

Minutes AWERB 27/8/19

Previous minutes/matters arising

- Discussed Porsolt forced swim tests and recent animal rights interest, and possible removal from existing PPLs that contain it where it is not actually used
- Request prepare a list of techniques that are a) contentious or b) refined approaches available e.g. tamoxifen IP vs oral gavage and then tackle via specialised subgroup, bring to AWERB and give recommendations/policy

Presentation - ██████ progress with ██████ Improvement Project – looking good

3Rs committee

- additional members have been added next meeting in September
- Have put together images around single needle use – and running a caption competition which has over 40 entries

NVS update

- Likely non-compliance around performing surgery without adding Pil C although had attended training. This is the 4th similar event- one a near miss.
We have processes but this is clearly an issue that the HO are flagging for action. Looking at changing the ERF forms to ask for confirmation that all relevant licences and training in place. Also looking at increasing awareness of trainers to check this out. Can we hold back the certificate?
- ██████ – academic group have develop an adapted cage for rats with head stages so that they do not have to be individually housed- refinement
- Major incident ██████ July due to failure of chiller unit and temperatures reached 30 degrees in some rooms. Quick response to bring in chillers and no welfare issues. HOI was in the unit on the Thursday. Temporary chiller unit now in place. Follow up meetings with team that manage the building and communications have improved as a result of this event.
- Estates issues at the ██████ water leak and pigeons in the facility roof space, ██████ ██████ leak in ceiling and holes in plasterwork in walls- now all fixed

NACWO update

- Tube handling – rolling out plastic tubes across the estate so will improve consistency
- Also reviewing wildtype colonies to reduce duplication and optimise use
- Looking to go to 100% IVC so working towards this- will decrease allergens and improve biosecurity

PL25-19 ██████

Comments

- Well written, shorter than other applications in these papers. Could be a good 'example' PPL and tester of the new system
- Some issues around versions
- Overall limited number of comments
- Is a mild breeding protocol needed too?

- Noted that administration of substances is within the moderate breeding protocol
- Would be useful to see a scoring sheet and add that in- not sure how this works in terms of an appendix. Or at least to mention that there are scoring sheets in the relevant protocol
- Are the numbers in the correct boxes- overall number and 'number of uses'
- Good detail around what average experience of an animal would be

PL26-19 [REDACTED]

Comments

- New scientist coming to [REDACTED], models of colorectal cancer
- Existing Project Licence from other Establishment
- No ethical concerns
- Issues around references to other establishments and their buildings etc
- Main concern is around breeding and maintenance protocol which contains experimental models although these are in other protocols
- Options Suggest bring forward renewal and assume that there is likely to be a delay on the start of experimental work OR amend breeding and maintenance protocol and take out interventions OR leave PPL where it is and get secondary availability
- To talk to [REDACTED] and the most relevant scientists from his group to work out what he actually does and whether these endpoints are actually 'true'
- Should he actually hold the PPL? Is there someone else who would be more suitable?
- Should we get a written agreement that ERFs will 'control' the work – and limit the endpoints
- Suggest e-mail to [REDACTED] to get her up to speed (action [REDACTED])

PL27-19 [REDACTED]

Comments

- Discussed the challenges are around the use of the new forms- no section 'letters', difficult to handle such a big document 371 pages
- Is [REDACTED] using a less up to date template?
- No project plan section titled and this makes it difficult to see how it all pulls together
- Copying and pasting remains an issue within the PPL and from previous PPLs
- There is a lack of clarity around additional disease models described and how this relates to lung inflammation
- Good progress under previous licence reflected in significant funding
- Currently uses very limited number of protocols so there are questions around use of all the proposed protocols- are they all needed?
- Could she take out all protocols that are unlikely to be used?

PL28-19 [REDACTED]

Comments

- No ethical concerns
- No clear indication around funding support and this could be an issue

- Also lack of clarity on the scope of the licence regarding lines that will be used etc is it one line going through or multiple lines with gene knock outs? May be funding dependent
- Background is very concise but could do with some additional information
- Plan of work have requested more justification of optional steps
- Good description in P2 of use of optional steps and 'usual' experience but this is missing in P3
- Adverse effects may need some work- some indication that an animal could be culled with a single clinical sign which may need review

Animal work abroad

██████████ – need more info on facilities and competency and training of staff

amendment – refused by HO

Owing to impossibility of being sure these animals are not suffering

Can we use lidocaine as an analgesic could that respond to the issues raised?

Used up to 21d

██████████ consent forms

Fluid therapy needs to be on the consent form

Details around what ASPA actually is

Clarity that cannot be under ASPA again

Change of computer system

Discussed the changes to review the PEL via AWERB

Informed