Institutional Biosafety Committee - Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 02, 2026

Zoom

Meeting Minutes

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

K. Burns convened the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

K. Burns thanked J. Yu for her many years of service on the IBC and wished her continued success.

I. **Conflicts of Interest** - No conflicts were identified.
II. **Minutes** - Minutes from the previous IBC meetings (03/05/26) and (03/17/26) were approved (9: YES/0: NO/1: Abstained) One member did not vote.
III. **Old Business** - No old business to discuss
IV. **New Business**

A. **Primary Protocols** (2 protocols)

IBC Protocol Number	PI	Type of Submission	Biosafety Level	IBC Items
1. 26-03-17-01	Brewster	New	BSL2	***in vitro***: lentiviral vector, HDM and NHP (blood, tissues) ***in vitro*** and ***in viv***o: HDM (established cell lines) ***in vivo***: AAV vector
Title	**Blood Vessel Stiffness, Remodeling and Regeneration**			
IBC Requests	1. Lab staff have to complete BBP, Viral vector and BSC trainings; 2. Authorized personnel need to review and complete the safety sheet on Herpes B Virus and complete the acknowledgement form for that. Completed form should be forwarded to us. **Main Form – General Safety**: 3. **Section I. D** - Indicate location of cell sorter. If that is somewhere outside UC (e.g. CCHMC, VA) Check YES for "non- UC Facilities" and provide information in this regard; 4. **Section II. B** - Include the role of lentiviral vectors; 5. **Section III. A** - **Homogenizer** - Do you have in your lab all those different type of homogenizers (probe, bead beater, enclosed)?; 6. **Section III. B** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate which needle safety devices are used (e.g. retractable needles) and what type of sharps will be discarded in Sharps Container; 7. **Section III. B** - **Additional Information** - Indicate which activities involving biological hazardous materials are conducted inside of a fume hood; 8. **Section III. C** - Explain when face (surgical) mask, safety goggles and face shield are used;			

