

DCVMN 3Rs Experts Working Group Meeting Minutes – 2nd Teleconference

May 7th, 2020

Attendees:

Rajanathan Chozhavel (Zydus Cadila),
Pradip Kumar Das (Biological E),
Sunil Gairola (Serum Institute of India),
Sunil Goel (Serum Institute of India),
Yojana Shinde (Serum Institute of India),
Manish Gautam (Serum Institute of India),
Lavit Jambu (Panacea Biotech),
Taehyun Kim (LG Chem),
Deepak Mahajan (Panacea Biotech),
Anand Kumar Manesh (Indian Immunologicals),
Zebun Nahar (Incepta Vaccine),
Sonia Pagliusi (DCVMN),
Irma Riyanti Hidayat (BioFarma),

Dr. Maya Ramdas (Panacea Biotech),
Shri T. Sekar (Pasteur Institute of India),
Gopal Singh (Bharat),
Laura Viviani (DCVMN),
Tien Dung Vu (Vabiotech).

Excused:


Adhir Chaubal (Indian Immunologicals),
Indrajeet Kumar (Bio-Net Asia).

Agenda of the second 2020 teleconference 3Rs WG meeting:

1. PSPT Project - NIIMBL has approved it!
 1. 3Rs WG: approval of the Draft Consortium Agreement
 2. 3Rs WG: approval of the proposed Steering Group
 3. Presentation of the next steps
 2. Presentation of the MoU with Humane Society International
 3. Updates on the training opportunities that will be available within 2020
 4. 3Rs WG suggestions on engaging DCVMN members from other regions
 5. AOB/ Key updates and events about 3Rs
-
1. L. Viviani updated the group on the PSPT project which has been approved for funding by NIIMBL.
 1. In the meantime, a draft of the Consortium Agreement document has been circulated among the participating laboratories and the members of the 3Rs WG for their review. **The 3Rs WG has approved the shared draft.** Following some questions from a participating laboratory, it was clarified that the Consortium has no legal status and there are no expectations on IP protect outcomes, and no concern of the use by any laboratory to IP protected background knowledge.
 2. The Steering Group has been presented with its role and responsibility and the **3Rs WG has approved the proposed member of the group.**
 3. DCVMN is waiting for NIIMBL's feedback to initiate the administrative activities (contracts, etc.) but has already been in touch with Eurofins to produce the coating antigen material. The group discussed about the possibility for DCVMN to provide, in addition to the coating antigen, the positive and negative reference sera for the ELISA, but DCVMN confirmed that the only reagent that is going to be provided is the coating antigen materials. The positive and negative reference sera can be easily produced by the participating laboratory as part of the in-house validation process. This topic is noted as discussion point for the kick-off meeting.
 2. L. Viviani updated the attendees on the recently signed MoU with Humane Society International (HSI) that establish the opportunity to collaborate on the global alignment of 3Rs opportunities in vaccine testing. HSI works on the deletion of the abnormal toxicity test from the regulations for the batch release at a global level, and on the regulatory acceptance and implementation of alternative methods to the Rabbit Pyrogen Test. S. Pagliusi suggested that the collaboration with HSI could be based on increase awareness about 3Rs in Latin America, in order to facilitate a more concrete interest and engagement of DCVMN members in the 3Rs WG activities. L. Viviani is going to follow up about any concrete opportunity with HSI (it covers also the agenda point 4. 3Rs WG suggestions on engaging DCVMN members from other regions)

3. DCVMN is working in collaboration with Prof. Coenraad Hendriksen from the Utrecht University to provide a 3Rs e-learning module for DCVMN Moodle platform. The e-learning course will be online in the next week and DCVMN members will be notified. In addition, DCVMN is discussing with the Italian Institute for Public Health (ISS) about the possibility to provide e-learning modules on MAT, D and T 3Rs opportunities, plus a webinar and a demonstration video about MAT. Other e-learning modules on acellular Pertussis, Rabies and Vac2Vac outcomes are under discussion with key experts.
4. L. Viviani requested suggestion on how 3Rs WG could be expanded in other regions in order to truly represent all DCVMN members. No suggestions from the group. Explore what concrete opportunities might become available through the MoU with HSI.
5. L. Viviani informed that the World Congress on Alternative Methods has been postponed to 2021–Maastricht, The Netherland, 23-27 August, 2021: <http://wc11maastricht.org/>

The meeting was adjourned.


Dr. Sunil Gairola
Serum Institute of India
Chair of the 3Rs WG