Date       Wednesday, 07/10/2020
Time      08.30am
To     Committee Members
At   Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Subject  AWERB 3Rs Committee

In Attendance:  

Apologies:  

1. Minutes  
The previous minutes were approved after a minor adjustment.  

2. Matters Arising  
   [Name] has been in discussion with [Name] about changes to be made on the PPL. [Name] also thinks the changes needed on the PPL can be made quite easily. [Name] feel that the replacement for [Name] should be a statistician and are going to work on this together.  

3. Retrospective Reviews  
The committee discussed the following:  
   
   Centrosomes in development and cancer  
      
      • It was noted that [Name] only used a very small number of animals compared to those asked for initially, and that only 2 protocols were used.  
      • It can be seen from section 4.4 that the licence was not able to fulfil all of its aims due to a “lack of human resources”, yet the aims that were completed seem to have been done so whilst also achieving a number reduction, this was congratulated.  
      • Section 3.1 and 3.2 concerning organoid cultures helped achieve the above-mentioned reduction, could a little more detail on the subsequent quantitative impact of that technology on reducing animal be figures be given? And was this due to the collaboration? Or due to self-developed technologies? A little more detail, with figures, would be much appreciated.  
      • It was a delight to see the 3Rs being discussed in the publications and presentations this was congratulated
Nuclear reprogramming by Xenopus eggs and oocytes

- The team are to be commended for keeping the numbers broadly in line with the predicted expectation.
- Specific note should be given to the graduate student who pioneered the in-vitro limb regeneration assay for the significant contribution that poses for the 3Rs – Congratulations! The committee feel that this really is worth celebrating, along with the other 3Rs achievements too.
- As the licence in not being continued, The committee asks that tick’s box A in section 1.
- In 2.4 it is noted that “20% of the animals were found dead” – yet none are returned as being anything other than mild in the protocol table 2.1: please can advise whether or not those ~28 animals were deemed to have experienced severe severity and therefore warranted a SC18 report, or whether or not due to developmental stage or circumstance they were deemed to still have only experienced mild severity?
- 3.4 – please can the list of techniques that this licence has used be detailed, along with a brief comment on how successful they were in section 3.5.
- 4.8 – The committee congratulates on the number of publications, but for the reader’s better understanding could, the titles be included please? Along with highlighting in bold those that disseminated 3Rs achievements.
- 4.8 – Please include presentations such as those given by at NC3Rs and LASA meetings.
- 5.1 – This document could go into the public domain; it may be worth reconsidering some of the wording in this section through the lay person’s eyes, e.g. “toolkits” when referring to animal procedures? Please also check for typographical errors.
- 5.4 – The committee asks if reference can be made to the CAM of 2016 concerning the escaping of frogs from under the tank lids.

Support procedures for neuroscience

- There are still issues obtaining all previous versions of this PPL and RR documents. This will be brought back to AWERB 3Rs when all the information is available.

4. Retrospective Assessments
   (a) None

5. Project Licence Applications
   (a) None

6. Severe Severity licence reviews

7. Standard Condition 18 reports

8. 3Rs information/reports
9. Feedback from previous Retrospective Reviews*
   None

10. Minutes of AOC meeting*
    None

11. Minutes of AWERB Standing meeting*
    None

12. Any Other Business

   AWERB Annual report for 2019 to 2020 – This had been circulated prior to the meeting.

   The committee discussed changing the time of the meeting to 9am. November’s meeting will be held
   at 9am the committee are invited to email [redacted] if they have any comments on the meeting time. A
   separate email will be circulated.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 4th November 2020

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