

IARC Meeting 16: May 25th 2018: minutes

The meeting commenced at 21:00 AEST. AC, MC, MO and CS were in attendance.

1. The minutes of Meeting 15 were accepted.
2. The timing of future meetings was considered. It was agreed that after Meeting 17, meetings would generally be held every two weeks, with a longer term intention that meetings become monthly.
3. AC notified the committee that the IARC files had now been posted to the Antibody Society website.
4. It was noted that at Meeting 7 of the committee, a B16 sequence from the data of Davide Bagnara was considered. Although it was approved as a Level 1 sequence, this was not formally noted in the minutes. The committee therefore ratified that decision for the following sequence:
>IGHV1-3*01_G172A
CAGGTCCAGCTTGTGCAGTCTGGGGCTGAGGTGAAGAAGCCTGGGGCCTCAGTGAAGGTTTCC
TGCAAGGCTTCTGGATACACCTTCACTAGCTATGCTATGCATTGGGTGCGCCAGGCCCGGAC
AAAGGCTTGAGTGGATGGGATGGATCAACACTGGCAATGGTAACACAAAATATTCACAGAAGTTC
CAGGGCAGAGTCACCATTACCAGGGACACATCCGCGAGCACAGCCTACATGGAGCTGAGCAGC
CTGAGATCTGAAGACACGGCTGTGTATTACTGTGCGAGAG
5. Further to discussion held at the last meeting, it was agreed that IARC deliberations and communications will always use the IMGT numbering system. It was also agreed that if documentation sheets are to be filled in during IARC deliberations, this will provide useful and necessary documentation of rejected (black) sequences. William Lees will be notified of both these decisions.
6. MO provided information regarding primers used to generate the data upon which the submission of Linnea Thornquist was based. It was agreed that the information was sufficient for the previous decisions of IARC to be ratified (see minutes Meeting 14). The need for information regarding primers was affirmed as a strict need if an inference is to be accepted by IARC.

The committee also discussed ambiguities surrounding the requirement for publications to be associated with sequences. For the Thornquist submission, a publication has described 454 sequencing of the samples used in the Thornquist analysis, but the analysis itself used MiSeq data. The challenges of IARC deliberations running in parallel with the preparation of a manuscript was also discussed. The committee will return to this issue at a future meeting before making a final policy decision.

7. AC presented an analysis of partis output relating to the B12 and B16 data of Davide Bagnara. Discussion of several inferences that involved a small number of sequences led to a series of questions relating to the partis output.

a. Are the sequences all full length? Can such information be available in a future output that partis may develop?

b. How does partis deal with the final 3' nucleotides? Will it be possible to eventually produce some graphical output showing data for the end nucleotides?

It was agreed that data on the number of unique CDRs, that has been considered by IARC from the IgDiscover output, may not reasonably be required of partis, however we will need to work with the partis developers to define the minimum fields that can enable IARC to satisfactorily complete their deliberations. We should arrange a meeting with the partis developers in the coming weeks

8. The next meeting will focus on the documentation of decisions. IARC will require sound file management, and in light of issues that have arisen with googledocs, CS was asked to present her reflections on this challenge at the next meeting.

9. The next meeting (Meeting 17) will be held on Friday 1/6/2018 at 21:00 AEST.

The meeting ended at 22:10 AEST.