

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

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2023

Present:

[REDACTED]

Apologies:

[REDACTED]

1. Minutes

Agreed: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2023 were approved.

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

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

Considered: A completed Retrospective review form and presentation

Interviewed: [REDACTED]

- Discussed:*
- Due to more ex vivo studies taking place than planned at the start of this licence, only 10th of the number of mice given approval to use were used.
 - A follow-on licence has reduced the weight loss threshold that the animals need to be humanely killed at.
 - The strain of mouse used was discussed. The project licence holder will be seeking advice from the Named Persons in relation to refinements in housing and diet.
 - The licence holder said that the company are always open to collaboration with others, the only limitation being scheduling any external projects in on the system.

2.2. [REDACTED], Understanding peritoneal repair and internal scarring

Considered: A completed Retrospective review form and presentation

Interviewed: [REDACTED]

- Discussed:*
- 3D model is going to be part of an expression of interest that is going to go to NC3Rs.
 - Whilst the mesothelial cells were rhythmic in culture the aims were not achieved when moving to animals.
 - The potential use of alginates as controls was discussed.
 - It was suggested that the project licence holder contact researchers working on cancer *in vivo* to discuss their models.

2.3. [REDACTED], Zebrafish models of haemorrhagic stroke

Considered: A completed Retrospective review form and presentation

Interviewed: [REDACTED]

- Discussed:*
- The licence holder was congratulated on the body of work carried out on the licence and the results achieved.
 - A discussion took place on if researchers in the stroke community are receptive to this type of work in the zebrafish model. The licence holder explained that they are looking at funding to take the results from one study further, which could potentially lead to a clinical trial. Other researchers do seem interested but there are questions on how do the results from young zebrafish translate to aged humans where haemorrhagic stroke is most likely to occur.
 - The success of skin swabbing for genotyping was discussed. The results are variable in terms of the quality of DNA they obtain, but they will have to continue with skin swabbing in their future licence as one line of zebrafish has a mutation which collaborators have observed means that the animals die after fin-clipping.
 - The licence holder was congratulated on what a great lab they have.

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

3.1. [REDACTED], Genes and essential nutrient influences on behaviour

Considered: A completed mid-term review form

- Discussed:*
- One of the GA strains developed a tremor around 2 weeks old, and the licence holder was able to investigate why the tremors were happening.

Outcome: The subgroup supported continued work on this licence.

3.2. [REDACTED], Circadian regulation of pulmonary inflammation

Considered: A completed mid-term review form

- Discussed:*
- The Chair is going to follow-up with the licence holder about the new model they are using.

Outcome: The subgroup supported continued work on this licence.

4. Any other business

4.1. Animal research debate

The debate was held on 28 November 2023 and was a great success. Around 100 people attended. The speakers and discussions were good, and the feedback received was amazing.

4.2.

██████████

██████████ video was nominated for Understanding Animal Research but unfortunately didn't win.

The Chair thanked ██████████ who is leaving the University for her contributions to the group and wished her all the best for the future.

4.3. NACWOs on the group

A discussion took place about having more NACWOs on the group. The Chair will take this forward.