Institutional Biosafety Committee - Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Zoom

Meeting Minutes

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

G. Dean convened the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

I. **Conflicts of Interest** - No conflicts were identified.

II. **Minutes** - Minutes from the previous IBC meeting (09/03/26) were approved (9: YES/0: NO/0: Abstained)

III. **Old Business** - R. Kovall – Corrective and Preventative Action Plan (M. Espinola)

- IBC members and UC leadership met with R. Kovall on 09/22/26 to discuss compliance concerns.
- On 09/23/26, a Compliance Assurance Form was sent to the PI for completion.
- The PI requested an extension because lab staff was on vacation. The deadline was extended to 10/09/26.

IV. **New Business**

A. **Primary Protocols** (3 protocols)

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	IBC Items
1. 26-09-23-01	**Franklin**	New Clinical	CAR - T cells (ADI 212-00)
IBC Requests:	IBC Form 1. **Section I. B**, **Table. 2** - Provide BBP transcripts for the clinical staff: 2. **Section I. A** - Provide the campus mail code; 3. **Section II. C. 4** - For clarity, in "Additional Information", state that viral vectors are not administered directly into patients. Instead, patients will receive cells that were previously modified by viral vectors; 4. **Section III. A** - Include the location for the IP preparation and complete related fields; 5. **Section III. C** - Alcohol-based disinfectants do not provide broad-spectrum efficacy for work involving human-derived materials and evaporate rapidly, limiting contact time. Select a broad-spectrum disinfectant instead, such as bleach.		
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. 26-08-17-01	**Barrile**	Amendment	BSL2	**Approved:** ***in vitro***: HDM (established and primary cells, including iPSCs, organoids, and blood) **AMENDMENT:** ***in vitro***: West Nile Virus
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section III. A** - Are other aerosol generating equipment used (i.e. vortex, sonicator, etc)? If so, please refer to the eManual (link on the section) and list aerosol mitigation measures; 2. **Section III. A** - **Centrifuge** - Please remove PPE info since there is a separate section for that; 3. **Section III. B** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate what type of sharps will be discarded in Sharps Container. **Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents** 4. **Genetically Modified** - Since you will be doing fluoresce imaging. Is it correct to assume that the virus is tagged with a fluorescent marker? If so, "Genetically Modified" should be YES and provide information in this regard; 5. **Used *in vitro*** - State if the virus will be propagated in your laboratory or if it will be provided "ready-to-use". If positive, include any human or NHP-derived cell lines that will be used for propagation **Form C – Human & Non-Human Primate (NHP) Derived Materials** 6. **Section II. A** - **Last Paragraph** - Remove "in the near future" and replace "BSL 2 agent" with "Risk Group 2 agent". Also, indicate if sharp materials will be used while manipulating the virus and, if positive, provide the risk mitigation for a percutaneous accident.			
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. 26-09-13-01	**Gardner**	New	BSL2	***in vitro*** **and** ***in vivo***: *Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Escherichia coli* (RG1, RG2), *Mycobacterium avium, Nocardia cyriacigeorgica* ***in vitro***: HDM (blood, skin)
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section II. B** - If materials are collected from infected mice after challenge and returned to the laboratory for further analysis, describe the post-challenge procedures and analyses that will be performed. 2. **Section III. A** - **Pipet**- Change "hood" to "fume hood" or "biosafety cabinet" (whichever is applicable); Change "pipette tips are filtered" to "filter tips" or "aerosol barrier tips"; 3. **Section III. A** - **Pipet** – If your "plating" method does not use pipets, remove references in this regard. Instead, consult the eManual (link provided in the section) for additional safety practices while pipetting;			

	4. **Section III. A** - **Other** – If your incubator does not have a shaker, they are generally not considered as aerosol producing equipment and would not apply to this section. Revise as necessary; 5. **Section III. B** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate what type of sharps are discarded in Sharps Container. **<u>Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents</u>** 6. Expand "Agent's Characteristics" to include morphology, epidemiology, and clinical manifestations of infection; 7. **Form B** – **Agent #1** to **Agent #7** - Indicate the Risk Group for each agent by consulting the link for included in that subsection. Also, if you propagate/grow bacteria, check YES for *in vitro* use and include information about bacterial culture; 8. **Agent #1** and **#2** - **Source** - What is meant by "research isolate"? If isolates are obtained from other researchers, indicate their name and institution; 9. **Agent #5** - **Agent's Characteristics** – If the antibiotic sensibility profile is known for this isolate, indicate that information. **<u>Form C – Human & Non-Human Primate (NHP) Derived Materials</u>** 10. **Section I** - Remove all information pertaining to mice and uncheck NHP (mice are not primates). **<u>Form D – Biohazardous Materials in Live Animals</u>** 11. **Section II** - **Additional Information** - List the routes of administration; 12. **Section III. A** - Specify if there is potential for personnel exposure indicating any expected routes of shedding; 13. **Section III. A** - "Hood" should read "biosafety cabinet"; 14. **Section III. A** – If there are other potential risks of exposure such as needle sticks or aerosols when administering the biohazards to the mice, describe the measures implemented to mitigate these potential risks; 15. **Section III. B** – If animals are not anesthetized for the different routes of administration, revise section accordingly; 16. **Section III. C** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate what type of sharps will be discarded in Sharps Container.
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11 | **NO**: 0 | **Abstained**: 0 | **Dual Use**? No

B. **Secondary Protocols** (3 protocols)

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
1. 26-09-15-01	**Schutte**	Renewal	BSL2	***<u>in vitro:</u>*** *Staphylococcus aureus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterobacter cloacae,* lentiviral vector, HDM (primary cells, tissues, blood, organoids) and NHP uterine tissue
IBC Requests:	1. Lab staff must complete BBP and viral vector training; **<u>Main Form – General Safety</u>**: 2. **Section I. B** - Include lab phone, if not, indicate N/A; 3. **Section I. B** - The last two individuals listed have a same phone number. Revise that accordingly;			

