Institutional Biosafety Committee - Regular Meeting

Thursday, August 06, 2026

Zoom

Meeting Minutes

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:	G. Babcock, K. Burns, G. Dean, D. Elsaesser, M. Espinola, S. Kasper, R. Larson, E. Otten, T. Rausch, F. Schaefer, E. Serafin, G. Smulian
VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:	S. Apewokin, J. Corcoran
AD HOC MEMBERS/CONSULTANTS/GUESTS:	D. Calhoun, L. Elkin, T. Gulley, A. Perry, J. Strasser, J. White
IBC STAFF:	D. Healy, B. Kesavalu

K. Burns convened the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

I. **Conflicts of Interest** - No conflicts were identified.
II. **Minutes** - Minutes from the previous IBC meeting (07/02/26) was approved (11: YES/0: NO/0: Abstained)
III. **Old Business** - No old business to discuss
IV. **New Business**

A. **Primary Protocols** (1 protocol)

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
1. 26-07-15-01	**Gius**	New	BSL2	***in vitro***: Lentiviral vector, *Escherichia coli* (RG1), HDM (primary cells: Bone Marrow Mononuclear Cells and PBMCs) ***in vitro*** and ***in vivo***: HDM (cell lines, PDX, including lentiviral transduced cells)
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. A** and **Section I. B** - Provide UC Campus Mail Code and Office Number and if secondary does not have an office, enter: “N/A” for "Office Number"**;** 2. **Section I. C** - Provide phone for lab personnel; 3. **Section III. A** – **Pipet** - In addition to using containment equipment (i.e., BSC) additional safety measures need to be followed while pipetting. For information on aerosol mitigation procedures, consult the eManual (link provided on the top of this section); 4. **Section IV** and **Section VI** - Remove “additional information” provided since that is repetition of section description; **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 5. **Section I** - Include Cas 9 and GFP genes; 6. **Section I** - **Genes #1 to #4 and #6 to #7** - In “Additional Information”, indicate how gene is inhibited (e.g. shRNA, siRNA, miRNA, CRISPR/Cas9); 7. **Section I - Gene #6** - According to the Atlas of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Oncology and Hematology, this gene (and some deletions) is involved in cancer. Include information in this regard; 8. **Section II. A** - Location information provided in the Main Form is on the 2nd floor. Revise location accordingly; 9. **Section II. B - System #6** - Complete “*in vitro*/*in vivo*” and “Human Tropism”;			

	10. **Section III - Box # 8** is only applicable if lab generates modified rodents. Uncheck box, if not applicable. **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: **11. Section I - Table - Description** - Remove the description regarding the use of established and primary cells as Section II. A was already used for this information; 12. **Section I** - **Table** - **Other** - Indicate the type of tumor for PDX (i.e., prostate adenocarcinoma); 13. **Section II. A** - Include use of cells for lentiviral production; 14. **Section II. B** - Do genetically modified cells include cells transduced by lentivirus? If so, include information in this section. **Form D – Biohazard in Animals** 15. **Section I** – Provide your IACUC protocol number; 16. **Section II** - Select "Transduced cells" if cells transduced by lentivirus are given to animals. For information about containment, consult the document provided on top of the table; 17. **Section II** - **Additional Information** - Provide the route(s) of administration of cells (including PDX). 18. **Section III. C** - Remove information from "other" and deselect this box since what was provided does not correspond to engineering controls.			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

B. **Secondary Protocols** (4 protocols)

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
1. 26-07-24-01	**Van Vranken**	New	BSL2	***in vitro***: HDM (cell lines)
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** – Assign a different individual as your Secondary Contact.; 2. **Section II. B** - **Last paragraph** - Unless lysates come from infected animals, paragraph should be removed from this section; 3. **Section III. A - Pipet** - In addition to using containment equipment safety measures need to be followed while pipetting. For information on aerosol mitigation procedures, consult the eManual (link provided on the top of this section); 4. **Section III. B** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate which activities involving **biological** hazardous materials are conducted inside of a fume hood. Also, indicate what type of sharps will be discarded in Sharps Containers; 5. **Section III. C** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate when double gloves are selected instead of single gloves, when fluid resistant lab coat is used instead of a regular lab coat, and also when facial mask and safety goggles are used. **Investigator Assurance Form:** 6. Include PI signature.			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
2. 26-07-14-01	**Liu**	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro***: HDM (established cell lines*)* ***in vitro*** and ***in vivo***: AAV vector
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** - If Secondary Contact does not have an office, enter "N/A" ; 2. **Section III. A** - **Centrifuge: #7**- change "buckers" to "buckets"; 3. **Section III. A** - **Vortex**- Change "vertexing" to "vortexing"; 4. **Section III. A** - **Pipet: #7**- Change "do deliver" to "to deliver"; 5. **Section III. C** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate when N95 respirator is used. **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 6. **Section I** - Since you removed lentiviral vectors, review the list of genes accordingly. **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 7. **Section II. A** - Specify that primary cells are from murine source. **Form D – Biohazard in Animals** 8. **Section I** - Provide your IACUC protocol number; 9. **Section II** - **Additional Information** - In the Main form, your Research Abstract (Section II. B) only indicates inoculation into the brain. Revise this section or the Main form accordingly. 10. **Section III. C** - In "Additional Information", indicate what kind of sharps are disposed of in sharps containers.			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
3. 26-07-14-02	**Wang X**	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro:*** HDM (established and primary cells, blood), recombinant nucleic acid (BSL1), *Escherichia coli* (RG1)
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** - If secondary contact does not have an office, enter "N/A"; 2. **Section II. B -** Provide the relevance of your research projects; 3. **Section VIII -** List the human cell lines that are being stored.			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
4. 26-07-17-01	**Hite**	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro***: Influenza virus infected materials (mouse BAL and lung tissue) ***in vivo***: Influenza virus
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. A** and **Section I. B**: If there is no office phone, indicate N/A; 2. **Section III. A** - Correct the spelling: “centrifuge” to “centrifuge"; 3. **Section III. B** - Correct the spelling: “preformed” to "performed". **Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents** 4. **In Vitro -** If you perform *in vitro* experiments with samples from influenza infected animals, select “YES” and describe the type of materials and experiments, clarifying that the virus is not isolated nor propagated. **Form D – Biohazard in Animals** 5. **Section I** – Update IACUC protocol number; 6. **Section III. A** - Explain what is meant by "forced aspiration"; 7. **Section III. C** - What will be discarded in the sharps container during animal procedures? Also, correct the spelling: “preformed” to "performed".			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

