

Scottish Government Health Directorates
Chief Scientist Office

Experimental and Translational Medicine Research Committee

Minute of the meeting of the ETMRC held in St Andrews House, Edinburgh at 09:30am on Friday, 24 February 2012.

Present:

Professor Haites (Chair)
Dr Collie-Duguid
Professor Critchley
Professor Davies
Dr McIntosh
Professor Newby
Professor Norrie
Dr Petty
Dr Powis
Professor Reid
Professor Rowe
Professor Salter
Mrs Munro

Scottish Government:

Dr McNair
Mrs Croll
Mr McLeod

1. Apologies for absence and intimations

Professor Ruth Jarrett, Professor George Macfarlane, Professor Keith Muir, Dr Calum Sutherland and Ms Barbara Lamb all sent their apologies.

2. Approval of minutes of ETMRC meeting held on 18 November 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2011 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the ETMRC meeting held on 18 November 2011

3.1 [6.1R] Dr A Green, Prof R Will, Prof R Knight, Dr L McGuire (ETM/58)

Development and evaluation of a disease-specific diagnostic test for Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease based on the detection of PRPSC in cerebrospinal fluid using real-time QulC analysis.

Following a satisfactory response to the points raised by the committee, a funding letter has been issued.

3.2 [6.2] Dr L Stark, Prof M Dunlop, Dr D Faratian (ETM/154)

Investigating the potential of COMMD1 as a novel target for the treatment and prevention of colon cancer and as a marker of prognosis and aspirin response.

Following a satisfactory response to the points raised by the committee, a funding letter has been issued.

3.3 [6.6] Prof S Anderton, Dr A Williams (ETM/163)

Probing regulatory T cells in multiple sclerosis brain.

The Committee recommended funding for this application, a funding letter has been issued.

3.4 [6.11] Prof H Galley, Prof N Webster, Dr D Lowes, DR L Allen, Dr L Aucott (ETM/167)

A dose escalation study of melatonin in healthy volunteers as a potential treatment for sepsis.

Following a satisfactory response to the points raised by the committee, a funding letter has been issued.

3.5 [6.12] Dr K Evans, Prof A McIntosh, Prof D Porteous (ETM/181)

Investigation of micro RNAs as biomarkers and drug targets for bipolar disorder.

The Committee recommended funding for this application, a funding letter has been issued.

3.6 [6.13] Dr J Plevris, Dr L Nelson, Prof P Hayes (ETM/182)

Tissue engineering of 3D human hepatic organotypic model using novel cell, biomatrix and bioreactor enabling technologies for pharmaceutical applications.

Following a satisfactory response to the points raised by the committee, a funding letter has been issued.

3.7 [6.22R] Prof J Satsangi, Dr C Stevens (ETM/137)

Investigation of vimentin as a regulator of NOD2 responsiveness to adherent-invasive *E-coli* in the pathogenesis of Crohn's disease.

The Committee recommended funding for this application, a funding letter has been issued.

4. Final Reports

4.1 Prof H Campbell, Dr D Mitry, Dr V Vitart, Prof A Wright, Mr D Charteris, Mr B Fleck, Dr J Singh, Mr M Snead (CZB/4/705)

A genome-wide association study of Rhegmatogenous Retinal detachment in Scotland.

The Committee provisionally graded the report as Excellent, subject to the Focus on Research being rewritten

4.2 Dr W.J Mitchell, Dr D.J. Jamieson, Prof B Austin, Dr A Mearns-Spragg, Prof D.R. Adams, Dr P.C. Morris, Prof M Schweizer (CZB/4/605)

New anti-infectives for the control of antibiotic-resistant human pathogens.

The Committee graded the report as Good, but have requested that the Focus on Research should be re-written.

4.3 Dr Rehab AlJamal-Naylor, Prof D.J. Harison, Prof T Sethi (CZB/4/602)

The role of beta1 integrin in lung repair.

This report was ungraded by the Committee. Report from CSO and the possibility of a rewritten report will be brought back to the Committee at a later date.

4.4 Dr I Johannessen, Dr S.J. Talbot, Prof D.H. Crawford (CZB/4/521)

Targeting influenza A H5N1-infected cells using novel antibody targets and T bodies.

The Committee graded this report as Good.

5. Applications

5.1 [6.3] Dr A Astier, Dr A Williams, Dr S Prost (ETM/185)

Relationship between CD46 and p53 - implications for multiple sclerosis.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.2 [6.5] Prof I Morgan, Dr B Smith (ETM/186)

Identifying novel molecules for the treatment of human papillomavirus induced disease.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.3 [6.6] Prof P Fowler, Prof O'Shaughnessy (ETM/187)

How does maternal smoking disturb primordial follicle formation in the human fetal ovary?

