

**Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986**

Minutes of the Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body held 29/1/19

1. Welcome The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.
2. Attendance and Apologies– please see separate sheet
3. Minutes of Meeting held on 11/12/18: Approved
4. Scientific presentations: The committee heard a very interesting presentation on a proposed study to [REDACTED] to study myelination in zebrafish.

---

5. Matters arising and action point summary

- **Staff Awards:** recognised as excellent initiative where feedback was obtained from project licence holders for the first time to reward technicians for excellence in their work. *Action complete.*
- **Home office licencing system:** New system planned for implementation by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019. Updates on the development of the new system and timeline for introduction will follow. *Action ongoing:* [REDACTED] to keep committee updated.

6. Named person updates

NACWO update

- Aquatics update: Studies show that fake” substrates e.g. images/artificial substrates rather than natural products can be used successfully for environmental enrichment. This could be a very practical solution for the facilities.

NVS update:

- Isofluorane shortage: a UK supplier has now been sourced and there have been no issues with stocks running out within facilities.
- Health monitoring: this is being reviewed and will be standardised across facilities.
- GA breeding: goal is to review GA breeding control and provide education for users in 2019.

NTCO update

- Schedule 1 training: very positive meeting with NVS and NACWOs to discuss schedule 1 training, lots of good ideas.
- Tunnel handling: this will be demonstrated in facilities and will be introduced at the March [REDACTED] course.

## 6. a. Project licence review

**PL1-19:** This project licence is from a very experienced group leader and all reviewers felt that this was a well-written application with only very minor revisions required. The committee were happy to approve the application subject to the following comments:

- **Optional steps:** the applicant needs to clarify what a typical study will include, this should be detailed at the start of the experimental steps in each of the relevant protocols.
- **Irradiation:** the preparation of BM chimaeras is detailed within the protocols without justification in the project plan.
- **Protocol 6:** there is mention of pilot studies which requires justification in the project plan.
- **Zebrafish protocols:** if relevant reference to standard injection methods should be included.
- **Protocol order:** the breeding and maintenance protocol should be the first protocol in this section.

**Approved:** *subject to completion of minor revisions*

**PL2- 19** The committee and review panel raised the following points on this renewal application which was generally well written. The review panel felt that this was a well-justified application in terms of the scientific content, the focus of which is the production of HSCs in relation to the treatment of leukaemia.

- **Numbers:** the requested numbers do not reflect the numbers of animals used previously (lower than anticipated) and should be reviewed.
- **Funding:** current funding is relatively low and the work of the new PPL is dependent on an ERC funding application for 2019.
- **Non-technical summary:** some language is overly technical for example ablation and HSCs.

**PL3- 19** This is a renewal of existing PPL from a well established PPL holder the focus of which is on nuclear envelope proteins and their role in health and disease. This was approved subject to the revision of a number of points as detailed below:

- **Funding issues:** there is limited funding currently available for this licence which requires clarification.
- **Metabolic cages:** this involves single housing of animals but there is no justification for this within the project plan. Clarification is also required about the location of metabolic caging to avoid transportation of animals.
- **Muscle injury:** clarify whether this is the most refined approach, are there alternatives available? There is no mention of potential adverse effects for this model.
- **Genome optimised cells:** it is unclear what these cell types are and no justification for their use is given within the application.
- Please clarify the use of all drugs within the UK context
- **Optional steps:** need to explain what the typical study will include, a sentence at the start of the protocol should be inserted showing the typical animal experience.

Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Board (AWERB) Minutes 29/1/19

- NTS: earlier sections are well written but much of the language is overly technical and requires clarification. Numbers also are incorrect in this section

**Amendments requiring full AWERB approval**

**A42-18**: This amendment was to request several modifications to existing techniques (including a refinement) and the extension of the existing project licence to the full 5 year term.

The amendment to this project licence was approved subject to the following revisions:

- Detail adverse effects of this refined injection technique and consider carrying out the first set of injections under terminal anaesthesia to determine any potential issues.
- Additional information on the model in terms of potential adverse effects is required.
- New model: Please undertake studies with cadavers to establish this model and ensure proposal will work

**A57-18**: This amendment is required to add alternative anaesthetic approaches. A number of points following review were previously addressed and one final point for revision is detailed below.

- Revise the maximum time period that fish can be used up to 21 days.

**A58-18** : Additional availability application      **Approved**

**Amendment applications submitted to the sub-committee**

A51-18, A60 -18: approved

10. A.O.C.B:

Relevant points detailed in the action summary.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 9.30am Seminar Room 4