

ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, 11th February 2025, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 16 x AWERB Members, 1 x observer	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Approved	Complete
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (14th January 2025)	
3.1	3.2 Pathogen present in breeding unit	Ongoing
3.2	3.4 Stress impact of fire alarms	Ongoing
3.3	5.1 3Rs & Ethics CPD policy. Policy has been drafted with plans for circulation prior to upcoming open forum meeting	Complete
3.4	5.3 Refined handling preference to be discussed at January meeting.	NACWOs to consider integrating 3Hs handling habitation into handling training at point of induction and PIL Training Course. Revisit in March meeting
4	Chair's Verbal Report	
4.1	Discussion of recent University statement regarding behavioural tests and definitions of behavioural tests adopted by ASRU with respect to forced swimming.	
4.2	Plans for entry form for 3Rs Award and agenda speakers	Current plans approved

4.3	Discussion of use of adult fish in public engagement activities.	NACWO to discuss tank arrangements, if appropriate this can be approved.
5 5.1	<p>New PPL</p> <p>PPL.1Feb25</p> <p>Aims: To determine the mechanisms behind the respiratory depressant effects of novel opioid drugs and to determine how tolerance develops to these effects and how this changes in the presence of non-opioid drugs</p> <p>Harms: Rats (50% mild, 50% moderate); Mice (90% mild). Acute drug administration, respiratory monitoring in a specialised chamber, surgery to implant prolonged drug administration device or telemetry device.</p> <p>Benefits: Deaths from Opioid overdose are increasing (and are largely due to respiratory depression). There are several reasons for this including new synthetic opioids being faster acting, having different respiratory depression effects and not responding to reversal by naloxone as well. Therefore there is a need to understand fully the processes involved in opioid respiratory depression (policy advice, new treatments longer term etc).</p> <p>Discussion (without applicant present):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experimental design around assessment of pooled compounds • Translational reaction of drug type • Production of quantitative data • Likely experience of the animals within non-technical summary • Chronic and acute administrations • Animal numbers • Potential failure rates 	Approved subject to minor changes.
6 6.1	<p>PPL Amendment Reviews</p> <p>PPLAmend.1Feb 25</p> <p>Proposed change in species to trial refined administration technique</p>	Approved subject to clarifications

6.2	PPLAmend.2Feb25 Introduce new microbead technique to induce sufficient clinical model, with no change to overall severity	Approved
7	Mid Term Reviews	
7.1	PPLMTR.1Feb25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives being met No significant adverse effects Resulting tangible clinical benefits 	Revised form requested
7.2	PPLMTR.2Feb25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the neural mechanisms and potential routes for the management of pain Progress made across all three aims Significantly lower animal use than predicted, partly due to clinical data availability and 3Rs progresses No significant adverse effects 	Approved subject to follow up with Academic Lead and AWERB Chair
8	Final Reviews	
8.1	PPLFinal.1Feb25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tissue damage and regeneration in the heart Successfully met most objectives Within predicted animal numbers Some unexpected adverse effects, addressed by appropriate protocol adjustments Refinement made through skin swabbing opposed to fin clipping 	Approved
9	Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.	
9.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs Reviewed: UIN.1 - 5 AWERB approved: 2, AWERB approved pending clarifications: 1, 3, 4, 5 AWERB did not yet approved:	Secretary to inform
9.1.1	UINs to note:	

9.1.2	<p>UIN.1 – Confirm a POLE PPL application is in progress with the collaborating research agency.</p> <p>UIN.3 – Clarification that current permissions includes the taking of physical samples.</p> <p>UIN.4 - Confirm site permissions</p> <p>UIN.5 – further justification required for sampling techniques</p>	
9.2	<p>Non-Regulated Projects – VINs.</p> <p>Reviewed: VIN.1, 2</p> <p>AWERB approved: VIN.2</p> <p>AWERB approved pending clarifications: 1</p> <p>AWERB not yet approved:</p>	Secretary to inform
9.2.1	<p>VINs to note:</p> <p>VIN.1 – details of collaborators ethical review required.</p>	
10	<p>Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments</p> <p>UINAmend.1 - Approved</p> <p>UIN.Amend.2 – NACWO to follow up</p>	
11	<p>AWERB Hub. (None)</p>	
12	<p>Any Other Business.</p>	
12.1	Discussion of sub-threshold swabbing, differences across species and swab site.	
12.2	Discussion of when predator exposure crosses the ASPA boundary	
12.3	Discussion of insect sentience survey	
13	Dates of Next Meetings (Online until further notice but twice yearly in person):	

	11 th March 1 st April 6 th May 10 th June 8 th July	
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