UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
University Biomedical Services

Minutes

Date Wednesday, 25/10/2023
Time 1pm
To Standing Committee
At [redacted]
Subject AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.25.10.23

In attendance: [redacted]

Scientists in attendance for 1a) N/A, **1b)** N/A, **1c)** N/A & **1d)** N/A

Apologies: [redacted]

Minutes: [redacted]

1. Project Licences
(a) New licence: [redacted] were also in attendance)
The committee discussed the following:

- Further information around the maximum amount of times an animal can undergo specific procedures in the Project harms section.
- Consideration given to the splitting of Objective 2 into two in the Action Plan.
- Further simplification required in the 'How do each of these objectives relate to each other and help you to achieve your aims?' section.
- Further information from the set templates should also be included in Protocol 2.
- Consideration given to whether Protocol 4 should be under a mild severity.
- Reuse questions need answering in the relevant protocols.
- Review of specific sections in regards to Protocol 5 as they appear to contradict details provided in other sections.
- Further consistency required in regards to humane endpoints listed in steps 1 and 2 of Protocol 5.
- Confirmation of the number of day's animals will be weighed so that it is consistent in the steps of Protocol 5.
- Review of routes of administration required in step 6 of Protocol 5.
- Further review of specific steps in Protocols 5 and 6.
- The inclusion of specific animals in the Protocol Justification section.

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

(b) New Licence: [redacted] was also in attendance)
The committee discussed the following:

- Further clarity in regards to specific cells in the Non-Technical Summary.
- The removal of specific statements in the Project Harms section as they are incorrect.

- Consideration given to the inclusion of a flow diagram to show how the objectives work together in the Action Plan.
- Further consideration given to the locations listed on all protocols to ensure they reflect the establishments needed.
- Further checking required to ensure control animals are listed in all steps and protocols where required.
- Further clarity required in regards to Protocol 2 and the reuse of animals.
- The inclusion of protocol numbers in the Fate of Animals section of Protocol 4.
- The inclusion of the background strain information in Protocol 4.
- Revision of specific sections that refer to specific body condition score results in step 3 of Protocol 5 and every other humane endpoint where this occurs.
- Further justification required in regards to other steps on the Animal Experience and Protocol Justification sections of Protocol 5.
- The removal of specific words in the Fate of Animals section of Protocol 5.
- The inclusion of text from the set templates in regards to Protocol 5.
- Further amendment of Protocol 6 in regards to the life stages of animals planned for use.
- Further amendment of step 1 of Protocol 6 to ensure it is line with a moderate severity.
- Definitions for specific wording and the removal of specific wording in regards to step 1 of Protocol 6.
- Revision of the text in step 1 of Protocol 6 in regards to humane endpoints.
- The inclusion of a maximum of how many occasions' specific procedures will be carried out in step 2 of Protocol 6.
- Further information around specific procedures planned and the adverse effects and monitoring sections in step 2 of Protocol 6.
- Further information in regards to how many times step 4 in Protocol 6 will be carried out.
- Further justification required in regards to specific adverse effects in step 4 of Protocol 6 and other steps though out the application where this is listed.
- Further information in regards to the purpose of specific substances listed in step 5 of Protocol 6.
- Further specificity required in regards to the establishments listed for specific procedures.
- An answer is required in specific sections of step 12 of Protocol 6.
- Further revision of steps in Protocol 7 required so they are split by purpose rather than procedure.
- Further explanation required in regards to specific procedures planned in the Protocol Justification section of Protocol 7.
- Further detail in regards to the movement of animals across protocols and severity limits in Protocol 8.
- Amendment of the monitoring section in Protocol 8.
- Further information required in regards to specific procedures in step 2 of Protocol 8.
- Further information required in regards to specific adverse effects in regards to step 2 of Protocol 8.
- Amendment of step 5 in Protocol 8. In regards to the administration of specific substances.
- Expansion of specific wording to include clinical signs and further explanation required in step 1 of Protocol 9.
- The removal of reference to specific animals as they are not required in step 7 of Protocol 9.
- Further information in regards to the scientific need for the clinical signs in the Protocol Justification section of Protocol 9.

- Further information in regards to the monitoring of specific adverse effects and how this will be managed practically throughout the experiments in regards to Protocol 11.
- Further justification required in regards to specific adverse effects in Protocol 11.
- The inclusion of specific steps in Protocol 14.
- Further review and amendment required in regards to the reuse of animals.

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

(c) Amendment: [redacted] attended in their place)
The committee discussed the following:

- The importance of communication the new Licence Holder must have with the animal facility staff on a day to day basis, that they will be contactable at all times or designated people within the group are able to make decisions if the Licence Holder is not available.

The committee agreed no changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

(d) Amendment: [redacted]
The committee discussed the following:

- Specific references require an explanation in the Project Harms section.
- Review of specific procedures in step 7 of Protocol 13.
- Review of specific wording in step 7 of Protocol 13.
- Further review of specific comments in the Animal Experience section.
- Review of specific sentences in step 5 of Protocol 13.
- The inclusion of a timeline for experiments when animals are going through steps on more than one occasion in the Animal Experience section.
- The inclusion of the different life stages authorised on Protocol 13 in regards to steps 6, 7 and 8.

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

2. Retrospective Reviews
(a) None

3. Minutes of last meeting 27/09/23
The minutes were approved.

4. Minutes of the AWERB Sub-Standing committee 13/09/23
The minutes were noted.

5. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 18/08/23
The minutes were noted.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: [redacted] – The AWERB committee reviewed this Non-Regulated Procedure Request and had no comments for the researcher to address. The committee agreed this would receive ethical approval.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: [redacted]– The AWERB committee reviewed this Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments for the researcher to address. The committee agreed this would receive ethical approval.

Catfish report – The committee reviewed the report and had several comments:

- Further updating of the report required to include references to quarantining the animals prior to shipping.
- Assurances that due diligence is carried out in regards to the method of capture used by suppliers.
- The recommendation that any future concerns are discussed with the NACWO and NVS when signs are first detected.

[redacted]Microchipping report – This was noted by the committee.

8. List items of note

Date of next meeting: 22/11/2023