



Institutional Biosafety Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2025

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 9:30 am

IBC Members present

Quorum established: Yes

Laurie P. Shornick, Ph.D.

Adriana M. Montano, Ph.D.

Christopher S. Eickhoff, M.S.

Steven Cummings, M.D.

Geoffrey J. Gorse, M.D.

Karoly Toth, D.V.M.

Melinda S. Darnell, M.S.

Corey Ragsdale, Ph.D.

Kathleen Donovan, D.V.M.

Ella M. Swierkosz, Ph.D.

Tamara P. Blevins, M.S. (Alternate-voting)

Patricia Osmack, MLS(ASCP), M.A., RBP (Non-voting)

Renee Knoll, M.S., CHMM (Non-voting)

Frank Speck (Non-voting)

Steve Tinge, CPIA (Non-voting)

I. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes

1. The minutes for the July 23, 2025, SLU IBC meeting were fully approved: 10-yes/0-no/0-abstentions.

B. Closed Items (Protocols fully approved between meetings):

1. New protocols previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses were reviewed and approved between meetings by the BSO or designee:
 - Di Cera, Enrico, Ph.D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00027.
 - Donlin, Maureen, Ph.D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00032.
 - Mohammed, Bassem, Ph.D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00025.
2. Amendments or continuing reviews with changes previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:

- Vankayalapati, Ramakrishna, Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol:2024-00013.
 - Ungerleider, Nathan, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol:2024-00043.
 - Touchette, Erin, M.S., (Comparative Medicine, Inotiv) eIBC Protocol:2025-00014.
3. Amendments not meeting threshold of requiring full committee review based on NIH guidelines and SLU IBC Policy that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
- Fisher, Jonathan, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2021-00011.
 - Huang, Laibin, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00024.
 - Jain, Ajay, M.D., (Pediatrics) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00039.
 - Nazzal, Mustafa, M.D., (Abdominal Transplant Center) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00048.
 - Rafiei, Hossein, Ph.D., (Nutrition and Dietetics) eIBC Protocol ID: 2025-00013.
 - Vankayalapati, Ramakrishna, Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol:2024-00013.
 - Mikhalkova, Deana, M.D., (IM-Cardiology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol ID: 2022-00039.
 - Garg, Koyal, Ph.D., (Biomedical Engineering) eIBC Protocol ID: 2021-00022.
4. Continuing reviews not meeting threshold of requiring full committee review based on NIH guidelines and SLU IBC Policy that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
- Shornick, Laurie, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00024.
 - Liu, Jianguo, M.D., Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00022.
5. Protocols Closed (at the request of the PI):
- Tavis, John, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2020-00037.
 - Lentine, Krista, M.D., (IM-Nephrology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00059.
 - Hamilton, Zachary, M.D., (Surg-Urology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00036.
6. Draft Protocols Withdrawn:
- Tse, Long Ping Victor, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2023-00009.
 - Rafiei, Hossein, Ph.D., (Nutrition and Dietetics) eIBC Protocol ID: 2025-00011.

C. Open Items (Protocols reviewed by the IBC but not fully approved)

1. Amendment previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses have not yet been approved:
- Elliott, Melissa, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2024-00046.

II. New Business

A. New Protocols

1.

Principle Investigator	Anzell, Anthony, Ph.D.
Department	Pediatrics
Protocol #	2025-00029
Title	Identifying Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) variants through high throughput biological function validation
Protocol Description	The PI is studying HHT, an autosomal dominant vascular disorder, by using large genomic databases to identify potential pathogenic variants for HHT. The HHT variants will be studied using viral vectors in human cells.
Types of manipulation	Laboratory
Agents	Human cell lines, bacteria, plasmids and viral vectors.
Containment level	BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	III-D-2, II-D-3, III-E-1
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested clarification about PPE, E. coli, and centrifuge use. A biosafety inspection is also required before approval.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

B. Five Year Renewals of eIBC Protocols:

1.

Principle Investigator	Pandey, Krishan , Ph.D.
Department	Molecular Microbiology & Immunology
Protocol #	2025-00034
Title	Biochemistry of retrovirus integrase
Protocol Description	The PI is studying the biochemical and biophysical properties of the integrase (IN) proteins from Rous Sarcoma Virus (RSV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus, types 1 and 2 (HIV-1 and HIV-2, respectively). They will use purified proteins and viral DNA fragments.
Types of manipulation	Laboratory
Agents	Bacteria & plasmids.
Containment level	BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	III-D-2
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested clarification on waste disposal and PPE, and asked for revised wording of some statements and updated attachments.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

C. Amendments & Continuing Reviews of Approved eIBC Protocols:

1.

Principle Investigator	Tse, Long Ping Victor, Ph.D.
Department	Molecular Microbiology & Immunology
Protocol #	2022-00030
Title	Understanding the biology of animal coronaviruses
Protocol Description	The PI is adding a virus which will be used to perform all the procedures in the protocol at BSL2.
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory
Agents	Amendment: Human Coronavirus NL63
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: N/A (no rsNA agents added)
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested information about the source of the added virus and updated training.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided full approval of the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

2.

Principle Investigator	Ungerleider, Nathan, Ph.D.
Department	Molecular Microbiology & Immunology
Protocol #	2024-00043
Title	The Epstein Barr Virus in cancer
Protocol Description	The PI is adding a human cell line.
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory
Agents	Amendment: Human gastric cancer cells
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: N/A (no rsNA agents added)
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC did not have any comments or concerns.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided full approval of the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: none.

3.

Principle Investigator	Touchette, Erin, M.S.
Department	Comparative Medicine, Inotiv
Protocol #	2025-00014
Title	Characterization and evaluation of cell and gene therapy compounds in rodent models.
Protocol Description	The PI is adding LNP(lipid nanoparticle)/mRNA targeting a new gene.
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory & animal
Agents	Amendment: Addition of LNP/mRNA targeting a new gene.
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-1 and ABSL-1
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: III-D-4
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested clarification of decontamination methods and the biological source of an agent. The IBC also requested more details regarding gene function.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

D. Protocols in Pre-Review:


1. New protocols: 0
2. Amendments: 4
3. Annual continuing reviews: 1

E. Other Business:

1. The committee discussed the creation of sample IBC protocols to help guide new and established investigators.

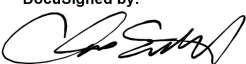
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:19 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Signed by:

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Patricia A. Osmack, MLS(ASCP), M.A., RBP(ABSA)
Institutional Biosafety Committee Manager

Reviewed:

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Christopher S. Eickhoff, M.S.
Biological Safety Officer & Executive
Secretary Institutional Biosafety Committee

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

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Laurie P. Shornick, Ph.D.
Institutional Biosafety Committee Chairperson

Reviewed:

DocuSigned by:

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Lee Seabrooke, M.B.A.
Associate Vice President for Research