UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
University Biomedical Services

Minutes

Date Wednesday, 24/07/2024
Time 1pm
To Standing Committee
At Virtual, MS Teams
Subject AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.24.07.24

In attendance: [redacted] (observer)

Scientists in attendance for 1a) [redacted], **1b)** core, **1c)** [redacted] **and 1d)** [redacted]

Apologies:

Minutes: [redacted]

1. Project Licences
(a) New licence: [redacted]
The committee discussed the following:

- Further information required in the Aims section in regards to predicted incidence rates.
- Further detail required in the Benefits section in regards to developing models that are more accurate.
- Further clarification in regards to specific wording in the Project Harms section.
- Further explanation required in regards to study designs in the Reduction section.
- Refinements included in the researchers' presentation could be usefully included in the Refinement section of the application.
- Further specificity required to enable the committee to assess the harm: benefit analysis.
- Further information in regards to monitoring and controls in place for specific procedures planned.
- Earlier interventions required in regards to specific adverse effects.
- Further information in regards to the scoring sheet planned for use.
- Further explanation required in regards to a typical and worst-case scenario for specific procedures planned, in the Animal Experience section for each protocol.

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

(b) New Licence: [redacted]
The committee discussed the following:

- The removal of specific references in Protocol 9.
- Further review of the Non-Technical Summary so that it is more specific and focussed on the work planned.
- The committee layperson had some suggestions on how to make the Non-Technical Summary more suitable for the lay reader and so these comments will be sent separately.

- The revision of specific sentences in the Benefits section.
- Further updating of the training section required.
- Further review of the benefits and objectives so that they are more realistic to what can be achieved in the five year period of the application.
- Further review of the wording used in regards to the Objectives in the Action Plan.
- The inclusion of specific steps in Protocol 5 if they are required.
- The removal of specific sentences from step 1 of Protocol 5 as they are not required.
- The inclusion of a humane endpoint for specific procedures planned in regards to step 3 of Protocol 5.
- Further detail required in regards to the administration of specific substances in step 1 of Protocol 6.
- The removal of specific references in step 1 of Protocol 6.
- Further checking of the steps in all protocols to ensure anaesthetic codes are correct.
- The inclusion of an example of the score sheet intended for use in regards to step 1 of Protocol 7.
- The inclusion of specific wording for potential adverse effects in regards to Protocol 7.
- The removal of the last paragraph in Protocols 7 and 8 as they are not required.
- The removal of references to the NVS and NACWO in regards to specific adverse effects in step 1 of Protocol 8.
- Review of steps in Protocol 8 to ensure that step 2 is the mandatory step.

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

c) New Licence: [redacted]

The committee discussed the following:

- Review of the language used in the Non-Technical Summary as it is currently too technical.
- Consideration given to the researcher using another platform that would be peer reviewed to publish unsuccessful approaches in the Benefits section.
- Clarification required in regards to the timeline of specific adverse effects to ensure they are consistent with the humane endpoints listed in the Project Harms section.
- Further information in regards to adverse effects expected that might occur in specific animals in the Project Harms section.
- Further explanation required in regards to specific wording used in the Project Harms section.
- Further checking of the animal numbers listed in the Reduction section.
- Further revision of specific wording in the Project Plan.
- The inclusion of titles for all steps in the protocols.
- The committee recommended the researcher not deviate from the set templates in regards to Protocol 1 and 3.
- The removal of specific references in Protocol 5 and the Animal Experience sections of various protocols.
- The inclusion of additional adverse effects and consideration given to the inclusion of body condition scoring in regards to step 1 of Protocol 5. Consideration given to endpoints that relate to specific adverse effects included.
- The inclusion of an additional step in regards to Protocol 6.
- The inclusion of adverse effects for specific procedures in regards to step 2 of Protocol 7.
- Revision of specific wording in regards to the humane endpoints of step 2 and the general humane endpoints of Protocol 7.

- The inclusion of a new step or the removal of specific references in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 7.
- The inclusion of an additional step for specific monitoring in regards to step 2 of Protocol 11.
- The removal of specific steps if they are not required in regards to steps 1 and 2 in Protocol 12.

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

d) New Licence: [redacted] was also in attendance)
The committee discussed the following:

- The inclusion of specific statistics in the Non-Technical Summary.
- Further information in regards to specific animals planned for use and their availability in the Project Harms section.
- The inclusion of further information around additional complications in regards to specific steps in Protocols 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- The inclusion of specific monitoring to assess recovery in specific steps in Protocols 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- The inclusion of specific examples of timely interventions identified by the scoring system in specific steps in Protocols 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- The inclusion of endpoints in specific steps of Protocols 1, 2, 3 and 4.

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

2. Retrospective Reviews
(a) None

3. Minutes of last meeting 29/05/24
The minutes were approved.

4. Minutes of the AWERB sub-standing committee 08/05/24 & 12/06/24
The minutes from both meetings were noted.

5. Minutes of the AWERB Non-Regulated Procedure Request Committee 17/06/24 & 27/06/24
The minutes from both meetings were noted.

6. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 05/06/24
The minutes from the meeting were noted.

6. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 19/04/24 & 24/05/24
The minutes from both meetings were noted.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

Non-Regulated Procedure request (Teaching) – [redacted]
The committee discussed the following:

- The committee reviewed the request and had no comments for the researcher to address. They agreed this request would receive ethical approval.

8. List items of note
None

Date of next meeting: 28/08/24