Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 07/12/2022  
Time       9:00 AM  
To         Committee Members  
At         Virtual via Microsoft Teams  
Subject   AWERB 3Rs Committee

AWERB 3Rs Committee:  

In Attendance:  

Apologies:  

Minutes –  

1. Minutes  
Previous minutes approved  

2. Matters Arising  
Nothing to discuss  

3. Retrospective Reviews  
The committee discussed the following:  

- Investigation of the genetic drivers and therapeutic vulnerabilities of myeloid leukaemia and related cancers  
  - Protocol 2, section 2.1 protocol severity category is mild but animals experienced moderate severity. further details needed in section 2.2 to explain this  
  - Section 2.2 It is stated that over 99% of animals experienced severity expected. The numbers in section 2.1 the percentage is lower. This needs to be amended  
  - Section 2.2 protocol 5 the word ‘could’ needs to be replaced for ‘could not’  
  - Section 2.5 was answered yes. Further information needed about the variations in numbers used compared to the estimated numbers.  
  - Section 2.7 Answered as no. This needs to be reviewed  
  - Section 2.8 – ‘raid’ needs to be changed to ‘rapid’.  
  - Section 3.6 further details needed on how the side effects were overcome
Mitochondrial diseases: pathogenesis and therapy

The committee commended the completion of this retrospective review.
Section 2.1 protocol 11 needs to be added
Section 2.5 How were the culled animals recorded in the table in section 2.1
Section 3.8 further clarification on the scoring system used to monitor the neonates

4. Amendments
None

5. Severe Severity Project licence Applications
Molecular mechanisms of tolerance and immunosuppression
In the Reduction section the committee noted that the number of mice to be used is very high.
Further justification needed for the amount of animals needed.
Protocol 15 the weight loss limit is 30%. Can a Body Condition Scoring (BCS) be used alongside the weight loss to ensure animals are not suffering more than necessary.
Step 2 of protocol 15 needs to be reworded and consideration given to reducing the period of time.
Following the 30% weight loss in step 2 of protocol 15 there is then 15% weight loss mentioned in step 3. how do these weight loss endpoints interact and how they will be monitored.
In the fate of animals section of protocol 15 answer needs to be changed to no
Further details needed in the Animal Experience section of protocol 15
Protocol 15 needs to be reworded to reflect the moderate severity disease reference.
There are a lot of added notes and copying and pasting of steps between protocols. The whole licence application needs to be checked.

6. Severe Severity licence reviews

7. Standard condition 18 reports
*20 new SC 18 reports submitted since last AWERB 3Rs meeting – [nothing to discuss]

8. 3Rs information/reports

*To update on NC3Rs Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) – Research Institution Tool - Final report (see attached PDF).
There has been monthly 3Rs strategy meetings and these have been held to discuss ways a 3Rs strategy can be further implemented in to UBS. The self-assessment tool provided by NC3Rs has faced a few issues but the team have done the best they can and overall the scores have been fair. After the last meeting it was agreed a 3Rs policy is going to be put in place and the current animal welfare policy will be updated.

*Development of a standardised template welfare scale/scoring system to be used across facilities. asked for suggestions to help make a standard template to disseminate to facilities and which can then be tweaked in house to make it more personalised to each individual facility goes on maternity leave in 2 weeks so this will be handed over to

*Papers of interest/informative documents (attached) – ‘Systematic review for assessing post-surgical pain in mice and rats.’ ‘Generalizability Robustness Replicability when evaluating wellbeing of mice.’

*Paper of Interest - Refinement of the stress-enhanced fear learning model of post-traumatic stress disorder: a behavioural and molecular analysis
9. Highlights of AWERB Standing meeting*

10. Highlights of January AOC meeting*

11. Any Other Business

IV Injection training poster with feedback – asked for comments on the feedback received for the poster. It was agreed would send an email to the whole committee giving a deadline to send comments back by. Once this dead line has passed any changes needed will be made it will then be signed off and circulated.

12. For information only

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 4th January via MS Teams

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