	9. **Section V** - Be aware that alcohol-based disinfectants are not recommended for non-enveloped viruses (e.g. AAV). If those are used, they should be only for removing corrosive bleach residues from metallic surfaces. Check YES for "Additional Information" and include a statement in this regard. **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 10. **Section I - Gene #3** - In "Additional Information", state that depending on the tissue, Notch1 might act as a tumor suppressor or oncogene 11. **Section II. B - Helper Plasmid** - Provide the plasmid that will be providing the envelope gene (VSV-G?). Knowing the type of envelope determines the cells that can be infected by the vector and that is critical whenever an accidental exposure occurs**.** **Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents:** 12. **Agents #2** and **#3** – Provide the "Source" for the agents **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 13. **Section I** - **Primary Cells/ Blood/ Tissues** - Provide from where human and NHP samples are obtained. Is the Herpes B status of the NHP known? Also, are human samples coming from individuals with any health condition?; 14. **Section I** - **Tissues** - The word "macaques" should be after "monkey"; 15. **Section II. A** - List the experiments used to study the mechanism of cells under shear stress stiffness, or high glucose/high lipid stimulation. Will cells be transduced with viral vector?; 16. **Section II. A** - Expand "PAD" when first mentioned; 17. **Section II. A** - If any *in vitro* experiments involve flow cytometry/sorting of virally transduced cells, and indicate how long after transduction the sorting will occur. **Form D – Biohazard in Animals:** 18. **Section I** - Include IACUC protocol number; 19. **Section II - Table** - **Viral Vectors** - The Risk Exposure Section (Section III. A) states that AAV will be administered in mice and pigs. Revise section accordingly; 20. **Section II** - Animals receiving Viral Vectors should stay within the LAMS Biocontainment area for 72hr and then should be transferred to the LAMS Regular Housing area. Uncheck "injection and necropsy" and check the "72 h" box; 21. **Section III. B** - Will the injection (IV or retro-orbital) be done by one person? For these types of injections, manual restraint (and injection) by a single individual is extremely challenging. In addition, two-person restraint and injection increases hand proximity to the needle, elevating the risk of needlestick injury. In this situation, the use of an appropriate restraint device is strongly recommended instead. 22. **Section III. C** - Specify the type of needle safety device used for animal injection; 23. **Section III. C** - "Other" corresponds to additional engineering controls (not PPE nor disinfection method) that are used while working with animals. Remove info and uncheck box.			
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. 26-03-17-02	Zhang M	New	BSL2 plus	***in vitro***: SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A Virus, Human Norovirus, Human Coronavirus OC43, Murine Norovirus, Murine Rotavirus, Murine Hepatitis Virus, Porcine Transmissible Gastroenteritis Virus, Bacteriophage MS2, *Escherichia coli* (RG1), *Pseudomonas syringae*, HDM (urine and breast milk) and NHP (cell lines)
Title	**Fate, transmission, and control of human pathogenic viruses in the environment**			
IBC Requests	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** - Include UC Mail code and Office/Lab phone numbers - if not applicable, enter "N/A"; 2. **Section II. C** - Because this protocol involves propagation of SARS-Cov2, biosafety level should be "BSL2 plus"; 3. **Section II**. **B** - Include a statement regarding human pathogens be handled only by experienced staff and how training for microbiological technique will be conducted (e.g. use of non-human viruses, training checklist with major checkpoints); 4. **Section III. B** - Check YES for "Additional Information" and indicate which needle safety devices are used and what type of sharps will be discarded in Sharps Container; 5. **Section III. C** - Activities involving human respiratory viruses that are conducted outside of a biological safety cabinet (BSC) require the use of respiratory protection. Also, while working with human viruses (especially SARS-Cov2 and Influenza) double-gloving and disposable fluid-resistant lab gowns should be used. Select boxes to reflect this and in "Additional Information" indicate when double gloving, fluid resistant disposable gowns and safety goggles are used; 6. **Section V** - Be aware that alcohol-based disinfectants are not recommended for non-enveloped viruses (e.g. norovirus, rotavirus). If those are used, they should be only for removing corrosive bleach residues from metallic surfaces. Check YES for "Additional Information" and include a statement in this regard; 7. **Section VIII** - This section is reserved for materials that are not being used in ongoing or near-future planned research. Revise the section if necessary. **Form B – Microbial/Infectious Agents:** 8. **Agent's Characteristics** - Wherever applicable, include information regarding available immunization and treatment for human viruses; 9. **Agents #1** to **#10** - **Source** - Indicate the name and institution for the agents' provider(s). 10. **Agent #2** - Provide examples of viral inactivation and disinfection applied in the study; 11. **Agent #3** - Correct virus name; 12. **Agent #7** - **Agent's Characteristics** - Discuss the immunization status of staff and in the last sentence, indicate that the appropriate biosafety containment is "BSL-2 Enhanced". **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 13. **Section I - Table** - **Established Cell Lines** - This form is only related to humans and (non-human) primates. Select the "species" box(es) and remove references to mouse and canine cells; 14. **Section I - Table** - **Bodily Fluids** - Provide info about volunteers of samples. Are the volunteers enrolled in a clinical trial study? Are they healthy?; 15. **Section II. A** - **First Sentence** - Replace "mammalian" with "human and non-human primate"; 16. **Section II.** Are human breast samples spiked with Influenza A virus? Expand description of this study.			

