

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Teleconference

January 19, 2022

2:00pm

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Ami Ruffing
Dr. Ed Heist
Dr. Francisco Agustin Jimenez-Ruiz
Dr. James Lovvorn
Dr. Jennifer Harris
Dr. Karen Jones, Chair
Dr. Lydia Arbogast
Ms. Amanda Ingram
Ms. Debbie Simpson
Ms. Liz Gersbacher

VISITORS

Ms. Chris Massey
Ms. Carolyn Skouby

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm and Dr. Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting.

REPORT OF ANIMAL ILLNESSES/ISSUES – DR. HARRIS

Dr. Harris provided an overview select items from her animal illness/issues report and stated the full report was available to the committee on D2L, should they want to review it.

[2:05 Carolyn Scouby joined the meeting as a guest and will not be voting today]

Discussion

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Dr. Jones noted a few spelling/grammar errors in the minutes and asked the committee if the minutes could be approved noting the corrections. Dr. Ruffing made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted changes and Dr. Harris seconded the motion.

Total Voting =9; Vote: For = 9 Opposed = 0 Abstained = 1

REVIEW OF NEW PROTOCOLS BY FULL COMMITTEE

21-035, Production methods for warmwater fish grow-out using pond and hybrid tank-pond systems by Karolina Kwasek

Discussion

The committee reviewed 21-035, Production methods for warmwater fish grow-out using pond and hybrid tank-pond systems by Karolina Kwasek. The PI was not present at the meeting. Dr. Jones opened by saying the tank description was unclear and the power analysis provided was unclear about the endpoints. Dr. Heist clarified the tank is a circular fiberglass tank. Dr. Jones asked if the tanks regulate temperature. Dr. Heist clarified the fish species used in the study are native to this area and temp of the water

shouldn't affect them. Dr. Arbogast asked if ms-222 euthanasia was properly classified as an inhaled or non-inhaled agent. Dr. Heist responded saying he felt inhaling was appropriate for fish since they take in oxygen via their gills. Dr. Jimenez-Ruiz disagreed citing Frogs; and that they receive oxygen through their epidermis layer which is not classified as inhaling. Dr. Jones suggested the administration of ms-222 should be changed to category 3 – non-inhaled agent. The designated reviewers for the protocol are Dr. Heist and Dr. Jimenez-Ruiz.

Total Voting =10; Vote: For =10 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

21-036, Effects of Obesity-Inducing Diet Duration on the Ovarian Follicle Environment and Oocyte Quality by Eduardo Gastal

Discussion

The committee reviewed 21-036, *Effects of Obesity-Inducing Diet Duration on the Ovarian Follicle Environment and Oocyte Quality* by Eduardo Gastal. The PI was not present at the meeting. Dr. Ruffing commented saying the PI is purchasing quarter horses for this study from a commercial vendor. She added that she is unclear about how the PI will control light/dark cycles since facilities don't appear to exist at the SIU farm for this type of control.

Dr. Jones had several concerns about the study. Her first concern was the large number of animals the PI intends to use and specifically why four groups of distinct horses are required for the measurements the PI intends to take. She was unclear as to the measurements could not be taken on the same group of horses at the intervals designated by the PI (i.e. 1 month, 2 months and 3 months). She feels the PI should provide a justification for the large number of animals in the study.

Her second concern was that the PI did not fully explain the use of the Drug banamine prior to ultra sound. Specifically, would the Drug need to be administered one hour before the ultrasound? The PI should clarify this point.

Her third concern was the PI did not provide a reason for the large amount of PBS used to flush the follicle (12ml x 10 times). She said the amount seemed excessive to her. The PI should clarify why so much is needed.

Her fourth concern was the body condition scoring method. The PI did not provide a reference to the source of the method or how it would be performed. Also missing was an explanation of how the body fat percentage for each horse would be determined during the weekly weigh-in of the horses. The PI should provide an explanation of each.

Her fifth concern was about the samplings the PI intends to do (e.g. follicular, fluid, and blood). The PI does not mention what will be measured with the samplings. Additional clarification about what will be measured is required.

Her six concern was about the additional staff designated by the PI. The PI failed to mention if Melba has a contract. Also, the PI didn't mention if Sam read the protocol since his name was listed under additional staff. The PI should clarify both points.

Dr. Lovvorn asked how old the purchased animals will be. One of the aims of the study

is gain insight into oocyte quality for obese mares. Dr. Lovvorn said oocyte quality varies by age and wonders how the researcher will control for mares of varying ages.

Dr. Harris asked if all 24 horses will be purchased at once. If not, there could be a longer than expected acclimation period for all 24 animals if they are purchased in groups at different times. Dr. Jones agreed and said the PI should provide the commercial vendors name and also provide the relevant biosecurity information (e.g. health records, immunizations, and so on) required for outside animals which are introduced into the SIU Farm environment. Additional Dr. Jones is concerned there may not be enough of space at the farms to house 24 additional animals for a whole year as the PI intends. Especially since the PI intends to control light/dark cycles which requires specific housing and lighting in order to do.

The committee feels there were a sufficient amount of questions that the PI should revise the protocol and resubmit it to full committee for a second review. Ms. Gersbacher put forth a motion to send the protocol back to PI for revision and Dr. Harris seconded the motion.

