National Committee for the Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes (NCPA)

Report of the Meeting on 20 September 2016 at 10:30 am

1. Declarations of Interest/Conflicts of Interest
   There were no conflicts of interest declared.

2. Minutes
   The minutes for the meeting of 29 April 2016 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising
   There were no matters arising.

4. Report of the Meeting:
   The report of the meeting of 29 April 2016 was adopted.

5. Request for Advice from HPRA on Use of Animals in Procedures
   It was noted that the HPRA has requested advice, under Article 49 of Directive 2010/63/EU. The National Committee (NC) reviewed the response prepared by two members in relation to the matter. Subject to a number of changes it was agreed to provide the advice to the HPRA. It was also agreed to amend the paper to develop it into a general guidance paper for publication on the NC website.

6. ILASA Request on a Number of Issues
   It was noted that the Irish Laboratory Animal Science Association (ILASA) had requested guidance on a number of issues. Following a discussion on these matters it was agreed that the Chair and a member would write to ILASA on the above and the HPRA with recommendations from the NC.

7. FELASA Presentation
   The Chair provided an overview of a recent meeting he had attended with AOK hosted by the Federation for Laboratory Animal Science Associations (FELASAs) where he had presented on the measures achieved to date by the NC since the instatement of the Committee in 2014.

8. Communication to Dept. of Health
   It was noted that the NC reviewed a communication to the Dept. of Health in relation to the pending expiration of appointments of some of the members, which are on a staggered basis and the skills required on the NC in the future.

9. Overview of 3R Information Day HPRA/Science Foundation Ireland/Health Research Board Q1 2017
   An overview was provided of the proposed 3R Information Day to be hosted jointly by the HPRA, Science Foundation Ireland and, the Health Research Board. It was noted that the agenda has been finalised and the NC considered how best to leverage the day to connect with AWB members.
10. **HPRA Regulatory Updates since Last Meeting**
   The regulatory updates since the last meeting were noted by the NC.

11. **Proposed Meeting Dates 2017**
   As the 2017 composition of the Committee is unknown, it was agreed that a meeting be organised for February 2017 via Doodle poll which can be cancelled if all existing members are returning. A second meeting date is to be organised once the exact date of the 3R conference is known.

12. **AOB**
   i. **Questionnaire for Competent Authorities**
      The above was noted by the members. It was noted that the HPRA completed it and returned it within the timeline. A draft report is to be issued from the Commission by the end of 2016.

   ii. **EMA Guidance Note on Implementation of Best Practice with regard to 3Rs in Regulatory Testing of Medicinal Products**
       The members noted the above. It was agreed that the document be circulated to the Chairs of the AWBs.

13. **Closed Session of NCPA (if required)**
   A closed session of the NCPA was not required.

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_Colin Gaynor_  
DATE:

CHAIRMAN

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**Appendix**

A  
AWB = Animal Welfare Body  
AWCO – Animal Welfare Care Office

F  
FELASA - Federation for Laboratory Animal Science Associations

I  
ILASA - Irish Laboratory Animal Science Association  
IO – Information Officer
M
MS – Member State of the European Union

N
NC/NCPA – National Committee/National Committee Protection Animals

P
PARERE network – Preliminary Assessment of Regulatory Relevance network
PI – Principal Investigator (on a clinical trial)

R
3 Rs – (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement)