The references to bacterial infection is not included within any of the steps of the protocol. Wording here needs to be amended and check for similar wording in other sections.
 - Protocol 1, Protocol Justification. *Why scientifically do the animals need to suffer to this degree?* Further information needed as to whether all animals are expected to reach severe clinical signs? Can any earlier endpoints can be used?
 - Throughout amendment. The committee noted lots of spelling mistakes. These need to be corrected
 - Refinement, *Which animal models and methods will you use during this project?* Changes to be made in this section as certain parts – for example 'mice will be euthanised at early endpoints' does not accurately reflect what is described within the protocols.

- ██████████ - Neuronal circuit mechanisms underlying cognitive memory judgements - Special Species
- Benefits. The committee felt that the benefits described did not fully justify the harms.
 - Project Harms, Throughout the licence there is reference to motivating the marmosets to perform tasks using water restriction. Can other methods for motivating the marmosets be looked in to?
 - Protocol 1, step 3 examples or further details of the pharmacological classes of drugs that may be used. The reason for using these drugs needed.

6. Severe Severity licence reviews

7. Standard condition 18 reports

8. 3Rs information/reports



9. Highlights of AWERB Standing meeting*

10. Highlights of January AOC meeting*

11. Any Other Business

The following was for information only

- *'The role of review and regulatory approvals processes for animal research in supporting implementation of the 3Rs' Report by [REDACTED] commissioned by NC3Rs. Circulated with papers.
- *'Recommendations for robust and reproducible preclinical research in personalised medicine' circulated with papers
- The committee discussed whether all teaching requests should come to AWERB 3Rs before being approved.

12. For information only

Date of next meeting:

3rd May 2023 via MS Teams

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