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. 26-03-02-01	Chella Krishnan	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro***: HDM (established cell lines, iPSCs and organoids) ***in vitro*** and ***in vivo***: AAV, lentiviral and adenoviral vectors
IBC Requests:	**Main Form – General Safety**: 1. **Section I. B** - If Secondary Contact does not have an office, enter N/A; 2. **Section I. C** - Include phone numbers for authorized personnel; 3. **Section V** - Be aware that alcohol-based disinfectants are not recommended for non-enveloped viruses (e.g. AAV and adenovirus). If those are used, they should be only for removing corrosive bleach residues from metallic surfaces. Check YES for "Additional Information" and include a statement in this regard. **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 4. **Section I** - Cre is mentioned as being used to inhibit some listed genes. In "Additional Information", include Cre as an inhibition tool for the genes that apply; 5. **Section II. B - System #4** - "Parent Virus" should be "HIV". **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 6. **Section I – Table – Other -** Indicate who and from what institution the collaborators providing exosomes and extracellular vesicles are. **Form D – Biohazard in Animals:** 7. **Section I** – Update your IACUC number; 8. **Section III A** – Include activities with potential for exposure and routes of shedding.			
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. 26-02-25-01	Shi	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro***: Adenoviral and lentiviral vectors, and HDM (HEK cells, lung mesenchymal stem cells, PBMC, blood, serum and plasma)
IBC Requests:	1. Lab staff have to complete their BBP training; **Main Form – General Safety**: 2. **Section I D** - Indicate the location where FACS analysis is done; 3. **Section II. B** - Explain what Sarcoidosis is; 4. **Section VI** – **Additional Information** - Remove info since it is not related to waste disposal. **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 5. **Section I** - **Gene # 4** - Source should read "arthropod";			

	6. **Section II. A** - Provide info for the production of lentiviral vectors; 7. **Section II. B** - **System #2** - "Parent Virus" should be only "HIV" and in "Helper Plasmids", replace "HIV (packaging plasmid)" with "ready-to-use". Also, select *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* and "Human Tropism" should be "Yes"; 8. **Section III** - Check box #5 to cover lentiviral vector work. **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 9. **Section I** - Indicate from where all listed materials are obtained; 10. **Section II. A** - Include cells that are used for adenoviral vector production and also state if any human cells are transduced by lentiviral vectors.			
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. 26-03-09-01	Wilson	Renewal	BSL2	***in vitro***: Lentiviral vector and HDM (established and primary cells, blood, tissues)
IBC Requests:	1. Lab staff must complete their BBP training; **Form A – Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid:** 2. **Gene #1** - This section indicates that this gene is inhibited with the use of viral vector, but it is not listed in the viral vector section (Section II. B). Please revise section accordingly; 3. **Section II. B - System #1** - ASM gene is not listed in Section I. Please make any necessary revisions. **Form C – Human and NHP Derived Materials**: 4. **Section I. A** - Confirm that "whole blood, obtained from consented adults" is not identified and does not have a corresponding IRB protocol; 5. **Section II. A** - Because this form is only related to human and (non-human) primates, please remove second paragraph with information about murine cells.			
Motion	Approve upon modifications addressing outlined issues.			
Voting Result & **Dual Use**	**YES:** 11	**NO**: 0	**Abstained**: 0	**Dual Use**? No

V. Protocol Updates - February 26th to March 26th (12 protocols)

1. IBC# 24-06-18-02 - PI: Hertlein - Personnel
2. IBC# 23-10-12-01 - PI: Thompson T - Personnel
3. IBC# 23-08-04-23 - PI: Wang Xue - Personnel
4. IBC# 25-03-19-01 - PI: Liaudanskaya - Personnel, Form A -Adding gene (#16) and Lentiviral system
5. IBC# 24-09-11-01 - PI: Supp - Personnel
6. IBC# 25-02-14-01 - PI: Drosatos - Location
7. IBC# 25-10-07-01 - PI: Guan JL - Personnel
8. IBC# 24-06-18-02 - PI: Hertlein - Location
9. IBC# 25-11-13-01 - PI: Waters - Personnel
10. IBC# 24-01-18-01 - PI: Gao - Personnel

11. IBC# 26-02-22-01 - PI: Rodriguez Molina - Personnel
12. IBC# 24-09-04-01 - PI: Diao - Location, Personnel

VI. **Reports**

A. IBC & BSOf (M. Espinola)

- On March 31st, the BSOf sent the official notification to NIH-OSP for the incident involving T. Thompson detailing the implemented corrective actions.

VII. **Educational Materials/Updates**

A. **Biosafety and Biosecurity: Comparing the U.S. and Selected G20 Members** GAO, February 2026.
B. **High Risk Research: HHS Should Publicly Share More Information on How Risk Is Assessed and Mitigated - Whole Report** GAO, February 2026.

K. Burns adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.