



## **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** October 23, 2019

**Time:** 3:30 p.m., [REDACTED]

**Attendees:** [REDACTED]

The meeting was called to order at 3:29 p.m. by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *arrived at 3:35 p.m.*

### **I. MINUTES REVIEW**

A. The minutes from the July 26, 2019 semiannual meeting were not reviewed.

### **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

### **III. ADVERSE EVENT**

Ref# [REDACTED], "Breeding Eastern Mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*)," [REDACTED].

- Email communication in May detailed that there was water quality issues in the ponds on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and the PI stated that he would "work on it". In June, a follow-up email from the PI explained that "electrical storms" impeded work on the ponds. In September, the PI disclosed that they were have issues with their deionized water system.

- The committee made recommendations for the Corrective Action Plan. They request that the PI create or modify an SOP to detail what the water changes entail. Checklists should be added to the SOP, to ensure procedures are followed and the necessary checks are made. In addition, the PI is asked to explain what the water source is in the event that the deionized water supply system is not working.

#### **IV. AMENDED PROTOCOLS**

##### **A. Ref# [REDACTED] “AD Mice Degarelix Study”, Dr. [REDACTED].**

The committee discussed the revisions made to the protocol, adding single-housing of animals. The justification matches what is described in new single-housing SOP.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve,

**Vote:** Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstain – 0

[REDACTED] *steps out at 4:37 p.m.*

##### **B. Ref# [REDACTED] “Circuit-specific investigation of the hippocampus and prefrontal cortex in memory”, [REDACTED].**

Additional language was added by the PI regarding single housing and length of time.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve,

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

#### **V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

- AAALAC Site Visit – The findings from the visit were shared with the committee members. The committee discussed the SFI that pertained to the quail being donated to land owners that permit hunting, which conflicted with the current SOP that states that donated animals will be used as pets. The committee suggested either finding alternative land owners that would adopt the animals and not allow hunting on their lands, or updating the SOP to allow donating animals to any land owner (including those that allow hunting on their grounds). Regarding the SFI that pertained to sanitation of the quail holding cages/boxes, the committee discussed either purchasing disposable cages or obtaining additional cages that will be rotated as they are sanitized at the ACF cage washers. The committees discussed the remaining findings that will be addressed, as suggested by the site visitors.
- Single-housing SOP – The committee reviewed the SOP created to explain the need and procedure for single-housing of animals. Committee members made small edits to include “for purposes of the health of the animal” and for “long-term health reasons” in the social housing exceptions portion of the document. A committee

member explained that behavioral interaction experiments may be considered an environmental enrichment. The committee approved the SOP.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.



## **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** November 4, 2019

**Time:** 3:00 p.m., [REDACTED]

**Attendees:** [REDACTED]

The meeting was called to order at 2:57 p.m. by [REDACTED].

### **I. MINUTES REVIEW**

**A.** The minutes from the July 26, 2019 and the October 23, 2019 meetings were approved.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve.

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

[REDACTED] *arrived at 3:03 p.m.*

### **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. AAALAC Site Visit – The committee was made aware that AAALAC had received the response to the findings. An update will be given once it is received.
2. For the June Semiannual inspection, ORI and OLAR would like to coordinate a shuttle that would provide transportation to the [REDACTED] for the members. For the interest of time, 2 voting members will be required to inspect the facilities within the next few weeks. Several members have volunteered and will coordinate their commute.

### **III. NEW PROTOCOLS**

#### **1. Reference [REDACTED]: “Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration in ALS and PD,” submitted by [REDACTED].**

A committee member summarized the specifics of the research that is being proposed in the protocol:

Approximately 200 rats will develop ALS. Some transgenic lines have already been created at previous institution and new transgenic lines will be created. Currently the PI has about 15 transgenic lines.

The committee suggested that more explanation of what would be done to the rats be explicitly listed in the protocol. In addition, the committee is suggesting that the monitoring of the animals be described. Furthermore, the funding proposal needs to be attached to the application. It seems that the grant is NIH funded. If that is the case, the NIH should be made aware of the move to our institution.

The protocol seems incomplete and requires additional information, specifically in the experimental design since it is currently unclear. Therefore, the committee suggests that a breeding protocol be submitted, in order to allow for the transfer of animals from the previous Institution. The PI will need to submit an IBC exemption solely to maintain the existing colonies, not crossbreed them. Under this breeding protocol, no cross-breeding can occur.

