



## Minutes

Date Monday, 21/12/2020

Time 1pm

To Standing Committee

At [REDACTED]

Subject AWERB Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.21.12.20

**In attendance:** [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

**Scientists in attendance for 1b)** [REDACTED]

### 1. Project Licences

**(a) Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Clarify the pre-endpoint indicators identified from the review.
- Add information in the Refinement sections of both the Project Plan and the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) regarding the imaging without anaesthesia. Add to the protocol adverse effects how imaging will be used.
- The Committee suggested the use of modern DVC monitoring cages which now exist in the AMB facility
- Review and, if necessary, update the Project harms section.
- Update the Non-Technical Summary to include the refinement information included within the same section in the body of the licence. Remove any reference to protocol numbers.

The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

**(b) New Licence:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Clarify in Protocols how diarrhoea will be used as a measure.
- Explain in the relevant protocols about the production of large batches of challenge and in the penultimate box in this section explain how the substrate will influence virus titre and the steps you take to account for this effect.
- Include the use of non-CFA adjuvants in the Protocol Justification section of relevant protocols.
- Suggest including more information about your plan to transition your work into humans and a commitment to become familiar with the relevant legislative guidance.
- Suggest including more information in the Protocol justification sections to cover the limitations of the models you plan to use
- Suggest including more detail about the pilot experiments in the Experimental design section.



- Suggest clarifying in the Animal experience section the length of time animals are single housed and how often this might occur in their lifetime.
- Suggest including the use of tagged virus in the Reduction section.
- When setting up breeding pairs, the committee suggested that the female should be introduced to the male home cage and not vis a versa.
- The committee recommended account should be taken of possible viral impact on fertility.

The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

**(c) Amendment:** [REDACTED] was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- The committee discussed the addition of Body Scoring when assessing adverse effects which involve weight loss. The committee recommended providing the body scoring sheet used in the UBS rodent facilities.
- Since some animals lose weight after the surgery undertaken in the new, the committee suggested introducing the animals to the mashed diet 72hrs rather than 24hrs before surgery. In addition, it was suggested that administering the analgesic in a flavouring such as Nutella, which mice will find attractive to eat. This refinement will reduce the need to handle animals to administer analgesia by injection.
- The committee suggested that the information added to the Refinement section in the body of the licence should also be included in a lay format (written for a 12 year old) in the Non-Technical Summary. Consideration was suggested to adding comment about plans to use rechargeable and programmable mini-pumps to both the Refinement sections.
- In Protocol 11: Step 8 add the text to the end of sub-steps c) and d): 'and completed by a schedule 1 method'. In the Fate of Animals section please check the button 'Killed'.

The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

## **2 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were not available

## **3. Minutes of AWERB Standing Committee meeting**

The minutes were not available

## **4. Retrospective Reviews [RR]**

a. [REDACTED]

- For Protocol 5 amend the estimated Total to 8800 and review the number in Section 2.12. The information in these two boxes should be the same and if not an explanation provided.
- Section 3.1 point 2, should mention the reduction in animals due to the use of [REDACTED] and indicate the number of fewer animals needed as a result
- Clarify the discrepancy between section 2.7 and section 2.1.
- Review sections 3.6, and 4.4: If work was stopped prematurely because of Covid-19, more information should be provided and if not could, the information should be revised.

## **5. Any other business**



Two Non-Regulated Procedure request were reviewed. The committee agreed these should be approved and signed by the AWERB chair.

It was noted a 2 month extension to the [REDACTED] had requested an and the Home Office granted a 6 month extension.

Engagement Questionnaire - It was agreed that [REDACTED] investigate producing questionnaires and that it should be tailored for different groups.

It was noted that the Agenda for the [REDACTED] meeting and the Lessons Learnt from AWERB had been circulated to all Committee members.

**Date of next meeting:** 27/01/21