Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 28/08/2019
Time       1pm
To         Standing Committee
At         
Subject    AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref    Doc.UBS.AWERB.28.08.19

In attendance: 

Scientists in attendance for 1a) and 1c) 

Apologies: 

1. Project Licences
(a) New licence: 

The committee discussed the following:

- In Part D: Project Plan it was advised that the first time ‘5dpf’ is mentioned, clarification is provided that this refers to independent feeding age.
- Rewording required in Part E: Protocol 1: Adverse effects.
- Clarification required for keeping fish that are older than the recommended Home Office age of 18 months. Scientific justification should be provided if the fish need to be kept longer.
- NTS: Replacement box: explanation should be given for why larval zebrafish are used
- Typographical errors should be addressed and the application should be proof read

The committee recommended changes were made before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

(b) Amendment: attended on his behalf. was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- Part D: Project Plan: Justification for why ageing appears on a number of protocols
- All references to step numbers should be checked due to the insertion of a new step 1
- Part E: Protocols: It was not clear if the table regarding dose volumes referred just to the step where it appeared or the whole protocol
- Hydrodynamic injections: adverse effects section should be reworded to explain when action should be taken if an animal is found that cannot right itself
- The committee recommended a publication on hydrodynamic injections
- Tamoxifen: adverse effects: it was suggested that flavours or mash were added prior to treatment starting so the animals have longer to acclimatise to further change in diet. Also, the wording around when the animals would be killed should be amended.
- Clarification needed regarding not administrating thyoglycolate to pregnant dams.
- Clinical signs should be added to all steps where injection by the intraperitoneal route is intended
- Further explanation needed on monitoring ageing animals and whether a score sheet is used
• The adverse effects section should be updated for the body temperature monitoring using a rectal probe
• The committee recommended a paper on the use of rectal probes to monitor body temperature
• For protocols which include an imaging step, amend references to total maximum number of doses
• Typographical errors should be removed from Protocol 12: Step 2.
• The word ageing should be adjusted to either “ageing” or “aging” throughout the application for continuity of spelling

The committee recommended changes were made before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

(c) New licence: were also in attendance

The committee discussed the following:
• Explanation could be provided on how animal numbers are calculated and the differences that arise depending on stem cell numbers and whether organoid production is required
• The committee queried whether the mouse organoids could be passaged
• Explanation should be provided for why human organoid cultures could not be used to replace rodent organoid cultures
• Further details required regarding types of tumours and specific end points for each type
• Clarification was provided for using 3 embryos from one pregnant dam rather than more embryos from different dams. This will only occur in pilot studies.
• Justification should be provided for the large number of requested routes for Tamoxifen administration to dams for transfer via the milk into offspring.
• It was suggested that performance criteria is used instead of specifying exact injection locations for Tamoxifen administration to pregnant dams.
• Information was provided regarding the administration of Tamoxifen to neonates and different ways this can be achieved.
• Information on chase times should be checked for consistency
• The Actual Severity Scoring table could be just referred to and not included in the Action Table.
• Due to the new way that the Non-Technical Summary is being produced on the new ASPeL system, it was advised for the information be reviewed and less technical language used.

The committee recommended changes were made before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

2. Retrospective Reviews
None.

3. Minutes of last meeting 31/07/19
The minutes were approved.
reported that she will be attending the 3Rs workshop being held at the

4. Minutes of the AWERB Sub-Standing Committee 09/08/19
The minutes were noted.

5. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 07/08/19
The minutes were not available.
6. Minutes arising of the AWERB Named Persons Committee 16/08/19
The minutes were noted.

informed the committee that the name of this meeting is now the AWERB Operations Committee.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB
None.

8. List items of note

Date of next meeting: 25/09/19