

Answers to Supplementary Questions

Professor Peter R Schofield AO FAHMS PhD DSc, Board member, Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes.

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health, Use of primates and other animals in medical research in New South Wales inquiry, Hearing, 16 May 2022.

Question:

1. We have received evidence during this inquiry that some Animal Ethics Committee members do not always feel confident in their ability to fulfil their roles, and would like some greater support and training – is this something you would support, particularly for Category C and D members who do not necessarily have a scientific/research background and may find it difficult to assess complex research protocols?

Answer:

AAMRI's submission recommended working with stakeholders to develop accredited training standards and training programs for staff working with animals in research. The suggestion of extending training (and potentially accreditation) to members of Animal Ethics Committees is supported by AAMRI as it would allow greater ability of all AEC members to fulfil their roles under the Act.

Kind regards

Peter

Professor Peter R Schofield AO FAHMS PhD DSc

**Chief Executive Officer
Neuroscience Research Australia**

**President
Australasian Neuroscience Society**