Minutes

Date  Wednesday, 23/09/2020
Time  1pm
To  Standing Committee
At  
Subject  AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref  Doc.UBS.AWERB.23.09.20

In attendance: 

Scientists in attendance for 1a), 1b) and 1c) 

1. Project Licences
   (a) New licence: 

   The committee discussed the following:
   - Further information regarding funding.
   - Recommend introducing a clearer working hypothesis.
   - Recommend removing the mention of using imaging agents.
   - Under Protocol 7 need for a clearer explanation of humane endpoints and suggest that fight wounds should be included in your monitoring and record keeping. Also under this protocol it is advised that the use of pilot studies is mentioned.
   - Suggest that the licensees work with the animal care staff to blind all experiments.
   - Remove mention of the use of bleeding by the sub-mandibular vein as a refinement.
   - Recommend inclusion of the use of silicone gavage tubes.
   - Review the refinements from the presentation and include in the application.
   - Recommend the applicant clarifies that animals are imported as germplasm instead of as live animals.
   - Need to check document for typographical errors.

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

   (b) New licence: 

   The committee discussed the following:
   - Clarification needed as to the fundamental nature of the research with regards to the translatability to human medicine and whether or not gender differences had been factored in.
   - Suggest that discussions should take place with the NVS before starting with regard to anaesthesia, surgical and post-surgical monitoring.
   - Consider providing more detail on post-surgery monitoring of the animals.
• Suggested either reducing the need for 18 hours food withholding or give consideration to when food is withdrawn in relation to when the rodents feed.
• In Protocol 8, remove wording ‘without intubation’.
• Clarify the preferred method of tamoxifen administration.
• Under Protocols 7 and 8, provide more information about the anaesthetics given to the animals.
• Remove the name [REDACTED] replace with ‘a biostatistician’.

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:
• Advised, as part of the Project Plan, to include the information provided to AWERB regarding the potential for tumour size variability.
• Advised to amend the NTS summary to include the changes requested.

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]
None

5. Any other business
Two Non-Regulated Procedure requests were reviewed. The committee agreed these should be approved and signed by the AWERB chair.

Date of next meeting: 21/10/20