Minutes

Date     Friday, 07/02/2020
Time     10:00 AM
To       Sub-Standing Committee
At       Meeting Room, UBS
Subject  AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref  Doc.UBS.AWERB.07.02.20

Present:

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

Apologies:

MINUTES

1. Project Licences
   a) Amendment: N/A
      The committee discussed the following:
      • That a link to a paper recommended by the NIO would be sent to the applicant.
      The committee agreed no changes were needed before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

   b) Amendment: N/A (training)
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Additional text added to reassure the Home Office that licenced people will always be on hand should problems occur.
      • Further review of animal numbers to ensure they are for a six-month period only. Update of protocols and the Non-Technical Summary to reflect this.
      The committee agreed minor changes were needed before a draft was submitted to the Home Office.

   c) Amendment: N/A
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Further review of animal numbers to ensure they are for a six-month period only.
      • Further clarity required to distinguish which steps are ‘optional’ and which are ‘obligatory’ in Protocol 1.
      • Information around the typical experience of an animal on Protocol 1.
      • Further review of adverse effects required to give further clarity to what is actually expected.
      • Further information around the single housing of animals and acclimatisation.
      • The removal of references to additional species in the Non-Technical Summary.
      • Expansion of abbreviations used in the Non-Technical Summary.
      The committee agreed changes should be made before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.
d) Amendment: The committee discussed the following:

- Further clarity required to show that very few adverse effects are expected.
- The addition of references to antibiotics and pain relief during the surgical process.
- Further information around the use of single housing in pens that enable animals to see each other.
- Further review of animal numbers and licence length in the Protocol sections and Non-Technical Summary to ensure they are for a six-month period only.

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

e) Amendment: The committee discussed the following:

- Several typographical errors that require amending.
- Further information around the adverse effects and end points for ageing animals in Protocols 3 and 4.
- The suggestion that references to weight loss should be changed so they are in line with the moderate severity band in Protocols 2 to 5.
- Further re-wording required in regards to weight loss and the frequency at which they are weighed.
- The recommendation that additional nutritional supplements are given to the animals before they are administered with specific substances to ensure acclimatisation before any adverse effects are expected.
- Further explanation required to provide clarity on expected adverse effects and end points for each of the Protocols in regards to after care.
- Further explanation required in regards to the different causes of lethargy.
- The suggestion that a timeframe for reconstitution is included and that where possible split doses will be used in regards to specific procedures.
- Further information that provides clarity around the adverse effects expected and end points in regards to specific procedures.
- The removal of specific references from the Refinement section of the Non-Technical Summary.
- Rewording required in the Project Summary.

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting 10/01/20
The minutes were approved.

3. Minutes of AWERB Standing Committee meeting 29/01/20
The minutes were unavailable

4. Retrospective Reviews [RR]
a) None

5. Any other business
An item was raised relating to the RSPCA lay members forum discussed in the meeting held on 06/12/19. [Redacted] informed the committee that she had read previous RSPCA lay members forum agendas and the notes taken and felt that the meeting itself was well balanced. [Redacted] also commented that he had no issues with these meetings.

confirmed that the uploading of the FOI reports table onto the UBS website is still to be actioned.

6. Date of next meeting: 06/03/20