The AV has verified that animals that are being transferred from the PI's prior institution have a clean health report; however he will have them tested once they arrive at our [REDACTED] Facility.

The committee agreed that this protocol should be tabled and the PI would need to submit three separate protocols. One would be for breeding existing lines, another for creating transgenic rats and a 3<sup>rd</sup> for experimental procedures. In addition an SOP to check for multi-dysfunctions must be provided. The suggestion to create a breeding protocol in the time being will be made to the PI.

**Motion:** There was a motion to table protocol.

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.



**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
Semi Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Time:** 10:30 AM, [REDACTED]

**Attendees:** [REDACTED]

The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] arrived at 10:40 a.m.

**I. MINUTES REVIEW**

A. The minutes from the November 4, 2019 meeting were approved.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve.

**Vote:** Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

**III. SEMIANNUAL REVIEW**

There are currently sixteen protocols that depart from the Guide that have been reviewed and approved by the IACUC. Three protocols are for food restriction or regulation, two protocols for non-standard caging, two for euthanasia method, six for social housing, and three for environmental enrichment. The members signed the semiannual report.

There were several minor deficiencies in some of the facilities that were inspected. All findings have been reported to the respective responsible party. These findings are as follows:

In [REDACTED], general area, the live traps should be removed or a daily check log would need to be created/maintained. **Updated: (12/6/19), live traps have been removed.** [REDACTED] has 2 Ethanol bottles without expiration dates and point of contact on signage, needs to be updated. **Updated: (12/6/19), Ethanol bottles have been removed and point of contact on signage, has been updated.** [REDACTED] signage needs to be updated to reflect new point of contact. **Updated: (12/6/19), signage has been updated with new point of contact.** [REDACTED] Animal Holding Room had one cage missing enrichment. **Updated: (12/6/19), enrichment was added to the cage.** [REDACTED] Animal Holding Room signage needs to be updated. **Updated: (12/6/19), signage has been updated to remove contact that has left FIU.** [REDACTED] Animal Holding Room signage needs to be updated to indicate the correct PI of record. **Updated: (12/6/19), signage has been updated with current PI's contact information** [REDACTED] has a computer near the procedure area that is missing a keyboard cover. **Updated: (12/7/19), keyboard cover has been ordered.** [REDACTED] Procedure Room has a laptop in the procedure area when not in use and an empty bottle of urethane. **Updated: (11/25/19), the laptop has been removed and bottle disposed of correctly** [REDACTED] Procedure Room has heat lamps/light bulbs on shelf, which prevents proper sanitation. **Updated: (12/6/19), the lamps/bulbs have been put away in storage.**

[REDACTED] has an expired protocol posted that needs to be removed and updated. **Updated: (11/25/19), a current version of the protocol has been posted.**

[REDACTED] has pools with algal growth obscured the viewing of animals. These conditions do not allow for viewing of animal count and/or health. The PI's [REDACTED] remains a concern of the committee members that visited the space. The water appeared "fluorescent" in color, and daily logs have not been kept, as required.

**Deficiencies discussed at IACUC Semiannual Meeting. The committee suggested a subcommittee visit the space again and provide feedback on status of pools and animals. This subcommittee would consist of designated members and an FIU PI with expertise in tropical aquatic animals and plants. Updated: (12/19/19), pools were inspected and found to be in better conditions. Furthermore, daily logs are being maintained.**

[REDACTED] has a fish missing enrichment in its enclosure. **Updated: (11/25/19), PI has added enrichment for the fish.** [REDACTED] has cleaning equipment on the floor. **Updated: (11/26/19), cleaning equipment has been removed off the floor and stored properly.**

[REDACTED] does not have the active protocols available. Vet emergency contact information and animal bite signage is missing. Refrigerator signage is missing. **Updated: (12/3/19), All signage has been posted and protocols are available.** [REDACTED] IACUC approval memorandums on door are expired, stained roof tiles present, and air curtain is being turned off while lab personnel are working on the bench. **PI's use of the**

air curtain was discussed by the committee at the IACUC Semiannual Meeting. The committee suggests that a second air curtain be installed at the entrance to the lab (main door) and that it always remain in the on position (lab personnel should not have capability to turn off). The committee also suggests that signage be posted when experiments are being conducted and that a UV light also be installed in the foyer or entrance. Updated: (12/1/19), current protocol memorandums are posted and roof tiles replaced. Screen door and UV lights installed.

██████████ facility has whistleblower signage missing. Updated: (12/6/19), facility has not been commissioned yet; however, signage has been posted.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve the Semiannual report.

