



## Minutes

Date Wednesday, 25/09/2019

Time 1pm

To Standing Committee

At [REDACTED]

Subject AWERB Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.25.09.19

In attendance: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Scientists in attendance for 1a) N/A and 1b) [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED]

### 1. Project Licences

(a) Amendment: [REDACTED] was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- The inclusion of the licence expiry date.
- The removal of the wording regarding NSGs and references to sharing information and including this instead in the Refinement section.
- Rewording and further clarity required in regards to the use of control substances.
- Checking of DEXA and TDNMR timings in Protocol 4 to ensure they match the Project Plan.
- Further clarity required in regards to volumes for specific procedures planned in the Adverse Effects section.
- Update of the Non-Technical Summary so that it reflects the typical experience of an animal.

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

(b) New: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further review of the Benefits section.
- Further justification required in regards to specific procedures planned.
- Explanation required in regards to learned helplessness in the Action Plan.
- Further information around specific procedures planned in the Action Plan.
- The inclusion of information around monitoring in regards to specific procedures planned.
- Information and justification behind the reasoning for using only male animals in experiments.
- Further explanation and justification around the single housing of animals.
- Further explanation and justification in regards to weight loss.
- Clarity required in regards to continued moderate severity over protocols.
- Clarity required in regards to a typical experiment and the percentage of animals that are likely to experience this.
- Further explanation required in regards to specific procedures planned in the Refinement section.
- Rewording required in the Non-Technical Summary so it is understandable to the general public.



- Further explanation included in the Non-Technical Summary to show that addiction is a brain disorder.

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

## 2. Retrospective Reviews

(a) None

## 3. Minutes of last meeting 28/08/19

The minutes were approved.

## 4. Minutes of the AWERB sub-standing committee 06/09/19

The minutes were noted.

## 5. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 04/09/19

The minutes were noted.

## 6. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 13/09/19

The minutes were not available.

## 7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

### Standard Condition 18 report: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- The AWERB 3Rs comments where these reports have already been discussed.
- The recommendation that the licence holder implements a monitoring system for specific animal lines and unexpected deaths.
- The request that the licence holder prepares a report for the fourth quarter of 2020 for the AWERB committee.
- The recommendation that score sheets are used.
- Further communication with the NACWO and NVS when animals are found dead.
- The recommendation that post mortems and samples are taken when an animal is found dead to establish the cause of death.
- How the group share their experiences with other members of the lab working with animals and how the causes are reviewed and disseminated.

### Standard Condition 18 report: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- The AWERB 3Rs comments where these reports have already been discussed.
- The level of monitoring the animals were receiving.
- Baselines for building monitoring systems.
- The recommendation that the group analyse the higher level of mortality in specific strains and submit their findings to UBS within six months of receiving the AWERB recommendations.
- The development of score sheets and the recommendation that these are submitted to the committee within three months of receiving these recommendations.
- Blank boxes that need to be completed.
- Further communication with the NACWO and NVS when animals are found dead.



- The recommendation that post mortems and samples are taken when an animal is found dead to establish cause of death.

**8. List items of note**

None

**Date of next meeting:** 30/10/19