Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 10/08/2022
Time       10:00 AM
To         Sub-Standing Committee
At         [ ]
Subject    AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref    Doc.UBS.AWERB.10.08.22

Present: [ ]

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

Apologies: [ ]

Minutes: [ ]

1. Project Licences
   a) Amendment: [ ] attended on her behalf)

The committee discussed the following:

- Further justification for the increase in animal numbers.
- The recommendation that the researcher pays careful attention to the amount of animals required throughout the duration of the licence.
- Further refinements included in the Refinement section.
- Specific procedures require further explanation in the Project Harms section. Further information around how the behavioral tests will be managed in regards to the rest time between each and if different types of tests used will be mixed.
- The removal of specific protocols from the Non-Technical Summary.
- Specific procedures require including in ‘what are the expected impacts and/or adverse effects for the animals during your project?’ section.
- The inclusion of limits and the duration of time between tests in regards to Protocol 6.
- The inclusion of specific references in step 4 of Protocol 6.
- Further detail included in regards to specific procedures planned in the animal experience section.
- Yes or no answer required in step 1 of Protocol 7 in regards to adverse effects expected and the removal of the table in this section as it is in the wrong place.
- Further information around the humane end points for step 1 of Protocol 7.
- Further information required for step 4b) of Protocol 7 in regards to including time taken between each instance of procedures undertaken.
- The inclusion of the minimum gap between sessions for specific procedures in step 5 of Protocol 7.
- Further information around the proportion of animals that will experience moderate severity in Protocol 10.
- Further information around why specific severity categories have been chosen in regards to Protocol 10.
• Typographical errors require amending.
• Further information around procedures that may have been applied to the animals on Protocol 10 and why the researcher is choosing to re-use them.
• An answer is required for whether the researcher expects animals to show a harmful phenotype with welfare consequences.
• Further description of the procedures that will be carried out in step 1 of Protocol 10.
• The removal of specific references in step 1 of Protocol 10 as they are inappropriate.
• The addition of specific references in step 1 of Protocol 10 in regards to surgery monitoring as well as further information around how water will provided.
• Further information in regards to the humane end points and clinical signs 2-3 days post-surgery to longer term in step 1, 2 and 3 of Protocol 10.
• Further information around how the researcher will monitor the weight loss problems, problems with food and drink intake and bowel movements in step 4 of Protocol 10.
• Further clarity around the humane end points in step 4 of Protocol 10.
• The inclusion of specific steps in Protocol 10.
• Further information around the typical experience of an animal included in the Animal Experience section.
• The recommendation that the researcher checks the percentages in the Animal Experience section match the end points listed in step 4 of Protocol 10.

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

b) Amendment: [Redacted]

The committee discussed the following:
• Further clarity required in regards to the overall adverse effects listed in Protocol 6.
• The recommendation that the researcher removes the scoring system from Protocol 6 but instead includes in text the information, the clinical signs and the traffic light system.
• Further clarity around how the scoring system will be used in defining the humane end points in Protocol 6.
• The inclusion of additional monitoring after specific procedures have taken place in the adverse effects section of Protocol 6.
• The revision of scientific terminology so it is understandable to a lay reader.

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

c) Amendment: [Redacted]

The committee discussed the following:
• Further update of the funding.
• The inclusion of specific procedures planned in step 4 of Protocol 4 in the Animal Experience section.
• Further information in regards to specific procedures planned in step 2 of Protocol 5.
• The inclusion of references to specific procedures in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 5.
• The recommendation that the researcher also address the PST comments and that these would also be included in the AWERB comments.

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

d) Amendment: [Redacted] attended on his behalf)
The committee discussed the following:

- Further justification in regards to the increase in animal numbers in the Reduction section and the Action plan.
- The inclusion of animal strains in Protocol 4.
- The recommendation that the researcher reviews all protocols within the licence to ensure the animal usage is appropriate in regards to the increase in numbers.

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting 13/07/22
The minutes were approved.

3. Retrospective Reviews [RR]
   a) The committee discussed the following:
      - The addition of the total number of animals used in each protocol within the table on Section 2.1.
      - Further information in regards to animal severity in Section 2.2.
      - The committee commented that the Retrospective Review was completed to a very high standard.

   b) The committee discussed the following:
      - A significant proportion of the Retrospective Review did not seem to be completed. The committee requested that these sections be completed and then resubmitted to the AWERB committee for review.
      - Further clarity required in the supplementary document provided in regards to severity's listed.

4. Any other business
Non-Regulated Procedure Request: [Redacted] – The AWERB committee reviewed the [Redacted] Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments to make. The committee approved this request.

5. Date of next meeting: 14/09/22