**Action:** Approved.

**Vote:** Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain – 0

██████████ stepped out at 11:17 a.m.

██████████ returned at 11:23 a.m.

#### **IV. NEW PROTOCOLS**

1. Reference# ██████████ “Breeding rat models of neurodegenerative diseases,” submitted by ██████████.

The committee suggested that the investigators come to MMC and meet with a subcommittee comprised of the AV, IBC Chair and administrative member to iron-out the protocol details. The PIs would be informed of the need to be as descriptive as possible, to ensure that the protocols are detailed and thorough.

The committee agreed that the protocols needed additional information and could not be approved until there was more complete information provided.

**Motion:** There was a motion to table the protocol.

**Action:** Tabled

**Vote:** Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain – 0

- Reference# ██████████: “Operation of transgenic rat lab,” submitted by ██████████

The committee suggested that the investigators come to MMC and meet with a subcommittee comprised of the AV, IBC Chair and administrative member to iron-out the protocol details. The PIs would be informed of the need to be as descriptive as possible, to ensure that the protocols are detailed and thorough.



The committee agreed that the protocols needed additional information and could not be approved until there was more complete information provided.

**Motion:** There was a motion to table the protocol.

**Action:** Tabled

**Vote:** Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain – 0

Reference# [REDACTED] “Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration in ALS and PD,”  
submitted by [REDACTED]

The committee suggested that the investigators come to MMC and meet with a subcommittee comprised of the AV, IBC Chair and administrative member to iron-out the protocol details. The PIs would be informed of the need to be as descriptive as possible, to ensure that the protocols are detailed and thorough.

The committee agreed that the protocols needed additional information and could not be approved until there was more complete information provided.

**Motion:** There was a motion to table the protocol.

**Action:** Tabled

**Vote:** Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain – 0

## **V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS - N/A**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.



## Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 8, 2020

**Time:** 11:30AM, [REDACTED]

**Attendees:**

[REDACTED]

The meeting was called to order at 11:38AM by [REDACTED].

### **I. MINUTES REVIEW**

A. The minutes from the December 11, 2019 meeting were approved.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

[REDACTED] *conferenced in via telephone at 11:50AM*

### **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

### **III. NEW PROTOCOLS**

1. Reference# [REDACTED] "Breeding rat models of neurodegenerative diseases,"  
submitted by [REDACTED].

The committee discussed the changes to the protocol and are content with the revisions made. Minor changes are required, and they are as follows: The PI is being asked to update the start date, reflecting a date after the approval date. In addition, the PI is being asked to make a small revision in the “Animal Quantity Justification”, replacing the wording of “experiment” with “breeding group” when referencing the breeding groups. This will emphasize that this protocol is strictly for breeding purposes. Lastly, the PI will state in the “Other Strain/Stock/Breed” section that Doxycycline will not be added to activate the transgene for breeders.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve, pending modifications.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**2. Reference# [REDACTED]: “Operation of transgenic rat lab,” submitted by [REDACTED].**

The committee discussed the changes to the protocol and are content with the revisions made. Minor changes are required, and they are as follows: The PI has been asked to correct some grammatical errors in the “Personnel Qualifications and Training” and “Pain and Distress Justification” sections. In addition, the PI is being asked to update the start date, reflecting a date after the approval date. The “Alternative Literature Search” section needs to be updated to reflect the years included in the search. Lastly, the PI is asked to update the “Safety Practices” sections, to specify what preventive/protective practices will be used while handling Ketamine and Isoflurane.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve, pending modifications.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**3. Reference# [REDACTED]: “Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration in ALS and PD,” submitted by [REDACTED].**

The committee discussed the changes to the protocol and are content with the revisions made. Minor changes are required, and they are as follow: The PI is being asked to update the start date, reflecting a date after the approval date. In addition, in the “Summary of the Research” section, the PI has been asked to specify what tests are going to be used to evaluate motor skills in the animal models. Grammatical errors in the “Surgery Staff” section, need revision. Lastly, the PI is asked to update the “Safety Practices” sections, to specify what preventive/protective practices will be used while handling Ketamine and Isoflurane.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve, pending modifications.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS - N/A**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.



