



The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday October 23rd 2023 Roslin 2-114/Microsoft Teams Hybrid option
Minutes

• 1. Attendance and apologies.

Apologies: [REDACTED].

Presentation [REDACTED]: the committee heard a very interesting presentation on a proposed application involving [REDACTED]. Noted that current 5 year survival for this condition is currently only 4%, hence the need for improved therapeutic approaches. Current approaches are such as tumour resection and portable devices can have significant side effects or be cumbersome and difficult to maintain for the user. The new treatment is implantable and the use of this device could increase 5 year survival rates from 4 to 29% a significant advance in the treatment of brain tumours in the last 20 years. [REDACTED]

Questions/Comments

- Why choose sheep?: the ratio of grey/white matter is more similar in sheep to humans than for example in pigs.
- Suggested that scoring sheets are to be mandatory within facilities.

Presentation [REDACTED]

This amendment is required to investigate reasons for and how to [REDACTED] in poultry, grant funding has been awarded. This new method could be used to [REDACTED] (training in equipment use can be provided [REDACTED]).

Questions/Comments (see reference A72-23 below):

• 2. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB

PL32-23: approved subject to addressing minor comments detailed below.

Project licence review PL32-23

1. Noted that this is a straightforward licence application, no major points for consideration have been raised.
2. It was noted that the application may include an additional surgical procedure, for the implantation of a cannula, this could be added to the application as an optional step.
3. Transport: noted that transport of animals in groups would be the standard.
4. Daily Health checks: this would be carried out by NVS/trained personell as standard, would not specifically be required to be added to the licence itself.
5. Blood sampling: it would be useful as an AWERB to agree on the type of sampling, for example if sedation will be used as a routine.

6. NTS: specifically amend terms such as the use of IM, a lay member would not understand what this meant.
7. Timescales of study: some discrepancy in the licence with the duration of studies (35 days) in comparison with planned work via study request form (49 days).

3. Amendment applications under consideration by the AWERB

A72-23

Summary: A circulated version of the revised amendment can go to sub-committee for final approval and then on to the additional establishment for final approval and submission.

Comments

- Justification of increase in animals to be added to the amendment. This should be added to the amendment form and relevant part of the licence.
- Reasons for additional establishment explained: number of birds [REDACTED] is too high to be housed [REDACTED]. Facilities [REDACTED] can accommodate this number of birds.

A77-23: BR

Summary: A circulated version of the revised amendment can go to sub-committee for final approval

Comments

- Change in the use of the number of animals was accepted, no issues with this.
- No issues raised, can be re-circulated to the sub-committee for approval.

A57-23: additional availability

The committee considered the combined comments following previous AWERB review and subsequent additional sub-committee review, a summary of comments are detailed below:

A57:23: additional availability application

- [REDACTED] Appropriate wording/system of approval should be put in place.
- Harm-benefit analysis: the generic nature of the PPL, and because this is a commercial company, means that there may be limited information in terms of compounds etc. This could be difficult to assess in terms of benefits if we are unaware of test substances. Could additional information on the types of test compounds be provided/clarified?
- The AWERB have requested clarification as to who will perform the work: will this be the applicant's team or our team here?
- The AWERB suggested that once approved every individual study should go through the AWERB for consideration.
- There was discussion on logistical issues, for example space constraints and time pressures at [REDACTED]. In terms of ethical consideration this is a separate issue however consideration should be given to these points.

Summary: There were a number of questions raised and further review on this PPL is required with potential revisions before the additional availability application is granted. **Action:** feedback to be sent to applicant for consideration. A revised version to be presented to the AWERB in due course.

- **Minutes of last meeting:**

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on the 11th September

- **Matters arising/Action points**

- None tabled.

- **BVS Director update:** none tabled.

- **Named Persons Update:**

- **NVS update:**

- **LA:** Wound dehiscence in one study, matter now resolved following [REDACTED] treatment.
- **Poultry:** no major issues, one potential eye issue which has now been resolved in a batch of broiler chicks.
- New NVS joining at the start of December, experience in mixed practice including LA which is very good news.
- Conference LA: very well attended and positive feedback obtained from the meeting. We have also taken on board some points from this event in terms of LA welfare which has been helpful

- **NTCO update:** no issues to report.

- **PEL Holder update:** none tabled

- **Edinburgh AWERB report:**

- **Licensing:** still very busy. A few licensing issues with extending deadlines to 55 working days, some issues with inconsistency amongst inspectors.
- **Attended HOLTF meeting:** discrepancies with HO timescales and consistency with deadlines discussed. HO report that staffing: now been improved

- **Reports from Facilities**

- **Farms [REDACTED]:** currently very busy, planning work for 2024 in progress. A number of studies in progress with no issues encountered.
- **Staffing:** looking at support for [REDACTED] with veterinary anaesthesia. Additional animal tech post being formalized (currently guaranteed hours contract).
- **Facilities:** lighting to be replaced however this is dependent on software updates which will take up to 3 weeks, this will mean that lighting can be controlled automatically. [REDACTED]

- **Poultry :**

- **Facilities:** potential eye problem now resolved, situation is being monitored. Manual drinker issue has been resolved. New germline project will commence shortly.
- **Rehoming:** 5 hens are being rehomed to [REDACTED], we hope that this can be further extended to a wider groups of people.
- [REDACTED] approved an additional availability application with [REDACTED], cardiology studies. A PEL amendment will be required to facilitate this work. NACWO will attend the PIL course for [REDACTED], NVS will complete the non-Sch1 work for training. PEL amendment to be submitted.

- **Chick embryo room** [REDACTED]: no report.
- **Aquaculture Facility** [REDACTED]:
- One resignation now replaced.
- Repairs now almost complete (previous minutes), hoping to re-stock shortly for a study.
- New PI: discussion about whether a new PI should be recruited to bring in a fish immunologist

- **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** additional rats
- **Project Licences *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
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- **Project Licence amendments *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
- A66-23

17 A.O.C.B: New vet is joining us at the start of December which is very good news indeed.

New member: [REDACTED] wishes to join the committee, no issue raised to this

- **Date of next meeting:** December 11th 2.30pm Roslin [REDACTED] Hybrid option via MS teams