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.4 [6.8] Dr D Kluth, Dr C Bellamy, Dr S Prost, Dr D Dunbar (ETM/189)

Recovery from ischaemia-reperfusion injury after renal transplantation.

The Committee recommended funding subject to a satisfactory response to comments for this application.

5.5 [6.9] Dr A Hill, Prof A Rossi, Dr J Chalmers, Prof J Govan (ETM/190)

A randomised double blind placebo controlled trial of vitamin D supplementation in severe non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.6 [6.10] Dr K Simpson, Prof S.J. Forbes, Dr A MacKinnon (ETM/191)

Monocyte-macrophage activation in acute liver failure: a mechanism to develop the systemic inflammatory response syndrome.

The Committee recommended funding subject to a satisfactory response to comments for this application.

5.7 [6.11] Prof B Lipworth, (ETM/192)

Evaluation of airway protection afforded by long acting muscarinic antagonist as add on therapy in persistent asthma.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.8 [6.12] Dr J George, Prof M McMurdo, Prof A Struthers, Dr M Witham, Prof J.G Houston (ETM/193)

A prospective study to evaluate the effect of allopurinol on muscle function in sarcopenia.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.9 [6.13] Dr M Boyd, Dr A Sorensen, Prof D Jaroszynski, Dr C DesRosiers, Prof A. Chalmers (ETM/194)

Investigations of very high energy electron tumour therapy based on laser-plasma wakefield accelerator.

The Committee recommended funding for this application.

5.10 [6.15] Dr M Schneider, Dr C Delles, Dr D Carty, Dr M Freel, Prof H Mischak, Prof A Dominiczak (ETM/196)

Cardiovascular consequences of pre-eclampsia in women from the Generation Scotland: Scottish Family Health Study.

The Committee recommended funding for this application.

5.11 [6.16] Prof D.J. Flint, Dr P.E.M. Martin, Dr C.S. Wright (ETM/197)

Defining the natural antagonistic pathways for TGF-B1-induced scarring, to develop novel strategies for treatment of fibrotic diseases.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.12 [6.17R] Resubmitted - Dr J Dawson, Prof M Walters, Prof H Mischak, Dr C Delles, Dr W Mullen (ETM/170)

Proteomics to support diagnosis and prediction of outcome after suspected Ischaemic stroke.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.13 [6.18] Prof I N  thke, Prof K Hiom (ETM/198)

Cell-type specific responses to exogenous and endogenous DNA damage in live gut epithelium.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.14 [6.19] Dr U Shahani, Dr A Simmers, Dr W.A. Simpson (ETM/199)

Can perceptual learning influence improved treatment outcomes in amblyopia? A study combining behavioural and physiological measures.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.15 [6.21] Dr S Talbot, Dr K Cuschieri, Dr I Johannessen, Dr E Junor (ETM/201)

Host & viral genomic signatures of Scottish head & neck cancer

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.16 [6.22] Dr P Ghazal, Dr P Dickson, Dr B Stenson, Dr C Smith (ETM/202)

High accuracy, low volume host-directed detection of neonatal sepsis.

The Committee recommended funding for this application.

5.17 [6.23] Dr A Roe, Prof T.J. Evans, Dr G Douce, Dr R Marquez (ETM/203)

Investigation of the mechanism of action and therapeutic potential of Aurodox, an antibiotic with novel anti-virulence properties.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.18 [6.24] Dr J Petrik, Dr J Forsythe, Dr A Perker, Dr H Roddie, Prof P Hayes, Dr G Alexander, Dr E Hamsikova, Dr N Dhaun Dr D Kluth (ETM/204)

Epidemiology and impact of human papillomaviruses, polyomaviruses, herpesviruses 6, 7, 8 and parvovirus B19 on immunosuppressed individuals: HSCT and solid organ transplant recipients.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.19 [6.30] Dr J Cavanagh, Prof S-A Cooper, Prof I Deary, Dr D Batty, Dr G Der, Dr M Benzeval, Prof B McEwen (ETM/210)

Reaction time as a predictor of common mental disorders: examining potential mechanisms.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.20 [6.31] Prof K.E. Tanner, Dr M.J. Dalby, Dr S Reid (ETM/211)

Cell-based therapies inform rehabilitation protocols for musculoskeletal regeneration.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.21 [6.33] Prof T.M. McMillan, Dr P.G. Sheils, Dr W Stewart, Dr C.J. Weir (ETM/213)

Relationships between APOE genotype, 6 month disability outcome and mortality 15 years after a severe head injury in a longitudinal cohort of 1,000 people.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

6. Any other business

6.1 Professor Haites thanked members for the assistance over her period as chair and wished them well in the future,

7. Date of next meeting

Friday 22 June 2012, Conference room 4ER, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, 9:30 am.