

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Monday, 19th December 2016

1. Minutes

Confirmed: The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2016.

2. Matters arising

Category D Committee and applications

To report: (a) That a senior researcher had accepted an invitation to become Chair of the Category D Committee.

(b) That the arrangement had been confirmed that, within Biological Sciences, a senior colleague would screen all undergraduate applications for approval of dissertation topics for any proposals that would involve human participants or animals and pass the latter to the NTCO who would determine whether Category D or Category C approval was needed. Once this arrangement had been established consideration would be given to capturing relevant projects in other Schools.

3. Report on licences processed 27.19.16 to 09.01.17

Reported: (a) That the following amendments to project licences had been approved by the executive group:

40/3617	<i>Cerebral Ischaemia and the impact of co-morbidity.</i>
P2BC7D240	<i>Characterization of novel antimicrobial agents.</i>

(b) Amendments to 70/8858, Generation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered animals:

To produce a BMKS mouse model using CRISPR

(c) Amendments to 40/3619, Creation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered rodents:

	To produce a C57Bl/6 MCIR ^{R151c} mouse
	To produce a C57Bl/6 MCIR ^{R160w} mouse
4	To produce a C57Bl/6 MCIR ^{R151c} /MC1R ^{R160w} mouse

(c) That for Personal Licences there were 26 new licences, 8 amendments, 5 surrendered and 0 renewed.

4. Applications for new Project Licences

4.1 Circadian regulation of processes underlying chronic inflammation

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO.

Interviewed:

- Noted:*
- (a) The severity levels for protocols 3, 4 and 5 were not specified but the applicant confirmed that they were all moderate.
 - (b) The applicant confirmed that the decapitation method for euthanasing some mice was preferred because it maximised the serum to be obtained and therefore reduced the number of mice that were killed. The method was humane when properly administered. AWERB discussed whether this was appropriate and whether it should be specified in the NTS. It was agreed that members should have more time to think about this and provide feedback to the Chair.
 - (c) An explanation for removing adrenal glands needed to be expanded.
 - (d) There should be further investigation on whether the use of analgesics interfered with the experiment
 - (e) That the reference to serial blood sampling was confirmed to be a maximum of 25% TBV over a period of 28 days.

Resolved: To recommend approval, subject to corrections arising from (b), (c) and (d) above.

4.2 Modulating inflammation in the GI tract

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO.

Interviewed:

- Noted:*
- (a) That the applicant endeavoured to ensure that negative as well as positive results were published.
 - (b) The severity level was moderate, but 1% of cases in one model were rated as severe.
 - (c) That the NTS could be improved and two members, agreed to advise on this.

Resolved: To recommend approval, subject to corrections arising from (c) above.

5. Research Project for Review

5.1 *Inflammation and arterial disease (70/7992)*

Noted: That primary availability was in another University and only one protocol was carried out in Manchester and work on this protocol had been completed

Resolved: To recommend approval and, if necessary, continuation of project in Manchester.

5.2 *Understanding cerebral folate metabolism (70/8025)*

Noted: That there were no issues with this project

Resolved: To recommend approval and continuation of project.

5.3 *Metabolic regulation in health and disease (70/8019)*

Noted: In section 4, page 3. last word, "observed" would be more appropriate than "recorded."

Resolved: To recommend approval and continuation of project.

5.4 *Understanding mechanisms of fibrosis (40/3417)*

Noted: (a) That this was a retrospective or final report that the Home Office required to be conducted on the completion of any project which included a protocol which was rated with a substantial severity.

(b) That the researchers had followed up refinement points raised by AWERB on an earlier application for work under a new licence and had included these refinement details in a recent publication. It was important that such refinements were well publicised.

Resolved: To recommend approval of the final report.

Agreed: That there was need for guidance on what criteria should be used in reviewing final reports.

6. Proposal for AWERB Hub

Reported: That the Home Office had proposed setting up a number of regional AWERB Hubs for the discussion of common issues. It had been initially proposed that there should be one covering the whole of the North of England and centred on Newcastle upon Tyne, but there was agreement that this would create too large a group. After further discussions it was proposed to form a separate hub consisting of, initially, four institutions.

7. Understanding Animal Research (UAR)

AWERB congratulated those involved in designing the new web pages on animal research in the University which resulted in the University winning first prize for the best web presentation.

8. Home office Inspector

Reported:

9. Integrative Pharmacology Fund

Reported: The recent evaluation of the Integrative Pharmacology Fund commissioned by the Royal Pharmacological Society had congratulated the University for its contribution to the scheme. The aim of the fund was to sustain the capacity for *in vivo* education, training and research in higher education, and to foster improvements to animal welfare, the 3Rs and research outcomes.

10. Statistical support

Reported: That arrangements were being made to engage commercial statistical support in place of the services of a senior colleague who had left the University but who undertook to give statistical support until more permanent arrangements had been made.