**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 11, 2020

**Time:** 11:30AM [REDACTED]

**Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**I. MINUTES REVIEW**

A. The minutes from the January 8, 2020 meeting were approved.

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 10, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

**III. NEW PROTOCOLS**

[REDACTED] arrives at 11:57AM

**1. Reference# [REDACTED]: “Injectable conditioned, stem cell-derived exosomes to treat myocardial infarction,” submitted by [REDACTED].**

The meeting began with one of the members mentioning their concerns over quality-control of the procedures. Due to the complexity of the procedures, the non-human primate animal model, is questioned. They suggested that a smaller, less sentient, model seems to be a more appropriate model to consider, and if successful, then the progression to the non-human primate model may be acceptable. Another member stated that the cost-benefit has not been justified properly in the protocol application. Based on the information provided in the literature searches and project description, there is no evidence that has shown successful outcomes of the proposed procedures in any animal model. The PI proposes to conduct work with the Mannheimer Foundation. Because PHS funds are being used for this proposed research, the facility will be required to have an OLAW Assurance. It has not been provided at this time. The pain categorization of the procedures needs to be clarified. There is a statement in the Description of Euthanasia Methods section that states “all animals that die or are humanely euthanized must be necropsied within 24 hours of death – whenever possible”. This statement will need to be clarified. The committee also asks that anticipated mortality rate be provided in this clarification. “Death as an endpoint” would be appropriate if animals will perish as a result of the proposed procedures. The committee suggests that a pilot study be performed, along with in-vitro studies. A member suggested that the cost-basis is not justified and questions if there is enough experience in performing these procedures, to carry them out correctly. A committee member also brought up the marketability of this research. The protocol does not make mention to this, and the committee would like to know if there is projected/anticipated marketability that result from the data collection. If so, should there be a conflict of interest, it would need to be disclosed. Regarding the Duplicative Literature section, the PI is asked to provide a better summary of the literature searched, as only reference information is currently provided. Lastly, the committee would like to know the role of [REDACTED] in this protocol, if any. She is listed as a key personnel in the funding proposal.

**Motion:** There was a motion to table the protocol.

**Action:** Tabled.

**Vote:** Yes – 11, No – 0, Abstain – 0

#### **IV. RENEWAL PROTOCOLS**

**[REDACTED] Reference# [REDACTED]: “Tissue Regeneration in Allogeneic Bone Marrow Progenitor Cell-Seeded Bio-scaffold Substitutes Following Valvular Replacement,” submitted by [REDACTED]**

The PI is being asked by the committee if he has looked into obtaining bone marrow samples from other sources. Is there a need to use these animals or can this tissue be obtained from a samples be obtained elsewhere (i.e. biobank)?

**Motion:** There was a motion to approve pending modifications.

**Action:** Approved.

**Vote:** Yes – 11, No – 0, Abstain – 0

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

- In the event of the University shutting down due to the Coronavirus situation, the Attending Veterinarian (AV) informed the committee of the emergency plan that is in place and would go into effect, if necessary. The AV ensured the committee that the Animal Care Facility (ACF) was well prepared to care for the animals.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.



## **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** April 1, 2020

**Time:** 3:00 p.m., Zoom

**Attendees:**

[REDACTED]

**Proceedings:** [REDACTED], IACUC Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

[REDACTED] *arrives at 3:12 p.m.*

### **I. MINUTES REVIEW**

A. The minutes from the March 11, 2020 meeting were approved.

**Motion:** There was a motion to **approve**.

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

### **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- New non-affiliated member, [REDACTED], was introduced. [REDACTED] introduced herself, giving a brief description of her background.

### **III. NEW PROTOCOLS**

1. Reference# [REDACTED]: “Injectable conditioned, stem cell-derived exosomes to treat myocardial infarction,” submitted by [REDACTED].

The committee members discussed that the PI did not fully address the comments and concerns from the previous review of this protocol. There are concerns over potential



use of created compounds/cocktails that the PI proposes. There is a lack of preliminary data regarding the proposed media being used. The committee suggests that these compounds be experimented on isolated tissues, before used in-vivo and must show that positive outcomes are obtained. The committee again suggests the use of a less sentient model, such as a rodent model, with gradual progression, as positive results and proof of concept are achieved. There are concerns regarding the pain categorization, as experiments propose the opening of the chest cavity, and there is not clear indication of pain alleviation with medication. The PI would need to provide more precise detail explaining the procedures. The committee proposes that the PI should submit a new protocol with a less sentient model, as a pilot study for this protocol.

**Motion:** There was a motion to **table** the protocol.

**Action:** Tabled.

**Vote:** Yes – 7, No – 0, Abstain – 0

#### **IV. RENEWAL PROTOCOLS**

N/A

#### **V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

N/A

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.