Minutes

Date  Friday, 07/05/2021
Time  10:00 AM
To  Sub-Standing Committee
At  Meeting Room, UBS
Subject  AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref  Doc.UBS.AWERB.07.05.21

Present: (providing written feedback)

Minutes:

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

Apologies:

MINUTES

1. Project Licences
   a) New: 
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Rewording of specific references in the lay section of the application.
      • The consideration of specific adverse effects that may occur and the end points for this in regards to tumour work.
      • Rewording of specific references in regards to humane end points within the application.
      • The recommendation that the applicant contacts UBS NACWO in regards to behavioural equipment they may require.
      The committee agreed minor changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

   b) Amendment: 
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Further information and specific detail around how animals will be monitored after specific injections.
      • Further specificity around which experiments require what levels of monitoring.
      • Further explanation around why analgesia is necessary in the application.
      • The recommendation that the researcher contacts UBS NVS in regards to undertaking specific procedures and best practice.
      The committee agreed minor changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

   c) Amendment: 
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Further evidence of the calculations performed to determine the number increase and this information added to the amendment paragraph in the Project Plan.
• Further information in regards to the amendment requested included in the Non-Technical Summary.
• The recommendation that the information included in the lay summary submitted to AWERB be included in the application itself.
• Specific references included in the Refinement section.

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting 09/04/21
Minutes were noted

3. Minutes of AWERB Standing Committee meeting 28/04/21
Minutes were noted

4. Retrospective Reviews [RR]
   a) [Redacted]
   The committee discussed the following:
   • Revision of the tables in Section 2.1.
   • Revision of Section 2.
   • Further information included in Section 2.9.
   • Revision of whether specific reductions included are really a reduction in Section 3.2.
   • Further information around specific models included in Section 3.7.
   • Further information around whether specific models included in Section 4.7 will be published.
   • Further information around papers being written or that are under review in Section 4.8.
   • Further information in regards to animals that were in protocols that ceased due to work going in other directions in Section 4.4 or Section 2.7.

   b) [Redacted]
   The committee discussed the following:
   • Further information in regards to specific percentages included in Section 2.
   • Further information and justification in regards to breeding strategies included in Section 2.7.
   • Further numbers and/or estimated percentages in regards to animals used for the other mentioned purposes in Section 2.7.
   • The recommendation that the group focus on optimising their future breeding strategies to reduce breeding wastage.
   • Further information in Section 2.9 in regards to transporting animals.
   • Reassurance required that not only will the publications be finished but also if they require the repeating of any animal work the group will have the ability to do so.
   • Revision of answers given in Section 4.8 to include any publications or presentations currently in draft or under review.
   • The recommendation that the researcher checks the severities listed on mild protocols.

5. Any other business
   Non-Regulated Procedure Request: [Redacted]
   The committee discussed this request and wanted to see some assurances that incubators are monitored over the weekend as well as daily. The committee chair was happy to sign this off.
Non-Regulated Procedure Request:
The committee discussed this request and requested that the group look into other places available so that animals are not being transported unnecessarily. The committee chair agreed to sign this off with the provision that the group provide feedback in six months' time showing what other options have been explored to benefit the animals as well as being suitable for the research.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request:
The committee discussed this request and asked for further clarity around references to the age of animals used, whether animals will be bought from _____ and then mated, whether the 600 animals include all progeny and whether animals will be timed mated to generate offspring that will then be used. The committee requested that this be re-submitted once these questions had been answered.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request:
The committee discussed this request and where happy to approve it. The committee asked the group to consider not using animals so much in the public domain and asked if they had considered animal rehoming centers or establishments that breed the animals for research. The committee requested the group feedback in six months' time with how the research is progressing.

6. Date of next meeting: 04/06/21