	4. **Section II. B** - **Project 1** - The protocol has indicated (since 2023) that human neurons may be used in future studies. Have you begun working with human neurons? If so, revise this section accordingly; 5. **Section V** - **Additional Information** - Indicate when you use the different types of disinfectants; 6. **Section VIII** - This section is reserved for materials that are not being used in ongoing (nor in the near-future planned) research. Please revise the section if necessary. **Form A – Recombinant & Synthetic Nucleic Acids** 7. **Section I**- **#1** - For clarity, transfer "mRNA and shRNA" from "Gene Name" to "Additional Information" indicating that the gene is inhibited using mRNA and shRNA; 8. **Section II. B** - Add "EGFP" to "Gene(s) Expressed". **Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents** 9. **Agent #2** - In "Name", correct the spelling for the bacterial genus and in "Agents Characteristics", "try" should read "dry". **Form C – Human & Non-Human Primate (NHP) Derived Materials** 10. The IRB protocol provided in Section I (Tissues and primary cells) and Section II. A is expired. Is research involving human subjects still being conducted? If not, please remove statement accordingly; 11. **Section II. A** - **Second Paragraph** - Expand "ECM"; 12. **Section II. A** - The last paragraph contains a stray "P" after the period. Was this intended to be part of a sentence that was inadvertently truncated?
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. 26-09-25-01	**Mackenzie**	Renewal	BSL1	***in vitro:*** *Escherichia coli* (RG1), recombinant nucleic acid (BSL1 experiments - generation of transgenic animals)
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** - Include office phone, if not indicate N/A; 2. **Section III. A** - Are other aerosol generating equipment used (i.e. vortex, etc)? If so, refer to the eManual and list aerosol mitigation measures. 3. **Section V** - Alcohol (such as 70% ethanol or isopropanol) is not an effective agent for destroying or removing nucleic acids. To avoid cross contamination in your experiments, use 10% bleach instead. **Form A – Recombinant & Synthetic Nucleic Acids** 4. **Section III** - Check Box #10.			
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. 26-09-25-02	**Priye**	Renewal	BSL1	***in vitro***: SARS CoV-2 N gene and synthetic nucleic acids (primers)
IBC Requests:	1. Lab staff need to complete their BSC training; **Main Form – General Safety**: 2. **Section I. B** - If Secondary Contact does not have an office or lab phone, enter "N/A"; 3. **Section II. B** - Other than SARS-CoV-2 N-Gene material, do you use any other biological material to test your diagnostic platform? **Form A – Recombinant & Synthetic Nucleic Acids** 4. **Section I** - Include SARS-CoV-2 N-gene and complete relevant fields and in "Additional Information" indicate that the gene is used as a positive control for the platform.			
Motion	**Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.**			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

V. Protocol Updates - August 27th to September 25th (18 protocols)

1. IBC# 25-11-13-01 - PI: Waters - Personnel
2. IBC# 25-02-06-01 - PI: Berta - Amendment - *in vitro*: Human derived materials
3. IBC# 23-10-12-01 - PI: Thompson T - Personnel
4. IBC# 23-11-15-01 - PI: Timme - Personnel
5. IBC# 26-04-21-01 - PI: Latif (LYL314-101) - Study Title Change
6. IBC# 24-10-11-01 - PI: Du - Personnel
7. IBC# 25-03-19-01 - PI: Owens - Personnel
8. IBC# 24-01-09-01 - PI: Lander - Personnel
9. IBC# 25-05-06-01 - PI: Madala - Personnel
10. IBC# 26-07-15-01 - PI: Gius - Location
11. IBC# 23-08-24-01 - PI: Grogan K - Personnel
12. IBC# 24-09-18-01 - PI: Dodson - Personnel
13. IBC# 26-03-02-01 - PI: Chella Krishnan - Amendment - *in vitro:* *Escherichia coli* (RG1)
14. IBC# 26-03-09-01 - PI: Wilson - Personnel
15. IBC# 25-07-03-01 - PI: Natarajan - Amendment- *in vitro* and *in vivo*: *Escherichia coli (RG1), L. plantarum*
16. IBC# 24-05-23-01 - PI: Kasper - Personnel
17. IBC# 24-02-23-01 - PI: Apewokin - Personnel, Secondary contact
18. IBC# 25-10-22-01 - PI: Ray - Personnel
19. IBC# 24-10-01-01 - PI: Miller W - Personnel

VI. Reports

A. IBC - Revision to the Investigator Assurance Form in REDCap (M. Espinola)

- BSOf includes two new checkboxes regarding lab attire and lab areas subjected to safety regulations.
- For all protocol updates and renewals, BSOf will require PIs to acknowledge the two new assurance statements.
- The Committee voted on a motion to accept the revisions made to the Investigator Assurance form. (11: YES/0: NO/0: Abstained)

B. BSOf - Lab Attire Requirements in US Institutions (M. Espinola)

- Presentation of the results of a lab attire ABSA listserv survey, highlighting practices across 16 US institutions.
- BSOf updated its email footer to specify the requirement of fully covered legs and feet for lab entry.
- An SOP outlining procedures for managing noncompliance will be drafted once details of the upcoming federal policies are finalized.

VII. Educational Materials/Updates

A. **A Proposed Biosafety Rewrite Could Reshape Oversight for Every US Lab** Global Biodefence, September 2026

B. **Anthropic Says Claude Discovered a New Enzyme System Resembling CRISPR** Unite AI, September 2026

G. Dean adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.