

**3Rs subgroup for the  
ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2021**

**Present:**

[REDACTED]

**Apologies:**

[REDACTED]

**1. Minutes**

*Agreed:* That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2021 were approved.

**2. Retrospective reviews of Project Licences requiring licence holder attendance at meeting**

**2.1. [REDACTED], Genetic analysis of tumour development**

*Considered:* A completed Retrospective review form and presentation

*Interviewed:* [REDACTED]

- Discussed:*
- Replacements were discussed including using computational modelling to test clinical significance of results.
  - [REDACTED] talked about the optimising breeding to reduce excess breeding and using the minimum number of animals.
  - Refinements were discussed including minimising handling of the animals by more than the required people, for example, a technician who would handle the animal as part of looking after it might do an experiment.
  - The type of non-invasive imaging techniques used were discussed.
  - Future work was discussed including how it will be funded.
  - The type of imaging facilities available in the BSF were discussed compared to those elsewhere. It would be expensive for the BSF to have a system that was less basic than that already available.
  - [REDACTED] discussed the good communication between groups using imaging at the University .
  - The benefits of looking at tumour biology rather than letting a tumour develop to a specific size before an animal needs to be humanely killed was discussed.

## 2.2. [REDACTED], Pathophysiology of Heart Failure

*Considered:* A completed Retrospective review form and presentation

*Interviewed:* [REDACTED]

- Discussed:*
- [REDACTED] discussed with the group why sheep rather than pigs are used.
  - The trial period of enrichment by having more sheep together was discussed, including that the sheep seemed more stressed than when held 8 in a pen.
  - The consortium grant that didn't get funding was discussed including [REDACTED] point that he would explore doing something similar in the future.

## 3. Mid-term reviews of Project Licences not requiring licence holder attendance at meeting

### 3.1. [REDACTED], Drug discovery for parasitic helminths

*Considered:* A completed mid-term review form

- Discussed:*
- The group thought [REDACTED] had provided a lot of information.
  - The use of SCID mice were discussed including having shared colonies so there is less wastage through breeding.
  - It was agreed to ask [REDACTED] via email to provide feedback on the use of a positive control (i.e. treated with mebendazole). It was queried if this was necessary, given the amount of historic data your group may have, or if it was possible to at least reduce the number of positive control animals used each time given they could be augmented with the historical data available.

*Outcome:* The subgroup supported continued work on this licence.

### 3.2. [REDACTED], Understanding factors governing skin healing following trauma and inflammation

*Considered:* A completed mid-term review form

- Discussed:*
- The availability of [REDACTED] resources for other researchers was discussed. [REDACTED] reported that if it is available then [REDACTED] are happy for others to use the equipment.
  - It was agreed to contact [REDACTED] via email to ask if he had plans to disseminate results from these replacement models, such as the scratch assay system, either internally or to the wider scientific audience, as it was felt wider use of such models could have a significant 3Rs impact. If the 3Rs group were able to help with this in any way please do let us know as we'd be happy to help.

*Outcome:* The subgroup supported continued work on this licence.

## 4. Any other business

### 4.1. Face-to-face or virtual meetings

The Chair explained that at the AWERB meeting a discussion had taken place about keeping meetings virtual or returning to face-to-face meetings. It was agreed that the 3Rs sub-group would continue to meet virtually.

**4.2. Disclaimer on the review forms regarding Freedom of Information Act.**

██████ to look into if the information would be released as part of a FOIA.