THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Institutional Biosafety Committee
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The University of Tennessee Health Science Center Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes Friday, June 6, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

IBC Chair Dr. Mark Miller called the regular meeting of the Institutional Biosafety Committee to order at 3:05pm on Friday, June 6, 2024. The meeting was held via a remote Zoom video conference.

II. IBC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Mark Miller, Mr. Timothy Barton, Vickie Baselski, Dr. Zheng Fan, Dr. David Hamilton, Dr. Ms. Jeannie Johnson, Dr. Brandt Pence, Dr, Marko Radic, Dr. Ramesh Ray, Dr. Jennifer Tate, and Dr. Thirumalini Viathianathan

Absent: Dr. Radhakrishna Rao, Dr. Kui Li, Dr. Glen Palmer, Dr. Kaushik Parthasarathi, Dr. Bayly Wheeler, and Ms. Evelyn Wright-Lewis.

III. OTHERS PRESENT

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the May 2, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VI. REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS:

Renewal Protocol 25-1150: entitled: Regulation of Chlamydial Growth by Host Factors. The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol pending changes that will be overseen administratively by the IBC chair.

Approved Biosafety Level and Classifications:

BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of primate-derived cells and for work involving the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis* serovar L2, until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the **BSL-1** thereafter
BSL-1/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted *E. coli*, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of non-hazardous transgenes

BSL-2/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving transfection of Chlamydia trachomatis with recombinant plasmids, until the materials have been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and then **BSL-1/III-D-2-a** thereafter

Renewal Protocol 25-1151: entitled: Stem cell stemness and dental tissue regeneration studies. The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol pending changes that will be overseen administratively by the IBC chair.

BSL-1: for *in vitro* culture and handling of rodent-derived cells
BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of primate-derived cells, until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the **BSL-1** thereafter
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work in non-primate-derived cells involving lentiviral vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes for the first 72-hours post-transduction, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a thereafter**
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work in primate-derived cells involving lentiviral vectors until the materials have been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a** thereafter
ABSL-2/III-D-4b: for *in vivo* work involving introduction of recombinant lentiviral vector transduced cells derived from humans into research animals

Renewal Protocol 25-1152: entitled: Genes, Neural Circuits, and Behavior. The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol pending changes that will be overseen by the reviewers and the IBC chair.

Approved Biosafety Level and Classifications:

BSL-1: for *in vitro* culture and handling of cell lines derived from non-primates
BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of primate-derived cells, until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the BSL-1 thereafter
BSL-1/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of non-hazardous transgenes
BSL-2/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of expression plasmids to express transgenes in cells of human origin
BSL-1/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work involving tissues collected from in-study mice previously transduced with recombinant AAV vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes
ABSL-1/III-D-4b: for *in vivo* work involving introduction of recombinant AAV vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes into research mice

Renewal Protocol 25-1153: entitled: Viral Vector Core Lentiviral Production. The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to

minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol as written.

Approved Biosafety Level and Classifications:

BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of primate-derived cells, until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the **BSL-1** thereafter
BSL-1/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of non-hazardous transgenes
BSL-2/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of hazardous transgenes
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work involving propagation of recombinant lentiviral or retroviral vectors using primate-derived cells or transfection of primate-derived cells with lentiviral vectors until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a** thereafter
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work involving transduction of cells derived from non-primates with recombinant lentiviral vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes for the first 72 hours post-transduction, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a** thereafter

Renewal Protocol 25-1154: entitled: Analysis of Aspergillus pathogenic fitness mechanisms. The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol pending changes that will be overseen administratively by the IBC chair..

Approved Biosafety Level and Classifications:

BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of primate-derived cells and/or Aspergillus spp., until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the **BSL-1** thereafter
BSL-1/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of non-hazardous transgenes
BSL-2/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving transformation of Aspergillus spp. with recombinant DNA and for work involving tissue collected from mice previously infected with Aspergillus fumigatus, until the materials have been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and then **BSL-1/III-D-2-**a thereafter
ABSL-2/III-D-4b: for *in vivo* work involving introduction of the fungal agent Aspergillus fumigatus into research mice

Renewal Protocol 25-1155: entitled: The committee determined that the PI had identified each of the potential hazards associated with the work and had supplied appropriate mitigation protocols to minimize those risks. The committee voted unanimously to approve the protocol as written.

Approved Biosafety Level and Classifications:

BSL-1: for *in vitro* culture and handling of rodent-derived cells
BSL-2: for *in vitro* culture and handling of human-derived cells, until the material has been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the BSL-1 thereafter
BSL-1/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of non-hazardous transgenes
BSL-2/III-D-2-a: for *in vitro* work involving the use of lab-adapted E. coli, recombinant plasmid DNA, and/or synthetic nucleic acids for expression/manipulation of hazardous transgenes, until the materials have been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and the **BSL-1/III-D-2-a** thereafter
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work involving transduction of murine-derived cells with recombinant lentiviral vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes for the first 72-hours post-transduction, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a,** thereafter
BSL-2/III-D-3-a: for *in vitro* work involving transduction of murine cells with recombinant lentiviral vectors engineered to express hazardous transgenes and for transduction of human-derived cells with recombinant retroviral vectors until the materials have been subjected to a decontaminating procedure, and then **BSL-1/III-D-3-a**, thereafter
ABSL-1/III-D-4b: for *in vivo* work involving introduction of murine cells previously transduced (more than 72 hours) with lentiviral vectors engineered to express non-hazardous transgenes

New Protocol 25-1156: entitled: Engineered Exosomes with scaRNA20 for Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy. The committee determined that the protocol did not sufficiently describe the proposed work, making it impossible to perform a complete risk assessment of the work. The committee voted unanimously to reject the protocol as written and request that the PI make significant changes to the protocol before submitting the protocol for full review at the next IBC meeting. The revised protocol will be pre-reviewed in an effort to help the PI to adequately describe the proposed studies.

VII. IBO REPORT

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. MISCELLANEOUS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:14pm.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 11, 2025 at 3:00 PM via a Zoom video conference call.

Minutes Prepared by: John M. Denton
Minutes Reviewed by: Dr. Mark Miller