II. Protocol Updates - June 26th to July 30th (31 protocols)

1. IBC# 25-05-23-02 - PI: Ulrich Lai - Personnel
2. IBC# 24-06-18-02 - PI: Hertlein - Personnel
3. IBC# 25-04-14-01 - PI: Lynch - personnel
4. IBC# 26-05-18-01 - PI: Ngwenya - Personnel
5. IBC# 24-11-14-01 - PI: McCormack - Personnel
6. IBC# 24-06-22-01 - PI: Hoilett - Personnel
7. IBC# 25-09-19-01 - PI: Herman - Personnel
8. IBC# 25-05-28-01 - PI: Holland - Personnel
9. IBC# 25-02-14-01 - PI: Drosatos - Personnel
10. IBC# 25-12-18-02 - PI: Sah - Personnel
11. IBC# 25-10-20-02 - PI: Hassani Najafabadi - Personnel
12. IBC# 24-06-18-02 - PI: Hertlein - Personnel
13. IBC# 24-01-22-01 - PI: C-Krzeska - Personnel
14. IBC# 25-10-23-01 - PI: Reighard - Personnel
15. IBC# 25-10-07-01 - PI: Guan - Personnel
16. IBC# 23-05-17-01 - PI: Davidson - Personnel
17. IBC# 24-10-11-01 - PI: Du - Personnel
18. IBC# 26-05-06-01 - PI: Phoenix - Personnel
19. IBC# 24-02-01-01 - PI: Blackard - Personnel, Location, Serum/plasma/blood from KSHV patients
20. IBC# 24-02-06-01 - PI: Zhong - Human melanoma cells (Upgraded to BSL2)
21. IBC# 25-03-20-01 - PI: Ifergan - Personnel
22. IBC# 24-09-04-01 - PI: Diao - Personnel
23. IBC# 24-08-21-01 - PI: Yan - Personnel
24. IBC# 24-03-06-01 - PI: Luo - Addition of genes (DTR, iCasp9, ApoE2) / AAV constructs
25. IBC# 24-08-21-02 - PI: Wasylishen - Personnel
26. IBC# 24-01-22-01 - PI: C-Krzeska - Personnel

27. IBC# 24-02-01-01 - PI: Blackard - Personnel, Serum/plasma/blood from Adenovirus patients
28. IBC# 23-12-19-01 - PI: Huang W - Personnel
29. IBC# 25-08-12-03 - PI: Patra - Personnel
30. IBC# 24-02-23-01 - PI: Apewokin - Inclusion of genes and recombinant *E. coli* (RG1) strains
31. IBC# 25-04-16-01 - PI: Smulian – Location

G. Smulian arrived at 12:08 p.m.

VI. Reports

A. IBC (M. Espinola)

- IBC updated roster approved by NIH/OSP (08/04/26)
- NIH/OSP Reportable Incident: Lack of IBC approval
  - Formal notification including corrective action submitted on 07/10/26.
  - NIH responded on 07/16/26 – No additional information needed.
- New U.S. Government Policy for Stopping High-Risk Life Sciences Research
  - Slide presentation highlighting new definitions and timelines of the new policy.

B. BSOf

- FY26: Lab Inspection Overview (D. Healy/B. Kesavalu)
  - Reviewed the newly implemented inspection format for FY26.
  - Outlined strategic planning and operational changes for FY27 inspections.

- Follow up on recurring laboratory compliance issue (discussed on 03/05/26): R. Kovall lab (M. Espinola)
  - The laboratory staff member continues to violate UC's lab safety policy by wearing shorts and sandals despite multiple warnings from the BSOf and EH&S office.
  - The committee requested that the PI and the noncompliant employee attend the next IBC meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2026 to present a formal corrective and preventative action plan to prevent future safety violations.
  - Further, the non-compliant individual is not eligible to be included as authorized personnel on a new IBC protocol that is under review. Eligibility may be reinstated once a corrective/preventive action plan is submitted, reviewed and approved by the IBC.

VII. Educational Materials/Updates

A. **US Government Policy for Stopping High-Risk Life Sciences Research** July, 2026
B. **Notes from the Field: Misidentification of a Specimen as Neisseria meningitidis During a University Classroom Laboratory Exercise — Utah, 2025** CDC July, 2026
C. **A cutting-edge gene-editing trial in China went disastrously wrong. A family wants accountability** Science, July, 2026

K. Burns welcomed G. Smulian as an IBC voting member.

K. Burns adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.