



Minutes

Date Wednesday, 27/10/2021

Time 1pm

To Standing Committee

At Virtual, MS Teams

Subject AWERB Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.27.10.21

In attendance: [REDACTED]

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

Apologies: [REDACTED]

Minutes: [REDACTED]

1. Project Licences

(a) New licence: [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- It was suggested overly technical words could be defined or removed from the NTS section.
- Clarity to be provided regarding the population when referring to 50% of the women at child bearing age are classed as obese.
- More detail required in the project harms when explaining the cumulative experience of the animal.
- The typical process for running interventions could be included in the refinements section.
- In the action plan, clarity could be provided on why interventions are not performed on control mice.
- Workflow diagrams could include the studies on the postpartum dams.
- Reason to be provided for why the pups produced from the first pregnancies are not used in the protocols.
- Further information to be provided for the selected method of killing. Using alternative methods of killing was suggested.
- Consideration to be made for unforeseen circumstances affecting the delay of scientific programmes of work. The number of mice required per protocol could be assessed to cover this.
- A better assessment of an individual animal's experience could be added, especially in protocol 2.
- The length of the ultrasound process under protocol 3 was queried.
- Information and justification to be included under protocol 4 regarding intrauterine injections.

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



(b) New Licence: [REDACTED] were also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- A review of typographical and grammatical errors to be made.
- The readability of the non-technical summary should be brought down so that a 12 year old could understand it.
- The aim to test efficacy could be further clarified.
- The committee discussed the prevalence of the conditions being targeted and suggested further clarification is added.
- Consideration to be made for the typical animal experience in the project harms section.
- Further information to be supplied regarding the specifically designed rodent restrainer.
- The use of a heat lamp should be replaced with a warming cabinet to dilate blood vessels.
- Further information required on the power calculation tool in the reduction section.
- The committee suggested the use of the groups separate breeding project licence to supply this application be expanded
- It was suggested pain relief could be given to the animals in Nutella and this can be included as a refinement.
- Reference should be made to which criteria are used to select the strain of mouse and rat being studied. Consideration of the strain appropriate disease model should be under constant review.
- It was recommended the UBS Guidelines on maximum dose and frequencies are applied. A clear justification should be added or an amendment submitted if additional number of administrations are required.
- Reconsideration of the endpoints should be undertaken to ensure they are specific and appropriate.
- Further detail required to explain the difference between protocol 1 and protocol 3.
- The committee requested a progress report in 2 years' time to allow refinement of several of the current unknowns.

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

(c) New Licence: [REDACTED] were also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- A review of typographical and grammatical errors to be made.
- It was suggested the age of death information for human breast cancer is included.
- An end to end scenario could be provided to explain the cumulative effect on an animal.
- It was suggested further clarification as to how tumour pain was ameliorated be included.
- Further review of some words in the Replacement section was required.
- Justification and treatments to be provided for the type of ulceration expected under the Refinements section.
- It was suggested the type of cancers used in this licence are narrowed down and an amendment made to add more if required.
- Clarification needed that animals are observed daily under protocols 1 and 2.
- More detail required to explain when and why 30 Gy irradiation is safely used. Justification needed for the dose amount.
- The committee suggested reference is made to the cancer treatments cumulative harms under protocol 1.



- It was queried whether the group have experience with the orthotopic mammary fat pad cell administration technique.
- A more refined end point should be used in the scoring system.

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

2. Retrospective Reviews

None

3. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 06/10/21

The minutes were noted.

4. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

The committee reviewed the non-regulated procedure request for [REDACTED] and discussed the following:

- There is a good use of animal stock, ensuring the animal tissues are used rather than wasted.
- If the practical classes are to be repeated, another form with specific dates will be required.
- The form should be updated to reflect the additional work completed during the practical session regarding killing methods.
- It was queried whether video footage could be used in future work when excess stock is not available. Purchasing animals specifically for the practical sessions may not be appropriate.

[REDACTED] has transferred his primary availability to the [REDACTED] from the Wellcome Sanger Institute.

The AWERB annual report has been seen and accepted by the UBSGS committee.

5. List items of note

None

Date of next meeting: 24/11/21