

University of Nottingham
Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body
Thursday 21 March 2019

MINUTES

12 Members Present, 10 Apologies, 3 in Attendance

19/12 Minutes

RECEIVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2019.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved.

19/13 Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) Action log

The action log from the previous meeting had been presented to AWERB and progress updates provided to members. This included:

- (1) That the Faculty 'Task and Finish' group would analyse comments from the review.
- (2) That refined mouse handling was progressing.
- (3) That a joint AWERB open session/meet the HOI would take place on 30 April 2019.
- (4) That some PPL applications were still outstanding.
- (5) That Office 365 would be trialed.
- (6) That animal charges would be discussed with the 'Task and Finish' group's report.
- (7) That tours and visits would take place as part of Animal Technologist Month.
- (8) That the NACWO and Chair would talk to the NVS about support of named persons.
- (9) That requirements around animal use in research and teaching had been circulated.
- (10) That the Veterinary School would attend AWERB.
- (11) That ongoing PPL applications were available in Office 365.

(b) Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 19/03 and 19/04]

REPORTED: That feedback had been provided to one applicant and one application had not yet been received.

19/14 Chair's Business

REPORTED: That this would be covered in other agenda items.

19/15 Project Licence Applications

(a) Dr AA

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved the assessment of novel entities for the treatment of metabolic disorders.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS, Scientific Reader and NC3Rs representative. Questioning primarily focused around diet, weight loss, analgesia and numbers of animals.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed.

(b) Dr BB

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved delineating the physiological consequences of protein activation.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and NC3Rs representative. Questioning primarily focused around refining behavioural tests, animal numbers and mentoring.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed.

(c) Prof CC

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved developing a Novel Anisotropic Tissue Expander for Non-Keratinised Epithelial Tissue.

The clinical relevance of the work was recognised. A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and NC3Rs representative. Questioning primarily focused around monitoring, adverse effects and the microbiome.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed.

(d) Dr DD

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved a model for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that it would go forwards to full stage.

19/16 Presentation of SVMS Ethics Clinical Review Panel annual report

REPORTED: That the ECRP review all research proposals at the concept stage in the School with direct contact with animals. This would often fall under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (VSA), or the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) which must be consistent with 'recognised veterinary practice'. Work likely to require ASPA authority (if it was to be conducted in the UK, or the equivalent if conducted abroad) would be directed to the NACWO. Others included indirect contact, surveys or human tissue act. ECRP would report to AWERB and to the University of Nottingham UREC. Their 14 members included clinical, non-clinical and lay members.

19/17 AWERB Away Day outcomes

REPORTED: That three areas were discussed: Office 365, the process for project licence applications and work at other institutions. It had been agreed that a limited number of slides, with defined content, would be used when presenting project licence applications to the AWERB. In addition, a maximum number of edits of draft applications prior to the AWERB meeting would be mandated, with emphasis on the applicant to meet HO and AWERB expectations rather than reliance on the NACWO for drafting.

19/18 Annual Risk Review Meeting

REPORTED: That this had taken place and the risk rating for the University had been classed as 'medium' due to: size, species, number and severity of procedures. Culture of care was rated good and staff were engaged in ASPA compliance and application of the 3Rs. AWERB oversight was effective and the Regional NC3Rs Programme Manager input added significant value.

19/19 3Rs update

REPORTED: An update was given by the NC3Rs representative. This included:

- (1) That grant applications had been submitted.
- (2) That a 3Rs highly commended prize had been awarded to a research colleague at the University of Nottingham for development of a human stem cell based model of cardiomyopathy.
- (3) That the blinding feasibility study had been done at the University of Nottingham.
- (4) That the representative had delivered training to MSC students on 3Rs and ethics.
- (5) That the representative had delivered training on EDA.
- (6) That an NC3Rs event would take place in September in Leicester.

19/20 Summary of PPL applications and amendments

REPORTED: That a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments was available. Two recent applications were still awaiting responses after feedback; six applications were likely to be submitted to the next AWERB; two amendments would be submitted to the HO soon; three had been approved by AWERB and would be submitted soon and one would go to the NACWO soon.

19/21 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report

REPORTED: That four project licence amendments had been approved by fast-track procedure.

19/22 Project licences granted by the Home Office

REPORTED: That two project licences had been granted by the HO.

19/23 Any Other Business

(a) Manufacture of heart pumps

REPORTED: That the University of Nottingham would be manufacturing components for the heart pump.

RESOLVED: That as the University of Nottingham would not be doing this *in vivo* work AWERB would not need to be involved as the company would have the necessary approvals.

(b) Animal use figures and severity 2018

REPORTED: That the number of procedures and severity were available on the animal research website. 23,454 animals (down 8% from last year): fish, mice (56%) and rats (34%). ~43% breeding (fish and mice), 28% basic research and 29% translational. Severity: ~2% non-recovery, 34% mild, 31% moderate, 0.23% severe by retrospective analysis and 33% sub-threshold.