

ETMRC (2013) 2nd Meeting

**Scottish Government Health Directorates
Chief Scientist Office**

Experimental and Translational Medicine Research Committee

Minute of the meeting of the ETMRC on 14 June 2013 held in Conference rooms A&B, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, at 9:30 am.

Present:

Dr Simon Powis (Chair)
Dr Fiona Denison
Professor Ruth Jarrett
Professor Sarah Howie
Dr Faisal Khan
Professor Alistair Leanord
Dr Andrew McIntosh
Dr Russell Petty
Professor Donald Salter
Ms Barbara Lamb (Lay Member)
Ms Joanna McGregor (Observer)

Scottish Government:

Dr Alan McNair
Mrs Yvonne Croll
Mr Kenneth McLeod

1. Apologies for absence and intimations

Professor Siddarthan Chandran, Dr Elaina Collie-Duguid, Professor Eleanor Davies, Professor Keith Muir, Professor Philip Rowe and Dr Calum Sutherland sent their apologies.

2. Approval of minutes of ETMRC meeting held on 5 March 2013

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the ETMRC meeting held on 5 March 2013 - full details of the 4 successful applications from the meeting are attached at Annex A.

4. Final Reports

4.1 Dr Ruth Andrew (CZB/4/642)

Do 5A-reductase inhibitors predispose patients to the metabolic syndrome?

The Committee graded this report as Good but asked that the Focus on Research be reviewed address some minor errors.

4.2 Dr James Wilson (CZB/4/710)

Orkney Complex Disease Study - ORCADES Cardiovascular Study.

The Committee graded this report as Excellent, asking that the early stage description in the Focus on Research be clarified.

4.3 Dr Linda Scobie (ETM/32)

Epidemiology and identification of potential transmission routes of autochthonous hepatitis E virus (HEV) in Scotland and clinical relevance of HEV in chronic liver disease.

The Committee graded this report as Good, but asked that the Focus on Research be edited to meet the requirements, as laid out in the guidance notes.

4.4 Professor George McFarlane (ETM/66)

Can synbiotic use improve dysbiosis in the gut microbiome and modify inflammatory processes in older people.

The Committee graded this report as Good, asking that the Key Results section of the Focus on Research be simplified for the lay reader.

4.5 Professor Gerard Graham (ETM/67)

The novel use of chemokines as cell sorting agents.

The Committee graded the as Good, asking the scientific terms used in the Focus on Research be simplified for the lay reader.

5. Applications

5.1 Dr Sharon Mulhern, Dr Saif Razvi, Dr T Everett Julyan, Dr Judith Halford, Dr Jonathan Cavanagh, Dr Maria Elena Farrugia, Professor Hugh Willison, Professor Gordon Murray, Professor Stephen Lawrie, Professor Angela Vincent. NHS Ayrshire & Arran Resubmission (ETM/254)

Prevalence of Anti-NMDA-Receptor Antibody in patients referred to and under the current care of a psychiatry service in a defined population in the West of Scotland.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.2 Dr Paul Alan Hoskisson. University of Strathclyde (ETM/277)

Understanding the resurgence of whooping cough: Evolution of Bordetella pertussis in Scotland.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.3 Dr Jun Wei – University of the Highland & Islands (ETM/292)

Study of circulating antibodies to linear epitopes derived from wheat gluten in schizophrenia.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.4 Dr Duncan Porter, Professor Iain McInnes, Dr Carl Goodyear, Dr Pawel Herzyk, Dr Steve Young. University of Glasgow (ETM/293)

The use of polyomic analyses to direct biologic therapy in biologic-naïve people with rheumatoid arthritis

The Committee recommended awarding funding to this application.

5.5 Dr Gordon D. Waiter, Professor Alison D. Murray, Dr Neil Basu, Professor Lars Erwig. University of Aberdeen (ETM/295)

A pilot study investigating MRI biomarkers of the cerebrovascular effects of SLE.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.6 Dr Mirela Delibegovic, Dr Nimesh Mody, Dr Dana Dawson, Dr Heather Wilson. University of Aberdeen (ETM/301)

Effects of macrophage protein tyrosine phosphatase IB (PTPIB) deficiency on atherosclerosis development.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.7 Dr Russell Petty, Dr Ian Fleming, Professor Matteo Zanda, Dr Alan Denison, Professor Graeme Murray, Professor Andy Welch, Dr Lutz Schweiger, Professor Elaina Collie-Duguid. University of Aberdeen (ETM/302)

Detection of hypoxic regions in oesophagogastric carcinomas with f-fluoroazomycin-arabinofuranoside (FAZA) positron emission tomography (PET) imaging.

The Committee recommended awarding funding to this application.

5.8 Dr Simon Milling, Dr Carl Goodyear, Dr Stefan Siebert, Professor Iain McInnes. University of Glasgow (ETM/304)

Comparing the immunological signatures of common inflammatory diseases, to identify potential therapeutic targets.

The Committee recommended awarding funding to this application.

5.9 Dr Scott MacKenzie, Professor Eleanor Davies, Dr Ellen Marie Freel. University of Glasgow (ETM/307)

Circulating microRNAs: novel biomarkers in the differential diagnosis of primary aldosteronism.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.10 Professor Stuart J Forbes, Dr Alison Mackinnon, Dr Kenneth Simpson, Dr Neil McGowan. University of Edinburgh (ETM/310)

Development of autologous macrophage therapy for chronic liver disease.

The Committee did not recommend funding this application.

5.11 Dr Alison JE Green, Dr Alison JE Green, Mr Graham Fairfoul, Professor Richard SG Knight, Professor Robert G Will, Dr Suvankar Pal. University of Edinburgh (ETM/315)

Development of disease-specific diagnostic tests for Alzheimer's disease and Lewy body dementia based on RT-QuIC analysis of cerebrospinal fluid.

The Committee recommended awarding funding to this application.

6. Any other business

7. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 27 November 2013, Conference room A&B, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, 9:30 am.

Annex A

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the ETMRC meeting held on 5 March 2013.

3.1 Dr Garry M Walsh, Professor G Devereux, Dr Steve Turner, Dr Sean Semple (ETM/274)

The effect of nanoparticles on in-vitro airway epithelial cell function in children and adults with and without asthma.

A funding letter has now been issued.

3.2 Professor Gerard John Graham, Dr John Campbell, Professor Robert J Nibbs, Dr. Alasdair Fraser, (ETM/276)

The development of chemokines as novel, clinical grade, cell-sorting tools.

A funding letter has now been issued.

3.3 Dr Frank Ward, Dr Anthony D. Ormerod, Professor Robert N. Barker, Dr Marianne Nicolson, Dr Sanjay Rajpara, Mr Ivan Depasquale, Dr Frank Muller (ETM/280)

Targeting the soluble isoform of CTLA-4 - supporting a novel therapeutic strategy in malignant melanoma.

A funding letter has now been issued.

3.4 Dr Kevin Blyth, Mr Jim Paul, Claire Lawless, Dr Barry J A Laird, Dr Noelle O'Rourke, Professor Anthony Chalmers, Dr Robert Milroy, Dr John G Edwards, Dr. Mahendran Chetty, Dr John Foster, Dr Marianne Nicolson, Dr Gordon MacGregor, Dr Nick Anthony Maskell, Mark McJury, Dr David Breen, Dr David Barry Stobo (ETM/285)

An examination of diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers in malignant pleural mesothelioma.

A funding letter has now been issued.