Total Voting =10; Vote: For =10 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

21-037, Effects of Obesity on Preantral Follicles and Ovarian Tissue Vascularization by Eduardo Gastal

Discussion

The committee reviewed 21-037, *Effects of Obesity on Preantral Follicles and Ovarian Tissue Vascularization* by Eduardo Gastal. The PI was not present at the meeting.

Dr. Jones opened by saying this study has many of the same lack of clarifications as the previous study. She cited the lack of clarification about what is being measured with the sampling as well as the lack of clarification about the method of body condition scoring. The commercial vendor for the horses was also not named.

Dr. Jones also cited some problems specific to this study. She said this study says it will take two weeks is all it will take for the horses to become obese on their diet of cracked corn. The previous study says it will take a month's time for the horses to become obese. She added either time frame may insufficient to produce the desired result.

Dr. Jones also had questions about procedures present in this study. The biopsy procedure references a 2013 by Hague, she said, but the Hague study also includes a post-biopsy regimen that must be followed. The regimen was not included in this protocol. Also, she noted the ultrasound procedure included in this study does not say who will perform the Ultrasound. If the graduate assistant is performing it, she will require training and practice animals she said. Either way the PI should clarify who will do the ultrasound. Dr. Jones also questioned why the two studies were not combined into one study since their aims appear to be so similar. Dr. Ruffing said that conventions and constraints in the grant application process were likely the reason they were submitted as two separate studies.

Dr. Harris said she concerned about the physiology and metabolism center's ability to house and care for so many animals. Dr. Lovvorn agreed and asked if the PI had contacted the farm's administration about the large number of incoming animals and gotten feedback from them as to whether they will be able to house and care for them. If not, a memo of understanding or memo of acceptance should be obtained from the farm administration (i.e. Chris and Sam) which states they aware of the large number of animals and will be able to house and care for them.

Dr. Lovvorn made a motion the study be sent back to PI for revision and resubmitted to the full committee. Ms. Gersbacher seconded the motion.

Total Voting =10; Vote: For =10 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

REVIEW OF NEW AMMENDMENTS BY FULL COMMITTEE

21-023, *Add additional animals and euthanasia methods for neonates* by Philip Jensik

Discussion

The committee reviewed 21-023, *Add additional animals and euthanasia methods for neonates* by Philip Jensik. The PI was not present at the meeting. Dr. Jones said the PI should clarify whether the number of animals in the amendment is in reference to the new total number of mice or to the number of additional mice needed. The committee voted unanimously to send this amendment to DMR review and the designated reviewers were assigned to Dr. Arbogast and Ms. Gersbacher.

Total Voting =10; Vote: For =10 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

21-025, *Add treatment of animals with FTY720*

Discussion

The committee reviewed 21-025, *Add treatment of animals with FTY720* by Vjollca Konjufca. The PI was not present at the meeting. Dr. Jones said the PI should take the word "about" out the sentence reading "about 60 animals" in part B(4). She also said the PI should provide details about the extra experiment included in the protocol, which uses a Drug (FTY720) previously approved in a prior protocol, but not explicitly approved for this study. Dr. Heist made a motion that the amendment should go to designated member review and Ms. Gersbacher seconded the motion. Designated reviewers were assigned to Dr. Arbogast and Dr. Harris.

Total Voting =10; Vote: For =10 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Jones said that since an unapproved Drug was used in 21-025 and discovered after the experiment was underway, the experiment was halted and the incident was reported to OLAW. Dr. Jones provided the committee with a brief history of the events that led up to the suspension. She said the use of unapproved drug was discovered by Lab Animal Staff and reported to the attending veterinarian, Dr. Harris, who in turn reported to the IACUC. She added that Dr. Konjufca has resigned from IACUC because of the incident. Dr. Jones asked Committee members to please maintain confidentiality regarding the incident.

Dr. Arbogast said she felt Dr. Harris acted within the permits of her role as attending veterinarian. Dr. Lovvorn felt the controls in place to detect offenses of this kind work as intended in this case. The committee agreed the actions were taken by Dr. Harris were justified and appropriate.

Dr. Jones said one communication about the incident has already gone to OLAW and a follow-up communication would be forthcoming that will indicate what corrective actions will be taken. Dr. Jones added that the recommendations for corrective action that are currently on the table include a full protocol review and additional CITI training. She asked the committee if there were other actions that should be taken?

Dr. Jones said that in the past, additional training and supervision was prescribed. She added that the level supervision provided in the past, might be difficult to sustain in this case. Another possibility to increase the number of PAM visits for the offending PI she said.

Dr. Jimenez-Ruiz asked about what additional trainings were suggested and Dr. Jones said Responsible Conduct of Research training Dr. Jimenez-Ruiz said additional corrective actions could include a written communication to the offending PI with hard date to cease and desist unless the animals were in clear and present danger then activity should cease immediately.

[4:14 pm Amanda Ingram left the meeting]

[4:17 pm Debbie Simpson left the meeting]

Dr. Jones said that a corrective action plan (CAP) should be drafted and the circulated to the committee. Dr. Lovvorn made a motion to move forward with drafting a CAP which will be reviewed by the full committee. Dr. Jimenez-Ruiz seconded the motion.

Total Voting =8; Vote: For =8 Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm