Answers of the IMI Executive Office to the recommendations from the Independent Observers’ report for Call 10 (Stage 2)

RECOMMENDATION A
To increase the value of the non-scientific review, it is recommended that both expert panels met for a short period of time (30 minutes) before the hearing, and before questions are sent to the consortia members, in order to discuss potential issues of common concern or interest. The ethical and scientific aspects of the proposals should not be viewed as separate entities either by the panels or the consortia members.

IMI response
Both scientific and ethics experts are already informed during the initial briefing of the possibility of meeting before the hearing with the consortium. The moderator notes have been amended to include a reminder of this possibility.

RECOMMENDATION B
Ensure the size of the font used in SOFIA or in documents printed from SOFIA for the day of the meeting is large enough for easy and convenient reading by the IE.

IMI response
The IMI Programme Office recognises that the formatting of some documents in SOFIA could be enhanced. This has already been flagged for improvement, however, with limited resources, other SOFIA developments may be prioritised.