



Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks

(SCHEER)

1st meeting of the Working Group on non-human primates testing

Meeting date: 24 May 2016

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed the participants. One apology was received.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declaration of interests on matters on the agenda

WG members declared the following interests: involvement in projects involving non-human primates and alternative methods; membership of the group of experts giving authorisation to animal testing, membership of ESAC, the ECVAM Scientific Advisory Committee.

The WG and the secretariat concluded that these interests prove the expertise of the members and do not constitute conflicts because they are related to institutional work performed by public organisations in public interest.

4. Designation of the rapporteur

The WG concluded to postpone the designation of rapporteur until the full WG is set-up (including external experts).

5. Discussion on the mandate

The aim is to update the opinion from 2009, especially as regards identification of new research areas and the use of new alternative methods.

6. Selection of external experts of the WG

The WG concluded that additional expertise to reinforce the WG is needed, especially in the following areas:

- fundamental research involving non-human primates
- pre-clinical studies using non-human primates
- animal welfare/animal protection, especially in relation to non-human primates

- alternative methods in biomedical research, production and testing of products and devices aiming at replacement, reduction and refinement of methods using non-human primates.

In addition, the secretariat will ask EMA to nominate an expert to the WG.

7. Literature to be used (incl. literature search and/or call for information)

The WG concluded that literature search is not needed but suggested to organise a specific Call for information asking for information on new technologies to replace/reduce the use of non-human primates since 2009. The WG asked the mandating DG to provide statistical data (EU-level, MSs) on the use of NHP.

8. Timetable

The deadline for the preliminary Opinion is December 2016. The Chair will prepare a draft timetable for the opinion.

9. Any Other Business

No AOB