UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
University Biomedical Services

Minutes

Date Wednesday, 30/11/2022
Time 1pm
To Standing Committee
At [redacted]
Subject AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.30.11.22

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] attended on his behalf)
The committee discussed the following:

- Review and amendment required of the Non-Technical Summary so it is understandable to a lay person.
- Further clarity required in regards to publishing negative approaches for vaccine candidates in the Benefits section.
- Further information included in the Project Harms section in regards to animals on Protocol 5.
- Further explanation around why specific clinical signs are classed under a mild or moderate category in the Project Harms section.
- Further information around the experimental design in the Reduction section.
- Further clarity required in regards to specific symptoms and the use of a clinical scoring sheet in the Refinement section.
- Further clarity required in regards to whether the researcher needs to update their training records.
- Review and amendment of specific scientific decisions being taken in the Scientific Background section of the Project Plan.
- The removal of specific monitoring sheets required in all protocols.

- The removal of the protocol number and species from the title of Protocol 1.
- The removal of titles and the addition of anaesthetic codes in step 1 of Protocol 1.
- Review and amendment of specific wording in regards to the general humane end points in Protocol 1.
- The inclusion of dosing tables in regards to Protocol 1.
- Further clarity around the severity category of Protocol 2.
- Further information around adverse effects and endpoints in regards to step 2 of Protocol 2.
- Further information in the form of a dosing table included at the end of Protocol 2.
- Further justification required in regards to the use of specific animals.

- The inclusion of specific adverse effects in regards to each model and/or method.
- Review and amendment of specific responses given in regards to the severity listed in Protocol 2.
- The amendment of specific wording in Protocol 3.
- The inclusion of reference to a scoring sheet in Protocol 3.
- Further clarity around specific paragraphs and the removal of the actual score sheet from the What are the humane endpoints of this step? section of Protocol 3.
- Further clarity in regards to specific end points listed in Protocol 3.
- The removal of specific sentences from the Protocol Justification of Protocol 3.
- Further scientific justification required in regards to weight loss limits in Protocol 3.
- The use of standard templates in regards to step 2 of Protocol 8 and step 4 of Protocol 9.
- Further clarity required in regards to continued use.
- Further information in regards to specific procedures planned on Protocol 10 and 11.
- The removal of specific references in step 2 of Protocol 10.
- Further explanation required in regards to Standard Condition 18s.
- Further information around the typical experience of an animal in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 11 as well as the Project Harms section.
- Review and amendment of Protocols in regards to re-use.

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

(b) New Licence: [redacted]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further explanation of technical language used in the Non-Technical Summary.
- Specific wording requires amending in the Benefits section.
- Further clarity required in regards to the sex of the animal and further information around the need to house animals separately at specific times in the Project Harms section.
- The removal of specific inconsistencies in the Project Harms section.
- The amendment of specific sentences in the Refinement section.
- Further information around the circumstances the researcher would knowingly duplicate work as well as additional information in regards to experimental design.
- Review of specific wording in step 2 of Protocol 1.
- Further information around how multiple doses group sizes are calculated in the Experimental design section of Protocol 2.
- Further information around the pilot studies planned in the Experimental design section of all protocols.

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

(c) Amendment: [redacted]

The committee discussed the following:

- The committee had no comments to make and approved the transfer of this licence.

(d) New Licence: [redacted]

The committee discussed the following:

- Technical wording needs revising in the Non-Technical Summary so it is understandable to a lay person.
- Re-wording of specific parts of the Project Harms section in regards to technical wording as well as removing references to the protocols in the Non-Technical Summary.

- The recommendation that the applicant contact UBS for further information regarding public outreach at events and schools.
- The removal of specific references in the Refinement section of the Non-Technical Summary.
- The recommendation that the applicant completes the Project Licence training as soon as possible before the submission on ASPeL.
- The removal of specific references to continued use in Protocol 4.
- Further information around monitoring in regards to adverse effects in Protocol 4.
- Further information around the use of a scoring system in Protocol 5 which also needs to be included in the Refinement section.
- Specific steps require amending in regards to step 1 of Protocol 5.
- Further information in regards to monitoring the animals and specific adverse effects in step 3 of Protocol 5.
- Further information around the frequency of specific procedures planned in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 5.
- The removal of reference to continued use in Protocol 5.

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

2. Retrospective Reviews

(a) [redacted]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further clarity around animal numbers in Section 2.1 and further information required in Section 2.2.
- The inclusion of all Standard Condition 18 reports in Section 4.4.
- The committees commended the information listed in Section 2.9.
- The committees commended the replacement achieved through the span of the project and asked for further clarification as to whether the same questions and objectives can be addressed with specific models.

3. Minutes of last meeting 26/10/22

The minutes were approved.

4. Minutes of the AWERB Sub-Standing committee 12/10/22

The minutes were noted.

5. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 05/10/22

The minutes were noted.

6. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 30/09/22

The minutes were noted.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

Non-Regulated Procedure request: [redacted] – The AWERB committee reviewed the [redacted] Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments for the applicant to address. This work was approved by the committee.

Non-Regulated Procedure request: [redacted] – The committee reviewed the [redacted] Non-Regulated Procedure request and asked that the funding be entered as GBP. The committee also requested clarity in regards to the order of procedures that would be undertaken. The committee agreed the form would need to be updated with the information requested before this work could be approved.

Non-Regulated Procedure request: [redacted] – The committee reviewed the [redacted] Non-Regulated Procedure request and had the following comments:

- Yes/No questions need to be completed.
- Further information needed in regards to which UBS facility has been approached for surplus stock.
- Further explanation around how embryos are transported from one UBS facility to another as well as confirmation that specific facilities have areas that have been designated for this work.
- Further information around the source of funding including dates and amounts.
- Further clarity required in regards to specific procedures planned.

The committee agreed the request would need to be updated with this information before the work could be approved.

Overseas Research request: [redacted] – The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and asked for further information around the amount and duration of funding. The committee also informed the applicant that they had submitted this request on an old form and this would also need to be updated. The committee agreed these changes were needed before this work could be approved.

3Rs paper from [redacted] – The committee noted and commended the paper written by [redacted]

8. List items of note

Date of next meeting: 19/12/2022