



Animal Ethics Seminar

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Novartis Animal Health

Novartis Animal Health R & D Centre was established in Australia in 1968

Novartis conducts around 60 studies/year using sheep, cattle, goats, pigs horses, poultry, cats and dogs

Dedicated AWO position since 1992

Novartis has its own AEC, and meets approximately 10 times a year



AWO Role

- Ensure NAH meets the regulatory requirements and guidelines both nationally and for Novartis globally
- Member of NAH AEC
- Providing reports to AEC e.g:
 - AW reports
 - Study Master
 - Site and Facility updates
- Updating and maintaining animal records across the site
- Update and maintain Accreditation database
- Monitoring AW across the site e.g. daily AW checks
- Provide AW inductions for new employees and ongoing training for existing employees

AWO - the AEC and Researchers

AEC

- AWO is a voting member on the NAH AEC
- AWO is the primary link between the site and the AEC
- AEC needs to trust the AWO has integrity so reports are open and transparent

RESEARCHERS

- Small number of researchers – there are approximately 12 Study Directors/Investigators
- Attend study kick-off meetings where all study participants discuss the study
- Provide link between animal management and study personnel

What works?

- Knowing what is going on –
 - Being aware of future studies, which animals, where to be housed
 - Being aware of day to day maintenance – shearing, drenching, vaccinating, feeding regimes
 - Being aware of current studies – housing, treatments, general health, progress of studies
 - Having the opportunity to ask questions, discuss with associates from all sections on site
 - Having a good strong AEC where each member can speak freely
 - Having the support of the AEC

Challenges

- Regulatory requirements – keeping up to date
- Administrative responsibilities (AEC) – ensure the AEC ‘package’ is complete, actions are completed, follow-up is timely.
- Timely communication
- What is best for the animals - e.g. regulatory authorities sometimes demand single housing



Thank you

