



Minutes

Date Friday, 05/02/2021

Time 10am

To Standing Committee

At Teams

Subject AWERB sub -Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.05.02.21

In attendance: [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

Scientists in attendance for 1c) [REDACTED]

1. Project Licences

(a) Amendment: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- It was noted that the amendment was the change of project licence holder and the arrangements for overseeing the work. The committee sought assurance that adequate consideration had been given to the management of the work authorised by this project licence.
- The Committee were pleased to learn of plans to split the programme of work authorised by the current licence into smaller projects when the licence expires. This will mean principle investigators within the group will write applications for their own work. The committee also suggested working closely with the NVS and NACWO who are there to offer support.
- The committee also discussed the need for [REDACTED] to maintain up to date records at all times.
- The amendment will need to be submitted to the Home Office in two stages.

(b) Amendment: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Noted the request to change two protocols to increase the severity classification to severe.
- In all amended protocols the committee recommended then the Adverse effects sections –
 - Remove reference to the NVS and/or NACWO being asked to determine when the endpoint has been reached.
 - Suggested adding that when weight loss starts, additional care is given.
 - Suggested additional monitoring once the animals reach 20% weight loss.
 - Suggested Body Condition Scoring could be used to aid the monitoring of animals.
- In the Non-Technical Summary the committee recommended removal of reference to the Vet being asked to determine when the endpoint has been reached.
- The committee noted the great input [REDACTED] had into this amendment and wish to thank him for his contribution.



(c) **New:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Clarify the use of the calcium imaging. This could be included in the **Protocol Justification** section under **b) the most refined for the purpose**.
- Suggest including to the type of imaging set up as an example in the imaging step on the protocol.
- Suggested equipment for the use of physiological monitoring which should be included in the application.
- Clarify that if the animal is distressed by the insertion of the nasal plug and does not adapt, it will be killed.
- Advised a review of the humane endpoints to ensure consistency throughout the protocols.
- Explain that if the mouse does not drink, the licensee would be alerted so it is unlikely to experience dehydration if it does not complete the task.

(d) **Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

Protocol 3

- Clarify that the animals are not kept longer than 4-6 weeks so are not expected to experience the long-term effects of the occlusion.
- Suggest revising the wording to include the use of pilot studies for standardisation.

2. Retrospective Reviews

(a) [REDACTED]

- In section 2.2, Advise including a statement outlining your approach moving forward, following the problems with the breeding and maintenance of NSG mice.
- In section 2.5, The committees noted the delays experienced in gaining Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs).
- In section 2.10, It was noted that NSG mice respond better to more frequent cage cleanouts and asked if there was any data that could be shared across the University of Cambridge facilities.
- In section 3.7, It was noted that the GvHD model was created using the lower published dose of 200 rads. The committee felt this should be shared with other researchers.
- In section 4.8, Suggest the mention of papers or work in preparation as well as those under review.

(b) [REDACTED]

- The committee would like to promote the use of *Drosophila* to others if this was acceptable.
- It was noted the reason the first protocol was not pursued and the reasoning for this.
- Section 2.9, It was noted the reason for answering 'N/A'.
- Section 2.10; Reword the information regarding the closing down of the colony.
- In section 2.10, Please review the information in 2.11 and 2.10 to ensure consistency.



- In section 3.1, Review the papers referenced to ensure that any 3R advances are added to the list of publications?
- In section 3.7, The committee noted the engagement and working with the NVS and named people in respect to the two mice that died, and to refining the surgical procedures.
- In section 4.8, Review if any papers contain 3Rs content and if so please mark in bold text.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes from 11 December 2020 were agreed

4. Minutes of AWERB Standing Committee

The Minutes from 21 December 2020 were agreed

5. Any Other Business

Non Regulated Procedure Request

Three Non-Regulated Procedure request were reviewed. The committee agreed these should be supported and signed by the AWERB chair.

Date of next meeting: 05/03/2021